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Asia Grocery Distribution Limited

亞洲雜貨有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock code: 8413)

**INTERIM RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

The board (the “**Board**”) of directors (the “**Directors**”) of Asia Grocery Distribution Limited (the “**Company**”) is pleased to announce the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries for the six months ended 30 September 2022. This announcement, containing the full text of the 2022 interim report of the Company, complies with the relevant requirements of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on GEM of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited in relation to information to accompany the preliminary announcement of interim results.

By order of the Board
Asia Grocery Distribution Limited
Wong Siu Man
Chairman and Executive Director

Hong Kong, 10 November 2022

As at the date of this announcement, the executive Directors are Mr. Wong Siu Man (Chairman), Mr. Wong Siu Wa (Chief Executive Officer) and Mr. Yip Kam Cheong (Compliance Officer), the non-executive Director is Mr. Wong Chun Hung Hanson and the independent non-executive Directors are Mr. Ng Fan Kay Frankie, Mr. Wang Zhaobin and Ms. Chan Hoi Yee.

This announcement, for which the Directors collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on GEM of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company. The Directors, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirm that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the information contained in this announcement is accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading or deceptive, and there are no other matters the omission of which would make any statement herein or this announcement misleading.

This announcement will remain on the website of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited at www.hkexnews.hk on the “Latest Listed Company Information” page for at least 7 days from the date of its posting and on the website of the Company at www.agdl.com.hk.



INTERIM REPORT
2022/23



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CHARACTERISTICS OF GEM OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LIMITED (THE “STOCK EXCHANGE”)

GEM has been positioned as a market designed to accommodate small and mid-sized companies to which a higher investment risk may be attached than other companies listed on the Stock Exchange. Prospective investors should be aware of the potential risks of investing in such companies and should make the decision to invest only after due and careful consideration.

Given that the companies listed on GEM are generally small and mid-sized companies, there is a risk that securities traded on GEM may be more susceptible to high market volatility than securities traded on the Main Board and no assurance is given that there will be a liquid market in the securities traded on GEM.

Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and the Stock Exchange takes no responsibility for the contents of this interim report, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this interim report.

*This interim report, for which the directors (the “**Directors**”) of Asia Grocery Distribution Limited (the “**Company**”) collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on GEM of the Stock Exchange (the “**GEM Listing Rules**”) for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company. The Directors, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirm that to the best of their knowledge and belief the information contained in this report is accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading or deceptive, and there are no other matters the omission of which would make any statement herein or this report misleading.*

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Group recorded revenue of approximately HK\$137,465,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022 (six months ended 30 September 2021: approximately HK\$121,704,000).
- Profit attributable to owners of the Company for the six months ended 30 September 2022 amounted to approximately HK\$3,427,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021 amounted to approximately HK\$389,000).
- The Directors do not recommend the payment of any interim dividend for the six months ended 30 September 2022 (six months ended 30 September 2021: nil).

INTERIM RESULTS

The board (the “**Board**”) of Directors is pleased to announce the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “**Group**”) for the three and six months ended 30 September 2022, together with the unaudited comparative figures for the corresponding periods in 2021, as follows:

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the three and six months ended 30 September 2022

	Notes	Three months ended 30 September		Six months ended 30 September	
		2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Revenue	3	73,900	63,760	137,465	121,704
Costs of sales		(55,898)	(47,769)	(103,261)	(91,364)
Gross profit		18,002	15,991	34,204	30,340
Other income	4	1,552	94	2,318	138
Other gain and losses, net	4	–	(9)	(421)	(29)
Selling and distribution expenses		(8,482)	(7,113)	(15,662)	(13,805)
Administrative expenses		(8,385)	(8,327)	(16,370)	(15,502)
Finance costs	5	(189)	(113)	(340)	(210)
Profit before taxation	6	2,498	523	3,729	932
Income tax expense	7	(196)	(326)	(302)	(543)
Profit and total comprehensive income for the period attributable to owners of the Company		2,302	197	3,427	389
Earnings per share					
Basic (HK cents)	9	0.20	0.02	0.29	0.03

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 September 2022

	Notes	As at 30 September 2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	As at 31 March 2022 HK\$'000 (audited)
Non-current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	3,928	2,888
Right-of-use assets		13,474	8,123
Rental and other deposits	11	1,277	696
		18,679	11,707
Current Assets			
Inventories – merchandise at cost		39,354	38,406
Trade receivables	11	47,584	36,907
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments	11	3,637	6,346
Bank balances and cash		29,008	29,797
		119,583	111,456
Current Liabilities			
Trade payables	12	13,456	9,524
Other payables and accrued charges	12	4,396	3,088
Contract liabilities		467	440
Tax payable		531	229
Lease liabilities		3,973	3,157
		22,823	16,438
Net current assets		96,760	95,018
Total asset less current liabilities		115,439	106,725
Non-current Liabilities			
Lease liabilities		10,597	5,310
Net assets		104,842	101,415
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	13	11,620	11,620
Reserves		93,222	89,795
Equity attributable to owners of the Company		104,842	101,415

