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# **ORIENT OVERSEAS (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED**

東方海外(國際)有限公司\*

(Incorporated in Bermuda with members' limited liability) (Stock code: 316)

#### 2023 RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Directors of Orient Overseas (International) Limited (the "Company" or "OOIL") announce the results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") for the year ended 31st December 2023 as follows:

#### Consolidated Profit and Loss Account For the year ended 31st December 2023

US\$'000	Note	2023	2022
Revenue	4	8,343,857	19,820,188
Operating costs		(7,188,523)	(9,395,608)
Gross profit		1,155,334	10,424,580
Other operating income		499,962	252,044
Business and administrative expenses		(280,161)	(662,804)
Reversal of impairment losses on financial assets, net		20,709	7,612
Other gains, net		9,832	57,669
Operating profit	5	1,405,676	10,079,101
Finance costs	6	(28,496)	(61,138)
Share of profits of joint ventures		4,041	2,689
Share of (losses)/profits of associated companies		(660)	7,091
Profit before taxation		1,380,561	10,027,743
Taxation	7	(11,452)	(61,505)
Profit for the year		1,369,109	9,966,238
Profit attributable to:			
Equity holders of the Company		1,367,852	9,965,245
Non-controlling interests		1,257	993
		1,369,109	9,966,238
	0	_	_
Earnings per ordinary share (US\$)	8		
Basic and diluted		2.07	15.09

US\$'000	2023	2022
Profit for the year	1,369,109	9,966,238
Other comprehensive loss:  Item that will not be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss:  Remeasurement losses on defined benefit schemes	(1,392)	(4,054)
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:  Currency translation adjustments		
Subsidiaries	(14,548)	(37,920)
Joint ventures	(152)	(655)
Associated companies	(1,532)	(8,176)
Release of reserve upon disposal of a subsidiary and an associated company	<u>-</u>	(7,917)
Total amount that has been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss	(16,232)	(54,668)
Other comprehensive loss for the year, net of tax	(17,624)	(58,722)
Total comprehensive income for the year	1,351,485	9,907,516
Total comprehensive income attributable to:		
Equity holders of the Company	1,350,189	9,906,695
Non-controlling interests	1,296	821
-	1,351,485	9,907,516
		<u> </u>

US\$'000	Note	2023	2022
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment		5,607,991	4,696,239
Right-of-use assets		1,861,705	2,509,695
Investment property		250,000	270,000
Investments in joint ventures		9,906	9,916
Investments in associated companies		88,399	96,332
Intangible assets		7,679	10,805
Deferred taxation assets		14,903	30,349
Pension and retirement assets		13,490	10,093
Restricted bank balances		296	300
Investments at fair value through other comprehensive income		34	34
Investments at amortised cost		52,926	52,966
Other non-current assets		11,516	17,945
		7,918,845	7,704,674
Current assets			
Inventories		197,186	179,561
Debtors and prepayments	10	743,212	873,260
Investments at amortised cost		-	35,340
Portfolio investments at fair value through profit or loss		13,413	13,369
Tax recoverable		10,794	11,929
Restricted bank balances		3,547	3,126
Cash and bank balances		6,722,188	11,213,902
		7,690,340	12,330,487
Total assets		15,609,185	20,035,161
EQUITY			
Equity holders			
Share capital		66,037	66,037
Reserves		11,141,059	13,369,961
		11,207,096	13,435,998
Non-controlling interests		3,267	2,900
Total equity		11,210,363	13,438,898
Total equity		11,210,303	13,430,070
LIABILITIES			
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities		919,370	1,367,909
Deferred taxation liabilities		190,718	192,868
Provision	11	916,745	894,745
		2,026,833	2,455,522
Current liabilities			
Creditors and accruals	12	1,750,516	3,282,974
Lease liabilities		518,868	712,211
Current taxation		102,605	145,556
		2,371,989	4,140,741
Total liabilities		4,398,822	6,596,263
Total equity and liabilities		15,609,185	20,035,161
<b>.</b> v		, , ,	, , ,

