

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

### APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO OUR BUSINESS IN THE PRC

#### Regulations on E-commerce and Online Transaction

According to the E-Commerce Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國電子商務法》), which was promulgated by the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress of the PRC (the “SCNPC”) on August 31, 2018 and came into effect on January 1, 2019, E-Commerce refers to business activities of sale of goods or provision of services through Internet and other information network while E-commerce business operators refer to natural persons, legal persons and other non-legal-person organisations that engage in business activities of sale of goods or provision of services through Internet and other information network. E-commerce operators shall complete the market entity registration (unless no such registration is required by laws and administrative regulations) and obtain the relevant administrative licenses for conducting those operational activities which are required by law to obtain administrative licenses.

Commodities sold or services offered by e-commerce operators shall meet the requirements to protect personal and property safety and the environmental protection requirements, and e-commerce operators shall not sell or provide any commodity or service prohibited by laws and administrative regulations. E-commerce platform operators who know or should have known that the goods sold or services provided by the operators within the platform do not meet the requirements for ensuring personal and property safety, or if there are other acts that infringe upon the legitimate rights and interests of consumers, and have not taken necessary measures, shall bear joint and several liabilities with those operators.

The Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Online Transactions (《網絡交易監督管理辦法》), enacted by the State Administration for Market Regulation (the “SAMR”) on March 15, 2021, and amended on March 18, 2025 with the amendments effective from May 1, 2025, regulate all business activities involving sales of commodities or provision of services through the internet and other information networks as well as the supervision and administration thereof by market regulatory departments within the territory of mainland China. No online transaction business may engage in business operations without a license or permit in violation of any law, regulation or decision of the State Council, except under the circumstances where registration is not required as prescribed in Article 10 of the E-Commerce Law of the PRC, an online transaction business shall undergo market entity registration in accordance with the law. In addition, an online transaction business shall disclose commodity or service information in a comprehensive, truthful, accurate and timely manner, and protect consumers’ right to know and right to choose.

On November 4, 2016, the Cyberspace Administration of China (the “CAC”) issued Administrative Provisions on Internet Live Streaming Services (《互聯網直播服務管理規定》), which became effective on December 1, 2016. Under the Administrative Provisions on Internet Live Streaming Services, “internet live streaming” refers to the activities of continuously releasing real-time information to the public based on the internet in forms such as video, audio, images and texts.

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

On November 5, 2020, the SAMR issued Guiding Opinions of the State Administration for Market Regulation on Strengthening the Supervision of Live Streaming Marketing Activities (《市場監管總局關於加強網絡直播營銷活動監管的指導意見》) (the “**Guiding Opinions on the Supervision of Live Streaming Marketing Activities**”), which came into effect on the same day. According to the Guiding Opinions on the Supervision of Live Streaming Marketing Activities, the legal responsibilities of relevant entities shall be specified, the conduct of live streaming marketing shall be strictly regulated, and the illegal acts in live streaming marketing shall be investigated and punished.

On April 23, 2021, the CAC and other six PRC regulatory authorities jointly issued the Administrative Measures for Online Live-Streaming Marketing (Trial Implementation) (《網絡直播營銷管理辦法(試行)》), effective on May 25, 2021. According to these measures, operators of live studios and live-streaming marketing personnel engaging in online live-streaming marketing activities shall comply with laws and regulations, follow public order and good customs, and truthfully, accurately and comprehensively release information on goods or services.

Pursuant to the Administrative Measures on Internet Information Services (《互聯網信息服務管理辦法》), which was promulgated by the State Council on September 25, 2000, and amended on January 8, 2011 and December 6, 2024, “internet information services” refers to the provision of information through the internet to online users, and they are categorised into “commercial internet information services” and “non-commercial internet information services.” A commercial internet information services operator must obtain a value-added telecommunications services license for internet information services, which is known as an ICP License, from the relevant government authorities before engaging in any commercial internet information services operations. No ICP License is required if the operator will only provide internet information on a noncommercial basis. Our PRC subsidiary engaging in internet information services has obtained the ICP License.

On June 16, 2015, the General Office of the State Council promulgated the Guiding Opinions of the General Office of the State Council on Promoting Sound and Rapid Development of Cross-border E-Commerce (《國務院辦公廳關於促進跨境電子商務健康快速發展的指導意見》), proposing to support cross-border e-commerce retail export enterprises to strengthen cooperation with foreign enterprises and integrate into overseas retail system through modes such as standard “overseas warehouse”.

On October 22, 2019, the State Council promulgated the Regulation on the Optimization of Business Environment (《優化營商環境條例》), which became effective on January 1, 2020. This Regulation requires relevant departments to reduce examination and approval items for imports and exports, cancel unnecessary regulatory requirements, optimize and simplify customs clearance workflow, improve customs clearance efficiency, sort out and standardize port fees, reduce Customs clearance costs, and promote the processing of the relevant businesses in the fields of ports and international trade through one single counter for international trade.

Pursuant to the Notice on Improving Supervision over Cross-border E-commerce Retail Imports (《關於完善跨境電子商務零售進口監管有關工作的通知》) promulgated by the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC (the “**MOFCOM**”), the National Development and

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

Reform Commission (the “**NDRC**”), the Ministry of Finance (the “**MOF**”), the General Administration of Customs of the PRC (the “**GACC**”), the State Administration of Taxation (the “**SAT**”) and SAMR on November 28, 2018 and implemented on January 1, 2019, “cross-border e-commerce retail imports” refers to the consumption behavior where domestic consumers in China purchase goods from abroad through third-party cross-border e-commerce platform operators and have such purchased goods transported into China under the “Bonded Import Model for Online Shopping” (網購保稅進口) or “Direct Express Import Model” (直購進口). Such imported goods shall meet the following requirements: (i) the goods are products that fall within the List of Imported Goods in Cross-border E-commerce Retail (《跨境電子商務零售進口商品清單》) and are limited to personal use only and meet the conditions set forth in the tax policies for cross-border e-commerce retail imports; (ii) the goods with a verified customs declaration form, payment list and bill of freight containing electronic information on transaction, payment and logistics are traded via the e-commerce transaction platforms connected to the customs system; (iii) for the goods which are not traded via the e-commerce platforms transaction platforms connected to the customs system, cross-border express delivery operators and postal enterprises may accept the entrustment of e-commerce enterprises and payment enterprises, undertake to assume corresponding legal liabilities, and transmit electronic information on transactions and payments to the Customs. Cross-border e-commerce enterprises are responsible for ensuring the quality and safety of goods, protecting the rights and interests of consumers, reminding and notifying consumers, establishing a risk prevention and control mechanism for the quality and safety of goods, as well as establishing and improving a quality traceability system for the goods subject to the “Bonded Import Model for Online Shopping”. Such enterprises shall also transmit real-time electronic data regarding transactions for cross-border e-commerce retail imports with electronic signature affixed to the Customs, declare the list either themselves or by proxy to the Customs and assume corresponding responsibilities. Cross-border e-commerce enterprises shall entrust an enterprise registered in the PRC to register with the Customs, assume the responsibility for truthful declaration, accept supervision from relevant authorities in accordance with law, and assume civil joint liability.

