
REGULATORY OVERVIEW

We are subject to a variety of People’s Republic of China (the “**PRC**”) laws, rules and regulations across a number of aspects of our business. This section sets forth a summary of the most significant laws and regulations that are applicable to our current business activities within the territory of the PRC.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO CORPORATION

The establishment, operation and management of corporate entities in the PRC are governed by the PRC Company Law (《中華人民共和國公司法》) (the “**PRC Company Law**”), which was promulgated by the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (the “**SCNPC**”) in December 1993 and the latest amendment is effective since July 2024. According to the PRC Company Law, companies are generally classified into two categories: limited liability companies and companies limited by shares. The PRC Company Law also applies to foreign-invested companies limited by shares. For details, see “Appendix IV — Summary of Principal Legal and Regulatory Provisions — The PRC Company Law, Trial Administrative Measures of Overseas Securities Offering and Listing by Domestic Companies and the Guidelines for the Articles of Association of Listed Companies”.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Investment activities in the PRC by foreign investors are principally governed by the Catalogue of Industries for Encouraging Foreign Investment (2022 Edition) (《鼓勵外商投資產業目錄(2022年版)》) (the “**Encouraged Catalog**”), which was promulgated by the MOFCOM, and the NDRC, on October 26, 2022 and took effect on January 1, 2023, and the Special Administrative Measures (Negative List) for Access of Foreign Investment (2024 Edition) (《外商投資准入特別管理措施(負面清單)》) (“**The Negative List**”), which was promulgated by the MOFCOM and the NDRC on September 6, 2024 and took effect on November 1, 2024, and together with the Foreign Investment Law (《中華人民共和國外商投資法》) (the “**FIL**”) and their respective implementation rules and ancillary regulations.

On March 15, 2019, the National People’s Congress (the “**NPC**”) promulgated the FIL, which has come into effect on January 1, 2020. The FIL, by means of legislation, establishes the basic framework for the access, promotion, protection and administration of foreign investment in view of investment protection and fair competition. According to the FIL, foreign investment shall enjoy pre-entry national treatment, except for those foreign invested entities that operate in industries deemed to be either “restricted” or “prohibited” in the “Negative List”.

Any industries not falling in the Negative List shall be administered under the principle of equal treatment to domestic and foreign investment.

On December 30, 2019, the MOFCOM and SAMR, jointly promulgated the Measures for Information Reporting on Foreign Investment (《外商投資信息報告辦法》), which became effective on January 1, 2020. Pursuant to the Laws, where a foreign investor carries out investment activities in China directly or indirectly, the market regulatory authorities shall forward the investment information submitted by foreign investor or the foreign-invested enterprise to the competent commerce administrative authorities.

REGULATION ON COMMERCIAL FRANCHISE OPERATIONS

State Council promulgated Administrative Regulations on Commercial Franchise Operations (《商業特許經營管理條例》) on 6 February 2007, which became effective on May 1, 2007. Commercial franchise operations referred to in this Regulation shall mean a grant by an enterprise owner of registered trademarks, enterprise logos, patents, proprietary technologies or other business resources to another business operator to use such business resources owned by the franchisor through a contractual arrangement, where the franchisee operates the business according to a uniform business model stipulated under the contract and pays the franchisor franchising fees. A franchisor shall file records with the commerce administrative authorities within 15 days upon conclusion of the first franchise contract pursuant to the provisions of these Regulations.

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Franchisors engaging in franchise operations across provinces, autonomous regions and centrally-administered municipalities shall file records with the commerce administrative authorities of the State Council. Where a franchisor fails to file records with the commerce administrative authorities to file records within a stipulated period, the commerce administrative authorities shall order the franchisor to file records within a stipulated period, impose a fine ranging from RMB10,000 to RMB50,000.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO SINGLE-PURPOSE COMMERCIAL PREPAID CARDS

On August 18, 2016, the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC (the “**MOFCOM**”) promulgated the Administrative Measures on Single-purpose Commercial Prepaid Cards (Trial Implementation) (《單用途商業預付卡管理辦法(試行)》). Single-purpose commercial prepaid cards refers to prepaid certificates issued by businesses carried out within the territory of PRC by enterprise legal persons engaging in retail industry, accommodation and catering industry and residential services industry which are limited to be used as payment for goods or services by the enterprise or within the group to which the enterprise belongs or within the franchise system of the same brand. Card-issuers shall complete filing formalities within 30 days from the date of carrying out single-purpose card businesses, otherwise they shall be ordered to make correction within a stipulated period. Where correction is not made within the stipulated period, a fine ranging from RMB10,000 to RMB30,000 shall be imposed.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO FOOD PRODUCTION, OPERATION AND FOOD SAFETY

