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China Unionpay cards now accepted in HSBC's ATM network in Mauritius

HSBC and China Unionpay ("CUP") have recently reached an agreement that will now enable CUP cardholders to use their cards on all HSBC's automated teller machine (ATMs) in Mauritius, which indeed marks an important development in HSBC's ATMs capabilities and enhanced features.

Established in March 2002 and headquartered in Shanghai, China Unionpay is a bankcard association established under the approval of the State Council and the People's Bank of China. CUP is also the only bankcard association in China functioning as a national bank card information switch network providing interoperability of bankcards nationwide.

Since its inception, CUP has become the central and pivotal part of the bankcard industry, with cards having been accepted in 67 countries and regions outside China and does play an essential role in the industry development.

With more than a billion CUP cards in circulation and the rising number of Chinese businessmen and expatriates visiting Mauritius, this new service allows HSBC to offer CUP cardholders the possibility of accessing their funds via its ATMs.

Commenting on this collaboration, **Sandeep Uppal, CEO HSBC Mauritius:** "We are pleased to be able to offer these services to Chinese visitors holding these cards. Mauritius is one of the 19 countries in Asia Pacific region where HSBC will roll out this service."

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This news release is issued by
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Head Office:
18 CyberCity, Ebene
Web: www.hsbc.co.mu

News Release

Media enquiries to Amelie Desvaux de Marigny on + 230 403 0785 or email ameliedesvauxdem@hsbc.co.mu

Notes to editors:

1. The HSBC

In Mauritius, HSBC operates two entities - as a branch of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited and as a locally incorporated subsidiary, HSBC Bank (Mauritius) Limited. Through its 11 full-service domestic branches, HSBC offers a wide range of products and services including accounts services, credit cards, investment products, home loans, personal loans and custodian services to domestic customers. HSBC is the leading bank in the Mauritius Global Business sector and offers its global customers sophisticated financial products and structures that benefit from the extensive range of international tax treaties to which Mauritius is a party. It has been present in Mauritius since 1916.

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'.

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