## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

# I. TAXATION OF SECURITY HOLDERS

The taxation of income and capital gains of holders of H Shares is subject to the laws and practices of the PRC and of jurisdictions in which holders of H Shares are residents or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current effective laws and practices, and no predictions are made about changes or adjustments to relevant laws or policies, and no comments or suggestions will be made accordingly. The discussion has no intention to cover all possible tax consequences resulting from the investment in H Shares, nor does it take the specific circumstances of any particular investor into account. Accordingly, you should consult your own tax advisor regarding the tax consequences of an investment in H Shares. The discussion is based upon laws and relevant interpretations in effect as of the date of this document, which is subject to change or adjustment and may have retrospective effect. No issues on PRC or Hong Kong taxation other than income tax, capital appreciation and profit tax, business tax/appreciation tax, stamp duty and estate duty were referred in the discussion. [REDACTED] are urged to consult their financial advisors regarding the PRC, Hong Kong and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of H Share.

#### II. TAXATION IN THE PRC

#### 1. Taxation on Dividends

# (i) Individual Investor

Pursuant to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》) (the "IIT Law"), which was latest amended on August 31, 2018 and its implementation rules, for individual income including interest, dividend and bonus, individual income tax with applicable proportional tax rate of 20% shall be paid. Unless otherwise provided by the competent financial and taxation authorities under the State Council, all the interest, dividend and bonus are deemed as derived from the PRC whether the payment place is in the PRC. Pursuant to the Circular on Certain Issues Concerning the Notice of the MOF and the STA on Policies of Individual Income Tax (《財政部、國家稅務總局關于個人所得稅若干政策問題的通知》) promulgated on 13 May 1994, overseas individuals are exempted from the individual income tax for dividends or bonuses received from foreign-invested enterprises.

# (ii) Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the EIT Law and its implementation rules, a uniform enterprise income tax rate of 25% is imposed on all resident enterprises in China, including foreign-invested enterprises; a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to enterprise income tax at a rate of 20% on PRC-sourced income (including dividends 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 is 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 when such payment is made or due.

The Circular on Issues relating to the Withholding of Enterprise Income Tax by PRC Resident Enterprises on Dividends Paid to Overseas Non-Resident Enterprise Shareholders of H Shares (《關于中國居民企業向境外H股非居民企業股東派發股息代扣代繳企業所得稅有關問題的通知》), which was issued by the SAT on November 6, 2008, further clarifies that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on the dividends distributed to overseas non-resident enterprise

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

shareholders of H Shares in 2008 and any subsequent year. In addition, the Response of the STA to Questions on Levying Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprise from Holding Stock such as B Shares (《國家稅務總局關于非居民企業取得B股等股票股息徵收企業所得稅問題的批復》), which was issued by the SAT 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 distributed to overseas non-resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares in 2008 and any subsequent year. 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 Double Tax Avoidance Arrangement, which was signed on August 21, 2006, the Chinese Government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a Chinese company to Hong Kong residents (including natural persons and legal entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a Chinese company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. The Fifth Protocol of the Arrangement between Mainland China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Tax Evasion on Income (《內地和香港特別行政區關于對所得避免雙重徵税和防止偷漏税的安排》第五議定書), which came in to effect on December 6, 2019, adds a criteria for the qualification of entitlement to enjoy treaty benefits. Although there may be other provisions under the Arrangement, the treaty benefits under the criteria shall not be granted in the circumstance where the main purposes for the arrangement or transactions which will bring any direct or indirect benefits under this Arrangement, after taking into account all relevant facts and conditions, are reasonably deemed to be obtaining such benefits, except when the grant of such benefits under such circumstance is consistent with relevant objective and goal under the Arrangement. The application of the dividend clause of tax agreements is subject to the statutory requirements of PRC tax law documents, such as the Notice of the STA on Certain Issues with Respect to the Enforcement of Dividend Provisions in Tax Treaties (《國家稅務總局關于執行稅收 協定股息條款有關問題的通知》).

# (iii) Tax Treaties

Non-PRC resident investors residing in countries which have entered into treaties 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 Hong Kong, Macau, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States. Non-PRC resident enterprises entitled to preferential tax rates in accordance with the relevant income tax treaties or arrangements are required to apply to the Chinese tax authorities for a refund of the withholding tax in excess of the agreed tax rate, and the refund payment is subject to approval by the Chinese tax authorities.