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

	Attributable to owners of the Company					
	Share capital HK\$'000	Share premium HK\$'000	Share based- payment reserve HK\$'000	Other reserves HK\$'000	Accumulated profits HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022 (audited)	11,620	62,742	15,419	5,584	6,050	101,415
Profit and total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	-	3,427	3,427
At 30 September 2022 (unaudited)	11,620	62,742	15,419	5,584	9,477	104,842
At 1 April 2021 (audited)	11,620	62,742	15,419	5,584	8,187	103,552
Profit and total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	-	389	389
At 30 September 2021 (unaudited)	11,620	62,742	15,419	5,584	8,576	103,941

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

	Six months ended 30 September	
	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities	4,203	(468)
Net cash used in investing activities	(2,927)	(1,023)
Net cash used in financing activities	(2,065)	(1,942)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(789)	(3,433)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period	29,797	38,438
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of period, represented by bank balances and cash	29,008	35,005

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Company was incorporated as an exempted company with limited liability in the Cayman Islands under the Companies Law (2016 Revision) of the Cayman Islands on 29 September 2016. The shares of the Company (the “**Shares**”) have been listed on the GEM of the Stock Exchange (the “**Listing**”) since 13 April 2017. Its ultimate and immediate holding company is Sky Alpha Investments Limited (“**Sky Alpha**”), an entity incorporated in the British Virgin Islands. The address of the Company’s registered office and principal place of business in Hong Kong is P.O. Box 309, Ugland House, Grand Cayman, KY1-1104, Cayman Islands and The Whole of Upper Ground Floor, Mai Tong Industrial Building, No.22 Sze Shan Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong, respectively.

The Company is an investment holding company. The Group is principally engaged in trading and distribution of food and beverage grocery products and provision of food catering services through restaurants in Hong Kong.

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars (“**HK\$**”) which is also the functional currency of the Company.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30 September 2022 are prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“**HKFRSs**”) which is a collective term includes all applicable individual HKFRSs, Hong Kong Accounting Standards (“**HKASs**”), and Interpretations issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“**HKICPA**”). The unaudited consolidated financial statements also include the applicable disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance and the GEM Listing Rules.

The accounting policies and methods of computation used in the preparation of the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements are consistent with those adopted in preparing the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

In the current period, the Group has adopted all the new and revised HKFRSs, amendments to HKASs and Interpretations (hereinafter collectively referred to as “**new and revised HKFRSs**”) issued by HKICPA that are relevant to the Group and effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 April 2022. The adoption of these new and revised HKFRSs did not result in significant changes to the Group’s accounting policies and amounts reported for the current and prior periods.

The Group has not early adopted the new and revised HKFRSs issued by HKICPA that have been issued but are not yet effective for the current period.

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis except for certain financial instruments that are measured at fair values as appropriate. Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for goods and services.

The preparation of the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with the HKFRSs requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires the management to exercise their judgements in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies.

3. REVENUE

The Group is principally engaged in the food and beverage grocery distribution business and food catering services business.

All revenue contracts are for period of one year or less, as permitted by practical expedient under HKFRS 15, the transaction price allocated to these unsatisfied performance obligations is not disclosed.

	Three months ended 30 September		Six months ended 30 September	
	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers				
An analysis of the Group's revenue arising from sales of food and beverage grocery as follows:				
Commodities and cereal products (<i>note a</i>)	23,283	18,956	44,003	36,505
Packaged food (<i>note b</i>)	14,503	13,402	27,603	24,883
Sauce and condiment	15,367	13,174	28,068	25,497
Dairy products and eggs	9,088	8,742	17,614	16,426
Beverage and wine	6,226	4,405	10,424	8,331
Kitchen and hygiene products (<i>note c</i>)	5,433	4,233	9,753	8,400
An analysis of the Group's revenue arising from food catering services as follows:				
Restaurants operation (<i>note d</i>)	–	848	–	1,662
	73,900	63,760	137,465	121,704
Time of revenue recognition within the scope of HKFRS 15:				
At a point in time	73,900	63,760	137,465	121,704

The customers of the Group are solely in Hong Kong. Contract with the Group's customers are fixed price contracts.

Notes:

- (a) Commodities and cereal products include rice, wheat flour, noodle products such as ramen and pasta, edible oil as well as sugar and salt.
- (b) Packaged food includes processed products such as meat and vegetables in preserved, canned, frozen and other forms, as well as snacks and pre-packaged food items.
- (c) Kitchen and hygiene products include food wrap and food related products such as cling film, baking sheet, foil, cleaning products such as detergent, bleach, liquid soap and others such as tissue paper, toothpick and towel, hygiene products such as face masks and gloves.
- (d) The Group opened its first restaurant in Tsim Sha Tsui in April 2021. The restaurant has closed down in March 2022.

4. OTHER INCOME AND GAIN AND LOSSES, NET

	Three months ended 30 September		Six months ended 30 September	
	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Other income				
Interest income	20	17	42	35
Sundry income	775	55	777	59
COVID-19 Related rent concessions	15	22	127	44
Government grant (<i>note</i>)	742	–	1,372	–
	1,552	94	2,318	138
Other gain and losses, net				
Bad debts written off	–	(9)	(5)	(29)
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	–	–	(416)	–
	–	(9)	(421)	(29)

Note: The government grant for the six months ended 30 September 2022 represents the grant in relation to the Employment Support Scheme and the Catering Business Subsidy Scheme, of which the Group complied with all attached conditions and therefore such grants were recognized as other income during the period.

