

# press release

## **AL MAWARID GRADUATION PROGRAMME EMIRATI STUDENTS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CAREER PROSPECTS IN THE BANKING SECTOR**

July 19, 2006

Standard Chartered, one of the leading international banks in the UAE, has launched its second Al Mawarid Emiratisation Induction programme, with more than 60 Emirati students enrolling in the new course.

The Al Mawarid programme has been developed by the Bank to provide trainees with the fundamental principles of banking operations, and aims to give UAE nationals an acceptable level of knowledge and practise in the banking sector.

“We are committed to ensuring Emiritisation is an integral part of our long-term strategy in the UAE through the Al Mawarid programme,” said David Proctor, Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered.

“Al Mawarid is one of our most successful approaches to developing local talent in the marketplace. We are dedicated to developing the Emirati workforce and ensuring the local banking sector compares favourable with other leading financial markets around the world,” he concluded.

Hassan Mahmoud Obaid Makki, one of the trainees, highlighted the value and efficiency of the programme and emphasised the role Standard Chartered is playing in offering young people the prospect to build a career in the banking sector.

“The trainers are giving us invaluable insight into the world of banking and providing us with main tools which we can invest in our future career, in addition to focusing on developing our communication skills”, Makki said.

Head of Emiratisation at Standard Chartered Bank, Aida Hamza, said the Bank has been working closely with Sharjah-based Emirates Institute of Banking & Finance (EIBFS) to develop high-standard training and programmes aimed at attracting and retaining National talent.

“We have added four new courses to our second programme – Foreign Exchange, Islamic Banking, Corporate Banking and World History Banking – to ensure students receive a comprehensive understanding of the current banking sector”, she added.

The 60 UAE candidates enrolled in the second Al Mawarid programme will graduate at the end of August 2006, and will be offered the chance of working with Standard Chartered on completion of their training.

Standard Chartered provides global career opportunities as a leading international bank which is focused on becoming the ‘World’s Best International Employer of Choice’, and with 1200 branches in 56 countries, Standard Chartered presents an extraordinary range of career opportunities.

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**For further information please contact:**

Niall McLoughlin  
Regional Head of Corporate Affairs, Standard Chartered Bank  
Tel: +971 (0) 4 5070467  
Fax: +971 (0) 4 3594174  
Mobile: +971 (0) 50 6251329  
Email : [niall.mcloughlin@ae.standardchartered.com](mailto:niall.mcloughlin@ae.standardchartered.com)

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

Standard Chartered has a history of over 150 years in banking and is in many of the world's fastest growing markets. It has an extensive global network of over 1,200 branches (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in 56 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 44,000 people, representing 89 nationalities, worldwide.

Standard Chartered's strengths lie in its breadth, diversity and balance and is trusted across its network for its standard of governance and corporate responsibility. The Bank is committed to all its stakeholders by living its values in its approach to managing its people, exceeding expectations of its customers, making a difference in the communities that we operate in and working with its regulators.

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1. IFR Asia's Domestic Bond House of the Year
2. Finance Asia's Best Local Currency Bond House & Best Securitisation House
3. Asia Risk's Interest Rates Derivatives House of the Year
4. Trade Finance's Best Trade Finance Bank in Sub Saharan Africa
5. Global Custodian's Best Agent Bank in Asia
6. The Asset's Best Cash Management Bank for South Asia
7. Retail Banker International's Best Retail Bank in Asia Pacific.

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