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TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

TAXATION OF SECURITY HOLDERS

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 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 adviser regarding the tax consequences of an investment in H Shares. The discussion is based upon laws and relevant interpretations in effect as at 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 gains tax, appreciation tax, stamp duty and estate duty were referred in the discussion. Prospective investors are urged to consult their tax advisers regarding the PRC, Hong Kong and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of H Shares.

TAXATION IN MAINLAND CHINA

Taxation on Dividends

Individual Investor

According 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”), latest amended by the SCNPC on 31 August 2018 and effective from 1 January 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》) amended by the State Council on 18 December 2018 and effective from 1 January 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 Relating to Differentiated Individual Income Tax Policies for Dividends and Bonuses 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》) issued by the MOF, the STA and the CSRC on 7 September 2015 and effective from September 8, 2015, for shares of listed companies obtained by individuals via public offerings and market transfer and held for more than one year, the income from dividends and bonuses thereof shall temporarily be exempt from individual income tax. For shares of listed companies obtained by individuals via public offerings and market transfer and held for less than one month (including one month), the income from dividends and bonuses thereof shall be fully included in the individual’s taxable income amount; where the shares are held for a period from one month up to one year (including one year), 50% of the income from dividends and bonuses therefrom shall temporarily be included in the individual’s taxable income amount; the aforesaid income shall be subject to individual income tax based on 20% tax rate on a unified basis.

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Pursuant to the Notice by the State Administration of Taxation on Issues Regarding the Administration of Individual Income Tax Collection after the Annulment of Document Guo Shui Fa [1993] No. 045 (Guo Shui Han [2011] No. 348) 《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)), which was issued by the SAT on 28 June 2011 and came into effect on the same date, When a domestic non-foreign-invested enterprise lists its shares in Hong Kong, its individual shareholders, as foreign residents, can claim relevant preferential tax treatment pursuant to the provisions in the tax treaty entered into between the country where their residential identity belongs and the PRC and in the tax arrangements between mainland China and Hong Kong (Macau). When dividends and bonuses are distributed by a domestic non-foreign-invested enterprise for shares listed in Hong Kong, individual income taxes thereof are generally withheld and paid at the tax rate of 10% with no need to file any application. If the individual receiving dividends is a resident of a country or region have not entered into any tax treaty with the PRC or under other circumstances, withholding agents shall withhold and pay the individual income taxes at the tax rate of 20% when the dividends and bonuses are distributed.

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》(the “EIT Law”), which was promulgated by the NPC on 26 March 2007, last amended on 29 December 2018 and became effective from the same date, and the Implementation Rules of the EIT Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》), which was promulgated by the State Council on 6 December 2007, last amended on 6 December 2024 and became effective from 20 January 2025, the enterprise income tax rate is 25%. A non-resident enterprise is subject to a 10% EIT on PRC-sourced income, including dividends receiving from a PRC resident enterprise, 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 due to be paid.

Pursuant to the Notice on the Issues Concerning Withholding the EIT on the Dividends Paid by Chinese Resident Enterprises to H Share Holders Which Are Overseas Non-resident Enterprises (《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 SAT on 6 November 2008 and became effective on the same date, a PRC resident enterprise is required to withhold EIT at a unified 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 EIT 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 SAT on 24 July 2009 and effective on the same day, further provides that PRC-resident enterprises listed on mainland China and overseas stock exchanges by issuing stocks must withhold EIT at a flat rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprise shareholders. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that the PRC government has concluded with a relevant country or region, where applicable.

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Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (《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》), which was signed on 21 August 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 the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (《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 in to effect on 6 December 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 SAT on the Issues Concerning the Enforcement of the Dividend Clauses of Tax Treaties (《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》).

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.

Taxation on Share Transfer

Income Tax

Individual Investor

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

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Pursuant to the Circular on Continuing to Temporarily Exempt Individual Income Tax on Income from the Transfer of Shares by Individuals (《財政部、國家稅務總局關於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 30 March 1998, from 1 January 1997, income of individuals from transfer of the shares of listed enterprises shall continue to be exempted from individual income tax. Pursuant to 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》) jointly issued by the MOF, the SAT and CSRC on 31 December 2009, 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》) jointly issued by the abovementioned three departments on 10 November 2010).

As at 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.

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 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 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.

Value-added Tax and Local Surcharges

Pursuant to the Notice on Fully Implementing the Pilot Reform for the Transition from Business Tax to Value-added Tax (《關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知》), which came into effect on 1 May 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. 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, transfer of financial products by any individuals are exempt from VAT.

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According to the above provisions, for the sale or disposal of H shares, if the holder is a non-resident individual, it is exempt from VAT in the PRC; if the holder is a non-resident enterprise and the buyer of the H shares is an individual or entity outside of the PRC, it is exempt from VAT in the PRC; and if the buyer of the H shares is an individual or entity in the PRC, it may be subject to VAT in the PRC.

