

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

Regulations relating to Healthcare Services

General policies

According to the Guiding Opinions on Vigorously Advancing the “Internet Plus” Action (《國務院關於積極推進“互聯網+”行動的指導意見》) (the “Opinions”) issued by the State Council on July 1, 2015, Internet enterprises are encouraged to cooperate with medical institutions in establishing online medical information platforms, strengthen the integration of regional health care service resources, and make full use of the Internet, Big Data and other means to improve the capability to prevent and control major diseases and unexpected public health incidents.

Pursuant to the Opinions on Promoting the Development of “Internet Plus Health Care” 《國務院辦公廳關於促進“互聯網+醫療健康”發展的意見》 issued by the General Office of the State Council on April 25, 2018, which encouraged medical institutions to apply the Internet and other information technologies to expand the space and content of medical services, and develop an online-offline integrated medical service model covering stages before, during and after diagnosis. The development of Internet hospitals depending on medical institutions shall be permitted. Medical institutions may use Internet hospital as the second name and, based on physical hospitals, use Internet technology to provide safe and appropriate medical services, allowing online subsequent visits for some common diseases and chronic diseases. After reviewing documents of the medical records and profiles of patients, doctors shall be allowed to prescribe online for some common diseases and chronic diseases.

Pursuant to The 13th Five-year Plan for Health and Wellness (《“十三五”衛生與健康規劃》) (the “Plan”), which was promulgated by the State Council on December 27, 2016, it is proposed to strengthen the informatization of the population health and fully implement “Internet Plus” medical and healthcare people-benefiting service. The Plan also encourages the establishment of regional telemedicine platform and enhances the flow of high-quality healthcare resources to the Midwest and the primary level. On July 17, 2018, the National Health Commission (the “NHC”) and the National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine jointly promulgated three documents, including the Measures for the Administration of Internet Diagnosis and Treatment (Trial) (《互聯網診療管理辦法(試行)》), the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial) (《互聯網醫院管理辦法(試行)》) and the Specifications for the Administration of Remote Medical Services (Trial) (《遠程醫療服務管理規範(試行)》). Pursuant to the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial), “Internet hospitals” include: (a) Internet hospitals as the second name of physical medical institutions, and (b) Internet hospitals that are independently established on the support of physical medical institutions.

Internet hospital

According to the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial), the state implements access management for Internet hospitals pursuant to the Administrative Regulations on Medical Institutions (《醫療機構管理條例》) and the Implementation Measures of the Administrative Regulations on Medical Institutions (《醫療機構管理條例實施細則》). Before implementing access for Internet hospitals, provincial health administrative departments shall establish provincial Internet medical service supervision platforms to connect with information platforms of Internet hospitals to achieve real-time supervision. Establishing an Internet hospital is governed by the administrative approval process as stipulated in the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial). According to the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial), applying for establishing an Internet hospital is required to submit an application to the practice registration authority of its supported physical medical institution, and submit the application form, the feasibility research report on the establishment, the address of the supported physical medical institution, and the agreement jointly signed by the applicant and the supported physical medical institution in relation to establishing an Internet hospital through cooperation.

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In terms of practicing rules on Internet hospitals, the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial) provides that where a third-party institution jointly establishes an Internet hospital on the support of its physical medical institution, it shall provide the physical medical institution with professional services such as physicians and pharmacists, and information technology support services, and clarify the responsibilities and rights of all parties in respect of medical services, information security, and privacy protection through agreements and contracts. In terms of supervision and management of Internet hospitals, the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial) clarifies that provincial health administrative departments and the registration authorities for Internet hospitals jointly implement supervision on Internet hospitals through the provincial Internet medical service supervision platform, focusing on the supervision on Internet hospitals’ personnel, prescriptions, diagnosis and treatment behaviors, patients’ privacy protection and information security. Administrative Regulations on Medical Institutions and Implementation Measures of the Administrative Regulations on Medical Institutions set out the regulatory framework for the management and operation of the medical institutions, and the operation of Internet hospitals shall comply with Administrative Regulations on Medical Institutions and Implementation Measures of the Administrative Regulations on Medical Institutions as well. Additionally, the Basic Standards for Internet Hospitals (Trial) (《互聯網醫院基本標準(試行)》) as attached to the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial) sets forth specific requirements for diagnosis and treatment items, departments, personnel, buildings and device and equipment, and rules and regulations of Internet hospitals.

On May 23, 2020, the Health Commission of Hainan issued the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial) (《海南省互聯網醫院管理辦法(試行)》) to further set forth requirements for the conduct of Internet hospital and doctors, and provide guideline for Internet diagnosis medical records, rational drug use, medical quality supervision and data security.

Our Consolidated Affiliated Entity, Hainan Internet Hospital and Hainan Telemedicine Center, has obtained the Practicing License for Medical Institution on August 2, 2019 to conduct Internet hospital service.

Medical institutions

According to the Administrative Regulations on Medical Institutions (Revised in 2022) (《醫療機構管理條例》(2022 修訂)) (the “Regulations”), promulgated by the State Council, effective on September 1, 1994, and revised on February 6, 2016 and March 29, 2022, hospitals, health centers, sanatoriums, out-patient departments, clinics, health clinics, health posts (rooms) and first aid stations are medical institutions. The health administrative departments of the local people’s governments at or above the county level shall be responsible for the supervision and administration of the medical institutions within their respective administrative regions. The establishment of medical institutions by entities or individuals, in accordance with the provisions of the State Council which should be set up with written approval, shall be subject to the examination and approval of the health administrative department of the local people’s governments at or above the county level. Furthermore, according to the Regulations, the practice of medical institutions shall complete the registration and obtain Practicing License for Medical Institution.

Patient diagnosis service

According to the Measures for the Administration of Internet Diagnosis and Treatment (Trial), Internet diagnosis and treatment activities shall be provided by the medical institutions that have obtained a “Practicing License for Medical Institution”, and the Internet-based diagnosis services provided by a medical institution shall be consistent with its diagnosis subjects. Physicians and nurses carrying out Internet diagnosis and treatment activities shall be able to be found in the national electronic registration system of physicians and nurses. A medical institution shall conduct electronic real-name verification for the medical staff members carrying out Internet diagnosis and treatment activities.

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According to the Measures for the Administration of Internet Hospitals (Trial), Internet hospitals must inform the patients of the risks and obtain their consents. When a patient receives medical treatment in a physical medical institution and the physician receiving such patient invites other physicians to hold group consultation of physicians through the Internet hospital, the physicians attending the group consultation may issue diagnosis opinions and a prescription; and when a patient does not receive medical treatment in a physical medical institution, a physician may only provide subsequent visits for a patient of some common diseases and chronic diseases through the Internet hospital. Internet hospitals may provide contract signing service for family doctors. When a patient’s condition changes or there are other circumstances under which online diagnosis and treatment services are inappropriate, the physician shall direct the patient to receive medical treatment in a physical medical institution. Internet diagnosis and treatment activities shall not be carried out for any patient receiving initial diagnosis.

Medical practitioners

On August 20, 2021, the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (the “SCNPC”) issued the Law on Medical Practitioners of the People’s Republic of China (the “Medical Practitioners Law”) (《中華人民共和國醫師法》) and effective on March 1, 2022. According to the Medical Practitioners Law, when taking medical, preventive or healthcare measures and when signing relevant medical certificate, the medical practitioners shall conduct diagnosis and investigation personally and fill out the medical files without delay as required. No medical practitioners may conceal, forge or destroy any medical files or the relevant data.

On November 5, 2014, the National Health and Family Planning Commission of PRC (the “NHFPC”, currently known as the National Health Commission of PRC), the National Development and Reform Commission (the “NDRC”), the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and the China Insurance Regulatory Commission (currently known as the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission), jointly issued the Several Opinions on Promoting and Standardizing Multi-Place Practice of Physicians (《關於推進和規範醫師多點執業的若干意見》), which puts forward to simplify the registration procedure of the multiple place practice and proposes the feasibility of exploring the “record management”. According to Administrative Measures for the Registration of Medical Practitioners (《醫師執業註冊管理辦法》), promulgated by the NHFPC on February 28, 2017, effective on April 1, 2017, medical practitioners shall obtain the Practice Certificate for Medical Practitioners to practice upon registration. Person who fails to obtain the Practice Certificate for Medical Practitioners shall not engage in medical treatment, prevention and healthcare activities. If a medical practitioner practices in an additional institution not at the registered place of practice, he or she shall apply for registering such addition to the administrative health and family planning authority approving the practice of such institution.

Prescription management

For the purpose of regulating the administration of prescriptions, the Measures for the Administration of Prescriptions (《處方管理辦法》) (the “Measures”) was released by the NHFPC on February 14, 2007 and as effective from May 1, 2007. Under the Measures, a certified medical practitioner shall obtain the corresponding prescription right at the registered practice place and the certified medical practitioner shall issue prescriptions according to the requirements of medical treatment, disease prevention, healthcare, and subject to the treatment standards and drug instructions. Under any of the following circumstances, the health administrative department at or above the county level shall request the medical institutions to make corrections within a grace period, and may impose the fine no more than RMB5,000; and under serious circumstances, Practicing License for Medical Institution shall be revoked: (1) prescribing by a pharmacist who has not obtained the right to prescribe or whose prescription right has been canceled; (2) prescribing narcotic drugs and the psychotropic drugs of category I by pharmacists who have not obtained the prescription right for such narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs; (3) employing persons who have not obtained the qualifications for the professional and technical positions of pharmaceutical science to conduct the prescription adjustment. If the medical practitioners issue prescriptions without obtaining prescription rights at a medical institution not registered in their licenses, during their practicing activities, they will be given a warning or be ordered to suspend their practicing activities for a period of not less than six months but not more than one years and under the serious circumstances, their Practice Certificates for Medical Practitioners will be revoked.