Food Production and Operation Licensing

The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the PRC (now merged into SAMR) promulgated the Measures for the Administration of Food Production Licensing (the “**Food Production Measures**”) (《食品生產許可管理辦法》) on April 19, 2010 and last amended on January 2, 2020 with effect from March 1, 2020. According to the Food Production Measures, a food production license shall be obtained in accordance with the law to engage in food production activities within the PRC. The validity term for a food production license is 5 years. If the enterprise that has the food production license needs to extend the validity term of its legally obtained food production license, it shall file an application for replacement of the license with the original licensing authority within 30 business days prior to the expiry of the validity term of the food production license. Where no application is filed for extension of the license upon expiry of the validity term, the original licensing authority shall conduct the cancelation procedures of the food production license.

According to the Administrative Measures for Food Operation Licensing and Record-filing (the “**Food Operation Measures**”) (《食品經營許可和備案管理辦法》), which was promulgated by the SAMR, on June 15, 2023 and became effective on December 1, 2023, entities and/or individuals engaging in the operation of food shall obtain a food operation license. Applicants for a food operation license shall meet various conditions set out in the Food Operation Measures. The food operation license is issued by administration for market regulation at or above the county level and is valid for five years. Those who engage in food operation activities but fail to obtain a required food operation license shall be punished by the local market regulatory authorities at or above the county level according to Article 122 of the Food Safety Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國食品安全法》) (the “**Food Safety Law**”).

On November 29, 2021, the SAMR promulgated the Announcement on Matters relating to the Record-filing for the Sale of Only Pre-packaged Food (《關於僅銷售預包裝食品備案有關事項的公告》), which stipulates that an entity trading in food but only for sale of pre-packaged food shall apply for the record-filing when registering for market entity registration. The record-filing formalities shall be completed before carrying out such businesses. Those who have obtained food operation licenses are not required to go through the record-filing before the expiration of their food operation licenses.

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Food Safety

According to the Food Safety Law, which was promulgated by the SCNPC on February 28, 2009, and latest amended on September 12, 2025, and the Implementation Regulations for the Food Safety Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國食品安全法實施條例》) (the “**Revised Implementation Rules**”) promulgated by the State Council on July 20, 2009 and most recently amended on October 11, 2019, anyone who engages in food production, food selling, or catering services shall obtain the license according to the Food Safety Law. Food producers and business operators shall take and conform to the measures specified in the Food Safety Law and its Implementation The Food Safety Law sets out, as penalties for violation, various legal liabilities in the form of warnings, orders to rectify, confiscations of illegal gains, confiscations of utensils, equipment, raw materials and other articles used for illegal production and operation, fines, recalls and destructions of food in violation of laws and regulations, orders to suspend production and/or operation, revocations of production and/or operation license, and even criminal punishment.

Online Catering Services

In accordance with Measures for the Supervision and Administration of the Safety of Food Offered through Online Catering Services (《網絡餐飲服務食品安全監督管理辦法》), as effective on January 1, 2018, and amended on October 23, 2020, online catering service providers shall have their own physical stores and have obtained the food operation licenses according to the law, and shall carry out business activities pursuant to the business forms and business items specified on their own food operation licenses, and they shall not operate beyond the business scope. Online catering service providers which do not have any physical stores, or fail to obtain the food operation licenses in accordance with the law shall be punished by the local market regulatory authorities at or above the county level according to Article 122 of the Food Safety Law.

Food Recall System

A food recall system is established under the Food Safety Law and the Revised Implementation Rules. Where a food producer or trader finds that food it has produced or sold does not comply with relevant food safety standards, it shall immediately cease the production or trade thereof and notify the relevant producers, traders and consumers. The food producer or trader shall maintain records of the recall and notification procedures and report the recall and treatment to the relevant authorities.

