



**Media Release
For Immediate Release**

35,000 runners sign up for Standard Chartered Marathon Singapore in just over a week

• Most categories are at least 50% filled up

• More reasons to 'Run for good' with introduction of new charity platform

Singapore, 2 July 2011 – History has been made again for the Standard Chartered Marathon Singapore (SCMS) 2011, as registration hit the halfway mark with 35,000 runners signed up as of 3pm today - a mere nine days since registration opened on 23 June at 11am. This meant that the Marathon saw an average of three sign-ups every minute over this period.

2 This surpasses 2010's record of 15 days for 35,000 runners. The record-breaking number is an affirmation of the success and popularity of the People's Race, when 70,000 runners are expected to take to the streets on 4 December 2011.

3 Numbers were equally impressive during the registration launch of the SCMS 2011, with 7,800 runners registered by 7pm, compared to 6,543 runners during the same period last year. Just three hours into the launch, registration for the *Ekiden* race category, the second edition since its introduction in 2010, ended with all 100 teams registered for by 2pm.

4 As of 3pm today, the 10km leads the pack with almost 60% of slots taken up, followed closely by the Kids Dash at close to 55%. Registration for the Full Marathon and Half Marathon are each about 50% filled up, while the slots for the 5km Fun Run has reached the 25% mark. The present registration data for the SCMS 2011 also shows that the highest number of registrations come from the 21 to 30 age group.

5 Organiser for the SCMS, the Singapore Sports Council (SSC), reflects on the quick take up rate of SCMS. David Voth, Senior Director, Sports Business, SSC and Vice-Chairman of the SCMS 2011 Organising Committee said, "We are constantly surprised and impressed with how the running community in Singapore embrace the SCMS. The pace at which this year's slots are being filled up is impressive and really underscores the SCMS as Singapore's marquee running event."

6 Online registration for the SCMS 2011 is ongoing with the Early Bird period ending on 20 July. Walk-in registration is also available at selected SSC Sports & Recreation Centres (SRCs).

'Run for good' introduces new platform

7 Along with creating an event that involves the community on a whole, the SSC is looking to translate the growing involvement to having participants taking part in the race with an additional purpose. Charity has always been part of the event, but to encourage more runners to be involved with its 'Run for good' programme, the SSC has introduced a brand new concept hosted on the online platform GIVE.sg, the Official Charity Fundraising Platform for 2011.

8 With GIVE.sg, runners can now nominate a charity of their choice and create a page on GIVE.sg to rally for funds. Alternatively they can raise funds for any of the 35^[1] nominated beneficiaries. Besides providing runners with the flexibility of choice, this platform also allows anyone in the world to donate using their credit or debit card in a safe and secure way. Local donors are entitled to a tax deduction of 2.5 times the donation amount when they donate to any organisations with Institution of Public Character (IPC) status. Runners can join the 'Run for good' charity programme at www.marathonsingapore.GIVE.sg

9 For further details of the SCMS 2011, please visit the Marathon's official website and Facebook page at www.marathonsingapore.com and www.facebook.com/MarathonSG.

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^[1] More charities will be added to the list for the 'Run for good' programme

About the Singapore Sports Council

Formed in 1973, the Singapore Sports Council (SSC) is tasked with developing a holistic sports culture for the nation. The SSC creates opportunities for people to excel in sports; opportunities for people to be engaged in sports as, coaches, officials, volunteers or fans; and opportunities for people to do business in sports as sponsors and investors. The SSC has changed the way Singaporeans view and participate in sports. Through sports, we now have an enhanced national identity thanks to our sports participation programmes; greater national pride as a result of high performance results at international and regional games; and more diversified economic stability through our vibrant sports industry initiatives.

To find out more, visit our websites www.ssc.gov.sg and SingaporeSports.sg

Follow SSC on Twitter at: www.twitter.com/singaporesports and Facebook at: www.facebook.com/letsplaysg

For a range of photographs, search for "Singapore Sports Council" on www.flickr.com

About Standard Chartered Bank in Singapore

Standard Chartered in Singapore is part of an international banking group with an extensive network of over 1,700 branches and outlets in more than 70 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas.

It 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. The Bank's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

Standard Chartered has a history of more than 150 years in Singapore, opening its first branch here in 1859 and in October 1999 was among the first international banks to receive a Qualifying Full Bank (QFB) licence, an endorsement of the Group's long-standing commitment to its businesses in the country.

It serves both Consumer and Wholesale Banking customers. Consumer Banking provides credit cards, personal loans, mortgages, deposit taking and wealth management services to individuals and small to medium sized enterprises. Wholesale Banking provides corporate and institutional clients with services in trade finance, cash management, lending, securities services, foreign exchange, debt capital markets and corporate finance.

The Bank employs over 7,000 people in Singapore and has a network of 19 branches, 30 ATMs, and 7 Priority Banking centres. Standard Chartered is the only international bank to offer NETS service, giving its customers access to EFTPOS at over 17,000 outlets islandwide. The Bank's global businesses - Consumer and Wholesale Banking - are managed out of Singapore, as is its global Technology & Operations function.