5. FINANCE COSTS

	Three months ended 30 September		Six months ended 30 September	
	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Interests on lease liabilities	189	113	340	210

6. PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

	Three months ended 30 September		Six months ended 30 September	
	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Profit before taxation has been arrived at after charging:				
Directors' remuneration	1,764	1,343	3,094	2,687
Other staff costs				
Salaries and other benefits	5,221	3,884	9,830	7,714
Retirement benefits scheme contributions	206	157	391	299
Total staff costs	7,191	5,384	13,315	10,700
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	687	676	1,479	1,328
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	1,520	1,138	3,032	2,171
Auditor's remuneration – audit service	140	145	290	290
Expenses relating to short term lease	225	149	494	253
Cost of inventories recognised as an expense	55,898	47,769	103,261	91,364

7. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

	Three months ended 30 September		Six months ended 30 September	
	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Hong Kong Profits Tax:				
– Current tax	196	326	302	543

Under the two-tiered profits tax rates regime, the first HK\$2,000,000 of assessable profits of qualifying corporations will be taxed at 8.25% (2021: 8.25%), and assessable profits above HK\$2,000,000 will be taxed at 16.5% (2021: 16.5%). The assessable profits of corporations not qualifying for the two-tiered profits tax rates regime will continue to be taxed at a flat rate of 16.5%.

8. DIVIDEND

No dividend has been paid or proposed by the Company during the six months ended 30 September 2022. The Board does not recommend the payments of any dividend in respect of the six months ended 30 September 2022 and 2021.

9. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic earnings per share attributable to the owners of the Company is based on the following data:

	Three months ended 30 September		Six months ended 30 September	
	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Earnings:				
Earnings for the purpose of calculating basic earnings per share				
– Profit for the period attributable to owners of the Company	2,302	197	3,427	389
	'000	'000	'000	'000
Number of shares				
Number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating basic earnings per share	1,162,000	1,162,000	1,162,000	1,162,000

No diluted earnings per share has been presented as the outstanding share options are anti-dilutive for the six months ended 30 September 2022 and 2021.

10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group acquired property, plant and equipment at a total cost of approximately HK\$3,085,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021: approximately HK\$1,072,000). Such additions were mainly comprised of motor vehicle of approximately HK\$2,940,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021: approximately HK\$95,000). In view of the increased sales order, the Group purchased more vans to facilitate delivery of goods to customers during the current period. A motor vehicle with a net carrying amount of approximately HK\$566,000 was disposed during the six months ended 30 September 2022 (six months ended 30 September 2021: nil).

11. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES, DEPOSITS AND PREPAYMENTS

	30 September 2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	31 March 2022 HK\$'000 (audited)
Trade receivables	47,584	36,907
Rental and utilities deposits	1,587	1,576
Prepayments to suppliers	2,674	4,912
Other prepayments	258	456
Other receivables	395	98
	52,498	43,949
Presented as non-current assets	1,277	696
Presented as current assets	51,221	43,253
	52,498	43,949

The Group grants credit terms of 0-90 days to its customers from the date of invoices. An ageing analysis of the trade receivables is presented based on the invoice date, which approximates the date of delivery of goods, at the end of the reporting periods.

	30 September 2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	31 March 2022 HK\$'000 (audited)
0 – 30 days	21,643	15,363
31 – 60 days	12,386	3,662
61 – 90 days	1,332	5,118
Over 90 days	12,223	12,764
	47,584	36,907

12. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES AND ACCRUED CHARGES

	30 September 2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	31 March 2022 HK\$'000 (audited)
Trade payables	13,456	9,524
Accrued charges	1,249	1,515
Salaries and bonus payables	3,147	1,573
	17,852	12,612

The average credit period for purchases of goods is 0 to 60 days. The following is an ageing analysis of trade payables presented based on the invoice date at the end of each reporting period:

	30 September 2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	31 March 2022 HK\$'000 (audited)
0 – 30 days	11,979	8,796
31 – 60 days	37	149
Over 60 days	1,440	579
	13,456	9,524

13. SHARE CAPITAL

The share capital of the Company as at 31 March 2022 and 30 September 2022 is as follows:

	Number of shares	HK\$'000
Authorised:		
At 1 April 2021, 31 March 2022, 1 April 2022 and 30 September 2022	2,000,000,000	20,000
Issue and fully paid:		
At 1 April 2021, 31 March 2022, 1 April 2022 and 30 September 2022	1,162,000,000	11,620

14. MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Group did not enter into any material related party transactions during both periods.

Compensation of key management personnel

The remuneration of directors and other members of key management during the six months ended 30 September 2022 were as follows:

	Three months ended 30 September		Six months ended 30 September	
	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2022 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2021 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Short term benefits	2,931	2,163	5,118	4,277
Post employment benefits	43	38	85	76
	2,974	2,201	5,203	4,353

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

BUSINESS REVIEW

The Group is an established food and beverage grocery distributor in Hong Kong with over 40 years of experience in the food and beverage grocery distribution industry. The Group's customers include restaurants, non-commercial dining establishments, hotels and private clubs, food processing operators and wholesalers in Hong Kong. The Group also offers product sourcing, repackaging, quality assurance, warehousing and storage, transportation as well as other value-added services to provide one-stop food and beverage grocery distribution solutions to the customers. The Group's product portfolio ranges from food commodities, specialty food ingredients to kitchen products which can be broadly categorised into (i) commodities and cereal products; (ii) packaged food; (iii) sauce and condiment; (iv) dairy products and eggs; (v) beverage and wine; and (vi) kitchen and hygiene products.

