Risk Review

Risk Management Review

During 2006 the credit risk environment has generally been benign and outside of Taiwan the Group has seen little evidence of stress in its major geographies.

The OECD market has seen a rise in default levels. However tight management of risk in Wholesale Banking, coupled with pro-active management of accounts has resulted in very low levels of provisions. The benign economic conditions in the Group's core markets, together with good progress on the management of problem accounts has resulted in further high levels of recoveries during the year.

The Consumer Banking impairment charge for the year has been significantly impacted by the consumer credit climate in Taiwan, which particularly affected the first half of the year. The Consumer Banking business has demonstrated a strong capability for dealing with such circumstances throughout the crisis, as evidenced by the material improvement in the impairment rate in the second half of 2006.

Consumer Banking continues to take initiatives to further improve its risk management capability. Risk control systems are being enhanced so the business can maintain its competitive advantage in this respect while growing assets profitably.

Despite the generally benign conditions, what is noticeable is that the credit environment is exhibiting many of the characteristics that have in the past indicated a downturn. Nevertheless, liquidity remains strong across most key geographies, and the ability to distribute risk widely, or to take protection at reasonable cost, indicate that any downturn may be gradual in nature and less of a dramatic decline.

The Group has made some significant acquisitions over the last two years. Risk controls and processes have been integrated into SCFB. The Group is also progressing well with the integration of the risk governance framework into its latest acquisitions in Taiwan and Pakistan.

The Group strongly supports the principle of a more risk sensitive approach to capital adequacy and therefore the new Basel II framework. The Group recognises that Basel II is a driver for continuous improvement of risk management practices, but in the short term it is also a significant regulatory exercise.

The Group continues its preparation for Basel II. Work started in 2002, with priority initially given to enhancing risk models to Basel II standards, and on developing the infrastructure required to gather and use the more detailed data required by the models. More recently, the Group has addressed the changes in capital management and regulatory processes in line with the Financial Services Authority ("FSA") guidelines.

The Group is now in the process of applying to the FSA for formal approval of its Basel II practices. Management is also in contact with local regulators; not all regulators will adopt Basel II at the same time and their detailed requirements will differ, presenting the Group with a complex implementation process that will take the next two to three years to complete. The Group continues to work closely with the FSA on these matters, recognising its role as the lead regulator.

Risk Governance

Through its risk management structure the Group seeks to manage efficiently the core risks: credit, market, country and liquidity risk. These arise directly through the Group's commercial activities whilst compliance and regulatory risk, operational risk and reputational risks are normal consequences of any business undertaking.

The basic principles of risk management followed by the Group include:

- Balancing risk and reward: risk is taken in support of the requirements of the Group's stakeholders. Risk should be taken in support of the Group strategy and within its risk appetite.
- Responsibility: given the Group is in the business of taking risk, it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that risk taking is both disciplined and focused. The Group takes account of its social, environmental and ethical responsibilities in taking risk to produce a return.
- Accountability: risk is taken only within agreed authorities and where there is appropriate infrastructure and resource. All risk taking must be transparent, controlled and reported.
- Anticipation: the Group looks to anticipate future risks and to maximise awareness of all risk.
- Risk management: the Group aims to have a world class specialist risk function, with strength in depth, experience across risk types and economic scenarios.

Ultimate responsibility for the effective management of risk rests with the Company's Board. Acting within an authority delegated by the Board, the Audit and Risk Committee ("ARC"), whose members are all Non-Executive Directors of the Company, reviews specific risk areas and monitors the activities of the Group Risk Committee ("GRC") and the Group Asset and Liability Committee ("GALCO").

GRC, through authority delegated by the Board, is responsible for credit risk, market risk, operational risk, compliance and regulatory risk, legal risk and reputational risk. GALCO, through authority delegated by the Board, is responsible for liquidity risk, for structural interest rate and foreign exchange exposures, and for capital ratios.

All the Group Executive Directors ("GEDs") of Standard Chartered PLC, members of the Standard Chartered Bank Court and the Group Chief Risk Officer are members of the GRC. This Committee is chaired by the Group Chief Risk Officer. The GRC is responsible for agreeing Group standards for risk measurement and management, and also delegating authorities and responsibilities to risk committees and to the Group and Regional Credit Committees and Risk Officers.

GALCO membership consists of all the GEDs of Standard Chartered PLC and members of Standard Chartered Bank Court. The committee is chaired by the Group Finance Director. GALCO is responsible for the establishment of and compliance with, policies relating to balance sheet management including management of the Group's liquidity, capital adequacy and structural foreign exchange rate risk.

