

SECTION A1

WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS

In connection with the Primary Conversion, the Company has sought, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange has granted, the following waivers (“**Waivers**”) from strict compliance with the relevant provisions of the Hong Kong Listing Rules:

Rules	Subject matter
1. Rule 19.25A of, and Note 2.1 to Paragraph 2 of Appendix 16 to, the Hong Kong Listing Rules	Use of U.S. GAAP
2. Rules 3.28 and 8.17 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules	Joint Company Secretaries
3. Rules 14A.35, 14A.36, 14A.52 and 14A.53 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules	Continuing Connected Transaction Requirements applicable to the Contractual Arrangements
4. Note (1) to Rule 17.03(9) of the Hong Kong Listing Rules	Exercise Price of Options and SARs to be Granted Pursuant to the 2022 Share Incentive Plan

1. USE OF U.S. GAAP

Requirements under the Hong Kong Listing Rules

Rule 19.25A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules provides that the annual accounts are required to conform with financial reporting standards acceptable to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, which are normally HKFRS or IFRS. Where the Hong Kong Stock Exchange allows annual accounts to be drawn up otherwise than in conformity with HKFRS or IFRS, the annual accounts will be required to conform with financial reporting standards acceptable to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. In such cases the Hong Kong Stock Exchange will normally require the annual accounts to contain a reconciliation statement setting out the financial effect of the material differences (if any) from either HKFRS or IFRS.

Note 2.1 to Paragraph 2 of Appendix 16 to the Hong Kong Listing Rules requires the Company to prepare its financial statements in an annual report to be in conformity with: (a) HKFRS; (b) IFRS; or (c) China Accounting Standards for Business Enterprises (“**CASBE**”) in the case of a PRC issuer that has adopted CASBE for the preparation of its annual financial statements, subject to Note 2.6 to Paragraph 2 of Appendix 16 to the Hong Kong Listing Rules. Note 2.6 to Paragraph 2 of Appendix 16 to the Hong Kong Listing Rules provides that the Hong Kong Stock Exchange may allow the annual financial statements of an overseas issuer to be drawn up otherwise than in conformity with financial reporting standards referred to in Note 2.1 to Paragraph 2 of Appendix 16 to the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

In Guidance Letter HKEX-GL111-22 (“GL111-22”), the Hong Kong Stock Exchange has indicated that it has accepted that the financial statements and accountants’ reports of overseas issuers with, or seeking, a dual primary or secondary listing in the U.S. and on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange can be prepared in conformity with U.S. GAAP. GL111-22 further provides that an overseas issuer adopting a body of financial reporting standards other than HKFRS or IFRS for the preparation of its financial statements must include a reconciliation statement setting out the financial effect of any material differences between those financial statements and financial statements prepared using HKFRS or IFRS in its accountants’ reports and annual/interim/quarterly reports.

Reasons for applying for the waiver

As a company primarily listed on the NYSE, the Company uses U.S. GAAP, and the corresponding auditing standards for the filing of its financial statements with the SEC as determined by the United States Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). U.S. GAAP is well recognized and accepted by the international investment community, and significant progress has been made in the convergence between U.S. GAAP and IFRS. Additionally, the Company notes that it might lead to confusion among the Company’s investors and Shareholders if the Company was required to adopt different accounting standards for its disclosures in Hong Kong from those in the United States. Aligning the accounting standards used for disclosures in both markets will alleviate any such confusion.

Waiver application

The Company has engaged as its auditors Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, certified public accountants under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Chapter 50 of the Laws of Hong Kong) who have satisfied the relevant qualification and independence requirements. The consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ending December 31, 2022 are expected to be audited by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.

