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CSMall Group Limited 金貓銀貓集團有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 1815)

INTERIM RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021 INTERIM RESULTS

The revenue for 1H2021 was approximately RMB215.9 million (1H2020: RMB216.7 million), representing a slight decrease of approximately RMB0.8 million or 0.4% as compared to that for 1H2020.

For 1H2021, the Group recorded a net profit of approximately RMB20.1 million (1H2020: net loss of approximately RMB18.5 million). Such turnaround from loss to profit is mainly attributable to (i) the significant decrease in administrative expenses as well as selling and distribution expenses primarily as a result of the gradual workforce downsizing between 1H2020 and 1H2021; (ii) the net reversal of impairment loss recognised in respect of trade receivables of approximately RMB10.2 million for 1H2021, as compared to the provision for impairment loss in this respect of approximately RMB2.9 million for 1H2020; and (iii) the absence in 1H2021 of the one-off net loss on termination of assignment contract in relation to acquisition of a land use right of approximately RMB26.7 million recorded in 1H2020.

The board of directors (individually, a "Director", or collectively, the "Board" or the "Directors") of CSMall Group Limited (the "Company") is pleased to announce the unaudited condensed consolidated interim results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the "Group" or "we") for the six months ended 30 June 2021 ("1H2021") together with the comparative figures for the corresponding period in 2020 ("1H2020"). The results for the current interim period have been reviewed by the audit committee of the Company (the "Audit Committee") with no disagreement.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

		Six months ended 30 June	
	Notes	2021	2020
		RMB'000	RMB'000
		(unaudited)	(unaudited)
Revenue	3	215,907	216,745
Cost of sales		(173,866)	(167,553)
Gross profit		42,041	49,192
Other income		942	5,019
Other gains and losses		145	(72)
Reversal of (provision for) impairment loss under			
expected credit loss model, net	10	10,173	(2,891)
Selling and distribution expenses		(9,970)	(13,858)
Administrative expenses		(14,654)	(25,432)
Other expenses		(17)	(1,164)
Net loss on termination of assignment contract in			
relation to acquisition of a land use right		_	(26,656)
Finance costs		(220)	(760)
Profit (loss) before tax		28,440	(16,622)
Income tax expense	4	(8,390)	(1,905)
Profit (loss) and total comprehensive income (expense) for the period, attributable to the	£	20.050	(19.527)
owners of the Company	5	20,050	(18,527)
		<i>RMB</i>	RMB
Basic earnings (loss) per share	7	0.02	(0.01)

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION *AT 30 JUNE 2021*

	Madaa	30 June	31 December
	Notes	2021	2020
		RMB'000	RMB'000
		(unaudited)	(audited)
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment		21,539	8,779
Right-of-use assets		10,565	9,945
Deferred tax assets		4,418	9,152
Refundable rental deposits		621	798
Deposits paid on acquisition of non-current assets		93	1,268
		37,236	29,942
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories	8	1,372,308	652,561
Trade and other receivables	9	175,079	231,409
Amount due from immediate holding company	13	13,049	12,542
Bank balances and cash		3,773	652,828
		1,564,209	1,549,340
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	11	149,833	136,203
Trade loans	12	_	10,000
Lease liabilities – current portion		3,881	6,572
Contract liabilities		4,533	6,159
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	13	3,870	3,938
Amounts due to related companies	13	9,010	9,010
Income tax payable		6,215	6,867
		177,342	178,749
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,386,867	1,370,591
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,424,103	1,400,533

	30 June	31 December
	2021	2020
	RMB'000	RMB'000
	(unaudited)	(audited)
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Share capital	842	842
Share premium and reserves	1,416,226	1,396,176
TOTAL EQUITY	1,417,068	1,397,018
NON-CURRENT LIABILITY		
Lease liabilities – non-current portion	7,035	3,515
TOTAL EQUITY AND NON-CURRENT LIABILITY	1,424,103	1,400,533

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 ("IAS 34") "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") as well as the applicable disclosure requirements of Appendix 16 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules").

1A. Significant events and transactions in the current interim period

For the six months ended 30 June 2021, the Group entered into several agreements with an independent third party jewellery enterprise to procure certain crushed colored gemstones (predominantly rubies, and also small quantities of sapphires and emeralds) (the "Colored Gemstones") for an aggregate consideration of approximately RMB810,000,000.

1B. Going concern assessment

The Group continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its condensed consolidated financial statements.

As at 30 June 2021, most of the consideration for the Colored Gemstones had been settled in cash, resulting in a significantly lower level of bank balances and cash of the Group as compared to that as at 31 December 2020. The Group's bank balances and cash amounted to approximately RMB3,773,000, in contrast to its total current liabilities of approximately RMB178,418,000 which are repayable within the next twelve months from the end of the reporting period.

With the resurgence of COVID-19 (especially the highly contagious Delta variant) in various parts of the world in recent months, overseas watch manufacturers were practically unable to travel to China to physically inspect the Colored Gemstones and negotiate potential purchases with the Group. In addition, with the sharp increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in China in July 2021, the economic growth of China and hence the sales volumes of the Group's jewellery products are expected to be adversely affected. As a result, it has become increasingly difficult for the Group to sell and monetise the Colored Gemstones in the short run.

The Directors consider that the Group has adequate funds available to enable it to operate as a going concern based on the Group's cash flow projection which takes into account the following measures with a view to improving the Group's liquidity:

- ii. subsequent to the end of the current interim period, the Group agreed with the original seller to return part of the Colored Gemstones amounting to approximately RMB344,817,000 for a refund of the corresponding portion of the original consideration, including approximately RMB284,307,000 by way of cash refund and approximately RMB60,510,000 by way of set-off against the unsettled consideration. Subsequent to the end of the current interim period, both the return of such Colored Gemstones and the cash refund have been completed, thereby restoring the Group's bank balances and cash to a healthy level; and
- ii. considering any other financing arrangements, when necessary, for the purpose of increasing the Group's liquidity.

