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## APPENDIX V SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL PRC AND HONG KONG LEGAL AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

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

### PRC LAWS AND REGULATIONS

#### PRC Legal System

The PRC legal system is based on the PRC Constitution (the “Constitution”) and is made up of written laws, administrative regulations, local regulations, autonomous regulations, separate regulations, rules and regulations of State Council departments, rules and regulations of local governments, laws of special administrative regions and international treaties of which the PRC government is the signatory and other regulatory documents. Court judgments do not constitute legally binding precedents, although they are used for the purposes of judicial reference and guidance.

Pursuant to the Constitution and the Legislation Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國立法法》) (the “Legislation Law”), the National People’s Congress (the “NPC”) and its Standing Committee are empowered to exercise the legislative power of the State. The NPC has the power to formulate and amend basic laws governing State organs, civil, criminal and other matters. The Standing Committee of the NPC is empowered to formulate and amend laws other than those required to be enacted by the NPC and to supplement and amend parts of the laws enacted by the NPC during the adjournment of the NPC, provided that such supplements and amendments are not in conflict with the basic principles of such laws.

The State Council is the highest organ of state administration and has the power to formulate administrative regulations based on the Constitution and laws.

The people’s congresses of the provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government and their respective standing committees may formulate local regulations based on the specific circumstances and actual needs of their respective administrative areas, provided that such regulations do not contravene any provision of the Constitution, laws or administrative regulations. The people’s congresses of cities divided into districts and their respective standing committees may formulate local regulations with respect to urban and rural construction and administration, environmental protection, historical and

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cultural protection and other aspects according to the specific circumstances and actual needs of such cities, provided that such local regulations do not contravene any provision of the Constitution, laws, administrative regulations and local regulations of their respective provinces or autonomous regions. If the law provides otherwise on the formulation of local regulations by cities divided into districts, those provisions shall prevail. Such local regulations will become enforceable after being reported to and approved by the standing committees of the People's congresses of the relevant provinces or autonomous regions. The standing committees of the people's congresses of the provinces or autonomous regions shall examine the legality of local regulations submitted for approval, and such approval should be granted within four months if they are not in conflict with the Constitution, laws, administrative regulations and local regulations of the provinces or autonomous regions concerned. Where, during the examination for approval of local regulations of cities with districts by the standing committees of the people's congresses of the provinces or autonomous regions, conflicts are identified with the rules and regulations of the people's governments of the provinces or autonomous regions concerned, a decision should be made by the standing committees of the people's congresses of provinces or autonomous regions to handle the issue.

The ministries and commissions of the State Council, the PBoC, the National Audit Office and the subordinate institutions with administrative functions directly under the State Council, including the State Administration for Market Regulation, may formulate departmental rules and regulations within the permissions of their respective departments based on the laws and administrative regulations, and the decisions and orders of the State Council. Provisions of departmental rules should be the matters related to the enforcement of the laws and administrative regulations, the decisions and orders of the State Council. The people's governments of the provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the central government and cities with districts may formulate rules and regulations based on the laws, administrative regulations and local regulations of such provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government.

According to the Constitution, the power to interpret laws is vested in the Standing Committee of the NPC. Pursuant to the Resolution of the Standing Committee of the NPC Providing an Improved Interpretation of the Law (《全國人民代表大會常務委員會關於加強法律解釋工作的決議》) passed on June 10, 1981, issues related to the further clarification or supplement of laws should be interpreted or provided by the Standing Committee of the NPC, issues related to the application of laws in a court trial should be interpreted by the Supreme People's Court, issues related to the application of laws in a prosecution process should be interpreted by the Supreme People's Procuratorate, and the legal issues other than the above-mentioned should be interpreted by the State Council and the competent authorities. The State Council and its ministries and commissions are also vested with the power to give interpretations of the administrative regulations and departmental rules which they have promulgated. At the regional level, the power to interpret regional laws is vested in the regional legislative and administrative authorities which promulgate such laws.

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### PRC Judicial System

Under the Constitution and the Law of Organization of the People’s Courts of the PRC (《中華人民共和國人民法院組織法》), the people’s courts are classified into the Supreme People’s Court, the local people’s courts at various local levels, and other special people’s courts. The local people’s courts at various local levels are divided into three levels, namely, the primary people’s courts, the intermediate people’s courts and the higher people’s courts. The primary people’s courts are further divided into civil, criminal and economic divisions. The intermediate people’s courts have divisions similar to those of the primary people’s courts and other special divisions, such as the intellectual property division. These two levels of people’s courts are subject to supervision by people’s courts at higher levels. The Supreme People’s Procuratorate is authorized to supervise the judgment and ruling of the people’s courts at all levels which have been legally effective, and the people’s procuratorate at a higher level is authorized to supervise the judgment and ruling of a people’s court at a lower level which have been legally effective. The Supreme People’s Court is the highest judicial authority in the PRC. It supervises the administration of justice by the people’s courts at all levels.

The people’s courts employ a two-tier appellate system. The judgments or rulings of the second instance at a people’s court are final. A party may appeal against the judgment or ruling of the first instance of a local people’s court. The people’s procuratorate may present a protest to the people’s court at the next higher level in accordance with the procedures stipulated by the laws. In the absence of any appeal by the parties and any protest by the people’s procuratorate within the stipulated period, the judgments or rulings of the people’s court are final. Judgments or rulings of the second instance of the intermediate people’s courts, the higher people’s courts and the Supreme People’s Court are final. Judgments or rulings of the first instance of the Supreme People’s Court are also final. However, if the Supreme People’s Court or a people’s court at the next higher level discovers an error in a final and binding judgment or ruling which has taken effect in any people’s court at a lower level, or the presiding judge of a people’s court finds an error in a final and binding judgment or ruling which has taken effect in the court over which he presides, a retrial of the case may be initiated according to the judicial supervision procedures.

The Civil Procedure Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國民事訴訟法》) (the “PRC Civil Procedure Law”) adopted on April 9, 1991 and amended on October 28, 2007, August 31, 2012 and June 27, 2017, respectively, prescribes the conditions for instituting a civil action, the jurisdiction of the people’s courts, the procedures to be followed for conducting a civil action, and the procedures for enforcement of a civil judgment or ruling. All parties to a civil action conducted within the PRC must abide by the PRC Civil Procedure Law. A civil case is generally heard by the court located in the defendant’s place of domicile. The court of jurisdiction in respect of a civil action may also be chosen by explicit agreement among the parties to a contract, provided that the people’s court having jurisdiction should be located at places directly connected with the disputes, such as the plaintiff’s or the defendant’s place of domicile, the place where the contract is executed or signed or the place where the object of the action is located. However, such choice shall not in any circumstances contravene the regulations of differential jurisdiction and exclusive jurisdiction.

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A foreign individual, a person without nationality, a foreign enterprise or a foreign organization that institute or respond to proceedings in a people’s court is given the same litigation rights and obligations as a citizen or legal person of the PRC. Should a foreign court limit the litigation rights of PRC citizens and enterprises, the PRC court shall apply the same limitations to the citizens and enterprises of such foreign country. A foreign individual, a person without nationality, a foreign enterprise or a foreign organization must engage a PRC lawyer in case he or it needs to engage a lawyer for the purpose of initiating actions or defending against litigations at a PRC court. In accordance with the international treaties to which the PRC is a signatory or a participant or according to the principle of reciprocity, a people’s court and a foreign court may request each other to serve documents, conduct investigation, collect evidence and conduct other actions on its behalf. A PRC court shall not accommodate any request made by a foreign court which will result in the violation of sovereignty, security or public interests of the PRC.

All parties to a civil action shall perform legally effective judgments and rulings. If any party to a civil action refuses to abide by a judgment or ruling made by a people’s court or an award made by an arbitration tribunal in the PRC, the other party may apply to the people’s court for the enforcement of the same within two years, subject to application for postponed enforcement or revocation. If a party fails to satisfy within the stipulated period a judgment which the court has granted an enforcement approval, the court may, upon the application of the other party, mandatorily enforce the judgment. A party seeking to enforce a judgment or ruling of a people’s court against another party who is not or whose property is not within the PRC may apply to a foreign court with jurisdiction over the case for recognition and enforcement of such judgment or ruling. Alternatively, the people’s court may, pursuant to an international treaty concluded or acceded to by the PRC or in accordance with the principle of reciprocity, request the foreign court to recognize and execute the judgment or ruling. Likewise, if the PRC has entered into either a treaty relating to judicial enforcement with the relevant foreign country or a relevant international treaty or according to the principle of reciprocity, a foreign judgment or ruling may also be recognized and enforced in accordance with the PRC enforcement procedures by a PRC court unless the people’s court considers that the recognition or enforcement of such judgment or ruling would violate the basic legal principles of the PRC, its sovereignty or national security, or would not be in the public interest.

### **The Company Law, Special Regulations and Mandatory Provisions**

The Company Law was adopted by the Standing Committee of the Eighth NPC at its Fifth Session on December 29, 1993 and came into effect on July 1, 1994. It was successively amended on December 25, 1999, August 28, 2004, October 27, 2005, December 28, 2013 and October 26, 2018. The latest revised Company Law came into effect on October 26, 2018.

The Special Regulations of the State Council on the Overseas Offering and the Listing of Shares by Joint Stock Limited Companies (《國務院關於股份有限公司境外募集股份及上市的特別規定》) (the “Special Regulations”) were passed at the 22nd Standing Committee Meeting of the State Council on July 4, 1994 and promulgated and implemented on August 4, 1994. The Special Regulations include provisions in respect of the overseas share offering and listing of joint stock limited companies.

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The Mandatory Provisions jointly promulgated by the former Securities Commission of the State Council and the former State Restructuring Commission on August 27, 1994 prescribe the provisions which must be incorporated in the articles of association of joint stock limited companies to be listed on overseas stock exchanges. Accordingly, the Mandatory Provisions have been incorporated in the Articles of Association of the Company. References to a "company" made in this Appendix are to a joint stock limited company established under the Company Law with H Shares to be issued. Set out below is a summary of the major provisions of the Company Law, the Special Regulations and the Mandatory Provisions.