The Administrative Measures for Food Recalls (《食品召回管理辦法》), which was promulgated by the CFDA (Now known as SAMR) on March 11, 2015, effective on September 1, 2015, and later amended on October 23, 2020, stipulates the details of administration on unsafe food in the PRC. Pursuant to the Administrative Measures for Food Recalls, a food producer or business operator shall assume primary responsibilities for food safety, by establishing a sound management system, collecting and analysing food safety information and performing legal duties of the cease of production and operation of as well as recall and disposal of unsafe food. Further, where the food producer or business operator fails to forthwith cease production or business operation, to make a voluntary recall, to start a recall within the prescribed time limit, to recall according to its recall plan or to dispose of unsafe food as required, the local administration for market regulation shall give a warning and concurrently impose a fine of not less than RMB10,000 but not more than RMB30,000.

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REGULATIONS RELATING TO FOOD ADVERTISEMENT

According to the Advertising Law of the PRC (the “Advertising Law”, 《中華人民共和國廣告法》) promulgated by the SCNPC on October 27, 1994 and most recently revised on April 29, 2021, no advertisement shall contain any false or misleading information, and shall not deceive or mislead consumers. In any advertisement, where there are statements regarding the performance, function, place of origin, purpose, quality, ingredients, price, producer, valid period and guarantees of the product, or the content, provider, form, quality, price and guarantees of the service, such statements shall be accurate, clear and explicit.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION

Consumer Protection Law

Pursuant to The Consumer Protection Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國消費者權益保護法》) (the “**Consumer Protection Law**”) which was promulgated by the SCNPC on October 31, 1993, amended on August 27, 2009 and October 25, 2013, the rights and interests of the consumers who buy or use commodities or receive services for the purposes of daily consumption are protected and all manufacturers and distributors involved must ensure that the products and services they provide will not cause damage to the safety of consumers and their properties. Violations of the Consumer Protection Law may result in the imposition of fines. In addition, the operator will be ordered to suspend operations and its business license will be revoked. Criminal liability may be incurred in serious cases.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS ON CYBERSECURITY, DATA SECURITY AND PERSONAL INFORMATION PROTECTION

Cyber security and Data Security

The PRC regulatory authorities have enacted laws and regulations concerning internet information security and the protection of personal data against misuse or unauthorized disclosure, which include, for example, the Several Provisions on Regulating the Market Order of Internet Information Services (《規範互聯網信息服務市場秩序若干規定》) promulgated by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of PRC (the “**MIIT**”) on December 29, 2011.

On November 7, 2016, the SCNPC promulgated the Cybersecurity Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國網絡安全法》) (the “**Cybersecurity Law**”), which became effective on June 1, 2017. The Cybersecurity Law 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 fulfill their obligations to safeguard security of the network when conducting business and providing services. Those who construct or operate networks or provide services 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. On October 28, 2025, the SCNPC further revised the Cybersecurity Law, which came into effect on January 1, 2026. The revised Cybersecurity Law increases penalties under certain circumstances and expands extraterritorial application to activities outside the PRC that endanger the cybersecurity of the PRC.

On June 10, 2021, the SCNPC promulgated the Data Security Law of the People’s Republic of China (《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 is broadly applicable to processing activities of data which are carried out in the PRC or, where carried out outside the PRC, damage the national security, public interests or the legitimate rights and interests of citizens and organizations of the PRC. The Data Security Law mainly sets forth specific provisions regarding establishing basic

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systems for data security management, including a data classification and hierarchical protection system, risk assessment system, monitoring and early alert system, and emergency disposal system. In addition, it clarifies that any organization or individual collecting data shall adopt lawful and proper methods and shall not acquire data by theft or in other illegal manners, and risk monitoring shall be strengthened when data processing activities are carried out, and where risks such as data security flaws and vulnerabilities are discovered, remedial measures shall be immediately taken.

On December 28, 2021, the Cyberspace Administration of China (the “CAC”) and other 12 PRC regulatory authorities jointly revised and promulgated the Measures for Cybersecurity Review (《網絡安全審查辦法》) (the “**Revised Measures for Cybersecurity Review**”), which became effective on February 15, 2022. The Revised Measures for Cybersecurity Review provides that, among others, (i) a critical information infrastructure operator (“**CIIO**”) purchasing network products and services or a network platform operator that engages in data processing activities that affect or may affect national security shall be subject to the cybersecurity review by the Cybersecurity Review Office under the CAC; (ii) a network platform operator with personal information of more than one million users which seeks listing in a foreign country is obliged to apply for a cybersecurity review by the Cybersecurity Review Office; and (iii) the relevant regulatory authorities may initiate cybersecurity review if such regulatory authorities determine that the issuer’s network products or services, or data processing activities affect or may affect national security.

