
APPENDIX V

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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 advisor 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 appreciation and profit tax, business tax/appreciation tax, stamp duty and estate duty were referred in the discussion. Prospective [REDACTED] are urged to consult their financial advisors regarding the PRC, Hong Kong and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of H Shares.

THE PRC TAXATION

Taxation on Dividends

Individual Investor

Pursuant to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》), or the Individual Income Tax Law, lastly amended by the SCNPC on August 31, 2018 and 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》) lastly amended by the State Council on December 18, 2018 and effective on January 1, 2019, dividends paid by Mainland China 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》) jointly issued by the MOF, the SAT and the CSRC on September 7, 2015 and effective on September 8, 2015, where an individual holds the shares of a listed company obtained from the public offering and market transfer, if the holding period is more than one year, the dividends and bonus income shall be temporarily exempted from individual income tax. Where an individual holds shares of a listed company from the public offering and market transfer, 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 Circular on Questions Concerning the Collection of Individual Income Tax Following the Repeal of Guo Shui Fa [1993] No. 045 (《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》) (Guo Shui Han [2011] No. 348) (國稅函[2011]348號) dated June 28, 2011, issued by the SAT, dividends paid to non-PRC resident individual holders of H Shares are generally subject to individual income tax of the PRC at the withholding tax rate of 10%, depending on whether there is any applicable tax treaty between the PRC and the jurisdiction in which the non-PRC resident individual holder of H Shares resides as well as the tax arrangement between the PRC and Hong Kong. Non-PRC resident individual holders who reside in jurisdictions that have not entered into tax treaties with the PRC are subject to a 20% withholding tax on dividends received from us.

Enterprise Investor

In accordance with the Corporate Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》) issued by NPC on March 16, 2007 and latest amended on December 29, 2018 and the Implementation Provisions of the Corporate Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所

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得稅法實施條例》) issued by the State Council on December 6, 2007, came into effect on January 1, 2008 and amended on December 6, 2024 (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “**CIT Law**”), the rate of enterprise income tax shall be 25%. A non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% corporate income tax on PRC-sourced income (including dividends received from a PRC resident enterprise), if it does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. 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.

Pursuant to the Notice on the Issues Concerning Withholding the EIT on the Dividends Paid by Chinese Resident Enterprises to H Share Holders Which Are Overseas Non-resident Enterprises (《關於中國居民企業向境外H股非居民企業股東派發股息代扣代繳企業所得稅有關問題的通知》) issued by the SAT and effective on November 6, 2008, a PRC resident enterprise is required to withhold EIT at a unified rate of 10% on dividends paid to non-PRC resident enterprise holders of H shares which are derived out of profit generated since 2008. The Reply on the Collection of EIT on Dividends Received by Non-resident Enterprises from Holding B Shares and Other Shares (《關於非居民企業取得B股等股票股息徵收企業所得稅問題的批復》), promulgated by the SAT on July 24, 2009 and effective on the same day, further provides that PRC-resident enterprises listed on Mainland China and overseas stock exchanges by issuing stocks must withhold EIT at a flat rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprise shareholders. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that the PRC government has concluded with a relevant country or region, where applicable.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (《內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排》) (hereinafter referred to as the “**the Arrangement**”), 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 unless a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a Chinese company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. The Fifth Protocol of the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (《〈內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排〉第五議定書》), which came into effect on December 6, 2019, adds a criteria for the qualification of entitlement to enjoy treaty benefits. Although there may be other provisions under the Arrangement, the treaty benefits under the criteria shall not be granted in the circumstance where 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 State Administration of Taxation on the Issues Concerning the Application of the Dividend Clauses of Tax Agreements (《國家稅務總局關於執行稅收協定股息條款有關問題的通知》).

Tax Treaties

Non-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 Chinese corporate 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 and etc. Non-PRC resident enterprises

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entitled to preferential tax rates in accordance with the relevant taxation treaties or arrangements are required to apply to the Chinese tax authorities for a refund of the corporate income tax in excess of the agreed tax rate, and the refund application is subject to approval by the Chinese tax authorities.