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Regulations relating to Pharmaceutical Operation

In September 1984, the SCNPC promulgated the Drug Administration Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國藥品管理法》), which was amended in 2001, 2013, 2015 and 2019 respectively to regulate all entities or individuals engaging in research, manufacture, operation, use, supervision and management of drugs within the PRC. According to the Drug Administration Law, no pharmaceutical operation, including pharmaceutical whole sale and pharmaceutical retail business, is permitted without obtaining the Pharmaceutical Operation License. Where the trading of drugs is conducted without a Pharmaceutical Operation License, the illegal incomes by selling drugs shall be confiscated and the local Food and Drug Administration (the “FDA”, now known as the Medical Products Administration, or the “MPA”) shall impose the fine ranging from 15 to 30 times of the value of the illegally sold drugs (including sold or unsold drugs). The Implementation Rules for the Drug Administration Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國藥品管理法實施條例》), was promulgated by the State Council in August 2002 and amended in 2016 and 2019, which emphasized the detailed implementation rules of drugs administration. The China Food and Drug Administration (“CFDA”, now known as the National Medical Products Administration, or the “NMPA”) promulgated the Measures for the Administration of Pharmaceutical Operation License (《藥品經營許可證管理辦法》) in February 2004 as amended in 2017, which stipulates the procedures for applying the Pharmaceutical Operation License and the requirements and qualifications for pharmaceutical wholesalers or pharmaceutical retailers with respect to their management system, personnel, facilities and etc. The valid term of the Pharmaceutical Operation License is five years and shall be renewed through application six months prior to its expiration date.

According to the Measures on Prescription Drugs and OTC Drugs Classification Management (Trial) (《處方藥與非處方藥分類管理辦法(試行)》) and the Interim Provisions on the Circulation of Prescription and OTC Drugs (《處方藥與非處方藥流通管理暫行規定》), which were both promulgated by the State Drug Administration, which was restructured and integrated into the CFDA, and became effective in January 2000, drugs are divided into prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs, or OTC drugs. For prescription drugs, the dispensing, purchase and use can only be based on the prescription issued by the certified medical practitioner or certified medical assistant practitioner. In addition, the prescription drugs can only be advertised and promoted in professional medical magazines. OTC drugs, on the other hand, are further divided into Class A and Class B and they both can be purchased and used without a prescription and promoted in public upon approval by the relevant governmental authorities. The pharmaceutical wholesale enterprises distributing prescription drugs and/or OTC drugs, as well as pharmaceutical retail enterprises selling prescription drugs and/or Class-A OTC drugs are required to obtain the Pharmaceutical Operation License.

According to the Administrative Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Circulation of Pharmaceuticals (《藥品流通監督管理辦法》), promulgated by the CFDA in January 2007 and effective in May 2007, pharmaceutical manufacture and operation enterprises and medical institutions shall be responsible for the quality of pharmaceuticals they manufacture, provide or use. The operation of prescription drugs is highly regulated under these rules. Prescription drugs may not be sold by pharmaceutical retail enterprises without valid prescriptions and an enterprise in violation of such restriction will be instructed to rectify any violation, given a disciplinary warning, and/or imposed a fine of no more than RMB1,000. In addition, a pharmaceutical manufacture or operation enterprise shall not sell prescription drugs directly to the public by post or over Internet, and the enterprise in violation of such restriction shall be instructed to rectify, given a disciplinary warning, and imposed a fine of not more than two times the value of the pharmaceuticals sold, but not more than RMB30,000. The Administrative Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Circulation of Pharmaceuticals promulgated by the CFDA in 2007 is still in force. However, the newly revised Drug Administration Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國藥品管理法》) in 2019 (the “**Drug Administration Law**”) abolishes the restriction on online sale of prescription drugs and adopts the principle of keeping online and offline sales consistent. Also, the Drug Administration Law does not explicitly prohibit companies from selling prescription drugs

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to users through the Internet. Furthermore, according to the Administrative Standard of Pharmaceutical Operating Quality (《藥品經營質量管理規範》), promulgated by the CFDA in April 2000 and amended in 2012, 2015 and 2016 respectively, the pharmaceutical operation enterprises shall take effective quality control measures over the process of procurement, storage, transportation and sale of drugs in order to ensure their quality. On April 7, 2021, the General Office of the State Council issued the Opinions on Serving the "Six Stables" and "Six Safeguards" and Further Doing a Good Job in the Reform of "Delegating Power, Delegating Regulation and Serving Service" (《關於服務“六穩”“六保”進一步做好“放管服”改革有關工作的意見》) (the "**Opinions**") which allows online sales of prescription drugs other than those under special state control on the premise of ensuring the authenticity and reliability of the electronic prescription sources. The Group conducted its pharmaceutical and healthcare business in compliance with the Drug Administration Law and the Opinions in all material aspects during the Track Record Period.

Certain of our subsidiaries and Consolidated Affiliated Entities have obtained a Pharmaceutical Operation License.

The Draft Implementation Regulations, which has not been formally adopted, made proposed changes in research and development, production, sales, supervision and management of drugs, and the proposed changes related to us mainly relates to our drug sales operation. One of the most important proposed changes in drug administration is Article 83 of the Draft Implementation Regulations which proposes that third-party platform providers shall not be directly involved in online drug sales activities. In addition, the Draft Implementation Regulations made detailed provisions in the management of drug sales operation business, for example, pharmaceutical companies should establish a drug traceability system, sell prescription drugs in closed shelves, and shall not give away or promote prescription drugs and Class A non-prescription drugs. Besides, drug retail chain enterprises should set up a unified management system and meet strict regulatory operating procedures of the transportation and distribution of drugs.

According to the verbal consultation with the National Medical Products Administration conducted by our PRC legal advisors and the Joint Sponsors on July 11, 2022, (i) currently, there is no further official explanation or interpretation on "directly involved in online drug sales activities" as stipulated in Articles 83 of the Draft Implementation Regulations, and it remains unclear on the subsequent revisions of this regulation, and (ii) assuming the Draft Implementation Regulations is adopted in its current form and the latter possible interpretation as described below is applied, our business shall be in compliance with Article 83 of the Draft Implementation Regulations with the operation adjustments as proposed below. Our PRC Legal Advisors confirmed that the National Medical Products Administration is the competent authority and its officer who accepted the consultation is the competent person to provide the foregoing confirmation and interpretation.

According to our PRC Legal Advisors, "directly involved in online drug sales activities" as stipulated in Articles 83 of the Draft Implementation Regulations may have two possible interpretations: (i) a group may use separate entities to conduct third-party platform business and online drug sales activities respectively; and (ii) a group shall not act as a third-party platform provider and conduct online drug sales activities at the same time, even using separate entities. Given that our third party platform business and self operated online drug sales business are currently conducted by separate entities, if the former interpretation is applied when the Draft Implementation Regulations is formally adopted, according to our PRC Legal Advisors, our businesses do not violate Article 83 of the Draft Implementation Regulations (if promulgated in its current form), including our cooperation with third-party partner pharmacies on our self-operated online platforms and our sales through our self-operated online platforms supported by our subsidiaries including our own smart pharmacies. If the latter interpretation is applied when the Draft Implementation Regulations is formally adopted, we will (a) cease cooperation with third-party partner pharmacies' operating on self-operated online platforms and cease operating our self-operated online platforms as third-party platform providers; and (b) utilize our self-operated online

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platforms only for our sales through our self-operated online platforms supported by our subsidiaries including our own smart pharmacies. Our PRC Legal Advisors are of the view that, if the latter interpretation is applied, and assuming we adjust the operation of our self-operated online platforms as the aforementioned, our self-operated online platforms will not be regarded as third-party platform providers, and therefore our sales through our self-operated online platforms supported by our subsidiaries including our own smart pharmacies will not violate Article 83 of the Draft Implementation Regulations (if promulgated in its current form). Revenue generated from the collaboration with partner pharmacies was immaterial compared to our total revenue during the Track Record Period, which was RMB10.4 million, RMB2.7 million, RMB4.9 million, RMB2.8 million and RMB1.0 million, respectively, representing 1.8%, 0.2%, 0.2%, 0.1% and 0.1% of our total revenue in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and for the three months ended March 31, 2022.

Furthermore, if the Draft Implementation Regulations is promulgated in its current form and the latter interpretation is applied, in a worst-case scenario, our sales under the business distribution channel may be indirectly affected since some of our customers under the business distribution channel may be affected if they are deemed as third-party platform providers while being directly involved in online drug sales activities. If they decide to cease their self-operated business directly involving in online drug sales activities for the purpose of compliance with the laws and regulations, they may cease their procurements from us under our distribution channel for the drugs distributed by their self-operated business. In 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and for the three months ended March 31, 2022, the revenue generated from the sales of OTC drugs and prescription drugs (affected by the Draft Implementation Regulations if it is implemented in its current form) sold by us under the business distribution channel was RMB14.1 million, RMB27.3 million, RMB54.4 million, RMB101.6 million and RMB21.3 million, representing 2.4%, 2.1%, 2.4%, 2.7% and 2.2% of our total revenue.

