



NEWS RELEASE

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Over 12,500 Runners Participate in Malaysia's first Standard Chartered KL Marathon 2009

Julius Ndiritu Karinga from Kenya wins grand prize of RM70,000

Malaysian Champion is Muniandy Ramadass

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 June 2009 – Dataran Merdeka on Race Day saw participants and spectators gathered in anticipation of a race to remember – with a total of 12,500 excited participants running, be it for competition or for the sheer thrill of finishing a race.

Before dawn broke over the historic site, spectators waited excitedly as YBhg Datuk Haji Salleh bin Yusup, Director General of Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) flagged off the Full Marathon at 5.00 am.

Racing through the Finish Line was Kenyan **Julius Ndiritu Karinga** as he completed the gruelling Full Marathon which is a 42.195km race.

His win and time of 02:17:02 are historic as they entered the history books as the first ever winners of the inaugural Standard Chartered KL Marathon 2009. Karinga's efforts also earned him the gold winners' medal and cash prize of RM 70,000. His win was made all the more special as this was his first time running the Full Marathon. "I am used to running the 10km and 21km but this is my first time running the Full Marathon after 8 years of running," he said.

Second place went to **Nelson Kirwa Rotich** from Kenya, who clocked 2:18:24 whilst third place went to **Armon Kipchirchir Kemei** who completed his Race in 2:18:56.

Speaking at the winner press conference following his win, Kipchirchir, said that this was his first time running a marathon in Malaysia and that he had previously run in the Standard Chartered Bangkok Marathon 2008.



Also making history was Kenyan **Frieda Jepkite Lodepa**, who emerged as the winner in the Women's Full Marathon category. Her time of 2:40:13 was winningly ahead of **Doreen Kitaka** of Japan who clocked 2:45:51.

In the Malaysian Full Marathon Men's category, the top runner was Muniandy Ramadass, who finished in 2:31:52. The Malaysian Full Marathon Women's champion was Yuan Yu Fang, who ran the race in 3:16:36. Both Malaysians took home a cash prize of **RM 8,750**.

The Half Marathon Men's and Women's category were won by Kenyans, **Shadrack Kemboi** and **Kapsoiyo Beatrice Jebichii**, with times of 1:08:10 and 1:33:05 respectively.

On hand to present the prizes to the winners was YABhg Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, who also flagged off the Kids Dash, which saw children aged between 6 and 12 years old, participating in a fun event specially designed for children.

Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad, Managing Director and CEO, Julian Wynter was delighted with the overwhelming response towards the Marathon and said: "Today truly showcases Malaysia, her spirit, hospitality, people and capital city. Standard Chartered KL Marathon is another milestone in the Bank's global sponsorship of Marathons. Our gratitude to everyone who made this possible - the Government, ministries, sanctioning bodies, partners and most importantly, every runner and their supporters.

"Going the distance and rising to a challenge is what Standard Chartered is all about. From what has been achieved today, we are confident this KL Marathon will be a key calendar event for Malaysia and a premier sporting event in the region," he said.

Marathon Race Director Hemant Dua indicated that the event proceeded successfully due to the overwhelming support of the sponsors, the Royal Malaysian Police, the Malaysian Amateur Athletics Union (MAAU), the Federal Territory Amateur Athletic Association (FTAAA), the Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL), the National Sports Institute and the hundreds of volunteers who came out to assist and be a part of this momentous affair.



“We are proud to have been able to organise a world-class event such as this in Malaysia, and we will continue to work with the local authorities to provide platforms for local athletes to enhance their performance,” said Dua.

About the Standard Chartered KL Marathon

The Standard Chartered KL Marathon, themed ‘Run Your Race’ is Malaysia’s largest race both in terms of participation numbers and also prize money. In just ten weeks, over 12,500 people signed up for the Marathon, which promised a total of RM350,000 in prize money. In addition, around 150 companies took part in Corporate Challenge, and over 50 runners in ‘Run For a Cause, collectively raising over RM500,000.

The race was divided into five categories – Full Marathon (1,900 runners), Half Marathon, (2,800 runners), 10km Corporate Challenge, (5,100 runners) 5km Family fun run as well as the kid’s dash, where all children were awarded a medal for taking part. Dignitaries who were present to flag-off the sessions were Director General of Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL), YBhg Datuk Haji Salleh bin Yusup (Full Marathon); Minister of Federal Territories, YB Senator Dato’ Raja Nong Chik Bin Dato’ Raja Zainal Abidin (Half Marathon); Minister of Youth and Sports, YB Datuk Ahmad Shabery Cheek (10km Corporate Challenge) and Minister of Tourism, YB Datuk Seri Dr Ng Yen Yen (5km Family Fun).

In addition to Standard Chartered Bank, key sponsors included MSIG Insurance, Reebok, 100Plus, Chevrolet, Jet Airways, Sheraton Imperial Kuala Lumpur and Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre.

For more details on the Standard Chartered KL Marathon 2009, log on to www.kl-marathon.com

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