

# press release

## **Standard Chartered Bank organises Abu Dhabi Investors Forum**

**Abu Dhabi, UAE – 14 October, 2015** - Following the success of its first Investors Forum last year, Standard Chartered recently hosted its second Forum in Abu Dhabi as part of the Bank's efforts to keep its clients up-to-date with the challenges and opportunities facing the industry in the UAE and across the GCC markets.

The event was hosted in the backdrop of many geopolitical and economic developments notably as the MENA markets are increasingly becoming plugged into the global financial markets.

The one day event covered discussions about the recent macro and micro economic indicators and statistics affecting both oil-exporting as well as oil-importing economies in the MENA region. The event attendees discussed the impact of the current oil price on both institutional decisions making to state policy-making, covering diverse topics ranging from resource subsidies to possible factors that may affect governments' spending currently and in the near future. This was a great platform to share insights into how the region is reacting to changes in the global economy.

Carla Slim, the Bank's economist for the MENA region, spoke about the UAE's competitive advantages in term of trade and investment and how the GCC region is weathering the current low-oil price environment. Carla also polled attendees during the round-table discussion on their perceptions as well as expectations on the state of our regional economy over the coming year.

Shikkoh Malik, Executive Director, Head of Islamic Products, Standard Chartered Bank presented an overview of the Islamic financial services industry, its historical origin as well as current market size, potential and growth trends.

**Commenting on the market and forum, Stewart Adams, Regional Head of Investors & Intermediaries, Standard Chartered Bank said:**

"This exclusive forum has become an annual platform where Standard Chartered Bank's clients and partners come together to have insightful conversations and exchange views with industry thought leaders on topical issues and emerging trends in the local, regional and international banking industry. With its deep local expertise and a strong footprint across the world's most dynamic markets of Asia, Africa and the Middle East, Standard Chartered is well positioned to offer a full range of financial solutions to Asset Managers across the region."

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**For further information please contact:**

**Jai Ganesh M**

Corporate Affairs MENAP, External Communications  
Standard Chartered  
+ 971 4508 4625  
[M-Jai.Ganesh@sc.com](mailto:M-Jai.Ganesh@sc.com)

**Wasim Ben Khadra**

Senior Manager External Communications  
Tel: 00971 4 508 3221  
Mobile: 00971 55 213 7824  
Email: [Wasim-ben.khadra@sc.com](mailto:Wasim-ben.khadra@sc.com)

**Note to Editors:**

**Standard Chartered Bank**

We are a leading international banking group, with more than 86,000 employees and a 150-year history in some of the world's most dynamic markets. We bank the people and companies driving investment, trade and the creation of wealth across Asia, Africa and the Middle East, where we earn around 90 per cent of our income and profits. Our heritage and values are expressed in our brand promise, Here for good.

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong Stock Exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

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