

APPENDIX III

TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

TAXATION OF SECURITY HOLDERS

Income tax and capital gains tax of holders of the H shares is subject to the laws and practices of the PRC and of jurisdictions in which holders of the H shares are resident or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current laws and practices, and has not taken in to account the expected change or amendment to the relevant laws or policies and does not constitute any opinion or advice. The discussion does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to an investment in the H shares, nor does it take into account the specific circumstances of any particular investor. Accordingly, you should consult your own tax advisor regarding the tax consequences of an investment in the H shares. The discussion is based upon laws and relevant interpretations in effect as of the Latest Practicable Date, all of which are subject to change or adjustment and may have retrospective effect.

This discussion does not address any aspects of PRC or Hong Kong taxation other than income tax, capital gains tax and profits tax, sales tax, value-added tax, stamp duty and estate duty. Prospective investors are urged to consult their financial advisors regarding the PRC, Hong Kong and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of the H shares.

TAXATION IN THE PRC

Tax on Dividends

Individual Investors

According to the Individual Income Tax Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》) the “**Individual Income Tax Law**” or the “**IIT Law**”) amended by the SCNPC on August 31, 2018 and effective on January 1, 2019, and the Implementation Rules of the Individual Income Tax Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法實施條例》) amended by the State Council on December 18, 2018 and effective on January 1, 2019, dividends paid by PRC companies to individual investors are ordinarily subject to a withholding income tax levied at a flat rate of 20%. Meanwhile, according to the Notice on Issues Concerning Differentiated Individual Income Tax Policies on Dividends and Bonus of Listed Companies (《關於上市公司股息紅利差別化個人所得稅政策有關問題的通知》) issued by the Ministry of Finance, the State Administration of Taxation and the CSRC on September 7, 2015 and effective on September 8, 2015, where an individual holds the shares of a listed company obtained from the public offering for more than one year and transfers the stock of the listed company on the stock market, the dividend and bonus income shall be temporarily exempted from individual income tax. Where an individual acquires shares of a listed company from the public offering and transfers the stock of the listed company on the stock market, if the holding period is within one month (inclusive), the dividend income shall be included in the taxable income in full; if the holding period is more than one month but less than one year (inclusive), the dividend income shall be included in the taxable income at the rate of 50%; the aforesaid income shall be subject to individual income tax at a uniform rate of 20%.

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Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income (《內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排》) (the “**Arrangement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income**”) signed by the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on August 21, 2006, the PRC government may impose tax on dividends paid by a PRC company to a Hong Kong resident (including natural person and legal entity), but such tax shall not exceed 10% of the total amount of dividends payable. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interests in a PRC company and the Hong Kong resident is the beneficial owner of the dividends and meets other conditions, such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total amount of dividends payable by the PRC company. The Fifth Protocol to the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income (《國家稅務總局關於〈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》) (the “**Fifth Protocol**”) issued by The State Administration of Taxation and effective on December 6, 2019 provides that such provisions shall not apply to arrangements or transactions made for one of the primary purposes of obtaining such tax benefits.

Enterprise Investors

Pursuant 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 “**EIT Law**”) amended by the SCNPC and effective on December 29, 2018, and the Implementation Rules 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》) (the “**Implementation Rules of the EIT Law**”) amended by the State Council and effective on April 23, 2019, a non-resident enterprise is subject to a 10% enterprise income tax on PRC-sourced income, including dividends paid by a PRC resident enterprise that issues and lists shares in Hong Kong, if such non-resident enterprise does not have an establishment or place of business in the PRC or has an establishment or place of business in the PRC but the PRC-sourced income is not actually connected with such establishment or place of business in the PRC. The aforesaid income tax payable by non-resident enterprises shall be withheld at source, and the payer shall be the withholding agent, and the tax shall be withheld by the withholding agent from the payment or due payment every time it is paid or due. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to an applicable treaty for the avoidance of double taxation.

Pursuant to the Notice on the Issues Concerning Withholding the Enterprise Income Tax on the Dividends Paid by Chinese Resident Enterprises to H Share Holders Which Are Overseas Non-resident Enterprises (《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》) issued by the State Administration of Taxation and effective on November 6, 2008, a PRC resident enterprise is required to withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends paid to non-PRC resident enterprise holders of H Shares which are derived out of profit generated since 2008. The Reply on the Collection of Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Received by Non-resident Enterprises from Holding B Shares and Other 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

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覆》) promulgated by the State Administration of Taxation and effective July 24, 2009 further provides that PRC-resident enterprises listed on Chinese and overseas stock exchanges by issuing stocks (including A shares, B shares and overseas shares) must withhold enterprise income tax at a flat rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprise shareholders. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has concluded with a relevant jurisdiction, where applicable.

