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Well Link Securities Holdings Limited
立橋證券控股有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)
(formerly known as Excalibur Global Financial Holdings Limited 駿溢環球金融控股有限公司)
(Stock code: 8350)

ANNUAL RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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.

*This announcement, for which the directors (the “**Directors**”) of Well Link Securities Holdings 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 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.*

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024 ANNUAL RESULTS

- The Group has recorded a decrease in revenue of approximately 6.5% from approximately HK\$24.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 to approximately HK\$22.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2024. Such decrease was mainly due to the decrease in placing and advisory fee income but partially offset by increase in securities trading brokerage service income and interest income from margin financing and money lending.
- Profit for the year ended 31 December 2024 declined by approximately 24.4% from approximately HK\$8.9 million for year ended 31 December 2023 to approximately HK\$6.7 million. The decline was mainly due to the decline in revenue as mentioned above and the reduction of approximately HK\$2.2 million in one-off reversal of impairment losses recognized for this year.
- The basic earnings per share was approximately HK\$0.81 cents for the year ended 31 December 2024, as compared to HK\$1.11 cents for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- The Board of Directors does not recommend the payment of final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2024 (final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2023: Nil).

The board of Directors (the “**Board**”) of the Company is pleased to present the audited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the “**Group**”) for the year ended 31 December 2024, together with the comparative audited figures for the corresponding period in 2023, as follows:

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
Revenue	5		
Contracts with customers		17,824	21,922
Interest under effective interest method		<u>4,753</u>	<u>2,221</u>
		<u>22,577</u>	<u>24,143</u>
Other (loss) income, net	<i>6a</i>	(16)	145
Reversal of impairment losses recognised, net	<i>6b</i>	743	2,985
Salaries and other benefits		(4,870)	(6,190)
Other operating and administrative expenses		(8,692)	(7,968)
Finance costs	<i>7</i>	<u>(1,080)</u>	<u>(1,713)</u>
Profit before tax		8,662	11,402
Income tax expense	<i>8</i>	<u>(1,927)</u>	<u>(2,493)</u>
Profit and total comprehensive income attributable to owners of the Company for the year	9	<u><u>6,735</u></u>	<u><u>8,909</u></u>
Profit per share			
Basic and diluted (<i>HK cents</i>)	<i>11</i>	<u><u>0.81</u></u>	<u><u>1.11</u></u>

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
Non-current assets			
Property and equipment		62	309
Right-of-use assets		70	1,717
Intangible assets		1,030	1,030
Statutory deposits		3,018	3,030
Deferred tax assets		5,099	6,913
Loan and interest receivables	<i>13</i>	<u>–</u>	<u>12,241</u>
		<u>9,279</u>	<u>25,240</u>
Current assets			
Accounts receivables arising from ordinary course of business	<i>12</i>	47,040	30,619
Prepayments and other receivables		1,425	1,908
Loan and interest receivables	<i>13</i>	17,119	1,538
Tax recoverable		232	–
Cash and cash equivalents		<u>13,898</u>	<u>12,369</u>
		<u>79,714</u>	<u>46,434</u>
Total assets		<u>88,993</u>	<u>71,674</u>
Current liabilities			
Accounts payables arising from ordinary course of business	<i>14</i>	3,592	18,254
Amount due to a shareholder		30,000	–
Other payables and accruals		2,737	1,286
Lease liabilities		76	1,758
Tax payables		<u>–</u>	<u>167</u>
		<u>36,405</u>	<u>21,465</u>
Net current assets		<u>43,309</u>	<u>24,969</u>
Total asset less current liabilities		<u>52,588</u>	<u>50,209</u>

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Non-current liabilities		
Other payables and accruals	–	2,300
Lease liabilities	–	256
Notes payables	–	40,000
	<u>–</u>	<u>42,556</u>
Total liabilities	<u>36,405</u>	<u>64,021</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>52,588</u>	<u>7,653</u>
Capital and reserves		
Share capital	9,600	8,000
Reserves	<u>42,988</u>	<u>(347)</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>52,588</u>	<u>7,653</u>

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Well Link Securities Holdings Limited (formerly known as Excalibur Global Financial Holdings Limited) (the “**Company**”) was incorporated in Cayman Islands on 13 July 2016 as an exempted company with limited liability under the Companies Law (2011 Revision) (as consolidated and revised) of the Cayman Islands. The immediate and ultimate holding company of the Company is Well Link Fintech Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands. Its ultimate controlling party is Mr. Xu Chujia (“**Mr. Xu**”), father of Ms. Xu Wenxia, Chairman of the Company.

