

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

PRC TAXATION

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 resident or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current effective PRC 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 does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to an investment in the H Shares, nor does it take into account the specific circumstances of any particular investor, some of which may be subject to special regulations. Accordingly, you should consult your own tax advisors regarding the tax consequences of an investment in H Shares. The discussion is based upon PRC laws and relevant interpretations in effect as at the date of this document, all of which are subject to change. Prospective investors are urged to consult their financial advisors regarding the PRC and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of H Shares.

Taxation on dividends

Individual investors

Pursuant to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》), which was last amended on 31 August 2018 by the SCNPC and came into effect on 1 January 2019, and the Regulations on Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法實施條例》), which were last amended on 18 December 2018 by the State Council and came into effect on 1 January 2019, dividends paid by PRC enterprises are subject to individual income tax levied at a flat rate of 20%. For a foreign individual who is not a resident of the PRC, the receipt of dividends from a PRC enterprise in the PRC is normally subject to individual income tax of 20% unless specifically exempted by the tax authority of the State Council or reduced by an applicable tax treaty.

Pursuant to the Notice of the State Taxation Administration (the “STA”) on Issues Concerning the Levy and Administration of Individual Income Tax After the Repeal of Guo Shui Fa [1993] No. 45) (Guo Shui Han [2011] No. 348) (《國家稅務總局關於國稅發[1993]045號文件廢止後有關個人所得稅徵管問題的通知(國稅函[2011]348號)》) issued by the STA on 28 June 2011, which came into effect on the same day, domestic non-foreign-invested enterprises issuing shares in Hong Kong may, when distributing dividends, withhold individual income tax at the rate of 10%. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries that have entered into a tax treaty with the PRC with tax rate of lower than 10%, non-foreign-invested enterprises listed in Hong Kong may apply on behalf of such holders for enjoying the lower preferential tax treatments, and, upon approval by the tax authorities, the excessive withholding amount will be refunded. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries that have entered into a tax treaty with the PRC with tax rate of higher than 10% but lower than 20%, the non-foreign-invested enterprise is required to withhold the tax at the agreed rate under the treaties, and no application procedures will be necessary. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries without taxation treaties with the PRC or are under other situations, the non-foreign-invested enterprise is required to withhold the tax at a rate of 20%.

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Enterprise investors

According to the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》), which was latest amended by the SCNPC and implemented on 29 December 2018, and the Implementation Rules for 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》), which was last amended on 6 December 2024 by the State Council, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% enterprise income tax 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.

The Notice on the Issues Concerning Withholding the Enterprise Income Tax on the Dividends Paid by Chinese Resident Enterprises to H-Share Holders Which Are Overseas Non-resident Enterprises (Guo Shui Han [2008] No. 897) (《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(國稅函[2008]897號)》), which was issued and implemented by the STA on 6 November 2008, further clarifies that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on the dividends of year 2008 and afterwards 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) (《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(國稅函[2009]394號)》), which was issued by the STA and came into effect on 24 July 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 year 2008 and afterwards 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 region, where applicable.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland 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》) (the “**Arrangement**”), which was signed between the STA and the Hong Kong Government on 21 August 2006, the PRC government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a PRC company to Hong Kong residents (including resident individual and resident entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company unless a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in the PRC company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. The Fifth Protocol to the Arrangement between the Mainland 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>第五議定書》), which came into effect on 6 December 2019, added 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 relevant gains, after taking into account all relevant facts and conditions, are reasonably deemed to be one of the main purposes for the arrangement or transactions which will bring any direct or indirect benefits under this Arrangement, except when the grant of 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 requirements of PRC tax law and regulation, such as the Notice of the STA on the Issues Concerning the Application of the Dividend Clauses of Tax Agreements (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 81) (《國家稅務總局關於執行稅收協定股息條款有關問題的通知(國稅函[2009]81號)》).

