

# press release

## STANDARD CHARTERED BRINGS JOHN BARNES TO ZIMBABWE

**Harare, 10 March 2014** – John Barnes, a Liverpool legend, will be in Zimbabwe on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014 for a two day visit. Standard Chartered Zimbabwe will be hosting a variety of events including a client cocktail and John Barnes will also get the opportunity to interact with local soccer academies and motivate some young soccer fans. He will participate in the practice/coaching sessions of AYSA soccer academy.

Standard Chartered Bank has been the main sponsor of Liverpool Football Club (LFC) since July 2010. The partnership allows the Bank access to some of the most successful players in football history, past and present, in order to create a host of unique experiences for customers and clients around the world.

**Ralph Watungwa, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Zimbabwe**, commented “*The Club has a similar heritage to us – over 100 years of history, strong values and a determination to give back to the local community. The visit by John Barnes to Zimbabwe is important in ensuring that the young and upcoming soccer stars are inspired.*”

Standard Chartered Bank has partnered with LFC on a number of community initiatives. For example, over two thousand children have been taught football and life skills via joint soccer clinics around the world, thousands of people heard the Bank’s Living with HIV messages when they teamed up with the Club for World AIDS Day 2012, and millions of dollars have been raised for Seeing is Believing (SiB) via the Bank’s Perfect Match campaign, whereby LFC swapped the 'Standard Chartered' logo on their shirts for the 'SiB' logo for two matches.

Ends.

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**Note to Editors:**

***Standard Chartered Group:***

**Standard Chartered – leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East**

Standard Chartered is a leading international banking group. It has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets and earns around 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. This geographic focus and commitment to developing deep relationships with clients and customers has driven the Bank's growth in recent years. Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong stock exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

With 1,700 offices in 68 markets, the Group offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities to over 89,000 staff. It is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. Standard Chartered's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

***In Africa*** the Bank has operated for over 150 years and currently covers 37 markets on the continent – 15 on a full presence basis, and an additional 22 on a transaction basis following its clients. Given its unique footprint, Standard Chartered is ideally positioned to facilitate and support valuable trade and investment corridors intra-Africa, and between Africa and the rest of the world. In October 2012, Standard Chartered reiterated its commitment to Africa by confirming the Group will be investing another USD100 million on 110 new branches over the next 3 years, as well as making substantial hires in both their Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses – 900 sales staff will be added to Consumer Banking by 2015. The Group aims to maintain the 16% Compounded Average Growth Rate it has delivered over the last 5 years.

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