

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

TAXATION ON HOLDERS OF SECURITIES

Income tax and capital gains tax of holders of the H shares is subject to the laws and practices of the PRC and of jurisdictions in which holders of the H shares are resident or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current laws and practices, and has not taken into account the expected change or amendment to the relevant laws or policies and does not constitute any opinion or advice. The discussion does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to relevant H shares, nor does it take into account the specific circumstances, some of which may be subject to special regulation. Accordingly, you should consult your own tax advisor regarding the tax consequences of H shares. The discussion is based upon laws and relevant interpretations in effect as of the Latest Practicable Date, which are subject to change or adjustment and may have retrospective effect.

This discussion does not address any aspects of PRC taxation other than income tax, capital gains tax and profits tax, sales tax, value-added tax, stamp duty and estate duty. Prospective [REDACTED] are urged to consult their financial advisers regarding tax consequences of owning and disposing of H shares in the PRC and other regions.

TAXATION IN THE PRC

Tax on Dividends

Individual Investors

According to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》) (“Individual Income Tax Law”) last amended by the SCNPC on August 31, 2018 and effective on January 1, 2019, and the Implementation Rules of the Individual Income Tax Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法實施條例》) last amended by the State Council on December 18, 2018 and effective on January 1, 2019, dividends paid by PRC companies to individual investors are ordinarily subject to a withholding income tax levied at a flat rate of 20%.

Meanwhile, according to the Notice on Issues Concerning Differentiated Individual Income Tax Policies on Dividends and Bonus of Listed Companies (《關於上市公司股息紅利差別化個人所得稅政策有關問題的通知》) jointly issued by the Ministry of Finance, the STA and the CSRC on September 7, 2015 and effective on September 8, 2015, where an individual acquires shares of a listed company from public offering or through transfer in the stock market, if the holding period is over 1 year, the dividend and bonus income shall be temporarily exempted from individual income tax. Where an individual acquires shares of a listed company from the public offering or through transfer in the stock market, if the holding period is within one month (inclusive), the dividend and bonus income shall be included in the taxable income in full; if the holding period is more than one month but less than one year (inclusive), the dividend and bonus income shall be included in the taxable income at the rate of 50%; the aforesaid income shall be subject to individual income tax at a uniform rate of 20%.

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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 (《內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排》) (“**Arrangement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income**”), executed on August 21, 2006, the PRC government may impose tax on dividends paid by a PRC company to a Hong Kong resident (including natural person and legal entity), but such tax shall not exceed 10% of the total amount of dividends payable. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interests in a PRC company and the Hong Kong resident is the beneficial owner of the dividends and meets other conditions, such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total amount of dividends payable by the PRC 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 (《國家稅務總局關於〈內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排〉第五議定書》) (“**Fifth Protocol**”), issued by the STA and effective on December 6, 2019 provides that such provisions shall not apply to arrangements or transactions made for one of the primary purposes of obtaining such tax benefits.

Enterprise Investors

Pursuant to the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》) (“**EIT Law**”), last amended by the SCNPC on December 29, 2018 and effective on the same date, and the Implementation Rules of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》) (“**Implementation Rules of the EIT Law**”), last amended by the State Council on December 6, 2024 and effective on January 20, 2025, a non-resident enterprise is subject to a 10% EIT on PRC-sourced income, including dividends paid by a PRC resident enterprise that issues and lists shares in Hong Kong, if such non-resident enterprise does not have an establishment or place of business in the PRC or has an establishment or place of business in the PRC but the PRC-sourced income is not actually connected with such establishment or place of business in the PRC. The aforesaid income tax payable by non-resident enterprises shall be withheld at source, and the payer shall be the withholding agent, and the tax shall be withheld by the withholding agent from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to an applicable treaty for the avoidance of double taxation.

Pursuant to 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 (《關於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》) issued by the STA on November 6, 2008 and effective on the same date, a PRC resident enterprise is required to withhold EIT at a rate of 10% on dividends paid to non-PRC resident enterprise holders of H shares which are derived out of profit generated since 2008. The Reply on the Collection of Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Received by Non-resident Enterprises from Holding B Shares and Other Shares(《關於非居民企業取得B股等股票股息徵收企業所得稅問題的批覆》) promulgated by the STA on July 24, 2009 and effective on the same date further provides that any PRC-resident enterprises that publicly offers and lists its shares (A shares, B shares and overseas shares) within or out of China shall uniformly withhold and remit 10% of the dividends distributed to non-resident enterprise shareholders as EIT for any such distributions made in and after 2008. Non-resident enterprise shareholders who enjoy the treatment under tax treaty pursuant to relevant regulations shall be treated correspondingly. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that the PRC government has concluded with a relevant jurisdiction, where applicable.

