

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

1. TAXATION OF SECURITY HOLDERS

The taxation of income and capital gains of holders of H Shares is subject to the laws and practices of the PRC and of jurisdictions in which holders of H Shares are residents or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current effective laws and practices, and no predictions are made about changes or adjustments to relevant laws or policies, and no comments or suggestions will be made accordingly. The discussion has no intention to cover all possible tax consequences resulting from the investment in H Shares, nor does it take the specific circumstances of any particular investor into account, some of which may be subject to special regulations. 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 of the date of this document, which is subject to change or adjustment and may have retrospective effect. No issues on PRC or Hong Kong taxation other than income tax, capital tax, VAT, stamp duty and estate duty were referred in the discussion. Prospective investors are urged to consult their financial advisers regarding the PRC, Hong Kong and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of H Shares.

A. PRC Taxation

Taxation on Dividends

– Individual Investors

Pursuant to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》), which was last amended on August 31, 2018 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》), which was last amended on 18 December 2018 (the "IIT Law"), dividends paid by PRC enterprises are subject to individual income tax levied at a flat rate of 20%. For a foreign individual who is not a resident of the PRC, the receipt of dividends from a PRC enterprise is normally subject to individual income tax of 20% unless specifically exempted by the tax authority of the State Council or reduced by a relevant tax treaty.

According to the Notice on Certain Policies Regarding Individual Income Tax (Cai Shui Zi [1994] No. 020) (《關於個人所得稅若干政策問題的通知》) (財稅字[1994]020號) issued on May 13, 1994 by the MOF and the SAT, overseas individuals are, as an interim measure, exempted from the individual income tax for the dividends and bonuses received from foreign-invested enterprises.

According to the Notice on Issues Concerning the Administration of Individual Income Tax Collection Following 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) issued on June 28, 2011 by the SAT, as for the income from dividends and bonuses obtained by foreign resident individual shareholders from the shares issued in Hong Kong by domestic non-foreign invested enterprises, the individual income tax

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

shall be withheld by withholding agents according to the item of "income from interest, dividends and bonuses". Where a domestic non-foreign invested enterprise issues shares in Hong Kong, its foreign resident individual shareholders can enjoy relevant tax incentives in accordance with tax treaties signed between their countries of residence and China as well as the provisions of tax arrangements between Mainland and Hong Kong (Macau). A domestic non-foreign invested enterprise that issues shares in Hong Kong may, for the purpose of distributing dividends and bonuses, withhold individual income tax at the rate of 10% in general, and the application procedure is not required. For situations where the tax rate for dividend is not 10%, the following regulations shall apply: where an individual who has earned the dividends is the resident of a country with which the conventional tax rate is lower than 10%, such individual can apply for refund according to the Announcement of the SAT on Issuing the Measures for Non-resident Taxpayers' Enjoyment of Treaty Benefits (Announcement No. 35, 2019 of the SAT) (《國家稅務總局關於發佈(非居民納稅人)享受協定待遇管理辦法的公告》); where an individual who has earned the dividends is the resident of a country with which the conventional tax rate is higher than 10% and lower than 20%, the withholding agent shall withhold the individual income tax in accordance with the actual conventional tax rate when distributing dividends and bonuses, and the application procedure is not required; where an individual who has earned the dividends is the resident of a country which has not signed a tax treaty with China or is under other situations, the withholding agent shall withhold the individual income tax at the rate of 20% when distributing dividends and bonuses.

According 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 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》), which was signed on August 21, 2006, the Chinese Government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a Chinese company to Hong Kong residents (including natural persons and legal entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a Chinese company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company if the Hong Kong resident is the beneficial owner of the equity and certain other conditions are met.

