

## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

### 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 People’s Republic of China (《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 income including interest, dividend and bonus, individuals 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 received from enterprises, public institutions, economic organizations and resident individuals in the PRC 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 and came into effect on the same date, 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 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, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% enterprise income tax on PRC-sourced income (including dividends and bonus 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 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.

The Circular on Issues Relating to the Withholding of Enterprise Income Tax by PRC Resident Enterprises on Dividends Paid to Overseas Non-PRC 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 and remit 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

## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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 rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has entered into with a relevant country or area, where applicable.

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》), 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 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>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 one of the essential purposes of the relevant arrangement or transaction which directly or indirectly brings about the treaty benefits, after taking into account all relevant facts and conditions, are reasonably deemed to be to obtain such benefits, 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 the aforesaid 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 or adjustments 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.

## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

### TAXATION ON SHARE TRANSFER

#### VAT and Local Additional Tax

Pursuant to the Notice on Fully Implementing the Pilot Reform for the Transition from Business Tax to Value-added Tax (《關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知》) (“Circular 36”), which was implemented on May 1, 2016, entities and individuals engaged in the services sale in the PRC are subject to VAT and “engaged in the services sale in the PRC” means that the seller or buyer of the taxable services is located in the PRC. Circular 36 also provides that transfer of financial products, including transfer of the ownership of marketable securities, shall be subject to VAT at 6% on the taxable revenue (which is the balance of sales price upon deduction of purchase price), for a general or a foreign VAT taxpayer. However, individuals who transfer financial products are exempt from VAT, which is also provided in the Notice of Ministry of Finance and State Administration of Taxation on Several Tax Exemption Policies for Business Tax on Sale and Purchase of Financial Commodities by Individuals (《財政部、國家稅務總局關於個人金融商品買賣等營業稅若干免稅政策的通知》) became effective on January 1, 2009. According to these regulations, if the holder is a non-resident individual, the PRC VAT is exempted from the sale or disposal of H shares.

#### Individual Investor

According to the IIT Law and its implementation provisions, gains realized on the sale of equity interests in 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 (the “SAT”) and came into effect 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 SAT and CSRC jointly issued the 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通知》) (Cai Shui Zi [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).

## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

As of the Latest Practicable Date, no aforesaid provisions had expressly provided 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 shares 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 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. 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 People's Republic of China on Stamp Tax (《中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例》), which was issued on August 6, 1988 and amended on January 8, 2011, and the Detailed Rules for the Implementation of the Provisional Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Stamp Tax (《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.

According to the Law of the People's Republic of China on Stamp Duty (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》) promulgated on June 10, 2021 and became effective on July 1, 2022, the purchase and disposal of H shares by non-PRC investors outside of the PRC does not apply to the relevant provisions of the Law of the People's Republic of China on Stamp Duty (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》).

### Estate Duty

As of the Latest Practicable Date, the PRC currently does not impose any estate duty.

## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

### MAJOR TAXES ON 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》), 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 rate of both domestic and foreign investment 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, and the enterprise income tax rate shall be 25%. For a non-resident enterprise having establishments or premises in the PRC, it shall pay enterprise income tax on its incomes derived from the establishments or premises inside the PRC as well as on incomes that it earns outside the PRC but which has real connection with the said establishments or premises, and the enterprise income tax rate shall be 25%. For a non-resident enterprise having no establishments or premises inside the PRC, or for a non-resident enterprise whose incomes have no actual connection to its establishments or premises inside the PRC, it shall pay enterprise income tax on the incomes derived from the PRC, and the enterprise income tax rate shall be 10%.

#### Value-Added Tax

According to the Provisional Regulations of the People’s Republic of China 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 for the Provisional Regulations the People’s Republic of China 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 inside 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 SAT 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.

## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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, SAT and General Administration of Customs), promulgated by the MOF, the SAT 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.

### 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. The gains of 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 Hong Kong 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 Hong Kong 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 stamp duty of HK\$5.00 is currently payable on any instrument of transfer of H Shares. Where one of the parties of the transfer 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.

## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

### 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.

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The lawful currency of the PRC is Renminbi, which is currently subject to foreign exchange control and cannot be freely converted into foreign currency. The SAFE, with the authorization of the PBOC, is empowered with the functions of administering all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange control regulations.

On January 29, 1996, the State Council promulgated 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》) (the "Foreign Exchange Control Regulations"). The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations classifies all international payments and transfers into current accounts and capital accounts. Most of the current accounts are not subject to the approval of foreign exchange administration agencies, while capital accounts are subject to the approval of foreign exchange administration agencies. The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations were subsequently amended on January 14, 1997 and August 5, 2008. According to the latest amendment to the Foreign Exchange Control Regulations, PRC will not impose any restriction on international current payments and transfers.

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 PBOC on June 20, 1996 and became effective on July 1, 1996 removes other restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange under current accounts, while imposing existing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions under capital accounts.