On July 7, 2022, the CAC promulgated the Measures for the Security Assessment of Cross-border Data Transfer (《數據出境安全評估辦法》) (the “**Security Assessment Measures**”), which became effective on September 1, 2022. The Security Assessment Measures applies to the security assessment conducted by data processors where they provide overseas parties with important data or personal information collected and generated during operations within the PRC. Based on the Security Assessment Measures, data processors shall apply to the CAC for a security assessment of cross-border data transfer if such transfer is conducted by a CIIO, or involves important data, or their cross-border data transfer activities fulfill certain thresholds.

On December 8, 2022, the MIIT issued the Administrative Measures for Data Security in the Industrial and Information Technology Field (Trial Implementation) (《工業和信息化領域數據安全管理辦法(試行)》) (the “**MIIT Data Security Measures**”), which came into effect on January 1, 2023. The MIIT Data Security Measures is applicable to the processing activities carried out in the territory of the PRC of data in the field of industry and information technology. The MIIT Data Security Measures provides that industrial and telecommunication data processors shall implement data classification and grading, and further imposes data security obligations and responsibilities on data processors in the field of industry and information technology.

On March 22, 2024, the CAC promulgated the Provisions on Promoting and Regulating Cross-Border Data Flow (《促進和規範數據跨境流動規定》), effective on the date of promulgation. The provisions provide certain exemptions from data security assessment, personal information protection certification, or standard contracts for outbound transfer of personal information. The provisions also explicitly state that data processors are not required to apply for security assessment on cross-border transfer of important data, provided that the relevant data has not been notified or published as important data by relevant departments or regions.

On September 24, 2024, the Administration Regulations on Cyber Data Security (《網絡數據安全管理條例》) (the “**Regulations on Cyber Data Security**”) was issued by the State Council, which became effective on January 1, 2025. The Regulations on Cyber Data Security provides that cyber data processors whose cyber data processing activities affect or may affect national security shall be subject to national security review in accordance with the relevant regulations. In addition, the Regulations on Cyber Data Security also regulate other specific requirements on personal information protection, important data safety, cyber data cross-border safety management and obligations of network platform service provider.

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Personal Information Protection

On July 16, 2013, the MIIT promulgated the Regulations on Protection of Personal Information of Telecommunications and Internet Users (《電信和互聯網用戶個人信息保護規定》), which came into effect on September 1, 2013, to enhance and enforce legal protection over user information security and privacy on the internet. The Regulations on Protection of Personal Information of Telecommunications and Internet Users require internet service providers to take various measures to ensure the security of users’ information.

On August 29, 2015, the SCNPC issued the Ninth Amendment to the Criminal Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國刑法修正案(九)》), which became effective on November 1, 2015, and stipulates that any network service provider that fails to fulfill the obligations related to information network security management as required by applicable laws and administrative regulations and refuses to rectify upon regulatory orders shall be subject to criminal liability for causing (i) any large-scale dissemination of illegal information; (ii) any serious consequence due to the leakage of users’ information; (iii) any serious loss of evidence of criminal activities or (iv) other serious circumstances, and any individual or entity that (a) sells or provides personal information to others unlawfully or (b) steals or illegally obtains any personal information will be subject to criminal liability in serious circumstances. The Interpretation of the Supreme People’s Court and the Supreme People’s Procuratorate on Several Issues regarding Legal Application in Criminal Cases Infringing upon the Personal Information of Citizens (《最高人民法院、最高人民檢察院關於辦理侵犯公民個人信息刑事案件適用法律若干問題的解釋》) issued on May 8, 2017, further clarifies the definitions of certain concepts and specifies certain standards for the conviction and sentencing in respect of the crimes in relation to personal information infringement.

