





#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017 Ethiopian Runners Dominate The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017

China, Taiwan and Hong Kong athletes shine in the Half Marathon, 10KM and wheelchair races

**HONG KONG, 12 February 2017** – The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017 came to a successful conclusion today with Hong Kong's largest participatory annual sporting event experiencing yet another record-breaking year. About 10,000 overseas runners participated in the 2017 race.

### **Overall Marathon Highlights**

Amidst the runners this year were 620 local and overseas athletes competing under the all-new, race registration category, "Charity Entry" to raise funds for the event's official charities and their various initiatives.

What's more, the all-new 1.8KM "Family Run" attracted approximately 600 participants, with marathoners running from Wan Chai Sports Ground to Victoria Park, Causeway Bay. From 12 to over 80 years old, some families saw three generations come out for this fun race, with everyone thoroughly enjoying this unforgettable experience.

Continuing as a Gold Label Race, a record number of athletes from around the world – about 10,000 – participated in the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017 this year. The Marathon Challenge was officiated by Mr. Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, GBS, JP, Chief Secretary for Administration of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("HKSAR"). More than 20 elite overseas runners took part in this race, all hoping to achieve their personal best.

#### **Marathon Challenge Highlights**

Both the Men's and Women's Marathons this year saw fierce competition. In the Men's Marathon, Bizuneh Melaku Belachew from Ethiopia vied for the top spot with a time of 2:10:31. In the Women's Marathon, Chala Gulume Tollesa from Ethiopia, took the top spot with a time of 2:33:39. The champions took home US\$65,000 in prize money respectively.

## Half Marathon & 10KM Highlights

Wong, Kun from China won the Men's Half Marathon with a time of 1:08:52, while You, Ya-Jyun from Taiwan took the top spot in the Women's Half Marathon with a time of 1:18:14.

In the Men's 10KM race, Chan, Ka Ho from Hong Kong took the top spot with a time of 32:10. In the Women's division, Lui, Wai Man from Hong Kong took first place at 38:06.







All funds raised from the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2017 will be donated to the race's three official charities: "Seeing is Believing", Standard Chartered's global initiative in collaboration with ORBIS in Hong Kong to prevent avoidable blindness; the Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society; and the Hong Kong Paralympic Committee & Sports Association for the Physically Disabled.

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 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.