In addition, according to the Notice on Issues Concerning the Implementation of Differential Individual Income Tax Policies on 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 on 7 September 2015, where an individual acquires the stocks of a listed company from public offering of the company or from the stock market, if the stock holding period is more than 1 year, the income from dividends and bonuses shall be exempted from individual income tax; where an individual acquires the stocks of a listed company from public offering of the company or from the stock market, if the stock holding period is 1 month or less, the income from dividends and bonuses shall be included into the taxable incomes in full amount; if the stock holding period is more than 1 month and up to 1 year, 50% of the income from dividends and bonuses shall be temporarily included into the taxable incomes. The individual income tax rate on the aforesaid income is levied at a flat rate of 20%.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

– Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》), which was promulgated by the NPC on 16 March 2007, came into effect on 1 January 2008 and was subsequently amended on 24 February 2017 and 29 December 2018, 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 promulgated by the State Council on 6 December 2007, came into effect on 1 January 2008 and was amended in 2019 (the "EIT Law"), a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% enterprise income tax on PRC-sourced income (including dividends and bonuses received from a PRC resident enterprise), if such non-resident enterprise does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income is not connected with such establishment or premise in the PRC. Such withholding tax for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income shall be the withholding agent, and is required to withhold the income tax from the payment or due payment every time it is paid or due.

The Circular of the STA on Issues Relating to the Withholding of Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Paid by PRC Resident Enterprises to Overseas Non-PRC Resident Enterprise Shareholders of H Shares (《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》) (Guo Shui Han [2008] No. 897), which was issued by the STA and implemented on November 6, 2008, further clarified that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold corporate income tax at a rate flat of 10% on the dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to overseas non-resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares. In addition, the Response to Issues on Levying Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprise from Holding Stock such as B 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》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 394) which was issued by the STA and implemented on 24 July 2009, further provides that any PRC-resident enterprise that is listed on overseas stock exchanges must withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprises. Such tax rates may be further changed pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has concluded with relevant jurisdictions, where applicable. Accordingly, dividends paid to non-PRC resident enterprise (including HKSCC Nominees) shall be subject to withholding enterprise income tax at a rate of 10%.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between Mainland China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and 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》), which was signed on 21 August 2006, the PRC government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a PRC company to Hong Kong residents (including natural persons and legal entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a PRC company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company if the Hong Kong resident is the beneficial owner of the equity and certain other conditions are met. The Fifth Protocol of the Arrangement between Mainland China and Hong

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and 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漏稅的安排第五議定書》), which came into effect on 6 December 2019, adds 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 for relevant gains in the circumstance where relevant treaty benefits, after taking into account all relevant facts and conditions, are reasonably deemed to be one of the main purposes for the arrangement or transactions which will bring any direct or indirect benefits under the Arrangement, except when the grant of benefits under such circumstance is consistent with relevant objective and goal under the Arrangement. The application of the dividend clause of tax agreements shall be subject to the requirements of PRC tax laws and regulations, such as the Circular of the SAT on Relevant Issues Concerning the Implementation of Dividend Clauses in 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》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 81).

– Tax Treaties

Non-resident investors residing in jurisdictions which have entered into treaties or arrangements for the avoidance of double taxation with the PRC might be entitled to a reduction of the PRC enterprise income tax imposed on the dividends received from PRC companies. The PRC currently has entered into Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaties or Arrangements with a number of countries and regions including Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Macau Special Administrative Region, 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 taxation treaties or arrangements are required to apply to the PRC tax authorities for a refund of the enterprise income tax in excess of the agreed tax rate, and the refund application is subject to approval by the PRC tax authorities.

Taxation on Share Transfer

– Value-Added Tax and Local Surcharges

According to the Interim Regulations of the PRC on Value-added Tax (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例》) which was promulgated by the State Council on December 13, 1993, and amended on November 10, 2008, February 6, 2016 and November 19, 2017, and the Detailed Rules for the Implementation of the Interim Regulations of the PRC on Value-Added Tax (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例實施細則》) which was promulgated by the MOF on December 25, 1993 and subsequently amended on December 15, 2008 and October 28, 2011, all enterprises and individuals that engage in the sale of goods, the provision of processing, repair and replacement services, sales of service, intangible assets and real estate and the importation of goods within the territory of the PRC shall pay value-added tax at the rate of 0%, 6%, 11% and 17% for the different goods it sells and different services it provides, except when specified otherwise.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Pursuant to the Notice on the Full Implementation of Pilot Program for Transition from Business Tax to VAT (《關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知》) (Cai Shui [2016] No. 36) (the "Circular 36"), which was implemented on 1 May 2016 and amended on 11 July 2017, 25 December 2017 and 20 March 2019, respectively, entities and individuals engaged in sales of services within the PRC shall be subject to VAT and "sales of services within the PRC" refers to the situation where either the seller or the buyer of a taxable service is located within the PRC. Circular 36 also provides that transfer of financial products, including transfer of the ownership of marketable securities, shall be subject to VAT at 6% on the taxable income (which is the balance of sales price upon deduction of purchase price), for a general or a foreign VAT taxpayer. However, individuals are exempt from VAT upon transfer of financial products.