On the basis of the above considerations and taking into account the above measures, the Directors are of the opinion that, the Group will have sufficient working capital to meet its financial obligations as and when they fall due in the next twelve months from the date of issuance of these condensed consolidated financial statements and accordingly, these condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

2. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for certain financial instruments, which are measured at fair values.

Other than additional accounting policies resulting from application of amendments to International Financial Reporting Standards ("**IFRSs**"), the accounting policies and methods of computation used in the condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2021 are the same as those presented in the Group's annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Application of amendments to IFRSs

In the current interim period, the Group has applied the following amendments to IFRSs issued by the IASB, for the first time, which are mandatorily effective for the annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021 for the preparation of the Group's condensed consolidated financial statements:

Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2 IFRS 4 and IFRS 16

In addition, the Group has early applied the Amendment to IFRS 16 "Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021".

Except as described below, the application of the amendments to IFRSs in the current interim period has had no material impact on the Group's financial positions and performance for the current and prior periods and/or on the disclosures set out in these condensed consolidated financial statements.

Impacts of early application of Amendment to IFRS 16 "Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021"

The Group has early applied the amendment in the current interim period. The application of this amendment has had no material impact on the Group's financial positions and performance for the current and prior periods.

3. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

(i) Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2021	2020 RMB'000
	RMB'000	
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
Sales of gold products	103,773	63,610
Sales of silver products	111,429	150,668
Sales of gem-set and other jewellery products	705	2,467
	215,907	216,745

All of the revenue was recognised at a point in time during the six months ended 30 June 2021 and 2020.

(ii) Segment information

The Group only has one operating and reportable segment. Management determines the operating segment based on the information reported to the Group's chief operating decision makers ("CODMs") (i.e. the executive directors of the Company). The CODMs assess the operating performance and allocate the resources of the Group as a whole as the Group is primarily engaged in the business of design and sale of gold, silver, gem-set and other jewellery products in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"). Accordingly, there is only one operating and reportable segment.

No analysis of segment assets and liabilities is presented because the CODMs do not base on such analysis for resource allocation and performance assessment.

(iii) Geographical information

The Group's revenue is derived from the PRC, based on the location of customers. Therefore, no geographical information is presented.

4. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

	Six months ended 30 June		
	2021	2020	
	RMB'000	RMB'000	
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	
PRC Enterprise Income Tax ("EIT")			
- Current period	3,999	6,362	
- Overprovision in respect of prior periods	(343)	(58)	
	3,656	6,304	
Deferred taxation for the period	4,734	(4,399)	
	8,390	1,905	

The Group had no assessable profits subject to tax in any jurisdictions other than the PRC for both periods.

Under the Law of the PRC on EIT (the "EIT Law") and its related implementation regulations, the Group's PRC subsidiaries are subject to the PRC EIT at the statutory rate of 25% for both periods, except for Shenzhen Yunpeng Software Development Company Limited (深圳雲鵬軟件開發有限公司) ("Shenzhen Yunpeng"), a former subsidiary of the Group, which was recognised as a Software Enterprise by the PRC tax authorities and is entitled to an exemption of PRC EIT for the first two consecutive years beginning from 2016 and a 50% reduction for the following three consecutive years. For the six months ended 30 June 2020, Shenzhen Yunpeng was subject to PRC EIT at a rate of 12.5%.

At the end of the reporting period, the Group has unused tax losses of RMB24,139,000 (31 December 2020: RMB23,310,000) available for offset against future profits. Included in unrecognised tax losses are losses of RMB24,139,000 (31 December 2020: RMB23,310,000) that will expire in various dates from 2021 to 2026 (31 December 2020: from 2020 to 2025). Other losses may be carried forward indefinitely. No deferred tax asset has been recognised in respect of the tax losses due to the unpredictability of future profit streams.

Under the EIT Law, withholding tax is imposed on dividends payable to non-PRC shareholders which is declared in respect of profits earned by PRC subsidiaries from 1 January 2008 onwards. Deferred taxation has not been provided for in these condensed consolidated financial statements in respect of temporary differences attributable to retained profits of the PRC subsidiaries amounting to RMB449,956,000 as at 30 June 2021 (31 December 2020: RMB428,336,000) as the Group is able to control the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences and it is probable that the temporary differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

5. PROFIT (LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD

	Six months ended 30 June		
	2021	2020	
	RMB'000	RMB'000	
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	
Profit (loss) for the period has been arrived at			
after (crediting) charging:			
Cost of inventories recognised as expenses	173,866	167,553	
Net loss on termination of assignment contract in			
relation to acquisition of a land use right	_	26,656	
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	1,963	1,854	
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	3,446	4,315	
Amortisation of intangible assets (included in			
administrative expenses and selling and distribution expenses)	_	579	
Bank interest income	(750)	(710)	
Net exchange (gain) loss	(142)	72	
Expenses on short-term leases in respect of			
retail shops and warehouse	117	408	

6. DIVIDENDS

No dividends were paid, declared or proposed for the ordinary shareholders of the Company during the current interim period (six months ended 30 June 2020: nil). The Directors have determined that no dividend will be paid in respect of both interim periods.

7. BASIC EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE

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

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2021	
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
Earnings (loss)		
Profit (loss) for the period attributable to owners of the Company		
for the purpose of basic earnings (loss) per share (RMB'000)	20,050	(18,527)
Number of shares		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for		
the purpose of basic earnings (loss) per share (in thousand)	1,237,875	1,237,875
Basic earnings (loss) per share (RMB)	0.02	(0.01)

No diluted earnings (loss) per share for the six months ended 30 June 2021 and 2020 is presented as there were no potential dilutive shares in issue for both periods.

