HKT Trust

(a trust constituted on 7 November 2011 under the laws of Hong Kong and managed by HKT Management Limited)

and

HKT Limited

(incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 6823)

OVERSEAS REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENT

This announcement is made pursuant to Rule 13.10B of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

Please refer to the attached audited consolidated financial statements of HKT Group Holdings Limited ("**HKTGH**") and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited ("**HKTL**") for the year ended 31 December 2023 published on the websites of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited and the Taipei Exchange.

HKTL is wholly-owned by HKTGH which is in turn wholly-owned by HKT Limited.

HKTGH and its subsidiaries (the "**HKTGH Group**") are principally engaged in the provision of technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, consumer mobile, total home solutions, healthtech services, media entertainment and other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services. The HKTGH Group operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world. Revenue of the HKTGH Group accounted for approximately 100% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

HKTL and its subsidiaries (the "**HKTL Group**") mainly provide telecommunications and related services, which include local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting primarily in Hong Kong. Revenue of the HKTL Group accounted for approximately 48% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

By order of the boards of
HKT Management Limited
and
HKT Limited
Cheung Hok Chee, Vanessa
Group General Counsel and Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 19 April 2024

19 April 2024

US$300,000,000 zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030 (listed on the Taipei Exchange) issued by HKT Capital No. 1 Limited and guaranteed by HKT Group Holdings Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited

To bondholders:

Please find attached the audited consolidated financial statements of HKT Group Holdings Limited ("HKTGH") and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited ("HKTL") for the year ended 31 December 2023 for your reference.

HKTL is wholly-owned by HKTGH which is in turn wholly-owned by HKT Limited.

HKTGH and its subsidiaries (the "HKTGH Group") provide technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, consumer mobile, total home solutions, healthtech services, media entertainment and other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services. The HKTGH Group operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world. Revenue of the HKTGH Group accounted for approximately 100% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

HKTL and its subsidiaries (the "HKTL Group") mainly provide telecommunications and related services, which include local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting primarily in Hong Kong. Revenue of the HKTL Group accounted for approximately 48% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

Investor Relations
HKT Limited
Tel: (852) 2514-5084
Email: ir@hkt.com

HKT®

19 April 2024

US$500,000,000 3.625% guaranteed notes due 2025 (listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited) issued by HKT Capital No. 2 Limited and guaranteed by HKT Group Holdings Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited

To bondholders:

Please find attached the audited consolidated financial statements of HKT Group Holdings Limited ("HKTGH") and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited ("HKTL") for the year ended 31 December 2023 for your reference.

HKTL is wholly-owned by HKTGH which is in turn wholly-owned by HKT Limited.

HKTGH and its subsidiaries (the "HKTGH Group") provide technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, consumer mobile, total home solutions, healthtech services, media entertainment and other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services. The HKTGH Group operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world. Revenue of the HKTGH Group accounted for approximately 100% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

HKTL and its subsidiaries (the "HKTL Group") mainly provide telecommunications and related services, which include local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting primarily in Hong Kong. Revenue of the HKTL Group accounted for approximately 48% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

Investor Relations
HKT Limited
Tel: (852) 2514-5084
Email: ir@hkt.com

19 April 2024

€200,000,000 1.65% guaranteed notes due 2027 (listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited) issued by HKT Capital No. 3 Limited and guaranteed by HKT Group Holdings Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited

To bondholders:

Please find attached the audited consolidated financial statements of HKT Group Holdings Limited ("HKTGH") and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited ("HKTL") for the year ended 31 December 2023 for your reference.

HKTL is wholly-owned by HKTGH which is in turn wholly-owned by HKT Limited.

HKTGH and its subsidiaries (the "HKTGH Group") provide technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, consumer mobile, total home solutions, healthtech services, media entertainment and other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services. The HKTGH Group operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world. Revenue of the HKTGH Group accounted for approximately 100% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

HKTL and its subsidiaries (the "HKTL Group") mainly provide telecommunications and related services, which include local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting primarily in Hong Kong. Revenue of the HKTL Group accounted for approximately 48% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

Investor Relations
HKT Limited
Tel: (852) 2514-5084
Email: ir@hkt.com

HKT®

19 April 2024

US$750,000,000 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2026 (listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited) issued by HKT Capital No. 4 Limited and guaranteed by HKT Group Holdings Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited

To bondholders:

Please find attached the audited consolidated financial statements of HKT Group Holdings Limited ("HKTGH") and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited ("HKTL") for the year ended 31 December 2023 for your reference.