Risk Governance continued

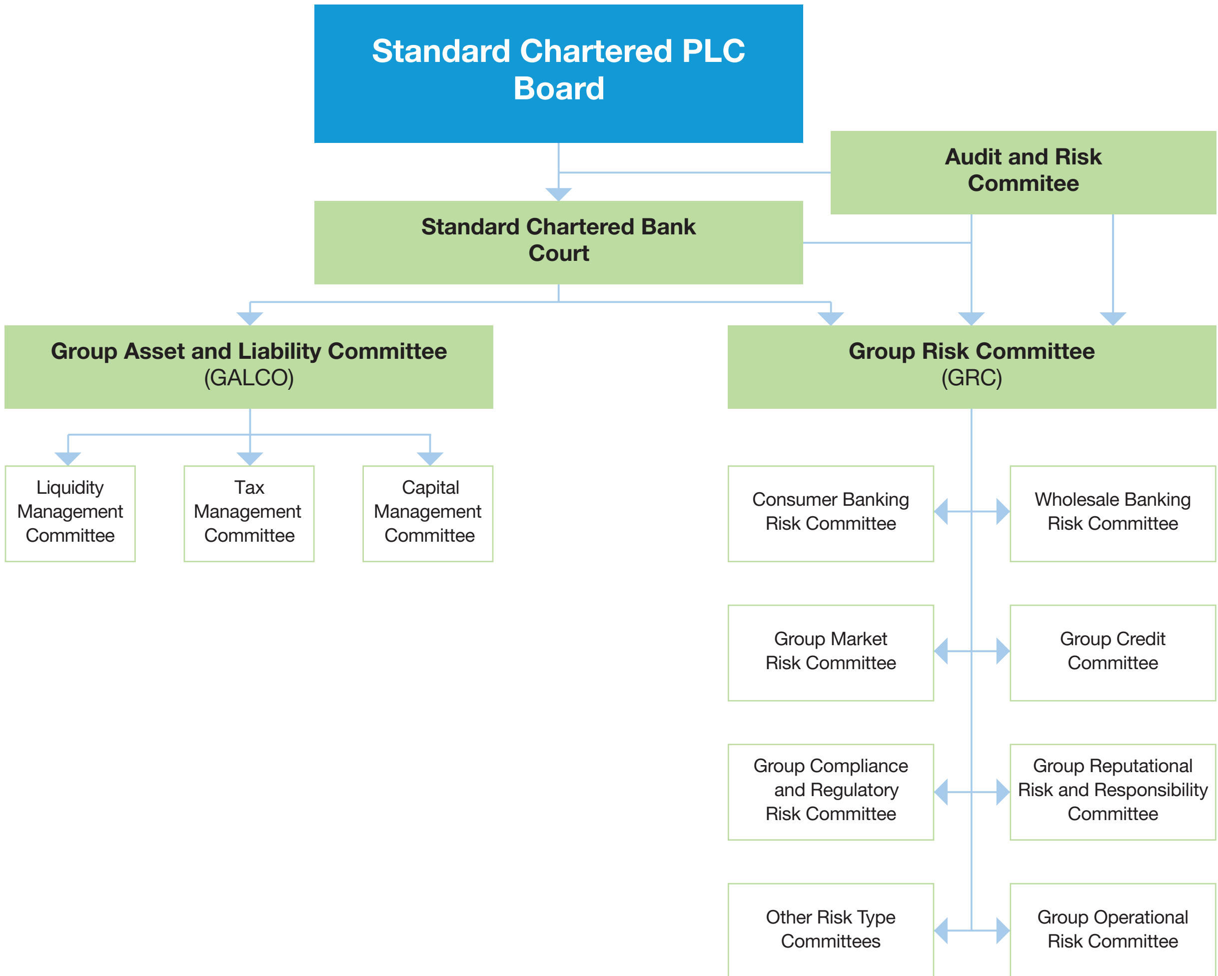
The committee process ensures that standards and policies are cascaded down through the organisation from the Board through the GRC and the GALCO to the functional, regional and country level committees. Key information is communicated through the country, regional and functional committees to Group so as to provide assurance that standards and policies are being followed.

The diagram below illustrates the high level committee structure.

The Group Executive Director with responsibility for Risk (GED Risk) and the Group Chief Risk Officer manage a risk function which is independent of the businesses and which:

- recommends Group standards and policies for risk measurement and management;
- monitors and reports Group risk exposures for country, credit, market and operational risk;
- approves market risk limits and monitors exposure;
- sets country risk limits and monitors exposure;
- chairs the credit committee and delegates credit authorities;
- validates risk models; and
- recommends risk appetite and strategy.

Group Risk Committee Structure



Risk Governance continued

Individual GEDs and members of the Standard Chartered Bank Court are accountable for risk management in their businesses and support functions, and for countries where they have governance responsibilities. This includes:

- implementing the policies and standards as agreed by the GRC across all business activity;
- managing risk in line with appetite levels agreed by the GRC; and
- developing and maintaining appropriate risk management infrastructure and systems to facilitate compliance with risk policy.

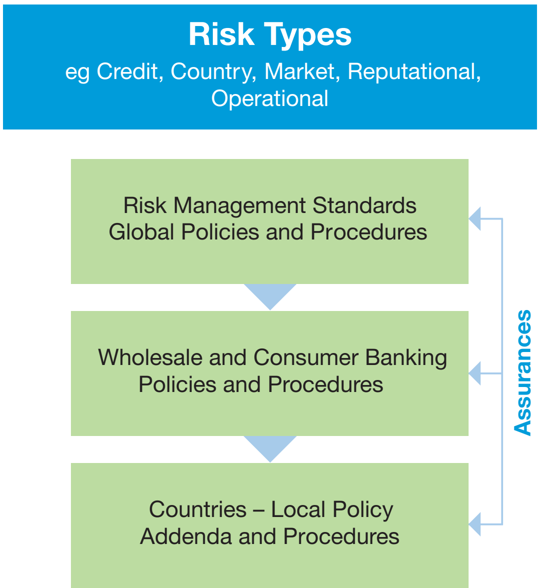
The Group's Risk Management Framework ("RMF") identifies 18 risk types, which are managed by designated Risk Type Owners ("RTOs"), who are all approved persons under the FSA regulatory framework, and who have responsibility for setting minimum standards and governance and implementing governance and assurance processes. The RTOs report up through specialist risk committees to the GRC, or in the case of Liquidity Risk, to the GALCO.