US\$'000	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash generated from operations	714,711	11,412,621
Interest and financing charges paid	(59,062)	(53,949)
Income tax paid	(38,453)	(105,658)
Net cash from operating activities	617,196	11,253,014
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	47,571	149,399
Sale and redemption on maturity of non-current assets	36,766	27,697
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(1,378,086)	(524,841)
Purchase of other non-current assets	(11,821)	(23,605)
Decrease in portfolio investments at fair value through profit or loss	-	39,025
Disposal of a subsidiary	-	52,442
Proceeds from disposal of an associated company	2,944	-
Investments in associated companies	(439)	(1,000)
(Increase)/decrease in restricted bank balances and bank deposits		
maturing more than three months from the date of placement	(3,843,395)	1,505,742
Interest received	495,112	183,053
Dividends and distribution received from investments	548	702
Dividends received from joint ventures and associated companies	10,079	11,459
Net cash (used in)/from investing activities	(4,640,721)	1,420,073
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of loans	-	(251,165)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(714,760)	(722,592)
Dividends paid to equity holders of the Company	(3,579,223)	(6,141,471)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	(929)	
Net cash used in financing activities	(4,294,912)	(7,115,228)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(8,318,437)	5,557,859
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	9,463,902	3,940,809
Currency translation adjustments	(16,255)	(34,766)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	1,129,210	9,463,902
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and bank balances	6,722,188	11,213,902
Bank deposits maturing more than three months from the date of placement	(5,592,978)	(1,750,000)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	1,129,210	9,463,902

	I	Equity holders		Non-	
	Share	-		controlling	
US\$'000	capital	Reserves	Sub-total	interests	Total
At 1st January 2022	66,037	9,603,620	9,669,657	2,079	9,671,736
Total comprehensive income for the year	_	9,906,695	9,906,695	821	9,907,516
Transactions with owners		. , ,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		- , ,-
Employee share-based compensation	-	1,117	1,117	_	1,117
2021 final dividend	-	(1,723,574)	(1,723,574)	-	(1,723,574)
2021 second special dividend	-	(455,658)	(455,658)	-	(455,658)
2022 interim dividend	-	(2,265,080)	(2,265,080)	-	(2,265,080)
2022 first special dividend	-	(1,697,159)	(1,697,159)	-	(1,697,159)
At 31st December 2022 and 1st January 2023	66,037	13,369,961	13,435,998	2,900	13,438,898
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	1,350,189	1,350,189	1,296	1,351,485
Transactions with owners					
Employee share-based compensation	-	132	132	-	132
2022 final dividend	-	(1,723,574)	(1,723,574)	-	(1,723,574)
2022 second special dividend	-	(1,287,728)	(1,287,728)	-	(1,287,728)
2023 interim dividend	-	(455,658)	(455,658)	-	(455,658)
2023 first special dividend	-	(112,263)	(112,263)	-	(112,263)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests				(929)	(929)
At 31st December 2023	66,037	11,141,059	11,207,096	3,267	11,210,363

#### **NOTES**

### 1. Scope of work of PricewaterhouseCoopers in the preliminary announcement

The figures in respect of the preliminary announcement of the Group's results for the year ended 31st December 2023 have been agreed by the Group's auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers, to the amounts set out in the Group's draft consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended 31st December 2023. The work performed by PricewaterhouseCoopers in this respect did not constitute an assurance engagement in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing, Hong Kong Standards on Review Engagements or Hong Kong Standards on Assurance Engagements issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and consequently no assurance has been expressed by PricewaterhouseCoopers on the preliminary announcement.

#### 2. General information

The Company is a members' limited liability company incorporated in Bermuda. The address of its registered office is Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda and the principal office is 31st Floor, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, China.

The Company has its shares listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

The ultimate parent company of the Group is China COSCO SHIPPING Corporation Limited ("COSCO SHIPPING"), a state-owned enterprise established in the People's Republic of China.

### 3. Accounting policies and basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRS"). They have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investment property, investments at fair value through other comprehensive income and portfolio investments at fair value through profit or loss which are carried at fair value.

#### The adoption of new or revised standards

HKFRS 17 (Amendment)

New standard and amendments to existing standards

In 2023, the Group adopted the following new standard and amendments to existing standards, which are relevant to its operations.

11CW Stalldard and afficild	ments to existing standards
HKAS 1 and HKFRS Practice Statement 2 (Amendments)	Disclosure of Accounting Policies
HKAS 8 (Amendment)	Definition of Accounting Estimates
HKAS 12 (Amendment)	Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction
HKAS 12 (Amendment)	International Tax Reform - Pillar Two Model Rules
HKFRS 17 and HKFRS 17 (Amendment)	Insurance Contracts

The adoption of the above new standard and amendments to existing standards does not have a material impact to the results and financial position of the Group.