Since the outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease ("COVID-19") at the start of January 2020, the global business environment has been adversely affected. In late December 2021, Hong Kong has confirmed its first community transmission of the Omicron-variant of COVID-19, which is rumored to spread multiple times faster than previous major strains, therefore, social distancing rules in Hong Kong have been tightened again since 7 January 2022. The closure requirements on catering businesses and scheduled premises caused a revenue contraction to the Group in the first quarter of 2022, in line with the experience from prior lockdowns.

With the government's financial stimulus through consumption vouchers and the easing of the pandemic situation in Hong Kong since April 2022, the business of the Group recorded a rebound. Based on the unaudited financial information of our Group, our revenue was approximately HK\$137,465,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022, representing an increase of approximately 13.0% as compared to approximately HK\$121,704,000 in the corresponding period of 2021.

The Directors expect that it will take some time for the Hong Kong economy to recover to normal. The Group will closely monitor the market conditions and seek suitable business opportunities in order to minimize the negative effects of the renewed outbreak of COVID-19 to our business.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, our revenue increased by approximately HK\$15,761,000 or approximately 13.0% to approximately HK\$137,465,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021: approximately HK\$121,704,000), mainly due to the increase in sales demand for our food and beverage products. With the gradual relaxation of government's social distancing measures and the distribution of consumption vouchers by the government since April 2022, there was an increase in the overall customer traffic of restaurants. Our customers ordered more food and beverage products from us to cope with the increased demand. Sales demand for our food and beverage products from local restaurants, hotels and private clubs increased dramatically during the current period.

The Group opened its first restaurant in Tsim Sha Tsui in April 2021. However, due to the pandemic situation in Hong Kong, the Directors decided to close down the restaurant in March 2022.

Cost of sales

Our cost of sales solely represented cost of inventories sold, which represented the cost of finished goods purchased by us from suppliers. Our cost of sales represents the costs of products, net of discounts and rebates, charged by our suppliers. Our cost of sales increased by approximately HK\$11,897,000 or approximately 13.0% to approximately HK\$103,261,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022, as compared to approximately HK\$91,364,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2021, mainly due to the increased sales volumes.

Gross profit and gross profit margin

The Group's gross profit increased by approximately 12.7% from approximately HK\$30,340,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to approximately HK\$34,204,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022. The increase in gross profit was mainly due to the increased revenue resulted from the easing COVID-19 restrictions. For the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group's gross profit margin remained at approximately 24.9% (six months ended 30 September 2021: approximately 24.9%).

Other income

Other income represented interest income from bank deposits, rent concession, government grant and sundry income. Other income increased from approximately HK\$138,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to approximately HK\$2,318,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022 mainly due to receipt of government grant during the current period. During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group received government grant of approximately HK\$1,372,000 from the Employment Support Scheme and the Catering Business Subsidy Scheme launched by the government. The two schemes aimed at providing time-limited financial support to employers to retain their employees who will otherwise be made redundant and providing relief to the sectors directly affected by the tightened social distancing measures. No such government grant was received in the previous period.

Other gain and losses, net

The Group recorded net other losses of approximately HK\$421,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022 which was attributable to the loss on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment and written off of bad debts. In May 2022, the Group sold a motor vehicle to an independent third party at a loss of approximately HK\$416,000.

Selling and distribution expenses

Our selling and distribution expenses mainly comprised transportation expenses, commission expenses to sales persons based on a certain percentage of the gross profit on successful sales, staff costs for our sales team and marketing expenses. The increase of selling and distribution expenses of the Group were in line with the revenue increment and were mainly due to the increase in commission and bonus to sales persons. The selling and distribution expenses accounted for approximately 11.4% and 11.3% of the total revenue for the six months ended 30 September 2022 and 2021 respectively.

Administrative expenses

For the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group's administrative expenses primarily comprised staff costs for administrative and management personnel, directors' remuneration, depreciation on property, plant and equipment and depreciation on right-of-use assets. Administrative expenses increased from approximately HK\$15,502,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to approximately HK\$16,370,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022. The increase of administrative expenses of the Group was mainly due to the increase in depreciation on right-of-use assets for the newly rented Tuen Mun warehouse since September 2021, partially offset by decrease in legal and professional fees.

Finance costs

Finance costs amounted to approximately HK\$340,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022, increased by approximately HK\$130,000 as compared to approximately HK\$210,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2021. Finance costs of the Group represented interest expenses on lease liabilities. The increase was mainly due to the increased interest expenses incurred for the newly rented Tuen Mun warehouse since September 2021.

Income tax expense

For the six months ended 30 September 2022 and 2021, our income tax expenses were approximately HK\$302,000 and HK\$543,000, respectively.

Profit and total comprehensive income attributable to owners of the Company

For the six months ended 30 September 2022 and 2021, the Group's profit and total comprehensive income attributable to owners of the Company was approximately HK\$3,427,000 and HK\$389,000, respectively. The increase of profit and total comprehensive income attributable to owners of the Company was mainly attributable to the increase in revenue and increase in receipt of government grant, decrease in legal and professional fees, partially offset by the increase in commission expenses to sales persons and increase in depreciation on right-of-use assets for the newly rented Tuen Mun warehouse.