In support of the RMF the Group uses a set of risk principles, which are sanctioned by the GRC. These comprise a set of statements of intent that describe the risk culture that the Group wishes to sustain. All risk decisions and risk management activity should be in line with, and in the spirit of, the overall risk principles of the Group. The governance process is designed to ensure:

- business activities are controlled on the basis of risk adjusted return;
- risk is managed within agreed parameters with risk quantified wherever possible;
- risk is assessed at the outset and throughout the time that the Group continues to be exposed to it;
- applicable laws, regulations and governance standards in every country in which the Group does business are abided by;
- high and consistent ethical standards are applied to the Group's relationships with its customers, employees and other stakeholders; and
- activities are undertaken in accordance with fundamental control standards. These controls include the disciplines of planning, monitoring, segregation, authorisation and approval, recording, safeguarding, reconciliation and valuation.

The GED Risk and the Group Chief Risk Officer, together with Group Internal Audit, provide assurance, independent from the businesses, that risk is being measured and managed in accordance with the Group's standards and policies.

Risk Management Framework



Stress Testing

Objectives and purpose of stress testing

Stress testing and scenario analysis are important components of the Group's risk assessment processes, and are used to assess the financial and management capability of the Group to continue operating effectively under extreme but plausible trading conditions. Such conditions may arise from economic, legal, political, environmental, and social factors which define the context within which the Group operates. It is intended that stress testing and scenario analysis will help to inform senior and middle management with respect to:

- the nature and dynamics of the risk profile;
- the identification of potential future risks;
- the setting of the Group's risk appetite;
- the robustness of risk management systems and controls;
- the adequacy of contingency planning; and
- the effectiveness of risk mitigants.

Stress testing framework

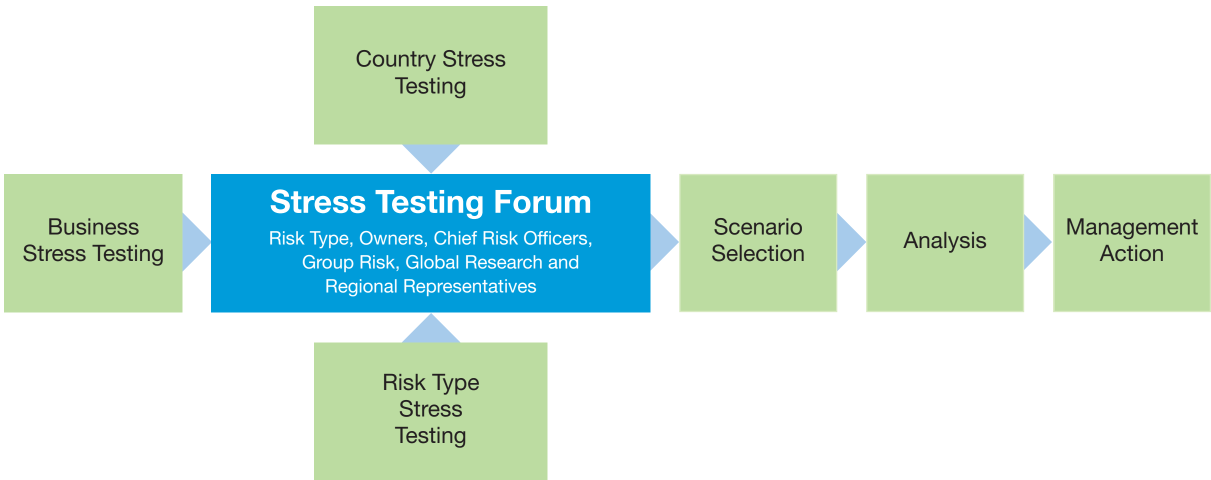
The diagram below illustrates the framework, which has been designed to satisfy the following requirements:

- identify key risks to the Group's strategy, financial position, and reputation;
- ensure effective governance, processes and systems are in place to coordinate stress testing;
- integrate current stress testing and scenario analysis procedures;
- engage and inform senior management;
- assess the impact on the Group's profitability and business plans;
- enable the Group to set and monitor its risk appetite; and
- satisfy regulatory requirements.

Key to the framework is the formation of a Stress Testing Forum that is a formally constituted body deriving its powers from the GRC. The primary objective of this forum is to identify and assess the extreme but plausible risks to which the Group may be subjected, and to make recommendations to senior management for suitable scenarios.

Group-wide scenario analysis represents a wide ranging assessment of potential impact. Therefore it is coordinated through a Group risk function, which is responsible for consolidating the analysis and highlighting existing mitigants, controls, plans, and procedures to manage the identified risk, as well as any additional management action required.

Stress Testing Framework



Risk Appetite

Risk appetite is the amount of risk the Group wants to take pursuant to its strategic objectives.

The RMF summarises the Group's risk appetite for each of the identified risk types, as well as the related management standards.

Risk appetite setting is the Group's chosen method of balancing risk and return, recognising a range of possible outcomes, as business plans are implemented. The Group adopts quantitative risk appetite statements where applicable, and aggregates risk appetite across businesses where appropriate.

For example, a formal quantitative statement from the Board communicates the Group's overall credit risk appetite and ensures this is in line with the strategy and the desired risk-reward trade off for the Group.

Where risk appetite statements are qualitative, these are supported with measures that allow business units to judge whether existing and new business and processes fall within the risk appetite.

The annual business planning and performance management process and associated activities ensure the expression of risk appetite remains appropriate, and the GRC supports this work.

Credit Risk

Credit Risk Management

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty will not settle its obligations in accordance with agreed terms.

Credit exposures include both individual borrowers and groups of connected counterparties and portfolios in the banking and trading books.

The GRC has clear responsibility for credit risk. Standards are approved by the GRC, which oversees the delegation of credit authorities.

Procedures for managing credit risk are determined at the business levels with specific policies and procedures being adapted to different risk environment and business goals. Risk officers are located in the businesses to maximise the efficiency of decision making, but have a reporting line which is separate from the business lines into the Group Chief Risk Officer.

The businesses working with the Risk Officer take responsibility for managing pricing for risk, portfolio diversification and overall asset quality within the requirements of Group standards, policies and business strategy.

