

press release

Standard Chartered Saadiq voted ‘Best International Islamic Bank 2008’

Total of 15 Awards won by Standard Chartered Islamic Banking in 2008

9th March 2009, Kuala Lumpur - Standard Chartered Saadiq, the Bank’s Islamic banking unit, has been named ‘Best International Islamic Bank’ for 2009 by Euromoney. A number of significant deals the Bank closed throughout 2008 including the first Sovereign Deal for the Government of Pakistan and a Project Finance Deal for Al Ma’aden Phosphate Company, contributed to the win.

Standard Chartered’s Group CEO, Saadiq, Afaq Khan, commented: “The Bank delivering shariah-compliant financial products and solutions seamlessly across our geographic footprint. To be voted ‘Best International Islamic Bank’ is testament to our Islamic banking team’s ability to combine Shariah expertise with strong business understanding to meet with our customers business needs. The trust and the partnership with our customers and product partners have provided us the ability to deliver on a number of industry firsts that now serve as a benchmark across the markets for future similar deals.”

Azrulnizam Abd Aziz, CEO, Standard Chartered Saadiq Berhad, said: “These multiple recognitions represent our growing success and continuous commitment in providing innovative banking solutions based on Islamic values. You can count on us to meet all your Islamic banking needs with our tailored advisory and financing solutions. We would like to thank our customers, regulators, shariah scholars for their guidance and to industry players. Saadiq in Malaysia will continue to be the right partner servicing our clients with innovative shariah compliance solutions and improving our customer experience.”

Standard Chartered Saadiq celebrated its first anniversary as a global Islamic banking brand last year offering solutions to Small and Medium Enterprises including Cash, Trade Finance and Forex, and product offerings to individuals including mortgages, personal and auto finance, as well as third party distribution of Islamic funds. In 2008 Saadiq was presented with 14 additional awards for major achievements in the Islamic banking field including:

Six deal specific awards from Islamic Finance News Awards - Deals of the Year 2008

- Sukuk of the Year, for Tamweel Sukuk
- Sovereign Deal of the Year, for Government of Pakistan Domestic Sukuk
- Project Finance Deal of the Year, for Al Ma'aden Phosphate Company
- Brunei Deal of the Year, for Brunei Gas Carriers
- Kuwait Deal of the Year, for The Investment Dar Company
- Pakistan Deal of the Year, for Government of Pakistan Domestic Sukuk

This brings the total number of awards for Saadiq to 28 since 2007.

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Note to Editors:

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

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 Bank 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 around 1,750 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 75,000 people, nearly half of who are women. The Group's employees are of 115 nationalities, of which 60 are represented among senior management.

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

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

In 1993, Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad made a bold step as the first international Bank in Malaysia to offer Islamic Banking products in their branches.

Standard Chartered Saadiq as a global brand, made its debut in Malaysia in 2007. This paved the way for Standard Chartered Malaysia next bold step towards establishing Standard Chartered Saadiq as a wholly-owned Islamic Banking subsidiary of Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad on November 12, 2008.

Malaysia has been identified as a key strategic market to lead Standard Chartered Bank's global thrust in growing scale for our Islamic Banking business. In 2004, SAADIQ Malaysia financing assets were a modest RM 10 million with deposits at RM 180 million. Today, our financing asset and deposit portfolios have increased to more than RM 1 billion, respectively. While this is a small percentage of the growing Islamic Banking business in Malaysia, we are now poised to leverage on this potential to grow our Islamic Banking business aggressively.

The establishment of Standard Chartered Saadiq Berhad was aimed at providing an alternative banking option to our retail customers especially Muslims who require Syariah compliant financial products for their banking needs. On the wholesale banking side, this will open a new avenue of opportunities for us to offer our clients with cross-border transactions for their businesses in the Middle East and other Muslim countries.

Recently, Standard Chartered Saadiq has been named the 'Best International Islamic Bank' for 2009 by Euromoney, whose awards are an industry benchmark for high quality products and services in all areas of commercial and investment banking. Saadiq also won 14 additional awards for significant deals completed in 2008.