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NEW TIMES GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED
新 時 代 集 團 控 股 有 限 公 司 *

(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 166)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

The board of directors (the "Board") of New Times Group Holdings Limited (the "Company") is pleased to announce the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") for the year ended 31 December 2008 as follows:–

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT
For the year ended 31 December 2008

	Note	**2008** *HK$'000*	2007 *HK$'000* (Restated)
CONTINUING OPERATION			
Turnover	*3*	**33,020**	154,259
Cost of sales		**(32,010)**	(156,325)
Gross profit/(loss)		**1,010**	(2,066)
Other revenue	*5*	**2,977**	1,528
Other net income	*5*	**256**	–
Equity settled share-based payment expenses		**–**	(12,838)
Administrative expenses		**(24,698)**	(16,445)
Other operating expenses		**(2,225)**	(1,000)
Loss from operations		**(22,680)**	(30,821)
Finance costs	*6(a)*	**(1)**	(1)
		(22,681)	(30,822)
Gain on disposal of subsidiaries		**80**	–
Share of losses of jointly controlled entity		**(4,372)**	–
Loss before taxation		**(26,973)**	(30,822)
Income tax	*7*	**(154)**	–
Loss for the year from continuing operations		**(27,127)**	(30,822)

* *for identification purpose only*

	Note	2008 HK$'000	2007 HK$'000 (Restated)
DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS			
Loss for the year from discontinued operations		**(15,024)**	(28,915)
Loss for the year	6	**(42,151)**	(59,737)
Loss attributable to equity shareholders of the Company		**(42,151)**	(59,737)
Dividends	9	**–**	–
Loss per share	8		
From continuing and discontinued operations – Basic and diluted		**(HK5.40 cents)**	(HK9.32 cents)
From continuing operation – Basic and diluted		**(HK3.48 cents)**	(HK4.81 cents)
From discontinued operations – Basic and diluted		**(HK1.92 cents)**	(HK4.51 cents)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 December 2008

	Note	2008 HK$'000	2007 HK$'000
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Fixed assets			
– Other property, plant and equipment		**2,309**	1,785
– Investment properties		**–**	73,585
Goodwill		**–**	–
Deposit paid for potential investment		**54,600**	54,600
Interest in jointly controlled entity		**15,128**	–
		72,037	129,970
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories		**–**	162,598
Trade and other receivables	*10*	**91,715**	73,788
Loan receivables, unsecured		**–**	–
Cash and cash equivalents		**154,085**	160,195
		245,800	396,581
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	*11*	**6,084**	156,573
Other borrowing		**–**	10,700
Obligation under finance leases		**12**	13
Current taxation		**18**	2,936
		(6,114)	(170,222)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**239,686**	226,359
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**311,723**	356,329
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Obligation under finance leases		**25**	35
Deferred tax liabilities		**–**	1,286
		(25)	(1,321)
NET ASSETS		**311,698**	355,008
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Share capital		**78,197**	77,764
Reserves		**233,501**	277,244
TOTAL EQUITY		**311,698**	355,008

NOTES

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2008 comprise the Company and its subsidiaries and the Group's interest in a jointly controlled entity.

The measurement basis used in the preparation of the financial statements is the historical cost convention except for the revaluation of certain assets and liabilities as explained in the accounting policies set out below.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements made by management in the application of HKFRSs that have a significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are discussed in notes to the financial statements.

2. APPLICATION OF NEW AND REVISED HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

In the current year, the Group has where applicable applied the following amendments and interpretations ("new HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") which are or have become effective.

HKAS 39 & HKFRS 7 (Amendments)	Reclassification of Financial Assets
HK(IFRIC) – Int 11	HKFRS 2: Group and Treasury Share Transactions
HK(IFRIC) – Int 12	Service Concession Arrangements
HK(IFRIC) – Int 14	HKAS 19 – The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction

The application of the new HKFRSs had no material effect on how the results and financial position for the current or prior accounting periods have been prepared and presented. Accordingly, no prior year adjustment is required.

The Group has not early applied any of the following new and revised standards, amendments or interpretations which have been issued but are not yet effective for annual periods beginning on 1 January 2008.