Taxation on Share Transfer

VAT and Local Additional Tax

Pursuant to the Notice on Fully Implementing the Pilot Reform for the Transition from Business Tax to Value-added Tax (《關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知》) (hereinafter referred to as “**Circular 36**”), which was implemented on May 1, 2016, entities and individuals engaged in the services sale in the PRC are subject to VAT and “engaged in the services sale in the PRC” means that the seller or buyer of the taxable services is located in the PRC. 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 revenue (which is the balance of sales price upon deduction of purchase price), for a general or a foreign VAT taxpayer. However, individuals who transfer financial products are exempt from VAT, which is also provided in the Notice of Ministry of Finance and State Administration of Taxation on Several Tax Exemption Policies for Business Tax on Sale and Purchase of Financial Commodities by Individuals (《財政部、國家稅務總局關於個人金融商品買賣等營業稅若干免稅政策的通知》) effective on January 1, 2009. According to these regulations, if the holder is a non-resident individual, the PRC VAT is exempted from the sale or disposal of H shares; if the holder is a non-resident enterprise and the H-share buyer is an individual or entity located outside China, the holder is not necessarily required to pay the PRC VAT, but if the H-share buyer is an individual or entity located in China, the holder may be required to pay the PRC VAT. 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.

At the same time, VAT payers are also required to pay urban maintenance and construction tax, education surtax and local education surcharge (hereinafter collectively referred to as “**Local Additional Tax**”), which shall be usually subject to 12% of the value-added tax, business tax and consumption tax actually paid (if any).

Income tax

Individual Investors

According to the IIT Law, gains on the transfer of equity interests in the PRC resident enterprises are subject to individual income tax at a rate of 20%. Pursuant to the Circular on Declaring that Individual Income Tax Continues to be Exempted over Income of Individuals from the Transfer of Shares (《關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知》) issued by the State Administration of Tax on March 30, 1998, from January 1, 1997, income of individuals from transfer of the shares of listed enterprises continues to be exempted from individual income tax. The State Administration of Taxation has not expressly stated whether it will continue to exempt tax on income of individuals from transfer of the shares of listed enterprises in the latest amended Individual Income Tax Law.

However, on December 31, 2009, the Ministry of Finance, SAT and China Securities Regulatory Commission 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》), which came into effect on December 31, 2009, which states 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 individual income tax, except for the relevant shares which are subject to sales restriction (as defined in the Supplementary Notice on Issues Concerning the Levy of 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》) jointly issued and implemented by such departments on

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November 10, 2010). As of the Latest Practicable Date, no aforesaid provisions have expressly provided that individual income tax shall be levied from non-Chinese resident individuals on the transfer of shares in PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the CIT Law, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to corporate income tax at the rate of a 10% on PRC-sourced income, including gains derived from the disposal of equity interests in a PRC resident enterprise, if it does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. Such income tax payable for non-resident enterprises 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. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to relevant tax treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect Taxation Policy

Pursuant to the Notice on the Tax Policies Related to the Pilot Program of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect (《關於深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》) promulgated by the MOF, the SAT and the CSRC on November 5, 2016 and effective on December 5, 2016, transfer spread income derived by enterprise investors in Mainland China from stock investment listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall be included in their total income and subject to EIT according to law. For dividends and bonuses received by individual investors in Mainland China from investing in H shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect, the H-share companies shall apply to CSDC for providing the register of individual investors in Mainland China to the H-share companies and the H-share companies shall withhold individual income tax at the rate of 20% on behalf of the investors.

Pursuant to the Announcement on the Continued Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Policies on the Inter-connected Mechanisms for Trading on the Shanghai and Hong Kong Stock Markets and for Trading on the Shenzhen and Hong Kong Stock Markets and on the Mutual Recognition of Funds between the Mainland and Hong Kong (《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》) promulgated by the MOF, the SAT and the CSRC on December 4, 2019 and effective on December 5, 2019, and the Announcement on Extending the Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Policies Concerning the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Mainland-Hong Kong Mutual Recognition of Funds (《關於延續實施滬港、深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制和內地與香港基金互認有關個人所得稅政策的公告》) which promulgated on August 21, 2023 and implemented on the same day, the transfer spread income derived by individual investors in Mainland China from investing in shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall be exempted from individual income tax from December 5, 2019 to December 31, 2027.

Pursuant to the Notice on the Tax Policies Related to the Pilot Program of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect (《關於深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》), dividends derived by enterprise investors in Mainland China from investing in shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect are included in their total income and subject to EIT according to law. In particular, dividends and bonus income obtained by resident enterprises in Mainland China from holding H shares for 12 consecutive months shall be exempted from EIT according to law. H-share companies shall not withhold income tax on dividends and bonus income for enterprise investors in Mainland China. The tax payable shall be declared and paid by the enterprise itself.

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Stamp Duty

Pursuant to the Stamp Duty Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》), which was promulgated by the SCNPC on June 10, 2021 and came into effect on July 1, 2022, the purchase and disposal of H shares by non-Mainland China investors outside of Mainland China are not subject to the requirements of the Stamp Duty Law of the PRC.

Estate Duty

Pursuant to the laws of Mainland China, no estate duty is currently levied in Mainland China.