HKTL is wholly-owned by HKTGH which is in turn wholly-owned by HKT Limited.

HKTGH and its subsidiaries (the "HKTGH Group") provide technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, consumer mobile, total home solutions, healthtech services, media entertainment and other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services. The HKTGH Group operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world. Revenue of the HKTGH Group accounted for approximately 100% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

HKTL and its subsidiaries (the "HKTL Group") mainly provide telecommunications and related services, which include local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting primarily in Hong Kong. Revenue of the HKTL Group accounted for approximately 48% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

Investor Relations
HKT Limited
Tel: (852) 2514-5084
Email: ir@hkt.com

HKT®

19 April 2024

US$500,000,000 3.25% guaranteed notes due 2029 (listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited) issued by HKT Capital No. 5 Limited and guaranteed by HKT Group Holdings Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited

To bondholders:

Please find attached the audited consolidated financial statements of HKT Group Holdings Limited ("HKTGH") and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited ("HKTL") for the year ended 31 December 2023 for your reference.

HKTL is wholly-owned by HKTGH which is in turn wholly-owned by HKT Limited.

HKTGH and its subsidiaries (the "HKTGH Group") provide technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, consumer mobile, total home solutions, healthtech services, media entertainment and other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services. The HKTGH Group operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world. Revenue of the HKTGH Group accounted for approximately 100% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

HKTL and its subsidiaries (the "HKTL Group") mainly provide telecommunications and related services, which include local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting primarily in Hong Kong. Revenue of the HKTL Group accounted for approximately 48% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

Investor Relations
HKT Limited
Tel: (852) 2514-5084
Email: ir@hkt.com

19 April 2024

US$650,000,000 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2032 (listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited) issued by HKT Capital No. 6 Limited and guaranteed by HKT Group Holdings Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited

To bondholders:

Please find attached the audited consolidated financial statements of HKT Group Holdings Limited ("HKTGH") and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited ("HKTL") for the year ended 31 December 2023 for your reference.

HKTL is wholly-owned by HKTGH which is in turn wholly-owned by HKT Limited.

HKTGH and its subsidiaries (the "HKTGH Group") provide technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, consumer mobile, total home solutions, healthtech services, media entertainment and other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services. The HKTGH Group operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world. Revenue of the HKTGH Group accounted for approximately 100% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

HKTL and its subsidiaries (the "HKTL Group") mainly provide telecommunications and related services, which include local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting primarily in Hong Kong. Revenue of the HKTL Group accounted for approximately 48% of the total revenue of HKT Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2023.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

Investor Relations
HKT Limited
Tel: (852) 2514-5084
Email: ir@hkt.com

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED
(INCORPORATED IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS WITH LIMITED LIABILITY)

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

羅兵咸永道

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED
(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

Opinion

What we have audited

The consolidated financial statements of HKT Group Holdings Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (the "Group"), which are set out on pages 4 to 96, comprise:

- the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023;
- the consolidated income statement for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of changes in equity for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the consolidated financial statements, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

Our opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2023, and of its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA").

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing ("HKSAs") issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the HKICPA's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the "Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Consolidated Financial Statements

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, 22/F Prince's Building, Central, Hong Kong SAR, China
T: +852 2289 8888, F: +852 2810 9888, www.pwchk.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT *(CONTINUED)*

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED *(CONTINUED)*
(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. We report our opinion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with our agreed terms of engagement and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with HKSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with HKSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

羅兵咸永道

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT *(CONTINUED)*

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED *(CONTINUED)*
(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements *(continued)*

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Certified Public Accountants