Comparative Information

Initial Application of HKFRS 17 and HKFRS 9 -

# 3. Accounting policies and basis of preparation (Continued)

Amendments and interpretation to existing standards that are relevant to the Group but not yet effective

Amendments and i	nterpretation to existing standards	Effective for accounting periods beginning on or after
HK Int 5 (Revised)	Classification by the Borrower of a Term Loan that Contains a Repayment on Demand Clause	1st January 2024
HKAS 1 (Amendment)	Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current	1st January 2024
HKAS 1 (Amendment)	Non-current Liabilities with Covenants	1st January 2024
HKAS 7 and HKFRS 7 (Amendments)	Supplier Finance Arrangements	1st January 2024
HKFRS 16 (Amendment)	Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback	1st January 2024
HKAS 21 (Amendment)	Lack of Exchangeability	1st January 2025
HKFRS 10 and HKAS 28 (Amendments)	Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture	To be announced

The adoption of the above amendments and interpretation to existing standards is not expected to have a significant effect on the consolidated financial statements of the Group.

## 4. Revenue and segment information

#### (a) Revenue

US\$'000	2023	2022
Container transport and logistics Others	8,319,049 24,808	19,796,285 23,903
	8,343,857	19,820,188

The principal activities of the Group are container transport and logistics.

Revenue comprises gross freight income, service and other income from the operation of the container transport and logistics and rental income from the investment property.

#### (b) Segment information

### **Operating segments**

The segment results for the year ended 31st December 2023 are as follows:

	Container		
	transport		
US\$'000	and logistics	Others	Total
Revenue from contracts with customers:			
Over time	8,220,487	-	8,220,487
Revenue from other source	98,562	24,808	123,370
	8,319,049	24,808	8,343,857
Other operating income	495,682	4,280	499,962
	8,814,731	29,088	8,843,819
Operating profit/(loss)	1,417,746	(12,070)	1,405,676
Finance costs	(28,496)	-	(28,496)
Share of profits of joint ventures	4,041	-	4,041
Share of losses of associated companies	(660)		(660)
Profit/(loss) before taxation	1,392,631	(12,070)	1,380,561
Taxation	(16,054)	4,602	(11,452)
Profit/(loss) for the year	1,376,577	(7,468)	1,369,109
Fair value loss from an investment property	-	21,403	21,403
Additions to non-current assets*	1,154,688	1,408	1,156,096
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	378,746	16	378,762
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	464,423	-	464,423
Amortisation of intangible assets	4,472		4,472

# 4. Revenue and segment information (Continued)

# (b) Segment information (Continued)

# **Operating segments (Continued)**

The segment results for the year ended 31st December 2022 are as follows:

	Container		
	transport		
US\$'000	and logistics	Others	Total
Revenue from contracts with customers:			
Over time	19,741,030	-	19,741,030
Revenue from other source	55,255	23,903	79,158
	19,796,285	23,903	19,820,188
Other operating income	245,927	6,117	252,044
	20,042,212	30,020	20,072,232
Operating profit/(loss)	10,090,263	(11,162)	10,079,101
Finance costs	(61,138)	-	(61,138)
Share of profits of joint ventures	2,689	-	2,689
Share of profits of associated companies	7,091		7,091
Profit/(loss) before taxation	10,038,905	(11,162)	10,027,743
Taxation	(66,302)	4,797	(61,505)
Profit/(loss) for the year	9,972,603	(6,365)	9,966,238
Fair value loss from an investment property	-	16,964	16,964
Additions to non-current assets*	1,309,167	2,024	1,311,191
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	339,696	22	339,718
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	514,419	-	514,419
Amortisation of intangible assets	6,839		6,839

<sup>\*</sup> Additions to non-current assets comprise additions to property, plant and equipment, right-of-use assets, investment property and intangible assets.