The Announcement of Conducting Special Supervision against the Illegal Collection and Use of Personal Information by Apps (《關於開展App違法違規收集使用個人信息專項治理的公告》), which was issued by the Central Cyberspace Affairs Commission, the MIIT, the Ministry of Public Security (the “MPS”), and the SAMR on January 23, 2019 clearly specifies the regulatory requirements for personal information collection and use. Such regulatory requirements were emphasised by the Notice on the Special Rectification of Apps Infringing upon User’s Rights and Interests (《關於開展APP侵害用戶權益專項整治工作的通知》) issued by MIIT on October 31, 2019. On November 28, 2019, the CAC, the MIIT, the MPS and the SAMR jointly issued the Methods of Identifying Illegal Acts to Collect and Use Personal Information by Apps (《App違法違規收集使用個人信息行為認定方法》), which further illustrates certain common illegal practices and acts that will be considered as “collection and use of personal information without users’ consent”. On July 22, 2020, the MIIT issued the Notice on Carrying out Special Rectification Actions in Depth against the Infringement upon Users’ Rights and Interests by Apps (《關於開展縱深推進APP侵害用戶權益專項整治行動的通知》), which lists four types of illegal collection and usage of personal information. On March 12, 2021, the CAC, the MIIT, the MPS, and the SAMR jointly issued the Circular on Issuing the Rules on the Scope of Necessary Personal Information for Common Types of Mobile Internet Applications (《關於印發〈常見類型移動互聯網應用程序必要個人信息範圍規定〉的通知》), which clarifies the definition and scope of “Applications”, as well as the scope of necessary personal information for common types of Applications. On February 6, 2023, the MIIT promulgated the Notice on Further Improving the Service Capabilities of Mobile Internet Applications (《關於進一步提升移動互聯網應用服務能力的通知》), which emphasizes enhanced transparency in personal information processing such as setting out specific requirements on the text of personal information processing rules.

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Pursuant to the Civil Code of the PRC (《中華人民共和國民法典》) (the “**Civil Code**”), which was promulgated by the NPC on May 28, 2020 and became effective on January 1, 2021, the personal information of a natural person shall be protected by the law. Any organization or individual that needs to obtain personal information of others shall obtain such information legally and ensure the safety of such information, and shall not illegally collect, use, process or transmit personal information of others, or illegally purchase or sell, provide or make public personal information of others.

On August 20, 2021, the SCNPC promulgated the Personal Information Protection Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國個人信息保護法》) (the “**PIPL**”), which became effective on November 1, 2021. Pursuant to the PIPL, the processing of personal information shall be conducted based on consent of relevant individuals or otherwise permitted by laws and regulations, and before processing personal information, processors should truthfully, accurately and completely inform individuals of requisite matters in a conspicuous manner and in clear and easy-to-understand language. Personal information processors should also take the following measures to ensure that personal information processing activities comply with laws and administrative regulations, and to prevent unauthorized access and personal information leakage, tampering and loss: (i) formulating internal management systems and operating procedures; (ii) implementing classified management of personal information; (iii) adopting corresponding security technical measures such as encryption and de-identification; (iv) reasonably determining the operating authority for personal information processing, and regularly conduct safety education and training for practitioners; (v) formulating and organizing the implementation of emergency plans for personal information security incidents; and (vi) other measures stipulated by laws and administrative regulations.

Where personal information is processed in violation of the provisions of the PIPL, or the processing of personal information fails to fulfill the personal information protection obligations hereunder, the department performing personal information protection duties shall order corrections, give warnings, confiscate illegal gains, and order to suspend or terminate the provision of services by the applications that illegally process personal information; if the personal information processor refuses to make corrections, a fine of not more than RMB1 million shall be imposed; the directly responsible person in charge and other directly responsible personnel shall be fined not less than RMB10,000 but not more than RMB100,000. For any aforesaid illegal act with serious circumstances, the competent authority may impose more stringent penalties.

On February 12, 2025, the Administrative Measures for the Compliance Audit of Personal Information Protection (《個人信息保護合規審計管理辦法》), was promulgated by the CAC, which became effective on May 1, 2025. According to the Administrative Measures for the Compliance Audit of Personal Information Protection, the term “compliance audit of personal information protection” refers to supervisory activities that review and evaluate whether the personal information processing activities of personal information processors comply with laws and administrative regulations. Personal information processors that process the personal information of more than 10 million individuals shall carry out the compliance audit of personal information protection at least every two years.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The Environmental Protection Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國環境保護法》) (the “**Environmental Protection Law**”) was promulgated and effective on December 26, 1989, and amended on April 24, 2014, under which any entity which discharges or will discharge pollutants during the course of operations or other activities must implement effective environmental protection safeguards and procedures to control and properly treat waste gas, waste water, waste residue, dust, malodorous gases, radioactive substances, noise, vibrations, electromagnetic radiation, and other hazards produced during such activities. The Environmental Protection Law makes it clear that the legal liabilities of any violation of said law include warning, fine, rectification within a time limit, compulsory cease operation, compulsory reinstallation of dismantled installations of the prevention and control of pollution or compulsory reinstallation of those left idle, compulsory shutout or closedown, or even criminal punishment.

