

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

World's Top Athletes Running To Restore Sight

In support of *Seeing is Believing*, the Greatest Race on Earth ends today in Hong Kong

Tokyo, February 13, 2006—The completion of the Hong Kong marathon on Sunday marked the end of the Greatest Race on Earth 2005-06 Series. A Standard Chartered Bank organized event, the race consists of four marathons taking place in Nairobi, Singapore, Mumbai and Hong Kong over 5 months. With many of the world's top runners taking part and with over US\$1.5 million in prizes, the events aim to raise funds for Standard Chartered's *Seeing is Believing* global charity campaign.

The Standard Chartered Bank sponsored Japan team consisting of four local runners performed well over the series of events having run over 168 kilometres in under (insert time). Japanese Team member Kenichi Koiwa, who participated in the Singapore race also volunteered to run as a guide to Japanese blind runner (insert name) in the Hong Kong race.

Kenyan blind marathon runner Henry Wanyoike, Paralympic Gold Medallist and Goodwill Ambassador for *Seeing is Believing*, will be visiting Tokyo from February 13th and 14th. To mark his visit, Standard Chartered Bank will be hosting a variety of activities to raise funds and awareness of the campaign. Travelling with Henry from Hong Kong be his marathon partner and guide Joseph Kibunya and both of their wives.

Events scheduled during Henry's visit include:

- 1) ***Seeing is Believing* Press conference, Tuesday February 14th**: Held at Standard Chartered Bank's Marunouchi retail banking office, speakers will include Henry Wanyoike, Kenyan Ambassador Dennis Awori, British Ambassador Graham Fry and Standard Chartered Bank CEO, Mark Devadason.
- 2) **Valentines Day charity dinner and auction, Tuesday February 14th**: In the world class Grand Hyatt Tokyo more than 200 guests will attend to support the *Seeing is Believing* campaign and to raise money for the cause through ticket sales, sponsorship and a silent auction of donated prizes.
- 3) **International school visits, February 13th to 16th**: Henry will visit various international schools in the Tokyo area generating awareness and support for *Seeing is Believing*.
- 4) **1-on-1 Interviews, February 18th**: Henry Wanyoike, his guide Jacob
- 5) **"Fun Run with Henry", Saturday February 18th**:

Facts about *Seeing is Believing*:

- 75% of blindness is avoidable
- A person goes blind every five seconds and a child every minute
- 161 million people are visually impaired worldwide and 37 million are blind
- 100 million people will be saved from going blind by VISION 2020
- 90% of avoidable blindness occurs in the developing world
- 60% of children die within one year of becoming blind
- VISION 2020 will result in a global saving of \$223 billion over 20 years

For further information please contact:

Patricia Bader-Johnston
Standard Chartered Bank
Tel: 03-5511-1361
Email: patricia.bader_johnston@jp.standardchartered.com

About Seeing is Believing

Launched in 2003, Seeing is Believing is a major global community programme aimed at helping alleviate the issue of blindness across the globe. There are 37 million blind people in the world with one additional person going blind every 5 seconds and a child every minute, yet 75% of this blindness can be prevented or cured. In partnership with Sight Savers International and VISION 2020 - the international body for the elimination of avoidable blindness - Seeing is Believing aims to raise US\$6 million over the next three years, targeting one million sight restorations. In its first year enough money was raised to restore the sight of 56,000 people, exceeding the goal of raising enough to restore sight to 28,000 people by World Sight Day October 9, 2003.

<http://www.seeingisbelieving.org.uk/>

http://www.standardchartered.com/corporateresponsibility/com_seeing.html (English)

About The Greatest race on Earth (Need Boiler Plate)

About Henry Wanyoike (Need Boiler Plate)

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

Standard Chartered is one of the world's most international banks, employing over 40,000 people, representing 80 nationalities, across its network. Standard Chartered operates in over 1,200 locations (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in more than 50 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas. Standard Chartered PLC 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, securities services, 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 corporate responsibility as well as its commitment to making a difference in the communities in which it operates.

www.standardchartered.com (English)

www.standardchartered.com/jp/index.html (English)

www.standardchartered.com/jp/japanese/index.html (Japanese)

www.standardchartered.com/jp/index.html (English)

www.standardchartered.com/jp/japanese/index.html (Japanese)