### 4. Revenue and segment information (Continued)

### (b) Segment information (Continued)

#### **Operating segments (Continued)**

The segment assets and liabilities at 31st December 2023 and 2022 are as follows:

		2023	
	Container		
	transport		
US\$'000	and logistics	Others	Group
Segment assets	14,904,964	605,731	15,510,695
Joint ventures	10,091	-	10,091
Associated companies	88,399		88,399
Total assets	15,003,454	605,731	15,609,185
Segment liabilities	(4,264,996)	(133,826)	(4,398,822)
		2022	
	Container		
	Container transport		
US\$'000		Others	Group
US\$'000 Segment assets	transport		<b>Group</b> 19,928,913
	transport and logistics	Others	_
Segment assets	transport and logistics	Others	19,928,913
Segment assets Joint ventures	transport and logistics 19,513,595 9,916	Others	19,928,913 9,916

The segment of "Others" primarily includes assets and liabilities of property investment and corporate level activities. Assets under the segment of "Others" consist primarily of investment property, investments at amortised cost, portfolio investments at fair value through profit or loss together with cash and bank balances related to property investment activities. Liabilities under the segment of "Others" primarily include creditors and accruals and deferred taxation liabilities related to property investment and corporate level activities.

### 4. Revenue and segment information (Continued)

### (b) Segment information (Continued)

#### **Geographical information**

The Group's two reportable operating segments operate in below main geographical areas, even though they are managed on a worldwide basis. Freight revenues from container transport and logistics are analysed based on the outbound cargoes of each geographical territory.

The Group's total assets mainly include container vessels and containers which are primarily utilised across geographical markets for shipment of cargoes throughout the world. Accordingly, non-current assets by geographical areas are not presented.

		Additions to non-current
US\$'000	Revenue	assets#
Year ended 31st December 2023		
Asia	5,885,401	54,890
Europe	1,398,935	8,077
North and South America	703,326	3,806
Australia and Africa	356,195	2,897
Unallocated*		1,086,426
	8,343,857	1,156,096
Year ended 31st December 2022		
Asia	15,788,208	36,101
Europe	2,729,105	1,764
North America	926,043	5,099
Australia	376,832	73
Unallocated*		1,268,154
	19,820,188	1,311,191

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>#</sup> Additions to non-current assets comprise additions to property, plant and equipment, right-of-use assets, investment property and intangible assets.

<sup>\*</sup> Unallocated additions to non-current assets comprise additions to container vessels and capitalised dry-docking costs, assets under construction, scrubbers and vessel equipment, containers and computer software costs.

# 5. Operating profit

	US\$'000	2023	2022
	Operating profit is arrived at after crediting:		
	Operating lease rental income		
	Land and buildings	24,808	23,903
	Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	12,753	99,837
	Exchange gain	18,383	
	and after charging:		
	Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	378,762	339,718
	Depreciation of right-of-use assets	464,423	514,419
	Amortisation of intangible assets	4,472	6,839
	Expenses relating to short-term leases and leases with low-value assets		
	Vessels and equipment	407,798	333,829
	Land and buildings	3,676	3,302
	Direct operating expenses from property	,	
	that generated rental income	15,373	14,931
	Auditors' remuneration		
	Audit	2,970	2,917
	Non-audit	968	1,569
	Exchange loss	<u> </u>	36,291
6.	Finance costs		
	US\$'000	2023	2022
	Interest expense		
	Bank loans	-	6,341
	Lease liabilities	72,200	68,016
		72,200	74,357
	Amount capitalised under assets under construction	(43,704)	(13,219)
	Net interest expense	28,496	61,138

#### 7. Taxation

US\$'000	2023	2022
Current taxation		
HKSAR profits tax*	(12,370)	5,534
Non HKSAR taxation	10,464	84,996
	(1,906)	90,530
Deferred taxation		
HKSAR profits tax	(1)	337
Non HKSAR taxation	13,359	(29,362)
	13,358	(29,025)
	11,452	61,505

<sup>\*</sup> The negative amount for 2023 represents over-provision of prior year.

Taxation has been provided at the appropriate tax rates prevailing in the countries/regions in which the Group operates on the estimated assessable profits for the year. These rates range from 5% to 39% (2022: 2.5% to 34.2%) and the rates applicable to the withholding tax for undistributed earnings of subsidiaries range from 5% to 30% (2022: 5% to 30%). The HKSAR profits tax for ocean freight transportation business is charged based on the relevant entity's Hong Kongsourced income (i.e. at a percentage of the total worldwide ocean freight transportation business profit) under the HKSAR tax incentive regime for international shipping businesses and at the applicable tax rate of 16.5% (2022: 16.5%).