According to the Arrangement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income (《對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安 排》), the PRC government may impose tax on dividends paid by a PRC company to a Hong Kong resident (including natural person and legal entity), but such tax shall not exceed 10% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of equity interest in a PRC company and the Hong Kong resident is the beneficial owner of the dividends and meets other conditions, such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the PRC company. The Fifth Protocol provides that such provisions shall not apply to arrangements or transactions made for one of the primary purposes of obtaining such tax benefits.

Pursuant to applicable regulations, we intend to withhold tax at a rate of 10% from dividends paid to non-PRC resident enterprise holders of our H Shares (including HKSCC Nominees). Non-PRC resident enterprises that are entitled to be taxed at a reduced rate under an applicable income tax treaty will be required to apply to the PRC tax authorities for a refund of any amount withheld in excess of the applicable treaty rate, and payment of such refund will be subject to the PRC tax authorities' verification.

Tax related to equity transfer income

Individual Investors

Under the Individual Income Tax Law and its implementation rules, individuals are subject to individual income tax at a rate of 20% on gains realized on the sale of equity interests in PRC resident enterprises. Pursuant to the Circular on Continuing the Temporary Exemption of Individual Income Tax on Gains from Share Transfers by Individuals (《關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知》), which was promulgated by the MOF and The State Administration of Taxation and became effective on March 30, 1998, from January 1, 1997, income of individuals from the transfer of shares in listed companies continues to be temporarily exempted from individual income tax. The State Administration of Taxation does not specify whether to continue to exempt individuals from personal income tax on the income from the transfer of shares in listed company in the newly revised EIT Law and Implementation Rules of the EIT Law.

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Enterprise Investors

Under the EIT Law and its implementation rules, a non-PRC resident enterprise is subject to enterprise income tax at the rate of 10% with respect to PRC-sourced income, including gains derived from the disposal of shares in a PRC resident enterprise, if it does not have an establishment or premises in the PRC or has an establishment or premises in the PRC but the PRC-sourced income is not actually connected with such establishment or premises in the PRC. The aforementioned income tax payable by non-PRC resident enterprises is subject to source withholding, and the payer is the withholding agent. The tax shall be withheld by the withholding agent from the payment or due payment every time it is paid or due. Such tax may be reduced or exempted under applicable tax treaties or arrangements.

Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect Taxation Policy

Pursuant to the Notice on the Tax Policies Related to the Pilot Program of the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect (《關於滬港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》) promulgated by the Ministry of Finance, the State Administration of Taxation and the CSRC on October 31, 2014 and effective on November 17, 2014, transfer spread income derived by mainland enterprises from stock investment listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall be included in their total income and subject to enterprise income tax according to law. For dividends and bonuses received by mainland individual investors from investing in H shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect, the H-share companies shall apply to CSDC for providing the register of mainland individual investors to the H-share companies and withhold individual income tax at the rate of 20% on behalf of the H-share companies.

Pursuant to the Announcement on Continuing the Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Policies Concerning the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Mainland-Hong Kong Mutual Recognition of Funds (《關於繼續執行滬港、深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制和內地與香港基金互認有關個人所得稅政策的公告》) promulgated by the Ministry of Finance, the State Administration of Taxation and the CSRC on December 4, 2019 and effective on December 5, 2019, the transfer spread income derived by mainland individual investors from investing in shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall be exempted from individual income tax from December 5, 2019 to December 31, 2022.

Pursuant to the Notice on the Tax Policies Related to the Pilot Program of the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect (《關於滬港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》), dividends derived by mainland enterprises from investing in shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect are included in their total income and subject to Enterprise Income Tax according to law. Pursuant to which, dividend income obtained by mainland resident enterprises from holding H shares for 12 consecutive months shall be exempted from enterprise income tax according to law. H-share companies shall not withhold income tax on dividends and bonus income for mainland enterprises investors. The tax payable shall be declared and paid by the enterprise itself.

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Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect Taxation Policy

Pursuant to the Notice on the Tax Policies Related to the Pilot Program of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect (《關於深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》) promulgated by the Ministry of Finance, the State Administration of Taxation and the CSRC on November 5, 2016 and effective on December 5, 2016, transfer spread income derived by mainland enterprises from stock investment listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect shall be included in their total income and subject to enterprise income tax according to law. For dividends and bonuses received by mainland individual investors from investing in H shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect, the H-share companies shall apply to CSDC for providing the register of mainland individual investors to the H-share companies and the H-share companies shall withhold individual income tax at the rate of 20% on behalf of the investors.