The addresses of the registered office and principal place of business of the Company are disclosed in the corporate information section to the annual report.

The Company and its subsidiaries (together, the “**Group**”) mainly provides brokerage services for futures, securities and options traded on the exchanges in Hong Kong, the United States, Japan, Singapore and the United Kingdom. The Group also provides margin financing business, equity and debt securities placing service, investment advisory services and money lending business.

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

2. APPLICATION OF NEW AND AMENDMENTS TO HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (“**HKFRSs**”)

Application of amendments to HKFRSs

In the current year, the Group has applied, for the first time, the following amendments to Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“**HKFRSs**”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (the “**HKICPA**”) which are effective for the Group’s financial year beginning 1 January 2024:

Amendments to HKFRS 16	Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback
Amendments to HKAS 1	Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current (the “ 2020 Amendments ”)
Amendments to HKAS 1	Non-current Liabilities with Covenants (the “ 2022 Amendments ”)
Amendments to HKAS 7 and HKFRS 7	Supplier Finance Arrangements

The application of the amendments to HKFRSs in the current year has had no material effect on the Group’s financial performance and positions for the current and prior periods and/or on the disclosures set out in these consolidated financial statements.

New and amendments to HKFRSs issued but not yet effective

The Group has not early applied the following new and amendments to HKFRSs that have been issued but are not yet effective:

HKFRS 18	Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements ³
HKFRS 19	Subsidiaries without Public Accountability: Disclosure ³
Amendments to HKFRS 9 and HKFRS 7	Amendments to the Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments ²
Amendments to HKFRS 9 and HKFRS 7	Contracts Referencing Nature-dependent Electricity ²
Amendments to HKFRS 10 and HKAS 28	Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture ⁴
Amendments to HKAS 21	Lack of Exchangeability ¹
Annual Improvements to HKFRS Accounting Standards	Amendments to HKFRS 1, HKFRS 7, HKFRS 9, HKFRS 10 and HKAS 7 ²

¹ Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025.

² Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2026.

³ Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2027.

⁴ Effective for annual periods beginning on or after a date to be determined.

Except for the new and amendments to HKFRSs mentioned below, the directors of the Company anticipate that the application of the above new and amendments to HKFRSs will have no material impact on the results and the financial position of the Group.

HKFRS 18 “Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements”

HKFRS 18 sets out requirements on presentation and disclosures in financial statements and will replace HKAS 1 “Presentation of Financial Statements”. HKFRS 18 introduces new requirements to present specified categories and defined subtotals in the statement of profit or loss; provide disclosures on management-defined performance measures in the notes to the financial statements and improve aggregation and disaggregation of information to be disclosed in the financial statements. Minor amendments to HKAS 7 “Statement of Cash Flows” and HKAS 33 “Earnings per Share” are also made.

HKFRS 18, and the consequential amendments to other HKFRS Accounting Standards, will be effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2027, with early application permitted.

The application of HKFRS 18 is not expected to have material impact on the financial position of the Group but is expected to affect the presentation of the statement of profit or loss and statement of cash flows and disclosures in the future financial statements. The Group will continue to assess the impact of HKFRS 18 on the consolidated financial statements of the Group.

3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA. For the purpose of preparation of the consolidated financial statements, information is considered material if such information is reasonably expected to influence decisions made by the primary users. In addition, the consolidated financial statements include applicable disclosures required by the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on GEM of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “**GEM Listing Rules**”) and by the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (“**CO**”).

4. SEGMENT REPORTING

Information reported to the Board, being the chief operating decision maker (“**CODM**”), for the purposes of resource allocation and assessment of segment performance focuses on types of goods or services delivered or provided.