Hong Kong, 12 April 2024

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note(s)	2022	**2023**
Revenue	5, 6	34,125	**34,330**
Cost of sales	7(b)	(17,094)	**(17,454)**
General and administrative expenses	7(c)	(9,743)	**(9,120)**
Other (losses)/gains, net		(9)	**14**
Finance costs, net	8	(1,660)	**(2,328)**
Share of results of associates		(106)	**(108)**
Share of results of joint ventures		(19)	**(16)**
Profit before income tax	5, 7	5,494	**5,318**
Income tax	10	(634)	**(467)**
Profit for the year		4,860	**4,851**
Profit attributable to:			
Equity holder of the Company		4,842	**4,830**
Non-controlling interests		18	**21**
Profit for the year		4,860	**4,851**

The notes on pages 11 to 96 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Profit for the year	4,860	**4,851**
Other comprehensive (loss)/income		
Item that will not be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:		
Change in fair value of a financial asset at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	**(17)**
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:		
Translation exchange differences:		
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of subsidiaries	(76)	**26**
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of joint ventures	(5)	**(1)**
Cash flow hedges:		
- effective portion of changes in fair value	(46)	**(179)**
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	101	**(147)**
Costs of hedging	(114)	**(41)**
Other comprehensive loss for the year	(140)	**(359)**
Total comprehensive income for the year	4,720	**4,492**
Attributable to:		
Equity holder of the Company	4,702	**4,471**
Non-controlling interests	18	**21**
Total comprehensive income for the year	4,720	**4,492**

The notes on pages 11 to 96 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

		2022		
In HK$ million	Note	Attributable to equity holder of the Company	Non-controlling interests	Total equity
As at 1 January 2022		32,659	56	32,715
Total comprehensive income for the year				
Profit for the year		4,842	18	4,860
Other comprehensive (loss)/income				
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:				
Translation exchange differences:				
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of subsidiaries		(76)	-	(76)
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of joint ventures		(5)	-	(5)
Cash flow hedges:				
- effective portion of changes in fair value	25(c)	(46)	-	(46)
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	25(c)	101	-	101
Costs of hedging	25(c)	(114)	-	(114)
Other comprehensive loss		(140)	-	(140)
Total comprehensive income for the year		4,702	18	4,720
Transactions with equity holder				
Issue of ordinary share	27(a)	99	-	99
Receipt of shares of PCCW Limited ("PCCW Shares") under the PCCW Subscription Scheme		36	-	36
Dividend paid in respect of the previous year	11	(3,187)	-	(3,187)
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year	11	(2,377)	-	(2,377)
Dividends declared and paid to non-controlling shareholders of subsidiaries		-	(14)	(14)
Total transactions with equity holder		(5,429)	(14)	(5,443)
As at 31 December 2022		31,932	60	31,992

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY *(CONTINUED)*
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note	2023 Attributable to equity holder of the Company	Non-controlling interests	Total equity
As at 1 January 2023		**31,932**	**60**	**31,992**
Total comprehensive income for the year				
Profit for the year		**4,830**	**21**	**4,851**
Other comprehensive (loss)/income				
Item that will not be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:				
Change in fair value of a financial asset at fair value through other comprehensive income		**(17)**	**-**	**(17)**
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:				
Translation exchange differences:				
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of subsidiaries		**26**	**-**	**26**
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of joint ventures		**(1)**	**-**	**(1)**
Cash flow hedges:				
- effective portion of changes in fair value	25(c)	**(179)**	**-**	**(179)**
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	25(c)	**(147)**	**-**	**(147)**
Costs of hedging	25(c)	**(41)**	**-**	**(41)**
Other comprehensive loss		**(359)**	**-**	**(359)**
Total comprehensive income for the year		**4,471**	**21**	**4,492**
Transactions with equity holder				
Issue of ordinary shares	27(a)	**206**	**-**	**206**
Dividend paid in respect of the previous year	11	**(3,271)**	**-**	**(3,271)**
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year	11	**(2,337)**	**-**	**(2,337)**
Dividends declared and paid to the non-controlling shareholder of a subsidiary		**-**	**(11)**	**(11)**
Total transactions with equity holder		**(5,402)**	**(11)**	**(5,413)**
As at 31 December 2023		**31,001**	**70**	**31,071**

