Standard Chartered

Standard Chartered PLC
（渣打集團有限公司）

(Registered in England and Wales number 966425)

STANDARD CHARTERED ACQUIRES 9.8 PER CENT STAKE IN KORAM

Standard Chartered announces today that it has acquired a 9.76 per cent stake in KorAm Bank for a cash consideration of US$154 million

Standard Chartered announces today that it has increased its stake in KorAm Bank to 9.76 per cent. It has paid a total cash consideration of US$154 million for the 9.76 per cent holding.

The stake of 19.82 million shares has been purchased in two tranches at an average price of 9187 Korean won. An initial acquisition of 3.68 per cent was followed by acquisition today of 6.08 per cent.

KorAm is the sixth largest bank in South Korea with total assets of US$35 billion. It has 224 branches, 42,000 corporate customers and 6.5 million retail customers.

"KorAm is a well-run business with a good management team and a history of foreign ownership," said Standard Chartered Group Chief Executive Mervyn Davies. "This provides Standard Chartered with another foothold in South Korea and gives us further insight into the country's banking market. We have no immediate plans to increase our stake further."

Standard Chartered already operates a Wholesale Banking business in South Korea and is committed to growing a Consumer Banking business in this market.

Standard Chartered first opened in Korea more than 100 years ago. It re-entered the market in 1968 when it was the first European bank to be invited to open a branch in South Korea.

This announcement is made pursuant to paragraph 2.2 of the Listing Agreement.

By Order of the Board
David J. Brimacombe
Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 6th August, 2003

Please also refer to the published version of this announcement in South China Morning Post dated on 07-08-2003.