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On October 28, 2002, the SCNPC promulgated the Environmental Impact Assessment Law of PRC (《中華人民共和國環境影響評價法》) (the “**Environmental Impact Assessment Law**”), which was latest amended on December 29, 2018. According to the Environmental Impact Assessment Law, the State Council implemented the environmental impact assessment to classify construction projects according to the impact of the construction projects on the environment.

Pursuant to the Interim Measures for Environmental Protection Acceptance of Completed Construction Projects (《建設項目竣工環境保護驗收暫行辦法》) effective on November 20, 2017 and the Regulations on the Administration Construction Project Environmental Protection (《建設項目環境保護管理條例》), which was revised on July 16, 2017 and implemented on October 1, 2017, a construction project for which an environmental impact report or an environmental impact report form is required shall not be put into production or use until the environmental protection completion acceptance check has been passed.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO FIRE CONTROL

Pursuant to the Fire Control Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國消防法》) promulgated by the SCNPC on April 29, 1998, and last amended on April 29, 2021 and effective therefrom, the Department of Emergency Management under the State Council and the local people’s governments at or above county level shall supervise and administer the matters of fire protection, while the fire control and rescue institutions of such people’s governments shall be responsible for implementation. According to Interim Regulations on Administration of Examination and Acceptance of Fire Control Design of Construction Projects (《建設工程消防設計審查驗收管理暫行規定》) issued by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development on April 1, 2020, latest amended on August 21, 2023, fire acceptance should be done for special construction projects which meet certain conditions, fire filing should be done for other types of construction projects.

Furthermore, pursuant to the Fire Control Law of the PRC, before the use of or commencement of the business operations in public gathering places, any construction entities or entities using such places must apply for a fire safety inspection with the fire rescue agencies of the local people’s governments of such places at or above the county level. Putting a public gathering place into use or into business operation without permission and when the place has not undergone fire safety and protection inspections or has failed to meet fire safety and protection requirements shall result in an order to suspend construction, use, production or business operations and a fine of not less than RMB30,000 and not more than RMB300,000 from the competent departments of housing and urban-rural development and the relevant fire rescue agencies (according to their respective duties).

Regulations Relating to Leasing

According to the Civil Code, an owner of immovable or movable property is entitled to possession, use, earnings, and disposal of such property in accordance with the law. Subject to the consent of the lessor, the lessee may sublease the leased premises to a third party. Where a lessee subleases the premises, the lease contract between the lessee and the lessor remains valid. The lessor is entitled to terminate the lease if the lessee subleases the premises without the consent of the lessor.

On December 1, 2010, the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development promulgated the Administrative Measures on Leasing of Commodity Housing (《商品房屋租賃管理辦法》). According to such measures, the lessor and the lessee are required to complete property leasing registration and filing formalities within 30 days from execution of the property lease contract with the construction (real estate) administrative department of the people’s government of the municipality or county where the leased property is located. If a company fails to do as aforesaid, it may be ordered to rectify within a stipulated period, and if such company fails to rectify, a fine ranging from RMB1,000 to RMB10,000 may be imposed.

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REGULATION RELATING TO PRICING

Price Law

According to the Price Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國價格法》), the “**Price Law**” promulgated by the SCNPC on December 29, 1997 and took effect from 1 May 1998, operators should observe the following principles when determining prices: fairness, lawfulness and good faith. The production and operation costs and the market supply and demand situation should be the fundamental basis for the operator to determine the price. When selling or purchasing goods and providing services, the operator shall clearly indicate the price and indicate the name, origin of production, specifications, grade, valuation unit and price of a commodity, or service item, charging standards and other related particulars in accordance with the requirements of the competent government price department. In addition, operators may not take illegitimate pricing actions, such as colluding with others to manipulate market prices and damaging the legitimate rights and interests of other operators or consumers. Any operator engaged in the act of illegitimate pricing stipulated by the Price Law shall be ordered to make corrections, have the illegal income be confiscated, and may be imposed a fine of no more than five times of its illegal income; if the circumstances are serious, the business shall be ordered to suspend for rectification, or the administrative department for industry and commerce shall revoke the business license. In addition, any operator who causes consumers or other operators to pay higher prices due to illegal pricing acts should refund the overpaid portion; if damage is caused, it shall be liable for compensation according to law. Any operator who violates the clearly marked price shall be ordered to make corrections, have the illegal income be confiscated, and may be imposed a fine of no more than RMB5,000.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Employment

