

16 May 2011

Oriel Securities and Standard Bank Group announce Investment Banking Alliance in the UK

Oriel Securities, the leading independent corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm, and Standard Bank Group, Africa's leading banking group, are pleased to announce that they have entered into a strategic alliance.

The two institutions will work together to assist mining and oil and gas companies looking across corporate finance opportunities and transactions in the United Kingdom.

This extends the number of strategic alliances Oriel has with other leading institutions to three. The others are with Scotiabank in Canada and HSBC in the UK.

Simon Bragg, Oriel's Chief Executive commented: "We are delighted to be partnering with Standard Bank, the largest bank in Africa. The combination of their deep client relationships across the African continent and other selected markets and our first rate London market and resources expertise will make this a strong and meaningful partnership."

"Oriel Securities expertise in equities, corporate finance and investment banking activities in the United Kingdom makes them a perfect partner for Standard Bank and its Emerging Market reach. The combined Equity platforms and investment banking capabilities will extend the range of services that the two organisations can provide to their clients both geographically and from a product perspective" said Ian Carton, Global Head of Cash Equity at Standard Bank.

- Ends -

For further information please contact:

Oriel Securities

Simon Bragg, Chief Executive or Lexa Hunt, COO +44 20 7710 7600
Temple Bar Advisory: Alex Child-Villiers or Tom Allison +44 20 7002 1080

Standard Bank

Ian Carton, Global Head of Cash Equity +44 20 3145 5000
Janice Garraway, External Communications + 44 20 3145 5092

Notes to Editors on Oriel Securities and Standard Bank

1. About Oriel Securities

Oriel Securities is an established leading corporate and institutional stockbroking and advisory firm with an excellent reputation and a proven track record across the UK market. It is an employee owned company with a partnership culture and an equity participation model and is dedicated to delivering the very best to clients by offering superior, independent advice, the very best in ideas and stability and continuity of service.

The Facts.* Oriel Securities:

- Offers: Research; Sales, Sales Trading & Execution; Corporate Finance and Corporate Broking
- UK only Sales and Trading desks with 40 dedicated salesmen and traders
- Makes markets in over 350 stocks

- RSP team offers a full service to our broking clients.
- Research coverage of 365 large, mid and small cap stocks across 14 sectors
- Has been recognised by both Starmine and Thomson Extel for its excellence in research and strength of recommendations
- Has 58 retained corporate broking clients
 - Which combined have an average market cap of £342m, including 13 FTSE 250 constituents
- Has undertaken 26 transactions for clients in the past 12 months with an aggregate value of more than £2.1bn; has helped corporate clients to raise over £1.0bn in the past 12 months
- Currently has 125 employees and expects to grow to around 150 employees in 2011

For more information visit our web site: www.orielsecurities.com.

*Information is correct as of 30/4/11

2. About Standard Bank Group

Rooted in Africa with strategic representation in key sub-Saharan and other emerging markets, Standard Bank Group is a bank with a global reach. The holding company is based in Johannesburg, South Africa, and listed on the securities exchange operated by the JSE Limited as Standard Bank Group Limited. It has been a mainstay of South Africa's financial system for almost 150 years. Standard Bank Group is a leading African banking group focused on building first-class on-the-ground banks in chosen countries in Africa and connecting other selected emerging markets to Africa and to each other. It has a footprint which now spans 17 countries across the African continent, including South Africa, and 13 countries outside Africa, including China and Brazil, which are key to its cross border strategy and success.

Standard Bank Group's equity is widely held. At 31 December 2010, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) held 20,1% followed by The Public Investment Corporation holding 13,3%. Excluding ICBC's holding, 27,8% of the group's shares are held by foreign shareholders.

The Corporate & Investment Banking division offers its clients banking, trading, investment, risk management and advisory services to connect selected emerging markets to Africa and to each other. It has specific global sectoral expertise, particularly in natural resources, with value propositions in: mining and metals; oil and gas; power and infrastructure; and telecoms and media.

Standard Bank Plc in London is the bank's principal international subsidiary. It is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority, and is a member of the London Stock Exchange, the London Bullion Market Association, the London Metal Exchange, the London Platinum and Palladium Market and the New York Mercantile Exchange (COMEX Division). Through its branch in Tokyo, it is also a member of the Tokyo Commodities Exchange (TOCOM). It has major trading affiliates in Brazil (Banco Standard de Investimentos S.A.), Argentina (Standard Bank Argentina S.A.), and Hong Kong (Standard Bank Asia Ltd.)

Key facts and figures

- Standard Bank Group asset base of R1 341 billion (\$202 billion) at 31 December 2010
- Market Capitalisation of approximately R170 billion (\$26 billion) at 31 December 2010
- Employs more than 53 000 people world-wide (including Liberty)
- The group's single largest operating entity, the Standard Bank of South Africa's long-term ratings are: Fitch Ratings BBB+, Moody's A3, and Standard & Poor's BBBpi. The South African long-term foreign currency sovereign ratings are: Fitch Ratings BBB+, Moody's A3 and Standard & Poor's BBB+

For further information visit: www.standardbank.com/cib