Pursuant to the Announcement on Continuing the Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Policies Concerning the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Mainland-Hong Kong Mutual Recognition of Funds promulgated by the Ministry of Finance of the PRC (the “MOF”), the State Administration of Taxation and the CSRC on December 4, 2019 and effective on December 5, 2019, individual income tax will be temporarily exempted for transfer spread income derived from investment by mainland individual investors in stocks listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect from December 5, 2019 to December 31, 2022.

Pursuant to the Notice on the Tax Policies Related to the Pilot Program of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect (《財政部、國家稅務總局、證監會關於深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》), dividends derived by mainland enterprises investors from investing in shares listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect are included in their total income and subject to Enterprise Income Tax according to law. In particular, dividend and bonus income obtained by mainland resident enterprises from holding H shares for 12 consecutive months shall be exempted from enterprise income tax according to law. H-share companies shall not withhold income tax on dividends and bonus income for mainland enterprises. The tax payable shall be declared and paid by the enterprise itself.

Others

PRC Stamp Duty

According to the Stamp Duty Law of the People’s Republic of China (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》), which was promulgated on June 10, 2021 and came into effect on July 1, 2022, the disposal of H Shares by non-PRC investors outside of the PRC is not subject to the requirements of the Stamp Duty Law of the People’s Republic of China.

Estate duty

According to PRC law, no estate duty is currently levied in the PRC.

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MAJOR TAXATION OF THE COMPANY IN THE PRC

Enterprise Income Tax

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), enterprises and other income-generating organizations (hereinafter collectively referred to as “enterprises”) within the territory of the People’s Republic of China are the taxpayers of enterprise income tax and shall pay enterprise income tax in accordance with the provisions of the EIT Law. The Enterprise Income Tax rate is 25%.

Enterprises are classified into resident enterprises and non-resident enterprises. A non-resident enterprise that does not have an establishment or place of business in the PRC, or has an establishment or place of business in the PRC but the income has no actual connection to such establishment or place of business, shall pay enterprise income tax on its income within the PRC and withhold at source, where the payer is the withholding agent. The tax shall be withheld by the withholding agent from the payment or due payment every time it is paid or due. Meanwhile, any gains realized on the transfer of shares by such investors are subject to enterprise income tax and shall be withheld at source if such gains are regarded as income derived from the transfer of property within the PRC.

Value-added Tax

Pursuant to the Provisional Regulations on Value-added Tax of the PRC (中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例) amended by the State Council and became effective on November 19, 2017 and the Detailed Rules for the Implementation of the Provisional Regulations on Value-added Tax of the PRC (中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例實施細則) amended by the MOF on October 28, 2011 and effective on November 1, 2011, all entities and individuals in the PRC engaging in the sale of goods, the provision of processing, repairs and replacement services, and the importation of goods are required to pay value-added tax. For taxpayers selling or importing goods, the general tax rate shall be 17% unless otherwise specified in the aforesaid regulations.

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.

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TAXATION IN HONG KONG

Tax on Dividends

Under the current practice of the Inland Revenue Department of Hong Kong, no tax is payable in Hong Kong in respect of dividends paid by us.

Capital Gains and Profit Tax

No tax is imposed in Hong Kong in respect of capital gains from the sale of H Shares. However, trading gains from the sale of the H Shares by persons carrying on a trade, profession or business in Hong Kong, where such gains are derived from or arise in Hong Kong from such trade, profession or business will be subject to Hong Kong profits tax, which is currently imposed at the maximum rate of 16.5% on corporations and at the maximum rate of 15% on unincorporated businesses. Certain categories of taxpayers (for example, financial institutions, insurance companies and securities dealers) are likely to be regarded as deriving trading gains rather than capital gains unless these taxpayers can prove that the investment securities are held for long-term investment purposes. Trading gains from sales of H Shares effected on the Stock Exchange will be considered to be derived from or arise in Hong Kong. Liability for Hong Kong profits tax would thus arise in respect of trading gains from sales of H Shares effected on the Stock Exchange realized by persons carrying on a business of trading or dealing in securities in Hong Kong.

Stamp Duty

Hong Kong stamp duty, currently charged at the ad valorem rate of 0.13% on the higher of the consideration for or the market value of the H Shares, will be payable by the purchaser on every purchase and by the seller on every sale of Hong Kong securities, including H Shares (in other words, a total of 0.26% is currently payable on a typical sale and purchase transaction involving H Shares). In addition, a fixed duty of HK\$5.00 is currently payable on any instrument of transfer of H Shares. Where one of the parties is a resident outside Hong Kong and does not pay the ad valorem duty due by it, the duty not paid will be assessed on the instrument of transfer (if any) and will be payable by the transferee. If no stamp duty is paid on or before the due date, a penalty of up to ten times the duty payable may be imposed.