#### 8. Earnings per ordinary share

The calculation of basic and diluted earnings per ordinary share is based on the Group's profit attributable to equity holders of the Company divided by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year.

The basic and diluted earnings per ordinary share are the same since there are no potential dilutive shares.

	2023	2022
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue (thousands)	660,373	660,373
Group's profit attributable to equity holders of the Company (US\$'000)	1,367,852	9,965,245
Earnings per share attributable to equity holders of the Company (US\$)	2.07	15.09

#### 9. Dividends

The final and second special dividends for 2022 of US\$1,723.6 million and US\$1,287.7 million respectively, and the interim and first special dividends for 2023 of US\$455.7 million and US\$112.3 million respectively have been accounted for as an appropriation of retained profit in the year ended 31st December 2023.

The Board of Directors proposes a final dividend in respect of 2023 of US\$0.145 (HK\$1.131 at the exchange rate of US\$1 : HK\$7.8) (2022: US\$2.61 (HK\$20.358 at the exchange rate of US\$1 : HK\$7.8)) per ordinary share. In addition, the Board of Directors proposes a second special dividend in respect of 2023 of US\$0.036 (HK\$0.281 at the exchange rate of US\$1 : HK\$7.8) (2022: US\$1.95 (HK\$15.210 at the exchange rate of US\$1 : HK\$7.8)) per ordinary share. The proposed dividends will be accounted for as an appropriation of retained profit in the year ending 31st December 2024.

#### 10. Debtors and prepayments

US\$'000	2023	2022
Trade receivables		
Third parties	328,616	487,673
Joint ventures	185	-
Fellow subsidiaries	4,955	12,123
Related companies	878	644
Less: Provision for impairment	(40,123)	(62,164)
Trade receivables - net	294,511	438,276
Other debtors*	228,532	221,235
Other prepayments	150,260	171,509
Utility and other deposits	14,878	16,065
Amounts due from related parties		
Fellow subsidiaries	31,782	13,911
Related companies	23,249	12,264
	743,212	873,260

<sup>\*</sup> The balance included slot hire receivable.

Trade receivables are normally due for payment on presentation of invoices or granted with an approved credit period ranging mainly from 10 to 30 days. Debtors with overdue balances are requested to settle all outstanding balances before any further credit is granted.

The ageing analysis of the Group's trade receivables, net of provision for impairment, prepared in accordance with the dates of invoices, is as follows:

US\$'000	2023	2022
Below 1 month	231,170	307,781
2 to 3 months	56,742	122,301
4 to 6 months	5,464	8,051
Over 6 months	1,135	143
	294,511	438,276

There is no concentration of credit risk with respect to trade receivables, as the Group has a large number of internationally dispersed customers. Other debtors and amounts due from related parties are fully performing.

#### 11. Provision

The Group entered into the Terminal Service Agreement ("TSA") in October 2019 to which the Group committed to place, or procure the placement of an annual minimum number of vessel lifts in Long Beach Container Terminal ("LBCT") for 20 years. Failure to meet the committed volume for each contract year would require certain level of deficiency payment as stipulated in the TSA.

As at 31st December 2023, the Group reassessed the expected number of vessel lifts in LBCT for each of the remaining contract years with reference to future prospects of the market and its expected load factor. The overall economic environment in the USA is still highly uncertain, and it is expected that high inflation and interest rate environment would slow down the USA economy growth and would have some negative impact to the demand/import of the USA in the near future. As at 31st December 2023, with these uncertainties over such a long-term contract period, management reassessed that the projected vessel lifts in LBCT would result in a shortfall on minimum volume commitment over the remaining contract period. The Group estimated an onerous contract provision of US\$916.7 million as at 31st December 2023 (2022: US\$894.7 million).