HKFRSs (Amendments)	Improvements to HKFRSs[1]
HKAS 1 (Revised)	Presentation of Financial Statements[2]
HKAS 23 (Revised)	Borrowing Costs[2]
HKAS 27 (Revised)	Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements[3]
HKAS 32 & 1 (Amendments)	Puttable Financial Instruments and Obligations Arising on Liquidation[2]
HKAS 39 (Amendment)	Eligible Hedged Items[3]
HKFRS 1 and HKAS 27 (Amendments)	Cost of an Investment in a Subsidiary, Jointly Controlled Entity or Associate[2]
HKFRS 1 (Revised)	First-time Adoption of Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards[3]
HKFRS 2 (Amendments)	Vesting Conditions and Cancellations[2]
HKFRS 3 (Revised)	Business Combinations[3]
HKFRS 8	Operating Segments[2]
HK(IFRIC) – Int 13	Customer Loyalty Programmes[4]
HK(IFRIC) – Int 15	Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate[2]
HK(IFRIC) – Int 16	Hedges of a Net Investment in a Foreign Operation[5]
HK(IFRIC) – Int 17	Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners[3]
HK(IFRIC) – Int 18	Transfer of Assets from Customers[6]

1 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009 unless otherwise stated in the specific HKFRS
2 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009
3 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2009
4 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2008
5 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 October 2008
6 Effective for transfer on or after 1 July 2009

HKAS 1 Revised affects certain disclosures of the financial statements. Under the revised standard, the Profit and Loss Account is renamed as the “Income Statement”, the Balance Sheet is renamed as the “Statement of Financial Position” and the Cash Flow Statement is renamed as the “Statement of Cash Flows”. All income and expenses arising from transactions with non-owners (i.e., the non-owner movements of equity) are presented under the “Income Statement” and “Statement of Comprehensive Income”, and the total carried to the “Statement of Changes in Equity”, while the owner changes in equity are presented in the “Statement of Changes in Equity”.

The application of HKFRS 3 (Revised) may affect the accounting for business combination for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after 1 July 2009.

HKAS 27 (Revised) will affect the accounting treatment for changes in a parent’s ownership interest in a subsidiary.

The Company’s directors anticipate that the application of the other new and revised standards, amendments or interpretations will have no material impact on the results and the financial position of the Group.

3. TURNOVER

The principal activities of the Group are general trading, property investment and development and provision of financial services. During the year, the Group's property investment and development operation and provision of financial services operation were discontinued.

Turnover represents the sales value of goods supplied to customers and rental income. The amount of each significant category of revenue recognised in turnover during the year, for both continuing and discontinued operations, is as follows:

	2008 *HK$'000*	2007 *HK$'000* (Restated)
Continuing operation		
Trading of non-ferrous metals	**26,046**	154,259
Trading of frozen food	**6,974**	–
	33,020	154,259
Discontinued operations		
Gross rentals from investment properties	**–**	1,194
	33,020	155,453

4. SEGMENT REPORTING

Segment information is presented in respect of the Group's business and geographical segments. Business segment information is chosen as the primary reporting format because this is more relevant to the Group's internal financial reporting.

Business segments

The Group comprises the following main business segments:

Property investment and development:	the leasing of properties to generate rental income and to gain from the appreciation in the properties' values in the long term; the development and sale of office premises.
Financial services:	provision of financial services.
General trading:	trading of non-ferrous metal and frozen foods

Further details of the discontinued operation under the segments of property investment and development and financial services are set out in notes to the financial statements

There were no inter-segment sales and transfer during the current and prior years.

For the year ended 31 December 2008

	Continuing operation		Discontinued operations			
	General trading *HK$'000*	Sub-total *HK$'000*	Property investment and development *HK$'000*	Financial services *HK$'000*	Sub-total *HK$'000*	Total *HK$'000*
Revenue						
External sales	**33,020**	**33,020**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**33,020**
Segment result	**(3,011)**	**(3,011)**	**(21,574)**	**(8)**	**(21,582)**	**(24,593)**
Unallocated corporate expenses						**(22,107)**
Interest income						**2,293**
Loss from operations						**(44,407)**
Interest expenses						**(854)**
Gain on disposal of subsidiaries						**80**
Gain on disposal of subsidiaries attributable to discontinued operations			**6,032**	**1,524**	**7,556**	**7,556**
Share of losses of jointly controlled entity						**(4,372)**
Loss before taxation						**(41,997)**
Income tax						**(154)**
Loss for the year						**(42,151)**
Other information:						
Capital expenditure						
– segment	**7**	**7**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**7**
– unallocated						**4,055**
Depreciation						
– segment	**498**	**498**	**5**	**–**	**5**	**503**
– unallocated						**771**
Net realised gain on trading securities						
– segment	**194**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**194**
Net loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment						
– unallocated						**2,224**
Valuation loss on investment properties						
– segment	**–**	**–**	**22,224**	**–**	**22,224**	**22,224**
Assets						
Segment assets	**43,739**	**43,739**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**43,739**
Investments in equity method jointly controlled entity						**15,128**
Unallocated corporate assets						**258,970**
Total assets						**317,837**
Liabilities						
Segment liabilities	**(2,554)**	**(2,554)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(2,554)**
Unallocated corporate liabilities						**(3,585)**
Total liabilities						**(6,139)**