Where appropriate, derivatives are used to reduce credit risks in the portfolio. Due to the income statement volatility which can result, derivatives are only used in a controlled manner and within a pre-defined volatility expectation.

Wholesale Banking

Within the Wholesale Banking business, a numerical grading system is used for quantifying the risk associated with a counterparty. The grading is based on a probability of default measure, with customers analysed against a range of quantitative and qualitative measures. Expected Loss is used for the further assessment of individual exposures and portfolio analysis. There is a clear segregation of duties with loan applications being prepared separately from the approval chain. Significant exposures are reviewed and approved centrally through a Group or regional level credit committee. These committees are responsible to the GRC.

Consumer Banking

For Consumer Banking, standard credit application forms are generally used, which are processed in central units using largely automated approval processes. Where appropriate to the customer, the product or the market, a manual approval process is in place. As with Wholesale Banking, origination and approval roles are segregated.

Loan Portfolio

Loans and advances to customers have grown by $28.3 billion to $140.5 billion. Included in this is the effect of acquisitions made during the year in Pakistan and Taiwan.

The Union portfolio increased loans and advances in Consumer Banking by $0.6 billion. The Union Wholesale Banking portfolio is $0.5 billion and is well diversified.

Of the $9.5 billion HIB total portfolio, 84 per cent relates to Consumer Banking and of this, 61 per cent represents the mortgage portfolio. The Wholesale Banking portfolio stands at $1.6 billion.

Growth in the Consumer Banking portfolio has been constrained with mortgages, both in Hong Kong and Singapore, seeing increased attrition rates as the local markets have become highly competitive.

Growth in the Wholesale Banking portfolio was $15.2 billion, or 34 per cent, excluding recent acquisitions. Growth was seen in the Manufacturing, Commerce, and Financing, insurance and business services industries. This was well spread across geographies.

The use of derivatives has partially offset the risks arising from the growth in the balance sheet during the period.

The Wholesale Banking portfolio remains well diversified across both geography and industry, with no significant concentration within the industry classifications of Manufacturing, Financing, insurance and business services, Commerce or Transport, storage and communication.

	2006									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Loans to individuals										
Mortgages	11,245	3,551	2,593	23,954	6,107	1,492	416	239	155	49,752
Other	2,235	1,028	771	4,612	4,163	928	2,650	483	537	17,407
Small and medium enterprises	919	1,548	883	4,907	3,037	567	323	133	–	12,317
Consumer Banking	14,399	6,127	4,247	33,473	13,307	2,987	3,389	855	692	79,476
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	53	13	53	20	108	25	65	159	297	793
Construction	57	29	26	262	88	198	332	78	2	1,072
Commerce	1,986	1,320	331	348	1,244	608	2,004	457	1,269	9,567
Electricity, gas and water	176	17	56	31	307	26	193	80	815	1,701
Financing, insurance and business services	1,817	1,664	724	1,176	1,436	479	1,245	182	3,264	11,987
Governments	–	3,328	3,397	13	20	–	4	–	235	6,997
Mining and quarrying	–	3	–	50	324	32	352	110	1,624	2,495
Manufacturing	2,282	701	228	3,208	5,376	1,435	1,848	406	2,504	17,988
Commercial real estate	819	708	5	849	650	231	27	7	–	3,296
Transport, storage and communication	277	338	149	189	293	249	810	173	1,647	4,125
Other	220	406	9	496	32	5	314	39	115	1,636
Wholesale Banking	7,687	8,527	4,978	6,642	9,878	3,288	7,194	1,691	11,772	61,657
Portfolio impairment provision	(49)	(28)	(26)	(86)	(313)	(33)	(58)	(10)	(6)	(609)
Total loans and advances to customers	22,037	14,626	9,199	40,029	22,872	6,242	10,525	2,536	12,458	140,524
Total loans and advances to banks	6,474	939	161	1,753	4,462	477	1,058	387	5,353	21,064

	2005									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Loans to individuals										
Mortgages	12,051	4,129	2,532	22,522	996	1,469	132	88	152	44,071
Other	2,154	1,043	663	3,954	3,145	947	2,001	525	158	14,590
Small and medium enterprises	791	1,673	794	4,727	989	332	78	107	–	9,491
Consumer Banking	14,996	6,845	3,989	31,203	5,130	2,748	2,211	720	310	68,152
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	24	–	44	9	110	17	25	183	234	646
Construction	91	48	11	90	64	139	223	41	6	713
Commerce	2,004	958	325	237	598	392	1,324	420	819	7,077
Electricity, gas and water	290	1	65	17	284	49	180	12	664	1,562
Financing, insurance and business services	1,425	925	589	1,135	1,065	502	1,235	168	1,842	8,886
Governments	–	2,323	1,976	66	101	–	70	7	331	4,874
Mining and quarrying	24	11	8	19	140	10	185	75	656	1,128
Manufacturing	1,223	302	344	1,702	2,955	1,019	1,210	402	2,186	11,343
Commercial real estate	1,194	834	3	797	555	61	5	13	18	3,480
Transport, storage and communication	320	235	240	80	304	108	452	174	1,477	3,390
Other	50	85	49	750	11	5	257	46	40	1,293
Wholesale Banking	6,645	5,722	3,654	4,902	6,187	2,302	5,166	1,541	8,273	44,392
Portfolio impairment provision	(57)	(26)	(30)	(68)	(107)	(33)	(29)	(10)	(7)	(367)
Total loans and advances to customers	21,584	12,541	7,613	36,037	11,210	5,017	7,348	2,251	8,576	112,177
Total loans and advances to banks	5,688	2,431	173	3,222	2,213	238	1,255	313	7,426	22,959

Maturity Analysis

Approximately 48 per cent of the Group's loans and advances are short term having a contractual maturity of one year or less. The Wholesale Banking portfolio is predominantly short term, with 78 per cent of loans and advances having a contractual maturity of one year or less. In Consumer Banking, 63 per cent of the portfolio is in the mortgage book, traditionally longer term in nature and well secured. Whilst the Other and SME loans in Consumer Banking have short contractual maturities, typically they may be renewed and repaid over longer terms in the normal course of business.