However, substantial uncertainties exist with respect to the enactment timetable, final content, interpretation and implementation of the Draft Implementation Regulations. We will closely monitor and assess any development in the rule-making process.

According to the Guidance on Establishing a Mechanism for Improving the Dual Channel Management of National Health Insurance Negotiated Drugs (《關於建立完善國家醫保談判藥品“雙通道”管理機制的指導意見》) issued by the National Health Insurance Administration and the National Health and Health Commission on April 22, 2021, designated retail pharmacies, together with designated medical institutions, are included in the supply channel of some innovative drugs with high clinical value, urgent needs of patients and low substitutability, and are included in the mechanism of health insurance payment at the same time. For patients with relevant needs, these innovative drugs are now available through DTP pharmacies and can be reimbursed by the same co-ordinated health insurance as in hospitals.

Regulations relating to Internet Pharmaceutical Transaction Services

According to Interim Provisions on the Examination and Approval of Internet Drug Transaction Services (《互聯網藥品交易服務審批暫行規定》), promulgated by CFDA on September 29, 2005 and effective since December 1, 2005, the enterprises engaging in the Internet pharmaceutical transaction service shall be subject to examination and acceptance, and obtain the Qualification Certificate for Providing Internet Pharmaceutical Dealing Services. The Qualification Certificate for Providing Internet Pharmaceutical Dealing Services shall be valid for five years. The CFDA is in charge of examination and approval of the services provided for Internet pharmaceutical transactions between pharmaceutical production enterprises, pharmaceutical marketing enterprises and medical institutions, and the provincial FDA shall implement the examination and approval of the services provided for Internet pharmaceutical transactions with third-party enterprises engaged by pharmaceutical production enterprises, pharmaceutical wholesales enterprises on their own websites, as well as Internet pharmaceutical transactions services to individual consumers. The Interim Provisions on the Examination and Approval

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of Internet Drug Transaction Services further stipulates that any enterprise engaging in online pharmaceutical product trading services to individual consumers shall be established in the form of a pharmaceutical retail chain enterprise. According to the Drug Administration Law and the Administrative Standard of Pharmaceutical Operating Quality, the operation of pharmaceutical retail chain enterprise shall be in compliance with the acceptance standards provided by regulations and the CFDA. After obtaining the Qualification Certificate for Providing Internet Pharmaceutical Dealing Services issued by the competent food and drug supervision and administration authority, the applicant shall obtain the permit for operation of telecommunications services as required by the Internet Measures, or go through the formalities for record-filing. According to the Decision on the Cancellation of the Third Batch of Items Subject to Administrative Permission by Local Governments Designated by the Central Government (《國務院關於第三批取消中央指定地方實施行政許可事項的決定》), promulgated by the State Council on January 12, 2017, except for the third party platform, all the examination and approval of Internet drug trading service company implemented by FDAs of provincial level are canceled. According to the Sponsors’ and the PRC legal advisor’s verbal consultation with one official of NMPA on February 1, 2021, the Qualification Certificate for Providing Internet Pharmaceutical Dealing Services is no longer required for enterprises engaging in Internet pharmaceutical transaction service as long as such enterprises have obtained the relevant qualifications such as the Pharmaceutical Operation License or the Qualification Certificate for Providing Internet Pharmaceutical Information Services. According to the Decision on the Cancellation of Various Items Subject to Administrative Permission (《國務院關於取消一批行政許可事項的決定》) by the State Council, on September 22, 2017, the CFDA shall no longer accept applications for examination and approval of Internet drug transaction service enterprises engaging the business as the third party platform.

In November 2020, NMPA published for public comment the Draft Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Online Pharmaceuticals Sales (the “**Draft Measures**”) (《藥品網絡銷售監督管理辦法(徵求意見稿)》), aiming to enhance the supervision of online pharmaceutical sales and related platform services. The Draft Measures provides specific and explicit rules for the online sales of prescription drugs, which is perceived to be more conducive online prescription drug sellers including us. The Draft Measures provides that, among others, online prescription drug sellers shall (i) ensure the accuracy and reliability of the source of e-prescription, (ii) keep records of any e-prescription for at least five years and no less than one year after the expiration date of the prescription drugs, and (iii) disclose safety warnings including “prescription drugs should only be purchased and used with prescriptions and guidance of licensed pharmacists” when displaying information of prescription drugs. The Draft Measures also imposes certain obligations on platform service providers for online pharmaceutical sales, including, among others, that platform service providers should (i) enhance the scrutiny on the required licenses and permits of online pharmaceutical merchants for online pharmaceuticals sales, (ii) establish the examination and inspection system for drug information published on the platforms and report to competent governmental authorities when discovering any significant issue in connection with drug quality and safety, and (iii) promptly stop any illegal behavior upon discovery and report it to the relevant local governmental authorities. As advised by our PRC Legal Advisors, the Draft Measures was released for public comment only and its operative provisions and the anticipated adoption or effective date may be subject to change with substantial uncertainty. We will closely monitor and assess the trajectory of the rule-making process. We will comply with these rules after the Draft Measures takes effect, as both a platform and an online pharmaceuticals seller by taking the following actions: (i) ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the source of e-prescription, (ii) keeping records of the e-prescription for five years and no less than one year after the expiration date of the prescription drugs, and (iii) disclosing safety warnings including that “prescription drugs should only be purchased and used with prescriptions and guidance of licensed pharmacists” when displaying information of prescription drugs.

One of our subsidiaries and Consolidated Affiliated Entities, Dingdang Medicine Express Technology has obtained the Qualification Certificate for Providing Internet Pharmaceutical Dealing Services as the third party platform on August 8, 2016, before such approval was canceled.

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Regulations relating to Online Drug Information Services

According to the Measures Regarding the Administration of Drug Information Service over the Internet (《互聯網藥品信息服務管理辦法》), promulgated by CFDA on July 8, 2004 and amended on November 17, 2017, the Internet drug information service refers to the activities of providing medical information (including medical devices) and other services to Internet users through the Internet, and where any website intends to provide Internet drug information services, it shall, prior to applying for an operation permit or record-filing from the State Council’s department in charge of information industry or the telecom administrative authority at the provincial level, file an application with the provincial FDA, and shall be subject to the examination and approval thereof for obtaining the qualifications for providing Internet drug information services. The validity term for a Qualification Certificate for Internet Drug Information Services is five years and may be renewed at least six months prior to its expiration date upon a re-examination by the relevant authority. Pursuant to the Measures Regarding the Administration of Drug Information Service over the Internet, the Internet drug information services are classified into two categories, namely, profit-making services and non-profit making services. Profit-making services refer to that of providing Internet users with drug information in return for service fees whilst non-profit-making services refers to that of providing Internet users with drug information which is shared and accessible by the public through the Internet free of charge. Furthermore, the information relating to drugs shall be accurate and scientific in nature, and its provision shall comply with the relevant laws and regulations. No product information of stupeficient, psychotropic drugs, medicinal toxic drugs, radiopharmaceutical, detoxification drugs and pharmaceuticals made by medical institutes shall be distributed on the website. In addition, advertisements relating to drugs (including medical devices) shall be approved by the NMPA or its competent branches, and shall specify the approval document number.

Certain Consolidated Affiliated Entities have obtained a Qualification Certificate for Internet Drug Information Service, including Dingdang Medicine Express Technology.

Regulations relating to Medical Devices Operation

The Measures on the Supervision and Administration of the Business Operations of Medical Devices (《醫療器械經營監督管理辦法》) (the “Measures on Medical Devices”), which was promulgated by CFDA on March 10, 2022 and amended on May 1, 2022, applies to any business activities of medical devices as well as the supervision and administration thereof conducted within the territory of the PRC. Pursuant to the Measures on Medical Devices, CFDA shall be responsible for the supervision and administration of nationwide business operations concerning medical devices. Medical devices are divided into three classes depending on the degree of risks of medical devices. Entities engaged in distribution of Class III medical devices shall obtain a medical device operating license and entities engaged in distribution of Class II medical devices shall complete filings with the competent local MPA, while entities engaged in distribution of medical devices of Class I are not required to conduct any filing or obtain any license. In addition, in accordance with Regulations on Supervision and Administration of Medical Devices (《醫療器械監督管理條例》), promulgated by the State Council on February 9, 2021 and effective as of June 1, 2021, Class II and Class III medical devices shall be registered with the NMPA or its local branches, while Class I medical devices shall be filed with the competent local MPA. In the event that the business operator in distribution of Class III medical devices without a medical device operating license or the business operator in distribution of Class II or Class III medical devices that are not registered with the NMPA or its local branches, the business operator may be imposed fine or be shut down by the authorities. Certain of our subsidiaries and Consolidated Affiliated Entities have obtained a medical device operating license and/or completed filing for sales of Class III and/or Class II medical devices.

