



Rating Action

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PACRA UPGRADES ENTITY RATINGS OF STANDARD CHARTERED LEASING LIMITED

The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency (PACRA) has upgraded the long-term and short-term ratings of Standard Chartered Leasing Limited to ‘AA-’ (Double A Minus), and ‘A1+’ (A One Plus) respectively. These ratings denote very low expectation of credit risk emanating from very strong capacity for timely payments of financial commitments.

The ratings reflect the strengthening of Standard Chartered Leasing Limited profile with the implementation of strong risk management systems, policies and procedures – acquired from the parent, Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited. The ratings also recognize the financial and business support to the company by the parent. Meanwhile the company has an improved risk absorption capacity, emanating from relatively low leveraging and limited drag of net NPL’s on its equity base.

In addition to continuous support and guidance in strategy formulation from SCBPL, management’s ability to pro-actively align its internal processes and systems with the Bank would remain critical. Meanwhile the development of sustainable business model would remain important.

About the company: Standard Chartered Leasing Limited (SCLL), with its head office in Karachi is listed on all the three stock exchanges of the country and operates through a network of seven branches spread across major cities. SCLL has been in commercial operations since May 1994. Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited is the majority shareholder of the leasing company with an ownership of 86.45%. The bank is rated ‘AAA’ by PACRA.

The seven-member board of directors comprises experienced professionals from the financial industry, primarily employees of the parent company. Mr. Badar Kazmi, the CEO of Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited, is the chairman of the board. The CEO of Standard Chartered Leasing Limited; Mr. Ahsan Aziz joined SCLL in September 2008. He is a seasoned banker with a diversified national and international experience.

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