### *General*

A "joint stock limited company" refers to a corporate legal person established in China under the Company Law with independent legal person properties and entitlements to such legal person properties. The liability of the company is limited to the total amount of all assets it owns and the liability of its shareholders is limited to the extent of the shares they subscribe for.

### *Incorporation*

A company may be incorporated by promotion or subscription. A company shall be incorporated by a minimum of two but no more than 200 promoters, and at least half of the promoters must be residents within the PRC. Companies incorporated by promotion are companies of which the entire registered capital is subscribed for by the promoters. Shares in the company incorporated by promotion shall not be offered to others unless the registered capital has been fully paid up. For companies incorporated by subscription, the registered capital is the total paid-up capital as registered with the relevant registration authorities. If laws, administrative regulations and decisions of the State Council have separate provisions on paid-in registered capital and the minimum registered capital, the company should follow such provisions.

For companies incorporated by way of promotion, the promoters shall subscribe in writing for the shares required to be subscribed for by them and pay up their capital contributions under the articles of association. Procedures relating to the transfer of titles to non-monetary assets shall be duly completed if such assets are to be contributed as capital. Promoters who fail to pay up their capital contributions in accordance with the foregoing provisions shall assume default liabilities in accordance with the covenants set out in the promoters' agreements. After the promoters have confirmed the capital contribution under the articles of association, a board of directors and a board of supervisors shall be elected and the board of directors shall apply for registration of incorporation by filing the articles of association with the company registration authority, and other documents as required by laws or administrative regulations.

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Where companies are incorporated by subscription, not less than 35% of their total number of shares must be subscribed for by the promoters, unless otherwise provided for by laws or administrative regulations. A promoter who offers shares to the public must publish a share offering prospectus and prepare a share subscription form to be completed, signed and sealed by subscribers, specifying the number and amount of shares to be subscribed for and the subscribers' addresses. The subscribers shall pay up monies for the shares they subscribe for. Where a promoter is offering shares to the public, such offer shall be underwritten by security companies established under PRC laws, and an underwriting agreement shall be concluded thereon. A promoter offering shares to the public shall also enter into agreements with banks in relation to the receipt of subscription monies. The receiving banks shall receive and keep in custody the subscription monies, issue receipts to subscribers who have paid the subscription monies and is obliged to furnish evidence of receipt of those subscription monies to relevant authorities. After the subscription monies for the share issue have been paid in full, a capital verification institution established under PRC laws must be engaged to conduct a capital verification and furnish a certificate thereon. The promoters shall preside over and convene an inauguration meeting within 30 days from the date of the full payment of subscription monies. The inauguration meeting shall be formed by the promoters and subscribers. Where the shares issued are not fully subscribed for within the offer period stipulated in the share offering prospectus, or where the promoter fails to convene an inauguration meeting within 30 days of the subscription monies for the shares issued being fully paid up, the subscribers may demand that the promoters refund the subscription monies so paid together with the interest calculated at bank rates of a deposit for the same period. Within 30 days of the conclusion of the inauguration meeting, the board of directors shall apply to the registration authority for registration of the establishment of the company. A company is formally established and has the status of a legal person after approval of registration has been given by the relevant administration bureau for industry and commerce and a business license has been issued.

A company's promoters shall be liable for:

- (i) the debts and expenses incurred in the incorporation process jointly and severally if the company cannot be incorporated;
- (ii) the refund of subscription monies paid by the subscribers together with interest calculated at bank rates of deposit for the same period jointly and severally if the company cannot be incorporated; and
- (iii) the compensation of any damages suffered by the company in the course of its incorporation as a result of the promoters' fault.



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### *Share Capital*

The promoters may make a capital contribution in currencies, or non-monetary assets such as in kind, intellectual property rights or land use rights which can be appraised with monetary value and transferred lawfully, except for assets which are prohibited from being contributed as capital by laws or administrative regulations. If a capital contribution is made in non-monetary assets, a valuation of the assets contributed must be carried out pursuant to the provisions of laws or administrative regulations on valuation without any over-valuation or under-valuation.

The issuance of shares shall be conducted in a fair and equitable manner. Each share of the same class must carry equal rights. Shares issued at the same time and within the same class must be issued on the same conditions and at the same price. The same price per share shall be paid by any share subscriber (whether an entity or an individual). The share offering price may be equal to or greater than the par value of the share, but may not be less than the par value.

A company must obtain the approval of the CSRC to offer its shares to the overseas public. The Special Regulations and the Mandatory Provisions provide that shares issued to foreign investors and listed overseas shall be in registered form, denominated in Renminbi and subscribed for in foreign currencies. Shares issued to foreign investors and investors from the territories of Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan and listed in Hong Kong are classified as H Shares, and those shares issued to investors within the PRC, except these regions above, are known as domestic shares. Under the Special Regulations, upon approval of the CSRC, a company may agree, in the underwriting agreement in respect of an issue of H Shares, to retain not more than 15% of the aggregate number of overseas listed foreign invested shares proposed to be issued in addition to the number of underwritten shares.

Under the Company Law, a company issuing registered share certificates shall maintain a shareholder registry which sets forth the following matters:

- (i) the name and domicile of each shareholder;
- (ii) the number of shares held by each shareholder;
- (iii) the serial numbers of shares held by each shareholder; and
- (iv) the date on which each shareholder acquired the shares.

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### *Increase in Share Capital*

Pursuant to the Company Law, where a company is issuing new shares, resolutions shall be passed at general meeting in accordance with the articles of association in respect of the class and amount of the new shares, the issue price of the new shares, the commencement and end dates for the issue of the new shares and the class and amount of the new shares proposed to be issued to existing shareholders.

When a company launches a public issue of new shares upon the approval by the CSRC, a new share offering prospectus and financial accounting report must be published and a subscription form must be prepared. After the new share issue of the company has been paid up, the change must be registered with the relevant registration department and a public announcement must be made accordingly. Where an increase in registered capital of a company is made by means of an issue of new shares, the subscription of new shares by shareholders shall be made in accordance with the relevant provisions on the payment of subscription monies for the incorporation of a company.

### *Reduction of Share Capital*

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

- (i) the company shall prepare a balance sheet and an inventory of assets;
- (ii) the reduction of registered capital must be approved by shareholders at the general meeting;
- (iii) the company shall notify its creditors of the reduction in share capital within 10 days and publish an announcement of the reduction in newspapers within 30 days of the resolution approving the reduction being passed;
- (iv) the creditors of the company may within the statutory time limit require the company to repay its debts or provide guarantees for covering the debts; and
- (v) the company must apply to the relevant company registration authority for registration of the change and reduction in registered capital.



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### *Repurchase of Shares*

Pursuant to the Company Law, a company shall not repurchase its own shares other than in any of the following circumstances:

- (i) reducing its registered capital;
- (ii) merging with another company which holds its shares;
- (iii) utilizing the shares for employee stock ownership plan or stock ownership incentive scheme;
- (iv) acquiring its own shares at the request of its shareholders who vote in a shareholders' general meeting against a resolution regarding a merger or separation;
- (v) utilizing the shares for conversion of corporate bonds which are convertible into shares issued by a listed company; and
- (vi) where it is necessary for a listed company to maintain its corporate value and stockholders' equity.

Any company's purchase of its own shares for any reason specified in item (i) and item (ii) of the preceding paragraph shall be subject to a resolution of the general meeting; any company's purchase of its own shares for any reason specified in item (iii), item (v) and item (vi) of the preceding paragraph may be subject to a resolution of the board meeting with more than two thirds of directors present, according to the provisions of the articles of associations or upon authorization by the general meeting.

The shares acquired under the circumstance stipulated in item (i) hereof shall be deregistered within 10 days from the date of acquisition of shares; the shares shall be assigned or deregistered within six months if the share buyback is made under the circumstances stipulated in either item (ii) or item (iv); and the shares held in total by a company after a share buyback under any of the circumstances stipulated in item (iii), item (v) or item (vi) shall not exceed 10% of the company's total outstanding shares, and shall be assigned or deregistered within three years.

Listed companies making a share buyback shall perform their obligation of information disclosure according to the provisions of the Securities Law of the People's Republic of China. If the share buyback is made under any of the circumstances stipulated in item (iii), item (v) or item (vi) hereof, centralized trading shall be adopted publicly.

A company shall not accept its own shares as the subject matter of pledge.

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### *Transfer of Shares*

Shares held by shareholders may be transferred in accordance with the relevant laws. Pursuant to the Company Law, a shareholder should effect a transfer of his shares on a stock exchange established in accordance with laws or by any other means as required by the State Council. Registered shares may be transferred after the shareholders endorse the back of the share certificates or in any other manner specified by laws or administrative regulations. Following the transfer, the company shall enter the names and addresses of the transferees into its share register. No changes of registration in the share register described above shall be effected during a period of 20 days prior to convening a shareholders' general meeting or 5 days prior to the record date for the purpose of determining entitlements to dividend distributions, subject to any legal provisions on the registration of changes in the share register of listed companies. The transfer of bearer share certificates shall become effective upon the delivery of the certificates to the transferee by the shareholder. The Mandatory Provision provides that changes due to share transfer should not be made to shareholder registry within 30 days before a shareholders' general meeting or within 5 days before the record date for the purpose of determining entitlements to dividend distributions.

Pursuant to the Company Law, shares held by promoters may not be transferred within one year of the establishment of the company. Shares of the company issued prior to the public issue of shares may not be transferred within one year of the date of the company's listing on a stock exchange. Directors, supervisors and the senior management of a company shall declare to the company their shareholdings in it and any changes in such shareholdings. During their terms of office, they may transfer no more than 25% of the total number of shares they hold in the company every year. They shall not transfer the shares they hold within one year of the date of the company's listing on a stock exchange, nor within six months after they leave their positions in the company. The articles of association may set out other restrictive provisions in respect of the transfer of shares in the company held by its directors, supervisors and the senior management.