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Regulations relating to Online Sales of Medical Device

On December 20, 2017, the CFDA promulgated the Administration and Supervision Measures of Online Sales of Medical Devices (《醫療器械網絡銷售監督管理辦法》) (the "Online Medical Devices Sales Measures"), which became effective on March 1, 2018. According to the Online Medical Devices Sales Measures, enterprises engaged in online sales of medical devices must be medical device manufacture and operation enterprises with medical devices production licenses or operation licenses or being filed for record in accordance with laws and regulations, unless such licenses or record-filing is not required by laws and regulations. Pursuant to the Online Medical Devices Sales Measures, an enterprise engaging in online sales of medical devices shall carry out online sale of medical devices through its own website or a third-party platform for online trading services for medical devices. An enterprise engaging in online sale of medical devices through its own website shall obtain an Internet Drug Information Services Qualification License. Either enterprises engaging in online sales of medical devices or enterprises to provide a third-party platform for provision of medical devices online transaction services shall take technical measures to ensure the data and materials of medical devices online sales are authentic, completed and retrospective, for example, the records of sale information of medical devices shall be kept for two years after the valid period of the medical devices, and for no less than five years in case of no valid period, or be kept permanently in case of implanted medical devices. For the enterprises engaging in online sales of medical devices, such enterprises shall display its medical device production and operation license or record-filing certificate on visible place of its homepage, and the information of the medical devices published on the website shall be consistent with the related contents registered or filed for record; in addition, the business scope shall not exceed the scope of its production and operation license or the scope filed for record. For the enterprises to provide a third-party platform for provision of medical devices online transaction services, such enterprises shall be filed for record with the local provincial FDA, and shall verify the materials submitted by any enterprise applying for entering the platform.

Regulations relating to Internet Security

Internet information in China is regulated and restricted from a national security standpoint.

The SCNPC, has enacted the Decisions on Maintaining Internet Security (《關於維護互聯網安全的決定》) on December 28, 2000, amended on August 27, 2009, which may subject violators to criminal punishment in China for any effort to: (i) gain improper entry into a computer or system of strategic importance; (ii) disseminate politically disruptive information; (iii) leak state secrets; (iv) spread false commercial information; or (v) infringe intellectual property rights. The Ministry of Public Security of the PRC has promulgated the Administration Measures on the Security Protection of Computer Information Network with International Connections (《計算機信息網絡國際聯網安全保護管理辦法》) on December 16, 1997 and the State Council of the PRC has amended it on January 8, 2011 to prohibit use of the Internet in ways which, among other things, result in a leakage of state secrets or a spread of socially destabilizing content. If an Internet information service provider violates these measures, the Ministry of Public Security and the local security bureaus may revoke its operating license and shut down its websites.

On November 7, 2016, the SCNPC promulgated the Cyber Security Law of the PRC, or the Cyber Security Law (《中華人民共和國網絡安全法》), which became effective on June 1, 2017. The Cyber Security Law requires network operators to comply with laws and regulations and fulfill their obligations to safeguard security of the network when conducting business and providing services. The Cyber Security Law further requires network operators to take all necessary measures in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and compulsory national requirements to safeguard the safe and stable operation of the networks, respond to cyber security incidents effectively, prevent illegal and criminal activities, and maintain the integrity, confidentiality and usability of network data.

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The Revised CAC Measures, which stipulates that operators of critical information infrastructure purchasing network products and services, and network platform operators carrying out data processing activities that affect or may affect national security, shall conduct cyber security review. Pursuant to Article 7 of the Revised CAC Measures, any network platform operator with data on more than 1 million users must go through a cybersecurity review by the cybersecurity review office before listing in a foreign country (original text read as follows: “掌握超過100萬用戶個人信息的網絡平台運營者赴國外上市, 必須向網絡安全審查辦公室申報網絡安全審查”). The Draft for Comments, which provides that data processors listing in Hong Kong which affects or may affect national security shall apply for cybersecurity review. However, the Draft for Comments provides no further explanation or interpretation for “affects or may affect national security”, and there is substantial uncertainty as to its eventual introduction and entry. As of the Latest Practicable Date, the Draft for Comments have not been formally adopted.

Regulations relating to Personal Information or Data Protection

The Data Security Law of the PRC (中華人民共和國數據安全法), promulgated by the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress on June 10 2021, effective from September 1, 2021, stipulates that relevant entities carrying out data processing activities should comply with laws, regulations and codes of ethics, establish and improve the whole process data security management system in the process of data processing, strengthen risk monitoring, conduct regular risk assessments and report to the competent authorities. In December 2011, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (the “MIIT”) issued Several Provisions on Regulating the Market Order of Internet Information Services (《規範互聯網信息服務市場秩序若干規定》), which provides that an Internet information service provider may not collect any user’s personal information or provide any such information to third parties without such user’s consent. Pursuant to the Several Provisions on Regulating the Market Order of Internet Information Services, Internet information service providers are required to, among others, (i) expressly inform the users of the method, content and purpose of the collection and processing of such users’ personal information and may only collect such information necessary for the provision of its services; and (ii) properly maintain the users’ personal information, and in case of any leak or possible leak of a user’s personal information, online lending service providers must take immediate remedial measures and, in severe circumstances, make an immediate report to the telecommunications regulatory authority.

Pursuant to the Decision on Strengthening the Protection of Online Information (《關於加強網絡信息保護的決定》), issued by the SCNPC in December 2012, and the Order for the Protection of Telecommunication and Internet User Personal Information (《電信和互聯網用戶個人信息保護規定》), issued by the MIIT in July 2013, any collection and use of any user personal information must be subject to the consent of the user, and abide to the applicable law, rationality and necessity of the business and fall within the specified purposes, methods and scopes in the applicable laws. In addition, the Cyberspace Administration of China, or the CAC, the MIIT, the Ministry of Public Security and the SAMR jointly issued the Notice on Promulgation of the Rules on the Scope of Necessary Personal Information for Common Types of Mobile Internet Applications (常見類型移動互聯網應用程序必要個人信息範圍規定) in March 2021, effective from May 1, 2021, specifying that the operator of an internet application shall not refuse an user to use the App’s basic functional services on the ground that the user disagree with the collection of unnecessary personal information.

In addition, The Cyber Security Law provides that: (i) to collect and use personal information, network operators shall follow the principles of legitimacy, rightfulness and necessity, disclose rules of data collection and use, clearly express the purposes, means and scope of collecting and using the information, and obtain the consent of the persons whose data is gathered; (ii) network operators shall neither gather personal information unrelated to the services they provide, nor gather or use personal information in violation of the provisions of laws and administrative regulations or the scopes of consent given by the persons whose data is gathered; and shall dispose of personal information they have saved in accordance with the provisions of laws and administrative regulations and agreements reached with users; (iii) network operators shall not divulge, tamper with or damage the personal information they have

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collected, and shall not provide the personal information to others without the consent of the persons whose data is collected. However, if the information has been processed and cannot be recovered and thus it is impossible to match such information with specific persons, such circumstance is an exception. Furthermore, under the Cyber Security Law, network operators of key information infrastructure generally shall, during their operations in the PRC, store the personal information and important data collected and produced within the territory of the PRC. On August 22, 2019, CAC issued the Provisions on the Cyber Protection of Children’s Personal Information (《兒童個人信息網絡保護規定》), which became effective on October 1, 2019 and apply to the collection, storage, use, transfer and disclosure of the personal information of the minors under the age of 14, or the Children, via the Internet.

Pursuant to the Ninth Amendment to the Criminal Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國刑法修正案(九)》), issued by the SCNPC in August 2015, which became effective in November 2015, any Internet service provider that fails to fulfill its obligations related to Internet information security administration as required under applicable laws and refuses to rectify upon orders shall be subject to criminal penalty. In addition, Interpretations of the Supreme People’s Court and the Supreme People’s Procuratorate on Several Issues Concerning the Application of Law in the Handling of Criminal Cases Involving Infringement of Personal Information (《關於辦理侵犯公民個人信息刑事案件適用法律若干問題的解釋》), issued on May 8, 2017 and effective as of June 1, 2017, clarified certain standards for the conviction and sentencing of the criminals in relation to personal information infringement. In addition, on May 28, 2020, the National People’s Congress adopted the Civil Code of the PRC (《中華人民共和國民法典》) (the “Civil Code”), which became effective on January 1, 2021. Pursuant to the Civil Code, the personal information of a natural person shall be protected by the law. Any organization or individual shall legally obtain such personal information of others when necessary and ensure the safety of such information, and shall not illegally collect, use, process or transmit personal information of others, or illegally purchase or sell, provide or make public personal information of others.

Pursuant to the Regulations for Medical Institutions on Medical Records Management (《醫療機構病歷管理規定》) released on November 20, 2013, and effective from January 1, 2014, the medical institutions and medical practitioners shall strictly protect the privacy information of patients, and any leakage of patients’ medical records for non-medical, non-teaching or non-research purposes is prohibited. The NHFPC released the Measures for Administration of Population Health Information (Trial) (《人口健康信息管理辦法(試行)》) on May 5, 2014, which refers the medical health service information as the population healthcare information, and emphasizes that such information cannot be stored in offshore servers, and the offshore servers shall not be hosted or leased. Pursuant to the Management Measures of Standards, Safety and Service of National Health and Medical Big Data (Trial) (《國家健康醫療大數據標準、安全和服務管理辦法(試行)》), promulgated by the NHC on July 12, 2018, the medical institutions should establish relevant safety management systems, operation instructions and technical specifications to safeguard the safety of healthcare big data generated in the process of health management service or prevention and cure service of diseases. And it also stipulates that such healthcare big data should be stored in onshore servers and shall not be provided overseas without safety assessment.