According to the Announcement on Regulatory Matters concerning Cross-Border E-commerce Retail Imports and Exports (《海關總署關於跨境電子商務零售進出口商品有關監管事宜的公告》) promulgated by the GACC on December 10, 2018 and implemented on January 1, 2019, cross-border e-commerce platform enterprises, logistics enterprises, payment enterprises and other enterprises involved in cross-border e-commerce retail import business shall, in accordance with the regulations on the administration of registration of customs declaration entities, undergo registration procedures with the local customs. Overseas cross-border e-commerce enterprises shall entrust domestic agents to undergo registration procedures with the customs where the agents are located. Cross-border e-commerce direct purchase imports and goods applicable to the import policy of “Bonded Import Model for Online Shopping” (網購保稅進口) are regulated as inbound items for personal use and not subject to the requirements for licensing, registration and filing of relevant goods for first-time import. However, it does not apply to the goods from epidemic areas, the import of which is temporally banned under the explicit order from relevant authorities; and it is also not applicable when emergency response scheme is activated to deal with material quality and safety risks arising to the goods.

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

### Regulations on Corporation and Foreign Investment

The establishment, operation and management of corporate entities in the PRC is governed by the Company Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國公司法》), which was promulgated by the SCNPC on December 29, 1993 and became effective on July 1, 1994, and was last amended on December 29, 2023 and became effective on July 1, 2024. The Company Law of the PRC generally governs two types of companies, namely limited liability companies and joint stock limited companies. Both types of companies have the status of legal persons, and the liability of shareholders of a limited liability company or a joint stock limited company is limited to the amount of registered capital they have contributed. The Company Law of the PRC shall also apply to foreign invested companies in form of limited liability company or joint stock limited company. Where laws on foreign investment have other stipulations, such stipulations shall apply.

On January 1, 2020, the Foreign Investment Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國外商投資法》) (the “**FIL**”) and the Regulations on the Implementation of the Foreign Investment Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國外商投資法實施條例》) became effective. The FIL sets out the definition of foreign investment and the framework for promotion, protection and administration of foreign investment activities. On December 30, 2019, the MOFCOM and the SAMR jointly promulgated the Measures for Reporting of Information on Foreign Investment (《外商投資信息報告辦法》), which became effective on January 1, 2020 and pursuant to which, the establishment of the foreign invested enterprises by foreign investors and establishment through purchasing the equities of a non-foreign invested enterprise and its subsequent changes are required to submit an initial or change report through the Enterprise Registration System.

Pursuant to the FIL, China has adopted a system of national treatment which includes a negative list with respect to foreign investment administration. The negative list will be promulgated by, amended or released upon approval by the State Council, from time to time. The negative list will set forth industries in which foreign investments are prohibited and industries in which foreign investments are restricted. Foreign investment in prohibited industries is not allowed, while foreign investment in restricted industries must satisfy certain conditions stipulated in the negative list. Foreign investments and domestic investments in industries outside the scope of the prohibited industries and restricted industries stipulated in the negative list will be treated equally. The Special Administrative Measures (Negative List) for the Access of Foreign Investment (2024 Edition) (《外商投資准入特別管理措施(負面清單)(2024年版)》) (the “**Negative List**”), which were promulgated by the NDRC and the MOFCOM on September 6, 2024 and became effective on November 1, 2024 and the Catalogue of Encouraged Industries for Foreign Investment (2025 Edition) (《鼓勵外商投資產業目錄(2025年版)》) (the “**Encouraging Catalog**”), which was promulgated by the NDRC and the MOFCOM on December 15, 2025 and became effective on February 1, 2026, listed the categories of encouraged, restricted, and prohibited industries. Any industry not included in the Negative List shall be administered under the principle of equal treatment to domestic and foreign investment. According to the Negative List and the Encouraging Catalog, as of the Latest Practicable Date, our business does not fall within the scope of the Negative List and is not subject to special management measures.

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

### Regulations on Customs Declaration

The Customs Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國海關法》) was promulgated by the SCNPC on January 22, 1987 and became effective on July 1, 1987, and last amended and became effective on April 29, 2021, stipulate that the customs of the PRC is a governmental organization responsible for supervision and control over all arrivals in and departures from the customs territory. All the transports, goods and articles shall enter into or exit from the territory of the PRC at a place where a customs office is established. The customs declaration and duty payment formalities may be undergone by the consignees or consignors of imported and exported goods, or by the customs clearing enterprises entrusted by such consignees or consignors. The consignees or consignors of imported and exported goods and the customs clearing enterprises shall file records with the customs when undergoing customs declaration formalities, otherwise may be imposed fines by the customs.

According to the Administrative Provisions of the Customs of the PRC on Record-Filing of Customs Declaration Entities (《中華人民共和國海關報關單位備案管理規定》) promulgated by the GACC on November 19, 2021 and became effective on January 1, 2022, the consignees or consignors of imported and exported goods and the customs clearing enterprise that apply for the filing of records with the customs shall obtain the status of a market entity; where the consignees or consignors of imported and exported goods apply for the filing of records with the customs, the filing of foreign trade dealers shall also be completed. According to the Announcement on Fully Including the Filing of Customs Declaration Entities in the Reform of “Integrating Multiple Certificates into One” (《關於報關單位備案全面納入「多證合一」改革的公告》) jointly promulgated by the GACC and the SAMR on December 20, 2021 and became effective on January 1, 2022, where an applicant intends to be filed as a customs declaration entity when undergoing the registration formalities as a market entity with the market regulation authorities, it shall tick the box of filing as a customs declaration entity as required and fill in the relevant information for filing. The market regulation authorities will then complete the registration pursuant to procedures of “Integrating Multiple Certificates into One” and share the relevant information with the GACC on the SAMR level. Such applicants are no longer required to submit applications for filing as a customs declaration entity to the customs.

