

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

PRC TAXATION

Income tax and capital gains tax of holders of the H shares is subject to the laws and practices of the PRC and of jurisdictions in which holders of the H Shares are resident or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current law and practice and has not taken into account the expected change or amendment to the relevant laws or policies. The discussion has no intention to cover all possible tax consequences resulting from the [REDACTED] in H Shares, nor does it take the specific circumstances of any particular [REDACTED] 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 [REDACTED] in H Shares. The discussion is based upon laws and relevant interpretations in effect as of the date of the Latest Practicable Date, which is subject to change and may have retrospective effect.

Taxation on Dividends

Individual Investors

Under the provisions of the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》), last amended on August 31, 2018, 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》), last amended on December 18, 2018 (collectively referred to as the “IIT Law”), dividends disbursed by Chinese enterprises are subject to a flat individual income tax rate of 20%. For foreign individuals who are not residents of China, dividends received from a Chinese enterprise are generally taxed at 20%, unless there are specific exemptions granted by the State Council’s tax authority or reductions under an applicable tax treaty.

According to the Announcement of State Taxation Administration on Promulgation of the Administrative Measures on Non-resident Taxpayers Enjoying Treaty Benefits (《國家稅務總局關於發布〈非居民納稅人享受協定待遇管理辦法〉的公告》), which came into effect on January 1, 2020, non-resident taxpayers claiming treaty benefits shall be handled in accordance with the principles of “self-assessment, claiming benefits, retention of the relevant materials for future inspection”. Where a non-resident taxpayer self-assesses and concludes that it satisfies the criteria for claiming treaty benefits, it may enjoy treaty benefits at the time of tax declaration or at the time of withholding through the withholding agent, simultaneously gather and retain the relevant materials pursuant to the provisions of these Measures for future inspection, and accept follow-up administration by the tax authorities. For withholding at source and designated withholding, a non-resident taxpayer asserting that it satisfies the criteria for claiming treaty benefits and needs to claim such benefits shall complete an “Information Report on Non-resident Taxpayers Claiming Treaty Benefits” truthfully, submit to the withholding agent voluntarily, gather and retain the relevant materials pursuant to the relevant provisions.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

In accordance with 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》), signed on August 21, 2006, the PRC Government has the authority to impose taxes on dividends paid by a PRC company to Hong Kong residents, including both natural persons and legal entities. The tax levied shall not exceed 10% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. However, if a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a PRC company and meets certain conditions as the beneficial owner of the equity, the tax imposed shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the PRC 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》), in effect since December 6, 2019, introduces specific criteria determining entitlement to treaty benefits. According to this protocol, treaty benefits will not be granted if, upon careful consideration of all relevant facts and conditions, it is reasonably determined that obtaining these benefits was a primary purpose of the arrangement or transactions, thereby providing direct or indirect benefits under the Arrangement. Exceptions are made when such benefits align with the Arrangement’s relevant objectives and goals.

Additionally, the application of the dividend clause of tax agreements is bound by the stipulations outlined in the PRC tax laws and regulations, including the guidelines specified in the Notice of the State Taxation Administration 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》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 81). Compliance with these regulations is essential in determining the taxation applicable to dividends under the Arrangement.

Enterprise Investors

Pursuant to the provisions outlined in the PRC Enterprise Income Tax Law (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》), enacted by the National People’s Congress of the PRC (NPC) on March 16, 2007, and enforced from January 1, 2008, subsequently amended on February 24, 2017, and December 29, 2018, and in alignment with the Implementation Provisions of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》), promulgated by the State Council on December 6, 2007, and effective from January 1, 2008, last amended on December 6, 2024 and effective on January 20, 2025 (collectively referred to as the “EIT Law”), it is established that a non-resident enterprise is generally liable to a 10% enterprise income tax on income sourced within the PRC. Such income includes dividends and bonuses received from a PRC resident enterprise. This taxation applies to non-resident enterprises that lack a physical establishment or premises in the PRC. Alternatively, if an establishment or premise exists within the PRC, but the PRC-sourced income is unrelated to said establishment or premise, it is subject to the aforementioned taxation.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The withholding tax for non-resident enterprises is mandated to be deducted at the source, whereby the entity making the payment assumes the role of the withholding agent. Consequently, the withholding agent is obligated to withhold the income tax from the payment or due payment each time it is disbursed or becomes due.