Regulations relating to Foreign Investment

Investment activities in the PRC by foreign investors are principally governed by the Catalog of Industries for Encouraging Foreign Investment (the “Encouraging Catalog”), and the Special Management Measures (Negative List) for the Access of Foreign Investment (the “Negative List”), which were promulgated and are amended from time to time by the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC (the “MOFCOM”) and NDRC. The Encouraging Catalog and the Negative List lay out the basic framework for foreign investment in the PRC, classifying businesses into three categories with regard to foreign investment: “encouraged”, “restricted” and “prohibited”. Industries not listed in the Encouraging Catalog and the Negative List are generally deemed as falling into a fourth category “permitted”. The NDRC and MOFCOM promulgated the Catalog of Industries for Encouraging Foreign Investment (2020 Version)

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(《鼓勵外商投資產業目錄(2020年版)》) (the “2020 Encouraging Catalog”), on December 27, 2020, and the Special Management Measures (Negative List) for the Access of Foreign Investment (2021 Version) (《外商投資准入特別管理措施(負面清單)(2021年版)》) (the “2021 Negative List”), on December 27, 2021, to replace the previous encouraging catalog and negative list thereunder. According to the 2021 Negative List, the value-added telecommunications services (excluding e-commerce business, domestic multi-party communications, store-and-forward and call centers) fall into the “restricted” category and medical institutions are limited to the form of joint venture. The 2021 Negative List lacks clear guidance on the categorization of operation of “Internet hospital services” in terms of foreign investment restriction.

On March 15, 2019, the NPC, promulgated the Foreign Investment Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國外商投資法》) (the “FIL”), which has come into effect on January 1, 2020 and replaced the trio of laws regulating foreign investment in the PRC, namely, the PRC Equity Joint Venture Law (《中華人民共和國中外合資經營企業法》), the Wholly Foreign-Owned Enterprise Law (《中華人民共和國外資企業法》) and the PRC Cooperative Joint Venture Law (《中華人民共和國中外合作經營企業法》). Its implementation of regulations promulgated by the State Council in December 2019 also came into effect on January 1, 2020. The FIL, by means of legislation, establishes the basic framework for the access, promotion, protection and administration of foreign investment in view of investment protection and fair competition.

According to the FIL, foreign investment shall enjoy pre-entry national treatment, except for those foreign invested entities that operate in industries deemed to be either “restricted” or “prohibited” in the “negative list”. The FIL provides that foreign invested entities operating in foreign “restricted” or “prohibited” industries will require entry clearance and other approvals. The FIL does not comment on the concept of “de facto control” or contractual arrangements with consolidated affiliated entities, however, it has a catch-all provision under definition of “foreign investment” to include investments made by foreign investors in China through means stipulated by laws or administrative regulations or other methods prescribed by the State Council. Therefore, it still leaves leeway for future laws, administrative regulations or provisions to provide for contractual arrangements as a form of foreign investment. In addition, a foreign investment information reporting system shall be established and foreign investors or foreign-funded enterprises shall submit the investment information to competent departments for commerce through the enterprise registration system and the enterprise credit information publicity system.

Furthermore, the FIL provides that foreign invested enterprises established according to the existing laws regulating foreign investment may maintain their structure and corporate governance within five years after the implementing of the FIL, which means that foreign invested enterprises may be required to adjust the structure and corporate governance in accordance with the current PRC Company Law (《中華人民共和國公司法》) and other laws and regulations governing the corporate governance.

On December 26, 2019, the State Council promulgated the Implementation Rules to the PRC Foreign Investment Law (《中華人民共和國外商投資法實施條例》), which became effective on January 1, 2020. The implementation rules further clarified that the state encourages and promotes foreign investment, protects the lawful rights and interests of foreign investors, regulates foreign investment administration, continues to optimize foreign investment environment, and advances a higher-level opening.

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Regulations relating to Value-added Telecommunication Services

License for value-added telecommunications services

The Telecommunications Regulations of the PRC (《中華人民共和國電信條例》) (the “Telecommunications Regulations”), promulgated by the State Council on September 25, 2000 and amended on July 29, 2014 and February 6, 2016, provide a regulatory framework for telecommunications services providers in the PRC. The Telecommunications Regulations require telecommunications services providers to obtain an operating license prior to the commencement of their operations. The Telecommunications Regulations categorize telecommunications services into basic telecommunications services and value-added telecommunications services. According to the Catalog of Telecommunications Business (《電信業務分類目錄》), attached to the Telecommunications Regulations, which was promulgated by the Ministry of Information Industry (the “MII”, now known as MIIT) on February 21, 2003 and amended by the MIIT on December 28, 2015 and June 6, 2019, the Internet information services and the online data processing and transaction processing services fall within the value-added telecommunications services.

The Administrative Measures on Telecommunications Business Operating Licenses (《電信業務經營許可管理辦法》), which was promulgated by the MIIT on March 1, 2009 and amended on July 3, 2017, sets forth more specific provisions regarding the types of licenses required to operate value-added telecommunications services, the qualifications and procedures for obtaining such licenses and the administration and supervision of such licenses. The Administrative Measures on Internet Information Services (《互聯網信息服務管理辦法》) (the “Internet Measures”), promulgated by the State Council on September 25, 2000 and amended on January 8, 2011, requires that a commercial operator of Internet content provision services must obtain a value-added telecommunications business operating license for the provision of Internet information services from the appropriate telecommunications authorities.

Foreign investment in valued-added telecommunications business

Foreign direct investment in telecommunications companies in China is governed by the Regulations for the Administration of Foreign-Invested Telecommunications Enterprises (《外商投資電信企業管理規定》), which was promulgated by the State Council on December 11, 2001 and amended on September 10, 2008, February 6, 2016 and March 29, 2022. The Regulations for the Administration of Foreign-Invested Telecommunications Enterprises requires foreign-invested value-added telecommunications enterprises in China to be established as sino-foreign equity joint ventures, which the foreign investors may acquire up to 50% of the equity interests of such enterprise. However, the requirement that main foreign investor investing in a value-added telecommunications enterprise in the PRC shall demonstrate a positive track record and experience in operating a value-added telecommunications business has been repealed by the Decision of the State Council on Amending and Abolishing Some Administrative Regulations (《國務院關於修改和廢止部分行政法規的決定》) effective from May 1, 2022. In July 2006, the MII released the Notice on Strengthening the Administration of Foreign Investment in and Operation of Value-added Telecommunications Business (《信息產業部關於加強外商投資經營增值電信業務管理的通知》) (the “MII Notice”), pursuant to which, domestic telecommunications enterprises are prohibited to rent, transfer or sell a telecommunications business operation license to foreign investors in any form, or provide any resources, premises, facilities and other assistance in any form to foreign investors for their illegal operation of any telecommunications business in China. In addition, under the MII Notice, the Internet domain names and registered trademarks used by a foreign-invested value-added telecommunication service operator shall be legally owned by that operator (or its shareholders).

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Recent development on rules relating to overseas listing

The Draft Provisions and the Draft Measures (together with the Draft Provisions, “the Drafts”), which are open for public comments until January 23, 2022. Pursuant to the Drafts, PRC domestic companies that directly or indirectly offer or list their securities in an overseas market, which include (i) any PRC company limited by shares, and (ii) any offshore company that conducts its business operations primarily in China and contemplates to offer or list its securities in an overseas market based on its onshore equities, assets or similar interests, are required to file with the CSRC within three business days after submitting their listing application documents to the relevant regulator in the place of intended listing. Failure to complete the filing under the Draft Provisions may subject a PRC domestic company to a warning or a fine of RMB1 million to RMB10 million. If the circumstances are serious, the PRC domestic company may be ordered to suspend its business or suspend its business until rectification, or its permits or businesses license may be revoked. As of the Latest Practicable Date, the Drafts have not been formally adopted yet, and it is uncertain when the final regulations will be issued and take effect, how they will be enacted, interpreted and implemented, and whether or to what extent they will affect the Company.

Regulations relating to Online Trading

The MOFCOM promulgated the Provisions on the Procedures for Formulating Transaction Rules of Third Party Online Retail Platforms (Trial) (《網絡零售第三方平臺交易規則制定程序規定(試行)》) in December 2014, which became effective in April 2015, to guide and regulate the formulation, revision and enforcement of transaction rules by online retail third-party platforms operators.

The Ministry of Finance of the PRC (the “MOF”), General Administration of Customs and the State Taxation Administration of the PRC (the “SAT”) issued the New Cross-Border E-commerce Retail Imports Tax Notice (《關於跨境電子商務零售進口稅收政策的通知》) in March 2016. Pursuant to this circular, goods imported through the cross-border e-commerce retail are subject to tariff, import value-added tax, or VAT, and consumption tax based on the types of goods. Individuals purchasing any goods imported through cross-border e-commerce retail are taxpayers, and e-commerce companies, companies operating e-commerce transaction platforms or logistic companies are required to withhold the taxes.