At the same time, VAT payers are also required to pay urban maintenance and construction tax, education surtax and local education surcharge, which are normally 12% of the actual VAT, business tax, and consumption tax (if any) payable

Taxation Policy of Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect

Under the Notice of the Ministry of Finance, the State Administration of Taxation and the China Securities Regulatory Commission on the Tax Policies Related to the Pilot Programme of the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect (《財政部、國家稅務總局、中國證券監督管理委員會關於滬港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》) which was issued on 31 October 2014 and came into effect on 17 November 2014, for dividends and bonus obtained by mainland individual investors investing in H shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (the “Hong Kong Stock Exchange”) through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect, the H share companies shall apply to the China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited (the “CSDC”) for provision by CSDC to the H share companies register of mainland China individual investors, and the H share companies shall withhold individual income tax at the rate of 20%.

Income from share dividend derived by mainland enterprise investors from investment in shares listed on the HKSE through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall be included in their total income and be subject to enterprise income tax pursuant to laws. In particular, income from share dividend derived by a mainland resident enterprise for holding H shares over 12 consecutive months shall be exempted from enterprise income tax pursuant to laws. H share companies listed on Hong Kong Stock Exchange shall apply to the CSDC for providing the register of mainland enterprise investors. The H share companies shall not withhold income tax of dividends for mainland enterprise investors and such investors shall declare and pay relevant tax themselves.

Pursuant to the Announcement on Continuing the Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Policies Concerning the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Mutual Recognition of Funds between Mainland China and Hong Kong (《關於延續實施滬港、深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制和內地與香港基金互認有關個人所得稅政策的公告》) which promulgated on 21 August 2023 and implemented on the same date, the transfer spread income derived by mainland individual investors from investing in shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall continue to be exempted from individual income tax until 31 December 2027.

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Taxation Policy of Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect

Under the Notice on the Tax Policies Related to the Pilot Programme of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect (《關於深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》) which was issued on 5 November 2016 and came into effect on 5 December 2016, for dividends and bonus income obtained by mainland individual investors investing in H shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect, the H share companies shall apply to CSDC for provision by CSDC to the H share companies register of mainland China individual investors, and individual income tax shall be withheld by H share companies at the tax rate of 20%.

Income from dividends and bonuses derived by a mainland enterprise investor from investment in shares listed on the HKSE through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall be included in the total income amount, and subject to enterprise income tax pursuant to laws. In particular, income from dividends and bonuses derived by a mainland resident enterprise for H shares held for 12 months consecutively shall be exempted from enterprise income tax pursuant to laws. H share companies listed on Hong Kong Stock Exchange shall apply to the CSDC for providing the register of the mainland enterprise investors. The H share companies shall not withhold income tax of dividends for mainland enterprise investors and such investors shall declare and pay relevant tax themselves.

Pursuant to the Announcement on Continuing the Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Policies Concerning the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Mutual Recognition of Funds between Mainland China and Hong Kong (《關於延續實施滬港、深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制和內地與香港基金互認有關個人所得稅政策的公告》) which promulgated on 21 August 2023 and implemented on the same date, the transfer spread income derived by mainland individual investors from investing in shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall continue to be exempted from individual income tax until 31 December 2027.

Stamp Duty

Pursuant to the Stamp Duty Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》) issued by the SCNPC on 10 June 2021 and implemented on 1 July 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.

Estate Duty

Under the PRC laws, the PRC currently does not impose any estate duty.

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MAJOR TAXES ON THE COMPANY IN THE PRC

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

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. 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 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 Stock Exchange realised by persons carrying on a business of trading or dealing in securities in Hong Kong.

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 duty of HK\$5.00 is currently payable on any instrument of transfer of H Shares. Where one of the parties 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 11 February 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 11 February 2006.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATION IN THE PRC

The Renminbi is the legal currency of the PRC. Authorised by the People's Bank of China (the "PBOC"), the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (the "SAFE") is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange regulations.

Pursuant to the Regulations on Foreign Exchange Control (《外匯管理條例》) amended by the State Council on 5 August 2008 and became 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 20 June 1996 and became effective on 1 July 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 enterprises (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.

According to the Decision of the State Council on Cancelling 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 23 October 2014 and became 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 cancelled.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Issues Relating to Foreign Exchange Control Pertaining to 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 26 December 2014 and became effective on the same date, a domestic company shall complete registration formalities

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for overseas listing with the SAFE’s local branch at its place of registration within 15 working days from completion of issuance for its overseas listing. Funds raised from overseas listing of a domestic company may be repatriated to China or deposited overseas, and the usage of funds shall be consistent with the relevant contents set out in the document or disclosure documents such as the corporate bonds offering documentation, shareholders’ circular and the board of directors or shareholders’ meeting resolution.

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 (《國家外匯管理局關於改革和規範資本項目結匯管理政策的通知》) promulgated by the SAFE on 9 June 2016 and last amended on 4 December 2023, domestic institutions may settle their foreign exchange receipts under the capital account (including repatriated funds raised through overseas listing) entitled to discretionary settlement according to relevant policies with banks as actually needed for business operation. Domestic institutions may, at their discretion, settle up to 100% of their foreign exchange receipts under the capital account for the time being. The SAFE may adjust the aforesaid proportion in due time in light of the balance of payment.