The Circular of the State Taxation Administration on Issues Relating to the Withholding and Remitting of Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Paid by PRC Resident Enterprises to Overseas Non-PRC Resident Enterprise Shareholders of H Shares (《國家稅務總局關於中國居民企業向境外H股非居民企業股東派發股息代扣代繳企業所得稅有關問題的通知》) (Guo Shui Han [2008] No. 897), which was issued by the STA and implemented on November 6, 2008, further clarified that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold corporate income tax at a rate flat of 10% on the dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to overseas non-resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares. In addition, the Response to Issues on Levying Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprise from Holding Stock such as B-shares (《關於非居民企業取得B股等股票股息徵收企業所得稅問題的批覆》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 394) which was issued by the STA and implemented on July 24, 2009, further provides that any PRC-resident enterprise that is listed on overseas stock exchanges must withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprises. Such tax rates may be further changed pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has concluded with relevant jurisdictions, where applicable. Accordingly, dividends paid to non-PRC resident enterprise (including HKSCC Nominees) shall be subject to withholding enterprise income tax at a rate of 10%.

In accordance with 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》), the PRC Government is authorized to impose taxes on dividends disbursed by a PRC company to Hong Kong residents, including both individuals and legal entities, not exceeding 10% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a PRC company, the tax shall not surpass 5% of the total dividends if the Hong Kong resident qualifies as the beneficial owner of the equity, and specific conditions are met.

Furthermore, 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》), introduces additional criteria for qualifying for treaty benefits. While other provisions may exist within the Arrangement, treaty benefits shall not be granted for relevant gains if, based on all relevant facts and conditions, it is reasonably determined that one of the main purposes of the arrangement or transactions, which result in direct or indirect benefits under the Arrangement, is to obtain such treaty benefits. This exception applies unless the grant of benefits aligns with the objectives and goals outlined in the Arrangement.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

It is important to note that the application of the dividend clause of tax agreements is contingent upon compliance with PRC tax laws and regulations, including the guidelines provided in the Notice of the State Taxation Administration 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》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 81).

Tax Treaties

Non-resident investors residing in jurisdictions that have established treaties or arrangements for the avoidance of double taxation with the PRC may qualify for a reduction in the PRC enterprise income tax levied on dividends received from PRC companies. Currently, the PRC has entered into Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaties or Arrangements with several countries and regions, including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Macau Special Administrative Region, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Non-PRC resident enterprises eligible for preferential tax rates under these relevant taxation treaties or arrangements are required to submit an application to the PRC tax authorities for a refund of the enterprise income tax that exceeds the agreed tax rate. The approval of the refund application is subject to the evaluation and decision of the PRC tax authorities.

Taxation on Share Transfer

Value-Added Tax and Local Surcharges

Under the guidelines outlined in the Notice on the Full Implementation of the Pilot Program for 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》) (Cai Shui [2016] No. 36) (referred to as “Circular 36”), effective from May 1, 2016, and subsequently amended on July 1, 2017, January 1, 2018, April 1, 2019, November 1, 2025, and January 1, 2026, individuals and entities conducting service transactions within the PRC are obligated to pay Value-Added Tax (VAT). “Sales of services within the PRC” are defined as transactions where either the service provider or the recipient is situated within the PRC.