In August 2018, the SCNPC promulgated the E-Commerce Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國電子商務法》), effective on January 1, 2019, which aims to regulate the e-commerce activities conducted within the territory of the PRC. Pursuant to the E-Commerce Law, an e-commerce platform operator shall (i) collect, verify and register the truthful information submitted by the third-party merchants that apply to sell products or provide services on its platform, including the identities, addresses, contacts and licenses, establish registration archives and update such information on a regular basis; (ii) submit the identification information of the third-party merchants on its platform to market regulatory administrative department as required and remind the third-party merchants to complete the registration with market regulatory administrative department; (iii) submit identification information and tax-related information to tax authorities as required in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the administration of tax collection and remind the individual third-party merchants to complete the tax registration; (iv) record and retain the information of the products and services and the transaction information for no less than 3 years; (v) display the platform service agreement and the transaction rules or links to such information on the homepage of the platform; (vi) display the noticeable labels regarding the products or services provided by the platform operator itself on its platform, and take liabilities for such products and services; (vii) establish a credit evaluation system, display the credit evaluation rules, provide consumers with accesses to make comments on the products and services provided on its platform, and restrain from deleting such comments; and (viii) establish intellectual property protection rules, and take necessary measures when any intellectual property holder notify the platform operator that his intellectual property rights have been infringed. An e-commerce platform operator shall take joint liabilities with the relevant third-party

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merchants on its platform and may be subject to warnings and fines up to RMB2,000,000 where (i) it fails to take necessary measures when it knows or should have known that the products or services provided by the third-party merchants on its platform do not meet the personal or property safety requirements or such third-party merchants' other acts may infringe on the lawful rights and interests of the consumers; or (ii) it fails to take necessary measures, such as deleting and blocking information, disconnecting, terminating transactions and services, when it knows or should have known that the third-party merchants on its platform infringe any intellectual property rights of any other third party. With respect to products or services affecting the consumers' life and health, if an e-commerce platform operator fails to verify the third-party merchants' qualification or fails to fulfill its obligations to safeguard the safety of consumers, which results in damages to the consumers, it shall take corresponding liabilities and may be subject to warnings and fines up to RMB2,000,000.

In March 2021, the State Administration for Market Regulation promulgated the Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Online Trading (《網絡交易監督管理辦法》), effective on May 1, 2021, which aims to regulate business activities involving the sale of commodities or provision of services through Internet and other information networks. Pursuant to the Measures for the Supervision and Administration of Online Trading, an online trading business shall continuously publicize the information of business entities or a link to such information in a prominent position on the homepage of its website or the main page of its business activities. An online trading business is encouraged to link to the electronic business license display system of the SAMR and publicize its business license information. An online trading platform operator shall require a business that applies for selling commodities or providing services on the platform to submit true information on its identity, address, contact information, and administrative licensing, among others, conduct verification and registration, establish registration archives, and verify and update relevant information once at least every six months.

Regulations relating to Internet Advertising

The SCNPC released the Advertising Law of the People's Republic of China (《中華人民共和國廣告法》) on October 27, 1994 and latest amended on April 29, 2021, which provides that the Internet information service providers shall not publish medical, drugs, medical machinery or health food advertisements in disguised form of introduction of healthcare and wellness knowledge.

The Interim Measures for Administration of Internet Advertising (《互聯網廣告管理暫行辦法》) (the "Internet Advertising Measures") regulating the Internet-based advertising activities, were adopted by the SAIC on July 4, 2016. According to the Internet Advertising Measures, Internet advertisers are responsible for the authenticity of the advertisements content. Publishing and circulating advertisements through the Internet shall not affect the normal use of the Internet by users. It is not allowed to induce users to click on the content of advertisements by any fraudulent means, or to attach advertisements or advertising links in the emails without permission.

Pursuant to the Interim Administrative Measures for Censorship of Advertisements for Drugs, Medical Devices, Dietary Supplements and Foods for Special Medical Purpose (《藥品、醫療器械、保健食品、特殊醫學用途配方食品廣告審查管理暫行辦法》), which were promulgated by the State Administration for Market Regulation on December 24, 2019, effective on March 1, 2020, an enterprise seeking to advertise its drugs, medical devices, dietary supplement or food for special medical purpose must apply for an advertisement approval number. The validity period of the advertisement approval number concerning a drug, medical device, dietary supplement or food for special medical purpose shall be consistent with that of the registration certificate or record-filing certificate or the production license of the product, whichever is the shortest. Where no validity period is set forth in the registration certificate, record-filing certificate or the production license of the product, the advertisement approval number shall be valid for two years. The content of an approved advertisement may not be altered without prior approval. Where any alteration to the advertisement is needed, a new advertisement approval shall be obtained.

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Regulations relating to Mobile Internet Applications Information Services

Mobile Internet applications (the “APPs”) and the Internet application store (the “APP Store”) are especially regulated by the Administrative Provisions on Mobile Internet Applications Information Services (《移動互聯網應用程序信息服務管理規定》) (the “APP Provisions”), which was promulgated by the CAC on June 28, 2016 and amended on August 1, 2022. The APP Provisions regulate the APP information service providers and the APP Store service providers, while the CAC and local offices of cyberspace administration shall be responsible for the supervision and administration of nationwide or local APP information respectively. The APP information service providers shall acquire relevant qualifications required by laws and regulations and implement the information security management responsibilities strictly and fulfill their obligations provided by the APP Provisions.

Regulations relating to Food Safety

In accordance with the Food Safety Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國食品安全法》) (the “Food Safety Law”), promulgated on February 28, 2009 and latest amended on April 29, 2021, and the Implementation Regulations of the Food Safety Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國食品安全法實施條例》), or the Implementation Regulations, issued on July 20, 2009 and latest amended on October 11, 2019 and effective on December 1, 2019, with the purpose of guaranteeing food safety and safe guarding the health and life safety of the public, the PRC sets up a system of the supervision, monitoring and appraisal on the food safety risks, compulsory adoption of food safety standards. To engage in food production, sale or catering services, the business operators shall obtain a license in accordance with the laws and regulations. Furthermore, the State Council implements strict supervision and administration for special categories of foods such as healthcare food, special formula foods for medical purposes and infant formula.

Administrative Measures for Food Operation Licensing (《食品經營許可管理辦法》) promulgated by CFDA on August 31, 2015 and amended on November 17, 2017, regulates the food operation licensing activities, strengthens supervision and management of food operation, and ensures food safety. Food operation operators shall obtain the food operation license for each business venue where they engage in food operation activities. The food operation license is valid for five years.

Regulations relating to Consumer Protection and Product Quality

Consumers protection

The Consumer Protection Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國消費者權益保護法》) promulgated by SCNPC, which was latest amended on October 25, 2013 and effective on March 15, 2014, sets out the obligations of business operators and the rights and interests of the consumers in China. Pursuant to this law, business operators must guarantee that the commodities they sell satisfy the requirements for personal or property safety, provide consumers with authentic information about the commodities, and guarantee the quality, function, usage and term of validity of the commodities. Failure to comply with the Consumer Protection Law may subject business operators to civil liabilities such as refunding purchase prices, replacement of commodities, repairing, ceasing damages, compensation, and restoring reputation, and even subject the business operators to criminal penalties. Where the operators of the online trading platforms are unable to provide the real names, addresses and valid contact details of the sellers or service providers, the consumers may also claim damages to the providers of the online trading platforms. Operators of online trading platforms that clearly knew or should have known that sellers or service providers use their platforms to infringe upon the legitimate rights and interests of consumers but fail to take necessary measures must bear joint and several liabilities with the sellers or service providers. Moreover, if business operators deceive consumers or knowingly sell substandard or defective products, they should not only compensate consumers for their losses, but also pay additional damages equal to three times the price of the goods or services.

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Product quality

The Product Quality Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國產品質量法》) applies to all production and sale activities in China. Pursuant to this law, products offered for sale must satisfy relevant quality and safety standards. Enterprises may not produce or sell counterfeit products in any fashion, including forging brand labels or giving false information regarding a product’s manufacturer. Violations of state or industrial standards for health and safety and any other related violations may result in civil liabilities and administrative penalties, such as compensation for damages, fines, suspension or shutdown of business, as well as confiscation of products illegally produced and sold and the proceeds from such sales. Severe violations may subject the responsible individual or enterprise to criminal liabilities. Where a defective product causes physical injury or damage of property, the victim may claim compensation from the manufacturer or from the seller of the product. If the seller pays compensation and it is the manufacturer that should bear the liability, the seller has a right of recourse against the manufacturer. Similarly, if the manufacturer pays compensation and it is the seller that should bear the liability, the manufacturer has a right of recourse against the seller.

Regulations relating to Single-Purpose Commercial Prepaid Cards

Pursuant to the Administrative Measures on Single-Purpose Commercial Prepaid Cards (Trial Implementation) (《單用途商業預付卡管理辦法(試行)》) (the “Administrative Measures on Single Purpose Prepaid Cards”), promulgated by MOFCOM on September 21, 2012 and amended on August 18, 2016, single-purpose commercial prepaid cards are prepaid certificates issued by an enterprise engaging in retail industry, accommodation and catering industry and residential services industry which are limited to be used as payment for goods or services by the enterprise or within the group to which the enterprise belongs or within the franchise system of the same brand, including physical cards in various forms such as magnetic stripe cards, chip cards, and paper coupons as well as virtual cards. In accordance with the Administrative Measures on Single-purpose Prepaid Cards, card-issuers shall complete filing formalities within 30 days from the date of carrying out single-purpose card businesses. The limit of a single registered card shall not exceed RMB5,000 and the limit of a single non-registered card shall not exceed RMB1,000. A registered card shall not have a validity period and a validity period of a non-registered card shall not be less than three years. Violation of the aforementioned regulations may result in an order of rectification. Where the card issuer fails to rectify the violation within a stipulated period, a fine ranging from RMB10,000 to RMB30,000 may be imposed.