Dividend

No dividend was paid, declared or proposed during the period. The Directors do not recommend the payment of any dividend for the six months ended 30 September 2022 (six months ended 30 September 2021: nil).

No shareholder of the Company has waived or agreed to waive any dividends during the period.

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables increased from approximately HK\$36,907,000 as at 31 March 2022 to approximately HK\$47,584,000 as at 30 September 2022. The increase was mainly attributable to the increased sales demand during the current period.

Other receivables, deposits and prepayment decreased by approximately HK\$2,709,000 from approximately HK\$6,346,000 as at 31 March 2022 to approximately HK\$3,637,000 as at 30 September 2022. The decrease was mainly due to the decrease in prepayments to suppliers near the period end.

Trade and other payables

Trade payables increased by approximately 41.3% from approximately HK\$9,524,000 as at 31 March 2022 to approximately HK\$13,456,000 as at 30 September 2022. The increase was mainly due to the increased purchase near period end in view of the increase in sales demand.

Other payables and accrued charges increased by approximately HK\$1,308,000 from approximately HK\$3,088,000 as at 31 March 2022 to approximately HK\$4,396,000 as at 30 September 2022. The increase was mainly due to the increase in salaries and bonus payable to sales persons.

LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

As at 30 September 2022, bank balances and cash of the Group amounted to approximately HK\$29,008,000 (As at 31 March 2022: approximately of HK\$29,797,000). The current ratios (current asset divided by current liabilities) of the Group were 5.2 times and 6.8 times as at 30 September 2022 and 31 March 2022 respectively. The Group generally financed its daily operations from internally generated cash flows. The Group financed its business expansion and new business opportunities from the net proceeds from the Listing. The remaining unused net proceeds as at 30 September 2022 were placed as interest bearing deposits with licensed bank in Hong Kong.

CAPITAL STRUCTURE

The Shares were successfully listed on GEM on 13 April 2017. There has been no change in the capital structure of the Group since then. The share capital of the Group only comprises ordinary shares.

As at 30 September 2022, the Company's issued share capital was HK\$11,620,000 and the number of its issued ordinary shares was 1,162,000,000 of HK\$0.01 each.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPOSURE RISKS

Our exposures to currency risk arise from its sales to and purchases from overseas, which are primarily denominated in United States Dollars and Euro. These are not the functional currencies of our entities to which these transactions relate. We currently do not have a group foreign currency hedging policy. However, our management monitors foreign exchange exposure and will consider hedging significant foreign currency exposure should the need arise.

FINANCIAL POLICIES

The Group is exposed to liquidity risk in respect of settlement of its trade payables and financing obligations, and also in respect of its cash flow management. The Group's policy is to regularly monitor current and expected liquidity requirements to ensure that it maintains sufficient reserves of cash to meet its liquidity requirements in the short and longer term.

GEARING RATIO

The total interest-bearing borrowing (i.e. lease liabilities arising from leased properties) of the Group as at 30 September 2022 was approximately HK\$14,570,000 (31 March 2022: approximately HK\$8,467,000). The Group's gearing ratio as at 30 September 2022 was approximately 13.9% (31 March 2022: approximately 8.3%), which is calculated as the Group's total borrowing over the Group's total equity.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group invested approximately HK\$3,085,000 (During the six months ended 30 September 2021: approximately HK\$1,072,000) in property, plant and equipment, mainly represented additions of motor vehicles of approximately HK\$2,940,000. In view of the increased sales order, the Group purchased more vans to facilitate delivery of goods to customers during the current period

CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

As at 30 September 2022, the Group had no significant capital commitments (31 March 2022: nil).

CHARGES ON THE GROUP'S ASSETS

There were no charges on the Group's assets as at 30 September 2022.

SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT, MATERIAL ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL OF SUBSIDIARIES, ASSOCIATES AND JOINT VENTURES

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group did not have any significant investment, material acquisition nor disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures.

FUTURE PLANS FOR MATERIAL INVESTMENTS OR CAPITAL ASSETS

Save as disclosed in this report, the Group did not have other future plans for material investments or capital assets.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 30 September 2022, the Group did not have any significant contingent liabilities (31 March 2022: nil).

INFORMATION ON EMPLOYEES

As at 30 September 2022, the Group employed 62 employees (31 March 2022: 59 employees) with total staff cost of approximately HK\$13,315,000 incurred for the six months ended 30 September 2022 (six months ended 30 September 2021: approximately HK\$10,700,000). The Group's remuneration packages are generally structured with reference to market terms and individual merits.