8. INVENTORIES

During the current interim period, the Group entered into several agreements with an independent third party jewellery enterprise to procure certain crushed Colored Gemstones for an aggregate consideration of approximately RMB810,000,000. However, with the resurgence of COVID-19 (especially the highly contagious Delta variant) in various parts of the world in recent months, overseas watch manufacturers were practically unable to travel to China to physically inspect the Colored Gemstones and negotiate potential purchases with the Group. In addition, with the sharp increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in China in July 2021, in the opinion of the Directors, the economic growth of China and hence the sales volumes of the Group's jewellery products are expected to be adversely affected. As a result, it has become increasingly difficult for the Group to sell and monetize the Colored Gemstones in the short run. Hence, subsequent to the end of the current interim period, the Group agreed with the original seller to return part of the Colored Gemstones amounting to approximately RMB344,817,000 for a refund of the corresponding portion of the original consideration, including approximately RMB284,307,000 by way of cash refund and approximately RMB60,510,000 by way of set-off against the unsettled consideration. Subsequent to the end of the current interim period, both the return of such Colored Gemstones and the cash refund have been completed.

9. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	30 June	31 December
	2021	2020
	RMB'000	RMB'000
	(unaudited)	(audited)
Trade receivables for contracts with customers (Note i)	35,697	100,461
Less: allowance for credit losses	(10,412)	(20,585)
	25,285	79,876
Deposits and prepayments	7,863	16,965
Prepayments to suppliers (Note ii)	109,841	61,502
Value-added tax ("VAT") recoverable	32,090	28,292
Amount due from a former subsidiary, Shenzhen Yunpeng	_	19,499
Other receivables arising from termination of assignment contract		
of a land use right from the PRC government (Note iii)		25,275
_	175,079	231,409

Notes:

- (i) The Group has pledged trade receivables with a carrying value of nil at 30 June 2021 (31 December 2020: RMB75,000,000) to secure trade loans of the Group as set out in note 12.
- (ii) Included in the balance are prepayments to a fellow subsidiary with a carrying amount of RMB95,677,000 (31 December 2020: RMB31,687,000).
- (iii) In September 2018, Huzhou Baiyin Property Co., Ltd. (湖州白銀置業有限公司)("Huzhou Baiyin"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group entered into an assignment contract (the "Contract") with Huzhou South Taihu New District Management Committee (the "Committee") and Huzhou Municipal Bureau of Natural Resources and Planning (the "Bureau") in relation to the acquisition of the land use right over a piece of land located in Huzhou, the PRC (the "Acquisition"). The total consideration for the land use right was RMB285,000,000.

On 29 and 30 June 2020, Huzhou Baiyin entered into a termination agreement (the "Termination Agreement") with the Committee and the Bureau, and a compensation agreement with the Committee, pursuant to which the Committee and the Bureau agreed to terminate the Contract and the Committee agreed to refund the deposits received amounting to RMB270,875,000 (the "Compensation Sum") and compensate for (i) the capital expenditure and other expenses incurred by the Group in connection with the exploration, design and pre-construction works on the land; and (ii) certain taxes paid by another indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group. As a result of the termination of the Contract, there was a net loss of RMB26,656,000 recognised in the condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income during the six months ended 30 June 2020.

Up to 31 December 2020, the Group had already paid an aggregate amount of RMB232,500,000 of deposits and other direct costs of RMB26,713,000 in relation to the Acquisition. An amount of RMB245,600,000 arising from the Compensation Sum was received by the Group during the year ended 31 December 2020 and the remaining RMB25,275,000 of the Compensation Sum was recorded and included in other receivables at 31 December 2020, which has been fully received during the current interim period. As at 30 June 2021, however, certain pre-construction costs that had been incurred before the termination of the Acquisition remained payable by the Group and provision had been made of RMB8,362,000 (31 December 2020: RMB39,103,000) as set out in note 11.

The Group does not grant any credit period to its retail customers and generally grants its corporate customers a credit period ranging from 0 to 90 days and requires advance deposits for 30% to 100% of the contract value from its customers before delivery of goods.

The ageing analysis of the Group's trade receivables net of allowance for credit losses based on the invoice dates at the end of the reporting period is as follows:

	30 June	31 December
	2021	2020
	RMB'000	RMB'000
	(unaudited)	(audited)
0-30 days	19,768	27,425
31 – 60 days	1,112	42,972
61 – 90 days	907	1,350
Over 90 days	3,498	8,129
	25,285	79,876

In order to minimise credit risk, the management of the Group has delegated a team responsible for determination of credit limits, credit approvals and other monitoring procedures to ensure that follow-up action is taken to recover overdue debts.

Details of impairment assessment of trade receivables for the six months ended 30 June 2021 and 2020 are set out in note 10.

10. REVERSAL OF (PROVISION FOR) IMPAIRMENT LOSS UNDER EXPECTED CREDIT LOSS MODEL, NET

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2021 20	
	RMB'000	RMB'000
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
Reversal of (provision for) impairment loss recognised in respect of		
trade receivables, net	10,173	(2,891)

The basis of determining the inputs and assumptions and the estimation techniques used in these condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2021 are the same as those followed in the preparation of the Group's consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

11. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

The ageing analysis of the Group's trade payables based on the invoice dates at the end of the reporting period is as follows:

31 December
2020
RMB'000
(audited)
32,172
8,658
_
17,239
58,069
21,512
1,864
15,655
39,103
136,203

Note: Included in the balance was an amount of nil (31 December 2020: RMB20,650,000) payable to Zhejiang Jifeng Geotechnical Technology Co., Ltd. (浙江績豐岩土技術股份有限公司) ("Zhejiang Jifeng Geotechnical") which represents pre-construction costs incurred in relation to the land use right. During the six months ended 30 June 2021, total pre-construction costs incurred to Zhejiang Jifeng Geotechnical amounted to nil (six months ended 30 June 2020: RMB37,514,000). Mr. Chen Wantian, a director of China Silver Group Limited ("China Silver Group") is also a director (out of the twelve directors) of Zhejiang Jifeng Geotechnical and holds 5.44% equity interest therein.

