

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

PRC TAXATION

Taxation of Security Holders

The taxation of income and capital gains of holders of H Shares is subject to the laws and practices of the PRC and of jurisdictions in which holders of H Shares are resident or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current effective PRC laws and practices and no predictions are made about changes or adjustments to relevant laws or policies, and no comments or suggestions will be made accordingly. The discussion does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to an investment in the H Shares, nor does it take into account the specific circumstances of any particular investor, some of which may be subject to special regulations. Accordingly, you should consult your own tax adviser regarding the tax consequences of an investment in H Shares. The discussion is based upon PRC laws and relevant interpretations in effect as at the date of this document, all of which are subject to change. Prospective investors are urged to consult their financial adviser regarding the PRC and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of H Shares.

Taxation on dividends

Individual investors

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

Pursuant to the Notice of the State Taxation Administration (the “STA”) on Issues Concerning the Levy and Administration of Individual Income Tax After the Repeal of Guo Shui Fa [1993] No. 45) (Guo Shui Han [2011] No. 348) (《國家稅務總局關於國稅發[1993]045號文件廢止後有關個人所得稅徵管問題的通知(國稅函[2011]348號)》) issued by the STA on 28 June 2011, which came into effect on the same day, domestic non-foreign-invested enterprises issuing shares in Hong Kong may, when distributing dividends, withhold individual income tax at the rate of 10%. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries that have entered into a tax treaty with the PRC with tax rate of lower than 10%, non-foreign-invested enterprises listed in Hong Kong may apply on behalf of such holders for enjoying the lower preferential tax treatments, and, upon approval by the tax authorities, the excessive withholding amount will be refunded. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries that have entered into a tax treaty with the PRC with tax rate of higher than 10% but lower than 20%, the non-foreign-invested

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

enterprise is required to withhold the tax at the agreed rate under the treaties, and no application procedures will be necessary. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries without taxation treaties with the PRC or are under other situations, the non-foreign-invested enterprise is required to withhold the tax at a rate of 20%.

Enterprise investors

According to the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》), which was latest amended by the SCNPC and implemented on December 29, 2018, and the Implementation Rules for the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》), which was last amended on December 6, 2024 by the State Council, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% enterprise income tax on PRC-sourced income (including dividends received from a PRC resident enterprise that issues shares in Hong Kong), if it does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. The aforesaid income tax payable for non-resident enterprises is deducted at source, where the payer of the income is required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise.

The Notice on the Issues Concerning Withholding the Enterprise Income Tax on the Dividends Paid by Chinese Resident Enterprises to H-Share Holders Which Are Overseas Non-resident Enterprises (Guo Shui Han [2008] No. 897) (《關於中國居民企業向境外H股非居民企業股東派發股息代扣代繳企業所得稅有關問題的通知(國稅函[2008]897號)》), which was issued and implemented by the STA on November 6, 2008, further clarifies that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on the dividends of year 2008 and afterwards that it distributes to overseas non-resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares. In addition, the Response to Questions on Levying Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprise from Holding Stock such as B Shares (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 394) (《關於非居民企業取得B股等股票股息徵收企業所得稅問題的批覆(財稅函[2009]394號)》), which was issued by the STA and came into effect on July 24, 2009, further provides that any PRC-resident enterprise whose shares are listed on overseas stock exchanges must withhold and remit enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends of year 2008 and afterwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprises. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has entered into with a relevant country or region, where applicable.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income (《內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排》) (the “**Arrangement**”), which was signed between the STA and the Hong Kong Government on August 21, 2006, the PRC government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a PRC company to Hong Kong residents (including resident individual and resident entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company unless a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in PRC

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. The Fifth Protocol to the Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income (《<內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排>第五議定書》), which came into effect on December 6, 2019, added a criteria for the qualification of entitlement to enjoy treaty benefits. Although there may be other provisions under the Arrangement, the treaty benefits under the criteria shall not be granted in the circumstance where relevant gains, after taking into account all relevant facts and conditions, are reasonably deemed to be one of the main purposes for the arrangement or transactions which will bring any direct or indirect benefits under this Arrangement, except when the grant of benefits under such circumstance is consistent with relevant objective and goal under the Arrangement. The application of the dividend clause of tax agreements is subject to the requirements of PRC tax law and regulation, such as the Notice of the STA on the Issues Concerning the Application of the Dividend Clauses of Tax Agreements (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 81) (《國家稅務總局關於執行稅收協定股息條款有關問題的通知(國稅函[2009]81號)》).

Tax Treaties

Non-resident investors residing in jurisdictions which have entered into treaties or adjustments for the avoidance of double taxation with the PRC might be entitled to a reduction of the PRC enterprise income tax imposed on the dividends received from PRC enterprises. The PRC currently has entered into avoidance of double taxation treaties or arrangements with a number of countries and regions including Hong Kong, Macau, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, 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 (“VAT”) and Local Surcharges

Pursuant to the Notice on the Full Implementation of Pilot Programme for Transition from Business Tax to VAT (Cai Shui [2016] No. 36) (《關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知(財稅[2016]36號)》), partially repealed on July 11, 2017 and March 20, 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. The notice 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.