The Company has applied for, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange has granted, a waiver from strict compliance with the requirements under Rule 19.25A of, and Note 2.1 to Paragraph 2 of Appendix 16 to, the Hong Kong Listing Rules in respect of its financial statements, subject to the conditions that:

- (i) the Company will, for the financial year following the Effective Date, include (i) a description of the relevant key differences between U.S. GAAP and IFRS; and (ii) a reconciliation statement showing the financial effect of any material differences between the financial statements during the reporting period prepared using U.S. GAAP and IFRS in its interim and annual reports after the Primary Conversion with a view to enabling investors to appraise the impact of the two accounting standards on the Company’s financial statements, with the reconciliation statement in the interim report to be reviewed by its auditors in accordance with a standard comparable to the International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 or Hong Kong Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 and the Reconciliation Statement in the annual reports to be audited by auditors;
- (ii) the Company will comply with paragraphs 30-33 of GL111-22;

- (iii) the Company will use HKFRS or IFRS in the preparation of the Company's financial statements in the event that the Company is no longer listed in the U.S. or has no obligation to make financial disclosure in the U.S.; and
- (iv) this waiver will not be applied generally and will be based on the specific circumstances of the Company.

2. JOINT COMPANY SECRETARIES

Requirements under the Hong Kong Listing Rules

Rules 3.28 and 8.17 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules require the Company to appoint as its company secretary an individual who, by virtue of his academic or professional qualifications or relevant experience, is, in the opinion of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, capable of discharging the functions of company secretary.

Reasons for applying for the waiver

The Company appointed, with effect from the Effective Date, Mr. Qing Pan (潘青) (“**Mr. Pan**”), the chief financial officer of the Company, and Ms. Ng Wing Shan (吳詠珊) (“**Ms. Ng**”) of Vistra as joint company secretaries. Details of Mr. Pan's biography are set out on page 284 of the Prospectus.

Ms. Ng currently serves as an associate director of the corporate services department of Vistra. Ms. Ng has 20 years of experience in the corporate secretarial field and has been providing professional corporate services to Hong Kong listed companies and private companies. Ms. Ng has been acting as company secretary/joint company secretary for various Hong Kong listed companies since 2015. Ms. Ng is a fellow member of The Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute (formerly known as The Hong Kong Institute of Chartered Secretaries) and The Chartered Governance Institute (formerly known as The Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators) in the United Kingdom.

The Company's principal business activities are in the PRC. There are practical difficulties in finding persons who possess Mr. Pan's day-to-day knowledge of the Company's affairs while also having the academic and professional qualifications required. The Company believes that Mr. Pan, by virtue of his knowledge and prior experience in handling corporate administrative matters of the Company, is capable of discharging the functions of a joint company secretary. The Company also believes that it would be in the best interest of the Company and the corporate governance of the Group to have a person such as Mr. Pan, who is an employee of the Company and has day-to-day knowledge of the Company's affairs, as its joint company secretary. Mr. Pan has the necessary nexus to the Board and a close working relationship with the management of the Company to perform the function of a joint company secretary and take the necessary actions in the most effective and efficient manner.

Waiver application

Accordingly, the Company has applied for, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange has granted, a waiver from strict compliance with Rules 3.28 and 8.17 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules for a three-year period from the Effective Date in respect of the appointment of Mr. Pan as a joint company secretary of the Company, subject to the conditions that:

Mr. Pan must be assisted by Ms. Ng (being a person who possesses the qualifications or experience as required under Rule 3.28 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules and is appointed as a joint company secretary) throughout the three-year period and such waiver will be revoked immediately if and when Ms. Ng ceases to provide assistance to Mr. Pan during such three-year period or if there are material breaches of the Hong Kong Listing Rules by the Company. The Company expects that Mr. Pan will acquire the qualifications or relevant experience required under Rule 3.28 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules prior to the end of the three-year period from the Effective Date. The Company will liaise with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange before the end of the three-year period to enable it to assess whether Mr. Pan, having had the benefit of Ms. Ng's assistance for three years, will have acquired relevant experience within the meaning of Note 2 to Rule 3.28 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules so that a further waiver will not be necessary.

3. CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTION REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS

Background of the Contractual Arrangements

The Company operates its domestic asset management business (the “**Relevant Business**”) under the Contractual Arrangements. In its Relevant Business, the Company acts as the general partner of relevant investment funds which investment portfolio includes, among others, investments in third-party managed funds and equity investments into private companies. The PRC government regulates certain businesses through strict business licensing requirements and laws and regulations, including restrictions on foreign investment. These third-party managed funds or investee companies may target or operate certain businesses that are subject to foreign investment restrictions that are currently in effect, which may require that investors shall not be foreign-invested enterprises (“**FIEs**”) or their foreign ownership percentage shall be limited to a specified ceiling to the extent permitted by relevant foreign investment regulations.

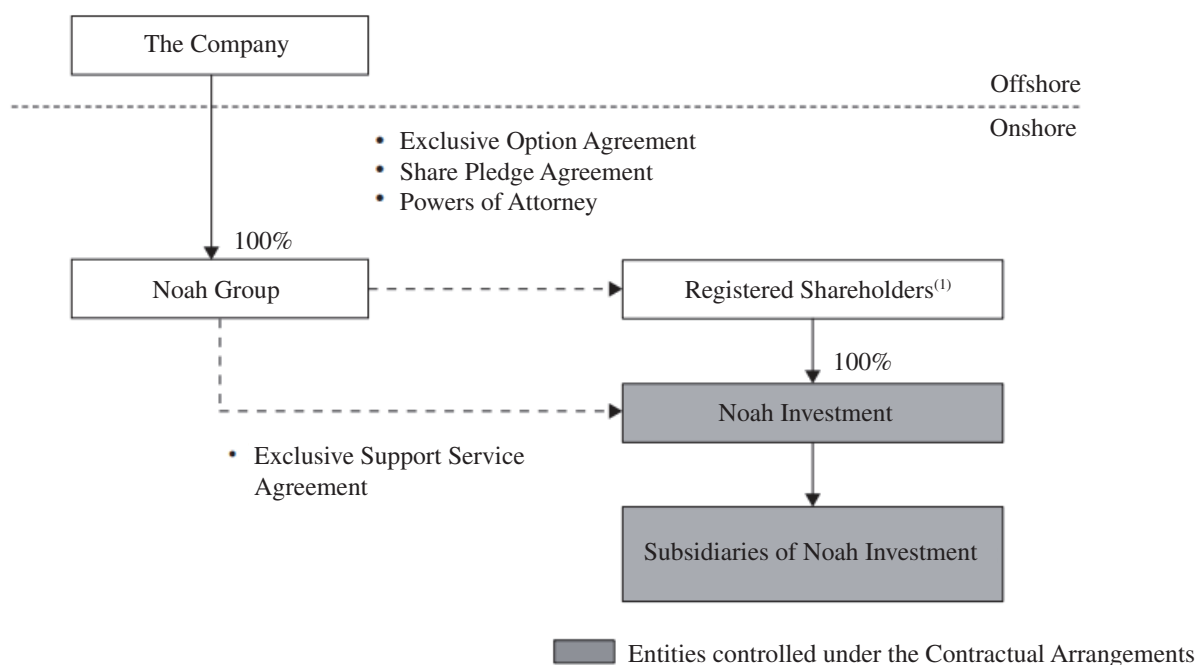
The Company adopted the Contractual Arrangements because if the Company were to conduct the Relevant Business through its PRC subsidiaries which are FIEs, the Company may lose the accessibility to the investments in certain businesses that are subject to foreign investment restrictions. Therefore, the Company relies on the Contractual Arrangements that the Company entered into with Noah Investment and its registered shareholders to carry out the Relevant Business. The Contractual Arrangements with Noah Investment and its registered shareholders enable the Company to:

- (i) have power to direct the activities that most significantly affect the economic performance of the VIEs;
- (ii) receive substantially all of the economic benefits from the VIEs in consideration for the services provided by Noah Group; and

- (iii) have an exclusive option to purchase all or part of the equity interests in Noah Investment when and to the extent permitted by PRC law, or request any existing shareholder of Noah Investment to transfer any or part of the equity interests in Noah Investment to another PRC person or entity designated by the Group at any time at the Group's discretion.

