TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

TAXATION ON DIVIDENDS

Individual Investor

Pursuant to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (the "IIT Law"), which was last amended on August 31, 2018 and came into effect on January 1, 2019 and the Implementation Provisions of the Individual Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China, which was last amended on December 18, 2018 and came into effect on January 1, 2019, for income including interest, dividend and bonus, individuals shall pay individual income tax with applicable proportional tax rate of 20%. Unless otherwise provided by the competent financial and taxation authorities under the State Council, all the interest, dividend and bonus received from enterprises, public institutions, economic organizations and resident individuals in the PRC are deemed as derived from the PRC whether the payment place is in the PRC. Pursuant to the Circular on Certain Issues Concerning the Policies of Individual Income Tax promulgated by the Ministry of Finance and the State Administration of Taxation on May 13, 1994 and came into effect on the same date, overseas individuals are exempted from the individual income tax for dividends or bonuses received from foreign-invested enterprises.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income signed on 21 August 2006, the Chinese government may impose tax on dividends paid by a Chinese company to a resident of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) (including natural person and legal entity), but such tax will not exceed 10% of the total amount of the dividends payable. If an HKSAR resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a Chinese company, such tax will not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. The Fifth Protocol to the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income issued by the State Administration of Taxation effective on 6 December 2019 stipulates that the arrangements or transactions made for the primary purpose of obtaining the above-mentioned tax benefits are not subject to the above-mentioned provisions.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China (the "EIT Law"), which was amended on December 29, 2018 and became effective on the same date, and the Implementation Provisions of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China, which was amended on April 23, 2019 and became effective on the same date, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% enterprise income tax on PRC-sourced income (including dividends and bonus received from a PRC resident enterprise that issues shares in Hong Kong), if it does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. The aforesaid income tax payable for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income are required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise when such payment is made or due.

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The Circular on Issues Relating to the Withholding of Enterprise Income Tax by PRC Resident Enterprises on Dividends Paid to Overseas Non-PRC Resident Enterprise Shareholders of H Shares (Guo Shui Han [2008] No. 897), which was issued by the SAT on November 6, 2008, further clarified that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold and remit enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on the dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to overseas non-resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares. In addition, the Response to Questions on Levying Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprise from Holding Stock such as B Shares (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 394), which was issued by the SAT and came into effect on July 24, 2009, further provides that any PRC-resident enterprise whose shares are listed on overseas stock exchanges must withhold and remit enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprises. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has entered into with a relevant country or area, where applicable.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income signed on 21 August 2006, the Chinese government may impose tax on dividends paid by a Chinese company to a resident of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) (including natural person and legal entity), but such tax will not exceed 10% of the total amount of the dividends payable. If an HKSAR resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a Chinese company, such tax will not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. The Fifth Protocol to the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income issued by the State Administration of Taxation effective on 6 December 2019 stipulates that the arrangements or transactions made for the primary purpose of obtaining the above-mentioned tax benefits are not subject to the above-mentioned provisions.

Enterprise Investors

Non-PRC resident investors residing in countries which have entered into treaties or adjustments for the avoidance of double taxation with the PRC or residing in Hong Kong or Macau are entitled to a reduction of the withholding taxes imposed on the dividends received from PRC companies. The PRC currently has entered into Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaties/Arrangements with a number of countries and regions, including but not limited to Hong Kong, Macau, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States. A non-Chinese resident enterprise entitled to a preferential tax rate under a relevant income tax treaty or arrangement may apply to China tax authorities for a refund of the difference between the amount of tax withheld and the amount of tax calculated according to the treaty rate.

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

TAXATION ON SHARE TRANSFER

Enterprise Investors

Pursuant to the Notice on Fully Implementing the Pilot Reform for the Transition from Business Tax to Value-added Tax (the "Circular 36"), which was implemented on May 1, 2016, entities and individuals engaged in the services sale in the PRC are subject to VAT and "engaged in the services sale in the PRC" means that the seller or buyer of the taxable services is located in the PRC. Circular 36 also provides that transfer of financial products, including transfer of the ownership of marketable securities, shall be subject to VAT at 6% on the taxable revenue (which is the balance of sales price upon deduction of purchase price), for a general or a foreign VAT taxpayer. However, individuals who transfer financial products are exempt from VAT, which is also provided in the Notice of Ministry of Finance and State Administration of Taxation on Several Tax Exemption Policies for Business Tax on Sale and Purchase of Financial Commodities by Individuals became effective on January 1, 2009.