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

VAT taxpayers are also subject to urban maintenance and construction tax, education surcharge and local education surcharge (collectively, the “**local surcharges**”), which is usually at 12% of the VAT payable, if any. However, pursuant to the Urban Maintenance and Construction Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國城市維護建設稅法》) which became effective on September 1, 2021, no urban maintenance and construction tax shall be levied on value-added tax or consumption tax paid for the sale of labor services, other services and intangible assets in China by overseas entities or individuals. Meanwhile, pursuant to Announcement on the Measures for Determining the Tax Basis of Urban Maintenance and Construction Tax and Other Matters (《關於城市維護建設稅計稅依據確定辦法等事項的公告》), the basis for calculating and levying education surcharges and local education surcharges is consistent with the basis for calculating the urban maintenance and construction tax since September 1, 2021. In conclusion, no urban maintenance and construction tax, education surcharges, and local education surcharges will be levied on value-added tax paid for the sale of intangible assets in China by overseas entities or individuals since September 1, 2021.

However, it is still uncertain whether the non-PRC resident enterprises are required to pay the PRC VAT for the disposal of H shares in practice. If relevant tariffs are imposed in the future, the investment value of such holders in H shares may be materially and adversely affected.

Income Tax

Individual investor

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

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

Furthermore, the Notice of the State Administration of Taxation on Issues Concerning the Levy of Individual Income Tax on Incomes from the Transfer of Restricted Shares of Listed Companies (Cai Shui [2009] No. 167) (關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的通知(財稅[2009]167號)) jointly issued by the Ministry of Finance (the “**MOF**”), the STA and the China Securities Regulatory Commission (the “**CSRC**”) and implemented on December 31, 2009 stipulates that individuals’ income from the transfer of listed shares obtained from the public offering of listed companies and transfer market on the Shanghai Stock Exchange and the Shenzhen Stock Exchange shall continue to be exempted from the

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

individual income tax, provided that it excludes the relevant restricted shares as defined in the Supplementary Notice Concerning the Levy of Individual Income Tax on Incomes from the Transfer of Restricted Shares of Listed Companies (Cai Shui [2010] No. 70) (《關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的補充通知(財稅[2010]70號)》) jointly issued by these departments and implemented on November 10, 2010. As at the Latest Practicable Date, the aforementioned provisions did not specify whether to impose the individual income tax on the income from the transfer of shares of PRC-resident enterprise listed on overseas stock exchanges by non-PRC resident individuals.

Enterprise investors

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

Stamp Duty

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

Estate Duty

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

PRINCIPAL TAXATION OF OUR COMPANY IN THE PRC

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

PRC FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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

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

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

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

On August 5, 2008, the State Council promulgated the revised Foreign Exchange Control Regulations of the PRC, which have made substantial changes to the foreign exchange supervision system of the PRC. First, the regulations have adopted an approach of balancing

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

the inflow and outflow of foreign exchange. Foreign exchange income received overseas can be repatriated or deposited overseas, and foreign exchange and settlement funds under the capital account are required to be used only for purposes as approved by the competent authorities and foreign exchange administrative authorities; second, the regulations have improved the RMB exchange rate floating system based on market supply and demand under management; third, in the event that international balance of payment suffer or may suffer a material misbalance, or the national economy encounters or may encounter a severe crisis, the State may adopt necessary safeguard or control measures against international balance of payment; fourth, the regulations have enhanced the supervision and administration of foreign exchange transactions and grant extensive authorities to SAFE to enhance its supervisory and administrative powers.

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

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

According to the Notice on Further Simplifying and Improving Policies for the Foreign Exchange Administration of Direct Investment (Hui Fa [2015] No. 13) (《關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知(匯發[2015]13號)》) promulgated by SAFE on February 13, 2015 and became effective on June 1, 2015, and partially repealed on 30 December 2019, the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment shall be directly examined and handled by banks. SAFE and its branch offices shall indirectly regulate the foreign exchange registration of direct investment through banks.

According to the Notice on Policies for Reforming and Regulating the Control over Foreign Exchange Settlement of Capital Accounts (Hui Fa [2016] No. 16) (《關於改革和規範資本項目結匯管理政策的通知(匯發[2016]16號)》) which was promulgated by SAFE and last amended on December 4, 2023, foreign currency earnings in capital account that relevant policies of willingness exchange settlement have been clearly implemented on (including the recalling of raised capital by overseas listing) may undertake foreign exchange settlement in

APPENDIX IV

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

the banks according to actual business needs of the domestic institutions. The tentative percentage of foreign exchange settlement for foreign currency earnings in capital account of domestic institutions is 100%, subject to adjust of SAFE in due time in accordance with international revenue and expenditure situations.

According to the Notice on Optimizing Administration of Foreign Exchange to Support the Development of Foreign-related Business (Hui Fa [2020] No. 8) (《國家外匯管理局關於優化外匯管理支持涉外業務發展的通知(匯發[2020]8號)》) issued by SAFE and became effective on 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.