Regulations relating to Anti-Monopoly in China

The PRC Anti-monopoly Law (《中華人民共和國反壟斷法》), which was promulgated on August 30, 2007 and latest as amended on June 24, 2022, and became effective on August 1, 2022, prohibits monopolistic conduct such as entering into monopoly agreements, abuse of dominant market position and concentration of undertakings that have the effect of eliminating or restricting competition.

A business operator with a dominant market position may not abuse its dominant market position to conduct acts such as selling commodities at unfairly high prices or buying commodities at unfairly low prices, selling products at prices below cost without any justifiable cause, and refusing to trade with a trading party without any justifiable cause. Sanctions for the violations of the prohibition on the abuse of dominant market position include an order to cease the relevant activities, confiscation of the illegal gains and fines (from 1% to 10% of sales revenue from the previous year). On June 26, 2019, the SAMR issued the Interim Provisions on the Prohibitions of Acts of Abuse of Dominant Market Positions (《禁止濫用市場支配地位行為暫行規定》), which took effect on September 1, 2019 and amended on March 24, 2022 to further prevent and prohibit the abuse of dominant market positions. In February 2021, the Anti-Monopoly Committee of the State Council, published the Guidelines of the Anti-monopoly Commission of the State Council for Anti-monopoly in the Field of Platform Economy (《關於平臺經濟領域的反壟斷指南》) (the “Guidelines”), aiming to improve anti-monopoly administration on online platforms.

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Regulations relating to Taxation

Enterprise income tax

On March 16, 2007, the NPC promulgated the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》) which was latest amended on December 29, 2018, and the State Council enacted the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on Enterprise Income Tax of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》) which were latest amended on April 23, 2019 (collectively, the "EIT Law"). According to the EIT Law, taxpayers consist of resident enterprises and non-resident enterprises. Resident enterprises are defined as enterprises that are established in China in accordance with PRC laws, or that are established in accordance with the laws of foreign countries but whose actual or de facto control is administered from within the PRC. Non-resident enterprises are defined as enterprises that are set up in accordance with the laws of foreign countries and whose actual administration is conducted outside the PRC, but have established institutions or premises in the PRC, or have no such established institutions or premises but have income generated from inside the PRC. Under the EIT Law and relevant implementing regulations, a uniform corporate income tax rate of 25% is applicable. However, if non-resident enterprises have not formed permanent establishments or premises in the PRC, or if they have formed permanent establishment institutions or premises in the PRC but there is no actual relationship between the relevant income derived in the PRC and the established institutions or premises set up by them, the enterprise income tax is, in that case, set at the rate of 10% for their income sourced from inside the PRC.

Value-added tax

Pursuant to the Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Value-Added Tax (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例》), which was promulgated by the State Council on December 13, 1993 and latest amended on November 19, 2017, and the Implementation Rules for the Implementation of the Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Value-Added Tax (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例實施細則》), which was promulgated by the MOF on December 25, 1993 and latest as amended on October 28, 2011, and became effective on November 1, 2011, entities or individuals engaging in sale of goods, provision of processing services, repairs and replacement services or importation of goods within the territory of the PRC shall pay value-added tax (the "VAT").

On March 20, 2019, the MOF, the SAT and the General Administration of Customs jointly issued the Announcement on Policies for Deepening the VAT Reform (《關於深化增值稅改革有關政策的公告》), or Announcement 39, to further slash value-added tax rates. According to the Announcement 39, (i) for general VAT payers' sales activities or imports that are subject to VAT at an existing applicable rate of 16% or 10%, the applicable VAT rate is adjusted to 13% or 9% respectively; (ii) for the agricultural products purchased by taxpayers to which an existing 10% deduction rate is applicable, the deduction rate is adjusted to 9%; (iii) for the agricultural products purchased by taxpayers for production or commissioned processing, which are subject to VAT at 13%, the input VAT will be calculated at a 10% deduction rate; (iv) for the exportation of goods or labor services that are subject to VAT at 16%, with the applicable export refund at the same rate, the export refund rate is adjusted to 13%; and (v) for the exportation of goods or cross-border taxable activities that are subject to VAT at 10%, with the export refund at the same rate, the export refund rate is adjusted to 9%. The Announcement 39 came into effect on April 1, 2019 and shall prevail in case of any conflict with existing provisions.

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

Dividend withholding tax

Pursuant to the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》) and its implementation rules, if a non-resident enterprise has not set up an organization or establishment in the PRC, or has set up an organization or establishment but the income derived has no actual connection with such organization or establishment, it will be subject to a withholding tax on its PRC-sourced income at a rate of 10%. Pursuant to the Arrangement between Mainland China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Tax Evasion on Income (《內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排》), the withholding tax rate in respect to the payment of dividends by a PRC enterprise to a Hong Kong enterprise is reduced to 5% from a standard rate of 10% if the Hong Kong enterprise directly holds at least 25% of the PRC enterprise.

Pursuant to the Notice of the State Administration of Taxation on the Issues concerning the Application of the Dividend Clauses of Tax Agreements (《國家稅務總局關於執行稅收協定股息條款有關問題的通知》), or Circular 81, if the relevant PRC tax authorities determine, in their discretion, that a company benefits from such reduced income tax rate due to a structure or arrangement that is primarily tax-driven, such PRC tax authorities may adjust the preferential tax treatment. Furthermore, the Administrative Measures for Non-Resident Taxpayer to Enjoy Treatments under Tax Treaties (《非居民納稅人享受稅收協定待遇管理辦法》), or SAT Circular 60, which became effective in November 2015, require that non-resident enterprises which satisfy the criteria for entitlement to tax treaty benefits may, at the time of tax declaration or withholding declaration through a withholding agent, enjoy the tax treaty benefits, and be subject to ongoing administration by the tax authorities. In the case where the non-resident enterprises do not apply to the withholding agent to claim the tax treaty benefits, or the materials and the information stated in the relevant reports and statements provided to the withholding agent do not satisfy the criteria for entitlement to tax treaty benefits, the withholding agent should withhold tax pursuant to the provisions of the PRC tax laws. The SAT issued the Announcement of State Taxation Administration on Promulgation of the Administrative Measures on Non-resident Taxpayers Enjoying Treaty Benefits (國家稅務總局關於發佈《非居民納稅人享受協定待遇管理辦法》的公告), the SAT Circular 35 on October 14, 2019, which became effective on January 1, 2020. The SAT Circular 35 further simplified the procedures for enjoying treaty benefits and replaced the SAT Circular 60. According to the SAT Circular 35, no approvals from the tax authorities are required for a non-resident taxpayer to enjoy treaty benefits, where a non-resident taxpayer self-assesses and concludes that it satisfies the criteria for claiming treaty benefits, it may enjoy treaty benefits at the time of tax declaration or at the time of withholding through the withholding agent, but it shall gather and retain the relevant materials as required for future inspection, and accept follow-up administration by the tax authorities. There are also other conditions for enjoying the reduced withholding tax rate according to other relevant tax rules and regulations. According to the Circular on Several Issues regarding the "Beneficial Owner" in Tax Treaties (《關於稅收協定中“受益所有人”有關問題的公告》), or Circular 9, which was issued on February 3, 2018 by the SAT, effective as of April 1, 2018, when determining the applicant's status of the "beneficial owner" regarding tax treatments in connection with dividends, interests or royalties in the tax treaties, several factors, including without limitation, whether the applicant is obligated to pay more than 50% of its income in twelve months to residents in third country or region, whether the business operated by the applicant constitutes the actual business activities, and whether the counterparty country or region to the tax treaties does not levy any tax or grant tax exemption on relevant incomes or levy tax at an extremely low rate, will be taken into account, and it will be analyzed according to the actual circumstances of the specific cases. This circular further provides that applicants who intend to prove his or her status of the "beneficial owner" shall submit the relevant documents to the relevant tax bureau according to the Administrative Measures for Non-Resident Enterprises to Enjoy Treatments under Tax Treaties.

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

Regulations relating to Intellectual Property

The PRC has adopted comprehensive legislation governing intellectual property rights, including copyrights, patents, trademarks and domain names.

Copyright. Copyright in the PRC is principally protected under the Copyright Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國著作權法》) and its implementation rules. Reproducing, distributing, performing, projecting, broadcasting or compiling a work or communicating the same to the public via an information network without permission from the owner of the copyright therein, unless otherwise provided in the Copyright Law of the PRC and related rules and regulations, shall constitute infringements of copyrights. The infringer shall, according to the circumstances of the case, undertake to cease the infringement, eliminate impacts, publicly apologize, and pay damages, etc. In addition, the Regulations on the Protection of Rights to Information Network Communication (《信息網絡傳播權保護條例》) promulgated by the State Council on May 18, 2006 as amended in 2013, provides specific rules on fair use, statutory license, and a safe harbor for use of copyrights and copyright management technology and specifies the liabilities of various entities for violations, including copyright holders, libraries and Internet service providers.

Patent. The Patent Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國專利法》) provides for three types of patents, “invention”, “utility model” and “design”. To be patentable, invention or utility models must meet three criteria: novelty, inventiveness and practicability. The National Intellectual Property Administration is responsible for examining and approving patent applications.

Trademark. The Trademark Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國商標法》) and its implementation rules protect registered trademarks. The Trademark Office of National Intellectual Property Administration is responsible for the registration and administration of trademarks throughout the PRC. The Trademark Law has adopted a “first-to-file” principle with respect to trademark registration.

