

## press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **2005 STANDARD CHARTERED HONG KONG MARATHON HENRY WANYOIKE RAISES FUND FOR “SEEING IS BELIEVING”**

**Hong Kong, 14 December 2004** – A special guest in attendance for today’s 2005 Standard Chartered Marathon press conference was Henry Wanyoike, the winner of Standard Chartered Marathon 2004 Men’s Open Half Marathon, who will return to Hong Kong in 2005 for the good cause. He has also been named as the international Goodwill Ambassador for Standard Chartered’s Seeing is Believing Global Charity Programme, with the responsibility of encouraging 24,000 registered Marathon participants and others in Hong Kong donate generously to the Charity Programme.

Kenyan Wanyoike is a very special runner, having lost his sight overnight in 1995. Since then, running with a guide, Henry has enjoyed spectacular success including finishing 32<sup>nd</sup> at the 2004 Boston Marathon with a world record time (2:33:20) for sight-impaired runners.

Marking Henry’s debut year as Goodwill Ambassador for Standard Chartered, the Bank introduced a variety of fund-raising materials under the “Run With Me” campaign. The Bank produced a pair of blue and green wristbands, which is a symbol of the ties between Henry and his sighted guide in running, is also a celebration of human bondage and how dedicated partnership can help us go the distance. The packs will be sold at HK\$20 for charity at Standard Chartered branches in Hong Kong. Donation boxes are also set up at the Standard Chartered branches.

Standard Chartered Hong Kong also sponsored to print a children’s picture book to introduce the encouraging real-life story of Henry Wanyoike, for which 20,000 copies will be presented to primary schools in Hong Kong. To commemorate Henry’s support in the charity campaign, Standard Chartered also invited the accomplished local artist Eric So to build a limited edition figurine for Henry. During his week-long visit to Hong Kong, Henry will visit several schools and talk to students and others in the community to encourage Hong Kong people to join the race and participate in the “Run with Me” Charity Programme.

“Seeing is Believing” aims at collecting funds to provide medical facilities to restore sight to 1 million visually-impaired persons globally. Under the charity sponsorship, Henry has represented the Bank and the charity campaign at several Standard Chartered marathons around the world including those in Nairobi (Kenya), Mumbai (India), Singapore and Hong Kong.

As Global Ambassador, Henry will run in all four Standard Chartered’s marathons and Standard Chartered is encouraging public donations tied to the distance that

he completes. In return, the Bank will donate up to USD1,000 for every kilometre. The funds raised will go to the Bank's charity, Seeing is Believing.

As Henry had to participate in the Athens Paralympic Games last September, he would only run the half marathon in Nairobi, Singapore and Mumbai, but he has promised to run the total 42km Marathon in Hong Kong on 27 February next year.

Over 24,000 runners have registered for next February's Standard Chartered Marathon. The deadline for entries is 17 January 2005 with the quota set at 28,000 runners. Interested parties are suggested to submit their entry forms as soon as possible. The registration fee will be HK\$320 before the deadline, afterwards until race day the fee will be HK\$420.

Entry forms are available from the HKAAA office (Address: Room 2015 Sports House, 1 Stadium Path So Kon Po, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong) and all branches of Standard Chartered Bank in Hong Kong. For more information, please visit the official website [www.hkmarathon.com](http://www.hkmarathon.com) or call official hotline 25770800.

Standard Chartered Hong Kong is in its 9<sup>th</sup> year of sponsorship for the Marathon – other sponsors and supporting agencies include New Balance Athletic Shoes (Hong Kong) Limited, Convey Advertising Company Limited, Hotel Miramar Hong Kong, Watsons Water, Citizen Watches (HK) Limited, Mercedes Benz, Commercial Radio, Hong Kong Tourism Board, Information Services Department, Western Harbour Tunnel Co. Ltd and Tsing Ma Management Limited.

### **Ends**

Released on behalf of Standard Chartered Hong Kong by Octagon Greater China.

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