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# Shanghai Henlius Biotech, Inc.

上海復宏漢霖生物技術股份有限公司

(A joint stock company incorporated in the People's Republic of China with limited liability)

(Stock code: 2696)

# **VOLUNTARY ANNOUNCEMENT**

# APPLICATION FOR CLINICAL TRIAL OF IPILIMUMAB BIOSIMILAR HLX13 (RECOMBINANT ANTI-CTLA-4 FULLY HUMAN MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY INJECTION) FOR THE TREATMENT OF HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA WAS APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL MEDICAL PRODUCTS ADMINISTRATION

### A. INTRODUCTION

This announcement is made by Shanghai Henlius Biotech, Inc. (the "Company") on a voluntary basis to inform the shareholders and potential investors of the Company about the latest business development of the Company.

The board of directors of the Company (the "Board") is pleased to announce that, recently, application for clinical trial of Ipilimumab biosimilar HLX13 (recombinant anti-CTLA-4 fully human monoclonal antibody injection) ("HLX13") independently developed by the Company for the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma was approved by the National Medical Products Administration.

### B. ABOUT HLX13

HLX13 is a Ipilimumab biosimilar independently developed by the Company, which is intended for the treatment of melanoma, advanced renal cell carcinoma, microsatellite instability-high or mismatch repair-deficient metastatic colorectal cancer and hepatocellular carcinoma, etc.. Ipilimumab is a fully human, anti-CTLA-4 (cytotoxic T-lymphocytes associated antigen 4, also known as CD152), IgG1 monoclonal antibody with  $\kappa$  light chain. CTLA-4 mainly expresses in regulatory T cells (Treg) and activated T cells and is designed to inhibit the growth of T cells and the creation of the cytokine (IL-2 and IFN- $\gamma$ ) by competing with CD28 for the B7 ligands (B7-1 and B7-2) attached to antigen-presenting cells. By blocking the binding between CTLA-4 and the ligands, Ipilimumab can elevate the immune response and in turn achieve the goal of killing tumors. According to the Technical Guidelines for R&D and Evaluation of Biosimilars (Trial), the Company conducted a comprehensive comparative studies between HLX13 and originator Ipilimumab in terms of the chemical manufacture and control (CMC), pre-clinical pharmacology, pharmacokinetics and toxicology. Results from these studies showed that there is a high similarity or no significant difference between HLX13 and originator Ipilimumab.

## C. MARKET CONDITION

As at the date of this announcement, the Ipilimumab commercially available in mainland China (excluding Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan regions) includes Yervoy® of Bristol-Myers Squibb only (approved for commercialization in June 2021). According to the information of IQVIA CHPA and IQVIA MIDAS<sup>TM</sup> (IQVIA is a world-leading provider of professional information and strategic consulting services in the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry), the sales of Ipilimumab in mainland China amounted to approximately RMB10.98 million in 2022 and the global sales of Ipilimumab amounted to approximately US\$2.346 billion in 2022.

WARNING STATEMENT WITH REFERENCE TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER RULE 18A.05 OF THE RULES GOVERNING THE LISTING OF SECURITIES ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LIMITED: The Company cannot guarantee the successful development and commercialization of HLX13. Shareholders and potential investors of the Company are advised to exercise caution when dealing in the shares of the Company.

On behalf of the Board Shanghai Henlius Biotech, Inc. Wenjie Zhang Chairman

Hong Kong, 26 June 2023

As at the date of this announcement, the board of directors of the Company comprises Mr. Wenjie Zhang as the chairman and executive director, Mr. Qiyu Chen, Mr. Yifang Wu, Ms. Xiaohui Guan, Mr. Deyong Wen and Mr. Zihou Yan as the non-executive directors, and Mr. Tak Young So, Dr. Lik Yuen Chan, Dr. Guoping Zhao and Dr. Ruilin Song as the independent non-executive directors.