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According to the Arrangement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income (《對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排》), the PRC government may impose tax on dividends paid by a PRC company to a Hong Kong resident (including natural person and legal entity), but such tax shall not exceed 10% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of equity interest in a PRC company and the Hong Kong resident is the beneficial owner of the dividends and meets other conditions, such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. The Fifth Protocol provides that such provisions shall not apply to arrangements or transactions made for one of the primary purposes of obtaining such tax benefits.

Pursuant to applicable regulations, we intend to withhold tax at a rate of 10% from dividends paid to non-PRC resident enterprise holders of our H Shares (including [REDACTED]). Non-PRC resident enterprises that are entitled to be taxed at a reduced rate under an applicable income tax treaty will be required to apply to the PRC tax authorities for a refund of any amount withheld in excess of the applicable treaty rate, and payment of such refund will be subject to the PRC tax authorities' verification.

Tax Related to Share Transfers

Individual Investors

Under the Individual Income Tax Law (《個人所得稅法》) and its implementation rules, individuals are subject to individual income tax at a rate of 20% on gains realized on the sale of equity interests in PRC resident enterprises. Pursuant to the Circular on Continuing the Temporary Exemption of Individual Income Tax on Gains from Share Transfers by Individuals (《關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知》), which was promulgated by the Ministry of Finance and the STA on March 30, 1998 and became effective on the same date, from January 1, 1997, income of individuals from the transfer of shares in listed companies continues to be temporarily exempted from individual income tax. The STA does not specify whether to continue to exempt individuals from individual income tax on the income from the transfer of equity interests in listed company in the newly revised EIT Law and Implementation Rules of the EIT Law.

Enterprise Investors

Under the EIT Law and its implementation rules, a non-PRC resident enterprise is subject to EIT at the rate of 10% with respect to 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 premises in the PRC or has an establishment or premises in the PRC but the PRC-sourced income is not actually connected with such establishment or premises in the PRC. The aforementioned income tax payable by non-PRC resident enterprises is subject to source withholding, and the payer is the withholding agent. The tax shall be withheld by the withholding agent from the payment or due payment every time it is paid or due. Such tax may be reduced or exempted under applicable tax treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

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Stamp Duty

According to the Stamp Duty Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》), which was promulgated by SCNPC on June 10, 2021 and came into effect on July 1, 2022, the purchase and disposal of H shares by non-domestic investors outside of China is not subject to the requirements of the Stamp Duty Law of the People’s Republic of China.

Estate Duty

According to PRC law, no estate duty is currently levied in China.

MAJOR TAXES ON OUR COMPANY IN THE PRC

Enterprise Income Tax (EIT)

According to the EIT Law, enterprises and other income-generating organizations (hereinafter collectively referred to as “**enterprises**”) within the territory of the PRC are the taxpayers of EIT and shall pay EIT in accordance with the provisions of the EIT Law. The EIT rate is 25%.

According to the Administrative Measures for Recognition of High and New-Technology Enterprises (《高新技術企業認定管理辦法》) promulgated by the Ministry of Science and Technology, the MOF and the SAT on 14 April 2008, amended on 29 January 2016 and came into effect on 1 January 2016, enterprises which are recognised as high and new-tech enterprises could apply for a preferential EIT rate of 15% in accordance with the EIT Law.

Enterprises are classified into resident enterprises and non-resident enterprises. A non-resident enterprise that does not have an establishment or place of business in the PRC, or has an establishment or place of business in the PRC but the income has no actual connection to such establishment or place of business, shall pay EIT on its income within the PRC and withhold at source, where the payer is the withholding agent. The tax shall be withheld by the withholding agent from the payment or due payment every time it is paid or due. Meanwhile, any gains realized on the transfer of shares by such investors are subject to EIT and shall be withheld at source if such gains are regarded as income derived from the transfer of property within the PRC.

Value-Added Tax

According to the Value-Added Tax Law of the People’s Republic of China, which was adopted at the 13th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the 14th National People’s Congress on December 25, 2024 and came into effect on January 1, 2026, all entities and individuals (including privately or individually-owned business) that sell goods, services, intangible assets, immovables, and import goods in the PRC shall be taxpayers of value-added tax and shall pay value-added tax. Unless otherwise provided, the import tax rate for the sales of goods, processing, repair and maintenance services, and leasing services of tangible movables is 13%; the tax rate for the sales of transportation, postal, basic telecommunications, construction, immovables leasing services, sales of immovables, transfer of land use rights, and sales or imports of goods prescribed by law is 9%; the tax rate for the sales of services and intangible assets is 6%.