According to the provisions above, upon the sale or disposal of H shares, the holders are exempt from VAT in the PRC if they are non-resident individuals; in case the holders are non-resident enterprises, they may not be subject to the VAT in the PRC if the purchasers of the H shares are individuals or entities located outside of the PRC whereas the holders may be subject to the VAT in the PRC if the purchasers of the H shares are individuals or entities located in the PRC. However, it is still uncertain whether the non-Chinese resident enterprises are required to pay the PRC VAT for the disposal of H shares in practice.

Income Taxes

– Individual investors

According to the IIT Law, gains from the transfer of equity interests in the PRC resident enterprises are subject to individual income tax at a rate of 20%. According to the Circular of the MOF and STA on Declaring that Individual Income Tax Continues to be Exempted over Income of Individuals from Transfer of Shares (《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》) (Cai Shui Zi [1998] No. 61) issued by the MOF and STA on 30 March 1998, since 1 January 1997, gains of individuals from the transfer of shares of listed companies continue to be temporarily exempted from individual income tax.

However, on 31 December 2009, the MOF, the STA and CSRC jointly issued the Circular on Related Issues on Levying Individual Income Tax over the Income Received by Individuals from the Transfer of Listed Shares Subject to Sales Limitation (《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》) (Cai Shui [2009] No. 167), which became effective on 1 January 2010, states that individuals' income from the transfer of listed shares obtained from the public offering and transfer of the stock market of the listed company 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 on Issues Concerning the Individual Income Tax on Individuals' Income from the Transfer of Restricted Stocks of Listed Companies (《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》) (Cai Shui [2010] No. 70) jointly issued by the above three departments and came into effect on 10 November 2010). As

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

of the Latest Practicable Date, no aforesaid provisions have expressly provided that 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 the Implementation Rules of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% enterprise income tax 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 premises in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income is not connected in reality with such establishment or premise. Such withholding tax for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income shall be the withholding agent, and is required to withhold the income tax from the payment or due payment every time it is paid or due. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to relevant tax treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

Stamp Duty

Pursuant to the Stamp Duty Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》) promulgated by the SCNPC on 10 June 2021 and came into effect on 1 July 2022 (the "Stamp Duty Law"), all entities and individuals engaged in securities transactions within the PRC are subject to stamp duty as stamp duty payers in accordance with the provisions of the Stamp Duty Law, thus the requirements of the stamp duty imposed on the transfer of shares of PRC listed companies shall not apply to the transfer and disposal of H Shares by non-PRC investors outside the PRC.

Estate Duty

As of the date of this document, no estate duty has been levied in the PRC under the PRC Laws.

Taxation Policy of Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect

On October 31, 2014 and November 5, 2016, the MOF, the SAT and the CSRC jointly issued the Notice on Taxation Policies concerning the Pilot Program of an Interconnection Mechanism for Transaction in the Shanghai and Hong Kong Stock Markets (Cai Shui [2014] No. 81) (《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》) and the Notice on the Relevant Taxation Policies for the Pilot Program of the Interconnection Mechanism for Transactions in the Shenzhen and Hong Kong Stock Markets (Cai Shui [2016] No. 127) (《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》). According to such Notices, Mainland enterprise investors' income from transfer price difference, dividends and bonuses of investment in stocks listed on the HKEx through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect or Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall be included into the total income and shall be subject to the enterprise income tax. Income of mainland resident enterprises obtained from

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

dividends and bonuses by holding H shares for over twelve months consecutively shall be exempted from enterprise income tax according to the law. Enterprises of H shares shall not withhold income tax of dividends and bonuses for mainland enterprise investors. The taxes payable shall be declared and paid by enterprises on their own.

For dividends and bonuses obtained by individual mainland investors from investment in H shares listed on the HKEX through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect, enterprises of H shares shall submit applications to China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited ("CSDC") so as to get the register of individual mainland investors and withhold the individual income tax at the tax rate of 20%. For taxes withheld abroad, individual investors may apply to competent taxation authorities of the CSDC for tax credit upon the strength of valid tax withholding vouchers. For dividends and bonuses obtained by mainland securities investment funds from investment in stocks listed on the HKEX through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen Hong Kong Stock Connect, individual income tax shall be calculated and levied in accordance with the above provisions.