No operating segments have been aggregated in arriving at the reportable segments of the Group. Specifically, the Group’s reportable segments under HKFRS 8 Operating Segments are as follows:

Brokerage services, margin financing and related advisory services	–	Provision of brokerage services on securities, initial public offering financing service, equity and debt securities placing services and advisory services
Money lending	–	Provision of money lending services

Segment revenue and results

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Brokerage services, margin financing and related advisory services <i>HK\$’000</i>	Money Lending <i>HK\$’000</i>	Total <i>HK\$’000</i>
Segment revenue	<u>18,932</u>	<u>3,645</u>	<u>22,577</u>
Segment results	<u>9,909</u>	<u>2,215</u>	12,124
Unallocated corporate income			1
Unallocated corporate expense			<u>(3,463)</u>
Profit before tax			<u>8,662</u>

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Brokerage services, margin financing and related advisory services <i>HK\$'000</i>	Money Lending <i>HK\$'000</i>	Total <i>HK\$'000</i>
Segment revenue	<u>22,434</u>	<u>1,709</u>	<u>24,143</u>
Segment results	<u><u>18,798</u></u>	<u><u>1,112</u></u>	19,910
Unallocated corporate income			145
Unallocated corporate expense			<u>(8,653)</u>
Profit before tax			<u><u>11,402</u></u>

5. REVENUE

Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Revenue from contracts with customers within the scope of HKFRS 15		
Types of service		
Brokerage service:		
Futures and options trading	797	1,617
Stock options trading	52	190
Securities trading	16,975	12,841
Placing service	–	5,455
Advisory service	<u>–</u>	<u>1,819</u>
Revenue from contracts with customers	<u><u>17,824</u></u>	<u><u>21,922</u></u>
Timing of revenue recognition		
A point in time	<u><u>17,824</u></u>	<u><u>21,922</u></u>
Revenue from other sources		
Interest under effective interest method		
Margin financing	1,108	512
Money lending	<u>3,645</u>	<u>1,709</u>
	<u>4,753</u>	<u>2,221</u>
Total revenue	<u><u>22,577</u></u>	<u><u>24,143</u></u>

6a. OTHER (LOSS) INCOME, NET

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Interest income	78	123
Exchange loss, net	(85)	(57)
Sundry (expense) income	(9)	79
	<u>(16)</u>	<u>145</u>

6b. REVERSAL OF IMPAIRMENT LOSS RECOGNISED, NET

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Reversal of impairment loss recognised on:		
– Property and equipment	–	(278)
– Right-of-use assets	–	(1,599)
– Intangible assets	–	(1,030)
	<u>–</u>	<u>(2,907)</u>
(Reversal of impairment losses) impairment losses recognised under expected credit loss (“ECL”) model, net:		
– Loan and interest receivables	(851)	(261)
– Accounts receivables arising from ordinary course of business	108	183
	<u>(743)</u>	<u>(78)</u>
	<u>(743)</u>	<u>(2,985)</u>

7. FINANCE COSTS

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Interests on:		
– Lease liabilities	80	261
– Bank borrowing	–	252
– Notes payable	1,000	1,200
	<u>1,080</u>	<u>1,713</u>

8. INCOME TAX EXPENSES

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Current tax		
Hong Kong Profits Tax	(113)	–
Deferred tax	<u>(1,814)</u>	<u>(2,493)</u>
Total income tax expenses	<u><u>(1,927)</u></u>	<u><u>(2,493)</u></u>

9. PROFIT FOR THE YEAR

Profit for the year has been arrived at after charging:

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Directors' remuneration	541	2,040
Salaries, allowance and benefits in kind	4,048	3,991
Contribution to retirement benefits schemes	<u>281</u>	<u>159</u>
Total staff costs	<u>4,870</u>	<u>6,190</u>
IT and communication expenses	3,645	3,922
Commission expenses	242	926
Auditors remuneration – audit services	485	550
Auditors remuneration – non-audit services	–	42
Legal and professional fee	1,326	1,015
Depreciation of property and equipment	248	16
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	<u>1,647</u>	<u>56</u>

10. DIVIDENDS

No dividend was paid or proposed for ordinary shareholders of the Company during the year ended 31 December 2024, nor has any dividend been proposed since the end of the reporting period (2023: Nil).

11. EARNINGS PER SHARE

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

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Earnings for the year attributable to owners of the Company	<u>6,735</u>	<u>8,909</u>

	2024 <i>'000</i>	2023 <i>'000</i>
Number of shares		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of basic earnings per share	<u>826,667</u>	<u>800,000</u>

The diluted earnings per share is equal to the basic earnings per share as there were no dilutive potential ordinary shares outstanding during the years ended 31 December 2024 and 2023.

12. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES ARISING FROM ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Accounts Receivables – contracts with customers		
– Cash clients	–	295
– Clearing houses	2,873	14,842
– Overseas brokers	<u>3,576</u>	<u>10,153</u>
	<u>6,449</u>	<u>25,290</u>
Accounts receivables from margin clients	40,882	5,512
Less: Allowance for credit losses	<u>(291)</u>	<u>(183)</u>
	<u>40,591</u>	<u>5,329</u>
	<u>47,040</u>	<u>30,619</u>

Ageing analysis

The ageing analysis of accounts receivables, net of allowance for credit losses that are neither individually nor collectively considered to be impaired are as follows:

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Current	45,221	30,619
Past due under 180 days	<u>1,819</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>47,040</u>	<u>30,619</u>

13. LOAN AND INTEREST RECEIVABLES

	2024 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Fixed-rate loan and interest receivables		
– Secured	2,053	2,033
– Unsecured	<u>15,395</u>	<u>12,926</u>
	17,448	14,959
Less: Allowance for credit losses	<u>(329)</u>	<u>(1,180)</u>
	<u>17,119</u>	<u>13,779</u>
Analysed as:		
Non-current	–	12,241
Current	<u>17,119</u>	<u>1,538</u>
	<u>17,119</u>	<u>13,779</u>

As at 31 December 2024, included in the Group's loan and interest receivables are debtors with aggregate carrying amount of approximately HK\$17,119,000 (2023: approximately HK\$839,000) which are past due as at the reporting date.

The exposure of the Group's loan and interest receivables before ECL to interest rate risks and their contractual maturity dates are as follows:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Loan and interest receivables:		
– On demand or within one year	17,158	1,538
– More than one year not exceeding two years	245	13,131
– More than two years not exceeding five years	<u>45</u>	<u>290</u>
	<u>17,448</u>	<u>14,959</u>

14. ACCOUNTS PAYABLES ARISING FROM ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Accounts payables		
– Clearing houses	140	800
– Cash and margin clients	<u>3,452</u>	<u>17,454</u>
	<u>3,592</u>	<u>18,254</u>

Accounts payables to clients arising from ordinary course of business are margin deposits received from clients for their trading of futures contracts and options on the HKFE and overseas exchanges through overseas brokers, stock options on the SEOCH and securities on SEHK.

All of the accounts payables are repayable on demand.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

BUSINESS REVIEWS

Following the change of the substantial shareholder of the Group in November 2023, the financial position of the Group continued to improve with the support of our substantial shareholder and profit generated from the Group. In particular, the Company completed the issuance of new shares in November 2024 to raise HK\$40.0 million in gross amount to repay the outstanding notes, and the substantial shareholder of the Group further provided an interest-free loan to the Company for HK\$30.0 million to support the development of the Group's securities business. The total asset and net asset of the Group increased from HK\$71.7 million to HK\$89.0 million, and HK\$7.7 million to HK\$52.6 million, respectively from 31 December 2023 to 31 December 2024. With a stronger capital base and support commitment from our substantial shareholder, the Board believes that it will further gain confidence from our investors and clients to transact with our Group.

During the year ended 31 December 2024 (the “**Year**”), our revenue and profit after tax declined by 6.5% and 24.4% to HK\$22.6 million and HK\$6.7 million, respectively. Albeit the decline, the Board believes that the performance of the Group is still promising and it is still on track to a normalized growth following an aggressive turnaround in the year ended 31 December 2023 (the “**Prior Year**”) during which the revenue increased three folds and the business became profitable. We continued to reinvest our profit into IT development and during the Year, we have successfully upgraded our mobile trading APP and system, launched new products, and streamlined business processes so that it is done more automatically and electronically as compared to the traditional paper form prior to 2023.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue

The Group has recorded a decrease in revenue of approximately 6.5% from approximately HK\$24.1 million in the Prior Year to approximately HK\$22.6 million this Year. Such decrease was mainly due to the decrease in placing and advisory fee income but partially offset by increase in securities trading brokerage service income and interest income from margin financing and money lending.