For the year ended 31 December 2007 (Restated)

	Continuing operation		Discontinued operations			
	General trading HK$'000	Sub-total HK$'000	Property investment and development HK$'000	Financial services HK$'000	Sub-total HK$'000	Total HK$'000
Revenue						
External sales	154,259	154,259	1,194	–	1,194	155,453
Segment result	(8,610)	(8,610)	(28,447)	342	(28,105)	(36,715)
Unallocated corporate expenses						(23,884)
Interest income						1,531
Loss from operations						(59,068)
Interest expenses						(430)
Loss before taxation						(59,498)
Income tax						(239)
Loss for the year						(59,737)
Other information:						
Capital expenditure						
– segment	1,794	1,794	46	–	46	1,840
– unallocated						17
Depreciation						
– segment	72	72	3	–	3	75
– unallocated						1
Impairment loss on trade and other receivables						
– segment	1,000	1,000	–	–	–	1,000
Reversals of impairment loss on trade and other receivables						
– segment	–	–	(2,991)	–	(2,991)	(2,991)
Recovery of debts on loan receivables						
– segment	–	–	–	(400)	–	(400)
Impairment loss on goodwill						
– segment	–	–	10,200	–	10,200	10,200
Valuation loss on investment properties						
– segment	–	–	7,901	–	7,901	7,901
Write down of inventories						
– segment	–	–	15,912	–	15,912	15,912
Equity settled share-based payment expenses						
– unallocated						12,838
Assets						
Segment assets	136,339	136,339	249,050	297	249,347	385,686
Unallocated corporate assets						140,865
Total assets						526,551
Liabilities						
Segment liabilities	(1,101)	(1,101)	(164,649)	(1,530)	(166,179)	(167,280)
Unallocated corporate liabilities						(4,263)
Total liabilities						(171,543)

Geographical segment

The Group participates in two principal economic environments: Hong Kong and Mainland China.

In presenting information on the basis of geographical segments, segment revenue is based on the geographical location of customers. Segment assets and capital expenditure are based on the geographical location of the assets.

	Continuing operation		Discontinued operations		Consolidated	
	2008	2007	**2008**	2007	**2008**	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000*	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000*
		(Restated)		(Restated)		(Restated)
Revenue from external customers						
Hong Kong	**6,974**	154,259	**26,046**	–	**33,020**	154,259
Mainland China	**–**	–	**–**	1,194	**–**	1,194
	6,974	154,259	**26,046**	1,194	**33,020**	155,453
Carrying amount of segment assets						
Hong Kong	**317,837**	277,204	**–**	297	**317,837**	277,501
Mainland China	**–**	–	**–**	249,050	**–**	249,050
	317,837	277,204	**–**	249,347	**317,837**	526,551
Capital expenditure incurred during the year						
Hong Kong	**4,062**	1,811	**–**	–	**4,062**	1,811
Mainland China	**–**	–	**–**	46	**–**	46
	4,062	1,811	**–**	46	**4,062**	1,857

5. OTHER REVENUE, NET INCOME AND OPERATING INCOME

	Continuing operation		Discontinued operations		Consolidated	
	2008	2007	**2008**	2007	**2008**	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000*	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000*
		(Restated)		(Restated)		(Restated)
(a) Other revenue						
Bank interest income	**1,945**	1,335	**–**	8	**1,945**	1,343
Other interest income	**348**	188	**–**	–	**348**	188
Total interest income from financial assets not at fair value through profit or loss	**2,293**	1,523	**–**	8	**2,293**	1,531
Commission income	**684**	–	**–**	–	**684**	–
Sundry income	**–**	5	**–**	–	**–**	5
	2,977	1,528	**–**	8	**2,977**	1,536
(b) Other net income						
Net realised gain on trading securities	**194**	–	**–**	–	**194**	–
Net foreign exchange gain	**62**	–	**2,453**	4,082	**2,515**	4,082
	256	–	**2,453**	4,082	**2,709**	4,082
(c) Other operating income						
Reversal of impairment loss on trade and other receivables	**–**	–	**–**	2,991	**–**	2,991
Recovery of debts on loan receivables	**–**	–	**–**	400	**–**	400
	–	–	**–**	3,391	**–**	3,391