The credit period of purchase of goods and subcontracting costs generally ranges from 1 to 90 days. The Group has financial risk management policies in place to ensure that all payables are settled.

12. TRADE LOANS

During the year ended 31 December 2020, the Group obtained a new trade loan amounting to RMB9,428,000. The trade loans carried interest at a fixed market rate of 5.66% per annum and were secured by certain of the Group's assets as disclosed in the section headed "Pledge of Assets". The amount has been repaid during the six months ended 30 June 2021.

13. RELATED PARTIES DISCLOSURES

Related parties transactions and balances

(a) Saved as disclosed elsewhere in the condensed consolidated financial statements, the Group has following significant transactions with related parties:

Name of		Nature of	Six months ended 30 June	
related parties Relationship	Relationship	transactions	2021 <i>RMB'000</i> (unaudited)	2020 <i>RMB'000</i> (unaudited)
Jiangxi Longtianyong Nonferrous Metals Co., Ltd. (江西龍天勇有色金屬	A fellow subsidiary of the Group and a subsidiary of China Silver Group (Note)	Interest expenses on leases liabilities Repayments of	45	57
有限公司)	China Shiver Group (Note)	lease liabilities Purchase of	300	300
		silver ingots	65,230	125,118
Shanghai Huatong Silver Exchange Company Limited (上海華通鉑銀交易市場	A fellow subsidiary of the Group and a subsidiary of China Silver Group (Note)	Sales of jewellery products		
有限公司)			87	44

Note: China Silver Group is the immediate and ultimate holding company of the Group.

(b) The amount due from immediate holding company, amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and amounts due to related companies as at 30 June 2021 and 31 December 2020 were non-trade in nature, unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Business Review

As the epidemic in the PRC has entered a period of normalised prevention and control in the year and the large-scale vaccination is also underway, the impact of the epidemic will gradually fade. In light of the significant impact of the epidemic on jewellery retail consumption last year, the Group also implemented a number of measures to deal with the crisis in 1H2021, including slowing down the plan on expansion of offline stores, adjusting the strategy of offline business outlets, closing 47 stores, and carefully choosing sites for opening another 11 new stores. The Group also reduced staff and cut down its administrative expenses by approximately 42.4%; and greatly reduced operation and promotion through self-operated online platform and instead relied on third-party sales channels. In 1H2021, the Group achieved turnaround from loss into profit and recorded a net profit attributable to owners of the Company of approximately RMB20.1 million.

The epidemic drove the rapid development of e-commerce live streaming. The Group attaches great importance to digital marketing and shifts the focus of online operation from self-operated platform to third-party platforms. In 1H2021, the Group suspended the promotion of online self-operated platform to reduce expenses and instead relied on third-party platforms. Relying on the strong traffic from third-party platforms, the online sales operation was enhanced through new marketing models including short video marketing, e-commerce live streaming, and online celebrities (KOL). The Group has cooperated with top anchors and celebrities including Xue Li, Wei Ya, and Jin Xing, and will continue to make efforts in the second half of the year. In the era of consumption as entertainment, live streaming is not only a channel to attract people and sell goods, but also a ground to quickly reach consumers and promote the Group's brand. Meanwhile, e-commerce live streaming also realises face-to-face information exchange between anchors (merchants) and consumers. Through the live streaming communication portal, consumers can be provided with better products and services.

The Group's offline showroom wholesale business in 1H2021 also increased significantly as compared with 1H2020, accounting for 92% of the overall offline sales. This was mainly due to the drop in the gold price in the first half of the year which triggered the increase of the wholesale demand for gold products.

With the rapid development of short videos and e-commerce live streaming and the continuously rising spending power of young consumers, the Group's fashionable ear accessories brand, SISI, was also actively tapping into this young consumer market. In 1H2021, the Group focused on the low-price and high-margin fashion jewellery markets with increased efforts in product design and research to keep pace with the evolving market and satisfy the demand of young consumer groups for affordable jewellery products. With the rise of Chinese traditional arts and culture, the cultural and creative industries are gradually developing into a new economic sector with enormous potential in China, with related products springing up like mushrooms and popular among consumers. Our silver products are carefully processed by using traditional craftsmanship to become fashionable silver jewellery and healthy silverware that meets contemporary aesthetics. We also increased our investment in design and research to expand our presence in the market.

The Group has always advocated diversified product sales, with three major products including gold jewellery, silver jewellery and gemstone jewellery. Previously, the Company adopted a sales strategy focusing on gold and silver jewellery, supplemented by gemstone jewellery. In the future, it will develop gemstone jewellery into a new growth point for the Company's business following the trends in the market in addition to consolidating the foundation of the gold and silver jewellery product business, so as to achieve vigorous development in all three series of products of the Company. The Group is optimistic about the room for appreciation and market potential of colored gemstones. In particular, as the annual production of scarce ruby mines has declined, which has intensified the rarity of rubies, the price of high-quality rubies has increased by 20% each year in the past three years, increasingly highlighting the investment, value preservation and value-added functions of rubies. In particular, high-quality rubies are hard to find in the market and have become the focus of ruby collectors. In 1H2021, the Group procured certain crushed colored gemstones (predominantly rubies, and also small quantities of sapphires and emeralds), and planned to sell the processed Colored Gemstones to customers such as watch manufacturers on a wholesale basis and also set the gemstones into jewellery accessory for sale through the Group's online and offline retail channels. The Group's original procurement consideration was approximately RMB810.0 million. With the resurgence of COVID-19 in various parts of the world in recent months, overseas watch manufacturers were practically unable to travel to China to physically inspect the goods and negotiate transactions. It is difficult for the Group to achieve sales in a short period of time, and the Group's working capital risk and inventory risk have not been alleviated. Subsequently, it has reached an agreement with the seller to return part of the Colored Gemstones amounting to approximately RMB344.8 million.

