

30 October 2009

HSBC Ladies Golf Union Championship 2009

On Thursday 29th October 2009, the HSBC Ladies Golf Union Championship, sponsored by HSBC Mauritius gathered a strong participation of **38 golfers**. The event took place in the enjoyable cadre of the golf course of "Le Chateau de Bel Ombre". The tournament kicked off at 08 00. In groups of three to four golfers, the ladies remained focused to complete their course whilst enjoying the challenge and fun of competitive golfing.

For this year's edition, **Odile Lim Fat** challenged 2008's winner Nathalie Serret and finally won the **Gold Division**. She comments: "It was not that easy to win this year's championship. Each year, there are new challengers, hence a constant change in the level of competition and in golf playing itself. I am very proud to have won though not having played for six months!"

This year, HSBC Mauritius integrated one of its unique Corporate Sustainability initiatives: the **HSBC Junior Golf Programme**. 10 children, in the age-group of 10 to 16 years, from SOS Children's Villages, Beau Bassin observed the tournament as their first encounter to high level golfing.

The bank's involvement in coaching golf to children is part of its community investment projects. HSBC believes that the game of golf is strongly linked to the teaching of 3 key values that are essential for success in business and life in general: self-confidence, decision making and perseverance. We think that, by giving the children the opportunity to learn such values in a skilled yet fun environment, we are contributing to the shaping of their future.

Mrs. Valérie Espitalier Noël – Head of the organising committee, comments: "We are once more very thankful to having HSBC's support and trust in making the tournament so unique and special!"

"HSBC Mauritius is indeed privileged to be associated with an event of such scope for 3 years. It was indeed a great opportunity to link this event with our Junior Golf Programme and altogether made a success out of this day!" concluded **Marie Christine Liu**, Manager Branches, HSBC Mauritius.

The tournament ended at 13 30, followed by a prize giving ceremony.

ends/more

Media enquiries to **Amélie Desvaux de Marigny** on + 230 403 0785 or + 230 421 5145 or email ameliedesvauxdem@hsbc.co.mu

Notes to editors:

1. The HSBC

In Mauritius, HSBC operates 11 full-service branches and an offshore unit, which for many years has played a leading role in facilitating cross-border investment activity. It offers a wide range of products and services to a diverse domestic and cross border customer base, from accounts services to credit cards, savings, investments, home loans, personal loans and custodian services. Through our new locally incorporated subsidiary, the HSBC Bank (Mauritius) Ltd (HBMU), HSBC is able to offer many of its global customers more sophisticated financial products and structures that benefit from the extensive range of international double taxation avoidance treaties that Mauritius has negotiated.

2. The HSBC Group

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 8,500 offices in 86 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of US\$2, 422 billion at 30 June 2009, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.