6. LOSS FOR THE YEAR

Loss for the year is arrived at after charging/(crediting) the following:

	Continuing operation		Discontinued operations		Consolidated	
	2008	2007	**2008**	2007	**2008**	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000* (Restated)	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000* (Restated)	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000* (Restated)
(a) Finance cost						
Interest on bank borrowings wholly repayable within five years	**–**	–	**–**	251	**–**	251
Interest on other borrowings wholly repayable within five years	**–**	–	**700**	–	**700**	–
Interest on amount due to a securities dealer	**–**	–	**153**	178	**153**	178
Finance charges on obligation under finance leases	**1**	1	**–**	–	**1**	1
Total interest expenses on financial liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss	**1**	1	**853**	429	**854**	430
(b) Staff costs (including directors' emoluments)						
Salaries, allowances and benefits in kinds	**8,039**	3,341	**147**	283	**8,186**	3,624
Retirement scheme contributions	**79**	62	**–**	–	**79**	62
Equity settled share-based payment expenses	**–**	12,838	**–**	–	**–**	12,838
	8,118	16,241	**147**	283	**8,265**	16,524
(c) Other items						
Cost of inventories	**32,010**	156,325	**–**	–	**32,010**	156,325
Depreciation for fixed assets	**1,268**	72	**6**	4	**1,274**	76
Valuation loss on investment properties	**–**	–	**22,224**	7,901	**22,224**	7,901
Write down of inventories	**–**	–	**–**	15,912	**–**	15,912
Net foreign exchange loss	**–**	5	**–**	–	**–**	5
Impairment loss on trade and other receivables	**–**	1,000	**–**	–	**–**	1,000
Impairment loss on goodwill	**–**	–	**–**	10,200	**–**	10,200
Net loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	**2,224**	–	**–**	–	**2,224**	–
Minimum lease payments under operating leases on leasehold land and buildings	**4,758**	1,091	**–**	64	**4,758**	1,155
Auditor's remuneration	**500**	500	**80**	–	**580**	500
Gross rental income from investment properties less direct outgoings of HK$ nil (2007: HK$208,000)	**–**	–	**–**	(986)	**–**	(986)

7. INCOME TAX IN THE CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

(a) Income tax in the consolidated income statement represents:

	Continuing operation		Discontinued operations		Consolidated	
	2008	2007	**2008**	2007	**2008**	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000* (Restated)	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000* (Restated)	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000* (Restated)
Current tax						
– Hong Kong	**–**	–	**–**	–	**–**	–
– PRC Enterprise Income Tax	**154**	–	**–**	239	**154**	239
	154	–	**–**	239	**154**	239
Deferred income tax	**–**	–	**–**	–	**–**	–
	154	–	**–**	239	**154**	239

On 26 June 2008, the Hong Kong Legislative Council passed the Revenue Bill 2008 and reduced corporate profits tax rate from 17.5% to 16.5% which is effective from the year of assessment 2008/2009. No provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax has been made as the Group did not generate any assessable profit arising in Hong Kong during the current and prior years.

Provision for Foreign Enterprise Income Tax in the People's Republic of China ("PRC") has been calculated based on total operating expenses of the PRC representative office in accordance with the provisions of the Circular of the State Administration of Taxation Concerning the Related Matters about Reinforcing the Collection and Administration of Taxes on Permanent Establishments of Foreign Enterprises (Guo Shui Fa [1996] No.165) and the Circular of the State Administration of Taxation Concerning the Related Matters about the Tax Administration of the Permanent Establishments of Foreign Enterprises (Guo Shui Fa [2003] No.28) issued by the State Administration of Taxation of the PRC on 13 September 1996 and 12 March 2003 respectively.

Taxation arising in other jurisdictions are calculated at the rates prevailing in the relevant jurisdictions.

On 16 March 2007, the People's Republic of China promulgated the Law of the People's Republic of China on Enterprise Income Tax (the "New Law") by Order No. 63 of the President of the People's Republic of China. On 6 December 2007, the State Council of the PRC issued Implementation Regulations of the New Law. The New Law and Implementation Regulations changed the tax rate from 15% to 18% for a subsidiary from 1 January 2008. In 2007, the deferred tax balance has been adjusted to reflect the tax rates that are expected to apply to the respective periods when the asset is realised or the liability is settled.