Brokerage business, related advisory services and margin financing business

The Group mainly provides futures and options, stock options and securities broking, related advisory services, margin financing service through its Type 1 (Dealing in Securities), Type 2 (Dealing in Futures), Type 4 (Advising on Securities) and Type 5 (Advising on Futures) licensed business under the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Ordinance. The Group mainly derived the revenue from brokerage fees received as an introducing broker or directly from the clients for the execution and/or facilitation of trades and interest for the margin loan to clients.

The revenue of the brokerage services, margin financing and related advisory business was approximately HK\$18.9 million this Year, which represents a decrease of approximately HK\$3.5 million or approximately 15.6% compared to the Prior Year. Such decrease was mainly due to the decrease in placing and advisory fee income but partially offset by increase in securities trading brokerage service income and interest income from margin financing.

Money lending business

The Group carries on money lending activities through its wholly owned subsidiary Excalibur Finance Limited. The Group mainly utilise its internal resources to fund its money lending business. We target loan sizes between HK\$0.1 million to HK\$5.0 million to achieve suitable diversification relative to the Group's total asset. The loans may be secured or unsecured, and the corresponding interest rates will be charged based on prevailing market conditions. The Group mainly acquires its business through referral from business partners or the Group's employees. In relation to secured loans, our target customers are varied as we focus more on the loan-to-value ratio and the liquidity of the collateral. For unsecured loans, we focus more on the client's credit history and sources of repayment.

As at 31 December 2024, the Group had loan and interest receivables of approximately HK\$17.1 million (2023: HK\$13.8 million), net of allowance for expected credit loss of approximately HK\$0.3 million (2023: HK\$1.2 million). The Group recorded interest income from loan receivables of approximately HK\$3.6 million for the Year (Prior Year: HK\$1.7 million). The increase in outstanding loan and interest receivables was due to higher accrued interest charged on overdue unsecured loans, of which the principal and outstanding interests were fully repaid subsequent to the end of the reporting period.

As at 31 December 2024, there were 7 loans outstanding with principal amount ranging from HK\$200,000 to HK\$5.3 million. Four of which were secured loans collateralized with residential properties located in Hong Kong with loan-to-value ratio between 5% to 61%. The interest rate of all the loans outstanding ranges from 18% to 25.2% per annum. The loans receivables from the largest five borrowers represented 96% of the total loans outstanding.

As at 31 December 2024, the management had engaged an independent qualified valuer to determine the expected credit losses of the Group's loan receivables (the "ECL"). In assessing the ECL of the Group, a credit rating analysis of the underlying debtors was adopted by reviewing the historical accounting information to estimate the default risk. The Group applied different expected loss rates to different classes of receivables according to their respective risk characteristics. In determining the default risk, factors including but not limited to, the ageing analysis of the receivables, the Group's internal assessment of the debtors credit worthiness, historical and forecast occurrence of event of default, existence and valuation of the collaterals, the relevant regulatory framework and government policies in Hong Kong and global economic outlook in general and the specific economic condition of Hong Kong would be considered. The rate of ECL for corporate structural loans and mortgage loans was 0%. The rates were determined based on the nature, probability of default and loss given default of the loan receivables, after considering the subsequent settlement of all the corporate structural loans after the end of the reporting period.

The Group has adopted a credit policy to manage its money lending business which includes compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, credit assessment on potential borrower and his/its assets, the credibility of the potential borrower, the necessity in obtaining collaterals and determination of suitable interest rate to reflect the risk level of the provision of loan. The Group has performed background and credit risk assessment on the potential borrowers before granting the loans by (a) reviewing and assessing their financial information; and (b) performing an assessment on their creditability. The Group also assesses and decides the necessity and the value of security/collateral for granting of each loan, whether to an individual or enterprise, on a case by case basis considering factors, including but not limited to, the repayment history, results of public search towards the borrower, the value and location of the assets owned by the borrower and the financial condition of the borrower.

Salaries and other benefits

As at 31 December 2024, the Group engaged a total of 7 employees (31 December 2023: 15) and two executive Directors. For the Year, salaries and other benefits amounted to approximately HK\$4.9 million (Prior Year: approximately HK\$6.2 million), representing a decline of HK\$1.4 million or 22.0%. The decrease in salaries and other benefits demonstrates our commitment to streamline our business and to control costs in order to be versatile in the challenging macro environment. Salaries and other benefits are reviewed on a periodic basis. Employees salary and relevant benefits are determined on the basis of performance, qualification, experience, positions and the Group's business performance.

