

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PARALYMPICS WORLD-RECORD HOLDER RUNS IN STANDARD CHARTERED KL MARATHON

*‘Seeing is Believing’ Goodwill Ambassador provides inspiration
for visually-impaired students in Kuala Lumpur*

Kuala Lumpur, 24 June 2009 – Henry Wanyoike, world record holder of the 5,000 and 10,000 meters events in Paralympics of Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004, will be running the Half Marathon with his long-time running partner Joseph Kibunja this Sunday at the inaugural Standard Chartered KL Marathon 2009.

Running while connected to Joseph by a tether on the wrist, the visually-impaired Henry is completely dependent on Joseph to help him identify possible obstacles and challenges along the route without breaking stride.

The duo, who clocked 1:08:00 at the Half Marathon at the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2009 in February, are also here as Goodwill Ambassadors for ‘Seeing is Believing’ – Standard Chartered Bank’s global community programme aimed at helping 20 million people around 20 global cities to avoid preventable blindness.

In an entourage helmed by Arif Siddiqui, CIO of Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad and ‘Seeing is Believing’ Country Champion, Henry and Joseph visited Sekolah Menengah Pendidikan Khas Cacat Penglihatan, Setapak, and shared running tips with students. It was a motivational session where Henry shared his story of overcoming adversities while Joseph highlighted how partnership is key to achieving the impossible dream.

Henry Wanyoike said, “Courage and determination can help one overcome adversity to excel. And they can make dreams come true. Together with Joseph, I know that partnership changes lives and I hope we can touch the lives of others through our work with ‘Seeing is Believing’.”

It was clear that Henry and Joseph left a deep impression on the students. According to **Puan Che Fatimah bt. Che Abdullah**, Principal of Sekolah Menengah Pendidikan Khas Cacat Penglihatan, Setapak, this was an invaluable experience for the 33 students who are running in the Standard Chartered KL Marathon on Sunday.

She said, “We are grateful to partner Standard Chartered Bank for the work they do with the visually-impaired community. Earlier, the Bank had provided us with musical instruments so that our students can develop a better-rounded education. And now,

they have given us such inspiration through Henry and Joseph who demonstrate that dreams really can come true – if you have the right attitude and the right partner.”

Arif Siddiqui said, “Eighty percent of blindness in the world can be prevented. And this is precisely what we hope to do via ‘Seeing is Believing’, our global community initiative aimed at addressing the causes of avoidable blindness. To date, we have raised over USD 17 million for blindness initiatives and plan to invest a further USD 20 million by 2012. In Malaysia, we collaborate with our local community partners to combat avoidable blindness and we are delighted to have Henry and Joseph join us on this mission.”

-- ENDS --

For further information please contact:

Fiona Chan, Country Head - Corporate Affairs +603 2781 7209
Email: Fiona.SF.Chan@sc.com

Karen R Yap, Senior Manager - Corporate Affairs +603 2781 7257
Email: Karen-R.Yap@sc.com

For further information on Seeing is Believing initiatives, please contact:

Joanna Ng, Senior Manager – Corporate Affairs +6012 323 2246
Email: Joanna-Mei-Foong.Ng@sc.com

Note to Editors:

About Standard Chartered KL Marathon 2009

The Standard Chartered KL Marathon 2009 promises to be the largest marathon in Malaysia in terms of participation numbers (12,500 runners) and prize money. A total of RM 350,000 is up for grabs, with a guaranteed prize pool for Malaysian runners. The marathon will flag off at Dataran Merdeka on 28 June.

The Standard Chartered KL Marathon 2009 is organised by Octagon, with Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad as the Title Sponsor and MSIG Insurance Solutions as a Gold Sponsor. The Marathon is supported by the Youth and Sports Ministry, the National Fitness Council and the Kuala Lumpur City Hall, and sanctioned by the Malaysia Amateur Athletic Union (MAAU), International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), and the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS).

Staying true to its theme “Run Your Race”, you can select your desired category from a range comprising the Full Marathon, Half Marathon, 10KM, Fun Run (5KM), and the Kids Dash in two different age groups - 6 to 9 years old & 10 to 12 years old. Entry is free for the non-competitive kids’ category.

For more information, visit www.kl-marathon.com