The notes on pages 11 to 96 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note(s)	2022	**2023**
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	12	26,286	**27,278**
Right-of-use assets	13	1,897	**1,988**
Interests in leasehold land	14	177	**165**
Goodwill	15	49,803	**49,806**
Intangible assets	16	16,415	**17,675**
Fulfilment costs		1,658	**1,925**
Customer acquisition costs		864	**912**
Contract assets		285	**324**
Interests in associates	17	410	**484**
Interests in joint ventures	18	327	**301**
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	19	147	**130**
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	20	75	**59**
Derivative financial instruments	25	27	**29**
Deferred income tax assets	29	968	**895**
Other non-current assets	22	571	**558**
		99,910	**102,529**
Current assets			
Inventories	23(a)	1,607	**959**
Prepayments, deposits and other current assets	23(b)	3,070	**3,163**
Contract assets		637	**511**
Trade receivables, net	23(c)	3,254	**2,838**
Amounts due from related companies	4(c)	25	**22**
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	20	26	**28**
Derivative financial instruments	25	58	**-**
Tax recoverable		-	**2**
Restricted cash	23(d)	375	**211**
Short-term deposits		116	**79**
Cash and cash equivalents	31(c)	1,996	**1,630**
		11,164	**9,443**
Current liabilities			
Short-term borrowings	23(e)	(3,950)	**(1,049)**
Trade payables	23(f)	(5,500)	**(5,781)**
Accruals and other payables		(5,980)	**(6,008)**
Derivative financial instrument	25	(98)	**(151)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	30	(331)	**(338)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	4(c), 4(d)	(6,498)	**(6,667)**
Amounts due to related companies	4(c)	(54)	**(84)**
Advances from customers		(286)	**(279)**
Contract liabilities		(1,410)	**(1,450)**
Lease liabilities		(1,049)	**(1,070)**
Current income tax liabilities		(1,766)	**(1,415)**
		(26,922)	**(24,292)**

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION ***(CONTINUED)***
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note	2022	**2023**
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	24	(39,888)	**(43,518)**
Derivative financial instruments	25	(223)	**(602)**
Deferred income tax liabilities	29	(5,048)	**(5,498)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	30	(3,340)	**(3,086)**
Contract liabilities		(1,031)	**(980)**
Lease liabilities		(925)	**(979)**
Other long-term liabilities		(1,705)	**(1,946)**
		(52,160)	**(56,609)**
Net assets		31,992	**31,071**
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Share capital	27	4,961	**4,961**
Reserves	28	26,971	**26,040**
Equity attributable to equity holder of the Company		31,932	**31,001**
Non-controlling interests	21(b)	60	**70**
Total equity		31,992	**31,071**

Approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors (the "Board") on 12 April 2024 and signed on behalf of the Board by

Hui Hon Hing, Susanna
Director

Poon Chi Ho
Director

The notes on pages 11 to 96 form part of these consolidated financial statements

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note	2022	**2023**
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	31(a)	10,746	**11,173**
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		4	**6**
Purchases of property, plant and equipment		(2,253)	**(2,138)**
Additions of intangible assets		(2,747)	**(2,897)**
Investment in an associate		(156)	**(129)**
Investment in a joint venture		-	**(30)**
Loans to a joint venture		(46)	**(63)**
Decrease in short-term deposits with maturity more than three months		356	**37**
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(4,842)	**(5,214)**
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
New borrowings raised	31(b)	22,803	**22,983**
Finance costs paid	31(b)	(899)	**(1,599)**
Repayments of borrowings	31(b)	(22,502)	**(22,994)**
Payment for lease liabilities (including interest)	31(b)	(1,389)	**(1,430)**
Movement in amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	31(b)	1,199	**2,106**
Movement in amount due to a related company	31(b)	(7)	**29**
Dividends paid to the sole shareholder of the Company	11	(5,564)	**(5,608)**
Dividends paid to non-controlling shareholders of subsidiaries		(14)	**(11)**
Proceeds from issue of ordinary shares	27(a)	99	**206**
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES		(6,274)	**(6,318)**
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		(370)	**(359)**
Exchange differences		(45)	**(7)**
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Beginning of year		2,411	**1,996**
End of year	31(c)	1,996	**1,630**

The notes on pages 11 to 96 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

HKT Group Holdings Limited (the "Company") was incorporated in the Cayman Islands on 18 January 2008. The address of its registered office is PO Box 309, Ugland House, Grand Cayman, KY1-1104, Cayman Islands.