USE OF PROCEEDS AND ACTUAL PROGRESS OF THE GROUP'S BUSINESS OBJECTIVES

The net proceeds from the Listing (after deducting the underwriting fees and related expenses) amounted to approximately HK\$48,500,000. Following the Listing, in response to changing business environment and business development requirement of the Group, the Board has resolved to change the use of the unutilised net proceeds to deploy its financial resources more efficiently. For details, please refer to the Company's announcements dated 27 March 2019, 14 August 2020 and 18 February 2021. Set out below is the actual utilisation of net proceeds up to the date of this interim report:

Intended use of the net proceeds	Allocation	Revised	Unutilised	Amount	Unutilised	Expected timeline for
	of net	allocation of		utilised from		
	proceeds	net proceeds	net proceeds	the date of	net proceeds	full utilisation of the
	before	as at	as at the	2022 annual	as at	unutilised net proceeds
	18 February	18 February	date of 2022	report up to	the date of	(Note)
	2021	2021	annual report	the date of	this report	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Leasing of warehouse facility in Kowloon:						
– Rental deposits	900	–	–	–	–	N/A
– Rental payments	7,400	3,278	903	(903)	–	N/A
– Renovation costs	7,000	–	–	–	–	N/A
– Start-up costs for warehouse facility	8,100	–	–	–	–	N/A
Development of the business in provision of food catering services through restaurants	–	9,000	5,936	–	5,936	On or before 31 December 2022
Upgrade of Enterprise Resource Planning ("ERP") system	12,560	8,330	7,576	(288)	7,288	On or before 31 December 2022
Conducting sales and marketing activities	5,540	4,444	4,319	(21)	4,298	On or before 31 December 2022
Installation of new repackaging equipment	3,500	–	–	–	–	N/A
General working capital	3,500	5,211	–	–	–	N/A
	48,500	30,263	18,734	(1,212)	17,522	

Note: The expected timeline for utilising the unutilised net proceeds is based on the best estimation of the future market conditions made by the Group. It is subject to change based on the current and future development of the market condition.

As disclosed in the prospectus of the Company dated 31 March 2017 (the “**Prospectus**”), the Group’s principal business objectives are to strengthen its position in the food and beverage grocery distribution industry and further expand its business operations with a view to creating long-term shareholders’ value. The Directors intend to achieve the objectives by (a) increasing warehouse facilities strategically located in certain districts of Hong Kong in proximity to the Group’s customers; (b) upgrading the ERP system to enhance the Group’s operation efficiency; (c) further penetrating the food and beverage grocery distribution market through sales and marketing activities and the Group’s quality value-added services; and (d) attracting and retaining quality personnel.

In light of the rise in number of customers and purchase orders, the Group had planned to lease two warehouse facilities, one in the New Territories and another on the Hong Kong Island for accommodating the increased inventory level. However, since the second half of 2017, the rent and the rent price index in the factory building rental market in Hong Kong showed a continuous uptrend and the Group had not yet identified suitable premises for the warehouse facilities in both areas, therefore the leasing was not yet commenced up to March 2019.

In early 2019, the Group surveyed a premise in Yau Tong, Kowloon, which size and location are suitable for our warehousing, and additionally, the proposed rental fee is relatively cost-effective. The Board evaluated that the premise in Yau Tong, Kowloon is meeting the Group’s requirements for fair and efficient use of financial resources. Therefore, the Board had decided to establish a new warehouse at the above mentioned premise and migrated all inventory from the existing warehouses to the new location.

In view of the conditions and expansion of the existing business, there is no urgent need to lease another warehouse facility as the current warehouse facility has met the needs of the Group. Therefore, on 18 February 2021, the Board has resolved to reallocate all utilised net proceeds for leasing of warehouse facility in Kowloon to develop the business in provision of food catering services through restaurants and general working capital, except that approximately HK\$3,278,000 of the net proceeds are remained to settle the rental expenses of the Yau Tong premise. Up to 18 February 2021, a total of approximately HK\$5,052,000 was spent on rental deposits, renovation costs and start-up costs for the warehouse facility. Up to the date of this report, full amount of the net proceeds of approximately HK\$7,400,000 was utilised on rental payments.

The Group has planned to use approximately HK\$12,560,000 of the net proceeds to upgrade the ERP system, which is used to monitor the inventory level and minimise incidences of overstocking, so as to enhance the operational efficiency of the Group. Up to the date of this report, the Group selected a new ERP software for implementation and a total of approximately HK\$5,272,000 was spent on consultancy services and software and hardware acquisition for the upgrade of the ERP system.

The Group has planned to use approximately HK\$5,540,000 of the net proceeds to conduct sales and marketing activities to attract more customers and strengthen customer loyalty so as to further penetrate the food and beverage grocery distribution market. Up to the date of this report, a total of approximately HK\$1,242,000 was spent on advertising and participating in domestic food exhibition and sales exhibition to showcase our products to potential buyers. The Group is currently recruiting new marketing company for upcoming new sales campaign.

The Group has planned to use approximately HK\$3,500,000 to purchase new repackaging equipment to further automate the repackaging process and increase efficiency. Since outsourcing the repackaging is more cost-effective compared to acquiring and installing new repackaging equipment under the current market conditions, the Board has resolved to reallocate all unutilised net proceeds for installation of new repackaging equipment to develop the business in provision of food catering services through restaurants and general working capital on 18 February 2021. Up to 18 February 2021, a total of approximately HK\$237,000 was spent on purchasing new automatic repackaging machines.

In early 2021, the Group was planning to develop the business in provision of food catering services through restaurants in view of the low market rent under current economic conditions. The Board is of the view that such vertical expansion would give us a competitive advantage, given that it allows us to have better cost control of the supplies for the new restaurant business and improve the performance of our existing business. Approximately HK\$9,000,000 of the net proceeds is allocated for the start-up costs and renovation costs for the restaurants. Up to the date of this report, a total of approximately HK\$3,064,000 was spent on renovation and start-up of the new restaurant in Tsim Sha Tsui. However, due to the pandemic situation in Hong Kong, the Directors decided to close down the restaurant in Tsim Sha Tsui in March 2022 and are looking for opportunities to develop such segment.