Movements in the onerous provision are as follows:

US\$'000	2023	2022
Balance at beginning of year	894,745	651,745
Charged to consolidated profit and loss account	22,000	243,000
Balance at end of year	916,745	894,745

#### 12. Creditors and accruals

US\$'000	2023	2022
Trade payables		
Third parties	208,233	156,028
Joint ventures	1,169	1,214
Fellow subsidiaries	19,966	39,553
Related companies	30,590	19,128
	259,958	215,923
Other creditors	175,639	176,976
Accrued expenses <sup>#</sup>	1,288,080	2,483,714
Contract liabilities*	17,848	34,649
Amounts due to related parties	,	,
Joint ventures	4,230	7,172
Fellow subsidiaries	4,457	4,520
Related companies^	304	360,020
	1,750,516	3,282,974

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>#</sup> Accrued expenses mainly represent accrual for operating costs for container transport operation and accrued discretionary bonuses.

The ageing analysis of the Group's trade payables, prepared in accordance with the dates of invoices, is as follows:

US\$'000	2023	2022
Below 1 month	188,639	158,991
2 to 3 months	64,880	50,106
4 to 6 months	806	2,547
Over 6 months	5,633	4,279
	259,958	215,923

<sup>\*</sup> As permitted by HKFRS 15, the transaction price for contracts with an original expected duration of one year or less is exempt from disclosure due to practical expedient.

<sup>^</sup> As at 31st December 2022, the amounts due to related companies mainly included instalment payables for vessels under construction.

#### Results for 2023

The Group recorded a profit attributable to equity holders of US\$1,367.9 million for 2023, compared to a profit of US\$9,965.2 million in 2022.

OOIL ANNUAL RESULTS ANALYSIS			
(US\$ '000)	2023	2022	
Profit/(Loss) Before Taxation by Activity:			
Container Transport and Logistics	1,392,631	10,038,905	
Other Activities	(12,070)	(11,162)	
<b>Profit Before Taxation</b>	1,380,561	10,027,743	
Taxation	(11,452)	(61,505)	
<b>Profit for the Year Ended 31st December</b>	1,369,109	9,966,238	
Non-Controlling Interests	(1,257)	(993)	
Profit Attributable to Equity Holders	1,367,852	9,965,245	

## **Review of Operations**

The exceptionally robust container shipping market that we witnessed during the pandemic is now far behind us, and we have returned to a rather normal yet uncertain year 2023. The cargo demand recovery was not as strong as many anticipated, affected by high inflation, slowdown in economic growth of advanced economies, as well as the consumer spending patterns shifting in the post-pandemic. As carriers' schedule became more reliable, retailers opted towards a just-in-time approach when restocking, thereby delaying demand to a certain extent. On the supply side, with the alleviation of bottlenecks, and the continuous delivery of new ships, the change in supply has undoubtedly exceeded in demand and the continuous decline of freight rates.

So far, we have taken delivery of 7 newly built 24,188 TEU container ships. The delivery of these new ships will not only help to increase the capacity and also realise the Group's endeavours to modernise its fleet from a technology and configuration standpoint, improving its cost-effectiveness and market competitiveness, help the Dual-Brand achieve the goal of maintaining its world's first echelon status and is also another proof of OOIL's commitment in energy conservation, carbon reduction, and environmental protection.

Cooperation with fellow members of the COSCO SHIPPING Group and alliances helps to further expand OOIL's network, strengthen cost management capabilities, and contribute to the Group in increasing revenue and reducing expenditure. We believe the advantages of Dual Brand will continue to beneficial to the Group's future development.

Despite the immense overall market pressure in 2023, our logistics company, OOCL Logistics, has made great progress in the field of dry cargo and cold chain transportation, achieving double-digit revenue growth. In the future, OOCL Logistics will continue to work closely with shipping companies to provide customers with a full range of high-quality services.

This year, OOIL continues to be committed in promoting the digitalisation of the industry. We will take full advantage of using big data and AI to optimise the management of our boxes, ships and cargo, and improve customer satisfaction. IQAX, our wholly-owned IT company, has successfully launched electronic bills of lading ("eBL"). In early December 2023, the processing volume of eBL has exceeded 100,000. Relying on the FreightSmart and GSBN, we not only strengthened our relationships with our business partners, but also created more end-to-end digital solutions and expanded them to different countries and regions, improving customers' supply chain through the Group's platform with one-stop management experience.

Based on an independent valuation as at 31st December 2023, Wall Street Plaza was valued downwards by US\$20.0 million, reflecting an assessed market value of US\$250.0 million. Taking into consideration of US\$1.4 million capital expenditures on the building in 2023, the fair value loss for 2023 has come to US\$21.4 million. As at 31st December 2022, Wall Street Plaza was valued at US\$270.0 million.