### *Shareholders*

Under the Company Law and the Mandatory Provisions, the rights of shareholders include the rights:

- (i) to receive a return on assets, participate in significant decision-making and select management personnel;
- (ii) to petition the people's court to revoke any resolution passed on a shareholders' general meeting or a meeting of the board of directors that has not been convened in compliance with the laws, regulations or the articles of association or whose voting has been conducted in an invalid manner, or any resolution the contents of which is in violation of the articles of association, provided that such petition shall be submitted within 60 days of the passing of such resolution;

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- (iii) to transfer the shares of the shareholders according to the applicable laws and regulations and the articles of association;
- (iv) to attend or appoint a proxy to attend shareholders' general meetings and exercise the voting rights;
- (v) to inspect the articles of association, share register, counterfoil of company debentures, minutes of shareholders' general meetings, board resolutions, resolutions of the board of supervisors and financial and accounting reports, and to make suggestions or inquiries in respect of the company's operations;
- (vi) to receive dividends in respect of the number of shares held;
- (vii) to participate in distribution of residual properties of the company in proportion to their shareholdings upon the liquidation of the company; and
- (viii) any other shareholders' rights provided for in laws, administrative regulations, other normative documents and the articles of association.

The obligations of shareholders include the obligation to abide by the company's articles of association, to pay the subscription monies in respect of the shares subscribed for, to be liable for the company's debts and liabilities to the extent of the amount of subscription monies agreed to be paid in respect of the shares taken up by them and any other shareholder obligation specified in the articles of association.

### *Shareholders' General Meetings*

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

- (i) to decide on the company's operational objectives and investment plans;
- (ii) to elect and remove the directors and supervisors (not being representative(s) of employees) and to decide on the matters relating to the remuneration of directors and supervisors;
- (iii) to review and approve the reports of the board of directors;
- (iv) to review and approve the reports of the board of supervisors or supervisors;
- (v) to review and approve the company's annual financial budgets and final accounts plan;

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- (vi) to review and approve the company's profit distribution proposals and loss recovery proposals;
- (vii) to decide on any increase or reduction of the company's registered capital;
- (viii) to decide on the issue of corporate bonds;
- (ix) to decide on merger, division, dissolution and liquidation of the company or change of its corporate form;
- (x) to amend the company's articles of association; and
- (xi) to exercise any other authority stipulated in the articles of association.

Pursuant to the Company Law and the Mandatory Provisions, a shareholders' general meeting is required to be held once every year within six months after the end of the previous accounting year. An extraordinary general meeting is required to be held within two months of the occurrence of any of the following:

- (i) the number of directors is less than the number stipulated by the law or less than two thirds of the number specified in the articles of association;
- (ii) the outstanding losses of the company amounted to one-third of the company's total paid in share capital;
- (iii) shareholders individually or in aggregate holding 10% or more of the company's shares request that an extraordinary general meeting is convened;
- (iv) the board of directors deems necessary;
- (v) the board of supervisors so proposes; or
- (vi) any other circumstances as provided for in the articles of association.

A shareholders' general meeting shall be convened by the board of directors and presided over by the chairman of the board of directors. In the event that the chairman is incapable of performing or is not performing his duties, the meeting shall be presided over by the vice chairman. In the event that the vice chairman is incapable of performing or is not performing his duties, a director nominated by half or more of the directors shall preside over the meeting. Where the board of directors is incapable of performing or is not performing its duties to convene the general meeting, the board of supervisors shall convene and preside over such meeting in a timely manner. If the board of supervisors fails to convene and preside over such meeting, shareholders individually or in aggregate holding 10% or more of the company's shares for 90 days or more consecutively may unilaterally convene and preside over such meeting.

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In accordance with the Company Law, a notice of the general meeting stating the date and venue of the meeting and the matters to be considered at the meeting shall be given to all shareholders 20 days before the meeting. A notice of extraordinary general meeting shall be given to all shareholders 15 days prior to the meeting. For the issuance of bearer share certificates, the time and venue of and matters to be considered at the meeting shall be announced 30 days before the meeting.

In accordance with the Mandatory Provisions, a written notice of the general meeting stating the date and venue of the meeting and the matters to be considered at the meeting shall be given to all shareholders 45 days before the meeting. A shareholder who intends to attend the meeting shall deliver his written reply regarding his attendance of the meeting to the company 20 days before the date of the meeting.

There is no specific provision in the Company Law regarding the number of shareholders constituting a quorum in a shareholders’ general meeting, although the Special Regulations and the Mandatory Provisions provide that a company’s general meeting may be convened when written replies to the notice of that meeting from shareholders holding shares representing no less than 50% of the voting rights in the company have been received 20 days before the proposed date. If that 50% level is not achieved, the company shall notify shareholders again within five days by announcement of the matters to be considered at the meeting as well as the date and venue of the meeting, and the general meeting may be held by the company thereafter.

According to the Official Reply of the State Council on Adjusting the Provisions Governing Matters Including the Application of the Notice Period for the Convening of Shareholders’ General Meetings by Companies Listed Overseas (《國務院關於調整適用在境外上市公司召開股東大會通知期限等事項規定的批覆》) promulgated by the State Council on October 17, 2019, for those companies registered in the PRC and listed overseas, provisions and requirements stipulated in the Company Law in relation to the notice period, shareholders’ right to submit proposals to, and the procedures for convening, shareholders’ general meetings shall apply, and Article 20 to Article 22 of the Special Regulations shall no longer apply.

Pursuant to the Company Law, shareholders present at a shareholders’ general meeting have one vote for each share they hold, save that shares held by the company are not entitled to any voting rights.

An accumulative voting system may be adopted for the election of directors and supervisors at the general meeting pursuant to the provisions of the articles of association or a resolution of the general meeting. Under the accumulative voting system, each share shall be entitled to the number of votes equivalent to the number of directors or supervisors to be elected at the general meeting, and shareholders may consolidate their votes for one or more directors or supervisors when casting a vote.

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Pursuant to the Company Law, resolutions of the general meeting must be passed by more than half of the voting rights held by shareholders present at the meeting, with the exception of resolutions relating to merger, division or dissolution of the company, increase or reduction of registered share capital, change of corporate form or amendments to the articles of association, which in each case must be passed by more than two-thirds of the voting rights held by the shareholders present at the meeting. Where the Company Law and the articles of association provide that the transfer or acquisition of significant assets or the provision of external guarantees by the company must be approved by way of resolution of the general meeting, the board of directors shall convene a shareholders' general meeting promptly to vote on such matters.

A shareholder may entrust a proxy to attend the general meeting on his/her behalf. The proxy shall present the shareholders' power of attorney to the company and exercise voting rights within the scope of authorization.

Minutes shall be prepared in respect of matters considered at the general meeting and the chairman and directors attending the meeting shall endorse such minutes by signature. The minutes shall be kept together with the shareholders' attendance register and the proxy forms.

Pursuant to the Mandatory Provisions, the increase or reduction of share capital, the issuance of shares of any class, warrants or other similar securities and corporate bonds, the division, merger, dissolution and liquidation of the company, the amendments to the articles of association and any other matters, which, as resolved by way of an ordinary resolution of the general meeting, may have a material impact on the company and require adoption by way of a special resolution, must be approved through special resolutions by more than two-thirds of the voting rights held by shareholders (including his/her proxies) present at the meeting.

The Mandatory Provisions require a special resolution to be passed at the general meeting and a class meeting to be held in the event of a variation or derogation of the class rights of a shareholder class. For this purpose, holders of domestic shares and H Shares are deemed to be shareholders of different classes.

### ***Board of Directors***

A company shall have a board of directors which shall consist of 5 to 19 members. Members of the board of directors may include staff representatives, who shall be democratically elected by the company's staff at a staff representative assembly, general staff meeting or otherwise. The term of a director shall be stipulated in the articles of association, provided that no term of office shall last for more than three years. A director may serve consecutive terms if re-elected. A director shall continue to perform his/her duties as a director in accordance with the laws, administrative regulations and the articles of association until a duly re-elected director takes office, if re-election is not conducted in a timely manner upon the expiry of his/her term of office or if the resignation of directors results in the number of directors being less than the quorum.



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Under the Company Law, the board of directors may exercise its powers:

- (i) to convene shareholders' general meetings and report on its work to the shareholders' general meetings;
- (ii) to implement the resolutions passed by the shareholders at the shareholders' general meetings;
- (iii) to decide on the company's operational plans and investment proposals;
- (iv) to formulate proposals for the company's annual financial budgets and final accounts;
- (v) to formulate the company's profit distribution proposals and loss recovery proposals;
- (vi) to formulate proposals for the increase or reduction of the company's registered capital and the issue of corporate bonds;
- (vii) to formulate proposals for the merger, division or dissolution of the company or change of corporate form;
- (viii) to decide on the setup of the company's internal management organs;
- (ix) to appoint or dismiss the company's manager and decide on his/her remuneration and, based on the manager's recommendation, to appoint or dismiss any deputy manager and financial officer of the company and to decide on their remunerations;
- (x) to formulate the company's basic management system; and
- (xi) to exercise any other authority stipulated in the articles of association.

Meetings of the board of directors shall be convened at least twice each year. Notices of meeting shall be given to all directors and supervisors 10 days before the meeting. Interim board meetings may be proposed to be convened by shareholders representing more than 10% of the voting rights, more than one-third of the directors or the board of supervisors. The chairman shall convene the meeting within 10 days of receiving such proposal, and preside over the meeting. The board of directors may otherwise determine the means and the period of notice for convening an interim board meeting. Meetings of the board of directors shall be held only if more than half of the directors are present. Resolutions of the board of directors shall be passed by more than half of all directors. Each director shall have one vote for a resolution to be approved by the board of directors. Directors shall attend the meetings of the board of directors in person. If a director is unable to attend for any reason, he/she may appoint another director to attend the meeting on his/her behalf by a written power of attorney specifying the scope of authorization. The board of directors shall make minutes of the meeting's decisions on the matters discussed at the meeting, and the directors attending the meeting shall sign the minutes.