Other operating and administrative expenses

For the Year, other operating and administrative expenses amounted to approximately HK\$8.7 million (Prior Year: approximately HK\$8.0 million), representing an increase of HK\$0.7 million, or 9.6%. Other operating and administrative expenses for the Year mainly include: i) IT and communication expenses of approximately HK\$3.6 million (Prior Year: approximately HK\$3.9 million); ii) depreciation of right-of-use assets of approximately HK\$1.6 million (Prior Year: approximately HK\$0.1 million); and iii) legal and professional fees of HK\$1.3 million (Prior Year: HK\$1.0 million) which mainly included professional, listing, printing, secretarial and registrar fees. The increase in other operating and administrative expenses was mainly due to higher depreciation expense of right-of-use assets in relation to the office lease of the Group, which was originally impaired prior to the Prior Year and reversed in the Prior Year. In November 2024, following the expiration of the office lease, the Group has relocated to a shared office with other businesses of the substantial shareholder of the Company and is expected to achieve cost savings going forward.

Income tax expenses

The Group incurred approximately HK\$1.9 million of tax expense for the Year, as compared to HK\$2.5 million for the Prior Year. The effective tax rate of the Group for the year was 22.2% (Prior Year: 21.9%). The decline in income tax expense for the Year was in line with lower amount of profit before tax this Year.

Net profit

Profit for the Year was approximately HK\$6.7 million, as compared to HK\$8.9 million for Prior Year. The net profit margin was 29.8% for the Year, as compared to 36.9% for the Prior Year.

OUTLOOK

The Board is cautiously optimistic for 2025 as the Hong Kong economy continues to face headwinds from high-interest rate environment and geo-political tensions, yet the Hang Seng Index increased approximately 20% with higher sustained turnover since the beginning of 2025, which was welcoming for the brokerage market.

In this coming year, we will look to consolidate resources to further streamline our operation and achieve economies of scale by leveraging on competitive advantages made available to us from the combined resources of the “Well Link” platform with businesses in banking and insurance. We will also further look to enhance our corporate governance through appointing experienced professionals to bring in best industry practices.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Credit risk

The Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to cash and cash equivalents and the accounts receivable due from clients, overseas brokers and clearing houses and the margin loans to clients and the loan and interest receivables. The management does not expect significant credit risk as most bank balances and deposits are placed with recognised banks and financial institutions in Hong Kong and the Group has comprehensive credit policy in place.

For the loan receivables, the Group has adopted a comprehensive credit policy which was set out in the section headed "Business Review – Money lending business" in this announcement.

Liquidity risk

The Group is exposed to liquidity risk which arises from the timing difference between settlement with clearing houses, overseas brokers and clients and repayment of bank borrowing and notes payable. Finance team of the Group works closely with the settlement staffs to monitor the Group's liquidity position.

Foreign currency risk

The Group's transactions in the Year were denominated in Hong Kong dollar and United States dollar. As the Hong Kong dollar is pegged to the United States dollar, no significant exposure to the currency risk is expected by the management. As the management expected the foreign currency risk is low, the Group currently does not have a foreign currency hedging policy.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 31 December 2024, the Group did not have any significant contingent liabilities.

FUTURE PLANS FOR MATERIAL INVESTMENTS OR CAPITAL ASSETS

Save as disclosed in the section headed "Management Discussion and Analysis" in this announcement, the Group did not have other future plans for material investments or capital assets.

CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

As at 31 December 2024, the Group did not have any significant capital commitments contracted but not provided for in the financial statements.

SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS HELD, MATERIAL ACQUISITIONS OR DISPOSALS OF SUBSIDIARIES, ASSOCIATES AND JOINT VENTURES, AND PLANS FOR MATERIAL INVESTMENTS OR CAPITAL ASSET

During the Year, the Group did not have any material acquisition or disposal of subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures. As at the date of this announcement, the Group does not have any plans for material investments or capital asset.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Board is committed to achieving good corporate governance standards. The Board believes that good corporate governance standards are essential in providing a framework for the Group to safeguard the interests of the shareholders of the Company, enhance corporate value, formulate its business strategies and policies, and enhance its transparency and accountability.