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Tax Treaties

Non-resident investors residing in jurisdictions which have entered into treaties or adjustments for the avoidance of double taxation with the PRC might be entitled to a reduction of the PRC enterprise income tax imposed on the dividends received from PRC enterprises. The PRC currently has entered into avoidance of double taxation treaties or arrangements with a number of countries and regions including Hong Kong, Macau, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States. Non-PRC resident enterprises entitled to preferential tax rates in accordance with the relevant taxation treaties or arrangements are required to apply to the PRC tax authorities for a refund of the enterprise income tax in excess of the agreed tax rate, and the refund application is subject to approval by the PRC tax authorities.

Taxation on share transfer

Value-Added Tax (“VAT”) and Local Surcharges

Pursuant to the Value-added Tax Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國增值稅法》) promulgated by the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress, last amended on 25 December 2024 and implemented on 1 January 2026, and the Detailed Implementing Rules of the Provisional Regulations on the VAT of the PRC (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例實施細則》) promulgated by the Ministry of Finance (the “MOF”) on 15 December 1993, last amended on 28 October 2011 and implemented on 1 November 2011 (collectively, the “VAT Law”), all taxpayers selling goods, providing processing, repairing or replacement services, sales of services, intangible assets and immovable assets and importing goods within the PRC shall pay the VAT. Unless provided otherwise, for general the VAT taxpayers selling services and intangible assets, the VAT is 6%.

The Notice of the MOF and the STA on Adjusting the VAT (《財政部、國家稅務總局關於調整增值稅稅率的通知》), which was promulgated by the MOF and the STA on 4 April 2018 and came into effect on 1 May 2018, adjusts the applicable rate of the VAT and stipulates that for a taxpayer who engages in a taxable sales activity for the VAT purpose or importation of goods, the previous applicable tax rates of 17.0% and 11.0% would be adjusted to 16.0% and 10.0%, respectively.

Income Tax

Individual investor

According to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC and its implementation rules, the proceeds from the sale of equity interests in PRC-resident enterprise are subject to income tax at a tax rate of 20%.

According to the Notice Concerning Continuing Temporary Exemption from Individual Income Tax on the Income From Stocks Transfer (Cai Shui Zi [1998] No. 61) (《關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知(財稅字[1998]61號)》) promulgated by the STA and became effective on 30 March 1998, since 1 January 1997, the individual income tax levied on the individual income from transfer of stocks of listed companies will continue to be temporarily exempted. In the newly revised Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC, the STA did not clearly stipulate whether to continue to exempt individuals from tax on the income from transfer of stocks of listed companies.

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Furthermore, the Notice of the State Administration of Taxation on Issues Concerning the Levy of Individual Income Tax on Incomes from the Transfer of Restricted Shares of Listed Companies (Cai Shui [2009] No. 167) (關於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(財稅[2009]167號)) jointly issued by the MOF, the STA and the China Securities Regulatory Commission (the “CSRC”) and implemented on 31 December 2009 stipulates that individuals’ income from the transfer of listed shares obtained from the public offering of listed companies and transfer market on the Shanghai Stock Exchange and the Shenzhen Stock Exchange shall continue to be exempted from the individual income tax, provided that it excludes the relevant restricted shares as defined in the Supplementary Notice Concerning the Levy of Individual Income Tax on Incomes from the Transfer of Restricted Shares of Listed Companies (Cai Shui [2010] No. 70) (《關於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(財稅[2010]70號)》) jointly issued by these departments and implemented on 10 November 2010. As at the Latest Practicable Date, the aforementioned provisions did not specify whether to impose the individual income tax on the income from the transfer of shares of PRC-resident enterprise listed on overseas stock exchanges by non-PRC resident individuals.