The Contractual Arrangements allow the Company to consolidate the financial results of the VIEs. For the years ended December 31, 2019, 2020 and 2021 and the nine months ended September 30, 2022, net revenues generated from entities controlled through the Contractual Arrangements amounted to RMB816.5 million, RMB935.5 million, RMB1,466.7 million and RMB902.7 million respectively, accounting for 24.1%, 28.3%, 34.2% and 40.7%, respectively, of the Group's net revenue.

Below is the simplified structure of the Contractual Arrangements as of the date of this information sheet:



Note:

- (1) The registered shareholders of Noah Investment consisted of (i) Ms. Jingbo Wang with 46% equity interests, (ii) Mr. Zhe Yin with 12% equity interests, (iii) Mr. Boquan He with 25% equity interests, (iv) Ms. Xinjun Zhang with 4% equity interests, (v) Ms. Yan Wei with 3% equity interests, and (vi) Ms. Qianghua Yan with 10% equity interests. Each of Ms. Jingbo Wang, Mr. Zhe Yin and Mr. Boquan He are the Directors. Ms. Xinjun Zhang and Ms. Yan Wei are employees of the Group. Ms. Qianghua Yan is an early and long-term investor in the Group and an independent third party.

The Company expects that the structure of the Contractual Arrangements as of the date of this information sheet will remain unchanged up to the Effective Date.

The Company's PRC legal adviser is of the opinion that:

- (a) the ownership structure of Noah Investment and Noah Group does not result in a violation of any applicable PRC laws or regulations currently in effect; and
- (b) the Contractual Arrangements among Noah Group, Noah Investment and its registered shareholders governed by PRC laws are valid, legal and binding, and do not result in a violation of any applicable PRC laws or regulations currently in effect.

For further details of the Contractual Arrangements, see the section headed "History and Corporate Structure – Contractual Arrangements" from pages 161 to 166 of the Prospectus.

Reasons for applying for the waiver

We have in place various contractual arrangements with VIEs that are incorporated and owned by PRC citizens or by PRC entities owned and/or controlled by PRC citizens. The transactions contemplated under the Contractual Arrangements will constitute continuing connected transactions of our Company under the Hong Kong Listing Rules upon the Effective Date where directors, chief executive officers or substantial shareholders of the VIEs will become connected persons (as defined in Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules) of our Company upon the Effective Date, unless they are exempt under the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

The Contractual Arrangements with respect to the operations of all the Relevant Business by the VIEs were entered into before the Company became secondary listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, and the terms of such Contractual Arrangements are substantially the same and have been disclosed in the Prospectus.

The Board is of the view that the Contractual Arrangements and the transactions contemplated thereunder are fundamental to the Group's legal structure and business operations. Under this structure, the financial results of the VIEs will be consolidated into the Company's financial statements as if they were the Company's wholly-owned subsidiaries, and all the economic benefits of their business flows to the Group (i.e. the Group will retain substantially all of the profit generated by the VIEs through the service fees payable to Noah Group), therefore the Board believes that it will not be in the interest of the Company and its Shareholders to set any annual cap on the amount of fees payable to the Group under the Contractual Arrangements. Accordingly, notwithstanding that the transactions contemplated under the Contractual Arrangements shall technically constitute continuing connected transactions under Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules upon the Effective Date, the Directors consider that it would be unduly burdensome and impracticable to the Company if such transactions are subject to strict compliance with the requirements set out under Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules, including, among others, the announcement requirement under Rule 14A.35 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules and the independent Shareholders' approval requirement under Rule 14A.36 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

The Board is also of the view that:

- (i) the Contractual Arrangements have been and will be entered into in the ordinary and usual course of business of the Group on normal commercial terms, on terms that are fair and reasonable, and in the interests of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole; and
- (ii) it is normal business practice for the Contractual Arrangements to be of a term greater than three years.