The Company is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of HKT Limited ("HKT") which is a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands with its share stapled units (the "Share Stapled Units") jointly issued with the HKT Trust listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"). The directors consider PCCW Limited ("PCCW"), a company incorporated in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("Hong Kong") with its shares listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange and traded in the form of American Depositary Receipts on the OTC Markets Group Inc. in the United States, to be the Company's ultimate holding company.

The Company and its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Group") are principally engaged in the provision of technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, consumer mobile, total home solutions, healthtech services, media entertainment (the "Pay TV business") and other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services. It operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world.

These financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars, unless otherwise stated.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Statement of compliance

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, which is a collective term for all individual Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs"), Hong Kong Accounting Standards ("HKASs") and Interpretations issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong. A summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Group is set out below.

b. Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The following amended Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards are adopted for the financial year beginning 1 January 2023, but have no material effect on the Group's reported results and financial position for the current and prior accounting periods.

- HKAS 1 (Revised) (Amendments), *Presentation of Financial Statements*
- HKAS 8 (Amendments), *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*
- HKAS 12 (Amendments), *Income Taxes*
- HKFRS 17 and HKFRS 17 (Amendments), *Insurance Contracts*

The amendments to HKAS 12 require disclosure about income tax arising from Pillar Two model rules ("Pillar Two Income Taxes") published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ("OECD"), see note 10(c).

The Group has not early adopted any new or amended Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards that are not yet effective for the current accounting period, details of which are set out in note 37.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

b. Basis of preparation of the financial statements *(continued)*

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 comprise the financial statements of the Group, and the Group's interests in associates and joint ventures.

The measurement basis used in the preparation of the financial statements is the historical cost basis, except that the following assets and liabilities are stated at fair value as explained in the accounting policies set out below:

- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (see note 2(n));
- financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (see note 2(n)); and
- derivative financial instruments (see note 2(p)).

As at 31 December 2023, the current liabilities of the Group exceeded its current assets by HK$14,849 million. Included in the current liabilities were (i) short-term borrowings of HK$1,049 million, which represented borrowings with maturity dates fall due within the next 12-month period and the Group has arrangements to refinance this balance via long-term borrowings; and (ii) current portion of contract liabilities of HK$1,450 million recognised for which no direct cash settlement is required but will gradually reduce over the contract terms through the satisfaction of performance obligations. Also, considering the Group's ability to generate net operating cash inflows and raise additional debt financing, and the undrawn banking facilities totalling HK$12,733 million as at 31 December 2023, management considers the Group is able to meet its liabilities as and when they fall due within the next 12-month period. Accordingly, these consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of judgements about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements made by management in the application of Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards that have significant effect on these consolidated financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are discussed in note 3.

c. Subsidiaries and non-controlling interests

Subsidiaries are entities (including structured entities) controlled by the Group. Control exists when the Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity.

An interest in a subsidiary is consolidated into these consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

c. Subsidiaries and non-controlling interests *(continued)*

The acquisition method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries by the Group. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the aggregate fair value of the assets transferred, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed at the date of exchange. The consideration transferred includes the fair value of any asset, liability or equity resulting from a contingent consideration arrangement. A subsequent change to the fair value of the contingent consideration that is deemed to be an asset or a liability is recognised in accordance with HKFRS 9 (2014) *Financial Instruments* in the consolidated income statement. Contingent consideration that is classified as equity is not remeasured, and its subsequent settlement is accounted for within equity.

Acquisition-related costs are expensed as incurred. Identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured initially at their fair values at the acquisition date. On an acquisition-by-acquisition basis, the Group recognises any non-controlling interest in the acquiree either at fair value or at the non-controlling interest's proportionate share of the acquiree's net assets. All other components of non-controlling interests are measured at their acquisition-date fair value, unless another measurement basis is required by Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards.

The excess of the consideration transferred, the amount of any non-controlling interest in the acquiree and the acquisition-date fair value of any previous equity interest in the acquiree over the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired is recorded as goodwill (see note 2(i)). If this is less than the fair value of the net assets of the subsidiary acquired in the case of a bargain purchase, the difference is recognised directly in the consolidated income statement. Where businesses are acquired and fair values of the net assets of the acquired business are finalised within 12 months of the acquisition date, all fair value adjustments are recorded with effect from the date of acquisition and consequently may result in the restatement of previously reported financial results.