Enterprise investors

In accordance with the EIT Law and its implementation rules, a non-resident enterprise that has not established an establishment or premises in the PRC or it has established an establishment and premises but the income received has no actual connection with the establishment and premises, it shall pay an enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% for the income arising within the PRC (including the income from sale of equity interests of PRC-resident enterprise). The aforesaid 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 on each payment or when it is payable on due date. The withholding tax may be reduced pursuant to applicable treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

Stamp Duty

In accordance with the Stamp Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》) promulgated by the Standing Committee of the NPC on 10 June 2021 and came into effect on 1 July 2022, entities and individuals that issue taxable certificates and conduct securities transactions within the territory of PRC, or entities and individuals who issue taxable certificates and conduct securities transactions outside the territory of PRC to be used within the territory of the PRC shall subject to stamp duty.

Estate Duty

As at the Latest Practicable Date, no estate duty is levied within the PRC.

PRINCIPAL TAXATION OF OUR COMPANY IN THE PRC

Please see “Regulatory Overview” in this Document.

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PRC FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The lawful currency of the PRC is RMB, which is currently subject to foreign exchange regulation according to relevant laws and regulations. SAFE, with the authorisation of the PBOC, is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange regulatory regulations.

On 29 January 1996, the State Council promulgated the Regulations of the PRC for Foreign Exchange Control (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) (the “**Foreign Exchange Control Regulations**”) which became effective on 1 April 1996. The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations classify all international payments and transfers into current items and capital items. Most of the current items are no longer subject to SAFE’s approval, while capital items remain unchanged. The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations were subsequently amended on 14 January 1997 and 5 August 2008. The latest amendment to the Foreign Exchange Control Regulations clearly states that no restriction will be imposed on international current payments and transfers.

On 20 June 1996, the People’s Bank of China (the “**PBOC**”) promulgated the Regulations for the Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange (Yin Fa [1996] No. 210) (《結匯、售匯及付匯管理規定(銀發[1996]210號)》), which abolished the remaining restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange under current items, while retaining the existing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions under capital items accounts.

According to the Announcement on Improving the Reform of the RMB (the PBOC Announcement [2005] No. 16) (《關於完善人民幣匯率形成機制改革的公告(中國人民銀行公告[2005]第16號)》), issued by the PBOC on 21 July 2005 and effective on the same date, the PRC began 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. The RMB exchange rate was no longer pegged to the USD. The PBOC would publish the closing price of the exchange rate of the RMB against trading currencies such as the USD in the interbank foreign exchange market after the closing of the market on each working day, as the central parity of the currency against RMB transactions on the following working day.

On 1 July 2014, the PBOC further improved the formation mechanism of the RMB exchange rate by authorising the China Foreign Exchange Trade System to make inquiries with the market makers before the interbank foreign exchange market opens every day for their offered quotations which are used as samples to calculate the central parity of the RMB against the USD on that day using the weighted average of the remaining market makers’ offered quotations after excluding the highest and lowest quotations, and announce the central parity of the RMB against currencies such as the USD at 9:15 a.m. on each working day. On 11 August 2015, the PBOC announced to improve the central parity quotations of RMB against the USD by authorising market makers to provide central parity quotations to the China Foreign Exchange Trading System before the interbank foreign exchange market opens every day with reference to the interbank foreign exchange market closing rate of the previous day, the supply and demand for foreign exchange as well as changes in major international currency exchange rates.

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On 5 August 2008, the State Council promulgated the revised Foreign Exchange Control Regulations of the PRC, which have made substantial changes to the foreign exchange supervision system of the PRC. First, the regulations have adopted an approach of balancing the inflow and outflow of foreign exchange. Foreign exchange income received overseas can be repatriated or deposited overseas, and foreign exchange and 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; second, the regulations have improved the RMB exchange rate floating system based on market supply and demand under management; third, in the event that international balance of payment suffer or may suffer a material misbalance, or the national economy encounters or may encounter a severe crisis, the State may adopt necessary safeguard or control measures against international balance of payment; fourth, the regulations have enhanced the supervision and administration of foreign exchange transactions and grant extensive authorities to SAFE to enhance its supervisory and administrative powers.