## **Looking Forward**

Looking ahead, the shipping market remains uncertain. The global economy seems to be recovering, but the pace may be slow and with uncertainties; interest rates on the other hand seem to have peaked, but remain hovering at high levels; the 2M alliance will be terminated, Gemini Corporation emerged, and Ocean Alliance announced further extension; geopolitical tensions and new environmental regulations, including the EU carbon tax, etc., have posed challenges to the entire supply chain. There is no doubt that all these will have a long-lasting impact on the future development of the shipping market.

Since the beginning of 2024, the situation in the Red Sea is still one of the key factors affecting the container shipping market. With the tension in the Red Sea not being relieved, shipping companies will continue to navigate through the Cape of Good Hope in the coming months. In combination with the traditional peak season prior to Chinese New Year, freight rates have risen even more. However, the current supply chain tension is caused by the re-routing of vessels, which is quite different compared to the spike in demand, inadequate supply, and interruption of the supply chain during pandemic period between 2020 and 2022. It is difficult to predict what the changeable trend would be. What is obvious is that the container shipping market is highly susceptible to any form of major disruption; and the complete effect will not be seen until the original balance is restored or a new equilibrium is found.

Regardless of the prospects, OOIL will continue to focus on being customer-centric, proactively and quickly respond to challenges, and provide high-quality services and green operations, as a Vital Link to World Trade.

# **Final and Second Special Dividends**

The Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") has recommended the payment of a final dividend of US\$0.145 (HK\$1.131 at the exchange rate of US\$1: HK\$7.8) per ordinary share and the second special dividend of US\$0.036 (HK\$0.281 at the exchange rate of US\$1: HK\$7.8) per ordinary share for the year ended 31st December 2023 to be paid on 28th June 2024 to the shareholders of the Company whose names appear on the register of members of the Company on 31st May 2024. The final and second special dividends will be paid in the same currency, either US dollars or HK dollars. Shareholders, who wish to change their existing currency election, should complete a dividend election form and return it to the Company's Hong Kong branch share registrar, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited (the "Branch Share Registrar") at 17M Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong, not later than 4:30 p.m. on 20th June 2024.

### **Dividend Policy**

Shareholders of the same class of shares shall have equal rights to dividends and distributions. The Company adopted a dividend policy (the "Dividend Policy") that balances the objectives of appropriately rewarding the shareholders for their investment and retaining reserves for long-term development and future expansion of the Company, and enhances transparency facilitating shareholders and investors to make informed investment decisions.

The Dividend Policy has a target annual dividend payout of 30% to 50% of the consolidated net profit attributed to the shareholders of the Company in the financial years of 2024, 2025 and 2026, whether as interim and/or final dividends, subject to, inter alia, the financial performance, liquidity position, future plans and working capital requirements of the Company and the prevailing economic, financial, business and regulatory circumstances. The Company may also declare special dividends from time to time in addition to the semi-annual dividends.

The declaration of dividends is subject to the sole discretion of the Board. There can be no assurance that dividends will be paid in any particular amount of any given period. The Dividend Policy shall not constitute a legally binding document in respect of future dividend declaration of the Company and/or in no way oblige the Company to declare a dividend at any time or from time to time. The distribution and payment of dividends of the Company will be subject to compliance with the Company's Bye-laws and applicable laws and regulations.

# **Liquidity and Financial Resources**

As at 31st December 2023, the Group had cash and bank balances amounting to US\$6,722.2 million and a total indebtedness of US\$1,438.2 million. The Group had a net cash to equity ratio of 0.47: 1 as at end of 2023, compared with 0.68: 1 at the end of 2022.

As at 31st December 2023, the indebtedness of the Group comprises lease liabilities which are mainly denominated in US dollar. The Group's debts are monitored to ensure a smooth repayment schedule to maturity.

## **Employee Information**

As at 31st December 2023, the Group had 11,447 full-time employees. Their salary and benefit levels are maintained at competitive levels. Employees are rewarded on a performance related basis within the general policy and framework of the Group's salary and bonus schemes which are regularly reviewed. Other benefits including medical insurance and pension funds are also provided, and social and recreational activities are organised around the world.

