

## APPENDIX V

## SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL LEGAL AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

*This Appendix sets forth summaries of certain aspects of PRC laws and regulations which are relevant to the Company’s operations and business.*

### PRC LAWS AND REGULATIONS

This Appendix contains a summary of laws and regulations on companies and securities in the PRC, certain major differences between the PRC Company Law and Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance and the Companies Ordinance as well as the additional regulatory provisions of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange on joint stock limited companies of the PRC. The principal objective of this summary is to provide potential investors with an overview of the principal laws and regulations applicable to us. This summary is with no intention to include all the information which may be important to the potential investors. For discussion of laws and regulations specifically governing the business of the Company, see section headed “Regulatory Overview” in this document.

### PRC LEGAL SYSTEM

The PRC legal system is based on the Constitution of the PRC (《中華人民共和國憲法》) (the “**Constitution**”) and is made up of written laws, administrative regulations, local regulations, autonomous regulations, separate regulations, rules and regulations of departments of the State Council, rules and regulations of local governments, international treaties of which the PRC government is a signatory, and other regulatory documents. Court verdicts may be used as judicial reference and guidance. However, they do not constitute binding precedents.

According to the Constitution and the Legislation Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國立法法》) (the “**Legislation Law**”), National People’s Congress (the “**NPC**”) and the SCNPC are empowered to exercise the legislative power of the State. The NPC has the power to formulate and amend basic laws governing civil and criminal matters, state organs and other matters. The SCNPC is empowered to formulate and amend laws other than those required to be enacted by the NPC and to supplement and amend any parts of laws enacted by the NPC during the adjournment of the NPC, provided that such supplements and amendments are not in conflict with the basic principles of such laws. The State Council is the highest organ of the PRC administration and has the power to formulate administrative regulations based on the Constitution and laws. The people’s congresses of provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities and their respective standing committees may formulate local regulations based on the specific circumstances and actual requirements of their own respective administrative areas, provided that such local regulations do not contravene any provision of the Constitution, laws or administrative regulations. The people’s congress of the National Autonomous Region has the power to formulate autonomous regulations and separate regulations in accordance with the political, economic and cultural characteristics of the local ethnic groups, and make flexible provisions on the provisions of laws and administrative regulations, but shall not violate the basic principles of laws or administrative regulations, and shall not make flexible provisions on the provisions of the Constitution and the law of regional ethnic autonomy, as well as other relevant laws and administrative regulations on ethnic autonomy.

The ministries and commissions of the State Council, PBOC, the State Audit Administration as well as the other organs endowed with administrative functions directly under the State Council may,

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in accordance with the laws as well as the administrative regulations, decisions and orders of the State Council and within the limits of their power, formulate rules. The people’s governments of the provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the central government, cities divided into districts and autonomous prefectures may enact rules, in accordance with laws, administrative regulations and the local regulations of their respective provinces, autonomous regions or municipalities.

The Constitution has supreme legal authority and no laws, administrative regulations, local regulations, autonomous regulations or separate regulations may contravene the Constitution. The authority of laws is greater than that of administrative regulations, local regulations and rules. The authority of administrative regulations is greater than that of local regulations and rules. The authority of local regulations is greater than that of the rules of the local governments at or below the corresponding level. The authority of the rules enacted by the people’s governments of the provinces or autonomous regions is greater than that of the rules enacted by the people’s governments of the cities divided into districts or autonomous prefectures within the administrative areas of the provinces and the autonomous regions.

The NPC has the power to alter or annul any inappropriate laws enacted by its Standing Committee, and to annul any autonomous regulations or separate regulations which have been approved by its Standing Committee, but which contravene the Constitution or the Legislation Law. The SCNPC has the power to annul any administrative regulations that contravene the Constitution and laws, to annul any local regulations that contravene the Constitution, laws or administrative regulations, and to annul any autonomous regulations or local regulations which have been approved by the standing committees of the people’s congresses of the relevant provinces, autonomous regions or municipalities directly under the central government, but which contravene the Constitution and the Legislation Law. The State Council has the power to alter or annul any inappropriate ministerial rules and rules of local governments. The people’s congresses of provinces, autonomous regions or municipalities directly under the central government have the power to alter or annul any inappropriate local regulations enacted or approved by their respective standing committees. The standing committees of local people’s congresses have the power to annul inappropriate rules enacted by the people’s governments at the corresponding level. The people’s governments of provinces and autonomous regions have the power to alter or annul any inappropriate rules enacted by the people’s governments at a lower level.

According to the Constitution, the power to interpret laws is invested in the SCNPC. According to the Decision of the Standing Committee of the NPC Regarding the Strengthening of Interpretation of Laws (《全國人民代表大會常務委員會關於加強法律解釋工作的決議》), if the scope prescribed by laws or decrees needs to be further defined or supplementary provisions need to be made, the SCNPC shall interpret them or make provisions by means of decrees. Issues involving the specific application of laws and decrees in the trial work of the court shall be interpreted by the Supreme People’s Court. Issues involving the specific application of laws and decrees in the procuratorial work of the procuratorate shall be interpreted by the Supreme People’s Procuratorate. If there are principled differences in the interpretation of the Supreme People’s Court and the Supreme People’s Procuratorate, they shall be submitted to the SCNPC for interpretation or decision. Issues that do not involve the specific application of laws and decrees in judicial and procuratorial work shall be interpreted by the State Council and the competent departments. If the scope of local laws and regulations needs to be further defined or supplemented, the standing committee of the people’s

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congress of each province, autonomous region and municipality directly under the central government that promulgates such laws and regulations shall interpret or make provisions. Issues involving the specific application of local laws and regulations shall be interpreted by the competent departments of the people’s governments of the provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government.

### PRC JUDICIAL SYSTEM

According to the Constitution and the Organic Law of the People’s Court of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國人民法院組織法》), the people’s court is composed of the Supreme People’s Court, the local people’s courts at all levels and the special people’s courts.

Local people’s courts at all levels are composed of primary people’s courts, intermediate people’s courts and higher people’s courts. The primary people’s courts may set up civil, criminal and economic tribunals. The intermediate people’s court has similar structure with the primary people’s court, and can set up other tribunals, such as intellectual property tribunal when necessary. Special people’s courts include military courts, maritime courts, intellectual property courts, financial courts and other special courts.

The higher level of people’s court supervises the trial work of the people’s court at a lower level. The people’s procuratorate also has the right to exercise legal supervision over the proceedings of the people’s court at the same level or at a lower level. The Supreme People’s Court is the highest judicial organ in China and supervises the trial work of local people’s courts at all levels and special people’s courts.

In accordance with the Criminal Procedure Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國刑事訴訟法》) (the “**Criminal Procedure Law**”) and the Civil Procedure Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國民事訴訟法》) (the “**Civil Procedure Law**”), the people’s courts apply a two-tier appellate system. Before a judgment or ruling of first instance has legal effect, the parties may appeal to the people’s court at the next higher level. A judgment or ruling of second instance made by a higher court shall be final and binding. The first instance judgment or ruling of the Supreme People’s Court is also final. However, if the Supreme People’s Court or the people’s court at a higher level finds an error in the effective judgment, ruling or conciliation statement made by the people’s court at a lower level, it shall have the right to bring the case up for trial or order the people’s court at a lower level to hold the case. If the president of a people’s court at any level finds that there is an error in the effective judgment, written order or conciliation statement made by his court and considers that a retrial is necessary, he shall submit it to the judicial committee for discussion and decision.

The Civil Procedure Law contains provisions on the jurisdiction of the people’s court, the procedures to be followed in conducting civil proceedings and the procedures for the enforcement of civil judgments or rulings. All parties to a civil action in China shall abide by the civil procedure law. Generally speaking, civil cases are heard by the local court where the defendant lives. The parties to the contract may also choose the court of jurisdiction to file a civil action by express agreement, but the court of jurisdiction shall be the place where the dispute is actually related, such as the place where the plaintiff or the defendant lives, the place where the contract is signed or performed, or the place where the subject matter of the action is located, etc. However, in any case, the above selection shall not violate the provisions of the Civil Procedure Law on level jurisdiction and exclusive jurisdiction.