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According to the Circular on the Adjustment to VAT Rates (《關於調整增值稅稅率的通知》), promulgated by the Ministry of Finance and the STA on April 4, 2018, and became effective on May 1, 2018, the VAT 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 Value-Added Tax Reform (《關於深化增值稅改革有關政策的公告》) (Ministry of Finance, State Taxation Administration and General Administration of Customs [2019] No. 39), promulgated by the Ministry of Finance, the STA and the General Administration of Customs on March 20, 2019 and became effective on April 1, 2019, the VAT rates of 16% and 10% applicable to the taxpayers who have VAT taxable sales activities or imported goods are adjusted to 13% and 9%, respectively.

PRC LAWS AND REGULATIONS RELATED TO FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The lawful currency of the PRC is the Renminbi. The State Administration of Foreign Exchange, authorized by the PBOC, is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange regulations.

Pursuant to the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Foreign Exchange Control (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) last amended by the State Council on August 5, 2008 and effective on the same date, all international payments and transfers are classified into current account items and capital account items. The PRC does not impose restrictions on international payments and transfers under current account items. Foreign exchange income from the current account of PRC enterprises may be retained or sold to financial institutions engaged in the settlement and sale of foreign exchange in accordance with relevant provisions of the State. The retention or sale of foreign exchange receipts under capital accounts to financial institutions engaging in settlement and sale of foreign exchange shall be subject to the approval of foreign exchange administrative authorities, unless otherwise stipulated by the State.

Pursuant to the Regulations for the Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange (《結匯、售匯及付匯管理規定》) promulgated by the PBOC on June 20, 1996 and effective on July 1, 1996, the remaining restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange in respect of current account items are abolished while the existing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions in respect of capital account items are retained.

According to relevant laws and regulations of the PRC, PRC companies (including foreign-invested enterprises) which require foreign exchange for transactions relating to current account items, may, without the approval of SAFE, effect payment from their foreign exchange accounts at the designated foreign exchange banks, on the strength of valid receipts and proof of transactions. Foreign-invested enterprise that need to distribute profits to their shareholders in foreign exchange and Chinese enterprise that need to pay fixed dividends in foreign exchange in accordance with the requirements shall pay from its foreign exchange account or pay at the designated foreign exchange bank by a resolution of the board of directors on the distribution of profits.

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According to the Decision of the State Council on Canceling and Adjusting a Group of Administrative Approval Items and Other Matters (《國務院關於取消和調整一批行政審批項目等事項的決定》) promulgated by the State Council on October 23, 2014 and effective on the same date, the administrative approval of the SAFE and its branches on matters concerning the repatriation and settlement of foreign exchange of overseas-raised funds through overseas listing has been canceled.

According to the Circular of the SAFE on Relevant Issues Concerning the Foreign Exchange Administration of Overseas Listing (《國家外匯管理局關於境外上市外匯管理有關問題的通知》) promulgated by the SAFE on December 26, 2014 and effective on the same date, the relevant provisions on foreign exchange administration of domestic joint stock companies (hereinafter referred to as “**domestic companies**”) listed overseas are as follows:

- (i) The SAFE and its branches and the Foreign Exchange Management Department, or the Foreign Exchange Bureau, supervise, manage and inspect the business registration, account opening and use, cross-border income and expenditure, and capital exchange involved in the overseas listing of domestic companies.
- (ii) A domestic company shall, within 15 working days after the completion of the overseas listing and initial issuance, register the overseas listing with the Foreign Exchange Bureau at the place where it is registered with relevant material.
- (iii) A domestic company (other than banking financial institutions) shall, by virtue of its registration certificate for overseas listing business, open a “special foreign exchange account for overseas listing of domestic companies” with a domestic bank for its initial offering (or additional offering) and repurchase business to handle the remittance and transfer of funds for the relevant business.

According to the Circular of the SAFE on Further Simplifying and Improving Policies for the Foreign Exchange Administration of Direct Investment (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知》) issued by the SAFE on February 13, 2015 and came into effect on June 1, 2015, the SAFE has canceled the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment, instead, banks shall directly examine and handle foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment, and the SAFE and its branch offices shall indirectly regulate the foreign exchange registration of direct investment through banks.

According to the Circular of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Reforming and Standardizing the Foreign Exchange Settlement Management Policy of Capital Account (《國家外匯管理局關於改革和規範資本項目結匯管理政策的通知》) issued by the SAFE on June 9, 2016 and effective on the same date, 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 by the SAFE in due time in accordance with international revenue and expenditure situations.