(b) Reconciliation between tax expense and accounting loss at the applicable tax rates:

	2008	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000* (Restated)
Loss before taxation		
Continuing operation	**(26,973)**	(30,822)
Discontinued operations	**(15,024)**	(28,676)
	(41,997)	(59,498)
Notional tax on loss before taxation, calculated at the rates applicable to losses in the tax jurisdictions concerned	**3,730**	(9,860)
Tax effect of non-taxable income	**(8,274)**	(461)
Tax effect of non-deductible expenses	**3,622**	5,462
Tax effect of unused tax losses not recognised	**857**	5,101
Tax effect of deductible temporary differences not recognised	**65**	(3)
Tax effect of PRC income tax on representative office	**154**	–
Actual tax expense	**154**	239

8. LOSS PER SHARE

(a) Basic loss per share

(i) For continuing and discontinued operations

The calculation of basic loss per share is based on the loss attributable to ordinary equity shareholders of the Company of HK$42,151,000 (2007: HK$59,737,000) and the weighted average number of 780,110,626 ordinary shares (2007: 641,144,646 ordinary shares) in issue during the year as follows:

Weighted average number of ordinary shares

	2008	2007
Issued ordinary shares at 1 January	**777,638,030**	556,305,030
Effect of shares issued under placement	**–**	84,104,109
Effect of share options exercised	**2,472,596**	735,507
Weighted average number of ordinary shares at 31 December	**780,110,626**	641,144,646

(ii) From continuing operation

The calculation of basic loss per share from continuing operation attributable to ordinary equity shareholders of the Company is based on the loss for the year from continuing operation of HK$27,127,000 (2007: HK$30,822,000 (restated)) and the weighted average number of 780,110,626 ordinary shares (2007: 641,144,646 ordinary shares) in issue during the year.

(iii) From discontinued operations

The calculation of basic loss per share from discontinued operations attributable to ordinary equity shareholders of the Company is based on the loss for the year from discontinued operations of HK$15,024,000 (2007: HK$28,915,000 (restated)) and the weighted average number of 780,110,626 ordinary shares (2007: 641,144,646 ordinary shares) in issue during the year.

(b) Diluted loss per share

Diluted loss per share for both years ended 31 December 2007 and 2008 were the same as the basic loss per share as the potential ordinary shares outstanding during the years had an anti-dilutive effect on the basic loss per share for the years.

9. DIVIDENDS

The directors do not recommend any payment of final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2008 (2007: nil).

10. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	The Group		The Company	
	2008	2007	**2008**	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000*
Trade receivables *(note a)*	**5,212**	42,443	**–**	–
Other receivables *(note d)*	**51,718**	36,348	**236**	9
Less: allowance for doubtful debts *(note b)*	**–**	(8,722)	**–**	–
Loan and receivables	**56,930**	70,069	**236**	9
Prepayment and deposits	**34,785**	3,719	**34,361**	3,285
	91,715	73,788	**34,597**	3,294

All of the trade and other receivables are expected to be recovered within one year.

Notes:

(a) Ageing analysis

Trade receivables are net of allowance for doubtful debts of HK$nil (2007: HK$4,651,000) with the following age analysis as of the balance sheet date:

	The Group	
	2008	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*
Less than 90 days	**5,212**	37,792

Trade receivables are due within 90 days from the date of billing. Further details on the Group's credit policy are set out in notes to the financial statements.

(b) Impairment of trade and other receivables

Impairment losses in respect of trade and other receivables are recorded using an allowance account unless the Group is satisfied that recovery of the amount is remote, in which case the impairment loss is written off against trade receivables directly.

Movement in the allowance for doubtful debts

	The Group	
	2008	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*
At 1 January	**8,722**	11,751
Impairment losses recognised	**–**	1,000
Uncollectible amounts written off	**(1,000)**	(1,038)
Amounts reversed during the year	**–**	(2,991)
Disposal of subsidiaries attributable to discontinued operations	**(7,722)**	–
At 31 December	**–**	8,722

As at the balance sheet date, the trade receivables of HK$nil (2007: HK$8,722,000) were individually determined to be impaired and full allowance for impairment loss had been made. These individually impaired receivables related to customers that were in financial difficulties and management assessed that only a portion of the receivables could be recovered. Consequently, specific allowances for doubtful debts of HK$nil (2007: HK$1,000,000) were recognised. The Group does not hold any collateral over these balances.