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If a resolution of the board of directors violates any laws, administrative regulations or the articles of association or resolutions of the general meeting, and as a result of which the company sustains serious losses, the directors participating in the resolution are liable to compensate the company. However, if it can be proved that a director expressly objected to the resolution when the resolution was voted on, and that such objection was recorded in the minutes of the meeting, such director shall be relieved from that liability.

Under the Company Law, the following person may not serve as a director in a company:

- (i) a person who is unable or has limited ability to undertake any civil liabilities;
- (ii) a person who has been convicted of an offense of corruption, bribery, embezzlement, misappropriation of property or destruction of the socialist economic order, or who has been deprived of his political rights due to his crimes, in each case where no more than five years have elapsed since the date of completion of the sentence;
- (iii) a person who has been a former director, factory manager or manager of a company or an enterprise that has entered into insolvent liquidation and who was personally liable for the insolvency of such company or enterprise, where no more than three years have elapsed since the date of the completion of the bankruptcy and liquidation of the company or enterprise;
- (iv) a person who has been a legal representative of a company or an enterprise that has had its business license revoked due to violations of the law or has been ordered to close down by law and the person was personally responsible, where less than three years have elapsed since the date of such revocation; and
- (v) a person who is liable for a relatively large amount of debts that are overdue.

Where a company elects or appoints a director to which any of the above circumstances applies, such election or appointment shall be null and void. A director to which any of the above circumstances applies during his/her term of office shall be released of his/her duties by the company.

In addition, the Mandatory Provisions further stipulate other circumstances under which a person is disqualified from acting as a director of a company, including: (1) the person is under investigation by the judicial authorities after a claim has been brought for violating the criminal law and the case has yet to be settled; (2) a person cannot assume the position of leader of an enterprise according to laws and administrative regulations; (3) the person is not a natural person; and (4) no more than 5 years has elapsed since the date the person was found to be in violation of the provisions of relevant securities regulations and was involved in deceitful or dishonest activities as ruled by the competent authority.

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Pursuant to the Company Law, the board of directors shall appoint a chairman and may appoint a vice chairman. The chairman and the vice chairman shall be elected with approval of more than half of all the directors. The chairman shall convene and preside over board meetings and review the implementation of board resolutions. The vice chairman shall assist the chairman to perform his/her duties. Where the chairman is incapable of performing or is not performing his/her duties, the duties shall be performed by the vice chairman. Where the vice chairman is incapable of performing or is not performing his/her duties, a director elected by more than half of the directors shall perform his/her duties.

### *Board of Supervisors*

Pursuant to the Company Law, a company shall have a board of supervisors composed of not less than three members. The board of supervisors shall consist of representatives of the shareholders and an appropriate proportion of representatives of the company's staff, among which the proportion of representatives of the company's staff shall not be less than one-third, and the actual proportion shall be determined in the articles of association. Representatives of the company's staff at the board of supervisors shall be democratically elected by the company's staff at the staff representative assembly, general staff meeting or otherwise. The board of supervisors shall appoint a chairman and may appoint a vice chairman. The chairman and the vice chairman of the board of supervisors shall be elected by more than half of the supervisors. Directors and senior management shall not act concurrently as supervisors.

The chairman of the board of supervisors shall convene and preside over board of supervisors meetings. Where the chairman of the board of supervisors is incapable of performing or is not performing his/her duties, the vice chairman of the board of supervisors shall convene and preside over supervisory board meetings. Where the vice chairman of the board of supervisors is incapable of performing or is not performing his/her duties, a supervisor nominated by more than half of the supervisors shall convene and preside over meetings of the board of supervisors.

Each term of office of a supervisor is three years and he/she may serve consecutive terms if re-elected. A supervisor shall continue to perform his/her duties as a supervisor in accordance with the laws, administrative regulations and the articles of association until a duly re-elected supervisor takes office, if re-election is not conducted in a timely manner upon the expiry of his/her term of office or if the resignation of supervisors results in the number of supervisors being less than the quorum.

The board of supervisors may exercise its powers:

- (i) to review the company's financial position;
- (ii) to supervise the directors and senior management in their performance of their duties and to propose the removal of directors and senior management who have violated laws, regulations, the articles of association or shareholders' resolutions;

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- (iii) when the acts of directors or senior management personnel are detrimental to the company's interests, to require the director and senior management to correct these acts;
- (iv) to propose the convening of extraordinary shareholders' general meetings and to convene and preside over shareholders' general meetings when the board fails to perform the duty of convening and presiding over shareholders' general meetings under the Company Law;
- (v) to submit proposals to the shareholders' general meetings;
- (vi) to bring actions against directors and senior management personnel pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Company Law; and
- (vii) to exercise any other authority stipulated in the articles of association.

Supervisors may be present at board meetings and make inquiries or proposals in respect of the resolutions of the board. The board of supervisors may investigate any irregularities identified in the operation of the company and, when necessary, may engage an accounting firm to assist its work at the cost of the company.

***Manager and Senior Management***

Pursuant to the Company Law, a company shall have a manager who shall be appointed or removed by the board of directors. The manager may exercise his/her powers:

- (i) to manage the production, operation and administration of the company and arrange for the implementation of the resolutions of the board of directors;
- (ii) to arrange for the implementation of the company's annual operation plans and investment proposals;
- (iii) to formulate proposals for the establishment of the company's internal management organs;
- (iv) to formulate the fundamental management system of the company;
- (v) to formulate the company's specific rules and regulations;
- (vi) to recommend the appointment or dismissal of any deputy manager and any financial officer of the company;
- (vii) to appoint or dismiss management personnel (other than those required to be appointed or dismissed by the board of directors); and
- (viii) to exercise any other authority granted by the board of directors.

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Other provisions in the articles of association on the manager's powers shall also be complied with. The manager shall be present at meetings of the board of directors. However, the manager shall have no voting rights at meetings of the board of directors unless he/she concurrently serves as a director.

Pursuant to the Company Law, senior management refers to the manager, deputy manager, financial officer, secretary to the board of directors of a listed company and other personnel as stipulated in the articles of association.

### Duties of Directors, Supervisors, Managers and Other Senior Management

Directors, supervisors and senior management are required under the Company Law to comply with the relevant laws, regulations and the articles of association, and shall be obliged to be faithful and diligent towards the Company.

Directors, supervisors and management personnel are prohibited from abusing their authority in accepting bribes or other unlawful income and from misappropriating the company's property. Directors and senior management are prohibited from:

- (i) misappropriating company funds;
- (ii) depositing company funds into accounts under their own names or the names of other individuals;
- (iii) loaning company funds to others or providing guarantees in favor of others supported by company's property in violation of the articles of association or without approval of the general meeting or the board of directors;
- (iv) entering into contracts or transactions with the company in violation of the articles of association or without approval of the general meeting;
- (v) using their position to procure business opportunities for themselves or others that should have otherwise been available to the company or operating businesses similar to that of the company for their own benefits or on behalf of others without approval of the general meeting;
- (vi) accepting commissions paid by a third party for transactions conducted with the company for their own benefit;
- (vii) unauthorized divulgence of confidential information of the company; and
- (viii) other acts in violation of their duty of loyalty to the company.

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Income generated by directors or senior management in violation of aforementioned shall be returned to the company.

A director, supervisor or senior management who contravenes any laws, regulations or the company's articles of association in the performance of his/her duties resulting in any loss to the company shall be liable to the company for compensation.

Where a director, supervisor or senior management is required to attend a shareholders' general meeting, such director, supervisor or senior management shall attend the meeting and answer the inquiries from shareholders. Directors and senior management shall furnish all true information and materials to the board of supervisors, without impeding the discharge of duties by the board of supervisors or supervisors.

Where a director or senior management contravenes any laws, regulations or the company's articles of association in the performance of his/her duties resulting in any loss to the company, shareholder(s) holding individually or in aggregate more than 1% of the company's shares consecutively for more than 180 days may request in writing that the board of supervisors institute litigation at a people's court. Where the board of supervisors violates the laws or administrative regulations or the articles of association in the discharge of its duties resulting in any loss to the company, such shareholder(s) may request in writing that the board of directors institute litigation at a people's court on its behalf. If the board of supervisors or the board of directors refuses to institute litigation after receiving the abovementioned written request from the shareholder(s), or fails to institute litigation within 30 days of the date of receiving the request, or in case of emergency where failure to institute litigation immediately will result in irrecoverable damage to the company's interests, such shareholder(s) shall have the power to institute litigation directly at a people's court in its own name for the company's benefit. For other parties who infringe the lawful interests of the company resulting in loss to the company, such shareholder(s) may institute litigation at a people's court in accordance with the procedure described above. Where a director or senior management contravenes any laws, administrative regulations or the articles of association in infringement of shareholders' interests, a shareholder may also institute litigation at a people's court.

The Special Regulations and the Mandatory Provisions provide that a company's directors, supervisors, managers and other senior management shall have fiduciary duties towards the company. They are required to faithfully perform their duties, to protect the interests of the company and not to use their positions in the company for their own benefits. The Mandatory Provisions contain detailed stipulations on these duties.



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*Finance and Accounting*

Pursuant to the Company Law, a company shall establish its own financial and accounting systems according to the laws, administrative regulations and the regulations of the competent financial departments of the State Council. At the end of each financial year, a company shall prepare a financial report which shall be audited by an accounting firm in accordance with the laws. The financial and accounting reports shall be prepared in accordance with the laws, administrative regulations and the regulations of the financial departments of the State Council.

The company's financial reports shall be made available for shareholders' inspection at the company 20 days before the convening of an annual general meeting. A joint stock limited company that makes public stock offerings shall publish its financial reports.

When distributing each year's profits after taxation, the company shall set aside 10% of its profits after taxation for the company's statutory common reserve fund until the fund has reached more than 50% of the company's registered capital. When the company's statutory common reserve fund is not sufficient to make up for the company's losses for the previous years, the current year's profits shall first be used to make good the losses before any allocation is set aside for the statutory common reserve fund. After the company has made allocations to the statutory common reserve fund from its profits after taxation, it may, upon passing a resolution at a shareholders' general meeting, make further allocations from its profits after taxation to the discretionary common reserve fund. After the company has made good its losses and made allocations to its discretionary common reserve fund, the remaining profits after taxation shall be distributed in proportion to the number of shares held by the shareholders, except for those which are not distributed in a proportionate manner as provided by the articles of association.