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A foreign individual, a person without nationality, a foreign enterprise or a foreign organization that institute or respond to proceedings in a people’s court is given the same litigation rights and obligations as a citizen or legal person of the PRC. Should a foreign court limit the litigation rights of PRC citizens and enterprises, the PRC court shall apply the same limitations to the citizens and enterprises of such foreign country.

If any party to a civil action refuses to comply with the effective judgement, ruling, conciliation statement and other legal documents to be executed by the people’s court or an award made by the arbitration tribunal in the PRC, the other party may apply to the people’s court for the enforcement of the same. There are time limits of two years imposed on the right to apply for such enforcement. Suspension or disruption of the time limit for applying for such enforcement shall comply with the provisions of the applicable law concerning the suspension or disruption of the time-barring of actions.

A party seeking to enforce a judgement or ruling of a people’s court against a party who is not personally or whose property is not within the PRC may apply to a foreign court with jurisdiction over the case for recognition and enforcement of the judgement or ruling. A foreign judgement or ruling may also be recognized and enforced by the people’s court according to PRC enforcement procedures if the PRC has entered into or acceded to an international treaty with the relevant foreign country, which provides for such recognition and enforcement, or if the judgement or ruling satisfies the court’s examination according to the principle of reciprocity, unless the people’s court finds that the recognition or enforcement of such judgement or ruling will result in a violation of the basic legal principles of the PRC, its sovereignty or security or against social and public interest.

### **THE PRC COMPANY LAW, THE SPECIAL REGULATIONS OF THE STATE COUNCIL ON THE OVERSEAS OFFERING AND LISTING OF SHARES BY JOINT STOCK LIMITED COMPANIES, AND THE MANDATORY PROVISIONS FOR ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF COMPANIES TO BE LISTED OVERSEAS**

The Company Law (《公司法》) was passed by the SCNPC on December 29, 1993 and came into effect on July 1, 1994. It was successively amended on December 25, 1999, August 28, 2004, October 27, 2005, December 28, 2013 and October 26, 2018. The revised Company Law came into effect on October 26, 2018.

Special Regulations of the State Council Concerning the Floatation and Listing Abroad of Stocks by Limited Stock Companies (《國務院關於股份有限公司境外募集股份及上市的特別規定》) (the “**Special Regulations**”) were passed at the 22nd Standing Committee Meeting of the State Council on July 4, 1994 and were promulgated and implemented on August 4, 1994. The Special Regulations were formulated according to the then applicable Article 85 and Article 155 of the Company Law and should be applicable to the overseas share issue and listing of joint stock limited companies. According to the Official Reply of the State Council on the Proposed Adjustment to the Provisions Concerning Matters Including the Notice Period for Convention of Shareholders’ Meetings by Overseas Listed Companies (Guo Han [2019] No. 97) (《關於調整適用在境外上市公司召開股東大會通知期限等事項規定的批覆》(國函[2019]97號)) (the “**Circular 97**”) issued on October 17, 2019, the notice period for a shareholders’ meeting, the shareholder proposal right, and the procedures for convening a shareholders’ meeting, for those joint stock companies established within the territory of China but listed outside the territory of China should be governed by the relevant provisions of the Company Law, and the provisions laid down in Article 20 through Article 22 of the Special Regulations will no longer apply to the aforesaid matters.

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The Mandatory Provisions in Articles of Association of Joint Stock Limited Companies to be Listed Overseas (《到境外上市公司章程必備條款》) (the “**Mandatory Provisions**”) were promulgated and implemented by the former Securities Commission of the State Council and the former State Economic System Restructuring Commission on August 27, 1994, prescribing provisions which must be incorporated into the articles of association of joint stock limited companies to be listed overseas. Therefore, the Mandatory Provisions have been incorporated into the Articles of Association. Set out below is a summary of the provisions of the PRC Company Law, the Special Regulations, the Mandatory Provisions and the Circular 97 applicable to the Company.

### *General Provisions*

A joint stock limited company is a corporate legal person incorporated under the Company Law, whose registered capital is divided into shares of equal par value. The liability of its shareholders is limited to the extent of the shares they hold, and the liability of the company is limited to the full amount of all the assets it owns.

A company must conduct its business in accordance with laws as well as public and commercial ethics. A company may invest in other limited liability companies. The liabilities of the company to such invested companies are limited to the amount invested. Unless otherwise provided by laws, a company cannot be the capital contributor who has the joint and several liabilities associated with the debts of the invested enterprises.

### *Incorporation*

A company may be incorporated by promotion or public subscription. A company may be incorporated by two to 200 promoters, but at least half of the promoters must reside in the PRC. A company incorporated by promotion is the one with registered capital entirely subscribed for by the promoters. Where a company is incorporated by public subscription, unless otherwise provided, the promoters are required to subscribe for not less than 35% of the total shares of the company, and the remaining shares can be offered to the public or specific parties.

The Company Law provides that for companies incorporated by way of promotion, the registered capital shall be the total capital subscribed for by all promoters as registered with the relevant administrative bureau for market regulation. Shares in the company shall not be offered to others unless the registered capital has been fully paid up.

For companies incorporated by way of public subscription, the registered capital is the amount of total paid-up capital as registered with the relevant administrative bureau for market regulation. For companies incorporated by way of promotion, the promoters shall subscribe in writing for the shares required to be subscribed for by them and pay up their capital contributions under the articles of association. Procedures relating to the transfer of titles to non-monetary assets shall be duly completed in accordance with laws if such assets are to be contributed as capital.

The latest revision of the Company Law no longer imposes restrictions on minimum amount or requirements for payment deadlines of paid-up registered capital. However, if there are laws, administrative regulations and other requirements imposed by the State Council provide for payment deadlines of paid-up registered capital or the minimum registered capital of a limited liability company or a joint stock limited company, such laws, administrative regulations and requirements shall prevail.



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The promoters shall convene an extraordinary meeting within 30 days after the issued shares have been completely paid up. The extraordinary meeting may be convened only with the presence of promoters and subscribers holding shares representing more than 50% of the total issued shares of the company. Matters to be dealt with at the extraordinary meeting include passing the draft articles of association proposed by the promoters and electing the members of board of directors and the board of supervisors of the company. Any resolution of the meeting shall be approved by subscribers with more than half of the voting rights of those present at the meeting.

Within 30 days after the conclusion of the extraordinary meeting, the board of directors shall apply to the registration authority for registration of the incorporation of the company. A company is formally established and has the qualification of a legal person once the registration has been approved by the relevant administrative bureau for market regulation and a business license has been issued.

The promoters of a company shall individually and jointly be liable for the payment of all expenses and liabilities incurred in the incorporation process if the company cannot be incorporated, the repayment of subscription monies to the subscribers together with interest at bank rates for a deposit of the same term if the company cannot be incorporated, and damages suffered by the company as a result of the default of the promoters in the course of incorporation of the company.

### *Share Capital*

The promoters of a company may make capital contributions in cash, or in kind that can be valued in currency and transferable according to laws such as intellectual property rights or land-use rights based on their appraised value.

There is no limit under the Company Law as to the percentage of shares held by an individual shareholder in a company. If capital contribution is made other than in cash by the promoters of the company, valuation and verification of the properties contributed must be carried out and converted into shares. A company may issue registered or bearer shares. However, shares issued to promoter(s) or legal person(s) shall be in the form of registered shares and shall be registered under the name(s) of such promoter(s) or legal person(s) and shall not be registered under a different name or the name of a representative. The Special Regulations and the Mandatory Provisions provide that shares issued to foreign investors and listed overseas shall be issued in registered form and shall be denominated in RMB and subscribed for in foreign currency.