(c) Trade receivables that are not impaired

The aging analysis of trade receivables that are neither individually nor collectively considered to be impaired are as follows:

	The Group	
	2008	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*
Neither past due nor impaired	**5,212**	37,792
Past due but not impaired	**–**	–
	5,212	37,792

Receivables that were neither past due nor impaired relate to a wide range of customers for whom there was no recent history of default.

(d) The balance as at 31 December 2008 mainly represents:

(i) the remaining consideration receivable of HK$39,880,000 on disposal of Elegant Pool Limited. The balance bears interest at 5% per annum, repayable on 24 September 2009 and secured by the equity share of Elegant Pool Limited; and

(ii) the consideration receivable of HK$11,600,000 for the disposal of the sub-underwriting shares. The balance is unsecured, bearing interest at 6% per annum and repayable on 1 July 2009.

The balance as at 31 December 2007 mainly represented the advances by the PRC subsidiary, Weiqiu Industrial (Shenzhen) Company Limited ("Weiqiu") to Wandi Estate Development Company Limited ("Wandi Estate Development"), Shenzhen Wandi Property Management Company Limited ("Shenzhen Wandi") and Shenzhen Wei Jian Da Investment & Development Company Limited ("Wei Jian Da") totalling HK$31,746,000. All these companies are long-term business partners with Weiqiu and principally engaged in property development and investment in PRC. Wandi Estate Development, Shenzhen Wandi and Wei Jian Da are companies related to each other and the advances were unsecured, interest-free and have no fixed terms of repayment.

Upon disposal of Smart Wave Limited on 30 June 2008, the Group had derecognized these receivables.

11. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	The Group		The Company	
	2008	2007	**2008**	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*	***HK$'000***	*HK$'000*
Trade payables *(note a)*	**2,504**	61,061	**–**	–
Other payables and accruals	**2,942**	18,248	**2,929**	1,599
Deposit received *(note b)*	**–**	76,814	**–**	–
Amounts due to directors	**638**	450	**638**	450
Amount due to a subsidiary	**–**	–	**–**	25,953
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	**6,084**	156,573	**3,567**	28,002

All of the trade and other payables (including amounts due to directors and a subsidiary) are expected to be settled within one year or are repayable on demand.

Notes:

(a) The following is an aging analysis of the trade payables as at the balance sheet date:

	The Group	
	2008	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*
Less than 90 days	**2,504**	61,061

(b) The balance represented deposits received on properties sold prior to the date of revenue recognition. Upon the disposal of Smart Wave Limited on 30 June 2008, the Group had no deposits received as at 31 December 2008.

SCOPE OF WORK OF AUDITORS

The figures in respect of the preliminary announcement of the Group's results for the year ended 31 December 2008 have been agreed by the Group's auditors, CCIF CPA Limited, to the amounts set out in the Group's consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2008. The work performed by CCIF CPA Limited in this respect did not constitute as assurance engagement in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing, Hong Kong Standards on Review Engagements or Hong Kong Standards on Assurance Engagements issued by the HKICPA and consequently no assurance has been expressed by CCIF CPA Limited on the preliminary announcement.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Turnover of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2008 was about HK$33.02 million (31 December 2007: HK$155.45 million). The Group recorded a loss attributable to equity holders of the Company of approximately HK$42.15 million. (31 December 2007: HK$59.74 million). Reduction in loss was mainly due to decrease in (i) impairment for written down of inventory (31 December 2007: HK$15.91 million); (ii) provision for equity settled share-based payment expenses for options granted by the Company (31 December 2007: HK$12.84 million); and (iii) impairment for goodwill during the year under review (31 December 2007: HK$10.2 million).

Administrative expenses of the Group for the year amounted to approximately HK$25.29 million (31 December 2007: HK$17.48 million) representing an increase of approximately HK$7.81 million. The increase was mainly due to increase in directors' remuneration, staff's salaries and rental expenses 2008.

Loss per share for the year from continuing and discontinued operations was HK5.40 cents (31 December 2007: HK9.32 cents) and from continuing operations was HK$3.48 cents (31 December 2007: HK4.81 cents) The Board does not recommend any final dividends for this financial year (31 December 2007: Nil).

