

# press release

**To City Editors**

**For Immediate Release**

**8<sup>th</sup> October 2003**

## **Standard Chartered Adopts Equator Principles**

Standard Chartered today announced the adoption of the Equator Principles as a basis for managing environmental and social issues in project financing.

“We are committed to minimising the environmental and social impacts associated with our operations. Adopting the Equator Principles will reinforce the Bank’s long established environmental and social risk evaluation process. We believe in sustainable business and are pleased to adopt best practice”, said Group Chief Executive Mervyn Davies.

The Equator Principles are a set of voluntary guidelines based on the policies of the World Bank and International Finance Corporation that were developed by a number of major international banks. They establish a common framework to address the environmental and social issues that arise in financing projects and ensure they are implemented according to sound environmental management practices.

Standard Chartered is also a signatory to the United Nations Environment Programme’s Statement by Financial Institutions on the Environment and Sustainable Development. This includes a public declaration of support for the concept of sustainable development as a fundamental aspect of sound business management. Standard Chartered is a corporate member of the United Nations Global Compact, which challenges companies to demonstrate progress in supporting and advancing its principles in three areas; labour standards, human rights and environmental responsibility. Standard Chartered produces an environmental report, which is available at <http://www.standardchartered.com/global/csr/environment.html> and voluntarily participates in the Business in the Environment (BiE) Annual Index of Corporate Environmental Engagement.

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**Note to Editors:**

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

Standard Chartered employs 30,000 people in over 500 locations in more than 50 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas. It is one of the world's most international banks, with a management team comprising 70 nationalities.

Standard Chartered is listed on both the London Stock Exchange and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and is in the top 25 FTSE-100 companies, by market capitalisation.

It serves both Consumer and Wholesale Banking customers. Consumer Banking provides credit cards, personal loans, mortgages, deposit taking and wealth management services to individuals and small to medium sized enterprises. Wholesale Banking provides corporate and institutional clients with services in trade finance, cash management, lending, custody, foreign exchange, debt capital markets and corporate finance.

Standard Chartered is well-established in growth markets and aims to be the right partner for its customers. The Bank combines deep local knowledge with global capability.

The Bank is trusted across its network for its standard of governance and its commitment to making a difference in the communities in which it operates.

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