An addition of HK\$5,211,000 of the net proceeds is allocated for the general working capital to support the daily operation of the Group and to maintain sufficient working capital in preparation of any market upheaval. Full amount was utilised as general working capital up to the date of this report.

Looking forward, the Group is still reasonably optimistic to sustain the core business given all the economic uncertainties with the latest outbreak of the Omicron-variant. However, the Directors are actively assessing and managing the uncertainties, and implementing, if necessary, measures to conquer this challenging time. At the same time, the Group remains committed to the strategies that we have promised our shareholders before being listed and will continue to seek for the best possible opportunities to grow our business by leveraging our current client base, offering a wide spectrum of products for customers and exercising careful cost controls.

The principal strategic, operational and financial risks faced by the Group are market competition, employee commitment and satisfaction, warehouse disruption, credit risk of customers and fund investments and returns. With the Group's proven track record, plus its experienced management team and reputation in the market, the Directors consider that the Group is well-positioned to compete against its competitors. The Directors will also continue to explore opportunities to diversify the Group's operation so that the customer base could be strengthened and diversified. The Directors will continue to review and evaluate the business objectives and strategies and make timely execution taking into account the business risks and market uncertainties. The Directors believe that the Group will continue to expand to become one of the leading food and beverage grocery distributors in Hong Kong.

OTHER INFORMATION

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Directors' and chief executive's interests and short positions in shares and underlying shares and debentures of the Company and its associated corporations

As at 30 September 2022, the interests and short positions of the Directors and the chief executive of the Company in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company and any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "SFO")) which are required (a) to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of part XV of the SFO (including interests and short positions in which they have taken or deemed to have under such provisions of the SFO); or (b) pursuant to section 352 of the SFO, to be entered in the register kept by the Company; or (c) have to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Rules 5.46 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules, were as follows:

Long positions

Name of Director	Capacity/ Nature of interest	Number of Shares	Approximate percentage of shareholding ⁽¹⁾
Mr. Wong Siu Man ⁽²⁾	Interest in controlled corporation	602,800,000	51.88%
Mr. Wong Siu Wa ⁽²⁾	Interest in controlled corporation	602,800,000	51.88%

Notes:

- (1) The percentage has been computed based on 1,162,000,000 shares, being the total number of ordinary shares of the Company in issue as at 30 September 2022.
- (2) This represents the Shares held by Sky Alpha, a company beneficially owned as to 58.38% by Mr. Wong Siu Man, 38.92% by Mr. Wong Siu Wa and 2.7% by Glory Concord Limited respectively, therefore, Mr. Wong Siu Man and Mr. Wong Siu Wa are deemed to be interested in 602,800,000 Shares held under the SFO.

Save as disclosed above, as at 30 September 2022, none of the Directors or chief executive of the Company had an interest or short position in any shares or underlying shares and/or debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) which are required (a) to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of part XV of the SFO (including interests and short positions in which they are taken or deemed to have under such provisions of the SFO); or (b) pursuant to section 352 of the SFO, to be recorded in the register referred to therein; or (c) have to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Rules 5.46 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules.

Substantial shareholders and other persons' interests and short positions in shares and underlying shares of the Company

As at 30 September 2022, the persons (other than Directors or chief executive of the Company) who had interests and short positions in the shares or underlying share of the Company as recorded in the register required to be kept pursuant to section 336 of the SFO were as follows:

Long positions

Name of shareholder	Capacity/ Nature of interest	Number of Shares	Approximate percentage of shareholding ⁽¹⁾
Sky Alpha ⁽²⁾	Legal and Beneficial owner	602,800,000	51.88%
Ms. Fan Wing ^{(2) & (3)}	Interest of spouse	602,800,000	51.88%
Ms. Chu Man ^{(2) & (4)}	Interest of spouse	602,800,000	51.88%

Notes:

- (1) The percentage has been computed based on 1,162,000,000 Shares, being the total number of ordinary shares of the Company in issue as at the 30 September 2022.
- (2) Sky Alpha is beneficially owned as to 58.38% by Mr. Wong Siu Man, an executive Director, 38.92% by Mr. Wong Siu Wa, an executive Director, and 2.7% by Glory Concord Limited, respectively. Mr. Wong Siu Man and Mr. Wong Siu Wa are therefore deemed to be interested in 602,800,000 Shares under the SFO.
- (3) Ms. Fan Wing is the spouse of Mr. Wong Siu Man. Under the SFO, Ms. Fan Wing is deemed to be interested in the same number of Shares in which Mr. Wong Siu Man is interested.
- (4) Ms. Chu Man is the spouse of Mr. Wong Siu Wa. Under the SFO, Ms. Chu Man is deemed to be interested in the same number of Shares in which Mr. Wong Siu Wa is interested.

Save as disclosed above, as at 30 September 2022, the Directors were not aware of any other person (other than the Directors or chief executive of the Company) who had or is deemed to have interests or short positions in the shares or underlying shares of the Company as recorded in the register required to be kept under section 336 of the SFO.