According to the Labor Contract Law of the PRC (the “**Labor Contract Law**”) (《中華人民共和國勞動合同法》), which was implemented on January 1, 2008 and amended on December 28, 2012, an employer establishes an employment relationship with an employee from the date when the employer puts the employee to work. A written labor contract shall be concluded upon the establishment of an employment relationship. In addition, the labor wages shall not be lower than local standards on minimum wages and shall be paid to the laborers timely. According to the Labor Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國勞動法》) effective on January 1, 1995, as amended on August 27, 2009 and December 29, 2018, the employer shall establish and perfect its system for labor safety and sanitation, strictly abide by State rules and standards on labor safety and sanitation, educate laborers in labor safety and sanitation, prevent accidents in the process of labor, and reduce occupational hazards.

Social Insurance

The PRC Social Insurance Law (《中華人民共和國社會保險法》), or the Social Insurance Law, issued by the SCNPC in 2010 and latest amended on December 29, 2018, 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 most recently amended on March 24, 2019 and effective from 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 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.

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

Housing Provident Fund

In accordance with the Regulations on the Administration of Housing Provident Funds (《住房公積金管理條例》) promulgated by the State Council on April 3, 1999, and amended on March 24, 2002, and March 24, 2019, enterprises must register at the designated administrative centers and open bank accounts for depositing employees’ housing provident funds. Employers and employees are also required to pay and deposit housing provident funds, with an amount no less than 5% of the monthly average salary of the employee in the preceding year in full and on time. In case of overdue payment or underpayment by employers, orders for payment within a specified period will be made by the housing fund management center. Where employers fail to make payment within such period, enforcement by the people’s court will be applied.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Trademark Laws

Trademarks are protected by the Trademark Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國商標法》), which was adopted in 1982 and subsequently amended in 1993, 2001, 2013 and 2019, respectively, as well as the Implementation Regulation of the Trademark Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國商標法實施條例》) adopted in 2002 and amended in 2014 by the State Council. The Trademark Office of China National Intellectual Property Administration handles trademark registrations and grants a term of ten years to registered trademarks which may be renewed for consecutive ten-year periods upon request by the trademark owner. Trademark license agreements must be filed with the Trademark Office for record. The Trademark Law of the PRC has adopted a “first-to-file” principle with respect to trademark registration. Where a trademark for which a registration has been made is identical or similar to another trademark which has already been registered or been subject to a preliminary examination and approval for use on the same kind of or similar commodities or services, the application for registration of such trademark may be rejected.

Domain Name

In accordance with the Measures for the Administration of Internet Domain Names (《互聯網域名管理辦法》), which was promulgated by the MIIT on August 24, 2017 and came into effect on November 1, 2017, and the Implementing Rules for the Registration of National Top-level Domain Names (《國家頂級域名註冊實施細則》), which was promulgated and took effective on June 18, 2019, by China Internet Network Information Center, domain name registrations are handled through domain name service agencies established under relevant regulations, and an applicant becomes a domain name holder upon successful registration.

Patent Laws

In accordance with the Patent Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國專利法》), promulgated by the SCNPC, which was latest amended in October 17, 2020 and became effective on June 1, 2021, and its Implementation Rules, patent is divided into 3 categories, i.e., invention patent, design patent and utility model patent. The duration of invention patent right, design patent right and utility model patent right shall be 20 years, 15 years and 10 years, respectively, which all calculated from the date of application. Implementation of a patent without the authorization of the patent holder shall constitute an infringement of patent rights, and shall be held liable for compensation to the patent holder and may be imposed a fine, or even subject to criminal liabilities.

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

Copyright

Pursuant to the Copyright Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國著作權法》) amended by the SCNPC on November 11, 2020, and came into effect on June 1, 2021, Chinese citizens, legal persons or other organizations shall, whether published or not, enjoy copyright in their works, which include, among others, works of literature, art, natural science, social science, engineering technology and computer software created in writing or oral or other forms. A copyright holder shall enjoy a number of rights, including the right of publication, the right of authorship and the right of reproduction.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE

The principal regulations governing foreign currency exchange in China is the Foreign Exchange Administration Regulations of the PRC (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》), most recently amended on August 5, 2008. The lawful currency of Chinese Mainland is the Renminbi. The SAFE, authorized by the PBOC, is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange regulations. For details, see “Appendix III — Taxation and Foreign Exchange — Foreign Exchange Administration in the PRC”.