Online Sales Channels

(1) Self-operated online platform

As of 30 June 2021, the number of registered members on our self-operated online jewellery platform, which consists of www.csmall.com, m.csmall.com and the mobile app of "金貓銀貓CSmall", surpassed approximately 9.9 million. On this basis, in 1H2021, the Group suspended the promotion of the self-operated online platform to reduce expenses and instead relied on third party platforms.

(2) Third-party online sales channels

In 1H2021, relying on the strong traffic of third-party platforms, the Group enhanced its online sales through new marketing models including short video marketing, e-commerce live streaming and KOL. As of 30 June 2021, our third-party online platforms include JD.com (京東), Suning (蘇寧), Tmall (天貓), WeChat (微信), Tik Tok (抖音), Xiaohongshu (小紅書) and 15 television and video shopping channels in the PRC to promote and sell our jewellery products. We became a core supplier in the gold, silver and jewellery category of all top television channels, which enabled us to achieve satisfactory sales performance. With a daily coverage of over 100 million home viewers in the PRC, our brand awareness among Chinese viewers of television and video shopping channels was enhanced substantially.

Short-video promotion and KOL promotion is a standard part of our brand marketing. Their content becomes the core of every aspect of our brand marketing, sales and operation. In 1H2021, the Group has cooperated with top anchors and celebrities including Xue Li(雪梨), Wei Ya(薇婭) and Jin Xing(金星), and will continue to cooperate more closely with top anchors including Wei Ya(薇婭) and Li Jiaqi(李佳琪) in the second half of the year to achieve more exposure and sales of its brands.

Offline Retail and Service Network

(1) CSmall Shops

We offer intimate on-the-ground sales and services to our customers, including jewellery fitting and maintenance services, which we believe are indispensable to the jewellery shopping experience, at our CSmall Shops. In 1H2021, the Group optimised its strategic layout, closed 47 stores and opened 11 new stores. As of 30 June 2021, we had 62 CSmall Shops located in 15 provinces and municipalities in the PRC, consisting of 3 self-operated CSmall Shops and 59 franchised CSmall Shops with presence in Beijing, Chongqing, Fujian, Gansu, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Inner Mongolia, Jiangsu, Shaanxi, Shanghai, Shanxi, Sichuan, Xinjiang and Zhejiang.

(2) Shenzhen Exhibition Hall

We sell products at our Shenzhen Exhibition Hall in Shuibei, Shenzhen, which is generally seen as home to the PRC's largest and leading jewellery trading and wholesale market. Our Shenzhen Exhibition Hall showcases the product designs of our self-owned brands and certain third-party brands, and also serves as an interactive exhibition and sales platform primarily for our wholesale customers as well as our franchisees.

(3) Third-party offline points of sale

We distribute our jewellery products and provide product customisation service through various third-party offline points of sale, which are certain commercial banks we cooperated with. We also cooperate with branded retailers, entertainment service providers, commercial banks, telecommunications service providers and insurance companies.

New Retailing Model

We integrated our online and offline jewellery sales channels and developed a new jewellery retailing model to offer multi-dimensional one-stop shopping experience to customers under our business philosophy of "turning jewellery into accessory, blending silverware into daily life, injecting artistic creativity into products, and intelligentizing service".

(1) Turning jewellery into accessory

With the rise of young customers and the heightening of spending level, jewellery is becoming more fashionable and personalised. We will continue to embrace the product philosophy of affordable luxury and fast fashion, and regularly roll out a wide selection of affordable jewellery products with diversified and fashionable designs to keep pace with the evolving market trend and the growing demand for affordable jewellery products in the PRC.

(2) Blending silverware into daily life

Practical silver products such as tableware, tea sets and wineware have become another mainstream development trend in the precious metal gift market. We have strengthened the design and research and development of silver gift products to produce more refined and practical silverwares with the aim of truly integrating precious metal gifts into people's daily lives.

(3) Injecting artistic creativity into products

As the cultural and creative industries are gradually developing into a new economic category with great potential in the PRC, related products are springing up like mushrooms. We have recruited more outstanding designers and maintained cooperation with design associations to explore cultural resources in order to create more products with cultural heritage and artistic elements.

(4) Intelligentizing service

Our powerful technology research and development team has created a "smart marketing decision support system" for jewellery industry. Through collecting and analysing data from both online platforms and offline stores, such system provides valuable information on customers behaviour and preferences. Big data analysis not only allows us to understand customer behaviors and preferences, but also equips us with insight into our operations and business strategies, helping to provide consumers with enhanced shopping experience and better products.

Prospects

As China has entered a period of normalised epidemic prevention and control and various industries are slowly recovering and self-adjusting, the Group is full of confidence in the economic recovery this year. The Group will continue to improve its business in accordance with the layout and planning for 1H2021, accelerate the investment in new marketing models including short video, e-commerce live streaming, etc., and cooperate more closely with top anchors including Li Jiaqi and Wei Ya to gain more exposure of its brands and contribute more output through the live streaming of jewellery. It will further rely on social big data to realise the digital transformation of commercial marketing scenarios including consumer insight, market positioning, and placement optimisation.

In the future, rubies will also be developed as a new growth point for the Company's business. It is foreseeable that with consumers' love of jewellery and awareness of rubies and the increasing popularity of rubies, market demand will gradually increase and the price of rubies will stably increase in the long term.

In response to the huge impact of the epidemic on the jewellery retail industry and the many uncertainties in the post-epidemic era, the Group has also explored and considered suitable business opportunities inside and outside the jewellery industry in recent years, so that the Group can extend its experience, capabilities and resources in the field of new internet retail to other internet vertical fields to make its business more diversified, with a view to enhancing the Group's profitability and risk resistance ability and continuing to bring better returns to the shareholders of the Group.