	2006				2005			
	One year or less $million	One to five years $million	Over five years $million	Total $million	One year or less $million	One to five years $million	Over five years $million	Total $million
Consumer Banking								
Mortgages	4,817	10,376	34,559	49,752	4,756	9,598	29,717	44,071
Other	8,787	6,506	2,114	17,407	8,352	4,666	1,572	14,590
SME	6,592	3,242	2,483	12,317	5,883	1,687	1,921	9,491
Total	20,196	20,124	39,156	79,476	18,991	15,951	33,210	68,152
Wholesale Banking	48,065	8,647	4,945	61,657	33,450	7,246	3,696	44,392
Portfolio impairment provision				(609)				(367)
Loans and advances to customers	68,261	28,771	44,101	140,524	52,441	23,197	36,906	112,177

Problem Credit Management and Provisioning

Consumer Banking

An account is considered to be in default when payment is not received on the due date. Accounts that are overdue by more than 30 days are considered delinquent. These accounts are closely monitored and subject to a collections process.

The process used for raising provisions is dependent on the product. For mortgages, individual impairment provisions ("IIP") are generally raised at 150 days past due based on the difference between the outstanding amount of the loan and the present value of the estimated future cash flows. Loan impairment for other secured loans utilises the forced sale value of the collateral without discounting. For unsecured products, individual provisions are raised for the entire outstanding amount at 150 days past due. For all products there are certain accounts, such as cases involving bankruptcy, fraud and death, where the loss recognition process is accelerated.

A portfolio impairment provision ("PIP") is held to cover the inherent risk of losses, which, although not identified, are known through experience to be present in the loan portfolio. PIP covers both performing loans and loans overdue for less than 150 days. The provision is set with reference to past experience using flow rate methodology, as well as taking account of judgemental factors such as the economic and business environment in core markets, and the trends in a range of portfolio indicators.

The cover ratio reflects the extent to which the gross non-performing loans are covered by the individual and portfolio impairment provisions. The balance of non-performing loans uncovered by the individual impairment provisions reflects the level of collateral held and/or the estimated net value of any recoveries.

The table below sets out the total non-performing portfolios in Consumer Banking. The significant decrease in non-performing loans in Korea is primarily as a result of the successful exiting of SME accounts and the realisation of collateral. The increase in individual impairment provisions in Other Asia Pacific and Middle East & Other S Asia includes the impact of the acquisitions of HIB and Union respectively.

	2006									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Loans and advances										
Gross non-performing	**80**	**100**	**202**	**531**	**668**	**48**	**98**	**24**	**5**	**1,756**
Individual impairment provision	**(29)**	**(38)**	**(67)**	**(239)**	**(377)**	**(17)**	**(64)**	**(10)**	**(3)**	**(844)**
Non-performing loans net of individual impairment provision	**51**	**62**	**135**	**292**	**291**	**31**	**34**	**14**	**2**	**912**
Portfolio impairment provision										**(452)**
Net non-performing loans and advances										**460**
Cover ratio										**74%**

	2005									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Loans and advances										
Gross non-performing	81	117	171	856	101	53	22	17	29	1,447
Individual impairment provision	(22)	(31)	(63)	(310)	(61)	(13)	(16)	(9)	(3)	(528)
Non-performing loans net of individual impairment provision	59	86	108	546	40	40	6	8	26	919
Portfolio impairment provision										(278)
Net non-performing loans and advances										641
Cover ratio										56%

Wholesale Banking

In Wholesale Banking, accounts or portfolios are placed on Early Alert when they display signs of weakness. Such accounts and portfolios are subject to a dedicated process with oversight involving senior Risk Officers and Group Special Asset Management ("GSAM"). Account plans are re-evaluated and remedial actions are agreed and monitored until complete. Remedial actions include, but are not limited to, exposure reduction, security enhancement, exit of the account or immediate movement of the account into the control of GSAM, the specialist recovery unit.

Loans are designated as impaired and considered non-performing where recognised weakness indicates that full payment of either interest or principal becomes questionable or as soon as payment of interest or principal is 90 days or more overdue. Impaired accounts are managed by GSAM, which is independent of the main businesses of the Group. Where any amount is considered uncollectable, an individual impairment provision is raised, being the difference between the loan carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows. In any decision relating to the raising of provisions, the Group attempts to balance economic conditions, local knowledge and experience, and the results of independent asset reviews.

Where it is considered that there is no realistic prospect of recovering an element of an account against which an impairment provision has been raised, then that amount will be written off.

A portfolio impairment provision is held to cover the inherent risk of losses, which, although not identified, are known through experience to be present in any loan portfolio. In Wholesale Banking, the portfolio impairment provision is set with reference to past experience using loss rates, and judgemental factors such as the economic environment and the trends in key portfolio indicators.

The cover ratio reflects the extent to which gross non-performing loans are covered by individual and portfolio impairment provisions. At 87 per cent, the Wholesale Banking non-performing portfolio is well covered. The balance uncovered by individual impairment provision represents the value of collateral held and/or the Group's estimate of the net value of any work-out strategy.

The Wholesale Banking net non-performing loan portfolio as at 31 December 2006 was 56 per cent lower than as at 31 December 2005. This was driven by a decrease in gross non-performing loans in most of the Group's key regions, except those affected by recent acquisitions.