Furthermore, Circular 36 specifies that the transfer of financial products, including the ownership transfer of marketable securities, is subject to a VAT rate of 6% on the taxable income. Taxable income, in this context, refers to the sales price balance after deducting the purchase price. This VAT obligation applies to both general and foreign VAT taxpayers. Notably, individuals are exempt from VAT obligations when engaging in the transfer of financial products.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

As per the aforementioned regulations, non-resident individuals selling or disposing of H shares are exempt from VAT in the PRC. However, if the holders are non-resident enterprises, they may avoid VAT in the PRC only if the buyers of the H shares are individuals or entities located outside of the PRC. Conversely, the holders might be subject to VAT in the PRC if the buyers of the H shares are individuals or entities situated within the PRC.

Income Taxes

Individual Investors

Under the IIT Law, gains arising from the transfer of equity interests in PRC resident enterprises are subject to individual income tax at a rate of 20%. However, in accordance with the Circular of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and the STA on Declaring that Individual Income Tax Continues to be Exempted over Income of Individuals from Transfer of Shares (《財政部、國家稅務總局關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知》) (Cai Shui Zi [1998] No. 61), issued jointly by the MOF and STA on March 30, 1998, gains obtained by individuals from the transfer of shares of listed companies have been temporarily exempted from individual income tax since January 1, 1997.

On December 31, 2009, the MOF, the STA, and the CSRC jointly issued the Circular on Related Issues on Levying Individual Income Tax over the Income Received by Individuals from the Transfer of Listed Shares Subject to Sales Limitation (《關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的通知》) (Cai Shui [2009] No. 167). This circular, effective from December 31, 2009, stipulates that individuals' income derived from the transfer of listed shares acquired through public offerings and trading on the Shanghai Stock Exchange and the Shenzhen Stock Exchange remains exempt from individual income tax. This exemption applies to shares not subject to sales restrictions, as defined in the Supplementary Notice on Issues Concerning the Individual Income Tax on Individuals' Income from the Transfer of Restricted Stocks of Listed Companies (《關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的補充通知》) (Cai Shui [2010] No. 70), jointly issued by the three aforementioned departments and effective from November 10, 2010.

As of the Latest Practicable Date, there are no provisions expressly stating that individual income tax shall be imposed on non-PRC resident individuals for the transfer of shares in PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the Enterprise Income Tax (EIT) Law and the Implementation Provisions of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC issued by the State Council on December 6, 2024 and implemented from January 20, 2025, non-resident enterprises are typically subject to a 10% enterprise income tax on income sourced within the PRC. This includes gains realized from the disposal of equity interests in a PRC resident enterprise. However, this taxation applies only if the non-resident enterprise does not maintain a physical establishment or premises in the PRC, or if it does have such establishments in the PRC, but its PRC-sourced income is not genuinely connected with those establishments.

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The withholding of income tax for non-resident enterprises is executed at the source, with the entity making the payment acting as the withholding agent. This withholding agent is obliged to deduct the income tax from each payment or due payment made to the non-resident enterprise. It's important to note that the tax liability may be reduced or exempted in accordance with applicable tax treaties or agreements on the avoidance of double taxation.

Stamp Duty

In compliance with the PRC Stamp Duty Law (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》), issued by the SCNPC on June 10, 2021, and enforced from July 1, 2022 (referred to as the “Stamp Duty Law”), all entities and individuals involved in securities transactions within the PRC are obligated to pay stamp duty as per the regulations outlined in the Stamp Duty Law. Consequently, the stipulations concerning stamp duty applied to the transfer of shares of PRC-listed companies do not extend to the transfer and disposal of H Shares by non-PRC investors outside the PRC.

Estate duty

Under prevailing PRC legislation, there is presently no imposition of estate duty within the jurisdiction.

Major Taxes on the Company in the PRC

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

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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

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

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The Regulations for the Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange (《結匯、售匯及付匯管理規定》, the “Settlement Regulations”), which was promulgated by the PBOC on June 20, 1996 and effective 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 items.