Pursuant to the Special Regulations and the Mandatory Provisions, shares issued to foreign investors and investors from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan and subscribed in foreign currency are defined as foreign shares. Foreign shares listed overseas are defined as overseas listed and foreign invested shares. Shares issued to investors within the PRC other than the aforementioned areas and subscribed in RMB are defined as Domestic Shares.

A company may offer its shares to the public overseas with approval by the securities administration department of the State Council. Detailed measures shall be specified by the State Council based on the Special Regulations. The share price may be equal to or in excess of par value, but shall not be less than par value. The transfer of shares by shareholders shall be conducted in legally established stock exchanges or via other methods as stipulated by the State Council.

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### *Increase of Share Capital*

Pursuant to the Company Law, an increase in the capital of a company by means of an issue of new shares must be approved by shareholders in general meeting. Except for above-mentioned conditions of obtaining approval at the general meeting required by the Company Law, the Securities Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國證券法》) (the “**Securities Law**”) requires the following conditions for a company to issue new shares to the public initially: (i) have a sound, well-operated corporate governance structure; (ii) possess the capacity for on-going operation; (iii) be issued an audit report with unqualified opinions for the financial and accounting report for the latest three years; (iv) the issuer and its controlling shareholder and actual controller have not committed any crimes of corruption, bribery, embezzlement of property, misappropriation of property or disruption of the socialist market economic order in the latest three years; and (v) meet other requirements specified by the securities regulatory authority.

### *Reduction of Share Capital*

A company may reduce its registered capital in accordance with the following procedures stipulated by the Company Law:

- the company shall prepare a balance sheet and a list of properties;
- the reduction of registered capital must be approved by shareholders in the general meeting;
- the company shall inform its creditors of the reduction of capital within ten days, and publish an announcement in respect of the reduction in newspapers within thirty days upon passing of the resolution approving the reduction of capital;
- creditors of the company may require the company to settle its debts or provide corresponding guarantees within the statutory time limit; and
- the company must apply to the relevant administrative bureau for market regulation for registration of the reduction of registered capital.

### *Repurchase of Shares*

A company shall not purchase its own shares other than for the following purposes:

- reducing its registered capital;
- merging with other company which holds its shares;
- using shares for employees stock ownership plan or equity incentives;
- acquiring its own shares at the request of its shareholders who vote in a shareholders’ general meeting against a resolution regarding a merger or division;
- using shares for converting convertible corporate bonds issued by the listed company; and
- for the purpose of protecting the corporate value and the rights and interests of shareholders of a listed company when necessary.

A company purchasing its own shares under any of the circumstances set forth in items (1) and (2) shall be subject to a resolution of the shareholders’ meeting; and a company purchasing its own

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shares under any of the circumstances set forth in items (3), (5) and (6) may, pursuant to its articles of association or the authorization of the shareholders’ meeting, be subject to a resolution of a meeting of the board of directors at which more than two-thirds of directors are present.

After purchasing its own shares in accordance with these requirements, a company shall, under the circumstance set forth in item (1), cancel them within 10 days after the purchase; while under the circumstance set forth in either item (2) or (4), transfer or cancel them within six months; and while under the circumstance set forth in item (3), (5) or (6), aggregately hold not more than 10% of the total shares that have been issued by the company, and transfer or cancel them within three years.

A listed company purchasing its own shares shall perform the obligation of information disclosure and under any of the circumstances set forth in items (3), (5) and (6) shall carry out trading in a public and centralized manner.

The Mandatory Provisions stipulate that upon obtaining approvals from relevant supervisory authorities in accordance with the articles of association of the company, a company may, for the aforementioned purposes, repurchase its issued shares by way of a general offer to its shareholders or purchase on a stock exchange or through off-market contract.

### *Transfer of Shares*

Shares may be transferred in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations. A shareholder shall transfer his/her shares in stock exchanges established pursuant to laws or by other means as stipulated by the State Council. Registered shares may be transferred by endorsement of the shareholders or in any other manner specified in applicable laws and regulations. Bearer shares are transferred by delivering the shares to relevant transferees. Unless otherwise stipulated by laws, no modifications of registration in the share register caused by transfer of shares shall be made within twenty days prior to convening a shareholders’ general meeting or five days prior to any record date for determination of dividend distributions. Shares of a company held by its promoter(s) shall not be transferred within one year from the date of incorporation of such company. Shares in issue prior to the company’s public offering of shares shall not be transferred within one year from the listing date of its shares on the stock exchange.

Directors, supervisors and senior management of a company shall not transfer over 25% of the total shares held by them in the company each year during their term of office, and shall not transfer the shares held by them in the company within one year from the listing date of the shares. Such persons shall also not transfer the shares held by them in the company within half a year after they leave office. The articles of association may set other restrictive requirements on the transfer of the company’s shares held by its directors, supervisors and senior management.

### *Shareholders*

The company’s articles of association set forth the rights and duties of its shareholders, which are binding on all shareholders. Pursuant to the Company Law and the Mandatory Provisions, the rights of shareholders include:

- the right to attend shareholders’ general meetings in person or by proxy and to vote in respect of the number of shares held;



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- the right to transfer their shares in accordance with the applicable laws, regulations and the company’s articles of association;
- the right to inspect the company’s articles of association, share register, counterfoil of company debentures, minutes of shareholders’ general meetings, resolutions of board meetings, resolutions of meetings of the board of supervisors and financial and accounting reports and to make proposals or enquires on the company’s business operations;
- where a resolution passed by shareholders’ general meetings or the board of directors violates the articles of association or infringe the lawful rights and interests of shareholders, the right to institute an action in a people’s court demanding the cessation of such unlawful infringement;
- the right to receive dividends based on the number of shares held; and
- any other rights of shareholders specified in the company’s articles of association.

The obligations of a shareholder include: to abide by the company’s articles of association; to pay the subscription monies in respect of the shares subscribed for; to be liable for the company’s debts and liabilities to the extent of the amount of subscription monies agreed to be paid in respect of the shares subscribed for; not to abuse the shareholders’ rights to prejudice the interests of the company or other shareholders thereof; not to abuse the independent status of the company as a legal person and a joint stock limited company to prejudice the interests of the creditor(s) of the company; and other obligations specified in the company’s articles of association.

### *Shareholders’ General Meetings*

The shareholders’ general meeting is the organ of authority of the company, which exercises its powers in accordance with the Company Law. The shareholders’ general meeting exercises the following powers:

- to decide on the company’s operational policies and investment plans;
- to elect or remove the directors and supervisors who are not representatives of the employees;
- to decide on matters relevant to remuneration of directors and supervisors;
- to review and approve reports of the board of directors;
- to review and approve reports of the board of supervisors or supervisors;
- to review and approve annual financial budget and final accounts proposed by the company;
- to review and approve the company’s proposals on profit distribution and recovery of loss;
- to decide on any increase or reduction of the registered capital of the company;
- to decide on the company’s issuance of bonds;
- to decide on merger, division, dissolution and liquidation of the company and other matters;
- to amend the company’s articles of association; and
- other powers as specified in the articles of association.

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Annual general meetings shall be held once a year. An extraordinary general meeting shall be held within two months after the occurrence of any of the following circumstances:

- the number of directors is less than the number stipulated by the Company Law or less than two thirds of the number specified in the articles of association;
- the losses of the company which are not recovered reach one-third of the company’s total paid up share capital;
- as requested by the shareholder alone or in aggregate holding 10% or more of the shares of the company; when deemed necessary by the board of directors;
- when proposed by the board of supervisors; or
- other circumstances as specified in the articles of associations.

Shareholders’ general meetings shall be convened by the board of directors and presided over by the chairman of the board of directors.

The notice to convene an annual general meeting and an extraordinary general meeting shall be given 20 days and 15 days, respectively, before the date of such meeting pursuant to the Company Law. For the issuance of bearer share certificates, the time and venue of and matters to be considered at the meeting shall be announced 30 days before the meeting.