According to the provisions above, upon the sale or disposal of H shares, the holders are exempt from VAT in the PRC if they are non-resident individuals; in case the holders are non-resident enterprises, they may not be subject to the VAT in the PRC if the purchasers of the H shares are individuals or entities located outside of the PRC whereas the holders may be subject to the VAT in the PRC if the purchasers of the H shares are individuals or entities located in the PRC.

Income Tax

Individual Investors

According to the IIT Law and its implementation provisions, gains realized on the sale of equity interests in PRC resident enterprises are subject to individual income tax at a rate of 20%.

Pursuant to the Circular of Declaring that Individual Income Tax Continues to be Exempted over Income of Individuals from the Transfer of Shares (Cai Shui Zi [1998] No. 61) issued by the MOF and the State Administration of Taxation (the "SAT") and came into effect on March 30, 1998, from January 1, 1997, income of individuals from transfer of the shares of listed enterprises continues to be exempted from individual income tax. On December 31, 2009, the MOF, the SAT and CSRC jointly issued the Notice on Issues Concerning the Levy of Individual Income Tax on Individuals' Income from the Transfer of Restricted Stocks of Listed Companies (Cai Shui Zi [2009] No. 167), which became effective on December 31, 2009, states that individuals' income from the transfer of listed shares on the Shanghai Stock Exchange and the Shenzhen Stock Exchange shall continue to be exempted from individual income tax, except for the relevant shares which are subject to sales restriction (as defined in the Supplementary Notice on Issues Concerning the Levy of Individual Income Tax on Individuals' Income from the Transfer of Restricted Stocks of Listed Companies (Cai Shui [2010] No. 70) jointly issued by the above three departments on November 10, 2010).

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As of the Latest Practicable Date, no aforesaid provisions had expressly provided whether individual income tax shall be levied from non-Chinese resident individuals on the transfer of shares in PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges. To the knowledge of the Company, in practice, the PRC tax authorities have not levied income tax from non-PRC resident individuals on gains from the transfer of shares of PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchange. However, there is no assurance that the PRC tax authorities will not change these practices which could result in levying income tax on non-PRC resident individuals on gains from the sale of H shares.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the EIT Law and its implementation provisions, In accordance with the EIT Law, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to corporate income tax at the rate of a 10% on PRC-sourced income, including gains derived from the disposal of equity interests in a PRC resident enterprise, if it does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. Such income tax payable for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income is required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to relevant tax treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

Stamp Duty

According to the Law of the People's Republic of China on Stamp Duty promulgated on June 10, 2021 and became effective on July 1, 2022, PRC stamp duty only applies to specific proof executed or received within the PRC, having legally binding force in the PRC and protected under the PRC laws, thus the requirements of the stamp duty imposed on the transfer of shares of PRC listed companies shall not apply to the acquisition and disposal of H Shares by non-PRC investors outside of the PRC.

Estate Duty

As of the Latest Practicable Date, the PRC currently does not impose any estate duty.

MAJOR TAXES ON THE COMPANY IN THE PRC

Enterprise Income Tax

In accordance with the EIT Law and its implementation provisions, the applicable enterprise income tax rate of both domestic and foreign investment enterprises shall be 25%. Enterprises are classified into resident and non-resident enterprises. A resident enterprise shall pay enterprise income tax on its incomes derived from both inside and outside China, and the enterprise income tax rate shall be 25%. For a non-resident enterprise having establishments or premises in the PRC, it shall pay enterprise income tax on its incomes derived from the establishments or premises inside the PRC as well as on incomes that it earns outside the PRC but which has real connection with the said establishments or premises, and the enterprise

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income tax rate shall be 25%. For a non-resident enterprise having no establishments or premises inside the PRC, or for a non-resident enterprise whose incomes have no actual connection to its establishments or premises inside the PRC, it shall pay enterprise income tax on the incomes derived from the PRC, and the enterprise income tax rate shall be 10%.