Domain Name. Domain names are protected under the Administrative Measures on the Internet Domain Names (《互聯網域名管理辦法》) promulgated by the MIIT. The MIIT is the major regulatory body responsible for the administration of the PRC Internet domain names, under supervision of which the CNNIC is responsible for the daily administration of “.cn” domain names and Chinese domain names. CNNIC adopts the “first to file” principle with respect to the registration of domain names. In November 2017, the MIIT promulgated the Notice of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology on Regulating the Use of Domain Names in Providing Internet-based Information Services (《工業和信息化部關於規範互聯網信息服務使用域名的通知》), which became effective on January 1, 2018. Pursuant to the notice, the domain name used by an Internet-based information service provider in providing Internet-based information services must be registered and owned by such provider in accordance with the law. If the Internet-based information service provider is an entity, the domain name registrant must be the entity (or any of the entity’s shareholders), or the entity’s principal or senior manager.

Regulations relating to Foreign Exchange

The principal regulation governing foreign currency exchange in China is the Foreign Exchange Administration Regulations of the PRC (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) which was promulgated by the State Council on January 29, 1996 and was latest amended on August 5, 2008. Pursuant to this regulation and other PRC rules and regulations on currency conversion, Renminbi is freely convertible for payments of current account items, such as trade and service-related foreign exchange transactions and dividend payments, but not freely convertible for capital account items, such as direct investment, loan or investment in securities outside China unless prior approval of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (the “SAFE”) or its local counterpart is obtained.

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

On February 13, 2015, SAFE promulgated the Notice on Further Simplifying and Improving the Direct Investment-related Foreign Exchange Administration Policies (《關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知》), according to which, entities and individuals may apply for such foreign exchange registrations from qualified banks. The qualified banks, under the supervision of SAFE, may directly review the applications and conduct the registration. On March 30, 2015, SAFE promulgated the Circular on Reforming the Management Approach regarding the Settlement of Foreign Capital of Foreign-invested Enterprise (《關於改革外商投資企業外匯資本金結匯管理方式的通知》) (the “Circular 19”). According to Circular 19, the foreign exchange capital of foreign-invested enterprises shall be subject to the Discretionary Foreign Exchange Settlement, which means that the foreign exchange capital in the capital account of a foreign-invested enterprise for which the rights and interests of monetary contribution have been confirmed by the local foreign exchange bureau (or the book-entry registration of monetary contribution by the banks) can be settled at the banks based on the actual operational needs of the foreign-invested enterprise, and if a foreign-invested enterprise needs to make further payment from such account, it still needs to provide supporting documents and proceed with the review process with the banks. Furthermore, Circular 19 stipulates that the use of capital by foreign-invested enterprises shall follow the principles of authenticity and self-use within the business scope of enterprises. The capital of a foreign-invested enterprise and capital in Renminbi obtained by the foreign-invested enterprise from foreign exchange settlement shall not be used for the following purposes: (i) directly or indirectly used for payments beyond the business scope of the enterprises or payments as prohibited by relevant laws and regulations; (ii) directly or indirectly used for investment in securities unless otherwise provided by the relevant laws and regulations; (iii) directly or indirectly used for granting entrust loans in Renminbi (unless permitted by the scope of business), repaying inter-enterprise borrowings (including advances by the third-party) or repaying the bank loans in Renminbi that have been sub-lent to third parties; or (iv) directly or indirectly used for expenses related to the purchase of real estate that is not for self-use (except for the foreign-invested real estate enterprises).

The Circular of Further Simplifying and Improving the Direct Investment-related Foreign Exchange Administration Policies (《關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知》) or SAFE Circular 13, which became effective on June 1, 2015 and was amended on December 30, 2019, cancels the administrative approvals of foreign exchange registration of direct domestic investment and direct overseas investment and simplifies the procedure of foreign exchange-related registration. Pursuant to SAFE Circular 13, investors should register with banks for direct domestic investment and direct overseas investment.

The Circular on Reforming and Standardizing the Foreign Exchange Settlement Management Policy of Capital Account (《關於改革和規範資本項目結匯管理政策的通知》) (the “Circular 16”), was promulgated by SAFE on June 9, 2016. Pursuant to Circular 16, enterprises registered in the PRC may also convert their foreign debts from foreign currency to Renminbi on a self-discretionary basis. Circular 16 reiterates the principle that Renminbi converted from foreign currency-denominated capital of a company may not be directly or indirectly used for purposes beyond its business scope or prohibited by PRC Laws, while such converted Renminbi shall not be provided as loans to its non-affiliated entities.

On January 18, 2017, SAFE promulgated the Circular on Further Improving Reform of Foreign Exchange Administration and Optimizing Genuineness and Compliance Verification (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步推進外匯管理改革完善真實合規性審核的通知》), which stipulates several capital control measures with respect to the outbound remittance of profit from domestic entities to offshore entities, including: (i) banks should check board resolutions regarding profit distribution, the original version of tax filing records, and audited financial statements pursuant to the principle of genuine transactions; and (ii) domestic entities should hold income to account for previous years’ losses before remitting the profits. Moreover, pursuant to this circular, domestic entities should make detailed explanations of the sources of capital and utilization arrangements, and provide board resolutions, contracts, and other proof when completing the registration procedures in connection with an outbound investment.

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

On October 23, 2019, the SAFE promulgated the Notice for Further Advancing the Facilitation of Cross-border Trade and Investment (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步促進跨境貿易投資便利化的通知》), which, among other things, allows all foreign invested enterprises to use Renminbi converted from foreign currency denominated capital for equity investments in China, as long as the equity investment is genuine, does not violate applicable laws, and complies with the negative list on foreign investment.

According to the Circular of SAFE on Optimizing Foreign Exchange Administration to Support the Development of Foreign-related Business (《國家外匯管理局關於優化外匯管理支持涉外業務發展的通告》) (the "SAFE Circular 8") promulgated and effective on April 10, 2020 by the SAFE, the reform of facilitating the payments of incomes under the capital accounts shall be promoted nationwide. Under the prerequisite of ensuring true and compliant use of funds and compliance and complying with the prevailing administrative provisions on use of income from capital projects, enterprises which satisfy the criteria are allowed to use income under the capital account, such as capital funds, foreign debt and overseas listing, etc., for domestic payment, without the need to provide proof materials for veracity to the bank beforehand for each transaction.

Regulations relating to Labor

The Labor Contract Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國勞動合同法》) as promulgated by the SCNPC on June 29, 2007 and amended on December 28, 2012 and effective as from July 1, 2013, and its implementation rules provide requirements concerning employment contracts between an employer and its employees. If an employer fails to enter into a written employment contract with an employee within one year from the date on which the employment relationship is established, the employer must rectify the situation by entering into a written employment contract with the employee and pay the employee twice the employee's salary for the period from the day following the lapse of one month from the date of establishment of the employment relationship to the day prior to the execution of the written employment contract. The Labor Contract Law and its implementation rules also require compensation to be paid upon certain terminations. In addition, if an employer intends to enforce a non-compete provision with an employee in an employment contract or non-competition agreement, it has to compensate the employee on a monthly basis during the term of the restriction period after the termination or ending of the labor contract. Employers in most cases are also required to provide a severance payment to their employees after their employment relationships are terminated.

Enterprises in China are required by PRC laws and regulations to participate in certain employee benefit plans, including social insurance funds, namely a pension plan, a medical insurance plan, an unemployment insurance plan, a work-related injury insurance plan and a maternity insurance plan, and a housing provident fund, and contribute to the plans or funds in amounts equal to certain percentages of salaries, including bonuses and allowances, of the employees as specified by the local government from time to time at locations where they operate their businesses or where they are located. According to the Social Insurance Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國社會保險法》) which was promulgated by the SCNPC on October 28, 2010 and became effective on July 1, 2011 and as amended on December 29, 2018, an employer that fails to make social insurance contributions may be ordered to pay the required contributions within a stipulated time limit and be subject to a late fee. If the employer still fails to rectify the failure to make social insurance contributions within the stipulated deadline, it may be subject to a fine ranging from one to three times the amount overdue. According to the Regulations on Management of Housing Fund (《住房公積金管理條例》) which was promulgated by the State Council on April 3, 1999 and became effective on April 3, 1999 and as amended on March 24, 2019, an enterprise that fails to make housing fund contributions may be ordered to rectify the noncompliance and pay the required contributions within a stipulated time limit; otherwise, an application may be made to a local court for compulsory enforcement.

REGULATORY OVERVIEW

Regulations relating to Leasing

Pursuant to the Law of the PRC on Administration of Urban Real Estate (《中華人民共和國城市房地產管理法》), when leasing premises, the lessor and lessee are required to enter into a written lease contract, containing such provisions as the leasing term, use of the premises, rental and repair liabilities, and other rights and obligations of both parties. Both lessor and lessee are also required to register the lease with the real estate administration department. If the lessor and lessee fail to go through the registration procedures, both lessor and lessee may be subject to fines.

According to the PRC Civil Code (《中華人民共和國民法典》), the lessee may sublease the leased premises to a third party, subject to the consent of the lessor. Where the lessee subleases the premises, the lease contract between the lessee and the lessor remains valid. The lessor is entitled to terminate the lease contract if the lessee subleases the premises without the consent of the lessor. In addition, if the lessor transfers the premises, the lease contract between the lessee and the lessor will still remain valid. Where the mortgaged property has been leased and the possession thereof has been transferred before the creation of mortgage, the original lease relations shall not be affected by the mortgage.