Financial Review

Revenue

The revenue of the Group for 1H2021 was approximately RMB215.9 million (1H2020: RMB216.7 million), representing a slight decrease of approximately 0.4% from that for 1H2020.

	1H2021		1H2020	
	Revenue	% of	Revenue	% of
	RMB'000	revenue	RMB'000	revenue
Online Sales Channels				
Self-operated online platform	1,145	0.5%	64,375	29.7%
Third-party online sales channels	104,717	48.5%	98,250	45.3%
	105,862	49.0%	162,625	75.0%
Offline Retail and Service Network				
CSmall Shops	8,691	4.0%	37,675	17.4%
Shenzhen Exhibition Hall	101,231	46.9%	15,902	7.3%
Third-party offline points of sale	123	0.1%	543	0.3%
	110,045	51.0%	54,120	25.0%
Total	215,907	100.0%	216,745	100.0%

Online Sales Channels

For 1H2021, the online sales channels recorded sales of approximately RMB105.9 million (1H2020: RMB162.6 million), representing a decrease of approximately 34.9% as compared to that for 1H2020, mainly due to weak consumer sentiment in the PRC and the slowdown in the PRC's economic growth resulting from the outbreak of the COVID-19.

Offline Retail and Service Network

For 1H2021, the offline retail and service network recorded sales of approximately RMB110.0 million (1H2020: RMB54.1 million), representing a significant increase of approximately 103.3% as compared to that for 1H2020, mainly due to a significant increase in the sale of gold products through Shenzhen Exhibition Hall from approximately RMB15.1 million for 1H2020 to RMB101.2 million for 1H2021, which offset the decrease in demand under the traditional offline shopping model as people's desire to go out for shopping was affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Cost of Sales and Services Provided

Cost of sales slightly increased from approximately RMB167.6 million for 1H2020 to approximately RMB173.9 million for 1H2021, representing a slight increase of approximately 3.8%.

Gross Profit and Gross Profit Margin

We recorded gross profit of approximately RMB42.0 million (1H2020: RMB49.2 million) for 1H2021, representing a decrease of approximately 14.6% as compared to that for 1H2020. The overall gross profit margin decreased from approximately 22.7% to approximately 19.5%, mainly due to the increase of sale of relatively low-margin gold products for 1H2021. We will continue to implement our sale strategy to optimise our product mix to focus on the sale of a more diverse product offering and the promotion of high-margin silver, colored gemstones and jewellery products in the coming future.

Other Income, Gains and Losses

Other income, gains and losses mainly include interest income and net exchange (gain)/losses.

Selling and Distribution Expenses

Selling and distribution expenses decreased by approximately 28.1% from approximately RMB13.9 million for 1H2020 to approximately RMB10.0 million for 1H2021. The decrease was primarily due to the gradual workforce downsizing between 1H2020 and 1H2021.

Administrative Expenses

Administrative expenses decreased by approximately 42.4% from approximately RMB25.4 million for 1H2020 to approximately RMB14.7 million for 1H2021. The decrease was primarily due to the gradual workforce downsizing between 1H2020 and 1H2021.

Net Loss on Termination of Assignment Contract in relation to Acquisition of a Land Use Right

During 1H2020, Huzhou Baiyin, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group, entered into the Termination Agreement and a compensation agreement to terminate the acquisition of the land use right over a piece of land located in Huzhou, the PRC (please refer to the paragraph headed "Significant Investment Held, Material Acquisition and Disposal" below for details). In accordance with the terms of the agreements, the Committee agreed to refund the deposits received of approximately RMB270.9 million and compensate Huzhou Baiyin for certain capital expenditure, other related expenses and certain taxes paid. A net loss on termination of assignment contract in relation to the acquisition of a land use right of approximately RMB26.7 million was recorded in 1H2020 while no such loss was recorded in 1H2021.

Income Tax Expense

The amount increased primarily due to an increase in profit before tax.

Profit (Loss) for the Period

For 1H2021, we recorded a profit attributable to owners of the Company of approximately RMB20.1 million (1H2020: loss attributable of approximately RMB18.5 million). Such turnaround from loss to profit is mainly attributable to (i) the significant decrease in administrative expenses as well as selling and distribution expenses primarily as a result of the gradual workforce downsizing between 1H2020 and 1H2021; (ii) the net reversal of impairment loss recognised in respect of trade receivables of approximately RMB10.2 million for 1H2021, as compared to the provision for impairment loss in this respect of approximately RMB2.9 million for 1H2020; and (iii) the absence in 1H2021 of the one-off net loss on termination of assignment contract in relation to acquisition of a land use right of approximately RMB26.7 million recorded in 1H2020.

Inventories, Trade Receivables and Trade Payables Turnover Cycle

The Group's inventories mainly comprise silver bars, colored gemstones, jewellery products and gold bars. For 1H2021, inventory turnover days were approximately 1,065.2 days (for the year ended 31 December 2020: 776.2 days) mainly due to significant increase in inventories as a result of the procurement of the Colored Gemstones in April and May 2021 as mentioned under the paragraph headed "Liquidity and Financial Resources" below.

The turnover days for trade receivables for 1H2021 were approximately 44.6 days (for the year ended 31 December 2020: 221.0 days) mainly due to significant decrease in trade receivables as at 30 June 2021.

The turnover days for trade payables for 1H2021 were approximately 79.8 days (for the year ended 31 December 2020: 85.9 days) which was comparable to that for 1H2020.

Borrowings

During 1H2021, the trade loans have been fully repaid (as of 31 December 2020: RMB10.0 million). The amounts are carried at fixed interest rates, secured by specific assets of the Group and due for repayment within one year.

The Group's net gearing ratio was calculated on the basis of trade loans less bank balances and cash as a percentage of total equity. As of 31 December 2020, the Group was in a net cash position with a net gearing ratio of approximately -46.0%.