According to the Announcement on Improving the Reform of the Renminbi Exchange Rate Formation Mechanism (《關於完善人民幣匯率形成機制改革的公告》), which was issued by the PBOC and implemented on July 21, 2005, the PRC has started to implement a managed floating exchange rate system in which the exchange rate would be determined based on market supply and demand and adjusted with reference to a basket of currencies since July 21, 2005. Therefore, the Renminbi exchange rate was no longer pegged to the U.S. dollar. PBOC would publish the closing price of the exchange rate of the Renminbi against trading currencies such as the U.S. dollar in the interbank foreign exchange market after the closing of the market on each working day, as the central parity of the currency against Renminbi transactions on the following working day.

## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

According to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, PRC enterprises (including foreign investment enterprises) which need foreign exchange for current item transactions may, without the approval of the foreign exchange administrative authorities, effect payment through foreign exchange accounts opened at financial institutions that carries foreign exchange business or operating institutions that carries settlement and sale business, on the strength of valid receipts and proof. Foreign investment enterprises which need foreign exchange for the distribution of profits to their shareholders and PRC enterprises which, in accordance with regulations, are required to pay dividends to their shareholders in foreign exchange may, on the strength of resolutions of the board of directors or the shareholders' meeting on the distribution of profits, effect payment from foreign exchange accounts opened at financial institutions that carries foreign exchange business or institutions that carries settlement and sale business, or effect exchange and payment at financial institutions that carries foreign exchange business or institutions that carries settlement and sale business.

On October 23, 2014, the State Council issued 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》) (Guo Fa [2014] No. 50), which canceled the administrative approval by the SAFE and its branches for matters concerning the repatriation and settlement of foreign exchange of overseas-raised funds through overseas listing foreign shares.

On December 26, 2014, the SAFE issued the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on 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》) (Hui Fa [2014] No. 54). Pursuant to the notice, a domestic company shall, within 15 business days of the date of the end of its overseas listing issuance, register the overseas listing with the Administration of Foreign Exchange at the place of its establishment; the proceeds from an overseas listing of a domestic company may be remitted to the domestic account or deposited in an overseas account, but the use of the proceeds shall be consistent with the content of the prospectus and other disclosure documents. A domestic company (except for bank financial institutions) shall present its certificate of overseas listing to open a "special foreign exchange account for overseas listing of domestic company" at a local bank for its initial public offering (or follow-on offering) and repurchase business to handle the exchange, remittance and transfer of funds for the business concerned.

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》) (Hui Fa [2015] No. 13) promulgated by the SAFE on February 13, 2015, imposed on June 1, 2015 and partially repealed on December 30, 2019, two of the administrative examination and approval items, being the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment have been canceled. Instead, banks shall directly examine and handle foreign



## APPENDIX III

## TAXATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

exchange registration under domestic direct investment and overseas direct investment (collectively, the “direct investment”), and the SAFE and its branch offices shall indirectly regulate the foreign exchange registration of direct investment through banks.

According to the Notice from the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Reforming and Regulating the Policies of Administration of Foreign Exchange Settlement for Capital Account (《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》) (Hui Fa [2016] No. 16) issued by the SAFE and came into effect 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 foreign exchange capital, foreign loans and 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 of the SAFE in due time in accordance with international revenue and expenditure situations.

On January 26, 2017, the SAFE issued the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Further Promoting the Reform of Foreign Exchange Administration and Improving the Examination of Authenticity and Compliance (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步推進外匯管理改革完善真實合規性審核的通知》) (Hui Fa [2017] No. 3) to further expand the scope of settlement for domestic foreign exchange loans, allow settlement for domestic foreign exchange loans with export background under goods trading, allow repatriation of funds under domestic guaranteed foreign loans for domestic utilization, allow settlement for domestic foreign exchange accounts of foreign institutions operating in the Free Trade Pilot Zones, and adopt the model of full-coverage RMB and foreign currency overseas lending management, where a domestic institution engages in overseas lending, the sum of its outstanding overseas lending in RMB and outstanding overseas lending in foreign currencies shall not exceed 30% of its owner’s equity in the audited financial statements of the preceding year.

On October 23, 2019, the SAFE issued the Notice on Further Facilitating Cross-border Trade and Investment (《關於進一步促進跨境貿易投資便利化的通知》) (Hui Fa [2019] No. 28), which canceled restrictions on domestic equity investments made with capital funds by non-investing foreign-funded enterprises. In addition, restrictions on the use of funds for foreign exchange settlement of domestic accounts for the realization of assets have been removed and restrictions on the use and foreign exchange settlement of foreign investors’ security deposits have been relaxed. Eligible enterprises in the pilot area are also allowed to use revenues under capital, such as capital funds, foreign debts and overseas listing revenues for domestic payments without providing materials to the bank in advance for authenticity verification on an item by item basis, while the use of funds should be true, in compliance with applicable rules and conforming to the current capital revenue management regulations.