In addition, the Decision of the SCNPC on revising the Foreign Trade Law of the PRC (《全國人民代表大會常務委員會關於修改〈中華人民共和國對外貿易法〉的決定》) promulgated by the SCNPC on December 30, 2022, and became effective on the same date, deleted the requirements on the foreign trade dealers engaged in the import and export of goods or technologies to be registered with the competent administrative departments of foreign trade of the State Council or any institutions authorized thereby, namely the filing of foreign trade dealers.

Pursuant to the Regulations of the PRC on the Administration of Import and Export of Goods (《中華人民共和國貨物進出口管理條例》) (the “**Regulations on the Administration of Import and Export of Goods**”) promulgated by the State Council on December 10, 2001 and last amended on March 10, 2024, and became effective on May 1, 2024, enterprises engaged in the trade activities of importing goods into the territory of the PRC or exporting goods outside of China must comply with the Regulations on the Administration of Import and Export of Goods. Goods whose import or export is prohibited shall not be imported or

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

exported; goods whose import or export is restricted shall be subject to a licensing or quota system; and goods whose import or export is free shall not be subject to restriction. The consignee of imported goods or the consignor of exported goods shall submit an automatic import and export license, an import and export license or a quota certificate to the customs for customs clearance.

We have completed the Customs Consignees and Consignors of Imported and Exported Goods Filing (海關進出口貨物收發貨人備案) in compliance with the legal requirements.

### **Regulations on Product Quality, Advertising and Consumer Protection**

The SCNPC promulgated the Product Quality Law (《中華人民共和國產品質量法》) which was promulgated in 1993 and subsequently amended in July 2000, August 2009 and December 2018, applies to all production and sale activities in China. Pursuant to this law, products offered for sale must satisfy relevant quality and safety standards. Enterprises may not produce or sell counterfeit products in any way, including forging brand labels or giving false information regarding a product's manufacturer. Violations of state or industrial standards for health and safety and any other related violations may result in civil liabilities and administrative penalties, such as compensation for damages, fines, suspension or shutdown of business, as well as confiscation of products illegally produced and sold and the proceeds from such sales. Severe violations may subject the responsible individual or enterprise to criminal liabilities. Where a defective product causes personal injury or damage to another person's property, the victim may claim compensation from the manufacturer or from the seller of the product. If the seller pays compensation and it is the manufacturer that should bear the liability, the seller has a right of recourse against the manufacturer. Similarly, if the manufacturer pays compensation and it is the seller that should bear the liability, the manufacturer has a right of recourse against the seller.

The principal regulations governing promotion and advertising activities in China include the PRC Anti-Unfair Competition Law (《中華人民共和國反不正當競爭法》) promulgated in 1993 and amended in November 2017, April 2019 and June 2025, and took effect in October 2025, the PRC Pricing Law (《中華人民共和國價格法》) promulgated in 1997, and the PRC Advertising Law (《中華人民共和國廣告法》) promulgated in 1994 and subsequently amended in April 2015, October 2018 and April 2021. Under the PRC Advertising Law, advertising operators and advertising distributors will be subject to more stringent requirements and obligations. For example, entities or individuals shall not send advertisements to customers' telephones, mobile or email accounts without the customers' consents or requests, and any advertisement containing any kind of misleading, false or inaccurate information with respect to product quality, constituents, functionality, price, sales performance or other features will be deemed as deceptive advertising and will subject the advertising operators and distributors to penalties more severe than those under the original law. In addition, the PRC Anti-Unfair Competition Law further imposes stringent requirements on various promotional activities, such as price-giving sales and bundling sales. Violation of these requirements may result in penalties, including fines, confiscation of advertising income, and order to cease publication of the misleading information.

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

The Administrative Measures for Internet Advertising (《互聯網廣告管理辦法》), which were promulgated by the SAMR on February 25, 2023 and came into effect on May 1, 2023, provide that Internet advertising shall be identifiable so that consumers will identify it as such. With regard to commodity or services ranked under competitive bidding, advertisement publishers shall indicate conspicuously the word “Advertisement” to distinguish them from the natural search results. No advertisement of any medical treatment, medical apparatus, pesticides, veterinary medicines, dietary supplement, foods for special medical purpose or other special commodities or services which are subject to review by advertisement examination authorities as stipulated by laws and regulations shall be released unless it has passed such examination.

According to the Regulation on the Supervision and Administration of Cosmetics (《化妝品監督管理條例》) (Order No. 722 of the State Council), which became effective on January 1, 2021, and the Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Production and Operation of Cosmetics (《化妝品生產經營監督管理辦法》) (Order No. 46 of the State Administration for Market Regulation), which became effective on January 1, 2022, the cosmetic distributors on the e-commerce platform shall disclose the information on the cosmetics they distribute in a comprehensive, truthful, accurate and timely manner. The content of cosmetic advertisements shall be authentic and legal. No cosmetic advertisement may expressly or implicitly indicate that the product has any medical effect, contain any false or misleading information, or deceive or mislead consumers.

The Consumer Protection Law (《中華人民共和國消費者權益保護法》) which was promulgated by the National People’s Congress Standing Committee in October 1993 and subsequently amended in August 2009 and October 2013 sets out the obligations of business operators and the rights and interests of the consumers in China. Pursuant to this law, business operators must guarantee that the commodities they sell satisfy the requirements for personal or property safety, provide consumers with authentic information about the commodities, and guarantee the quality, function usage and term of validity of the commodities. Failure to comply with the Consumer Protection Law may subject business operators to civil liabilities such as refunding purchase prices, replacement of commodities, repairing, ceasing damages, compensation, and restoring reputation, and even subject the business operators or the responsible individuals to criminal penalties when personal damages are involved or if the circumstances are severe. The Consumer Protection Law was further amended in October 2013 and became effective in March 2014. The amended Consumer Protection Law further strengthens the protection of consumers and imposes more stringent requirements and obligations on business operators, especially on the business operators through the internet.