Pledge of Assets

As of 30 June 2021, assets with the following carrying amounts were pledged to secure the trade loans of the Group.

	30 June	31 December
	2021	2020
	RMB'000	RMB'000
	(unaudited)	(audited)
Inventories	_	30,000
Trade receivables		75,000
		105,000

As at 31 December 2020, the trade loans of the Group were secured by (i) personal guarantees executed by Mr. Chen He (a director of the Company) and Mr. Chen Wantian (a director of China Silver Group) and their respective spouses; and (ii) a corporate guarantee executed by China Silver Group.

Capital Expenditures

For 1H2021, the Group invested approximately RMB14.7 million in property, plant and equipment (1H2020: RMB1.7 million).

Capital Commitments

	30 June	31 December
	2021	2020
	RMB'000	RMB'000
	(unaudited)	(audited)
Capital expenditure contracted for but not provided in the condensed consolidated financial statements in respect	140	0.752
of acquisition of plant and equipment	140	8,752
	140	8,752

Contingent Liabilities

As at 30 June 2021 and 31 December 2020, the Group did not have any contingent liabilities.

Employees

As of 30 June 2021, the Group employed 166 staff members (31 December 2020: 204 staff members) and the total remuneration for 1H2021 amounted to approximately RMB8.3 million (1H2020: RMB14.2 million). The Group's remuneration packages are in line with the current legislation in the relevant jurisdictions, the experience and qualifications of individual employees and the general market conditions. Bonuses are linked to the Group's financial results as well as to individual performances. The Group ensures that adequate training and professional development opportunities are provided to all employees so as to satisfy their career development needs.

Liquidity and Financial Resources

Between April and May 2021, the Group entered into several agreements with an independent third party jewellery enterprise to procure certain crushed Colored Gemstones for an aggregate consideration of approximately RMB810.0 million. The Group intended to arrange the Colored Gemstones to be processed, and then (i) sell the processed Colored Gemstones to customers such as watch manufacturers on a wholesale basis; and (ii) set the processed Colored Gemstones into jewellery products such as earrings and rings for sale through the Group's online and offline retail channels. Prior to entering into the agreements to procure the Colored Gemstones, the Group had, through an overseas jewellery enterprise, reached out to a number of overseas watch manufacturers, which had expressed interest in purchasing the Colored Gemstones. As at 30 June 2021, most of the consideration for the Colored Gemstones had been settled in cash, resulting in a significantly lower level of bank balances and cash of the Group as compared to that as at 31 December 2020.

However, with the resurgence of COVID-19 (especially the highly contagious Delta variant) in various parts of the world in recent months, overseas watch manufacturers were practically unable to travel to China to physically inspect the Colored Gemstones and negotiate potential purchases with the Group. In addition, with the sharp increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in China in July 2021, the economic growth of China and hence the sales volume of the Group's jewellery products are expected to be adversely affected. As a result, it has become increasingly difficult for the Group to sell and monetise the Colored Gemstones in the short run. To reduce the Group's working capital risk and inventory risk, the Group recently agreed with the original seller to return part of the Colored Gemstones amounting to approximately RMB344.8 million for a refund of the corresponding portion of the original consideration, including approximately RMB284.3 million by way of cash refund and approximately RMB60.5 million by way of set-off against the unsettled consideration. Subsequent to the reporting period, both the return of such Colored Gemstones and the cash refund have been completed, thereby restoring the Group's bank balances and cash to a healthy level.

The Group was principally financed by internal resources, net proceeds received from the global offering of the Company in 2018 (the "Global Offering"), net proceeds received from the strategic issuance of the Company to Mr. Yao Runxiong in 2019 (the "Strategic Issuance") and trade loans. The Group's principal financial instruments comprise bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, as well as trade and other payables and trade loans. As of 30 June 2021, the bank balances and cash, net current assets and total assets less current liabilities were approximately RMB3.8 million (as of 31 December 2020: RMB652.8 million), RMB1,386.9 million (as of 31 December 2020: RMB1,370.6 million) and RMB1,424.1 million (as of 31 December 2020: RMB1,400.5 million), respectively. During 1H2021, the trade loans have been fully repaid (as of 31 December 2020: RMB10.0 million).

Interim Dividend

The Board has resolved not to declare an interim dividend for 1H2021 (1H2020: nil).

Significant Investment Held, Material Acquisition and Disposal

Between 29 and 30 June 2020, Huzhou Baiyin, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group, entered into the Termination Agreement with the Committee and the Bureau, and a compensation agreement with the Committee, pursuant to which (a) the Committee and the Bureau agreed to terminate the Acquisition described in note 9(iii) to the condensed consolidated financial statements; and (b) the Committee agreed to (i) refund the deposits received amounting to approximately RMB270.9 million; (ii) compensate Huzhou Baiyin for the capital expenditure and other expenses incurred by the Group in connection with the exploration, design and construction works on the land; and (iii) compensate Huzhou Baiyin for certain taxes paid by another indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group.

Up to 31 December 2020, the Group paid an aggregate amount of approximately RMB232.5 million of deposits and other direct costs of approximately RMB26.7 million in relation to the Acquisition. Deposits of approximately RMB245.6 million were received by the Group during the year ended 31 December 2020 and a refundable amount of approximately RMB25.3 million was accounted as other receivables at 31 December 2020. Respective net loss on termination of assignment contract in relation to the Acquisition of approximately RMB26.7 million was recognised in the condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for 1H2020. During 1H2021, a refund of approximately RMB25.3 million has been further received in full.

The Group did not hold any significant investment nor did the Group carry out any material acquisition and disposal during 1H2021.