There is no specific provisions in the Company Law regarding the number of shareholders constituting a quorum in a general meeting. Shareholders alone or in aggregate holding more than 3% of the shares of the company may put forth interim proposals and submit the same in writing to the board of directors 10 days before a general meeting. The board of directors shall notify other shareholders within 2 days after receiving such proposals, and submit the interim proposals to the general meeting for review and approval if such proposals are within the scope of its duties and powers. The contents of the interim proposal shall be within the scope of the functions and powers of the general meeting of shareholders, with clear topics and specific matters for resolutions. The general meeting shall not make any resolution on any matter not listed in the notice. Where holders of bearer shares intend to attend the general meeting of shareholders, they shall deposit their share certificates with the company for a period beginning from five days prior to the convening of the meeting to the end of the meeting.

Pursuant to the Company Law, shareholders present at a shareholders’ general meeting have one vote for each share they hold, save that shares held by the company are not entitled to any voting rights. An accumulative voting system may be adopted for the election of directors and supervisors at the general meeting pursuant to the provisions of the articles of association or a resolution of the general meeting. Under the accumulative voting system, each share shall be entitled to the number of votes equivalent to the number of directors or supervisors to be elected at the general meeting, and shareholders may consolidate their votes for one or more directors or supervisors when casting a vote.

Pursuant to the Company Law and the Mandatory Provisions, resolutions of the shareholders’ general meeting shall be adopted by more than half of the voting rights held by the shareholders present at the meeting. However, resolutions of the shareholders’ general meeting regarding the following matters shall be adopted by more than two-thirds of the voting rights held by the shareholders present at the meeting: (i) amendments to the articles of association; (ii) the increase or

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decrease of registered capital; (iii) the issue of any types of shares, warrants or other similar securities; (iv) the issue of debentures; (v) the merger, division, dissolution, liquidation or change in the form of the company; (vi) other matters considered by the shareholders’ general meeting, by way of an ordinary resolution, to be of a nature which may have a material impact on the company and should be adopted by a special resolution.

Under the Company Law, meeting minutes shall be prepared in respect of decisions on matters discussed at the shareholders’ general meeting. The chairman of the meeting and directors attending the meeting shall sign to endorse such minutes. The minutes shall be kept together with the shareholders’ attendance register and the proxy forms.

The Mandatory Provisions require class meetings to be held in the event of a variation or derogation of the class rights of a class. Holders of Domestic Shares and holders of overseas listed and foreign invested shares are deemed to be different classes of shareholders for this purpose.

### ***Directors***

A company shall have a board of directors, which shall consist of 5 to 19 members. The term of office of the directors shall be provided for by the articles of association, but each term of office shall not exceed three years. The directors may hold consecutive terms by re-election upon the expiry of term.

Meetings of the board of directors shall be convened at least twice a year. A notice of meeting shall be given to all directors and supervisors at least ten days before the meeting. As for extraordinary meetings convened by the board of directors, the way of giving notice and the notice period may be otherwise determined.

Under the Company Law, the board of directors exercises the following functions and powers:

- to convene the shareholders’ meeting and report on its work to the shareholders;
- to implement the resolution of the shareholders’ meeting;
- to decide on the company’s business plans and investment plans;
- to formulate the company’s proposed annual financial budget and final accounts;
- to formulate the company’s proposals for profit distribution and for recovery of losses;
- to formulate proposals for the increase or reduction of the company’s registered capital and the issue of corporate bonds;
- to formulate plans for the merger, division, dissolution or change in the form of the company;
- to decide on the company’s internal management structure;
- to appoint or dismiss the company’s general manager, and based on the general manager’s nomination, to appoint or dismiss deputy general managers and financial officers of the company and to decide on their remuneration;
- to formulate the company’s basic management system; and
- other functions and powers as specified in the articles of association.

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In addition, the Mandatory Provisions provide that the board of directors is also responsible for formulating the proposals for amendment of the articles of association of a company. Interim board meetings may be convened by shareholders representing more than 10% of the voting rights, more than one-third of the directors or the supervisory board. The chairman shall convene the meeting within ten days of receiving such proposal, and preside over the meeting. Meetings of the board of directors could be held only if more than half of the directors are present. Resolutions of the board of directors require the approval of more than half of all directors. If a director is unable to attend a board meeting, he/she may appoint another director by a written power of attorney specifying the scope of the authorization for another director to attend the meeting on his/her behalf.

If a resolution of the board of directors violates the laws, administrative regulations or the company’s articles of association as a result of which the company sustains serious losses, the directors participating in the resolution are liable to compensate the company. However, if it can be proven that a director expressly objected to the resolution when the resolution was voted on, and that such objections were recorded in the minutes of the meeting, such director may be relieved of that liability.

Under the Company Law, the following persons may not act as a director of a company:

- persons without capacity or restricted capacity to undertake civil liabilities;
- persons who have committed the offense of corruption, bribery, taking of property, misappropriation of property or destruction of the order of socialist market economy, and have been sentenced to criminal punishment, where less than five years have elapsed since the date of completion of the sentence; or persons who have been deprived of their political rights due to criminal offense, where less than five years have elapsed since the date of the completion of implementation of this deprivation;
- persons who have been former directors, factory managers or general managers of a company or an enterprise that has been bankrupt and has been liquidated, and those persons are personally liable for the bankruptcy of such company or enterprise, where less than three years have elapsed since the date of the completion of the bankruptcy and liquidation of the company or enterprise;
- persons who were legal representatives of a company or enterprise which had its business license revoked due to violation of the law and who are personally liable, and less than three years have elapsed since the date of the revocation of the business license; or
- persons who have a relatively large amount of debt due and outstanding; or
- other circumstances under which a person is disqualified from acting as a director of a company as set out in the Mandatory Provisions (which have been incorporated in the Articles of Association, a summary of which is set out in Appendix VI).

The board of directors shall appoint a chairman, who is elected with approval of more than half of all the directors. The chairman of the board of directors exercises the following functions and powers (including but not limited to):

- to preside over general meetings and convene and preside over meetings of the board of directors; and
- to check on the implementation of the resolutions of the board of directors.

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According to the Company Law, the legal representative of a company may be the chairman, any executive director (if the limited liability company does not have a board of directors) or the general manager.

The Special Regulations provide that a company’s directors, supervisors, general managers and other senior management shall bear fiduciary duties and the obligation to act diligently. They are required to faithfully perform their duties, protect the interests of the company and not to use their positions and power for their own benefit. The Mandatory Provisions (which have been incorporated into the Articles of Association, a summary of which is set out in Appendix VI) contain further elaborations of such duties.

### *Supervisors*

A company shall have a board of supervisors composed of not less than three members. The term of office of a supervisor shall be three years, and the supervisors may hold consecutive terms by re-election. The board of supervisors is made up of shareholders’ representatives and an appropriate proportion of the company’s staff representatives, which shall be no less than one-third. Directors and senior management shall not act as supervisors.

The board of supervisors exercises the following functions and powers:

- check the financial affairs of the company;
- supervise the directors and senior management in the performance of their duties, and to put forward proposals on the removal of any director or senior management who violates laws, administrative regulations, the articles of association or any resolution of the shareholders’ meeting;
- require the director or senior management to make corrections if his/her act is detrimental to the interest of the company;
- propose the convening of interim shareholders’ general meetings, and to convene and preside over shareholders’ general meetings when the board of directors fails to exercise the function of convening and presiding over shareholders’ general meetings as prescribed by the Company Law;
- put forward proposals at shareholders’ general meetings;
- initiate actions against directors or senior management as prescribed by the Company Law; and
- other functions and duties as provided for by the articles of association.

The circumstances under which a person is disqualified from being a director described above apply mutatis mutandis to supervisors of a company.

