

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Overseas and Local Elite Runners Are Getting Ready For Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2019

[HONG KONG, 15 February 2019] – The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2019 will be held this Sunday (17 February). A group of over 30 international runners, including more than 10 Gold Label elite runners have been arriving in Hong Kong and gearing up for the upcoming event. Local runners, Mr. Ngai Kang and Ms. Nicole Chiu are also ready to show their calibre against the overseas elites on race day!

The marathon organiser hosted the “Meet the Athletes” event today to introduce the overseas and local elite marathon runners to the public. Mr. Yeung Tak Keung, JP, Commissioner for Sports, Home Affairs Bureau, and other dignitaries officiated at the opening ceremony and wished the runners the best of luck. They also invited all Hong Kong citizens to come out on race day to cheer on the runners and experience the excitement of the marathon.

This year’s lineup of overseas elite runners includes Ethiopia’s Mr. Kenneth Mburu Mungara, the champion of the Men’s Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2018 to defend his crown and Belarus’s Volha Mazuronak who won the women’s marathon race at the European Athletics Championships. The runners have been arriving successively in Hong Kong to get acclimatized to the local conditions over the past few days and get ready for the IAAF Gold Label Road Race.

Mr. Kwan Kee, Chairman of the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association, said, “I would like to send my warmest welcome to our overseas invited elite runners who come from different parts of the world. The Hong Kong marathon route is known to be very challenging, going up bridges and running in tunnels. I hope you all enjoy running in our city while chasing for the marathon champion title.”

Mr. Esmond Mok, Regional Head of Corporate Affairs & Brand and Marketing, Greater China and North Asia of Standard Chartered Bank, said, “The upcoming Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2019 – Leaders Cup will mark the official launch of the Standard Chartered Belt and Road Relay. Hong Kong’s Financial Secretary Paul Chan and Standard Chartered’s Group Chief Executive Bill Winters will join our eight staff athletes in the debut run this Sunday. The Relay is a world’s first event aiming to highlight our continued commitment to the Belt and Road initiative. Our eight athletes will participate in running events across 44 Belt and Road markets within a 90-day period. As we celebrate our 160th anniversary in Hong Kong this year, we’re committed to supporting Hong Kong’s development – Together, We Run Further!”

The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2019 has been designated a Brand Hong Kong event by the HKSAR government. Other sponsors of the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2019 include: Western Harbour Tunnel Company Limited, Nike Hong Kong, Thong Sia Watch Co., Ltd - SEIKO, Watsons Water, POAD Group Limited, GP Batteries International Limited, BMW Concessionaires (HK) Limited, Regal Hotels International, DKSH Hong Kong Limited (Salonpas), Lukfook Jewellery, Otsuka Pharmaceutical (H.K.) Ltd. (SOYJOY), GOGO VAN and Samsung Electronics Hong Kong Co. Ltd. Supporting organisations include: Information Services Department, Hong Kong Tourism Board, TIML MOM Limited and Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

– End –

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 23rd year as title sponsor with the 2019 Event.

Standard Chartered also sponsors marathons in 7 other cities globally including Taipei, Singapore, Nairobi, Kuala Lumpur, Dubai, Stanley (Falkland Islands), and Jersey.