If the business combination is achieved in stages, the acquisition-date carrying amount of the acquirer's previously held equity interest in the acquiree is remeasured to fair value at the acquisition date; any gains or losses arising from such remeasurement are recognised in the consolidated income statement.

The Group treats transactions with non-controlling interests that do not result in a loss of control as transactions with equity holder of the Group. The difference between the fair value of any consideration paid and the relevant share acquired of the carrying amount of net assets of the subsidiary is recorded in equity. Gains or losses on disposals to non-controlling interests are also recorded in equity.

For subsidiaries which have accounting year ends different from the Group, the subsidiaries prepare, for the purpose of consolidation, financial statements up to and as at the same date as the Group.

Adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries when necessary to align their accounting policies to ensure consistency with policies adopted by the Group.

Intra-group balances and transactions and any unrealised profits arising from intra-group transactions are eliminated in full in preparing these consolidated financial statements. Unrealised losses resulting from intra-group transactions are eliminated in the same way as unrealised profits.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

d. Associates

An associate is an entity over which the Group has significant influence but not control, generally accompanying a shareholding of between 20% and 50% of the voting rights.

Investments in associates are accounted for in these consolidated financial statements using the equity method and are initially recorded at cost. The Group's interests in associates include goodwill identified on acquisition, net of any accumulated impairment loss and adjust thereafter for the post-acquisition changes in the Group's share of the associates' net assets. The consolidated income statement includes the Group's share of post-acquisition, post-tax results of the associates and any impairment losses for the year. The consolidated statement of comprehensive income includes the Group's share of the post-acquisition, post-tax items of the associates' other comprehensive income.

When the Group's share of losses exceeds its interest in the associate, the Group's interest is reduced to nil and recognition of further losses is discontinued except to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate. For this purpose, the Group's interest in the associate is the carrying amount of the investment using the equity method together with the Group's long-term interests that in substance form part of the Group's net interest in the associate.

Unrealised profits and losses resulting from transactions between the Group and its associates are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interests in the associates, except where unrealised losses provide evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred, in which case they are recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement.

If the ownership interest in an associate is reduced but significant influence is retained, only a proportionate share of the amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified to the consolidated income statement where appropriate.

Adjustments are made to the financial statements of associates when necessary to align their accounting policies to ensure consistency with policies adopted by the Group.

e. Joint arrangements

The Group applies HKFRS 11 *Joint Arrangements* to all joint arrangements. Under HKFRS 11, joint arrangements are classified as either joint ventures or joint operations depending on the contractual rights and obligations of each investor.

The Group classifies joint arrangements as joint ventures when the Group has rights to the net assets of the joint arrangement.

Investments in joint ventures are accounted for in these consolidated financial statements using the equity method, as described in note 2(d).

Adjustments are made to the financial statements of joint ventures when necessary to align their accounting policies to ensure consistency with policies adopted by the Group.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

f. Gaining or losing control

When the Group ceases to have control, any retained interest in the entity is remeasured to its fair value at the date when control is lost, with the change in carrying amount recognised in the consolidated income statement. The fair value is the initial carrying amount for the purposes of subsequently accounting for the retained interest as an associate, joint arrangement or financial asset. In addition, any amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income in respect of that entity are accounted for as if the Group had disposed of the related assets or liabilities. This may mean that amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income are reclassified to the consolidated income statement.

g. Property, plant and equipment

The following items of property, plant and equipment are stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses (see note 2(o)(ii)):

– buildings held for own use which are situated on leasehold land, where the fair value of the building could be measured separately from the fair value of the leasehold land at the inception of the lease (see note 2(h)); and

– other items of plant and equipment.

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment comprises (i) its purchase price, (ii) any directly attributable costs of bringing the asset to its working condition and location for its intended use, and (iii) the initial estimate at the time of installation and during the period of use, where relevant, of the costs of dismantling and removing the items and restoring the site on which they are located.

Subsequent costs are included in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment or recognised as a separate item of property, plant and equipment, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other costs, such as repairs and maintenance and overhaul costs, are recognised in the consolidated income statement as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

Gains or losses arising from the retirement or disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment are determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the item and are recognised in the consolidated income statement on the date of retirement or disposal.

