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2009 STANDARD CHARTERED GREAT CITY RACE MEDIA CHALLENGE KICKS OFF WITH A BANG

The Standard Chartered Great City Race, London's premier 5k road running event, will again be inviting members of the press to take part in the 2009 Media Challenge. The race, which takes place through the closed-off streets of London's Square Mile at 19.15 on Thursday 16 July, has a limited 100 places available to media wishing to take on their colleagues and enjoy the unique atmosphere of the City's leading running challenge.

Teams already signed up include an eight strong contingent from The Daily Telegraph, a team of six from City A.M. and nine runners from London Lite, while other media teams include the Financial Times, Running Fitness and Haymarket Media Group. With many entrants already signed up, places are fast running out, so interested media are advised to enter their team as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. To enter your team, contact Olivia Sharman at Capitalize at osharman@capitalize.co.uk or call 0207 940 1700.

Richard Holmes, CEO Europe, **Standard Chartered Bank**, commented, *"This is now the fourth year we have held a media challenge for The Standard Chartered Great City Race and we expect the 2009 version to build on the success created over the past three years. With the race's unique atmosphere and format it is the perfect opportunity to encourage a fun and healthy rivalry between teams and the media challenge is sure to be as competitive as ever."*

The race supports Seeing is Believing (SiB), a global initiative to help tackle avoidable blindness. Last year the race attracted over 6,000 entries, raising over £75,000 for charity and its popularity is set to soar even further this year as teams from the banking, accountancy, legal, insurance and media fields all battle it out to be crowned with their coveted industry prize. Further details about the race can be found at www.cityrace.co.uk

- **Ends-**



For further information please contact:

The Standard Chartered Great City Race – Press Office

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Seeing is Believing – Press Office

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Notes to editors:

About Standard Chartered:

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both London and Hong Kong stock exchanges, ranks among the top 25 companies in the FTSE-100 by market capitalisation. The London-headquartered Group has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets, leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Its income and profits have more than doubled over the last five years primarily as a result of organic growth and supplemented by acquisitions.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank for its customers across its markets. The Group derives more than 90 per cent of its operating income and profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East, generated from its Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses. The Group has over 1600 branches and outlets located in over 70 countries. The extraordinary growth of its markets and businesses creates exciting and challenging international career opportunities.

Leading by example to be the right partner for its stakeholders, the Group is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and is trusted worldwide for upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. It employs more than 70,000 people, nearly half of whom are women. The Group's employees are of 125 nationalities, of which about 70 are represented in the senior management.

For more information, please visit: www.standardchartered.com



Seeing is Believing (SiB)



Seeing is Believing is delighted to be the beneficiary of the 2009 Standard Chartered Great City Race, receiving £5 from each £25 entry fee.

Seeing is Believing (SiB) is a global initiative to help tackle avoidable blindness, and is a collaboration between Standard Chartered and the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) (registered charity, No. 1100559). IAPB is the leading umbrella organisation for NGOs working in the field of eye care. Together with the World Health Organisation, it launched 'Vision 2020: The Right to Sight', a global campaign to eliminate avoidable blindness by 2020.

To date, Seeing is Believing has raised over US\$ 17 million for blindness initiatives and plans to invest a further US\$ 20 million by 2014. Seeing is Believing is the single largest contributor to the development of Vision 2020 programmes through IAPB.

As part of the Seeing is Believing programme, Standard Chartered pledges to match all donations until the target of US\$ 20 million is reached. This will double the impact of all funds raised. Please visit www.seeingisbelieving.org.uk



The 2007 Standard Chartered Great City Race was the recipient of the Corporate Sponsorship Award at the 2008 Hollis Sponsorship Awards