### **Regulations on Cybersecurity, Data Security, and Personal Information Protection**

The Cybersecurity Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國網絡安全法》) (the “**Cybersecurity Law**”) was promulgated by SCNPC on November 7, 2016 and last amended on October 28, 2025, and became effective as of January 1, 2026, which applies to the construction, operation, maintenance and use of networks as well as the supervision and administration of cybersecurity in the PRC. According to the Cybersecurity Law, network operators shall comply with laws and regulations and fulfill their obligations to safeguard security of the network when conducting business and providing services. Those who provide services

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

through networks shall take technical measures and other necessary measures pursuant to the mandatory requirements of laws, regulations and national standards to safeguard the safe and stable operation of the networks, respond to network security incidents effectively, prevent illegal and criminal activities, and maintain the integrity, confidentiality and usability of network data, and the network operator shall not collect the personal information irrelevant to the services it provides or collect or use the personal information in violation of the provisions of laws or agreements between both parties.

On June 10, 2021, the SCNPC promulgated the Data Security Law of PRC (《中華人民共和國數據安全法》) (the “**Data Security Law**”) which became effective on September 1, 2021. The Data Security Law mainly sets forth specific provisions regarding establishing basic systems for data security management, including hierarchical data classification management system, risk assessment system, monitoring and early warning system, and emergency disposal system.

In August 2021, the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress promulgated the Personal Information Protection Law (《中華人民共和國個人信息保護法》) which took effect in November 2021. The Personal Information Protection Law requires, among others, that (i) the processing of personal information should have a clear and reasonable purpose which should be directly related to the processing purpose, using a method that has the least impact on personal rights and interests, and (ii) the collection of personal information should be limited to the minimum scope necessary to achieve the processing purpose to avoid the excessive collection of personal information. Different types of personal information and personal information processing will be subject to various rules on consent, transfer, and security. Entities handling personal information shall bear responsibility for their personal information handling activities, and adopt necessary measures to safeguard the security of the personal information they handle. Otherwise, personal information processors could be subject to liability for their processing activities, including rectification, or suspension or termination of their provision of their services as well as confiscation of illegal income, fines or other penalties.

As the Cybersecurity Law, the Data Security Law, the Personal Information Protection Law and relevant rules and regulations are constantly evolving and may be amended from time to time, we may be required to make further adjustments to our business practices to comply with these laws, rules and regulations.

In December 2021, the CAC, together with certain other PRC governmental authorities, promulgated the Revised Cybersecurity Review Measures (《網絡安全審查辦法》), which adopted the then-effective version and took effect in February 2022. According to the Revised Cybersecurity Review Measures, operators of critical information infrastructure who purchase network products and services or network platform operators who carry out data processing activities that affect or may affect national security shall be subject to cybersecurity review. In addition, network platform operators with personal information of over one million users must apply for a cybersecurity review before listing abroad. Relevant competent governmental authorities may also initiate cybersecurity review if they determine certain network products, services or data processing activities affect or may affect national security. As of the Latest Practicable Date, we had not been notified of being classified as a critical information infrastructure operator, had not received any inquiry, notice, warning

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

from any PRC government authorities, and have not been subject to any investigation, sanctions or penalties made by any PRC government authorities regarding national security risks caused by our business operations. In addition, the China Cybersecurity Review, Certification and Market Regulation Big Data Center confirmed to us during a telephonic consultation on March 26, 2026 that the “listing abroad” terms under the Cybersecurity Review Measures do not apply to listing in Hong Kong, and thus we are not required to submit an application for cybersecurity review for [REDACTED] in Hong Kong.

Furthermore, on September 24, 2024, the State Council released the Network Data Regulation (《網絡數據安全管理條例》), which came into force on January 1, 2025. The Network Data Regulation is not only the first at the administrative regulation level specifically for network data security, but it also serves as a comprehensive implementing regulation for the compliance requirements set out by the Cybersecurity Law, Data Security Law, and Personal Information Protection Law. The Network Data Regulation introduces several key obligations, including requiring network data handlers to specify the purpose and method of personal information processing, as well as the types of personal information involved, before any personal information is handled. It also clarifies definitions for important data, the obligations of those handling important data, establishes broader requirements for data sharing between data handlers, and introduces a new exemption for regulatory obligations regarding cross-border data transfers.

### Regulations on the Use of AI Technologies

On July 10, 2023, the CAC and other relevant authorities promulgated the Provisional Administrative Measures for Generative Artificial Intelligence Services (《生成式人工智能服務管理暫行辦法》) (the “**Generative AI Measures**”), which came into effect on August 15, 2023, and imposed compliance requirements on providers of generative AI services. According to the Generative AI Measures, individuals or organizations that provide generative AI services of texts, images, audios, videos, and other content shall assume the responsibility of such network information content producers to fulfill the obligations of network information security and shall assume the responsibility of personal information processors to protect any personal information involved. Certain providers of generative AI services shall also conduct security assessments and complete regulatory filings. Non-compliance may subject generative AI service providers to penalties, including warning, public denouncement, rectification orders, and suspension of the provision of relevant services. Article 2 of the Generative AI Measures clearly defines the scope of application: services that provide generated content such as texts, images, audios and videos to the public within the territory of the People’s Republic of China shall be subject to these Measures, while those that do not provide such services to the domestic public shall not fall within their scope.

On December 31, 2021, the CAC and other relevant authorities promulgated the Recommended Algorithm Management Provisions for Internet Information Services (《互聯網信息服務算法推薦管理規定》), which came into effect on March 1, 2022. According to these provisions, algorithm-based recommendation service providers are responsible for the security of their algorithms. They must have a management system that includes measures for auditing, ethical review, fraud prevention, security assessment and data security emergency response. They must also have dedicated personnel and technical measures. Service providers should regularly review and evaluate their algorithmic mechanisms, models, data and results,

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

and notify users when an algorithm-based recommendation service is active and provide effective channels for user complaints and reports. According to these provisions, an algorithm recommendation service provider with public opinion attribute or social mobilization ability shall, within ten working days from the date of provision of services, fill in such information as the service provider's name, service form, application field, algorithm type, algorithm self-assessment report and content to be disclosed via the internet information service algorithm record-filing system to go through record-filing formalities.