The following table sets out the total non-performing portfolio in Wholesale Banking:

	2006									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Loans and advances										
Gross non-performing	167	69	29	110	251	24	121	100	152	1,023
Individual impairment provision	(130)	(46)	(25)	(46)	(154)	(22)	(102)	(58)	(151)	(734)
Non-performing loans and advances net of individual impairment provision	37	23	4	64	97	2	19	42	1	289
Portfolio impairment provision										(158)
Net non-performing loans and advances										131
Cover ratio										87%

	2005									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Loans and advances										
Gross non-performing	355	125	36	156	133	83	60	89	210	1,247
Individual impairment provision	(257)	(109)	(33)	(51)	(118)	(27)	(48)	(51)	(164)	(858)
Non-performing loans and advances net of individual impairment provision	98	16	3	105	15	56	12	38	46	389
Portfolio impairment provision										(90)
Net non-performing loans and advances										299
Cover ratio										76%

Wholesale Banking continued

	2006									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Gross impairment charge	14	9	2	7	3	9	10	19	7	80
Recoveries/provisions no longer required	(50)	(6)	(8)	(3)	(11)	(19)	(18)	(6)	(49)	(170)
Net individual impairment charge/(credit)	(36)	3	(6)	4	(8)	(10)	(8)	13	(42)	(90)
Portfolio impairment provision										(2)
Net impairment credit										(92)

	2005									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Gross impairment charge	70	25	2	–	5	6	9	40	12	169
Recoveries/provisions no longer required	(6)	(12)	(9)	(1)	(117)	(12)	(50)	(8)	(72)	(287)
Net individual impairment charge/(credit)	64	13	(7)	(1)	(112)	(6)	(41)	32	(60)	(118)
Portfolio impairment provision										12
Net impairment credit										(106)

Movement in Group Individual Impairment Provision

The following tables set out the movements in the Group's total individual impairment provision against loans and advances:

	2006									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Provisions held at 1 January 2006	279	140	96	361	179	40	64	60	167	1,386
Exchange translation differences	–	7	6	29	8	1	(2)	(1)	9	57
Amounts written off/recoveries on acquisition fair values	(119)	(108)	(51)	(170)	(403)	(64)	(88)	(17)	(48)	(1,068)
Recoveries of amounts previously written off	49	8	11	8	18	17	12	2	3	128
Acquisitions	–	–	–	–	369	–	134	–	–	503
Discount unwind	(2)	(2)	(4)	(32)	(7)	(1)	–	(2)	(2)	(52)
Other	(63)	–	–	14	1	1	–	–	67	20
New provisions	126	71	94	131	403	76	79	44	9	1,033
Recoveries/provisions no longer required	(111)	(32)	(60)	(56)	(37)	(31)	(33)	(18)	(51)	(429)
Net charge against/(credit) to profit	15	39	34	75	366	45	46	26	(42)	604
Provisions held at 31 December 2006	159	84	92	285	531	39	166	68	154	1,578

	2005									
	Asia Pacific									
	Hong Kong $million	Singapore $million	Malaysia $million	Korea $million	Other Asia Pacific $million	India $million	Middle East & Other S Asia $million	Africa $million	Americas UK & Group Head Office $million	Total $million
Provisions held at 1 January 2005	294	119	127	1	319	43	125	64	457	1,549
Exchange translation differences	(7)	(2)	1	4	(8)	(1)	5	(4)	(13)	(25)
Amounts written off	(156)	(30)	(58)	(21)	(204)	(66)	(70)	(43)	(223)	(871)
Recoveries of amounts previously written off	49	6	11	5	36	21	14	4	7	153
Acquisitions	–	–	–	352	–	–	–	–	–	352
Discount unwind	(3)	(3)	(4)	(28)	(2)	(1)	–	(2)	(5)	(48)
Other	1	–	–	–	19	(1)	1	(2)	3	21
New provisions	165	92	62	57	153	105	48	60	12	754
Recoveries/provisions no longer required	(64)	(42)	(43)	(9)	(134)	(60)	(59)	(17)	(71)	(499)
Net charge against/(credit) to profit	101	50	19	48	19	45	(11)	43	(59)	255
Provisions held at 31 December 2005	279	140	96	361	179	40	64	60	167	1,386

Country Risk

Country Risk is the risk that a counterparty is unable to meet its contractual obligations as a result of adverse economic conditions or actions taken by governments in the relevant country.

The GRC approves country risk limits and delegates the setting and management of country limits to the Deputy Group Chief Risk Officer.

The business and country Chief Executive Officers manage exposures within these limits and policies. Countries designated as higher risk are subject to increased central monitoring.

Cross border assets comprise loans and advances, interest bearing deposits with other banks, trade and other bills, acceptances, amounts receivable under finance leases, certificates of deposit and other negotiable paper and investment securities where the counterparty is resident in a country other than that where the assets are recorded. Cross border assets also include exposures to local residents denominated in currencies other than the local currency.

Cross border exposure to countries in which the Group does not have a significant presence is predominantly in relation to money market and global corporate activity. This business is originated in the Group's key markets, but is conducted with counterparties domiciled in the country against which the exposure is reported.

The following table, based on the Bank of England Cross Border Reporting ("CE") guidelines, shows the Group's cross border assets including acceptances where they exceed one per cent of the Group's total assets.