According to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, PRC enterprises which need foreign exchange for current item transactions may, without the approval of the foreign exchange administrative authorities, effect payment through foreign exchange accounts opened at designated banks that carry foreign exchange business, on the strength of valid 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 may, after paying taxes in according to the law, on the strength of resolutions of the board of directors on the distribution of profits, effect payment from foreign exchange accounts opened at designated banks that carry foreign exchange business, or effect exchange and payment at designated banks.

The Decisions on Matters including Cancelling and Adjusting a Batch of Administrative Approval Items (Guo Fa [2014] No. 50) (《關於取消和調整一批行政審批項目等事項的決定(國發[2014]50號)》) promulgated by the State Council and came into effect on 23 October 2014 provide to cancel the approval requirement of SAFE and its branches for the remittance and settlement of the proceeds raised from the overseas listing of the foreign shares into RMB domestic accounts.

Pursuant to the Notice of the People’s Bank of China and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Issues Concerning the Administration of Funds Raised by Domestic Enterprises Listed Overseas (Yin Fa [2025] No. 252) (《中國人民銀行國家外匯管理局關於境內企業境外上市資金管理有關問題的通知》) issued by People’s Bank of China, State Administration of Foreign Exchange and became effective on 1 April 2026. A domestic company shall register its overseas listing with the bank at its place of registration within 30 business days of the first trading date of its overseas listing or the completion of the [REDACTED]. The proceeds from the overseas listing of a domestic company shall, in principle, be promptly repatriated to the mainland; such proceeds may be retained overseas for overseas direct investment, overseas securities investment, overseas lending and other businesses only if the relevant approval or registration documents from the competent authorities have been obtained prior to the completion of the offering or over-allotment, and the use of such proceeds shall be consistent with the contents set forth in the prospectus, offering circulars, shareholder circulars, board or general meeting resolutions or other publicly disclosed documents. A domestic company (excluding banks) shall handle foreign exchange, cross-border remittance and fund transfer in relation to its overseas listing and follow-on offerings through a capital account – settlement account (Account Code 2103) or a domestic RMB bank settlement account upon presentation of its overseas listing business registration certificate.

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According to the SAFE Notice on Further Deepening the Reform to Facilitate Cross-border Trade and Investment (Hui Fa [2023] No. 28) (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步深化改革促進跨境貿易投資便利化的通知(匯發[2023]28號)》) which was promulgated by SAFE and became effective on 4 December 2023, the capital account asset realization account has been adjusted to a capital account settlement account. Foreign exchange funds raised from the overseas listing of a domestic company may be directly remitted into such capital account settlement account, and the funds in the capital account settlement account may be freely settled at the discretion of the domestic company. In addition, where a domestic equity transferor (including institutions and individuals) receives consideration for equity transfer paid in foreign currency by a domestic entity, such funds may also be directly remitted into the capital account settlement account, and the funds in the capital account settlement account may be used after voluntary foreign exchange settlement at the discretion of the holder.

According to the Notice on Optimising Administration of Foreign Exchange to Support the Development of Foreign-related Business (Hui Fa [2020] No. 8) (《國家外匯管理局關於優化外匯管理支持涉外業務發展的通知(匯發[2020]8號)》) issued by SAFE and became effective on 10 April 2020, eligible enterprises are allowed to make domestic payments by using their capital, foreign credits and the income under capital accounts of overseas listing, without providing materials to the bank in advance for authenticity verification on an item-by-item basis, provided that their utilised capital shall be authentic and in line with provisions, and conform to the prevailing administrative regulations related to the use of income under capital accounts. The concerned bank shall manage and control the relevant business risks under the principle of prudent business development and conduct spot checks afterwards in accordance with the relevant requirements. Local foreign exchange authorities shall strengthen monitoring and analysis and interim and ex-post supervision.