Estate Duty

The Revenue (Abolition of Estate Duty) Ordinance 2005 came into effect on February 11, 2006 in Hong Kong, pursuant to which no Hong Kong estate duty is payable, and no estate duty clearance papers are needed for an application of a grant of representation in respect of holders of H Shares whose deaths occur on or after February 11, 2006.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATION IN THE PRC

The lawful currency of the PRC is the Renminbi, which is subject to foreign exchange controls and is not freely convertible. The State Administration of Foreign Exchange (the “SAFE”), authorized by the People’s Bank of China (the “PBOC”), is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange control regulations.

Pursuant to the Regulations of the People’s Republic of China on Foreign Exchange Control (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) amended by the State Council and became effective on August 5, 2008, all international payments and transfers are classified into current account items and capital account items. The PRC does not impose restrictions on international payments and transfers under current account items. Foreign exchange income from the current account of PRC enterprises may be retained or sold to financial institutions engaged in the settlement and sale of foreign exchange in accordance with relevant provisions of the State. The retention or sale of foreign exchange receipts under capital accounts to financial institutions engaging in settlement and sale of foreign exchange shall be subject to the approval of foreign exchange administrative authorities, unless otherwise stipulated by the State.

Pursuant to the Regulations for the Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange (《結匯、售匯及付匯管理規定》) promulgated by the PBOC on June 20, 1996 and became effective on July 1, 1996, the remaining restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange in respect of current account items are abolished while the existing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions in respect of capital account items are retained.

According to relevant laws and regulations of the PRC, PRC enterprises (including foreign-invested enterprises) which require foreign exchange for transactions relating to current account items, may, without the approval of SAFE, effect payment from their foreign exchange accounts at the designated foreign exchange banks, on the strength of valid receipts and proof of transactions. Foreign-invested enterprise that need to distribute profits to their shareholders in foreign exchange and Chinese enterprise that need to pay fixed dividends in foreign exchange in accordance with the requirements shall pay from its foreign exchange account or pay at the designated foreign exchange bank by a resolution of the board of directors on the distribution of profits.

According to the Decision of the State Council on Canceling and Adjusting a Group of Administrative Approval Items and Other Matters (國務院關於取消和調整一批行政審批項目等事項的決定) promulgated by the State Council and effective on October 23, 2014, the administrative approval of the SAFE and its branches on matters concerning the repatriation and settlement of foreign exchange of overseas-raised funds through overseas listing has been canceled.

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According to the Circular of the SAFE on Relevant Issues Concerning the Foreign Exchange Administration of Overseas Listing (國家外匯管理局關於境外上市外匯管理有關問題的通知) promulgated by the SAFE and became effective on December 26, 2014, the relevant provisions on foreign exchange administration of domestic joint stock companies (hereinafter referred to as “**domestic companies**”) listed overseas are as follows:

- (i) The SAFE and its branches and the Foreign Exchange Management Department (the “**Foreign Exchange Bureau**”) supervise, manage and inspect the business registration, account opening and use, cross-border income and expenditure, and capital exchange involved in the overseas listing of domestic companies.
- (ii) A domestic company shall, within 15 working days after the completion of the overseas listing and issuance, register the overseas listing with the Foreign Exchange Bureau at the place where it is registered with relevant material.
- (iii) After the overseas listing of a domestic company, its domestic shareholders who intend to increase or reduce their shareholding in an overseas listed company according to relevant regulations shall register the overseas shareholding with the local foreign exchange bureau at the place where the domestic shareholders are located within 20 working days prior to the proposed increase or reduction of shareholding with relevant materials.
- (iv) A domestic company (other than banking financial institutions) shall, by virtue of its registration certificate for overseas listing business, open a “special foreign exchange account for overseas listing of domestic companies” with a domestic bank for its initial offering (or additional offering) and repurchase business to handle the remittance and transfer of funds for the relevant business.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Further Simplifying and Improving Policies for the Foreign Exchange Administration of Direct Investment (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知》) issued on February 13, 2015 and came into effect on June 1, 2015, the SAFE has canceled the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment, instead, banks shall directly examine and handle foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment, and the SAFE and its branch offices shall indirectly regulate the foreign exchange registration of direct investment through banks.

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According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange of the PRC on Revolutionize and Regulate Capital Account Settlement Management 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 and implemented by the SAFE on June 9, 2016, foreign currency earnings in capital account that relevant policies of willingness exchange settlement have been clearly implemented on (including the recalling of raised capital by overseas listing) may undertake foreign exchange settlement in the banks according to actual business needs of the domestic institutions. The tentative percentage of foreign exchange settlement for foreign currency earnings in capital account of domestic institutions is 100%, subject to adjustment by the SAFE in due time in accordance with international revenue and expenditure situations.