### *General Manager and Other Senior Managements*

“Senior management” refers to the general manager, vice manager, person in charge of finance, and the secretary of the board of directors of a listed company as well as any other person as stipulated in the articles of association. A company shall have a manager who shall be appointed or removed by



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the board of directors. The general manager is accountable to the board of directors and may exercise the following powers:

- manage the production, operation and management of the company and arrange for the implementation of resolutions of the board of directors;
- arrange for the implementation of the company’s annual business and investment plans;
- formulate plans for the establishment of the company’s internal management structure;
- formulate the basic administration system of the company;
- formulate the company’s specific rules;
- recommend the appointment and dismissal of deputy general managers and person in charge of finance;
- decide to appoint or dismiss other management personnel (other than those required to be appointed or dismissed by the board of directors);
- attend board meetings as a non-voting attendant; and
- other powers conferred by the board of directors or the company’s articles of association.

The circumstances under which a person is disqualified from being a director of a company described above apply mutatis mutandis to general manager and other senior management of the company. The articles of association of a company shall have binding effect on the shareholders, directors, supervisors, general manager and other senior management of the company. Such persons shall be entitled to exercise their rights, apply for arbitration or initiate legal proceedings according to the articles of association of the company. The provisions of the Mandatory Provisions regarding the senior management of a company have been incorporated in the Articles of Association.

### ***Duties of Directors, Supervisors and Senior Managers***

Directors, supervisors, general manager and other senior management of a company are required under the Company Law to comply with the relevant laws, regulations and the company’s articles of association, carry out their duties honestly and protect the interests of the company. Each director, supervisor, general manager and senior officer of a company is also under a duty of fidelity to the company and is prohibited from divulging secret information of the company unless permitted by the relevant laws and regulations or by the shareholders.

Any director, supervisor, general manager and other senior management who contravenes any laws, regulations or the company’s articles of association in the performance of his duties which results in any loss to the company shall be personally liable to the company.

The Special Regulations and the Mandatory Provisions provide that a director, supervisor, general manager and other senior management of a company owe fiduciary duties to the company and are required to perform their duties faithfully, protect the interests of the company and not to make use of their positions and power in the company for their own benefit.

### ***Finance and Accounting***

A company shall establish its financial and accounting systems according to the laws, administrative regulations and the regulations of the MOF.

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At the end of each financial year, a company shall prepare a financial report, which shall be audited and verified according to laws.

A company shall make available its financial statements for the inspection by the shareholders at least 20 days before the convening of the annual shareholders’ general meeting. A company with public issuance of shares must publish its financial statements to the public.

When distributing each year’s after-tax profits, the company shall set aside 10% of its after-tax profits for the company’s statutory common reserve (except where such reserve has reached 50% of the company’s registered capital). After a company has made an allocation to its statutory common reserve from its after-tax profit, subject to a resolution of the shareholders or the general meeting, the company may make an allocation to a discretionary common reserve from the after-tax profits. If the company’s statutory common reserve is not enough to make up for the losses of the company for the previous year, the current year’s profits shall first be used for making up the losses before the statutory common reserve is set aside according to the method mentioned hereof.

After the losses have been made up and surplus reserves have been set aside, the remaining after-tax profits shall be distributed to shareholders in proportion to the number of shares held by shareholders as in the case of a joint stock limited company, except as otherwise provided in the articles of association. The capital common reserve of a joint stock limited company is made up of the premium from the issuance of shares generated by the gap between the issuance price and the nominal value of the shares of the company, and other amounts required by the MOF to be allocated to the capital common reserve. The company’s common reserves shall be used for making up losses, expanding the production and business scale or increasing the registered capital of the company, but the capital common reserve shall not be used for making up the company’s losses. Where the statutory common reserve is converted into registered capital, the balance of the statutory common reserve shall not be less than 25% of the registered capital before such conversion.

### ***Appointment and Dismissal of Accounting Auditors***

According to the Special Regulations, a company shall engage an independent PRC qualified accounting firm to audit the company’s annual report and review other financial reports. Pursuant to the Company Law, the appointment or dismissal of accounting firms responsible for the auditing of the company shall be determined by shareholders’ general meeting or board of directors in accordance with the articles of association. The accounting firm is to be appointed for a term commencing from the conclusion of an annual general meeting and ending at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting. The accounting firm should be allowed to make representations when the shareholders’ general meeting conducts a vote on the dismissal of the accounting firm. The company should provide true and complete accounting evidences, books, financial and accounting reports and other accounting data to the accounting firm which it employs without any refusal, withholding and misrepresentation.

### ***Distribution of Profits***

The Special Regulations provide that the dividends and other distributions to be paid to holders of overseas listed foreign shares shall be declared and calculated in Renminbi and paid in foreign currency. Under the Mandatory Provisions, the payment of dividends to shareholders shall be made through a receiving agent.

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According to the Guide to the Program for “Full Circulation” of H shares promulgated by CSDC on February 7, 2020, cash dividends to domestic investors of H-share “full circulation” shall be distributed through CSDC. An H-share listed company shall transfer RMB cash dividends to the designated bank account of the Shenzhen subsidiary of CSDC, who shall complete the clearing of cash dividends by distributing the cash dividends to investors through domestic securities companies.

### *Amendments to the Articles of Association*

Any amendments to the company’s articles of association must be made in accordance with the procedures set forth in the company’s articles of association. In relation to matters involving the company’s registration, its changes in registration shall be applied with the company registry.

### *Dissolution and Liquidation*

Under the Company Law, a company shall be dissolved in any of the following events:

- the term of its operations set down in its articles of association has expired or events of dissolution specified in its articles of association have occurred;
- the shareholders’ general meeting have resolved to dissolve the company;
- the company is dissolved by reason of its merger or demerger;
- the company is subject to the revocation of business license, a closure order or elimination in accordance with laws; or
- in the event that the company encounters substantial difficulties in its operation and management, and its continuance shall cause a significant loss in the interest of shareholders, and where this cannot be resolved through other means, shareholders who hold more than 10% of the total shareholders’ voting rights of the company may present a petition to the people’s court for the dissolution of the company.

Where the company is dissolved in the circumstances described in (1), (2), (4) and (5) above, a liquidation committee must be formed within 15 days after the occurrence of origin incident of dissolution. Members of the liquidation committee shall be appointed by directors or shareholders’ general meeting. If a liquidation committee is not established within the stipulated period, the company’s creditors can apply to the people’s court for its establishment. The liquidation committee shall notify the company’s creditors within ten days after its establishment. Liquidation committee shall be notified to the creditors within 10 days of its formulation and shall be publicized in the newspapers within 60 days of its formulation as well. A creditor shall lodge its claim with the liquidation committee within 30 days after receiving notification, or within 45 days of the public notice if it has not received such notification.

The liquidation committee shall exercise the following functions and powers during the liquidation period:

- to take stock of the company’s assets and to prepare a balance sheet and a property list;
- to notify creditors or issue public notices to such creditors;
- to deal with any outstanding business of the company related to the liquidation;
- to pay any tax overdue and those arising from the liquidation process;

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- to settle the company’s financial claims and liabilities;
- to handle the residual property of the company after paying off its debts; and
- to represent the company in civil lawsuits.

Company’s assets shall be applied towards the payment of the liquidation expenses, wages owed to the employees, social insurance expenses and legal reimbursement, tax overdue and debts of the company. Any surplus assets shall be distributed to the shareholders of the company in proportion to the number of shares held by them. During the liquidation period, a company shall not engage in operating activities unrelated to the liquidation. If the liquidation committee becomes aware that the company does not have sufficient assets to meet its liabilities, it shall immediately apply to the people’s court for a declaration for bankruptcy. Following such declaration, the liquidation committee shall hand over all affairs of the liquidation to the people’s court.