# 2. Taxation on Share Transfer

#### (i) Individual Investor

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

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Pursuant to the Circular of the MOF and the STA on Continuing to Temporarily Exempt Individual Income Tax on Income from the Transfer of Shares by Individuals (《財政部、國家稅務總局關于個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知》) issued by the MOF and the SAT in March 1998, from January 1, 1997, income of individuals from transfer of the shares of listed enterprises shall continue to be exempted from individual income tax. On December 31, 2009, the MOF, the SAT and CSRC jointly issued the Circular on Issues on Levying Individual Income Tax over the Income Received by Individuals from the Transfer of Restricted Shares of Listed Company (《關于個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的通知》), this circular provides that any individual's 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 of the MOF, the STA and the CSRC on Issues on Levying Individual Income Tax over the Income Received by Individuals from the Transfer of Restricted Shares of Listed Company (《財政部、國家稅務總局、證監會關于個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的補充通知》) jointly issued by the abovementioned three departments on November 10, 2010).

As of the Latest Practicable Date, no aforesaid provisions had expressly provided that whether individual income tax shall be levied from non-PRC resident individuals on the transfer of shares in PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges.

## (ii) Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the EIT Law and its implementation rules, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to enterprise income tax at the rate of a 20% 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 is 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 when such payment is made or due. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to relevant tax treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

# 3. Stamp Duty

Pursuant to the Stamp Duty Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國印花税法》) issued by the SCNPC on June 10, 2021 and implemented on July 1, 2022, the PRC stamp duty applies to entities and individuals that conclude taxable documents and conduct securities transactions within the PRC and the entities and individuals that conclude taxable documents outside the PRC which are used within the PRC. Therefore, the requirements of the stamp duty imposed on the transfer of shares of PRC listed companies does not apply to the acquisition and disposal of H shares outside the PRC by non-PRC investors.

# 4. Estate Duty

The PRC currently does not impose any estate duty.

# III. MAJOR TAXES ON OUR COMPANY IN THE PRC

Please refer to the section headed "Regulatory Overview" in this document.

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

# IV. PRC LAWS AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO FOREIGN EXCHANGE

According to the Regulations on Foreign Exchange Administration of the PRC (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) promulgated on January 29, 1996 and amended from time to time, the RMB is generally freely convertible for current account items, including the distribution of dividends, trade and service related foreign exchange transactions, but not for capital account items, such as direct investment, loan, repatriation of investment and investment in securities outside the PRC, unless the prior approval of the SAFE or its designated banks is obtained.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Policies for Reforming and Regulating the Control over Foreign Exchange Settlement under the Capital Account(《國家外匯管理局關于改革和規範資本項目結匯管理政策的通知》), which was promulgated and came into effective on June 9, 2016, the settlement of foreign exchange receipts under the capital account (including but not limited to foreign currency capital and foreign debts) may convert from foreign currency into RMB on self-discretionary basis. The ratio of the discretionary exchange rate of foreign exchange receipts under domestic capital account is tentatively set at 100%. The SAFE may adjust the above ratio in due course according to the balance of payment status.

According to the Circular of the SAFE on Further Promoting the Facilitation of Cross-border Trade and Investment (《國家外匯管理局關于進一步促進跨境貿易投資便利化的通知》) which was promulgated on October 23, 2019, It lifted the restrictions on non-investment foreign-invested enterprises using their capital for domestic equity investment. These enterprises can now use their capital for domestic equity investment as long as it complies with the Negative List and the projects are genuine and compliant.

On December 26, 2014, the SAFE issued the Circular of the SAFE on Relevant Issues Concerning the Administration of Foreign Exchange for Overseas Listing (《國家外匯管理局關于境外上市外匯管理有關問題的通知》). Pursuant to the notice, a domestic company shall, within 15 business days of the date of the end of its overseas listing issuance, register the overseas listing with the 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 document and other disclosure documents. A domestic company (except for bank financial institutions) shall present its certificate of overseas listing to open a "special account for overseas listing of domestic company" at a local bank for its initial public offering (or follow-on offering) and repurchase business to handle the exchange, remittance, and transfer of funds for the business concerned.