Profits distributed to shareholders by a resolution of a shareholders' general meeting or the board of directors before losses have been made good and allocations have been made to the statutory common reserve fund in violation of the requirements described above must be returned to the company. The company shall not be entitled to any distribution of profits in respect of shares held by it.

The premium over the nominal value of the shares of the company on issue and other income as required by relevant government authorities to be treated as the capital reserve fund shall be accounted for as the capital reserve fund. The common reserve fund of a company shall be applied to make good the company's losses, expand its business operations or increase its capital. The capital reserve fund, however, shall not be used to make good the company's losses. Upon the transfer of the statutory common reserve fund into capital, the balance of the fund shall not be less than 25% of the registered capital of the company before such transfer.

The company shall have no accounting books other than the statutory books. The company's assets shall not be deposited in any account opened under the name of an individual.

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### *Appointment and Dismissal of Auditors*

Pursuant to the Company Law, the appointment or dismissal of an accounting firm responsible for the company’s auditing shall be determined by shareholders at a shareholders’ general meeting or the board of directors in accordance with the articles of association. The accounting firm should be allowed to make representations when the general meeting or the board of directors conducts a vote on the dismissal of the accounting firm. The company should provide true and complete accounting evidence, accounting books, financial and accounting reports and other accounting information to the engaged accounting firm without any refusal, withholding or falsification of information.

The Special Regulations require a company to engage an independent qualified accounting firm to audit the company’s annual reports and to review and check other financial reports of the company. The accounting firm’s term of office shall commence from the end of the shareholders’ annual general meeting to the end of the next shareholders’ annual general meeting.

### *Profit Distribution*

According to the Company Law, a company shall not distribute profits before losses are covered and the statutory common reserve fund is provided. The Special Regulations require that dividends and other distributions to be paid to holders of H Shares shall be declared and calculated in RMB and paid in foreign currencies. Under the Mandatory Provisions, the payment of foreign currency to shareholders shall be made through receiving agents.

### *Amendments to the Articles of Association*

Pursuant to the Company Law, the resolution of a shareholders’ general meeting regarding any amendment to a company’s articles of association requires affirmative votes by more than two-thirds of the votes held by shareholders attending the meeting. Pursuant to the Mandatory Provisions, the company may amend its articles of association according to the laws, administrative regulations and the articles of association. The amendment to articles of association involving content of the Mandatory Provisions will only be effective upon approval of the department in charge of company examination and approval and the securities regulatory department authorized by the State Council, while the amendment to articles of association involving matters of company registration must be registered with the relevant authority in accordance with applicable laws.

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### *Dissolution and Liquidation*

Pursuant to the Company Law, a company shall be dissolved for any of the following reasons:

- (i) the term of its operation set out in the articles of association has expired or other events of dissolution specified in the articles of association have occurred;
- (ii) the shareholders have resolved at a shareholders' general meeting to dissolve the company;
- (iii) the company is dissolved by reason of its merger or division;
- (iv) the business license of the company is revoked or the company is ordered to close down or to be dissolved in accordance with the laws; or
- (v) the company is dissolved by a people's court in response to the request of shareholders holding shares that represent more than 10% of the voting rights of all shareholders of the company, on the grounds that the operation and management of the company has suffered serious difficulties that cannot be resolved through other means, rendering ongoing existence of the company a cause for significant losses to the shareholders' interests.

In the event of paragraph (i) above, the company may carry on its existence by amending its articles of association. The amendments to the articles of association in accordance with the provisions described above shall require the approval of more than two-thirds of voting rights of shareholders attending a shareholders' general meeting.

Where the company is dissolved under the circumstances set forth in paragraph (i), (ii), (iv) or (v) above, it should establish a liquidation committee within 15 days of the date on which the dissolution matter occurs. The liquidation committee shall be composed of directors or any other persons determined by a shareholders' general meeting. If a liquidation committee is not established within the prescribed period, the company's creditors may file an application with a people's court, requesting that the court appoint relevant personnel to form a liquidation committee to administer the liquidation. The people's court should accept such application and form a liquidation committee to conduct liquidation in a timely manner.

The liquidation committee may exercise following powers during the liquidation:

- (i) to dispose of the company's assets and to prepare a balance sheet and an inventory of assets;
- (ii) to notify the company's creditors or publish announcements;

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- (iii) to deal with and settle any outstanding business related to the liquidation;
- (iv) to pay any overdue tax together with any tax arising during the liquidation process;
- (v) to settle the company's claims and liabilities;
- (vi) to handle the company's remaining assets after its debts have been paid off; and
- (vii) to represent the company in any civil procedures.

The liquidation committee shall notify the company's creditors within 10 days from its establishment, and publish an announcement in newspapers within 60 days.

A creditor shall lodge his claim with the liquidation committee within 30 days of receipt of the notification or within 45 days of the date of the announcement if he has not received any notification.

A creditor shall, in making his claim, state matters relevant to his creditor's rights and furnish relevant evidence. The liquidation committee shall register such creditor's rights. The liquidation committee shall not make any settlement to creditors during the period of the claim.

Upon disposal of the company's property and preparation of the required balance sheet and inventory of assets, the liquidation committee shall draw up a liquidation plan and submit this plan to a shareholders' general meeting or a people's court for endorsement. The remaining assets of the company, after payment of liquidation expenses, employee wages, social insurance expenses and statutory compensation, outstanding taxes and the company's debts, shall be distributed to shareholders in proportion to shares held by them. The company shall continue to exist during the liquidation period, although it cannot engage in operating activities that are not related to the liquidation. The company's property shall not be distributed to shareholders before repayments are made in accordance with the requirements described above.

Upon liquidation of the company's property and preparation of the required balance sheet and inventory of assets, if the liquidation committee becomes aware that the company does not have sufficient assets to meet its liabilities, it must apply to a people's court for a declaration of bankruptcy in accordance with the laws. Following such declaration by the people's court, the liquidation committee shall hand over the administration of the liquidation to the people's court.

Upon completion of the liquidation, the liquidation committee shall prepare a liquidation report and submit it to the shareholders' general meeting or a people's court for confirmation of its completion, and to the company registration authority to cancel the company's registration, and an announcement of its termination shall be published. Members of the liquidation committee are required to discharge their duties in good faith and in compliance

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with relevant laws. Members of the liquidation committee shall be prohibited from abusing their authority in accepting bribes or other unlawful income and from misappropriating the company's properties. Members of the liquidation committee are liable to indemnify the company and its creditors in respect of any loss arising from their willful or material default.

Liquidation of a company declared bankrupt according to laws shall be processed in accordance with the laws on corporate bankruptcy.

### *Overseas Listing*

The shares of a company shall only be listed overseas after obtaining approval from CSRC, and the listing must be arranged in accordance with procedures specified by the State Council. Pursuant to the Special Regulations, a company may issue shares to overseas investors and list its shares overseas upon approval from the CSRC. Subject to approval of the company's plans to issue overseas-listed foreign shares and domestic shares by the CSRC, the board of directors of the company may make arrangement to implement such plans for the issuance of the foreign shares and domestic shares, respectively, within fifteen (15) months from the date of approval by the CSRC.

At the same time, according to the provisions of the Mandatory Provisions, if the company's shares determined by the company's issuance plan are not fully issued, new shares which were not included in the original issue plan shall not be issued by the company. If the company needs to adjust the issuance plan, the general meeting of shareholders shall make a resolution. After being approved by the company's examination and approval department authorized by the State Council, it shall be submitted to the CSRC for examination and approval.

### *Loss of Share Certificates*

A shareholder may, in accordance with the public notice procedures set out in the PRC Civil Procedure Law, apply to a people's court if his share certificate(s) in registered form is either stolen, lost or destroyed, for a declaration that such certificate(s) will no longer be valid. After such a declaration has been obtained, the shareholder may apply to the company for the issue of a replacement certificate(s).

A separate procedure regarding the loss of share certificates and [REDACTED] of the overseas-listed foreign shareholders of the PRC is provided for in the Mandatory Provisions, details of which are set out in the articles of association.

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### *Merger and Division*

Pursuant to the Company Law, a merger agreement shall be signed by merging companies and the involved companies shall prepare respective balance sheets and inventory of assets. The companies shall within 10 days from the date of passing the resolution approving the merger notify their respective creditors and publicly announce the merger in newspapers within 30 days. A creditor may, within 30 days of receipt of the notification, or within 45 days from the date of the announcement if he has not received the notification, request the company to settle any outstanding debts or provide corresponding guarantees.

In case of a merger, the credits and debts of the merging parties shall be assumed by the surviving or the new company. In case of a division, the company's assets shall be divided and a balance sheet and an inventory of assets shall be prepared. When a resolution regarding the company's division is approved, the company should notify all its creditors within 10 days from the date of passing such resolution and publicly announce the division in newspapers within 30 days. Unless an agreement in writing is reached with creditors in respect of the settlement of debts, the liabilities of the company which have accrued prior to the separation shall be jointly borne by the separated companies.

Changes in the registration as a result of the merger or division shall be registered with the relevant administration authority.

### **The PRC Securities Laws, Regulations and Regulatory Regimes**

The PRC has promulgated a series of regulations that relate to the issue and trading of the shares and disclosure of information. In October 1992, the State Council established the Securities Committee and the CSRC. The Securities Committee is responsible for coordinating the drafting of securities regulations, formulating securities-related policies, planning the development of securities markets, directing, coordinating and supervising all securities-related institutions in the PRC and administering the CSRC. The CSRC is the regulatory arm of the Securities Committee and is responsible for the drafting of regulatory provisions governing securities markets, supervising securities companies, regulating [REDACTED] of securities by PRC companies in the PRC or overseas, regulating the trading of securities, compiling securities-related statistics and undertaking relevant research and analysis. In April 1998, the State Council consolidated the Securities Committee and the CSRC and reformed the CSRC.