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

On August 5, 2008, the State Council promulgated the revised Regulation on the Management of Foreign Exchange, which has made substantial changes to the foreign exchange supervision system of the PRC. First, it has adopted an approach of balancing the inflow and outflow of foreign exchange. Foreign exchange income received overseas can be repatriated or deposited overseas, and foreign exchange and settlement funds under the capital account are required to be used only for purposes as approved by the competent authorities and foreign exchange administrative authorities. Second, it has improved the RMB exchange rate formation mechanism based on market supply and demand. Third, in the event that international balance of payment suffers or may suffer a material misbalance, or the national economy encounters or may encounter a severe crisis, the State may adopt necessary safeguard or control measures against international balance of payment. Fourth, it has enhanced the supervision and administration of foreign exchange transactions and granted extensive authorities to the SAFE to enhance its supervisory and administrative powers.

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

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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

According to the Notice of the People’s Bank of China and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Issues Concerning the Administration of Funds Raised by Domestic Enterprises Listed Overseas (《中國人民銀行國家外匯管理局關於境內企業境外上市資金管理有關問題的通知》), promulgated on December 24, 2015 and effective on April 1, 2016, a domestic joint stock company that conducts an overseas listing upon completion of the CSRC filing shall, within 30 working days from the first trading day of the overseas listing, apply to a bank within the province or the city with independent planning status where it is registered (the “local bank”) for overseas listing registration, and the local bank will process such registration through the SAFE’s digital foreign exchange administration system. In principle, funds raised through an overseas listing shall be remitted back to the PRC in a timely manner. Where such funds are to be retained overseas for overseas direct investment, overseas securities investment, overseas lending or other businesses, the domestic company shall obtain the approval or filing documents from the competent authorities before the completion of the overseas offering and shall comply with the relevant cross-border funds administration provisions. The use of proceeds from an overseas listing shall be consistent with the relevant contents set out in the publicly disclosed documents, such as the document, shareholders’ circulars or resolutions of the board of directors or shareholders’ meetings. A domestic shareholder who reduces its holding of overseas listed shares shall apply to its local bank for reduction registration before the reduction or within 30 working days thereafter.

According to the Guidelines for the Foreign Exchange Business under the Capital Account (2024) (《資本項目外匯業務指引(2024年版)》) issued by SAFE on April 3, 2024, in principle, the funds raised by overseas listings of domestic companies should be repatriated to China in a timely manner, and can be repatriated in RMB or foreign currency. The use of funds shall be consistent with the relevant contents listed in the document or corporate bond offering documents, shareholder circulars, resolutions of the board of directors or shareholders’ meeting and other publicly disclosed documents. Domestic companies using the funds raised from overseas listings to carry out overseas direct investment, overseas securities investment, overseas lending and other businesses shall comply with the relevant foreign exchange management regulations.

According to the Notice of the SAFE 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》) (Hui Fa [2015] No. 13) promulgated by the SAFE on February 13, 2015 and took effect on June 1, 2015, and amended on December 30, 2019, two of the administrative examination and approval items, being the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment have been canceled, the foreign

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

exchange registration under domestic direct investment and overseas direct investment shall be directly examined and handled by banks. The SAFE and its branch offices shall indirectly regulate the foreign exchange registration of direct investment through banks.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Reforming and Regulating Policies on the Administration of Foreign Exchange Settlement under Capital Accounts (《國家外匯管理局關於改革和規範資本項目結匯管理政策的通知》) (Hui Fa [2016] No. 16) issued by the SAFE and came into effect on June 9, 2016, the settlement of foreign exchange receipts under the capital account (including the foreign exchange capital, external debts and funds recovered from overseas listing, etc.) that are subject to discretionary settlement as already specified by relevant policies may be handled at banks based on the domestic institutions' actual requirements for business operation. The proportion of discretionary settlement of domestic institutions' foreign exchange receipts under the capital account is temporarily determined as 100%. The SAFE may, based on the international balance of payments, adjust the aforesaid proportion at appropriate time.

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

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