	2006				2005			
	Public sector $million	Banks $million	Other $million	Total $million	Public sector $million	Banks $million	Other $million	Total $million
USA	1,194	1,027	2,895	5,116	1,227	555	2,505	4,287
Hong Kong	4	576	4,531	5,111	1	311	2,776	3,088
Korea	8	1,029	3,439	4,476	13	1,476	2,006	3,495
Singapore	–	584	3,471	4,055	–	326	1,945	2,271
India	3	1,335	2,585	3,923	1	949	1,456	2,406
France	62	3,591	167	3,820	159	2,550	155	2,864
Australia	–	2,794	258	3,052	–	1,587	242	1,829
Dubai	–	1,504	1,413	2,917	–	702	690	1,392
China	94	1,055	1,571	2,720	63	982	1,405	2,450

Market Risk

The Group recognises market risk as the exposure created by potential changes in market prices and rates. The Group is exposed to market risk arising principally from customer driven transactions.

Market risk is governed by the GRC, which agrees policies and levels of risk appetite in terms of Value at Risk ("VaR"). The Group Market Risk Committee ("GMRC") provides market risk oversight and guidance on policy setting. Policies cover both trading and non-trading books of the Group. The trading book is defined as per the FSA Handbook BIPRU. Limits by location and portfolio are proposed by the businesses within the terms of agreed policy.

Group Market Risk ("GMR") approves the limits within delegated authorities and monitors exposures against these limits. Additional limits are placed on specific instruments and currency concentrations where appropriate. Sensitivity measures are used in addition to VaR as risk management tools. Option risks are controlled through revaluation limits on currency and volatility shifts, limits on volatility risk by currency pair and other variables that determine the options' value.

VaR models are back tested against actual results to ensure pre-determined levels of accuracy are maintained. GMR complements the VaR measurement by regularly stress testing market risk exposures to highlight potential risks that may arise from extreme market events that are rare but plausible.

Stress testing is an integral part of the market risk management framework and considers both historical market events and forward looking scenarios. Ad hoc scenarios are also prepared reflecting specific market conditions. A consistent stress testing methodology is applied to trading and non-trading books.

Stress scenarios are regularly updated to reflect changes in risk profile and economic events. GMRC has responsibility for reviewing stress exposures and, where necessary, enforcing reductions in overall market risk exposure. GRC considers stress testing results as part of its supervision of risk appetite.

The stress test methodology assumes that management action would be limited during a stress event, reflecting the decrease in liquidity that often occurs.

Value at Risk

The Group uses historic simulation to measure VaR on all market risk related activities.

The total VaR for trading and non-trading books combined at 31 December 2006 was $10.3 million (2005: $10.8 million).

Interest rate related VaR was $9.3 million (2005: $10.3 million) and foreign exchange related VaR was $1.5 million (2005: $1.1 million).

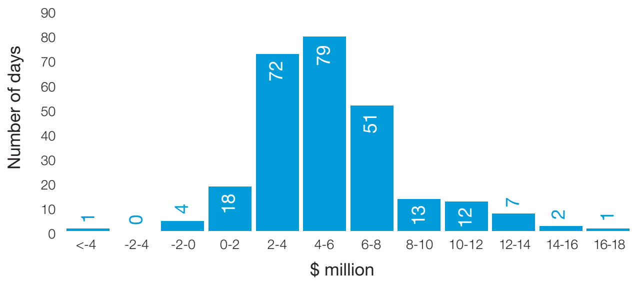
The average total VaR for trading and non-trading books during 2006 was $10.6 million (2005: $12.4 million) with a maximum exposure of $14.0 million (2005: $20.6 million).

VaR for interest rate risk in the non-trading books of the Group totalled $8.0 million at 31 December 2006 (2005: $9.2 million).

The Group has no significant trading exposure to equity or commodity price risk.

The average daily income earned from market risk related activities during 2006 was $5.2 million, compared with $4.1 million during 2005.

Revenue Distribution



Foreign Exchange Exposure

The Group's foreign exchange exposures comprise trading and non-trading foreign currency translation exposures and structural currency exposures in net investments in non US dollar units.

Foreign exchange trading exposures are principally derived from customer driven transactions. The average daily income from foreign exchange trading businesses during 2006 was $2.0 million (2005: $2.0 million).

Interest Rate Exposure

The Group's interest rate exposures arise from trading and non-trading activities.

Structural interest rate risk arises from the differing re-pricing characteristics of commercial banking assets and liabilities.

The average daily income from interest rate trading businesses during 2006 was $3.2 million (2005: $2.1 million).

Derivatives

Derivatives are contracts whose characteristics and value derive from underlying financial instruments, interest and exchange rates or indices. They include futures, forwards, swaps and options transactions in the foreign exchange, credit and interest rate markets. Derivatives are an important risk management tool for banks and their customers because they can be used to manage the risk of price, interest rate and exchange rate movements.

The Group's derivative transactions are principally in instruments where the mark-to-market values are readily determinable by reference to independent prices and valuation quotes or by using standard industry pricing models.

The Group enters into derivative contracts in the normal course of business to meet customer requirements and to manage its own exposure to fluctuations in interest, credit and exchange rates.

Derivatives are carried at fair value and shown in the balance sheet as separate totals of assets and liabilities. Recognition of fair value gains and losses depends on whether the derivatives are classified as trading or for hedging purposes.

The Group applies a future exposure methodology to manage counterparty credit exposure associated with derivative transactions. Please refer to note 51 on page 139 for further information on Market Risk.

Hedging

In accounting terms, hedges are classified into three types: fair value hedges, where fixed rates of interest or foreign exchange are exchanged for floating rates; cash flow hedges, where variable rates of interest or foreign exchange are exchanged for fixed rates, and hedges of net investments in overseas operations translated to the parent company's functional currency, US dollars.

The Group uses futures, forwards, swaps and options transactions in the foreign exchange and interest rate markets to hedge risk.

The Group occasionally hedges the value of its foreign currency denominated investments in subsidiaries and branches. Hedges may be taken where there is a risk of a significant exchange rate movement but, in general, management believes that the Group's reserves are sufficient to absorb any foreseeable adverse currency depreciation.