On April 22, 1993, the State Council promulgated the Provisional Regulations Concerning the Issue and Trading of Shares (《股票發行與交易管理暫行條例》) govern the application and approval procedures for [REDACTED] of equity securities, trading in equity securities, the acquisition of listed companies, deposit, clearing and transfer of listed equity securities, the disclosure of information, investigation, penalties and dispute resolutions with respect to a listed company.



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

The Securities Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國證券法》) (the “PRC Securities Law”) took effect on July 1, 1999 and was revised as of August 28, 2004, October 27, 2005, June 29, 2013, August 31, 2014 and December 28, 2019, respectively. The latest revised PRC Securities Law came into effect on March 1, 2020. It was the first national securities law in the PRC, and is divided into 14 chapters and 226 articles regulating, among other matters, the issue and trading of securities, takeovers by listed companies, securities exchanges, securities companies and the duties and responsibilities of the State Council’s securities regulatory authorities. The PRC Securities Law comprehensively regulates activities in the PRC securities market. Article 224 of the PRC Securities Law provides that domestic enterprises shall satisfy the relevant requirements of the State Council Securities when it issues or lists shares outside the PRC directly or indirectly. Currently, the issue and trading of foreign issued securities (including shares) are principally governed by the rules and regulations promulgated by the State Council and the CSRC.

### **Arbitration and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards**

The Arbitration Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國仲裁法》) (the “PRC Arbitration Law”) was enacted by the Standing Committee of the NPC on August 31, 1994, which became effective on September 1, 1995 and was amended on August 27, 2009 and September 1, 2017. The PRC Arbitration Law is applicable to, among other matters, economic disputes involving foreign parties where all parties have entered into a written agreement to resolve disputes by arbitration before an arbitration committee constituted in accordance with the PRC Arbitration Law. The PRC Arbitration Law provides that an arbitration committee may, before the promulgation of arbitration regulations by the PRC Arbitration Association, formulate interim arbitration rules in accordance with the PRC Arbitration Law and the PRC Civil Procedure Law. Where the parties have agreed to settle disputes by means of arbitration, a people’s court will refuse to handle a legal proceeding initiated by one of the parties at such people’s court, unless the arbitration agreement has lapsed.

The Listing Rules and the Mandatory Provisions require an arbitration clause to be included in the articles of association of a company listed in Hong Kong and, in the case of the Listing Rules, in a contract between the company and each of the directors and supervisors. Pursuant to such clause, whenever a dispute or claim arises from any right or obligation provided in the abovementioned contracts, the articles of association, the Company Law or other relevant laws and administrative regulations concerning the affairs of the company between (i) a holder of overseas listed foreign shares and the company; (ii) a holder of overseas listed foreign shares and a holder of domestic shares; (iii) a holder of overseas listed foreign

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shares and the company’s directors, supervisors or other management personnel; or (iv) the company and its directors or officers, such parties shall be required to refer such dispute or claim to arbitration at either the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (the “CIETAC”) or the Hong Kong International Arbitration Center (the “HKIAC”). Disputes in respect of the definition of shareholder and disputes in relation to the company’s shareholder registry need not be resolved by arbitration. If the party seeking arbitration elects to arbitrate the dispute or claim at the HKIAC, then either party may apply to have such arbitration conducted in Shenzhen in accordance with the securities arbitration rules of the HKIAC.

Under the PRC Arbitration Law and the PRC Civil Procedure Law, an arbitral award shall be final and binding on the parties involved in the arbitration. If any party fails to comply with the arbitral award, the other party to the award may apply to a people’s court for its enforcement. A people’s court may refuse to enforce an arbitral award made by an arbitration commission if there is any procedural irregularity (including, but not limited to, irregularity in the composition of the arbitration committee, the jurisdiction of the arbitration commission, or the making of an award on matters beyond the scope of the arbitration agreement).

Any party seeking to enforce an arbitral award of a foreign affairs arbitration organ of the PRC against a party who or whose property is not located within the PRC may apply to a foreign court with jurisdiction over the case for recognition and enforcement of the award. Likewise, an arbitral award made by a foreign arbitration body may be recognized and enforced by a PRC court in accordance with the principle of reciprocity or any international treaties concluded or acceded to by the PRC.

The PRC acceded to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (the “New York Convention”) adopted on June 10, 1958 pursuant to a resolution of the Standing Committee of the NPC passed on December 2, 1986. The New York Convention provides that all arbitral awards made in a state which is a party to the New York Convention shall be recognized and enforced by other parties thereto subject to their rights to refuse enforcement under certain circumstances, including where the enforcement of the arbitral award is against the public policy of that state. At the time of the PRC’s accession to the Convention, the Standing Committee of the NPC declared that (i) the PRC will only apply the New York Convention to the recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards made in the territory of another contracting state based on the principle of reciprocity; and (ii) the New York Convention will only apply to disputes deemed under PRC law to be arising from contractual or non-contractual mercantile legal relations.

An agreement has been reached between Hong Kong and the Supreme People’s Court of the PRC for the mutual enforcement of arbitral awards. On June 18, 1999, the Supreme People’s Court of the PRC adopted the Arrangement on Mutual Enforcement of Arbitral Awards between Mainland and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (《關於內地與香港特別行政區相互執行仲裁裁決的安排》), which became effective on February 1, 2000. The arrangement is made in accordance with the spirit of the New York Convention. Pursuant to

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this arrangement, awards made by PRC arbitral authorities acknowledged by Hong Kong arbitration rules can be enforced in Hong Kong, and Hong Kong arbitration awards are also enforceable in the Mainland. Where a court of the Mainland finds that enforcement in the Mainland of the ruling made by the Hong Kong arbitral authority will violate public interests of the Mainland, execution of the ruling may be ignored. On November 26, 2020, the Supreme People’s Court of the PRC published the Supplemental Arrangement on Mutual Enforcement of Arbitral Awards between Mainland and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (《關於內地與香港特別行政區相互執行仲裁裁決的補充安排》), which expands the scope of awards that can be acknowledged and enforced. Arbitration awards made in accordance with the PRC Arbitration Law may be applied for acknowledgement and enforcement in Hong Kong, and arbitration awards made in accordance with the Arbitration Ordinance of the Hong Kong may be applied for acknowledgement and enforcement in the Mainland.

### HONG KONG LAWS AND REGULATIONS

#### **Material Differences between Certain Aspects of Corporation Law in the PRC and Hong Kong**

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

##### *Corporate Existence*

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

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

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### *Share Capital*

Under Hong Kong law, the directors of a Hong Kong company may, with the prior approval of the shareholders if required, issue new shares of the company. The Company Law has no provisions on minimum registered capital of joint stock companies, except that laws, administrative regulations and State Council decisions have separate provisions on paid-in registered capital and the minimum registered capital of joint stock companies, in which case the company should follow such provisions. The Company’s registered capital is the amount of its issued share capital. Any increase in the Company’s registered capital must be approved at the general meeting and shall be approved by/filed with the relevant PRC governmental and regulatory authorities (if applicable).

The Companies Ordinance does not prescribe any minimum capital requirement for companies incorporated in Hong Kong.

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

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

Generally, Domestic Shares, which are denominated and subscribed for in Renminbi, can be subscribed for and traded by PRC investors, qualified overseas institutional investors or qualified overseas strategic investors.

Overseas listed shares, which are denominated in Renminbi and subscribed for in a currency other than Renminbi, may only be subscribed for, and traded by, investors from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan or any country and territory outside the PRC, or qualified domestic institutional investors. If the H shares are eligible securities under the Southbound Trading Link, they are also subscribed for and traded by PRC investors in accordance with the rules and limits of Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect or Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect. When the application for “full circulation” has been approved by the CSRC, the domestic unlisted shares of the H-share listed company might be listed and circulated on the Stock Exchange.

Under the Company Law, a promoter of a joint stock limited company is not allowed to transfer the shares it holds for a period of one year after the date of establishment of the company. Shares in issue prior to a public offering of the company cannot be transferred within one year from the listing date of the shares on a stock exchange. Shares in a joint stock limited liability company held by its directors, supervisors and senior management and transferred each year during their term of office shall not exceed 25% of the total shares they held in a company, and the shares they held in a company cannot be transferred within one year from

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the listing date of the shares, and also cannot be transferred within half a year after the said personnel has left office. The articles of association may set other restrictive requirements on the transfer of a company's shares held by its directors, supervisors and senior management. There are no restrictions on shareholdings and transfers of shares under Hong Kong law apart from (i) the restriction on the Company to issue additional Shares within six months, and (ii) 12-month lockup on Controlling Shareholders' disposal of Shares, after the [REDACTED].

***Financial Assistance for Acquisition of Shares***

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

***Notice of Shareholders' Meetings***

Under the Company Law, notice of a shareholder's annual general meeting must be given not less than 20 days before the meeting. Whereas notice of an extraordinary general meeting must be given not less than 15 days before the meeting. If a company issues bearer shares, notice of a shareholder's general meeting must be given at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

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

***Quorum for Shareholders' Meetings***

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

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

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### *Voting at Shareholders’ Meetings*

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

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

### *Variation of Class Rights*

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

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

As required by the Listing Rules and the Mandatory Provisions, we have adopted in the Articles of Association provisions protecting class rights in a similar manner to those found in Hong Kong law. Holders of overseas listed shares and domestic shares are defined in the Articles of Association as different classes. The special procedures for voting by a class of Shareholders shall not apply in the following circumstances: (i) where we issue, either separately or concurrently in any 12-month period, upon approval by special resolutions passed at a general meeting, domestic shares and H shares not more than 20% of each of the existing domestic shares and H shares, respectively; (ii) where the plan for the issue of domestic shares and H shares upon our establishment is fulfilled within 15 months following the date of approval by the securities regulatory authorities under the State Council; and (iii) with the approval of the securities regulatory authority under the State Council and with the consent of the HKEX, the Company’s domestic shares may be transferred to foreign investors and listed on the overseas stock exchange, and all or part of the domestic shares of the Company may be converted into foreign shares, and the converted shares may be listed and traded on the overseas stock exchange.



