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## **TIANQI FINCO CO., LTD**

*(Incorporated in the British Virgin Islands with limited liability)*

**US\$300,000,000 3.75 PER CENT. GUARANTEED NOTES DUE 2022  
(THE “NOTES”)  
(Stock Code: 5036)**

### **VOLUNTARY ANNOUNCEMENT IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF SHARES IN SQM**

This announcement is made by the Tianqi Finco Co., Ltd (the “**Company**”) on a voluntary basis.

#### **Share Purchase Agreement**

The Company is pleased to announce that, on 17 May 2018, Tianqi Lithium Corporation\* (天齊鋰業股份有限公司) (“**Tianqi Lithium**”, together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”), the indirect holding company of the Company and the guarantor of the Notes, entered into a share purchase agreement (the “**Share Purchase Agreement**”) with Nutrien Ltd. (“**Nutrien**”), pursuant to which Nutrien agreed to sell and Tianqi Lithium agreed to purchase, 62,556,568 A shares of Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A. (“**SQM**”), representing approximately 23.77% of the total issued capital of SQM (the “**Acquisition**”), at an aggregate consideration of approximately US\$4.07 billion (equivalent to approximately HK\$31.92 billion) (the “**Consideration**”). The majority of the Consideration will be satisfied by internal resources and bank loans of the Group.

The completion of the Acquisition is subject to customary closing conditions, including obtaining regulatory approvals and approvals by Tianqi Lithium’s shareholders, and is expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2018.

#### **Information of Nutrien**

Nutrien is a producer and distributor of potash, nitrogen and phosphate products around the world, formed by the merger between Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. and Agrium Inc. completed in January 2018 (the “**Nutrien Merger**”). The Acquisition is required by the Competition Commission of India and Ministry of Commerce in China in providing their clearance for the Nutrien Merger.

#### **Information of SQM**

SQM is an integrated producer and distributor of lithium, iodine, specialty plant nutrients, potassium-related fertilizers and industrial chemicals headquartered in Santiago, Chile. SQM established regional offices in more than 20 countries worldwide including the United States of America, Belgium, Spain, Mexico, Italy, Germany, Thailand, China and South Africa.

## **Reasons and Benefits for the Acquisition**

The directors of Tianqi Lithium believe that the Acquisition is in line with the strategic needs of the Group's long term development, and are of the view that the Acquisition can provide the Group a long term stable financial return given SQM's historical financial performance and dividend distribution record.

## **General**

As the completion of the Acquisition is subject to fulfillment or waiver (as the case may be) of the conditions precedent to the Share Purchase Agreement, the Acquisition may or may not proceed. The holders and potential investors of the Notes are reminded to exercise caution when dealing in the securities of the Company.

**Mr. Zou Jun**

*Sole Director of Tianqi Finco Co., Ltd*

Chengdu, the PRC  
18 May 2018

*As at the date of this announcement, the sole director of the Company is Mr. Zou Jun.*

\* *For identification purpose only*