On December 4, 2019, the MOF, the SAT and the CSRC jointly issued the Announcement on the Continued Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Policies on the Interconnection Mechanisms for Transactions in the Shanghai and Hong Kong Stock Markets and for Transactions in the Shenzhen and Hong Kong Stock Markets (Announcement 93, 2019 of the MOF) (《關於繼續執行滬港、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 stipulates that from December 5, 2019 to December 31, 2022, the transfer price difference income that an individual investor from mainland China obtains by investing in stocks listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and by trading in Hong Kong fund shares through mutual recognition of funds will continue to be temporarily exempted from individual income tax.

B. 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

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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 realized 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.

2. MAJOR TAXES ON THE COMPANY IN THE PRC

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

3. TAXATION OF THE COMPANY IN HONG KONG

The Inland Revenue Ordinance (Chapter 112 of the Laws of Hong Kong) ("IRO") is an ordinance for the purposes of imposing taxes on property, earnings and profits in Hong Kong. The IRO provides, among others, that persons, which include corporations, partnerships, trustees and bodies of persons, carrying on any trade, profession or business in Hong Kong are chargeable to tax on all profits (excluding profits arising from the sale of capital assets) arising in or derived from Hong Kong from such trade, profession or business.

Under the two-tiered profits tax rates regime in Hong Kong, the first HK\$2 million of profits of the qualifying group entity will be taxed at 8.25%, and profits above HK\$2 million will be taxed at 16.5%. The profits of a group entity not qualifying for the two-tiered profits tax rates regime will continue to be taxed at a flat rate of 16.5%.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

As our Group carries on certain trade and business in Hong Kong, our Group may be subject to the profits tax regime under the IRO.

4. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The lawful currency of the PRC is Renminbi, which is currently subject to foreign exchange control and cannot be freely converted into foreign currency. The SAFE, with the authorization of the PBOC, is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange control regulations.

The Regulations of the PRC on the Management of Foreign Exchange (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》), the “Regulations on the Management of Foreign Exchange”, which was promulgated by the State Council on 29 January 1996 and effective on 1 April 1996, classifies all international payments and transfers into current items and capital items. Most of the current items are not subject to the approval of foreign exchange administrative authorities, while capital items are subject to the approval of foreign exchange administrative authorities. According to the Regulations on the Management of Foreign Exchange as amended on 14 January 1997 and 5 August 2008, the PRC will not impose any restriction on international current payments and transfers.

The Regulations for the Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange (《結匯、售匯及付匯管理規定》) (the “Settlement Regulations”), which was promulgated by the PBOC on 20 June 1996 and effective on 1 July 1996, removes other restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange under current items, while imposing existing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions under capital items.

According to the Announcement on Improving the Reform of the Renminbi Exchange Rate Formation Mechanism (《關於完善人民幣匯率形成機制改革的公告》) (PBOC Announcement [2005] No. 16), which was issued by the PBOC on 21 July 2005 and effective on the same date, the PRC began to implement a managed floating exchange rate system in which the exchange rate would be determined based on market supply and demand and adjusted with reference to a basket of currencies from 21 July 2005. Therefore, the Renminbi exchange rate was no longer pegged to the U.S. dollar. The PBOC would publish the closing price of the exchange rate of the Renminbi against trading currencies such as the U.S. dollar in the interbank foreign exchange market after the closing of the market on each working day, as the central parity of the currency against Renminbi transactions on the following working day.

On 5 August 2008, the State Council promulgated the revised Regulation on the Management of Foreign Exchange, which has made substantial changes to the foreign exchange supervision system of the PRC. First, it has adopted an approach of balancing the inflow and outflow of foreign exchange. Foreign exchange income received overseas can be repatriated or deposited overseas, and foreign exchange and settlement funds under the capital account are required to be used only for purposes as approved by the competent authorities and

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

foreign exchange administrative authorities; second, it has improved the RMB exchange rate formation mechanism based on market supply and demand; third, in the event that international balance of payment suffer or may suffer a material misbalance, or the national economy encounters or may encounter a severe crisis, the State may adopt necessary safeguard or control measures against international balance of payment; fourth, it has enhanced the supervision and administration of foreign exchange transactions and grant extensive authorities to the SAFE to enhance its supervisory and administrative powers.

