

PRC LAWS AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO TAXATION

Taxation on Dividends

Individual Investor

Pursuant to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》) (the “**IIT Law**”), which was last amended on August 31, 2018 and came into effect on January 1, 2019 and the Implementation Provisions of the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法實施條例》), which was last amended on December 18, 2018 and came into effect on January 1, 2019, for individual income including interest, dividend and bonus, shall pay individual income tax with applicable proportional tax rate of 20%. Unless otherwise provided by the competent financial and taxation authorities under the State Council, all the interest, dividend and bonus are deemed as derived from the PRC whether the payment place is in the PRC. Pursuant to the Circular on Certain Issues Concerning the Policies of Individual Income Tax (《關於個人所得稅若干政策問題的通知》) promulgated by the Ministry of Finance and the State Administration of Taxation on May 13, 1994, overseas individuals are exempted from the individual income tax for dividends or bonuses received from foreign-invested enterprises.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》) (the “**EIT Law**”), which was amended on December 29, 2018 and became effective on the same date, and the Implementation Provisions of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》), which was amended on April 23, 2019 and became effective on the same date, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on PRC-sourced income (including dividends received from a PRC resident enterprise that issues shares in Hong Kong), if it does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. The aforesaid income tax payable for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income is required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise when such payment is made or due.

The Circular on Issues Relating to the Withholding of Enterprise Income Tax by PRC Resident Enterprises on Dividends Paid to Overseas Non-Resident Enterprise Shareholders of H Shares (《關於中國居民企業向境外H股非居民企業股東派發股息代扣代繳企業所得稅有關問題的通知》) (Guo Shui Han [2008] No. 897), which was issued by the SAT on November 6, 2008, further clarified that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on the dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to overseas non-resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares. In addition, the Response to Questions on Levying Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprise from Holding Stock such as B Shares (《關於非居民企業取得B股等股票股息徵收企業所得稅問題的批覆》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 394), which was issued by the SAT and came into effect on July 24, 2009, further provides that any PRC-resident enterprise whose shares are listed on overseas stock exchanges must withhold and remit enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprises. Such tax rate may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has entered into with a relevant country or area, where applicable.

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Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (《內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排》), which was signed on August 21, 2006, the Chinese Government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a Chinese company to Hong Kong residents (including natural persons and legal entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a Chinese company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. The Fifth Protocol of the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (《〈內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排〉第五議定書》), which came in to effect on December 6, 2019, adds a criteria for the qualification of entitlement to enjoy treaty benefits. Although there may be other provisions under the Arrangement, the treaty benefits under the criteria shall not be granted in the circumstance where relevant gains, after taking into account all relevant facts and conditions, are reasonably deemed to be one of the main purposes for the arrangement or transactions which will bring any direct or indirect benefits under this Agreement, except when the grant of benefits under such circumstance is consistent with relevant objective and goal under the Arrangement. The application of the dividend clause of tax agreements is subject to the requirements of PRC tax law documents, such as the Notice of the State Administration of Taxation on the Issues Concerning the Application of the Dividend Clauses of Tax Agreements (《國家稅務總局關於執行稅收協定股息條款有關問題的通知》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 81).

Tax Treaties

Non-PRC resident investors residing in countries which have entered into treaties for the avoidance of double taxation with the PRC or residing in Hong Kong or Macau are entitled to a reduction of the withholding taxes imposed on the dividends received from PRC companies. The PRC currently has entered into Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaties/Arrangements with a number of countries and regions including Hong Kong, Macau, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States. Non-PRC resident enterprises entitled to preferential tax rates in accordance with the relevant income tax agreements or arrangements are required to apply to the Chinese tax authorities for a refund of the withholding tax in excess of the agreed tax rate, and the refund payment is subject to approval by the Chinese tax authorities.

Taxation on Share Transfer

Individual Investor

According to the IIT Law and its implementation provisions, gains realized on the sale of equity interests in the PRC resident enterprises are subject to individual income tax at a rate of 20%.

Pursuant to the Circular of Declaring that Individual Income Tax Continues to be Exempted over Income of Individuals from the Transfer of Shares (《關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知》) (Cai Shui Zi [1998] No. 61) issued by the MOF and the State Administration of Taxation on March 20, 1998, from January 1, 1997, income of individuals from transfer of the shares of listed enterprises continues to be exempted from individual income tax. On December 31, 2009, the MOF, the State Administration of Taxation and CSRC jointly issued the Circular on Related Issues on Levying Individual Income Tax over the Income Received by Individuals from the Transfer of Listed Shares Subject to Sales Limitation (《關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的通知》)

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(Cai Shui [2009] No. 167), which became effective on December 31, 2009, states that individuals’ income from the transfer of listed shares on the Shanghai Stock Exchange and the Shenzhen Stock Exchange shall continue to be exempted from individual income tax, except for the relevant shares which are subject to sales restriction (as defined in the Supplementary Notice on Issues Concerning the Levy of Individual Income Tax on Individuals’ Income from the Transfer of Restricted Stocks of Listed Companies (《關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的補充通知》) (Cai Shui [2010] No. 70) jointly issued by the above three departments on November 10, 2010).

