

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Standard Chartered Chief Executive Peter Sands in Hong Kong to officiate the opening of Whampoa Branch

Invested over HK\$1.7 bln to buy self-owned sites

(Hong Kong – Jun 15, 2007) Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited (“Standard Chartered”) today celebrated the grand opening of a new branch and Priority Banking Centre in Whampoa, which is one of the Bank’s ten self-owned properties. Peter Sands, Group Chief Executive of Standard Chartered Plc, and his wife Betsy Tobin were present in Hong Kong to kick off the opening ceremony.

Officiating guests from Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited included Peter Sullivan, Executive Director and Chief Executive; Ben Hung, Head of Consumer Banking; Catherina Chan, Head of Branch Banking and Candy Lee, Whampoa Branch Manager.

Officiating at the ceremony, Mr. Sands explained, “I am exceptionally excited to be here at the time when the HKSAR is celebrating its 10th anniversary. This is a historical moment for Hong Kong and we are proud to symbolize our commitment to Hong Kong with the opening of our Whampoa branch. We will continue to invest in Hong Kong and plan to open and expand 10 outlets this year.”

Standard Chartered is particularly committed to Hong Kong and confident about its future business. In addition to the purchase of the Whampoa site and the adjacent Priority Banking Centre, Standard Chartered also recently opened its Greater China Regional Headquarters for Private Banking in Hong Kong, as well as a new SME Centre dedicated to the city’s small and medium-sized businesses.

Peter Sands commented, “We opened our first branch in Hong Kong in 1859, and we are very proud that we have grown in size over the last 150 years together with Hong Kong. Hong Kong is a part of Standard Chartered’s DNA and a key market for the

Group. We have invested over HK\$1.7 billion purchasing 10 sites with gross floor area of almost 100,000 sq.ft., including our flagship branches on Nathan Road in Tsim Sha Tsui and Mongkok. We plan to open and expand 10 branches in Hong Kong this year.”

Standard Chartered is also dedicated to supporting the local Hong Kong community. To encourage and develop the creative talents of Hong Kong’s youth, Standard Chartered today announced its sponsorship of the Youth Arts Foundation (YAF), one of the Bank’s long-term community partners, in rolling out the “Standard Chartered: HeART in the Community” programme.

Peter Sullivan said, “Besides expanding our branch network in this dynamic city and offering convenient and friendly banking services to our customers throughout Hong Kong, Standard Chartered is also committed to giving back to the community that has supported us over the years. Through “Standard Chartered: HeART in the Community”, we hope to cultivate and develop Hong Kong’s young artists’ interests in the creative arts. At the end of the year, these works of art will be put on public display for the community to admire, and then subsequently displayed at Standard Chartered branches throughout the community – eventually becoming a part of our branches’ décor.

The “Standard Chartered: HeART in the Community” programme will be kicked off in Whampoa, with YAF organising art workshops at local schools and youth centres. Through these workshops, young people will learn to express their personal artistic creativity through themes relating to their local communities.

Standard Chartered Bank’s Whampoa branch and Priority Banking Centre are located at Shop No. 6E & 7C1, 36-60F Tak Man Street, Phase 4 Whampoa Estate, Hung Hom, Kowloon, with a gross floor area of 3,000 square feet. The branch has a full array of banking services and facilities including Priority Banking services, personal financial consulting services and teller counter services.

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Note to Editor:

Hong Kong

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

The history of Standard Chartered in Hong Kong dates back to 1859. It is currently one of the SAR's three note-issuing banks. Standard Chartered incorporated its Hong Kong business on 1 July 2004, and now operates as a licensed bank in Hong Kong under the name of Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered PLC.

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on both the London Stock Exchange and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and is consistently ranked in the top 25 among FTSE-100 companies by market capitalization.

Standard Chartered has a history of over 150 years in banking and is in many of the world's fastest-growing markets with an extensive global network of over 1,400 branches (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in over 50 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas.

As one of the world's most international banks, Standard Chartered employs almost 60,000 people, representing over 100 nationalities, worldwide. This diversity lies at the heart of the Bank's values and supports the Bank's growth as the world increasingly becomes one market.

For more information on Standard Chartered, please log on to www.standardchartered.com