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### *Derivative Action By Minority Shareholders*

Under Hong Kong company law, a shareholder may, with the leave of the Court, start a derivative action on behalf of a company for any misconduct committed by its directors against the company. For example, leave may be granted where the directors control a majority of votes at a general meeting, and could thereby prevent the company from suing the directors in its own name.

Pursuant to the Company Law, in the event where the directors and senior management violate their obligations and cause damages to a company, shareholders of a joint stock limited company individually or jointly holding more than 1% of the shares in the company for more than 180 consecutive days may request in writing the board of supervisors to initiate proceedings in the people’s court. In the event that the board of supervisors violates their obligations and cause damages to a company, the above said shareholders may send written request to the board of directors to initiate proceedings in the people’s court. Upon receipt of such written request from the shareholders, if the board of supervisors or the board of directors refuses to initiate such proceedings, or has not initiated proceedings within 30 days upon receipt of the request, or if under urgent situations, failure of initiating immediate proceeding may cause irremediable damages to the company, the above said shareholders shall, for the benefit of the company’s interests, have the right to initiate proceedings directly to the people’s court in their own name. In addition, the Mandatory Provisions provide us with certain remedies against the Directors, Supervisors and senior management who breach their duties to the Company. In addition, as a condition to the listing of overseas listed foreign Shares on the Stock Exchange, each director and supervisor of a joint stock limited company is required to give an undertaking to observe the articles of association in favor of the company. This allows minority Shareholders to take action against our Directors and Supervisors in default.

### *Minority Shareholder Protection*

Under the Companies Ordinance, a shareholder who alleges that the affairs of a company are conducted in a manner unfairly prejudicial to his interests may petition to the Court to make an appropriate order to give relief to the unfairly prejudicial conduct. Alternatively, pursuant to the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, a shareholder may seek to wind up the company on the just and equitable ground. In addition, on the application of a specified number of members, the Financial Secretary may appoint inspectors who are given extensive statutory powers to investigate the affairs of a company incorporated or registered in Hong Kong. The Company Law provides that any shareholders holding 10% or above of voting rights of all issued shares of a company may request a People’s Court to dissolve the company to the extent that the operation or management of the company experiences any serious difficulties and its continuous existence would cause serious losses to them, and no other alternatives can resolve such difficulties.



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

### ***Board of Directors***

The Company Law, unlike Hong Kong company law, does not contain any requirements relating to the declaration of directors’ interests in material contracts, restrictions on companies providing certain benefits to directors and guarantees in respect of directors’ liability and prohibitions against compensation for loss of office without shareholders’ approval. The Mandatory Provisions, however, contain certain restrictions on interested contracts and specify the circumstances under which a director may receive compensation for loss of office.

### ***Board of Supervisors***

Under the Company Law, a joint stock limited company’s directors and members of the senior management are subject to the supervision of the board of supervisors. There is no mandatory requirement for the establishment of the board of supervisors for a company incorporated in Hong Kong. The Mandatory Provisions provide that each supervisor owes a duty, in the exercise of his powers, to act in good faith and honestly in what he considers to be in the best interests of the company and to exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.

### ***Fiduciary Duties***

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

### ***Financial Disclosure***

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

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limited liability company is required under the PRC law to prepare its financial statements in accordance with the PRC GAAP. The Mandatory Provisions require that a company must, in addition to preparing financial statements according to the PRC GAAP, have its financial statements prepared and audited in accordance with international or Hong Kong accounting standards and its financial statements must also contain a statement of the financial effect of the material differences (if any) from the financial statements prepared in accordance with the PRC GAAP. The lower of the after-tax profits of a specific fiscal year stated in the statements prepared based on the above-mentioned principles shall prevail in the allocation of such profits. The company shall publish its financial reports twice in each accounting year. An interim financial report shall be published within 60 days after the end of the first six months of each accounting year, while an annual financial report shall be published within 120 days after the end of each accounting year.

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

***Information on Directors and Shareholders***

The PRC Company Law gives shareholders the right to inspect the company's articles of association, minutes of the shareholders' general meetings, share register, counterfoil of company debentures, resolutions of board meetings, resolutions of the board of supervisors and financial and accounting reports, which is similar to the shareholders' rights of Hong Kong companies under Hong Kong law.

***Receiving Agent***

Under the Hong Kong law, dividends once declared by the board of directors will become debts payable to shareholders. The limitation period for debt recovery action under Hong Kong law is six years, while under the PRC law this limitation period is three years. The Mandatory Provisions require that the relevant company shall appoint a receiving agent for shareholders who hold overseas listed foreign shares, and the receiving agent shall receive on behalf of such holders of shares dividends declared and other monies owed by the company in respect of its overseas listed foreign shares.

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### *Corporate Reorganization*

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

### *Mandatory Deductions*

With a view to increasing the level of protection afforded to investors, the Stock Exchange requires the incorporation, in the articles of association of a PRC company whose primary listing is on the Stock Exchange, of the Mandatory Provisions and provisions relating to the change, removal and resignation of auditors, class meetings and the conduct of the board of supervisors of the company. [Such provisions have been incorporated into the Articles of Association, a summary of which is set out in Appendix IV to this document.]

### *Arbitration of Disputes*

In Hong Kong, disputes between shareholders on the one hand, and a company incorporated in Hong Kong or its directors on the other hand, may be resolved through legal proceedings in the courts. The Mandatory Provisions provide that such disputes should be submitted to arbitration at either the HKIAC or the CIETAC, at the claimant's choice.

### *Remedies of a Company*

Under the PRC Company Law, if a director, supervisor or senior management in carrying out his duties infringes any law, administrative regulation or the articles of association of a company, which results in damage to the company, that director, supervisor or senior management should be responsible to the company for such damages. In addition, the Listing Rules require listed companies' articles of association to provide for remedies of the company similar to those available under Hong Kong law (including rescission of the relevant contract and recovery of profits from a director, supervisor or senior management).

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### *Dividends*

The company has the power in certain circumstances to withhold, and pay to the relevant tax authorities, any tax payable under PRC laws on any dividends or other distributions payable to a shareholder. Under Hong Kong law, the limitation period for an action to recover a debt (including the recovery of dividends) is six years, whereas under PRC laws, the relevant limitation period is three years. The company must not exercise its powers to forfeit any unclaimed dividend in respect of shares until after the expiry of the applicable limitation period.

### *Closure of Register of Shareholders*

The Companies Ordinance requires that the register of shareholders of a company must not be closed for the registration of transfers of shares for more than 30 days (extendable to 60 days in certain circumstances) in a year. Unless otherwise stipulated by laws, share transfers shall not be registered within 20 days prior to convening a shareholders' general meeting or 5 days before the base date of distribution of dividends.

### **Listing Rules**

The Listing Rules provide additional requirements which apply to an issuer which is incorporated in the PRC as a joint stock limited company and seeks a primary listing or whose primary listing is on the Stock Exchange. Set out below is a summary of such principal additional requirements which apply to the Company.

### *Compliance advisor*

A company seeking listing on the Stock Exchange is required to appoint a compliance advisor acceptable to the Stock Exchange for the period from its listing date up to the date of the publication of its first full year's financial results, to provide the company with professional advice on continuous compliance with the Listing Rules and all other applicable laws, regulations, rules, codes and guidelines, and to act at all times, in addition to the company's two authorized representatives, as the principal channel of communication with the Stock Exchange. The appointment of the compliance advisor may not be terminated until a replacement acceptable to the Stock Exchange has been appointed.

If the Stock Exchange is not satisfied that the compliance advisor is fulfilling its responsibilities adequately, it may require the company to terminate the compliance advisor's appointment and appoint a replacement.

The compliance advisor must keep the company informed on a timely basis of changes in the Listing Rules and any new or amended law, regulation or code in Hong Kong applicable to the company.

It must act as the company's principal channel of communication with the Stock Exchange if the authorized representatives of the company are expected to be frequently outside Hong Kong.

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### *Accountant's report*

An accountant's report for a PRC issuer will not normally be regarded as acceptable by the Stock Exchange unless the relevant accounts have been audited to a standard comparable to that required in Hong Kong or under International Standards on Auditing or China Auditing Standards. Such report will normally be required to conform to Hong Kong or international accounting standards or China Accounting Standards for Business Enterprises.

### *Process agent*

The Company is required to appoint and maintain a person authorized to accept service of process and notices on its behalf in Hong Kong throughout the period during which its securities are listed on the Stock Exchange and must notify the Stock Exchange of his appointment, the termination of his appointment and his contact particulars.

### *Public shareholdings*

If at any time there are existing issued securities of a PRC issuer other than foreign shares which are listed on the Stock Exchange, the Listing Rules require that the aggregate amount of such foreign shares held by the public must constitute not less than 25% of the issued share capital and that such foreign shares for which listing is sought must not be less than 15% of the total issued share capital if the company has an expected market capitalization at the time of listing of not less than HK\$50,000,000. The Stock Exchange may, at its discretion, accept a lower percentage of between 15% and 25% if the company has an expected market capitalization at the time of listing of over HK\$10,000,000,000.

### *Independent non-executive directors and supervisors*

The independent non-executive directors of a PRC issuer are required to demonstrate an acceptable standard of competence and adequate commercial or professional expertise to ensure that the interests of the general body of shareholders will be adequately represented. The supervisors of a PRC issuer must have the character, expertise and integrity and be able to demonstrate a standard of competence commensurate with their position as supervisors.

Subject to governmental approvals and the provisions of the Articles of Association, the Company may repurchase its own H shares on the Stock Exchange in accordance with the provisions of the Listing Rules. Approval by way of special resolution of the holders of domestic shares and the holders of H shares at separate class meetings conducted in accordance with the Articles of Association is required for share repurchases. In seeking approvals, the Company is required to provide information on any proposed or actual purchases of all or any of its equity securities, whether or not listed or traded on the Stock Exchange. The Directors must also state the consequences of any purchases which will arise under either or both of the Takeovers Code and any similar PRC law of which the directors are aware, if any.