### **Regulations on the Management of Lease Housing**

Pursuant to (i) the Law on Administration of Urban Real Estate of the PRC (《中華人民共和國城市房地產管理法》), promulgated by the SCNPC on July 5, 1994 and was last amended on August 26, 2019 and became effective on January 1, 2020, and (ii) the Administrative Measures on Leasing of Commodity Housing (《商品房屋租賃管理辦法》), promulgated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development on December 1, 2010 and became effective on February 1, 2011, when leasing premises, the lessor and lessee are required to enter into a written lease contract, containing such provisions as the leasing term, use of the premises, rental and repair liabilities, and other rights and obligations of both parties. Both lessor and the lessee shall complete property leasing registration and filing formalities within 30 days from the execution of the property lease contract with the real estate administration department where the leased property is located. If the lessor and lessee fail to go through the registration and filing procedures, both lessor and lessee may be subject to fines.

### **PRC Laws and Regulations on Intellectual Property Rights**

#### ***Patent***

The Patent Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國專利法》) was promulgated by the SCNPC on March 12, 1984, and was last amended on October 17, 2020, and became effective on June 1, 2021. The Detailed Rules for the Implementation of the Patent Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國專利法實施細則》) were promulgated by the State Council on June 15, 2001, became effective on July 1, 2001, and was last amended on December 11, 2023, and became effective on January 20, 2024. According to these laws, regulations and detailed rules, patents in China are categorized into three types: invention patents, utility model patents and design patents. The term of an invention patent right is 20 years, the term of a utility model patent is 10 years, and the term of a design patent is 15 years, all of which are calculated from the filing date. Any entity or individual that exploits another's patent must conclude a licensing agreement with the patent holder and pay royalties. Exploiting a patent without the permission of the patent holder constitutes an infringement of their patent rights.

#### ***Trademark***

The Trademark Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國商標法》) was promulgated by the SCNPC on August 23, 1982, became effective on March 1, 1983, and was last amended on April 23, 2019, and became effective on November 1, 2019. The Regulations for the Implementation of the Trademark Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國商標法實施條例》) were promulgated by the State Council on August 3, 2002, became effective on September 15, 2002,

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

and was last amended on April 29, 2014, and became effective on May 1, 2014. According to these laws and regulations, the validity period of a registered trademark is 10 years from the date of approval. To continue using a trademark upon the expiry of its validity, renewal procedures must be completed in accordance with the provisions within the 12 months preceding expiration. If renewal procedures are not completed within this period, a six-month extension is allowed. Each renewal extends the validity period for 10 years, starting from the day following the expiration of the last validity period. Trademark registrants may authorize others to use their registered trademarks by signing trademark licensing agreements.

### *Domain Name*

The Internet Domain Name Management Measures (《互聯網域名管理辦法》) were promulgated by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (the “MIIT”) on August 24, 2017, and became effective on November 1, 2017. According to these management measures, the MIIT is the primary regulatory authority for the management of Internet domain names in China. Domain name registration is processed through domain name root servers and their operating institutions, domain name registration management institutions and domain name registration service institutions established in accordance with the relevant regulations.

### *Copyright*

In accordance with the Copyright Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國著作權法》) which was promulgated by the SCNPC on September 7, 1990, and was last amended on November 11, 2020 and came into effect on June 1, 2021, and the Implementation Regulations of the PRC Copyright Law (《中華人民共和國著作權法實施條例》) promulgated by the State Council on August 2, 2002, last amended on January 30, 2013 and came into effect on March 1, 2013, Chinese citizens, legal persons, or other organizations shall, whether published or not, be entitled to copyrights in their works, which include, among others, works of literature, art, natural science, social science, engineering technology and computer software.

### *Computers Software Copyright*

The Regulations on the Protection of Computer Software (《計算機軟件保護條例》) promulgated by the State Council on June 4, 1991, which was last amended on January 30, 2013 and came into effect on March 1, 2013, provide that the PRC citizen, legal person or other organization is entitled to the copyright of the software that such person, entity or organization develops, whether the software is released publicly or not. A software copyright holder is entitled to right of publication, right of acknowledgement, right of alteration, right of reproduction, right of distribution, right of leasing, right of dissemination, right of translation, and other rights to which a software copyright holder is entitled.

The Measures for the Registration of Computer Software Copyright (《計算機軟件著作權登記辦法》), which was promulgated by the National Copyright Administration on February 20, 2002, and became effective on the same date, and was last amended on June 18, 2004 and came into effect on July 1, 2004, regulates the registration of software copyright, the exclusive licensing contract and assignment contracts of software copyright. The National Copyright Administration is mainly responsible for the registration and management of

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

national software copyright and designates the China Copyright Protection Center as the agency for software registration. The China Copyright Protection Center will grant certificates of registration to computer software copyright applicants.

### Regulations on Employment and Social Welfare

#### *Employment*

The major PRC laws and regulations that govern employment relationship are the Labor Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國勞動法》), the Labor Contract Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國勞動合同法》) and its implementation, which impose stringent requirements on the employers in relation to entering into fixed-term employment contracts, hiring of part-time employees and dismissal of employees.

The Labor Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國勞動法》) was promulgated by the SCNPC on July 5, 1994, and became effective on January 1, 1995, and was last amended on December 29, 2018 and became effective on the same date. The Labor Law of the PRC stipulates matters related to promoting employment, labor contracts, working hours, rest and leave, wages, labor safety and hygiene, special protection for female and minor workers, vocational training, social insurance and welfare, labor disputes, supervision and inspection, as well as legal liabilities.

The Labor Contract Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國勞動合同法》) was promulgated by the SCNPC on June 29, 2007, and became effective on January 1, 2008, and was last amended on December 28, 2012, and became effective on July 1, 2013. The Implementation Regulation of the Labor Contract Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國勞動合同法實施條例》) was promulgated by the State Council on September 18, 2008, and became effective on the same date. According to the aforementioned law and regulation, a written labor contract shall be established when forming a labor relationship. Employers shall not force employees to work overtime and must pay overtime wages according to national regulations if overtime is arranged. Wages must not be lower than the local minimum wage standard and must be paid to employees promptly.