Gram Capital, being the Independent Financial Adviser to the Company in respect of the Contractual Arrangements pursuant to Rule 14A.52 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules, is also of the view that in relation to the Contractual Arrangements for the Relevant Business,

- (i) the continuing connected transactions in respect of the Contractual Arrangements for the Relevant Business have been entered into in the Group's ordinary and usual course of business on normal commercial terms, on terms that are fair and reasonable, and in the interest of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole; and
- (ii) it is normal business practice for agreements of this type to be of such duration exceeding three years based on all the matters set out above, including in particular: (a) its discussion with the Directors in respect of the necessity of the Contractual Arrangements for the Relevant Business; (b) the fact that as the contractual arrangement structure thereunder is a long-term arrangement, it would be unduly burdensome and impracticable for the Company to renew Contractual Arrangements for the Relevant Business every three years or less; and (c) the fact that the duration of similar arrangements of other listed issuers on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange are normally infinite until termination or infinite in practice.

Hong Kong Listing Rules implications and waiver application

Pursuant to the Paragraph 3.48 of the GL112-22, the Company, as a Grandfathered Greater China Issuer secondary listed in Hong Kong under Chapter 19C of the Hong Kong Listing Rules, is allowed to retain its VIE structures (in effect at the time of its listing in Hong Kong) if it becomes primary listed in Hong Kong as a result of Primary Conversion.

The highest applicable percentage ratios (other than the profits ratio) under the Hong Kong Listing Rules in respect of the transactions associated with the Contractual Arrangements are expected to be more than 5%. As such, the transactions will be subject to the reporting, annual review, announcement, circular, independent financial advice and Shareholders' approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

In respect of the Contractual Arrangements, the Company has applied for, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange has granted, a waiver from strict compliance with (i) the announcement requirement under Rule 14A.35 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules, (ii) the independent Shareholders' approval requirement under Rule 14A.36 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules, (iii) the requirement of setting an annual cap for the transactions under the Contractual Arrangements under Rule 14A.53 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules, and (iv) the requirement of limiting the term of the Contractual Arrangements to three years or less under Rule 14A.52 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules, subject to the following conditions:

(i) *No change without independent non-executive Directors' approval*

No change to the Contractual Arrangements (including with respect to any fees payable to Noah Group thereunder) will be made without the approval of the independent non-executive Directors.

(ii) *No change without independent Shareholders' approval*

Save as described in condition (iv) below, no change to the agreements governing the Contractual Arrangements will be made without the independent Shareholders' approval. Once independent Shareholders' approval of any change has been obtained, no further announcement or approval of the independent Shareholders will be required under Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules unless and until further changes are proposed. The periodic reporting requirement regarding the Contractual Arrangements in the annual reports of the Company (as set out in condition (v) below) will, however, continue to be applicable.

(iii) *Economic benefits flexibility*

The Contractual Arrangements shall continue to enable the Group to receive the economic benefits derived by the VIEs through (i) the Group's option (if and when so allowed under the applicable PRC laws) to acquire, all or part of the entire equity interests in the VIEs for nil consideration or the minimum amount of consideration permitted by applicable PRC laws and regulations, (ii) the business structure under which the profit generated by the VIEs is substantially retained by the Group, such that no annual cap shall be set on the amount of service fees payable to Noah Group by the VIEs under the relevant exclusive business cooperation agreement, and (iii) the Group's right to control the management and operation of, as well as, in substance, all of the voting rights of the VIEs.

(iv) *Renewal and reproduction*

On the basis that the Contractual Arrangements provide an acceptable framework for the relationship between the Company and its subsidiaries in which the Company has direct shareholding, on the one hand, and the VIEs, on the other hand, that framework may be renewed and/or reproduced upon the expiry of the existing arrangements or in relation to any existing or new wholly foreign owned enterprise or operating company (including branch company) engaging in the same business as that of the Group which the Group might wish to establish when justified by business expediency, without obtaining the approval of the Shareholders, on substantially the same terms and conditions as the existing Contractual Arrangements. The directors, chief executive or substantial shareholders of any existing or new wholly foreign owned enterprise or operating company (including branch company) engaging in the same business as that of the Group which the Group may establish will, upon renewal and/or reproduction of the Contractual Arrangements, however, be treated as connected persons of the Company and transactions between these connected persons and the Company other than those under similar contractual arrangements shall comply with Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules. This condition is subject to relevant PRC laws, regulations and approvals.

