

**Thursday, 04 October 2012**

### **Standard Bank Named Most Innovative Investment Bank from Africa**

Standard Bank has been named the “Most Innovative Investment Bank from Africa” in The Banker’s Investment Banking Awards 2012. The Banker Awards, being held in London on October 4, 2012, recognise excellence in investment banking around the world. For Standard Bank the award continues to underline its credentials as a leading emerging market bank.

The Banker, the leading journal of the global banking industry, recognised Standard Bank for its ability to gain strategic advantage, adapt to variable market conditions, secure important and complex deals and succeed in an increasingly competitive landscape.

Helmut Engelbrecht, Head Investment Banking at Standard Bank Africa, says the award is recognition of the breadth and depth of some of the key deals Standard Bank secured, not only across geographies, but also in terms of innovative investment solutions used.

“Our investment banking franchise in Africa has played pivotal roles in landmark and watershed deals within the continent as well as in countries outside of our footprint. This was achieved through leveraging off our extensive network across 18 countries as well as the depth of our experience in Africa – enabling us to partner clients who seek to grow their presence across the continent,” he says.

While the award recognises Standard Bank’s active involvement in the continent’s economy for the last 150 years, it also acknowledges some of the innovative and unique deals that the teams have been involved in over the past twelve months.”

Mr Engelbrecht further explains that Standard Bank’s strategic partnership with Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) has laid the foundation for significant expansion of trade and investment between Asia and Africa, and continues to be a defining milestone for Standard Bank.

Standard Bank (20% owned by ICBC, the biggest bank in the world) – is the largest African banking group ranked by assets and earnings and operates in 18 countries in Africa, employing more than 50 000 people.

For the year under the awards’ consideration, Standard Bank closed a number of finance deals in a variety of key sectors, including mining and metals, oil and gas, power and infrastructure. Some of these deals include:

- Providing the single largest capital injection into the Zambian Copperbelt by a bank through the financing of Konkola Copper Mines;
- Raising the largest level of financing for a corporate in Uganda to date (Kakira Sugar);
- Providing the largest syndication in Ghana outside the annual Ghana Cocoa



- Board syndication and is the largest local currency syndication in the history of the country (MTN Ghana);
- Debut benchmark 144A/RegS sovereign bonds in Namibia;
  - Being involved in the acquisition of 25% of the black economic empowerment group Shanduka by China Investment Corporation
  - Being the lead financial advisor and investment bank to Metorex Group, when it was acquired by the Jinchuan Group of China.

In addition, Standard Bank also supported 16 successful bids in South Africa's renewable energy sector, providing R14-billion of financing and playing a critical role in financial advisory, debt arranging, carbon credits and equity investment, demonstrating its expertise in wind, PV (photovoltaic), CSP (concentrated solar power) and bagasse technologies.

**ENDS**