#### *Social Insurance*

The PRC Social Insurance Law (《中華人民共和國社會保險法》) (the “**Social Insurance Law**”), which was last amended by the SCNPC on December 29, 2018, and became effective on the same date, has established social insurance systems of basic pension insurance, basic medical insurance, work-related injury insurance, unemployment insurance and maternity insurance and has elaborated in detail the legal obligations and liabilities of employers who fail to comply with relevant laws and regulations on social insurance. According to the Social Insurance Law and the Provisional Regulations on Collection and Payment of Social Insurance Premiums (《社會保險費徵繳暫行條例》) promulgated by the State Council on January 22, 1999, and was last amended on March 24, 2019 and became effective on the same date, enterprises shall register social insurance with local social insurance and pay or withhold relevant social insurance for or on behalf of its employees. Any employer that fails to make social insurance contributions may be ordered to rectify the non-compliance and pay the required contributions within a prescribed time limit and be subject to a late fee. If the

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

employer still fails to rectify the failure to make the relevant contributions within the prescribed time, it may be subject to a fine ranging from one to three times the amount overdue.

On July 31, 2025, the PRC Supreme People's Court promulgated the Interpretation II by the Supreme People's Court of the PRC on Legal Issues Concerning the Application of Law in the Trial of Labor Dispute Cases (《最高人民法院關於審理勞動爭議案件適用法律問題的解釋(二)》), which took effect on September 1, 2025. Article 19(1) thereof stipulates that if an employer and an employee agree or the employee undertakes that social insurance contributions need not to be paid, the People's Court shall deem such agreement or undertaking invalid. Furthermore, where an employer fails to pay social insurance contributions in accordance with the law, and the employee seeks to terminate the labor contract and claims economic compensation from the employer pursuant to Article 38(3) of the Labor Contract Law of the PRC, the People's Court shall support such claims in accordance with the law, which clarifies that employees are entitled to request termination of their labor contracts and receive corresponding economic compensation under the Labor Contract Law of the PRC if the employer fails to make social insurance contributions in accordance with the law.

### ***Housing Provident Fund***

Pursuant to the Regulations on Management of Housing Provident Fund (《住房公積金管理條例》), which was promulgated by the State Council on April 3, 1999, and was last amended on March 24, 2019, and became effective on the same date, employers in Mainland China shall provide their employees with housing provident fund. Employers who fail to contribute to the above housing provident funds may be ordered to make full payment within a prescribed time period by the housing provident fund management center. If an employing entity fails to make the payment towards the housing provident funds within a prescribed time limit, an application may be made to a people's court for enforcement.

### **Regulations on Overseas Investment**

According to the Measures for the Administration of Overseas Investment of Enterprises (《企業境外投資管理辦法》) promulgated by the NDRC on December 26, 2017 and became effective on March 1, 2018, an investor shall, in overseas investment, undergo the formalities for the confirmation or recordation, among others, of an overseas investment project, report the relevant information, and cooperate in supervisory inspection.

Pursuant to the Measures for the Administration of Overseas Investment (《境外投資管理辦法》) promulgated by the MOFCOM on March 16, 2009, lastly amended on September 6, 2014 and became effective on October 6, 2014, "overseas investment" means the acts of an enterprise legally formed in China to own a non-financial enterprise or obtain the ownership, control, or right of business management of or any other interest in an existing non-financial enterprise outside of China by formation, acquisition or merger, or other means. The MOFCOM and the provincial counterparts promulgate regulations providing that overseas investment of enterprises to be subject to recordation or confirmation management, depending on the actual circumstances of investment. Overseas investment involving any sensitive country or region or any sensitive industry shall be subject to confirmation

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

management. Overseas investment under other circumstances shall be subject to recordation management. When an overseas enterprise invested by an enterprise conducts overseas reinvestment, the enterprise shall report to the commerce departments after completing the overseas legal procedures.

Pursuant to the Provisions on the Foreign Exchange Administration of the Overseas Direct Investment of Domestic Institutions (《境內機構境外直接投資外匯管理規定》) promulgated by the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (the “SAFE”) on July 13, 2009 and became effective on August 1, 2009 and the Notice on Further Simplifying and Improving Policies for the Foreign Exchange Administration of Direct Investment (《關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知》) promulgated by the SAFE on February 13, 2015, became effective on June 1, 2015 and was partially repealed on December 30, 2019, stipulates that, upon obtaining the approval for overseas investment, the overseas direct investment of PRC enterprises shall apply for foreign exchange registration to the banks at their places of registration.

### Regulations on Foreign Exchange

On January 29, 1996, the State Council promulgated the Regulations of the PRC Foreign Exchange Administration (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) (the “**Foreign Exchange Regulations**”) which became effective on April 1, 1996. The Foreign Exchange 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 Regulations were subsequently amended on January 14, 1997 and August 5, 2008. The latest amendment to the Foreign Exchange Regulations clearly states that no restriction will be imposed on international current payments and transfers.

According to the Notice of the People’s Bank of China and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Issues Concerning Fund Management for Overseas Listing of Domestic Enterprises (《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》) jointly issued by the People’s Bank of China and the SAFE on December 24, 2025, which came into effect on April 1, 2026, the People’s Bank of China, the SAFE and its local branches implement supervision, administration, and inspection over activities related to the overseas listing of domestic companies, including business registration, account opening and use, cross-border receipts and payments, and fund conversion. For overseas listing, a domestic enterprise shall, within 30 working days from the date of its first trading day on the overseas market or upon completion of any over-allotment, apply to a bank within the province/municipality with independent planning status where it is registered to complete the overseas listing registration by presenting the required materials.