Use of Proceeds from the Global Offering

The net proceeds received by the Company from the Global Offering amounted to approximately RMB329.3 million after deducting underwriting commissions and all related expenses. The net proceeds had continued to be used in a manner consistent with that mentioned in the section headed "Future Plans and Use of Proceeds" in the prospectus of the Company dated 28 February 2018 until the Group entered into the agreements to procure the Colored Gemstones as mentioned under the paragraph headed "Liquidity and Financial Resources" above, after which the remaining portion of such unused net proceeds were used to settle part of the consideration for the Colored Gemstones. The unused amount of the net proceeds as at 30 June 2021 was nil.

Use of Proceeds from the Strategic Issuance

The issue of 100,000,000 new ordinary shares to a strategic investor, Mr. Yao Runxiong, at a price of HK\$1.50 per share was completed on 30 August 2019. The net proceeds had continued to be used in a manner consistent with that mentioned on page 20 of the circular of the Company dated 31 July 2019 until the Group entered into the agreements to procure the Colored Gemstones as mentioned under the paragraph headed "Liquidity and Financial Resources" above, after which the remaining portion of such unused net proceeds were used to settle part of the consideration for the Colored Gemstones. The unused amount of the net proceeds as at 30 June 2021 was nil.

Significant Events After the Reporting Period

Subsequent to 30 June 2021, in regard to the procurement of Colored Gemstones mentioned under the paragraph headed "Liquidity and Financial Resources" above, the return of part of Colored Gemstones of approximately RMB344.8 million have been completed and the cash refund of approximately RMB284.3 million have been received in full.

On 29 August 2021, Shenzhen Guojintongbao Company Limited* (深圳國金通寶有限公司) ("Guojintongbao") (a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company) entered into an acquisition agreement (the "Acquisition Agreement") with Bric (Suzhou) Agriculture Information Technology Co., Ltd.* (布瑞克 (蘇州) 農業互聯網股份有限公司) ("Bric"), pursuant to which Guojintongbao has agreed to acquire, and Bric has agreed to sell, 94% effective ownership in Jiangsu Nongmuren Electronic Business Corp.* (江蘇農牧人電子商務股份有限公司) ("Nongmuren"), through a series of contracts (the "VIE Agreements") to be entered into between Guojintongbao, Bric, Nongmuren and certain individual(s) and/or entity(ies) designated by Guojintongbao to hold equity interest in Nongmuren, for a consideration of RMB94,000,000 (equivalent to approximately HK\$112,867,000) to be satisfied by the allotment and issue of 100,000,000 new shares of the Company (the "Consideration Shares").

The Consideration Shares will be allotted and issued under the general mandate obtained in the annual general meeting of the Company held on 15 June 2021 at the issue price of RMB0.94 (equivalent to approximately HK\$1.13) per Consideration Share. The Consideration Shares will, upon issue, represent (i) approximately 8.08% of the issued share capital of the Company as of 29 August 2021; and (ii) approximately 7.47% of the issued share capital of the Company as enlarged by the allotment and issue of the Consideration Shares, subject to the completion of the transactions contemplated under the Acquisition Agreement (the "Completion") and assuming that there will be no change in the issued share capital of the Company save for the allotment and issue of the Consideration Shares.

Pursuant to the Acquisition Agreement, Bric and Nongmuren have conditionally agreed to enter into the VIE Agreements. Upon Completion, the VIE Agreements will allow Guojintongbao to consolidate Nongmuren as a non-wholly-owned subsidiary and obtain 94% effective ownership in Nongmuren.

Further details are set out in the Company's joint announcement published on 29 August 2021 as clarified by the joint clarification announcement dated 30 August 2021.

Code of Corporate Governance Practice

The Company is committed to maintaining a high standard of corporate governance to safeguard the interests of the shareholders of the Company and to enhance corporate value and responsibility. The Board comprises two executive Directors and three independent non-executive Directors. The Board has adopted the code provisions of the Corporate Governance Code (the "CG Code") set out in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules. During 1H2021, the Company had complied with the code provisions under the CG Code except for code provision A.2.1.

Code provision A.2.1 of the CG Code provides that the roles of chairman and chief executive officer should be separate and should not be performed by the same individual.

Mr. Chen He is currently both the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. He has been leading the Group for many years since he joined the Group in 2013. He has been the driving force behind our development, growth and expansion and is primarily responsible for the overall management of the Group and for directing strategic developments and business plans of the Group. In light of the above, all of the Directors consider Mr. Chen He to be the best candidate for both positions and that such arrangement is beneficial to and in the best interests of the Group and the shareholders of the Company as a whole.

The Board will continue to review the situation and consider splitting the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company in due course after taking into account of the then overall circumstances of the Group.

Model Code for Securities Transactions

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Model Code") as set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules as the code of conduct for Directors in their dealings in the securities of the Company. Having made specific enquiry with all the Directors, all the Directors confirmed that they had complied with the required standard of dealings as set out in the Model Code during 1H2021.

Purchase, Sale or Redemption of the Listed Securities of our Company

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries had purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities during 1H2021.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee has reviewed the financial reporting processes and risk management and internal control systems and the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for 1H2021 of the Group. The Audit Committee is of the opinion that these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements had complied with the applicable accounting standards, the Listing Rules and legal requirements, and that adequate disclosures had been made.

Acknowledgement

Gratitude is expressed to the management and all of our staff for their hard work and dedication, as well as our shareholders and customers for their continuous support to the Group.

Publication of Interim Results Announcement and Interim Report

This announcement is published on the websites of the Company (www.csmall.com) and Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (www.hkexnews.hk). The 2021 interim report of the Company will be dispatched to the shareholders of the Company and made available on the same websites in due course.

By Order of the Board

CSMall Group Limited

Chen He

Chairman

Hong Kong, 30 August 2021

As at the date of this announcement, the executive directors of the Company are Mr. Chen He and Mr. Qian Pengcheng; and the independent non-executive directors of the Company are Mr. Fu Lui, Mr. Hu Qilin and Mr. Zhang Zuhui.

* For identification purpose only