Upon completion of the liquidation, the liquidation committee shall submit a liquidation report to the shareholders’ general meeting or people’s court for confirmation. Thereafter, the report shall be submitted to the company registration authority in order to cancel the company’s registration, and a public notice of its termination shall be issued. Members of the liquidation committee are required to discharge their duties honestly and perform their obligation according to laws. A member of liquidation committee is liable to indemnify the company and its creditors in respect of any loss arising from his willful or material default.

### ***Loss of Share Certificates***

The Mandatory Provisions provide for a separate procedure regarding the loss of H share certificates.

### ***“Full Circulation” of H Shares***

Shareholders of domestic unlisted shares may determine by themselves through consultation the amount and proportion of shares, for which an application will be filed for circulation, provided that the requirements laid down in the relevant laws and regulations and set out in the policies for state-owned asset administration, foreign investment and industry regulation are met, and the corresponding H-share listed company may be entrusted to file the said application for “full circulation”. To file an application for “Full Circulation”, an H-share listed company shall file the application with the CSRC according to the procedures for the “examination and approval of public offering and listing (including additional issuance) of shares overseas by a joint stock company”.

An H-share listed company may apply for “Full Circulation” separately or when applying for refinancing abroad. An unlisted domestic joint stock company may apply for “full circulation” when applying for an overseas initial public offering.

### ***Merger and Demerger***

Companies may merge through merger by absorption or through the establishment of a newly merged entity. If it merges by absorption, the company which is absorbed shall be dissolved.

If it merges by forming a new corporation, both companies will be dissolved. Where there is a demerger of a company, its assets shall be divided up accordingly and a balance sheet and a property

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list shall be prepared. The company shall notify its creditors within ten days of the date of the company’s demerger resolution and shall publish an announcement in a newspaper within thirty days of the date of the company’s demerger resolution. Debts of the company prior to demerger shall be assumed by the companies which exist after the division on a joint and several basis, except to the extent that prior to demerger, the company has otherwise reached a written agreement with its creditors in respect of the settlement of debts.

### SECURITIES LAW AND OTHER RELEVANT REGULATIONS

The PRC has promulgated a number of regulations that relate to the issue and trading of shares and disclosure of information. In October 1992, the State Council established the Securities Committee and the CSRC. The Securities Committee is responsible for coordinating the drafting of securities regulations, formulating securities-related policies, planning the development of securities markets, directing, coordinating and supervising all securities-related institutions in the PRC and administering the CSRC.

The CSRC is the regulatory arm of the Securities Committee and is responsible for the drafting of regulatory provisions of securities markets, supervising securities companies, regulating offers of securities by PRC companies in the PRC or overseas, regulating the trading of securities, compiling securities related statistics and undertaking relevant research and analysis. In 1998, the State Council consolidated the two departments and the CSRC has since taken over the original functions of the Securities Commission.

On December 25, 1995, the State Council promulgated and implemented the Regulations of the State Council Concerning Domestic Listed Foreign Shares of Joint Stock Limited Companies (《國務院關於股份有限公司境內上市外資股的規定》). These regulations deal mainly with the issue, subscription, trading and declaration of dividends and other distributions of domestic listed and foreign invested shares and disclosure of information of joint stock limited companies having domestic listed and foreign invested shares.

The Securities Law came into force on July 1, 1999, and was recently revised on December 28, 2019. This law is the first national securities law in China, which is divided into 14 chapters and 226 articles, regulating (including) the issuance and trading of securities, the acquisition of listed companies, stock exchanges, securities companies and the duties and responsibilities of the securities regulatory authority under the State Council. The Securities Law comprehensively regulates the activities of China’s securities market. Article 224 of the Securities Law stipulates that a domestic enterprise shall comply with the relevant provisions of the State Council in issuing securities or listing its securities abroad directly or indirectly. Article 225 of the Securities Law stipulates that the specific measures for subscription and trading of shares of domestic companies in foreign currencies shall be separately formulated by the State Council. At present, the shares (including H shares) issued and traded abroad are still subject to the rules and regulations promulgated by the State Council and the CSRC.

### *Overseas Listing*

According to the Special Regulations, the shares of a company shall only be listed overseas after obtaining approval from CSRC. A domestic company shall file a written report to CSRC for the



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overseas listing within 15 business days after the completion of the overseas listing. The approval from the CSRC for overseas share issuance and listing is valid for 12 months.

### ARBITRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF ARBITRAL AWARDS

The Arbitration Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國仲裁法》) (the “**Arbitration Law**”) passed by the SCNPC on August 31, 1994, became effective on September 1, 1995 and was recently amended on September 1, 2017. It is applicable to contract disputes and other property disputes between natural person, legal person and other organizations, and the parties have entered into a written agreement to refer the matter to arbitration committee constituted in accordance with the Arbitration Law. Under the Arbitration Law, an arbitration committee may, before the promulgation by the PRC Arbitration Association of arbitration regulations, formulate interim arbitration rules in accordance with the Arbitration Law and the PRC Civil Procedure Law. Where the parties have by agreement provided arbitration as the method for dispute resolution, the people’s court will refuse to handle the case.

The Listing Rules and the Mandatory Provisions require an arbitration clause to be included in the articles of association of the company and, in the case of the Listing Rules, shall also be in contracts between the company and each of its directors and supervisors, to the effect that any disputes or claims arising among the following parties will be referred to arbitration including between holders of H shares and the company, between holders of H Shares and the directors, supervisors, manager or other senior management of the company, and between holders of H shares and holders of Domestic Shares, with respect to any disputes or claims in relation to the companies affairs or as a result of rights or obligations arising under its articles of association, the Company Law or other relevant laws and administrative regulations. Where a dispute or claim of rights referred to in the preceding paragraph is referred to arbitration, the entire claim or dispute must be referred to arbitration, and all persons who have a cause of action based on the same facts giving rise to the dispute or claim or whose participation is necessary for the resolution of such dispute or claim, must comply with the arbitration. Disputes in respect of the definition of shareholder and disputes in relation to our register of shareholders need not be resolved by arbitration.

A claimant may elect for arbitration to be carried out at either the China International Economic or Trade Arbitration Commission in accordance with its rules or the Hong Kong International Arbitration Center in accordance with the Securities Arbitration Rules. Once a claimant refers to a dispute or claim to arbitration, the other party shall submit to the arbitral body elected by the claimant. If the claimant elects for arbitration to be carried out at the Hong Kong International Arbitration Center, any party to the dispute or claim may apply for a hearing to take place in Shenzhen in accordance with the Securities Arbitration Rules of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Center.

Under the Arbitration Law and Civil Procedure Law, an arbitral award is final and binding on the parties.

### MATERIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CERTAIN ASPECTS OF CORPORATION LAW IN THE PRC AND HONG KONG

Hong Kong company law is primarily set out in the Companies Ordinance and the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, supplemented by common law and rules of

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equity that apply to Hong Kong. As a joint stock limited company incorporated in the PRC that is seeking a listing of shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, we are governed by the PRC Company Law and all other rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the PRC Company Law. Set out below is a summary of certain material differences between Hong Kong company law and the PRC Company Law. This summary is, however, not intended to be an exhaustive comparison.

### **Corporate Existence**

Under Hong Kong company law, a company with share capital is incorporated by the Registrar of Companies in Hong Kong, which issues a certificate of incorporation to the Company upon its incorporation, and the company will acquire an independent corporate existence henceforth. A company may be incorporated as a public company or a private company. Pursuant to the Companies Ordinance, the articles of association of a private company incorporated in Hong Kong shall contain certain pre-emptive provisions. A public company's articles of association do not contain such pre-emptive provisions.

Under the PRC Company Law, a joint stock limited company may be incorporated by promotion or public subscription.