According to the Circular of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Reforming and Regulating Policies for the Administration over Foreign Exchange Settlement of Capital Accounts (《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 SAFE on June 9, 2016 and became effective on the same date, and the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Further Deepening Reform to Promote Cross-border Trade and Investment Facilitation (《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》) promulgated by SAFE on December 4, 2023, and became effective on the same date, the foreign exchange receipts under capital accounts of domestic

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

institutions are subject to discretionary settlement policies. The foreign exchange receipts under capital accounts (including foreign exchange capital, foreign debts, and repatriated funds raised through overseas listing) subject to discretionary settlement as expressly prescribed in the relevant policies may be settled with banks according to the actual need of the domestic institutions for business operation. Domestic institutions may, at their discretion, settle up to 100% of foreign exchange receipts under capital accounts for the time being. SAFE may adjust the above proportion in due time according to the balance of payments. While eligible for the discretionary settlement of foreign exchange receipts under capital accounts, domestic institutions may also opt to use their foreign exchange receipts according to the payment-based settlement system. A bank shall, in handling each transaction of foreign exchange settlement for a domestic institution according to the principle of payment-based settlement, review the authenticity and compliance of the use of the funds settled in the previous foreign exchange settlement (including discretionary settlement and payment-based settlement) of such domestic institution. Domestic institutions’ foreign exchange receipts under the capital account and the Renminbi funds obtained from the settlement thereof shall not, directly or indirectly, be used for expenditure beyond the enterprise’s business scope or expenditure prohibited by laws and regulations of the state. Unless otherwise specified, the funds shall not, directly or indirectly, be used for investments in securities or other investments or wealth management other than banks’ principal-secured products. The funds shall not be used for the granting of loans to non-affiliated enterprises, except where it is expressly permitted in the business scope. The funds shall not be used for the construction or purchase of real estate for purposes other than self-use (except for real estate enterprises).

According to the Notice on Optimizing Administration of Foreign Exchange to Support the Development of Foreign-related Business (《國家外匯管理局關於優化外匯管理支援涉外業務發展的通知》) issued by SAFE and became effective on April 10, 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 utilized 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.

### **Regulations on Taxation**

#### ***Enterprise Income Tax***

According 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 National People’s Congress of the PRC on March 16, 2007 and last amended on December 29, 2018, and became effective on the same date, a unified income tax rate of 25% will be applied towards foreign investment and foreign enterprises which have set up institutions or facilities in the PRC as well as PRC enterprises. Under the EIT Law, enterprises established outside of China whose “de facto management bodies” are located in China are considered “resident enterprises” and will generally be subject to the unified 25% enterprise income tax rate as to their global income.

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

Enterprises that are recognized as high and new technology enterprises in accordance with the Administrative Measures for the Determination of High and New Tech 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 April 14, 2008 and amended on January 29, 2016, and became effective on January 1, 2016, are entitled to enjoy a preferential enterprise income tax rate of 15%, under which the validity period of the high and new technology enterprise qualification shall be three years from the date of issuance of the certificate. An enterprise can re-apply for such recognition as a high and new technology enterprise before or after the previous certificate expires. Some of our PRC subsidiaries have obtained the high and new technology enterprise qualification.

### *Value-added Tax*

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 on December 25, 2024 and came into effect on January 1, 2026, entities and individuals engaged in the sale of goods, services, intangible assets, or real estate within China, or importing goods to China, shall be identified as taxpayers of value-added tax, and shall pay value-added tax. The sale of goods, services, intangible assets, or real estate refers to the transfer of ownership of goods or real estate for a consideration, the provision of services for a fee, or the transfer of ownership or use rights of intangible assets for a consideration. For taxpayers selling goods, processing, repair or fitting services, or tangible movable property leasing services; or importing goods, the tax rate shall be 13%, unless otherwise specified; for taxpayers selling transportation, postal, basic telecommunications, construction, or real estate leasing services, selling real estate, transferring land use rights, or selling or importing specified goods, the tax rate shall be 9%, unless otherwise specified; for taxpayers selling services or intangible assets, the tax rate shall be 6%, unless otherwise specified; for taxpayers exporting goods, the tax rate shall be zero, except as otherwise provided by the State Council; for entities and individuals within China engaging in cross-border sales of services or intangible assets within the scope defined by the State Council, the tax rate shall be zero.

### *Tax on Dividends*

#### *For 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》) (the “**Individual Income Tax Law**”), which was last amended by the SCNPC on August 31, 2018 and became effective on January 1, 2019, and the Implementation Rules 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》) (the “**Implementation Rules of the Individual Income Tax Law**”), which was last amended by the State Council on December 18, 2018 and became 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》) promulgated by the MOF, the SAT and the China Securities Regulatory Commission (the “**CSRC**”) on September 7, 2015 and became effective on September 8, 2015, where an individual holds the shares of a listed company obtained from the public offering for more than one year and transfers the

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

stock of the listed company on the stock market, 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 and transfers the stock of the listed company on the stock market, if the holding period is within one month (inclusive), the dividend 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 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%.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland 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》), became effective on December 8, 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 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〉第五議定書》) (the “**Fifth Protocol**”), promulgated by the SAT and became 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.

### *For Enterprise Investors*

Pursuant to the EIT Law 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》), which was last amended by the State Council on December 6, 2024, and became effective on January 20, 2025, a non-resident enterprise is subject to a reduced rate of 10% enterprise income tax 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 payment or due payment every time it is paid or due. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to an applicable treaty for the avoidance of double taxation.

Pursuant to 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 (《國家稅務總局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》) promulgated by the SAT on November 6, 2008, and became effective on the same date, a PRC resident enterprise is required to withhold enterprise income tax 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.

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

According to the Arrangement between the Mainland 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》), 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 Hong Kong Securities Clearing Company Nominees Limited). 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 equity transfer income*

#### *For Individual Investors*

Under the Individual Income Tax Law 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 MOF and the SAT 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 SAT does not specify whether to continue to exempt individuals from personal income tax on the income from the transfer of shares in listed company in the newly revised Individual Income Tax Law and Implementation Rules of the Individual Income Tax Law.

#### *For Enterprise Investors*

Under the EIT Law and its implementation rules, a non-PRC resident enterprise is subject to enterprise income tax at the rate of 10% with respect to PRC-sourced income, including gains derived from the disposal of shares 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 arrangements.