REGULATIONS ON FOREIGN TRADE AND CUSTOMS LAW

Foreign Trade

According to the Foreign Trade Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國對外貿易法》), or the Foreign Trade Law, promulgated by the SCNPC on May 12, 1994 and amended on December 30, 2022, since December 30, 2022, no registration of foreign trade operators is required. The PRC government allows the free import and export of goods and technologies, unless otherwise provided by laws and administrative regulations. Before December 30, 2022, pursuant to the pre-amendment Foreign Trade Law, a foreign trade operator who is engaged in the import and export of goods or technologies shall process the filing and registration with the foreign trade authority under the State Council or its entrusted agencies, unless otherwise provided by the laws, administrative regulations and requirements of the foreign trade authority under the State Council. Where a foreign trade operator fails to do so, Customs shall not handle the formalities for declaration and clearance of the goods imported or exported by the operator.

Customs Law

According to the Customs Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國海關法》), adopted by the SCNPC on January 22, 1987, and most recently amended on April 29, 2021, the Customs of the People’s Republic of China is the entry and exit customs supervision and administration authority of PRC. According to the relevant laws and administrative regulations, the Customs supervises the transportation vehicles, goods, luggage, postal articles and other articles entering and leaving the country, collects customs duties and other taxes and fees, prevents and counters smuggling, compiles customs statistics and handles other customs operations.

According to the Regulations of PRC Customs on Administration of Recordation of Declaration Entities (《中華人民共和國海關報關單位備案管理規定》), adopted by the General Administration of Customs on November 19, 2021, customs declaration entities refer to the consignees and consignors of import and export goods and customs declaration enterprises recorded with the customs. If the consignees and consignors of import and export goods and customs declaration enterprises apply for recordation, they shall obtain the qualification of market entities; among them, if the consignees and consignors of import and export goods apply for recordation, they shall also obtain the recordation of the foreign trade operators. The recordation of the customs declaration entities is valid for a long period of time, while the temporary recordation is valid for one year, after the expiry reapplication of recordation can be made.

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

REGULATIONS RELATING TO TAX

We are subject to a variety of PRC laws, rules and regulations relating to tax, such as the enterprise income tax, value added tax. For details, see “Appendix III — Taxation and Foreign Exchange — Taxation In Chinese Mainland”.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO OVERSEAS LISTINGS

Overseas Listings

On February 17, 2023, the CSRC released several regulations regarding the management of filings for overseas offerings and listings by domestic companies, including the Trial Measures for the Administration on Overseas Securities Offering and Listing by Domestic Companies (《境內企業境外發行證券和上市管理試行辦法》) (the “**Overseas Listing Trial Measures**”) together with 5 supporting guidelines (together with the Overseas Listing Trial Measures, collectively referred to as the “**Overseas Listing Regulations**”). Under Overseas Listing Regulations, PRC domestic companies that seek to offer and list securities in overseas markets, either in direct or indirect means, are required to file the required documents with the CSRC within three working days after its application for overseas listing is submitted. For details, see “Appendix IV — Summary of Principal Legal and Regulatory Provisions — The PRC Company Law, Trial Administrative Measures of Overseas Securities Offering and Listing by Domestic Companies and the Guidelines for the Articles of Association of Listed Companies”.

On February 24, 2023, the CSRC and three other relevant government authorities jointly promulgated the Archives Rules. Pursuant to the Archives Rules, where a domestic enterprise provides or publicly discloses any document or material that involving state secrets and working secrets of state agencies to the relevant securities companies, securities service institutions, overseas regulatory authorities and other entities and individuals, it shall report to the competent department with the examination and approval authority for approval in accordance with the law, and submit to the secrecy administration department of the same level for filing.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO FULL CIRCULATION OF H-SHARE

In accordance with the Guidelines on Application for “Full Circulation” of Domestic Unlisted Shares of H-share Companies (《H股公司境內未上市股份申請“全流通”業務指引》) issued by the CSRC on 14 November 2019 and further amended on 10 August 2023, together with the Trial Administrative Measures of 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》), shareholders who hold domestic unlisted shares of H-share issuers may apply to convert their unlisted shares into listed shares for trading on the Stock Exchange. Issuer will be authorized to file with CSRC on behalf of those shareholders. The filing of the H-share full circulation scheme may proceed simultaneously with the application for the overseas listing and offering filing with CSRC, or separately after the IPO. After domestic unlisted shares are listed and circulated on the Stock Exchange, they may not be transferred back to China.