### **Closure of Register of Members**

The register of members of the Company will be closed during the following periods:

- (a) from 16th May 2024 to 22nd May 2024, both days inclusive, to ascertain the shareholders entitled to attend and vote at the annual general meeting of the Company to be held on 22nd May 2024 (the "AGM"). During this period, no transfer of shares will be registered. To be eligible to attend and vote at the AGM, all share transfer documents must be accompanied with the relevant share certificates and lodged with the Branch Share Registrar at Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on 14th May 2024; and
- (b) from 29th May 2024 to 31st May 2024, both days inclusive, to ascertain the shareholders entitled to the proposed final and second special dividends. During this period, no transfer of shares will be registered. To qualify for the proposed final and second special dividends, all share transfer documents must be accompanied with the relevant share certificates and lodged with the Branch Share Registrar at Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on 28th May 2024.

## Purchase, Sale or Redemption of Shares

During the year ended 31st December 2023, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries had purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's shares.

# **Pre-emptive Rights**

No pre-emptive rights exist under Bermuda law in relation to the issue of new shares by the Company.

### **Corporate Governance**

#### Compliance with the Corporate Governance Code

The Board and the management of the Company are committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance. The Company considers that effective corporate governance makes an important contribution to corporate success and to the enhancement of shareholder value.

The Company has adopted its own corporate governance code (the "CG Code"), which in addition to applying the principles as set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the "SEHK Code") contained in Appendix C1 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (the "Listing Rules") on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "HKEX"), also incorporates and conforms to local and international best practices. The CG Code sets out the corporate governance principles applied by the Group and is constantly reviewed to ensure transparency, accountability and independence.

Throughout the year 2023, the Company complied with the SEHK Code.

Further information on the CG Code will be set out in the Corporate Governance Report contained in the Company's 2023 Annual Report.

#### Review of Financial Statements

The Audit Committee has reviewed the annual results of the Group for the year ended 31st December 2023, in conjunction with the external and internal auditors of the Company.

#### Securities Transactions by Directors

The Company has adopted its own code of conduct regarding securities transactions by Directors (the "Code") on terms no less exacting than the required standard set out in the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Model Code") contained in Appendix C3 to the Listing Rules.

All Directors have confirmed, following specific enquiry by the Company, that they fully complied with the required standard set out in both the Code and the Model Code for the year ended 31st December 2023.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM will be held on 22nd May 2024. Notice of the AGM will be despatched to the shareholders of the Company on or around 25th April 2024.

# **Publication of Results Announcement and Annual Report**

This annual results announcement is published on the websites of HKEX at <a href="https://www.hkexnews.hk">https://www.hkexnews.hk</a> and the Company at <a href="https://www.ooilgroup.com">https://www.ooilgroup.com</a>. The 2023 Annual Report will be published on the websites of the HKEX and the Company and will be despatched to the shareholders of the Company on or around 25th April 2024.

#### **Directors**

As at the date of this announcement, our Executive Directors are Mr. WAN Min, Mr. CHEN Yangfan and Mr. YANG Zhijian; our Non-Executive Directors are Mr. TUNG Lieh Cheung Andrew, Mr. GU Jinshan, Ms. WANG Dan and Mr. IP Sing Chi; and our Independent Non-Executive Directors are Mr. CHOW Philip Yiu Wah, Dr. CHUNG Shui Ming Timpson, Mr. YANG Liang Yee Philip, Ms. CHEN Ying and Mr. SO Gregory Kam Leung.

# **Forward Looking Statements**

This announcement contains forward looking statements. Statements which are not of historical facts, including statements of the Company's beliefs and expectations, are forward looking statements. They are based upon current plans, estimates and projections and, therefore, no undue reliance should be placed upon them. Forward looking statements are correct only as of the day on which they are made. The Company has no obligation and does not undertake to update any of them publicly in the light of fresh information or of future events. Forward looking statements contain inherent risks, uncertainties and assumptions. The Company warns that should any of these risks or uncertainties ever materialise or that any of the assumptions should prove incorrect or should any number of important factors or events occur or not occur, then the actual results of the Company may differ materially from those either expressed or implied in any of these forward looking statements.

On behalf of the Board **Orient Overseas (International) Limited** 

WAN Min Chairman

Hong Kong, China, 21st March 2024

\* For identification purpose only

Website: <a href="https://www.ooilgroup.com">https://www.ooilgroup.com</a>