Value-Added Tax

According to the Provisional Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Value-Added Tax which was promulgated by the State Council on December 13, 1993, and last amended on November 19, 2017, and the Detailed Rules for the Implementation for the Provisional Regulations the People's Republic of China on Value-added Tax which was promulgated by the Ministry of Finance on December 25, 1993 and last amended on October 28, 2011 (collectively, the "VAT Law"), all enterprises and individuals that engage in the sale of goods, the provision of processing, repair and replacement services, sales of service, intangible assets and real estate and the importation of goods inside of the PRC shall pay value-added tax at the rate of 0%, 6%, 11% and 17% for the different goods it sells and different services it provides, except when specified otherwise. Pursuant to the Notice of the MOF and the STA on Adjusting the VAT Rates effective on 1 May 2018, the deduction rates of 17% and 11% applicable to the taxpayers who have VAT taxable sales activities or imported goods are adjusted to 16% and 10%, respectively. According to the Announcement on Relevant Policies for Deepening the VAT Reform, which came into effect on 1 April 2019, for value-added tax-taxable sales or imported goods of a VAT general taxpayer where the VAT rate of 16% and 10% applies currently, it shall be adjusted to 13% and 9% respectively.

TAXATION IN HONG KONG

Tax on Dividends

Under the current practice of the Inland Revenue Department of Hong Kong, no tax is payable in Hong Kong in respect of dividends paid by us.

Capital Gains and Profit Tax

No tax is imposed in Hong Kong in respect of capital gains from the sale of H Shares. However, trading gains from the sale of the H Shares by persons carrying on a trade, profession or business in Hong Kong, where such gains are derived from or arise in Hong Kong from such trade, profession or business will be subject to Hong Kong profits tax, which is currently imposed at the maximum rate of 16.5% on corporations and at the maximum rate of 15% on unincorporated businesses. The gains of certain categories of taxpayers (for example, financial institutions, insurance companies and securities dealers) are likely to be regarded as deriving trading gains rather than capital gains unless these taxpayers can prove that the investment securities are held for long-term investment purposes. Trading gains from sales of H Shares effected on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange will be considered to be derived from or arise in Hong Kong. Liability for Hong Kong profits tax would thus arise in respect of trading gains from sales of H Shares effected on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange realized by persons carrying on a business of trading or dealing in securities in Hong Kong.

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Stamp Duty

Hong Kong stamp duty, currently charged at the ad valorem rate of 0.1% on the higher of the consideration for or the market value of the H Shares, will be payable by the purchaser on every purchase and by the seller on every sale of Hong Kong securities, including H Shares (in other words, a total of 0.2% is currently payable on a typical sale and purchase transaction involving H Shares). In addition, a fixed stamp duty of HK\$5.00 is currently payable on any instrument of transfer of H Shares. Where one of the parties of the transfer is a resident outside Hong Kong and does not pay the ad valorem duty due by it, the duty not paid will be assessed on the instrument of transfer (if any) and will be payable by the transferee. If no stamp duty is paid on or before the due date, a penalty of up to ten times the duty payable may be imposed.

Estate Duty

The Revenue (Abolition of Estate Duty) Ordinance 2005 came into effect on February 11, 2006 in Hong Kong, pursuant to which no Hong Kong estate duty is payable and no estate duty clearance papers are needed for an application of a grant of representation in respect of holders of H Shares whose deaths occur on or after February 11, 2006.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The lawful currency of the PRC is Renminbi, which is currently subject to foreign exchange control and cannot be freely converted into foreign currency. The SAFE, with the authorization of the People's Bank of China ("PBOC"), is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange control regulations.