The effect of exchange rate movements on the capital risk asset ratio is mitigated by the fact that both the net asset value of these investments and the risk weighted value of assets and contingent liabilities follow substantially the same exchange rate movements.

Liquidity Risk

The Group defines liquidity risk as the risk that the Group either does not have sufficient financial resources available to meet all its obligations and commitments as they fall due, or can access them only at excessive cost.

It is the policy of the Group to maintain adequate liquidity at all times, in all geographical locations and for all currencies. Hence the Group aims to be in a position to meet all obligations, to repay depositors, to fulfil commitments to lend and to meet any other commitments.

Liquidity risk management is governed by GALCO, which is chaired by the Group Finance Director. GALCO is responsible for both statutory and prudential liquidity. These responsibilities are managed through the provision of authorities, policies and procedures that are co-ordinated by the Liquidity Management Committee ("LMC") with country Asset and Liability Committees ("ALCO").

Due to the diversified nature of the Group's business, the Group's policy is that liquidity is more effectively managed locally, in-country. Each ALCO is responsible for ensuring that the country is self-sufficient and is able to meet all its obligations to make payments as they fall due. The ALCO has primary responsibility for compliance with regulations and Group policy and maintaining a country liquidity crisis contingency plan.

A substantial portion of the Group's assets are funded by customer deposits made up of current and savings accounts and other deposits. These customer deposits, which are widely diversified by type and maturity, represent a stable source of funds. Lending is normally funded by liabilities in the same currency.

The Group also maintains significant levels of marketable securities either for compliance with local statutory requirements or as prudential investments of surplus funds.

The GALCO also oversees the structural foreign exchange and interest rate exposures that arise within the Group. These responsibilities are managed through the provision of authorities, policies and procedures that are co-ordinated by the Capital Management Committee. Policies and guidelines for the maintenance of capital ratio levels are approved by GALCO. Compliance with Group ratios is monitored centrally by Group Corporate Treasury, while local requirements are monitored by the local ALCO.

Operational Risk

Operational risk is the risk of direct or indirect loss due to an event or action resulting from the failure of internal processes, people and systems, or from external events. The Group seeks to ensure that key operational risks are managed in a timely and effective manner through a framework of policies, procedures and tools to identify, assess, monitor, control and report such risks.

The Group Operational Risk Committee ("GORC") has been established to supervise and direct the management of operational risks across the Group. GORC is also responsible for ensuring adequate and appropriate policies and procedures are in place for the identification, assessment, monitoring, control and reporting of operational risks.

A Group Operational Risk function, independent from the businesses, is responsible for establishing and maintaining the overall operational risk framework, and for monitoring the Group's key operational risk exposures. This unit is supported by Wholesale Banking and Consumer Banking Operational Risk units. These units are responsible for ensuring compliance with policies and procedures in the business, monitoring key

Operational Risk continued

operational risk exposures, and the provision of guidance to the respective business areas on operational risk.

Compliance with operational risk policies and procedures is the responsibility of all managers. Every country operates a Country Operational Risk Group ("CORG"). The CORG has in-country governance responsibility for ensuring that an appropriate and robust risk management framework is in place to monitor and manage operational risk.

Compliance and Regulatory Risk

Compliance and Regulatory risk includes the risk of non-compliance with regulatory requirements in a country in which the Group operates. The Group Compliance and Regulatory Risk function is responsible for establishing and maintaining an appropriate framework of Group compliance policies and procedures. Compliance with such policies and procedures is the responsibility of all managers.

Legal Risk

Legal risk is the risk of unexpected loss, including reputational loss, arising from defective transactions or contracts, claims being made or some other event resulting in a liability or other loss for the Group, failure to protect the title to and ability to control the rights to assets of the Group (including intellectual property rights), changes in the law or jurisdictional risk. The Group manages legal risk through the Group Legal Risk Committee, Legal Risk policies and procedures and effective use of its internal and external lawyers.

Reputational Risk

Reputational risk is any material adverse effect on the relations between the Group and any one of its significant stakeholders. It is Group policy that the protection of the Group's reputation should take priority over all activities including revenue generate on at all times.

Reputational risk is not a primary risk, but will arise from the failure to effectively mitigate one or more of country, credit, liquidity, market, legal and regulatory and operational risk. It may also arise from the failure to comply with Social, Environmental and Ethical standards. All staff are responsible for day to day identification and management of reputational risk.

From an organisational perspective the Group manages reputational risk through the Group Reputational Risk and Responsibility Committee ("GRRRC") and Country Management Committees. Wholesale Banking has a specialised Responsibility and Reputational Risk Committee which reviews individual transactions. In Consumer Banking, potential reputational risks resulting from transactions or products are reviewed by the Product and Reputational Risk Committee. Issues are then escalated to the GRRRC.

A critical element of the role of the GRRRC is to act as a radar for the Group in relation to the identification of emerging or thematic risks. The GRRRC also ensures that effective risk monitoring is in place for Reputational Risk and reviews mitigation plans for significant risks.

At a country level, the Country CEO is responsible for the Group's reputation in their market. The Country CEO and their Management Committee must actively:

- promote awareness and application of the Group's policy and procedures regarding reputational risk;
- encourage business and functions to take account of the Group's reputation in all decision making, including dealings with customers and suppliers;
- implement effective functioning of the in country reporting system to ensure their management committee is alerted of all potential issues; and
- promote effective, proactive stakeholder management.

Monitoring

Group Internal Audit is a separate Group function that reports to the Group Chief Executive and the ARC. Group Internal Audit provides independent confirmation that Group and business standards, policies and procedures are being complied with. Where necessary, corrective action is recommended.