

27 March 2015

## ***HSBC JOINS WWF's EARTH HOUR 2015***

***HSBC offices in 35 countries will be switching off their lights this year to show support for WWF's Earth Hour.***

The annual campaign led by WWF is once again calling upon individuals and businesses across the world to switch off their lights for one hour on Saturday, 28th March at 8.30pm local time.

HSBC offices and branches in countries across the globe have been supporting Earth Hour since 2009.

Thousands of HSBC employees around the world will show their personal support by participating in local Earth Hour events.

This year, HSBC Korea's building in Chilpaero, Seoul will participate in the big switch off. HSBC offices in a further 34 countries will also switch off their lights to show support for WWF's Earth Hour.

This is one small action in support of HSBC's overall commitment to reduce its annual carbon emissions by one tonne per employee, from 3.5 in 2012 to 2.5 by 2020. As part of this ongoing work, HSBC is partnering with its suppliers to find new ways to reduce the impact of its operations on the environment. By way of example, HSBC has signed three power purchase agreements with renewable energy generators in the UK and India. This is expected to provide 9% of HSBC's energy.

Martin Tricaud, President & CEO, HSBC Korea, "Managing our own environmental footprint supports business efficiency and is part of our long-term commitment to operating in a sustainable way. Earth Hour reminds us that energy is a valuable resource and it's important we use it efficiently."

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**The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited**

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding member of the HSBC Group, which serves around 51 million customers through four global businesses: Retail Banking and Wealth Management, Commercial Banking, Global Banking and Markets, and Global Private Banking. The Group serves customers worldwide from over 6,100 offices in 73 countries and territories in Europe, Asia, North and Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa. With assets of \$2,634 billion dollars at 30 September 2014, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

**HSBC in Korea**

HSBC has had a continuous presence in South Korea for over 115 years entering the Korean market in 1897 in Jemulpo (Incheon). HSBC is the leading provider of global banking and market services in Korea, and is one of the largest investors amongst foreign banks in Korea with total assets of 22,495 billion won as of 30 September 2014. HSBC Korea was awarded 'Best Foreign Commercial Bank' in Korea by FinanceAsia in 2013, and was voted the 'Best Domestic Cash Management Bank' in Korea for the fifth consecutive year in Euromoney Cash Management Survey in 2014.

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