The Foreign Exchange Administration Regulations of the PRC, which was issued by the State Council on January 29, 1996, implemented on April 1, 1996 and latest amended on August 5, 2008, classifies all international payments and transfers into current account items and capital account items. Current account items are subject to the reasonable examination of the veracity of transaction documents and the consistency of the transaction documents and the foreign exchange receipts and payments by financial institutions engaging in settlement and sale of foreign currencies and supervision and inspection by the foreign exchange administrative authorities. For capital account items, overseas organizations and overseas individuals making direct investments in China shall, upon approval by the relevant authorities in charge, process registration formalities with the foreign exchange administrative authorities. Foreign exchange income received overseas can be repatriated or deposited overseas, and foreign exchange and foreign exchange settlement funds under the capital account are required to be used only for purposes as approved by the competent authorities and foreign exchange administrative authorities. In the event that international revenues and expenditure occur or may occur a material misbalance, or the national economy encounters or may encounter a severe crisis, the State may adopt necessary safeguard and control measures on international revenues and expenditure.

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The Regulations for the Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange, which was promulgated by the PBOC on June 20, 1996 and implemented on July 1, 1996, removes other restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange under current account items, while imposing existing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions under capital account items.

According to the Announcement on Improving the Reform of the Renminbi Exchange Rate Formation Mechanism, which was issued by the PBOC and implemented on July 21, 2005, the PRC has started to implement a managed floating exchange rate system in which the exchange rate would be determined based on market supply and demand and adjusted with reference to a basket of currencies since July 21, 2005. Therefore, the Renminbi exchange rate was no longer pegged to the U.S. dollar. PBOC would publish the closing price of the exchange rate of the Renminbi against trading currencies such as the U.S. dollar in the interbank foreign exchange market after the closing of the market on each working day, as the central parity of the currency against Renminbi transactions on the following working day.

According to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, PRC enterprises (including foreign investment enterprises) which need foreign exchange for current account item transactions may, without the approval of the foreign exchange administrative authorities, effect payment through foreign exchange accounts opened at the designated foreign exchange bank, on the strength of valid transaction receipts and proof. Foreign investment enterprises which need foreign exchange for the distribution of profits to their shareholders and PRC enterprises which, in accordance with regulations, are required to pay dividends to their shareholders in foreign exchange (such as our Company) may, on the strength of resolutions of the board of directors or the shareholders' meeting on the distribution of profits, effect payment from foreign exchange accounts at the designated foreign exchange bank, or effect exchange and payment at the designated foreign exchange bank.

According to the Notice on Relevant Issue Concerning the Administration of Foreign Exchange for Overseas Listing issued by the SAFE and implemented on December 26, 2014, a domestic company shall, within 15 business days from the date of the end of its overseas listing issuance, register the overseas listing with the local branch office of state administration of foreign exchange at the place of its establishment; the proceeds from an overseas listing of a domestic company may be remitted to the domestic account or deposited in an overseas account, but the use of the proceeds shall be consistent with the content of the public disclosure documents.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Further Simplifying and Improving Foreign Exchange Administration Policy on Direct Investment, which was issued by the SAFE on February 13, 2015, came into effect on June 1, 2015 and partially repealed on December 30, 2019, the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment shall be directly examined and handled by banks. SAFE and its branch offices shall indirectly regulate the foreign exchange registration of direct investment through banks.

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According to the Circular on Reforming and Regulating Policies on the Control over Foreign Exchange Settlement of Capital Accounts which was promulgated by the SAFE and implemented on June 9, 2016, foreign currency earnings in capital account that relevant policies of willingness exchange settlement have been clearly implemented on (including the recalling of raised capital by overseas listing) may undertake foreign exchange settlement in the banks according to actual business needs of the domestic institutions. The tentative percentage of foreign exchange settlement for foreign currency earnings in capital account of domestic institutions is 100%, subject to adjustment of the SAFE in due time in accordance with international revenue and expenditure situations.

On October 23, 2019, the SAFE issued the Notice on Further Facilitating Cross-border Trade and Investment (HuiFa [2019] No. 28), which canceled restrictions on domestic equity investments made with capital funds by non-investing foreign-funded enterprises. In addition, restrictions on the use of funds for foreign exchange settlement of domestic accounts for the realization of assets have been removed and restrictions on the use and foreign exchange settlement of foreign investors' security deposits have been relaxed. Eligible enterprises in the pilot area are also allowed to use revenues under capital, such as capital funds, foreign debts and overseas listing revenues for domestic payments without providing materials to the bank in advance for authenticity verification on an item by item basis, while the use of funds should be true, in compliance with applicable rules and conforming to the current capital revenue management regulations.