(v) Ongoing reporting and approvals

The Company will fully comply with the disclosure requirements in relation to the Contractual Arrangements under the Hong Kong Listing Rules and relevant guidance letters and listing decisions, and disclose details relating to the Contractual Arrangements on an on-going basis as follows:

- The Contractual Arrangements in place during each financial reporting period will be disclosed in the Company's annual report and interim report and accounts in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.
- The independent non-executive Directors will review the Contractual Arrangements annually and confirm in the Company's annual report and accounts for the relevant year that (i) the transactions carried out during such year have been entered into in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Contractual Arrangements, (ii) no dividends or other distributions have been made by the VIEs to the holders of its equity interests which are not otherwise subsequently assigned or transferred to the Group, and (iii) any new contracts entered into, renewed or reproduced between the Group and the VIEs during the relevant financial period under condition (iv) above are fair and reasonable, or advantageous to the Shareholders, so far as the Group is concerned and in the interests of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole.
- The Company's auditor will carry out review procedures annually on the transactions, pursuant to the Contractual Arrangements, and will provide a letter to the Directors with a copy to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange confirming that the transactions have received the approval of the Directors, have been entered into in accordance with the relevant Contractual Arrangements, and that no dividends or other distributions have been made by the VIEs to the holders of its equity interests which are not otherwise subsequently assigned or transferred to the Group.
- For the purpose of Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules, and in particular the definition of "connected person", the VIEs will be treated as the Company's subsidiaries, and at the same time, the directors, chief executives or substantial shareholders of the VIEs and their respective associates will be treated as connected persons of the Company (excluding, for this purpose, the VIEs), and transactions between these connected persons and the Group (including, for this purpose, the VIEs), other than those under the Contractual Arrangements, will be subject to requirements under Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.
- The VIEs will undertake that, for so long as Class A ordinary shares, or Shares, are listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, the VIEs will provide the Group's management and the Company's auditor full access to its relevant records for the purpose of the Company's auditor's review of the connected transactions.

4. EXERCISE PRICE OF OPTIONS AND SARs TO BE GRANTED PURSUANT TO THE 2022 SHARE INCENTIVE PLAN

Requirements under the Hong Kong Listing Rules

Note (1) to Rule 17.03(9) of the Hong Kong Listing Rules states that the exercise price of an option must be at least the higher of: (i) the closing price of the securities as stated in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheet (the "**HKSE Price**") on the date of grant, which must be a business day; and (ii) the average closing price of the securities as stated in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheets for the five business days immediately preceding the date of grant. It is worth noting that the relevant requirement specifies the value of the exercise price but does not strictly limit the currency at which grants are made.

Reasons for applying for the waiver

Upon the Effective Date, the Company will no longer grant options, restricted shares, or restricted share units and other forms of share awards under the 2017 Share Incentive Plan and would grant options, restricted shares, or restricted share units and other forms of share awards under the 2022 Share Incentive Plan. Under the terms of the 2022 Share Incentive Plan, the exercise price of each of the options (the "**Option(s)**") or the share appreciation rights (the "**SAR(s)**") granted shall be determined by a committee of one or more members of the Board to whom the Board shall delegate the authority to, which may be a price related to the fair market value (the "**Fair Market Value**") of the Shares (each represented by two ADSs); provided that, among others, the exercise price shall not be less than the higher of (a) the Fair Market Value of a Share (represented by two ADSs) on the date of grant (which must be a NYSE trading day) and (b) the average Fair Market Value of a Share (represented by two ADSs) for the five NYSE trading days immediately preceding the date of grant (or, if greater, the par value of a Share on such date(s)).