SHARE OPTION SCHEME

A share option scheme was adopted by the Company on 27 March 2017 (the “**Share Option Scheme**”).

On 19 February 2021, a total of 112,000,000 share options were granted to the employees of the Group under the Share Option Scheme at an exercise price of HK\$0.30 per Share. The validity period of the share options is 19 February 2021 to 18 February 2023 (both days inclusive). All options granted were fully vested immediately on the date of grant. The closing price of the Shares immediately before the date of grant was HK\$0.32.

No share options was granted, exercised, lapsed or cancelled under the Share Option Scheme during the six months ended 30 September 2022. As at 1 April 2022 and 30 September 2022, there were 112,000,000 outstanding share options.

DIRECTORS' SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted a code of conduct regarding securities transactions by Directors on terms no less exacting than the required standard of dealings as set out in Rules 5.48 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules (the “**Model Code**”). Having made specific enquiry of all the Directors, each of the Directors have confirmed that they have complied with the Model Code during the six months ended 30 September 2022.

In addition, the Company has also adopted provisions of the Model Code as written guidelines for relevant employees in respect of their dealings in the securities of the Company. Such relevant employees did and would abide by the provisions of the Model Code. Besides, the Company has adopted internal control policy in relation to the disclosure of inside information of the Company (the “**Inside Information Policy**”).

No incident of non-compliance of the Model Code and/or the Inside Information Policy was noted by the Company during the six months ended 30 September 2022.

COMPETING INTEREST

To the best of the Directors' knowledge, none of the Directors or the controlling shareholders of the Company or their close associates (as defined in the GEM Listing Rules) had interest in any business which competes or may compete, either directly or indirectly, with the business of the Group nor had any other conflicts of interest with the Group during the six months ended 30 September 2022.

DEED OF NON-COMPETITION

The controlling shareholders of the Company, namely Mr. Wong Siu Man, Mr. Wong Siu Wa, Sky Alpha and Glory Concord Limited (the “**Controlling Shareholders**”) entered into a deed of non-competition dated 27 March 2017 (“**Deed of Non-competition**”) in favour of the Company (for itself and as trustee for each of its subsidiaries). For details of the Deed of Non-competition, please refer to the section headed “Relationship with Controlling Shareholders – Non-competition Undertaking” in the Prospectus. Each of the Controlling Shareholders has confirmed that none of them is engaged in, had interest in any business (other than the Group) which, directly or indirectly, competes or may compete with the business of the Group.

The independent non-executive Directors have also reviewed the status of compliance and confirmed that all the undertakings under the Deed of Non-competition have been complied with by each of the Controlling Shareholders during the six months ended 30 September 2022.

PURCHASE, SALES OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY’S LISTED SECURITIES

Neither the Company, nor any of its subsidiaries have purchased, sold or redeemed any listed securities of the Company during the six months ended 30 September 2022.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Company is committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance. The Company believes that sound corporate governance practices are essential to the effective and transparent operation of the Company and to its ability to safeguard the interest of the shareholders of the Company. The Company has applied the principles and code provisions as set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the “**CG Code**”) as contained in Part 2 of Appendix 15 to the GEM Listing Rules to ensure that the Group’s business activities and decision-making processes are regulated in a proper and prudent manner.

In the opinion of the Board, the Company has complied with the CG Code during the six months ended 30 September 2022.

EVENT AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

The Directors are not aware of any significant event which had material effect on the Group subsequent to 30 September 2022 and up to the date of this interim report.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Group has established an audit committee (the “**Audit Committee**”) pursuant to a resolution of the Directors passed on 27 March 2017 in compliance with Rules 5.28 to 5.33 of the GEM Listing Rules and with written terms of reference in compliance with the CG Code.

The principle duties of the Audit Committee are to (i) monitor integrity of the Company's financial statements, financial reports and accounts and to review the financial and accounting policies and practices of the Company; (ii) assist the Board in providing an independent view of the effectiveness of the Group's financial controls, internal control and risk management systems; and (iii) to make recommendations to the Board on the appointment, re-appointment and removal of external auditors.

The Audit Committee currently consists of all three of our independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Ng Fan Kay Frankie, Mr. Wang Zhaobin and Ms. Chan Hoi Yee and the chairman is Mr. Ng Fan Kay Frankie, who holds the appropriate professional qualifications as required under Rules 5.05(2) and 5.28 of the GEM Listing Rules.

The financial information contained in this interim report has not been audited by the auditor of the Company, but the Audit Committee has reviewed this report and the unaudited consolidated results of the Group for the six months ended 30 September 2022 and is of the opinion that such report and results have been prepared in compliance with the applicable accounting standards, the requirements under the GEM Listing Rules and other applicable legal requirements, and that adequate disclosures had been made.

By order of the Board
Asia Grocery Distribution Limited
Wong Siu Man
Chairman and Executive Director

Hong Kong, 10 November 2022

As at the date of this quarterly report, the executive Directors are Mr. Wong Siu Man (Chairman), Mr. Wong Siu Wa (Chief Executive Officer) and Mr. Yip Kam Cheong (Compliance Officer), the non-executive Director is Mr. Wong Chun Hung Hanson and the independent non-executive Directors are Mr. Ng Fan Kay Frankie, Mr. Wang Zhaobin and Ms. Chan Hoi Yee.