PRINCIPAL TAXATION OF OUR COMPANY IN THE PRC

Please refer to the chapter **Regulatory Overview** of the document.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The lawful currency of the PRC is Renminbi. The State Administration of Foreign Exchange (hereinafter referred to as “SAFE”), with the authorization of the People’s Bank of China (hereinafter referred to as “PBOC”), is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange regulations.

The Foreign Exchange Administration Regulations of the PRC (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) (the “**Foreign Exchange Control Regulations**”), which was issued by the State Council on January 29, 1996, implemented on April 1, 1996 and latest amended on August 5, 2008, classifies all international payments and transfers into current items and capital items. Current items are subject to the reasonable examination of the veracity of transaction documents and the consistency of the transaction documents and the foreign exchange receipts and payments by financial institutions engaging in conversion and sale of foreign currencies and supervision and inspection by the foreign exchange control authorities. For capital items, overseas organizations and overseas individuals making direct investments in China shall, upon approval by the relevant authorities in charge, process registration formalities with the foreign exchange control authorities. Foreign exchange income received overseas can be repatriated or deposited overseas, and foreign exchange and foreign exchange 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. In the event that international revenues and expenditure occur or may occur a material misbalance, or the national economy encounters or may encounter a severe crisis, the State may adopt necessary safeguard and control measures on international revenues and expenditure.

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

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 through foreign exchange accounts opened at the designated foreign exchange bank, on the strength of valid transaction 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 (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 bank, or effect exchange and payment at the designated foreign exchange bank.

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According to 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》) which was promulgated by the State Council on October 23, 2014, it 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.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange 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》) issued by the SAFE and implemented on December 26, 2014, 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 local branch office of state 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 domestic account or deposited in an overseas account, but the use of the proceeds shall be consistent with the content of the document and other disclosure documents.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Further Simplifying and Improving Policies for the Foreign Exchange Administration of 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》), which was issued by the SAFE on February 13, 2015, came into effect on June 1, 2015 and partially repealed on December 30, 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.

In accordance with the Administrative Provisions on Foreign Exchange in Domestic Direct Investment by Foreign Investors (《外國投資者境內直接投資外匯管理規定》)(the “SAFE Circular No.21”), which was promulgated on May 10, 2013 with effect from May 13, 2013, amended on October 10, 2018 and partially abolished on December 30, 2019. The SAFE Circular 21 specifies that the administration by SAFE or its local branches over direct investment by foreign investors in the PRC must be conducted by way of registration and banks must process foreign exchange business relating to the direct investment in the PRC based on the registration information provided by SAFE and its branches.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Reforming the Management Mode of Foreign Exchange Capital Settlement of Foreign Investment Enterprises (《國家外匯管理局關於改革外商投資企業外匯資金結匯管理方式的通知》) (the “SAFE Circular No.19”), promulgated on March 30, 2015, coming effective on June 1, 2015 and partially abolished on December 30, 2019, foreign-invested enterprises could settle their foreign exchange capital on a discretionary basis according to the actual needs of their business operations. Whilst, foreign-invested enterprises are prohibited to use the foreign exchange capital settled in RMB (a) for any expenditures beyond the business scope of the foreign-invested enterprises or forbidden by laws and regulations; (b) for direct or indirect securities investment; (c) to provide entrusted loans (unless permitted in the business scope), repay loans between enterprises (including advances by third parties) or repay RMB bank loans that have been lent to a third party; and (d) to purchase real estates not for self-use purposes (save for real estate enterprises).

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange of the PRC on Revolutionizing and Regulating Capital Account Settlement Management Policies (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) which was promulgated by the SAFE and implemented on June 9, 2016, 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 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 the SAFE in due time in accordance with international revenue and expenditure situations.

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According to the SAFE promulgated the Notice on Further Facilitating Cross-Board Trade and Investment (《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》) (the “**SAFE Circular No.28**”), which was promulgated on October 23, 2019, come into effect on the same day and partially amended on December 4, 2023. The notice cancelled restrictions on domestic equity investments made with capital funds by non-investing foreign-funded enterprises. In addition, restrictions on the use of funds for foreign exchange settlement of domestic accounts for the realization of assets have been removed and restrictions on the use and foreign exchange settlement of foreign investors’ security deposits have been relaxed. Eligible enterprises in the pilot area are also allowed to use revenues under capital accounts, such as capital funds, foreign debts and overseas listing revenues for domestic payments without providing materials to the bank in advance for authenticity verification on an item by item basis, while the use of funds should be true, in compliance with applicable rules and conforming to the current capital revenue management regulations.