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

### Regulations on Securities and Overseas Listing

#### *Securities Laws and Regulations*

The Securities Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國證券法》) (the “**Securities Law**”), which was promulgated by the SCNPC on December 29, 1998, and was last amended on December 28, 2019 and became effective on March 1, 2020, comprehensively regulating activities in the PRC securities market including issuance and trading of securities, takeovers by listed companies, securities exchanges, securities companies and the duties and responsibilities of securities regulatory authorities, etc. The Securities Law further regulates that a domestic enterprise issuing securities overseas directly or indirectly or listing their securities overseas shall comply with the relevant provisions of the State Council and for subscription and trading of shares of domestic companies using foreign currencies, detailed measures shall be stipulated by the State Council separately. The CSRC is the securities regulatory body set up by the State Council to supervise and administer the securities market according to law, maintain order in the market, and ensure the market operates in a lawful manner. Currently, the issue and trading of H shares are principally governed by the regulations and rules promulgated by the State Council and the CSRC.

#### *Overseas Listings*

On February 17, 2023, the CSRC promulgated the Trial Administrative Measures of the Overseas Securities Offering and Listing by Domestic Enterprises (《境內企業境外發行證券和上市管理試行辦法》) (the “**Overseas Listing Trial Measures**”) and relevant five guidelines, which became effective March 31, 2023. According to the Overseas Listing Trial Measures, PRC domestic enterprises that seek to offer and list securities in overseas markets, either in direct or indirect means (the “**Overseas Offering and Listing**”), are required to fulfill the filing procedure with the CSRC and submit filing reports, legal opinions, and other relevant documents. Subject to specific circumstances, the Overseas Listing Trial Measures require that, among other things, (i) initial public offerings or listings on overseas markets shall be filed with the CSRC within three working days after the relevant application is submitted overseas, (ii) subsequent securities offerings of an issuer on the same overseas market where it has previously offered and listed securities shall be filed with the CSRC within three working days after the offering is completed, and (iii) subsequent securities offerings or listings of an issuer on other overseas markets other than where it has offered and listed securities shall be filed with the CSRC within three working days after the relevant application is submitted overseas. If a PRC company fails to complete the filing procedure or the filing documents submitted by a PRC company contain misrepresentation, misleading statement or material omission, such PRC company may be subject to order to rectify, warnings and fines, and its controlling shareholders, actual controllers, the person directly in charge and other directly responsible persons may also be subject to fines.

In addition, the Overseas Listing Trial Measures also provides the circumstances where the Overseas Offering and Listing is explicitly prohibited, including: (i) such securities offering and listing is explicitly prohibited by provisions in laws, administrative regulations and relevant state rules; (ii) the Overseas Offering and Listing may endanger national security as reviewed and determined by competent authorities under the State Council in accordance with law; (iii) the PRC domestic enterprise, or its controlling shareholder(s) and the actual

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

controller, have committed relevant crimes such as corruption, bribery, embezzlement, misappropriation of property or undermining the order of the socialist market economy during the latest three years; (iv) the PRC domestic enterprise is currently under investigations for suspicion of criminal offenses or major violations of laws and regulations, and no conclusion has yet been made thereof; or (v) there are material ownership disputes over equity held by the controlling shareholder(s) or by other shareholder(s) that are controlled by the controlling shareholder(s) and/or actual controller.

According to the Provisions on Strengthening the Confidentiality and File Management of Domestic Enterprises Related to Overseas Issuance of Securities and Listing (《關於加強境內企業境外發行證券和上市相關保密和檔案管理工作的規定》) which was promulgated by the CSRC together with the MOF and National Administration of State Secrets Protection and National Archives Administration of China on February 24, 2023, and became effective on March 31, 2023, during the overseas offering and listing activities of domestic enterprises, domestic enterprises, securities companies and securities service providers providing corresponding services shall strictly abide by the relevant PRC laws and regulation as well as the requirements of the provisions, enhance legal awareness of guarding state secrets and strengthening the management of archives, establish and complete systems for confidentiality and archives work, employ necessary measures to implement the responsibility for confidentiality and archives management, and shall not divulge state secrets and work secrets of state organs, and shall not harm the interests of state and the public. If domestic enterprises provide or publicly disclose to relevant securities companies, securities service institutions, overseas regulatory agencies and other parties, or provide or publicly disclose documents and materials involving state secrets or state organ work secrets through the issuer, they shall report the matters to the competent authorities for examination and approval, and file them with the department for the administration and management of state secrets at the same level for the record.

“Full Circulation” represents listing and circulating on the Stock Exchange of the domestic unlisted shares of an H-share listed company, including unlisted domestic shares held by domestic shareholders prior to overseas listing, unlisted domestic shares additionally issued after overseas listing, and unlisted shares held by foreign shareholders. On November 14, 2019, CSRC announced the Guidelines for the “Full Circulation” Program for Domestic Unlisted Shares of H-share Listed Companies (《H股公司境內未上市股份申請「全流通」業務指引》) (the “**Guidelines for the ‘Full Circulation’**”), which were amended on August 10, 2023. As regulated in the Guidelines for “Full Circulation,” shareholders of domestic unlisted shares have the flexibility to jointly decide the amount and proportion of shares that will be included in the circulation application. This decision should be reached through mutual consultation, ensuring compliance with relevant laws, regulations and policies governing state-owned asset administration, foreign investment and industry regulation. Meanwhile, the H-share listed company corresponding to these shares may be authorized to file for “full circulation” with the CSRC. An unlisted domestic joint stock company may file with the CSRC for “full circulation” at the time of its initial public offering and listing overseas. After domestic unlisted shares are listed and circulated on the Stock Exchange, they may not be transferred back to China. Pursuant to the Overseas Listing Trial Measures, which came into effect on March 31, 2023, for a domestic company directly offering and listing overseas, shareholders of its domestic unlisted shares applying to convert such shares into shares listed and traded on an overseas trading venue shall conform to relevant regulations

## REGULATORY OVERVIEW

promulgated by the CSRC. Additionally, they are required to authorize the domestic company to submit the conversion application to the CSRC on their behalf.

On December 31, 2019, China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited and Shenzhen Stock Exchange jointly announced the Measures for Implementation of the H-share “Full Circulation” Business (《H股「全流通」業務實施細則》) (the “**Measures for Implementation**”). The businesses of cross-border share transfer registration, maintenance of deposit and holding details, transaction entrustment and instruction transmission, settlement, management of settlement participants, services of nominal holders, etc., in relation to the H-share “Full Circulation” business, are subject to the Measures for Implementation.