



香港業餘田徑總會
Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Elite Runners From Around The World Ready To Face Off During Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017

[HONG KONG, 10 February 2017] – With the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017 being just two days away, a batch of international runners have arrived in Hong Kong, bringing together over 20 elite runners competing this year with over half of them are qualified as International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) Gold Level runners.

To welcome these illustrious marathoners to Hong Kong, the Organiser hosted a reception today, during which Mr. Yeung Tak Keung, JP, Commissioner for Sports, Home Affairs Bureau, and other dignitaries wished them the best of luck and encouraged the city's residents to come out on the race day, cheer runners and showcase their marathon spirit.

This year's star lineup includes the champions of the Men's and Women's Marathon in the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2016, Mr. Mike Kiprotich Mutai from Kenya and Ms. Letebrhan Haylay Gebreslasea from Ethiopia, to defend their champions this year. The marathoners have been acclimatising to local conditions these days to prepare for this IAAF Gold Label Road Race.

Mr. Kwan Kee, Chairman of the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association, said, "We are glad that the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon is also recognized as 'M Mark event' by Major Sport Events Committee of Hong Kong. The marathon is not just a running race, but also represents the 'never give up' spirit of Hong Kong. As the organizer of the largest sporting event in Hong Kong, I would like to take this opportunity to share the positive energy to all of you and hope you all will enjoy the race on coming Sunday."

Mr. Esmond Mok, Regional Head of Corporate Affairs & Brand and Marketing, Greater China and North Asia of Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, said, "Standard Chartered is honoured to be the title sponsor of the Hong Kong Marathon for the past two decades, an amazing race that has evolved from a local competition into an IAAF Gold Label Road Race. I am delighted that the Hong Kong Marathon has attracted elite runners from around the world, making this race truly iconic. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all the overseas athletes and I wish all runners the best of luck this Sunday. I hope everyone in Hong Kong can join us on the race day to cheer on our runners and enjoy the excitement of this world class event."

The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017 has been designated a Brand Hong Kong event by the HKSAR Government. Other sponsors of the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017 include: the Western Harbour Tunnel Company Limited; Nike Hong Kong; Citizen Watches (H.K.) Limited; Watsons Water; POAD Group Limited; GP Batteries International Limited; Mars Foods Incorporated (Snickers); BMW Concessionaires (HK) Limited; InterContinental Grand Stanford Hong Kong; DKSH Hong Kong Limited (Salonpas); Delonghi Kenwood APA Limited (Kenwood); and Tao Heung Group. Supporting organisations include: the Hong Kong



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Tourism Board; the Major Sports Events Committee; TIML MOM Limited; the Leisure and Cultural Services Department; and the Information Services Department.

The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017 is an accredited event celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

To share the joy of the 20th Anniversary, the HKSAR Government is joining hands with different sectors to organise a wide variety of activities and events under the theme "Together • Progress • Opportunity".

For more details on 20th Anniversary events and activities, please visit: www.hksar20.gov.hk/eng

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About the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon

www.hkmarathon.com

The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon is Hong Kong's largest participatory annual sporting event, organised by the HKAAA. With first title sponsorship in 1997, Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited will celebrate its 21st year as title sponsor with the 2017 Event.

Standard Chartered also sponsors marathons in 9 other cities globally including Taipei, Singapore, Mumbai, Nairobi, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Dubai, Stanley (Falkland Islands), and Jersey.