Review of Business Operations

Trading business

During the year under review, sales of trading business amounted to approximately HK$33.02 million (31 December 2007: HK$154.26 million) with a gross profit of approximately HK$1.01 million compared with a gross loss of HK$2.07 million for the year ended 31 December 2007. In 2008, non-ferrous metal trading business was deeply influenced by the economic environment. Market price of non-ferrous metals was hugely volatile. Price of grade A copper and high grade zinc in London Metal Exchange declined after an upsurge in early 2008. Impact of the subprime mortgage crisis in U.S. has caused the global financial tsunami and the economic slowdown in late 2008. During the year under review, the Company diversified its trading business to other consumable goods. Management of the Company will continue to explore new business in various commodities to widen the Group's income.

Discontinued Operations

Group's provision of financial service operations, property investments and development business were disappointed. Loss from these operations in the year under review was approximately HK$15.02 million (31 December 2007: HK$28.92 million). Accordingly, management of the Group decided to cease these operations and save further resources to focus on the Group's investments in natural resources business.

Significant Disposal

In June 2008, the Group disposed the entire equity interest in Smart Wave Limited and its subsidiary, which engaged in property development business, to an independent third party and recorded a gain of approximately HK$4.80 million. Details were disclosed in the circular of the Company dated 29 May 2008.

In December 2008, the Group disposed the entire equity interest in Elegant Pool Limited ("Elegant Pool"), which engaged property investment business, to an independent third party and recorded a gain of approximately HK$1.23 million. The only asset of Elegant Pool is two portions of shop spaces in a commercial podium of a 13-storey commercial and residential development. Details were disclosed in the circular of the Company dated 19 January 2009.

PROSPECTS

The Group's strategy is to focus its business development in natural resources industry and is seeking investment opportunities to broaden the Group's sources of income.

In October 2007 and November 2007, the Company entered into an intended contact and a supplemental agreement respectively to acquire 60% interest of the exploration and potential exploitation concessions of oil and natural gas granted by the Government of Argentina located in Tartagal and Morillo area (approximately 7,065 and 3,518 square kilometers respectively) in the province of Salta in northern Argentina. Netherland, Sewell & Associates, Inc, the Company's independent technical adviser, after due care and taking into account of information and data from various sources, reported to the Company, in accordance with internationally recognized standards, the unrisked gross (100%) prospective resources of approximately 76.2 million tons of oil equivalent or 558.4 million barrels of oil equivalent for the Tartagal and Morillo Concessions (the "Concession"). A draft valuation of the Concession in the amount of approximately US$1.5 billion (equivalent to approximately HK$11.7 billion) received from the Company's independent valuer. The Company re-negotiate the terms for the acquisitions with the vendors. The revised consideration of the Concession reduced to HK$2,100 million with a contingent consideration after completion. The acquisition was approved by the Company's shareholders in the special general meeting on 18 March 2009 and will be completed shortly. The Company has begun the discussion with certain petroleum companies to pursue the exploration and exploitation and expects to contribute income for the Company in the near future.

In the coming year the Group will continue to seek for opportunity in natural resources business and exploitation projects to generate best possible return for our investors.

LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Capital structure, liquidity and financial resources

As at 31 December 2008, the total equity of the Group was HK$311.70 million (31 December 2007: HK$355.01 million) and the net asset value per share was HK$0.40 (31 December 2007: HK$0.46). The debt ratio, calculated by total liabilities divided by total assets, was 1.93% as at 31 December 2008 (As at 31 December 2007: 32.58%).

As at 31 December 2008, the total asset value of the Group is approximately HK$317.84 million (31 December 2007: HK$526.55 million) and the total cash and bank balances is approximately HK$154.09 million (31 December 2007: HK$160.20 million).

As at 31 December 2008, working capital, calculated by current assets minus current liabilities, was HK$239.69 million (31 December 2007: HK$226.36 million).

As at 31 December 2008, the gearing ratio, calculated on the basis of interest bearing borrowings to total equity, was zero (31 December 2007: 0.03).

Capital expenditures

The Group's total capital expenditure during the year amounted approximately HK$4,062,000 (31 December 2007: HK$1,857,000).

Charge on assets

As at 31 December 2008, the Group had not charged any of its assets.

Contingent liability

As at 31 December 2008, the Group had no material contingent liability.

Capital investments and commitments

Capital commitments not provided in the financial statements were as follows:

	As at 31 December	
	2008	2007
	HK$'000	*HK$'000*
Contracted for		
– Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	**–**	2,885
– Investment cost of potential investment	**2,045,400**	10,257,400
	2,045,400	10,260,285

FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND INTEREST RATE EXPOSURE

Certain bank balances, trade and other receivables, trade and other payables of the Group are denominated in foreign currencies. The Group currently does not have a foreign currency hedging policy. However, the management monitors foreign exchange exposure and will consider hedging significant foreign currency exposure should the need arises.

EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND REMUNERATION POLICY

As at 31 December, 2008, the Group had 9 employees in Hong Kong and 1 employee in the PRC. The cost of employees (including directors' emoluments and benefits) amounted to HK$8.27 million (2007: HK$16.52 million). The Group provides its employees with competitive remuneration packages which were determined by their personal performance, qualifications, experience and relevant market trend.

PURCHASE, REDEMPTION OR SALE OF LISTED SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY

Neither the Company, nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, redeemed or sold any of the Company's listed securities during the period under review.

CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

In the opinion of the directors, the Company had complied with the Code Provisions on Corporate Governance (the "CG Code") as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules throughout the period ended 30 September 2006, except for the following deviations:

Code Provision A.2.1

Pursuant to code provision A.2.1 of the CG Code, the role of Chairman and Managing Director (or chief executive officer ("CEO")) should be separate and should not be performed by the same individual. The division of responsibilities between the chairman and CEO should be clearly established and set out in writing. The Company does not presently have any officer with the title of "Managing Director" or "CEO". In the period under review, Mr. Tse On Kin, being the Chairman and an Executive Director of the company, is assuming the role of the CEO of the Company and is responsible for the strategic planning and corporate policy of the Group. The Board considers that the current structure facilitates the execution of the Group business strategies and maximizes effectiveness of its organization. The Board shall nevertheless review the structure from time to time to ensure appropriate move being taken should suitable circumstances arise.

Code provisions A.3

Pursuant to note 1 to code provision A.3 of the CG Code and as required under Rule 3.10(1) and 3.21 of the Listing Rules, every board of directors of a listed issuer must include at least 3 independent non-executive directors and a listed issuer's audit committee must comprise a minimum three members who should all be non-executive directors. Due to the resignation of Mr. Qian Zhi Hui as an independent non-executive director and member of audit committee on 1 October 2008, the total number of independent non-executive directors and member of audit committee fell below the minimum number under Rules 3.10(1) and 3.21 of the Listing Rules. Subsequently, Mr. Fung Siu To, Clement was appointed as an independent non-executive director and member of audit committee effect from 5 December 2008 such that the requirement under note 1 to code provision A.3 of the CG Code and Rule 3.10(1) and 3.21 of the Listing Rules had been fulfilled.

Code Provision A.4.1

Pursuant to code provision A.2.1 of the CG Code, non-executive directors should be appointed for a specific term and subject to re-election. All non-executive and independent non-executive directors of the Company are not appointed for a specific term but are subject to the requirement of retirement and re-election at the next general meeting and the requirement of retirement by rotation and re-election at least once every three years at the annual general meetings of the Company in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Company's Bye-laws.

As such, the Company considers that sufficient measures have been taken to ensure that the Company's corporate governance practices are no less exacting than those in the code provisions of the CG Code.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Company has an audit committee which was established pursuant to the requirements of the Listing Rules for the purpose of reviewing and providing supervision over the Group's financial reporting process and internal controls. The audit committee comprises three independent non-executive directors of the Company, namely Mr. Chiu Wai On, Mr. Fung Chi Kin and Fung Siu To, Clement. The annual results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2008 has been reviewed by the Audit Committee.

MODEL CODE ON SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS

The Company has adopted the Model Code as a code of conduct regarding securities transactions by directors on terms no less exacting than the required standard set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules. Having made specific enquiry of all directors, all directors confirmed they have complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code and the code of conduct regarding securities transactions by directors adopted by the Company.

PUBLICATION OF RESULT ANNOUNCEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT

The Company's 2008 annual report, as well as the announcement of annual results, containing the relevant information required by the Listing Rule will be published on the website of the Stock Exchange (http://www.hkexnews.hk) and the Company's website (http://166hk.etnet.com.hk) in due course.

By order of the Board
New Times Group Holdings Limited
Cheng Kam Chiu, Stewart
Executive Director

Hong Kong, 24 April 2009

As at the date of this announcement, the board of directors of the Company comprises nine directors, of which three are executive directors, namely Mr. Cheng Kam Chiu, Stewart, Mr. Cheng Chi Him and Mr. Tse On Kin; three non-executive directors, namely Mr. Pei Cheng Ming, Michael, Mr. Wong Man Kong, Peter and Mr. Chan Chi Yuen; and three independent non-executive directors, namely Mr. Fung Chi Kin, Mr. Fung Siu To, Clement and Mr. Chiu Wai On.