According to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, PRC enterprises (including foreign investment enterprises) which need foreign exchange for current item transactions may, without the approval of the foreign exchange administrative authorities, effect payment from foreign exchange accounts opened at the designated foreign exchange banks, on the strength of valid transaction receipt or proof. Foreign investment enterprises which need foreign exchange for the distribution of profits to their shareholders and PRC enterprises which, in accordance with regulations, are required to pay dividends to their shareholders in foreign exchange (such as our Company) may, on the strength of resolutions of the board of directors or the shareholders' meeting on the distribution of profits, effect payment from foreign exchange accounts at the designated foreign exchange banks or effect exchange and payment at the designated foreign exchange banks.

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

On 26 December 2014, the SAFE promulgated and implemented the Circular of the SAFE on Issues Concerning the Foreign Exchange Administration of Overseas Listing (《國家外匯管理局關於境外上市外匯管理有關問題的通知》) (Hui Fa [2014] No. 54), pursuant to which, a domestic company shall, within 15 business days from the date of the end of its overseas listing issuance, register the overseas listing with the Administration of Foreign Exchange at the place of its establishment; the proceeds from an overseas listing of a domestic company may be remitted to the PRC or deposited overseas, but the use of the proceeds shall be consistent with the contents as specified in the document and other disclosure documents.

According to the Circular on Further Simplifying and Improving Policies for Foreign Exchange Administration for Direct Investment (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知》), the "Circular 13" (Hui Fa [2015] No. 13) promulgated by the SAFE on 13 February 2015 and took effect on 1 June 2015, and further revised in 2019, two of the administrative examination and approval items, being the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment have been canceled, the foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and overseas direct investment shall be directly examined and handled by banks. The SAFE and its branch offices shall indirectly regulate the foreign exchange registration of direct investment through banks.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

According to the Circular of the SAFE on the Policies for Reforming and Standardizing Management of 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》 Hui Fa [2016] No. 16), which was issued by the SAFE and came into effect on 9 June 2016, and was partially amended on 4 December 2023, the settlement of foreign exchange receipts under the capital account (including the foreign exchange capital, external debts and funds recovered from overseas listing, etc.) that are subject to discretionary settlement as already specified by relevant policies may be handled at banks based on the domestic institutions' actual requirements for business operation. The proportion of discretionary settlement of domestic institutions' foreign exchange receipts under the capital account is temporarily determined as 100%. The SAFE may, based on the international balance of payments, adjust the aforesaid proportion at appropriate time.

On 26 January 2017, the SAFE issued the Circular of the SAFE on Further Advancing Foreign Exchange Administration Reform to Enhance Authenticity and Compliance Reviews (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步推進外匯管理改革完善真實合規性審核的通知》) (Hui Fa [2017] No. 3) to further expand the scope of settlement for domestic foreign exchange loans, allow settlement for domestic foreign exchange loans with export background under goods trading; allow repatriation of funds under domestic guaranteed foreign loans for domestic utilization; allow settlement for domestic foreign exchange accounts of foreign institutions operating in the Free Trade Pilot Zones; and adopt the model of full-coverage RMB and foreign currency overseas lending management, where a domestic institution engages in overseas lending, the sum of its outstanding overseas lending in RMB and outstanding overseas lending in foreign currencies shall not exceed 30% of its owner's equity in the audited financial statements of the preceding year.

On 23 October 2019, the SAFE issued the Circular of the SAFE Further Promoting Cross-border Trade and Investment Facilitation (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步促進跨境貿易投資便利化的通知》) (Hui Fa [2019] No. 28), which was partially amended on 4 December 2023, which stipulated that on the basis that investing foreign-funded enterprises may make domestic equity investments with their capital funds in accordance with laws and regulations, non-investing foreign-funded enterprises are permitted to legally make domestic equity investments with their capital funds under the premise that the existing Special Administrative Measures (Negative List) for the Access of Foreign Investment (《外商投資准入特別管理措施負面清單》) are not violated and domestic invested projects are true and compliant.