As of the Latest Practicable Date, no aforesaid provisions had expressly provided that whether individual income tax shall be levied from non-Chinese resident individuals on the transfer of shares in PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges. To the knowledge of the Company, in practice, the PRC tax authorities have not levied income tax from non-PRC resident individuals on gains from the transfer of PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchange. However, there is no assurance that the PRC tax authorities will not change these practices which could result in levying income tax on non-PRC resident individuals on gains from the sale of H shares.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the EIT Law and its implementation provisions, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to enterprise income tax at the rate of a 10% on PRC-sourced income, including gains derived from the disposal of equity interests in a PRC resident enterprise, if it does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. Such income tax payable for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income are required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise when such payment is made or due. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to relevant tax treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

Stamp Duty

Pursuant to the Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Stamp Duty (《中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例》), which came into effect on October 1, 1988 and amended on January 8, 2011, and the Implementation Provisions of Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Stamp Duty (《中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例施行細則》), which came into effect on October 1, 1988, PRC stamp duty only applies to specific proof executed or received within the PRC, having legally binding force in the PRC and protected under the PRC laws, thus the requirements of the stamp duty imposed on the transfer of shares of PRC listed companies shall not apply to the acquisition and disposal of H Shares by non-PRC investors outside of the PRC.

Major Taxes on the Company in the PRC

Enterprise Income Tax Law

According to the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》) (the “**Enterprise Income Tax Law**”), which was amended on December 29, 2018 and became effective on the same date and the Regulation on the Implementation of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》), which was amended on April 23, 2019 and became effective on the same date, the applicable enterprise income tax

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rate of both domestic and foreign-funded enterprises shall be 25%. Enterprises are classified into resident and non-resident enterprises. A resident enterprise shall pay enterprise income tax on its incomes derived from both inside and outside China. For a non-resident enterprise having offices or establishments inside China, it shall pay enterprise income tax on its incomes derived from China as well as on incomes that it earns outside China but which has real connection with the said offices or establishments, the enterprise income tax rate applicable shall be 25%. For a non-resident enterprise having no office or establishment inside China, or for a non-resident enterprise whose incomes have no actual connection to its office or establishment inside China, it shall pay enterprise income tax on the incomes derived from China the enterprise income tax rate applicable shall be 10%.

Value-Added Tax

According to the Interim Regulations of the PRC on Value-Added Tax (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例》) which was promulgated by the State Council on December 13, 1993, and amended on November 10, 2008, February 6, 2016 and November 19, 2017, and the Detailed Rules for the Implementation of the Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Value-added Tax (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例實施細則》) which was promulgated by the Ministry of Finance on December 25, 1993 and subsequently amended on December 15, 2008 and October 28, 2011 (collectively, the “**VAT Law**”), all enterprises and individuals that engage in the sale of goods, the provision of processing, repair and replacement services, sales of service, intangible assets and real estate and the importation of goods within the territory of the PRC shall pay value-added tax at the rate of 0%, 6%, 11% and 17% for the different goods it sells and different services it provides, except when specified otherwise.

According to the Notice on the Adjustment to VAT Rates (《關於調整增值稅稅率的通知》) (Cai Shui [2018] No. 32), promulgated by the MOF and the State Administration of Taxation on April 4, 2018 and became effective as of May 1, 2018, the VAT rates of 17% and 11% applicable to the taxpayers who have VAT taxable sales activities or imported goods are adjusted to 16% and 10%, respectively.

According to the Announcement on Relevant Policies for Deepening Value-Added Tax Reform (《關於深化增值稅改革有關政策的公告》) (2019 No. 39 of MOF, State Administration of Taxation and General Administration of Customs), promulgated by the MOF, the State Administration of Taxation and the General Administration of Customs on March 20, 2019 and became effective on April 1, 2019, the VAT rates of 16% and 10% applicable to the taxpayers who have VAT taxable sales activities or imported goods are adjusted to 13% and 9%, respectively.

PRC LAWS AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Foreign currencies conversion is mainly subject to the Administrative Regulations on Foreign Exchange of the PRC (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) (the “**Foreign Exchange Administrative Regulations**”) promulgated by the PRC State Council on January 29, 1996 and latest amended on August 5, 2008 and the Administrative Provisions on the Settlement, Sales and Payment of Foreign Exchange (《結匯、售匯及付匯管理規定》) (the “**Settlement Provisions**”) promulgated by the People’s Bank of China on June 20, 1996. Under such regulations, RMB is generally freely convertible to foreign currencies for current account transactions (such as trade and service-related foreign exchange transactions and dividend payments), but not for capital account transactions (such as capital transfer, direct investment, securities investment, derivative products or loans), except where a prior approval from the SAFE and/or its competent local counterparts is obtained.

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According to the Decision of the State Council on Canceling and Adjusting A Batch of Items Requiring Administrative Approval (《國務院關於取消和調整一批行政審批項目等事項的決定》) issued by the State Council on October 23, 2014, State Administration of Foreign Exchange (the “SAFE”) and its branches canceled the review and approval on the foreign exchange settlement for the repatriation of funds raised abroad under the overseas listed foreign capital stock account.

According to the Notice on Relevant Issue Concerning the Administration of Foreign Exchange for Overseas Listing (《關於境外上市外匯管理有關問題的通知》) issued by the SAFE on December 26, 2014, the domestic companies shall register the overseas listed with the foreign exchange control bureau located at its registered address in 15 working days after the completion of the overseas listing and issuance. The funds raised by the domestic companies through overseas listing may be repatriated to China or deposited overseas, provided that the intended use of the fund shall be consistent with the contents of the document and other public disclosure documents.

According to the Notice of State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Reforming and Standardizing Capital Account Foreign Exchange Settlement Administration Policies (《國家外匯管理局關於改革和規範資本項目結匯管理政策的通知》) issued by SAFE on June 9, 2016, it has been specified clearly in the relevant policies that, for the capital account foreign exchange income subject to voluntary foreign exchange settlement (including the repatriation of the proceeds from overseas listing), the domestic institutions may conduct the foreign exchange settlement at the banks according to their operation needs. The proportion of the capital account foreign exchange income subject to voluntary foreign exchange settlement was tentatively set as 100%, provided that SAFE may adjust the aforesaid proportion according to the international payment balance status in good time.