The Company has applied the principles and practices as set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the “**CG Code**”) contained in Appendix 15 to the GEM Listing Rules and has adopted the CG Code as the code to govern the Company’s corporate governance practices.

During the Year and up to the date of this announcement, the Company has complied with the applicable code provisions as set out in the CG Code. All the Directors confirmed that they have fully complied with the required standard set out in the CG Code during the Year.

The Company will periodically review and improve its corporate governance practices with reference to the latest development of corporate governance.

SCOPE OF WORK OF PRISM HONG KONG LIMITED

The figures in respect of the Group’s consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and the related notes thereto for the year ended 31 December 2024 as set out in this announcement have been agreed by the Group’s auditor, Prism Hong Kong Limited, to the amounts set out in the Group’s audited consolidated financial statements for the year. The work performed by Prism Hong Kong Limited in this respect did not constitute an assurance engagement and consequently no opinion or assurance conclusion has been expressed by Prism Hong Kong Limited on this announcement.

PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE LISTED SECURITIES

There was no purchase, sale or redemption of listed securities of the Company by the Company or any of its subsidiaries during the Year.

SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS

The Company has adopted the Required Standard of Dealings as the code for securities transactions by the Directors on the guidelines as set out in Rules 5.48 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules. Further, the Company had made specific enquiry with all Directors and each of them has confirmed his/her compliance with the Required Standard of Dealings during the Year.

EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING DATE

There were no other significant events arising subsequent to the Year as at the date of this announcement.

DIVIDENDS

The Board of the Company does not recommend the payment of a final dividend for the Year (2023: Nil).

SUFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC FLOAT

Based on the information that is publicly available to the Company and within the knowledge of the Directors of the Company, the Company has maintained the prescribed public float under Rule 11.23(7) of the GEM Listing Rules during the year ended 31 December 2024 and up to the date of this announcement.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

The forthcoming annual general meeting of the Company will be held on Friday, 13 June 2025 at 10:00 a.m. (the “**2025 AGM**”). A notice convening the 2025 AGM will be published and despatched to the shareholders of the Company in due course.

The register of members of the Company will be closed from Tuesday, 10 June 2025 to Friday, 13 June 2025, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares of the Company will be registered. For determining the entitlement of members of the Company to attend and vote at the 2025 AGM, all share transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company’s branch share registrar in Hong Kong, Tricor Investor Services Limited at 17/F, Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, 9 June 2025.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Company established an audit committee (the “**Audit Committee**”) with written terms of reference in compliance with Rule 5.28 of the GEM Listing Rules and code provision D.3.3 of the CG Code. The Audit Committee consists of three independent non-executive Directors, namely The Hon. Ip Kwok Him, G.B.M., G.B.S., J.P., Ms. Wu Hung Yu and Mr. Yeung Chi Shing Bret. Ms. Wu Hung Yu possesses the appropriate professional accounting qualifications and related financial management expertise as required in Rule 5.05(2) of the GEM Listing Rules, and she serves as the chairman of the Audit Committee.

The primary duties of the Audit Committee are to assist the Board in providing an independent review of the effectiveness of the Group’s internal audit function, financial reporting process, internal control and risk management systems, and to oversee the audit process. The Audit Committee had reviewed the audited final results of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

PUBLICATION OF THE RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT

This results announcement is published on the Company’s website (<https://www.wlis.com.hk>) and the website of the Stock Exchange (<http://www.hkexnews.hk>).

The annual report of the Company for the Year will also be available at the respective websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange and will be despatched to the Shareholders in April.

By order of the Board
Well Link Securities Holdings Limited
Xu Wenxia
Chairman and Executive Director

Hong Kong, 27 March 2025

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of the Company comprises of Executive Directors Ms. Xu Wenxia and Mr. Kwan Kin Man Keith, and Independent Non-executive Directors The Hon. Ip Kwok Him, G.B.M., G.B.S., J.P., Ms. Wu Hung Yu and Mr. Yeung Chi Shing Bret.

This announcement will remain on the “Latest Listed Company Announcements” page of the website of the Stock Exchange at www.hkexnews.hk for a minimum period of 7 days from the date of its publication and on the website of the Company at <https://www.wlis.com.hk/>.