### **Share Capital**

Under the Companies Ordinance, the concept of the nominal value (also known as par value) of shares of a Hong Kong company has been abolished, and the companies have increased flexibility to alter its share capital by (i) increasing its share capital; (ii) capitalizing its profits; (iii) allotting and issuing bonus shares with or without increasing its share capital; (iv) converting its shares into larger or smaller number of shares; and (v) canceling its shares. The concept of authorized capital no longer applies to a Hong Kong company formed on or after March 3, 2014 as well. Hence, the directors of a Hong Kong company may, with the prior approval of the shareholders, if required, cause the company to issue new shares. The PRC Company Law does not provide for authorized share capital. Any increase in the registered capital of a PRC company must be approved by its shareholders' general meeting and the relevant PRC governmental and regulatory authorities (if applicable).

Under the PRC Company Law, the shares may be subscribed for in the form of money or non-monetary assets (other than assets not entitled to be used as capital contributions under relevant laws or administrative regulations). For non-monetary assets to be used as capital contributions, appraisals must be carried out to ensure there is no overvaluation or undervaluation of the assets. There is no such restriction on a company incorporated in Hong Kong.

### **Restrictions on Shareholding and Transfer of Shares**

Generally, domestic shares, which are denominated and subscribed for in Renminbi, may only be subscribed for or traded by the State, PRC legal persons, natural persons and other investment institutions as permitted by laws and regulations. Overseas listed shares, which are denominated in Renminbi and subscribed for in a currency other than Renminbi, may only be subscribed for, and traded by, investors from Hong Kong, Macau SAR and Taiwan or any country and territory outside the PRC, or qualified domestic institutional investors.

Under the PRC Company Law, a promoter of a joint stock limited company is not allowed to transfer the shares it holds for a period of one year after the date of establishment of the company.

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Shares in issue prior to a public offering of the company cannot be transferred within one year from the listing date of the shares on a stock exchange. Shares in a joint stock limited liability company held by its directors, supervisors and senior management and transferred each year during their term of office shall not exceed 25% of the total shares they held in a company, and the shares they held in a company cannot be transferred within one year from the listing date of the shares, and also cannot be transferred within half a year after the said personnel has left office. The articles of association may set other restrictive requirements on the transfer of a company's shares held by its directors, supervisors and senior management.

There are no restrictions on shareholdings and transfers of shares under Hong Kong law apart from the restriction on the Company to issue additional Shares within six months.

### Financial Assistance for Acquisition of Shares

The PRC Company Law does not prohibit or restrict a joint stock limited company or its subsidiaries from providing financial assistance for the purpose of an acquisition of its own or its holding company's shares. However, the Mandatory Provisions contain certain restrictions on a company and its subsidiaries on providing such financial assistance similar to those under Hong Kong company law.

### Notice of Shareholders' Meetings

Under the PRC Company Law, notice of a shareholder's annual general meeting must be given not less than 20 days before the meeting. According to the Official Reply of the State Council on Adjusting the Provisions Governing Matters Including the Application of the Notice Period for the Convening of Shareholders' General Meetings by Companies Listed Overseas (《國務院關於調整適用在境外上市公司召開股東大會通知期限等事項規定的批覆》) promulgated by the State Council on October 17, 2019, the notice period for a shareholders' meeting, the shareholder proposal right, and the procedures for convening a shareholders' meeting, for those joint stock companies established within the territory of China but listed outside the territory of China, should be governed by the PRC Company Law.

For a company incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability, the minimum period of notice of a general meeting is fourteen (14) days. Further, where a meeting involves consideration of a resolution requiring special notice, the company must also give its shareholders notice of the resolution at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting. The notice period for the annual shareholders' general meeting is twenty one (21) days.

### Quorum for Shareholders' Meetings

The PRC Company Law does not specify any quorum requirement for a shareholders' general meeting.

Under Hong Kong law, the quorum for a shareholders' meeting is two members, unless the articles of association of a company specifies otherwise or the company has only one member, in which case the quorum is one.

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### **Voting at Shareholders’ Meetings**

Under the PRC Company Law, the passing of any resolution requires more than one-half of the affirmative votes held by our shareholders present in person or by proxy at a shareholders’ meeting except in cases such as proposed amendments to our Articles of Association, increase or decrease of registered capital, merger, division, dissolution or transformation, which require two-thirds of the affirmative votes cast by shareholders present in person or by proxy at a shareholders’ general meeting.

Under Hong Kong law, an ordinary resolution is passed by a simple majority of affirmative votes cast by shareholders present in person, or by proxy, at a general meeting, and a special resolution is passed by not less than three-fourths of affirmative votes cast by shareholders present in person, or by proxy, at a general meeting.

### **Variation of Class Rights**

The PRC Company Law makes no specific provision relating to variation of class rights. However, the PRC Company Law states that the State Council can promulgate requirements relating to other kinds of shares. The Mandatory Provisions contain detailed provisions relating to the circumstances which are deemed to be variations of class rights and the approval procedures required to be followed in respect thereof. These provisions have been incorporated in the Articles of Association, which are summarized in Appendix VI to this document.

Under the Companies Ordinance, no rights attached to any class of shares can be varied except (i) with the passing of a special resolution by the shareholders of the relevant class at a separate meeting sanctioning the variation, (ii) with the written consent of shareholders representing at least three-fourths of the total voting rights of shareholders of the relevant class, or (iii) if there are provisions in the articles of association relating to the variation of those rights, then in accordance with those provisions.

We have incorporated provisions to protect the rights of class shares into the Articles of Association in a similar way as required by the laws of Hong Kong in accordance with the Hong Kong Listing Rules and Mandatory Provisions. The Articles of Association define the holders of overseas listed shares and domestic shares as shareholders of different classes of shares. The special procedure for voting by class shareholders is not applicable in the following circumstances: (1) after approval by a special resolution in shareholders’ general meeting, the Company issue domestic shares and overseas listed foreign shares separately or at the same time at an interval of 12 months, and the proposed number of domestic shares and overseas listed foreign shares to be issued respectively will not exceed 20% of the outstanding issued shares of such class; (2) the plans to issue domestic shares and overseas listed foreign shares upon establishment of the Company are completed within 15 months from the date of approval by the securities regulatory authority of the State Council; and (3) after the Company has issued H shares in an overseas region, and after approval has been granted by the State Council or the securities regulatory authority of the State Council, and with the consent of the HKEX, the shareholders of the Company offer the unlisted shares held by them for listing and dealing in overseas regions.

### **Derivative Action by Minority Shareholders**

Under Hong Kong company law, minority shareholders may start a derivative action against directors for their misfeasance committed against the company, if such directors control a majority of

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votes at a general meeting, thereby effectively preventing a company from suing the directors for their misfeasance committed against the company in its own name.

Pursuant to the PRC Company Law, in the event where the directors and senior management of a joint stock limited company violate laws, administrative regulations or its articles of association, resulting in losses to the company, the shareholders individually or jointly holding over 1% of the shares in the company for more than 180 consecutive days may request in writing the board of supervisors to initiate proceedings in the people’s court. In the event that the supervisors violates as such, the above said shareholders may send written request to the board of directors to initiate proceedings in the people’s court. Upon receipt of such written request from the shareholders, if the board of supervisors or the board of directors refuses to initiate such proceedings, or has not initiated proceedings within 30 days upon receipt of the request, or if under urgent situations, failure of initiating immediate proceeding may cause irremediable damages to the company, the above said shareholders shall, for the benefit of the company’s interests, have the right to initiate proceedings directly to the court in their own name.

In addition, the Mandatory Provisions provide us with certain remedies against the Directors, Supervisors and senior management who breach their duties to the Company. In addition, as a condition to the listing of overseas listed foreign Shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, each director and supervisor of a joint stock limited company is required to give an undertaking to observe the articles of association in favor of the company. This allows minority Shareholders to take action against our Directors and Supervisors in default.

### **Minority Shareholder Protection**

Under the Companies Ordinance, a shareholder who alleges that the affairs of a company incorporated in Hong Kong are conducted in a manner unfairly prejudicial to his interests may petition to the Court to make an appropriate order to give relief to the unfairly prejudicial conduct. In addition, on the application of a specified number of members, the Financial Secretary of Hong Kong may appoint inspectors who are given extensive statutory powers to investigate the affairs of a company incorporated or registered in Hong Kong.