The 2022 Share Incentive Plan further provides that the Fair Market Value shall be the closing price per Share (represented by two ADSs) on such date on the NYSE (the "**NYSE Price**"), if no such sale is reported on that date, on the last preceding date on which a sale was so reported.

It would be unduly burdensome for the Company and its employees if the exercise prices of the Options and SARs exercisable into, among others, ADSs under the 2022 Share Incentive Plan were to be determined with reference to the HKSE Price. The waiver from Note (1) to Rule 17.03(9) of the Hong Kong Listing Rules can be justified on the following bases:

- (i) since the listing of the Company's ADSs on the NYSE in November 2010, it has been the Company's practice to issue options exercisable into ordinary shares or ADSs (two of which represent one Class A ordinary share) denominated in U.S. dollars under the Company's share incentive plans, with reference to the NYSE Price. The Company will continue to issue Options and SARs under the 2022 Share Incentive Plan after the Effective Date. The Company also expects that it will grant Options and SARs exercisable into, among others, ADSs denominated in U.S. dollars under the 2022 Share Incentive Plan. By definition, ADSs are also denominated in U.S. dollars, and the exercise price for Options and SARs will necessarily be presented in U.S. dollars;

- (ii) a vast majority of eligible individuals under the 2022 Share Incentive Plan reside outside of Hong Kong. The Options and SARs already granted to the eligible grantees under the 2017 Share Incentive Plan are predominantly held in the U.S. It will diminish the incentives to the eligible individuals if the exercise price of the Options and SARs were calculated with reference to the Shares' trading price on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange denominated in Hong Kong dollars;
- (iii) it will likely cause confusion to the eligible individuals under the 2022 Share Incentive Plan, many of whom were also eligible individuals under the 2017 Share Incentive Plan, to change the reference price, for determining the exercise prices of the Options and SARs, into the HKSE Price, which is denominated in Hong Kong dollars. It will also likely lead to significant inconvenience for them to evaluate the amount of potential gains with respect to their Options and SARs and make personal investment decisions and financial planning accordingly. It will also cause significant administrative burdens to the Company, both from a timing and cost perspective, to change the determination and calculation of the exercise price of Options and SARs and to provide the necessary training to all affected eligible individuals;
- (iv) in addition, subject to the waiver from strict compliance with Rule 19.25A of, and Note 2.1 to Paragraph 2 of Appendix 16 to, the Hong Kong Listing Rules in respect of financial statements of the Company, the Company will continue to prepare its accounts based on U.S. GAAP after the Effective Date which requires the Company values equity awards for financial reporting purposes based on their Fair Market Value denominated in U.S. dollars as of the date of grant. Granting Options and SARs denominated in Hong Kong dollars would impose a considerable amount of work on accounting and financial reporting on the Company, and the benefits of such work may not justify the additional work and expenses involved;
- (v) the vast majority of the trading volume for the Company's ADSs has been on NYSE since the Company's listing in November 2010; and
- (vi) the current method for determining the exercise price of Options and SARs based on the NYSE Price is substantially similar to the requirements in Note (1) to Rule 17.03(9) of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

Waiver application

The Company has applied for, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange has granted, a waiver from strict compliance with Note (1) to Rule 17.03(9) of the Hong Kong Listing Rules in respect of the exercise price of the Options and SARs under the 2022 Share Incentive Plan, such that the Company will be able to determine the exercise price for grants of Options and SARs under the 2022 Share Incentive Plan based on the higher of: (a) the NYSE Price on the date of grant, which must be a NYSE trading day, or if no such sale is reported on the date of grant, the NYSE Price on the last preceding date on which a sale was so reported; and (b) the average NYSE Price for the five NYSE trading days immediately preceding the date of grant (or, if greater, the par value of an ADS on such date(s)), subject to the condition that the Company shall not issue any Options and SARs with an exercise price denominated in Hong Kong dollars unless such exercise price complies with Note (1) to Rule 17.03(9) of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.