Any general mandate given to the directors to repurchase the foreign shares must not exceed 10% of the total amount of existing issued foreign shares of the company.

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### *Mandatory provisions*

With a view to increasing the level of protection afforded to investors, the Stock Exchange requires the incorporation, in the articles of association of a PRC company whose primary listing is on the Stock Exchange, of the Mandatory Provisions and provisions relating to the change, removal and resignation of auditors, class meetings and the conduct of the board of supervisors of the company. Such provisions have been incorporated into the Articles of Association, a summary of which is set out in Appendix IV.

### *Redeemable shares*

The Company must not issue any redeemable shares unless the Stock Exchange is satisfied that the relative rights of the holders of the foreign shares are adequately protected.

### *Pre-emptive rights*

Except in the circumstances mentioned below, the directors of a company are required to obtain the approval by a special resolution of shareholders in general meeting, and the approvals by special resolutions of the holders of domestic shares and foreign shares (each being otherwise entitled to vote at general meetings) at separate class meetings conducted in accordance with the company’s articles of association, prior to (1) authorizing, allotting, issuing or granting shares or securities convertible into shares, or options, warrants or similar rights to subscribe for any shares or such convertible securities; or (2) any major subsidiary of the company making any such authorization, allotment, issue or grant so as materially to dilute the percentage equity interest of the company and its shareholders in such subsidiary.

No such approval will be required, but only to the extent that, the existing shareholders of the company have by special resolution in general meeting given a mandate to the directors, either unconditionally or subject to such terms and conditions as may be specified in the resolution, to authorize, allot or issue, either separately or concurrently once every 12 months, not more than 20% of the existing domestic shares and foreign shares as of the date of the passing of the relevant special resolution or of such shares that are part of the company’s plan at the time of its establishment to issue domestic shares and foreign shares and which plan is implemented within 15 months from the date of approval by CSRC; or where upon approval by securities supervision or administration authorities of State Counsel, the shareholders of domestic invested shares of the company transfer its shares to overseas investors and such shares are listed and traded in foreign markets.

### *Supervisors*

The Company is required to adopt rules governing dealings by its Supervisors in securities of the Company in terms no less exacting than those of the model code (set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules) issued by the Stock Exchange.

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The Company is required to obtain the approval of its shareholders at a general meeting (at which the relevant Supervisor and his associates shall not vote on the matter) prior to the Company or any of its subsidiaries entering into a service contract of the following nature with a Supervisor or proposed Supervisor of the Company or its subsidiary: (1) the term of the contract may exceed three years; or (2) the contract expressly requires the Company to give more than one year’s notice or to pay compensation or make other payments equivalent to the remuneration more than one year in order for it to terminate the contract.

The remuneration committee of the Company or an independent board committee must form a view in respect of service contracts that require shareholders’ approval and advise shareholders (other than shareholders with a material interest in the service contracts and their associates) as to whether the terms are fair and reasonable, advise whether such contracts are in the interests of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole and advise Shareholders on how to vote.

### *Amendment to the Articles of Association*

The Company is required not to permit or cause any amendment to be made to its Articles of Association which would cause the same to cease to comply with the mandatory provisions of the Listing Rules or the Mandatory Provisions or the Company Law.

### *Documents on display*

The Company is required to make available on display on the websites of the Stock Exchange and the Company copies of the following:

- a complete duplicate register of shareholders;
- a report showing the state of the issued share capital of the Company;
- the Company’s latest audited financial statements and the reports of the Directors, auditors and Supervisors (if any) thereon;
- special resolutions of the Company;
- reports showing the number and nominal value of securities repurchased by the Company since the end of the last financial year, the aggregate amount paid for such securities and the maximum and minimum prices paid in respect of each class of securities repurchased (with a breakdown between Domestic Shares and H Shares);
- a copy of the latest annual return filed with the Beijing Administration for Industry and Commerce; and
- for Shareholders only, copies of minutes of meetings of shareholders.



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### *Receiving agents*

The Company is required to appoint one or more receiving agents in Hong Kong and pay to such agent(s) dividends declared and other monies owing in respect of the H Shares to be held, pending payment, in trust for the holders of such H Shares.

### *Statements in [REDACTED]*

The Company is required to ensure that all of its [REDACTED] documents and H share certificates include the statements stipulated below and to instruct and cause each of its share registrars not to register the subscription, purchase or transfer of any of its shares in the name of any particular holder unless and until such holder delivers to such share registrar a signed form in respect of such shares bearing statements to the following effect that the acquirer of shares:

- agrees with the Company and each Shareholder of the Company, and the Company agrees with each shareholder of the Company, to observe and comply with the Company Law, the Special Regulations, the Articles of Association and other relevant laws and administrative regulations;
- agrees with the Company, each Shareholder, Director, Supervisor, manager and officer of the Company, and the Company acting for itself and for each Director, Supervisor, manager and officer of the Company agrees with each shareholder, to refer all differences and claims arising from the Articles of Association or any rights or obligations conferred or imposed by the Company Law or other relevant laws and administrative regulations concerning the affairs of the Company to arbitration in accordance with the Articles of Association, and any reference to arbitration shall be deemed to authorize the arbitration tribunal to conduct hearings in open session and to publish its award. Such arbitration shall be final and conclusive;
- agrees with the Company and each shareholder of the Company that the H Shares are freely transferable by the holder thereof; and
- authorizes the Company to enter into a contract on his behalf with each Director, Supervisors, managers and officer of the Company whereby each such Director and officer undertakes to observe and comply with his obligation to shareholders as stipulated in the Articles of Association.

### *Compliance with the Company Law, the Special Regulations and the Articles of Association*

The Company is required to observe and comply with the Company Law, the Special Regulations and the Articles of Association.

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## APPENDIX V      SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL PRC AND HONG KONG LEGAL AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

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### *Contract between the Company and its Directors, officers and Supervisors*

The Company is required to enter into a contract in writing with every Director and officer containing at least the following provisions:

- an undertaking by the Director or officer to the Company to observe and comply with the Company law, the Special Regulations, the Articles of Association, the Takeovers Codes and an agreement that the Company shall have the remedies provided in the Articles of Association and that neither the contract nor his office is capable of assignment;
- an undertaking by the Director or officer to the Company acting as agent for each shareholder to observe and comply with his obligations to shareholders as stipulated in the Articles of Association;
- an arbitration clause which provides that whenever any disputes or claims arise from that contract, the Articles of Association or any rights or obligations conferred or imposed by the Company Law or other relevant law and administrative regulations concerning the affairs of the Company between the Company and its Directors or officers and between a holder of H Shares and a Director or officer of the Company, such disputes or claims will be referred to arbitration at either the CIETAC in accordance with its rules or the HKIAC in accordance with its Securities Arbitration Rules, at the election of the claimant and that once a claimant refers a dispute or claim to arbitration, the other party must submit to the arbitral body elected by the claimant. Such arbitration will be final and conclusive;
- disputes over who is a shareholder and over the share registrar do not have to be resolved through arbitration;
- if the party seeking arbitration elects to arbitrate the dispute or claim at HKIAC, then either party may apply to have such arbitration conducted in Shenzhen according to the Securities Arbitration Rules of HKIAC;
- PRC laws shall govern the arbitration of disputes or claims referred to above, unless otherwise provided by law or administrative regulations;
- the award of the arbitral body is final and shall be binding on the parties thereto;
- the agreement to arbitrate is made by the Director or officer with the Company on its own behalf and on behalf of each shareholder; and
- any reference to arbitration shall be deemed to authorize the arbitral tribunal to conduct hearings in open session and to publish its award.

The Company is also required to enter into a contract in writing with every supervisor containing statements in substantially the same terms.

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## APPENDIX V SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL PRC AND HONG KONG LEGAL AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

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### *Subsequent [REDACTED]*

The Company must not apply for the [REDACTED] of any of its foreign shares on a PRC stock exchange unless the Stock Exchange is satisfied that the relative rights of the holders of foreign shares are adequately protected.

### *English translation*

All notices or other documents required under the Listing Rules to be sent by the Company to the Stock Exchange or to holders of H Shares are required to be in the English language, or accompanied by a certified English translation.

### *General*

If any change in the PRC law or market practices materially alters the validity or accuracy of any of the basis upon which the additional requirements have been prepared, then the Stock Exchange may impose additional requirements or make listing of the equity securities of a PRC issuer, including the Company, subject to special conditions as the Stock Exchange considers appropriate. Whether or not any such changes in the PRC law or market practices occur, the Stock Exchange retains its general power under the Listing Rules to impose additional requirements and make special conditions in respect of the Company's [REDACTED].

### *Other Legal and Regulatory Provisions*

Upon the Company's [REDACTED], the provisions of the Securities and Futures Ordinance, the Takeovers Codes and such other relevant ordinances and regulations as may be applicable to companies [REDACTED] on the Stock Exchange will apply to the Company.

### *Securities Arbitration Rules*

The Articles of Association provide that certain claims arising from the Articles of Association, Company Law and other applicable laws shall be arbitrated at either the CIETAC or the HKIAC in accordance with their respective rules. The Securities Arbitration Rules of the HKIAC contain provisions allowing an arbitral tribunal to conduct a hearing in Shenzhen for cases involving the affairs of companies incorporated in the PRC and [REDACTED] on the Stock Exchange so that PRC parties and witnesses may attend.

Where any party applies for a hearing to take place in Shenzhen, the tribunal shall, where satisfied that such application is based on bona fide grounds, order the hearing to take place in Shenzhen conditional upon all parties including witnesses and the arbitrators being permitted to enter Shenzhen for the purpose of the hearing. Where a party (other than a PRC party) or any of its witnesses or any arbitrator is not permitted to enter Shenzhen, then the tribunal shall order that the hearing be conducted in any practicable manner, including the use of electronic media. For the purpose of the Securities Arbitration Rules, a PRC party means a party domiciled in the PRC other than the territories of Hong Kong, Macau and China Taiwan.