The PRC Company Law provides that any shareholders holding 10% or above of voting rights of all issued shares of company may request a People’s Court to dissolve the company to the extent that the operation or management of the company experiences any serious difficulties and its continuous existence would cause serious losses to them, and no other alternatives can resolve such difficulties.

The Company, as required by the Mandatory Provisions, has adopted in its Articles of Association minority Shareholder protection provisions similar to (though not as comprehensive as) those available under the Hong Kong law. These provisions state that a controlling shareholder may not exercise its voting rights in a manner prejudicial to the interests of other shareholders, may not relieve a director or supervisor of his duty to act honestly in our best interests or may not approve the expropriation by a director or supervisor of our assets or the individual rights of other shareholders.

### **Directors**

The PRC Company Law, unlike Hong Kong company law, does not contain any requirements relating to the declaration of directors’ interests in material contracts, restrictions on directors’



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authority in making major dispositions, restrictions on companies providing certain benefits to directors and indemnification in respect of directors’ liability and prohibitions against compensation for loss of office without shareholders’ approval. The Mandatory Provisions, however, contain certain requirements and restrictions on major disposals and specify the circumstances under which a director may receive compensation for loss of office.

### **Board of Supervisors**

Under the PRC Company Law, a joint stock limited company’s directors and senior management are subject to the supervision of a board of supervisors. There is no mandatory requirement for the establishment of a board of supervisors for a company incorporated in Hong Kong.

The Mandatory Provisions provide that each supervisor owes a duty, in the exercise of his powers, to act in good faith and honestly in what he considers to be in the best interests of the Company and to exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.

### **Fiduciary Duties**

In Hong Kong, directors owe fiduciary duties to the company, including the duty not to act in conflict with the company’s interests. Furthermore, the Companies Ordinance has codified the directors’ statutory duty of care. Under the Special Regulations, directors, supervisors, managers and other members of senior management of the company shall honestly and diligently perform their duties for the company.

### **Financial Disclosure**

Under the PRC Company Law, a joint stock limited company is required to make available at the company for inspection by shareholders its financial report 20 days before its annual general meeting. In addition, a joint stock limited company of which the shares are publicly offered must publish its financial report. The Companies Ordinance requires a company incorporated in Hong Kong to send to every shareholder a copy of its financial statements, auditors’ report and directors’ report, which are to be presented before the company in its annual general meeting, not less than 21 days before such meeting.

According to the PRC laws, a company shall prepare its financial accounting reports as at the end of each accounting year, and submit the same to accounting firms for auditing as required by law. The Mandatory Provisions require that a company must, in addition to preparing financial statements according to the Chinese accounting standards and regulations, have its financial statements prepared and audited in accordance with international or Hong Kong accounting standards and its financial statements must also contain a statement of the financial effect of the material differences (if any) from the financial statements prepared in accordance with the China accounting standards.

The Special Regulations require that there should not be any inconsistency between the information disclosed within and outside the PRC and that, to the extent that there are differences in the information disclosed in accordance with the relevant PRC and overseas laws, regulations and requirements of the relevant stock exchanges, such differences should also be disclosed simultaneously.

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### **Information on Directors and Shareholders**

The PRC Company Law gives shareholders the right to inspect the company’s articles of association, minutes of the general meetings and financial and accounting reports. Under the articles of association, shareholders have the right to inspect and copy (at reasonable charges) certain information on shareholders and on directors which is similar to the rights of shareholders of Hong Kong companies under the Companies Ordinance.

### **Receiving Agent**

Under the PRC Company Law and Hong Kong laws, dividends once declared will become debts payable to shareholders. The limitation period for debt recovery action under Hong Kong laws is six years, while under the PRC laws this limitation period is three years.

The Mandatory Provisions require that the relevant company shall appoint a receiving agent for shareholders who hold overseas listed foreign shares, and the receiving agent shall receive on behalf of such holders of shares dividends declared and other monies owed by the company in respect of its overseas listed foreign shares.

### **Corporate Reorganization**

Corporate reorganization involving a company incorporated in Hong Kong may be effected in a number of ways, such as a transfer of the whole or part of the business or property of the company in the course of voluntary winding up to another company pursuant to Section 237 of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance or a compromise or arrangement between the company and its creditors or between the company and its members pursuant to Section 673 and Division 2 of Part 13 of the Companies Ordinance, which requires the sanction of the court. In addition, subject to the shareholders’ approval, an intra-group wholly-owned subsidiary company may also be amalgamated horizontally or vertically under the Companies Ordinance.

Pursuant to the PRC Company Law, which was amended by the Standing Committee of the NPC and came into effect on October 26, 2018, merger, division, dissolution or changes to the form of a joint stock limited liability company shall be approved by shareholders representing over two-thirds of voting rights at the general meeting.

### **Special Withdrawal**

Under the PRC Company Law, a company is required to make transfers equivalent to certain prescribed percentages of its after tax profit to the statutory common reserve fund. There are no corresponding provisions under Hong Kong law.

### **Arbitration of Disputes**

In Hong Kong, disputes between shareholders and a company or its directors, managers and other senior management may be resolved through the courts. The Mandatory Provisions provides that disputes between a holder of H shares and the Company, a holder of H shares and directors, supervisors, managers and other members of senior management of the Company or a holder of H shares and a holder of domestic listed shares, arising from the Articles of Association, the PRC

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Company Law or other relevant laws and administrative regulations which concerns the affairs of the Company should, with certain exceptions, be referred to arbitration at either the HKIAC or the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission, at the claimant’s choice. Such arbitration is final and conclusive.

The Securities Arbitration Rules of the HKIAC contain provisions allowing, upon application by any party, an arbitral tribunal to conduct a hearing in Shenzhen for cases involving the affairs of companies incorporated in the PRC and listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange so that PRC parties and witnesses may attend. Where any party applies for a hearing to take place in Shenzhen, the tribunal shall, where satisfied that such application is based on bona fide grounds, order the hearing to take place in Shenzhen conditional upon all parties, including witnesses and arbitrators, being permitted to enter Shenzhen for the purpose of the hearing. Where a party, other than a PRC party or any of its witnesses or any arbitrator, is not permitted to enter Shenzhen, then the tribunal shall order that the hearing be conducted in any practicable manner, including the use of electronic media. For the purpose of the Securities Arbitration Rules of the HKIAC, a PRC party means a party domiciled in the PRC other than the territories of Hong Kong, Macau SAR and Taiwan.

### **Remedies of A Company**

Under the PRC Company Law, if a director, supervisor or senior management person in carrying out his duties infringes any law, administrative regulation or the articles of association of a company, which results in damage to the company, that director, supervisor or manager should be responsible to the company for such damages.

The Hong Kong Listing Rules require listed companies’ articles of association to provide for remedies of the company similar to those available under Hong Kong law (including rescission of the relevant contract and recovery of profits from a director, supervisor or senior management).

### **Dividends**

Pursuant to relevant PRC laws and regulations, the company in certain circumstances shall withhold, and pay to the relevant tax authorities, any tax payable under PRC law on any dividends or other distributions payable to a shareholder.

Under Hong Kong law, the limitation period for an action to recover a debt (including the recovery of declared dividends) is six years, whereas under PRC laws, the relevant limitation period is three years. The company must not exercise its powers to forfeit any unclaimed dividend in respect of shares until after the expiry of the applicable limitation period.

### **Closure of Register of Shareholders**

The Companies Ordinance requires that the register of shareholders of a company must not be closed for the registration of transfers of shares for more than thirty days (extendable to sixty days in certain circumstances) in a year. Unless otherwise stipulated by laws, share transfers shall not be registered within 20 days prior to convening a shareholders’ general meeting or 5 days before the base date of distribution of dividends.