Projects under construction are not depreciated. Depreciation on other property, plant and equipment is calculated to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment, less their expected residual value, if any, using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Buildings	Over the shorter of the unexpired term of land lease and the estimated useful life
Exchange equipment	5 to 25 years
Transmission plant	5 to 50 years
Other plant and equipment	1 to 20 years

The assets' useful lives and residual values, if any, are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

h. Leased assets

An arrangement, comprising a transaction or a series of transactions, is or contains a lease if the Group determines that the arrangement conveys a right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. Such determination is made on an evaluation of the substance of the arrangement, regardless of whether the arrangements take the legal form of a lease.

i. Assets leased to the Group

Leases are initially recognised as a right-of-use asset/interest in leasehold land and corresponding liability, where applicable, at the date of which the leased asset is available for use by the Group. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and finance cost. The finance cost is charged to the consolidated income statement over the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. The right-of-use asset is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term. Interest in leasehold land is amortised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

The Group has elected the practical expedient not to separate lease and non-lease components of certain class of underlying assets and account for whole as a single lease component in the measurement of lease liabilities and right-of-use assets.

Assets leased to the Group and the corresponding liabilities are initially measured on a present value basis. Lease liabilities include the net present value of the following lease payments:

– fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;

– variable lease payments that are based on an index or a rate; and

– payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the Group, as a lessee, exercising an option to terminate the lease.

Lease payments to be made under reasonably certain extension options are also included in the measurement of the liability.

The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if that rate can be determined, or the incremental borrowing rate of respective entities. Right-of-use assets are measured at cost comprising the following:

– the amount of the initial measurement of lease liabilities;

– any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any lease incentives received;

– any initial direct costs; and

– restoration costs.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

h. Leased assets *(continued)*

i. Assets leased to the Group *(continued)*

Payments associated with short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognised on a straight-line basis as an expense in the consolidated income statement. Short-term leases are leases with a lease term of 12 months or less. Low-value assets comprise equipment and small items of office furniture.

ii. Assets leased out by the Group

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an underlying asset. A lease is classified as an operating lease if it does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an underlying asset.

Where the Group leases out assets under operating leases, the assets are included in the consolidated statement of financial position according to their nature and, where applicable, are depreciated in accordance with the Group's depreciation policies. Impairment losses are accounted for in accordance with the accounting policy as set out in note 2(o)(ii). Revenue arising from operating leases is recognised in the consolidated income statement in equal instalments over the accounting periods covered by the lease term. Lease incentives granted are recognised in the consolidated income statement as an integral part of the aggregate net lease payments receivable. Contingent rentals are recognised as income in the accounting period in which they are earned.

i. Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of the consideration transferred, the amount of any non-controlling interest in the acquiree and the acquisition-date fair value of any previous equity interest in the acquiree over the Group's interest in the net fair value of the acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities at the date of acquisition.

Goodwill is stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is allocated to cash-generating units ("CGUs") and is tested at least annually for impairment (see note 2(o)(ii)). In respect of associates and joint ventures, the carrying amount of goodwill is included in the carrying amount of the interests in associates and joint ventures.

On disposal of a CGU or part of a CGU, an associate or a joint venture during the year, any attributable amount of purchased goodwill is included in the calculation of the gain or loss on disposal.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

j. Intangible assets (other than goodwill)

i. Carrier licences

Carrier licences to establish and maintain the telecommunications network and to provide telecommunications services are recorded as intangible assets. Upon the issuance of the licence, the cost thereof, which is the discounted value of the minimum annual fees payable over the period of the licence and directly attributable costs of preparing the asset for its intended use, is recorded as an intangible asset together with the related obligations. Where the Group has the right to return a licence and expects to do so, the asset and the related obligation recorded reflect the expected period that the licence will be held. Amortisation is provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the licence, commencing from the date of launch of the relevant telecommunications services.

The difference between the discounted value of the minimum annual fees and the total minimum annual fee payments represents the effective cost of financing. Such finance cost will be charged to the consolidated income statement in the period in which it is incurred using the effective interest method.

Variable annual payments on top of the minimum annual payments, if any, are recognised in the consolidated income statement as incurred.

ii. Capitalised programme costs

Costs incurred to produce or acquire television rights, for which the Group can determine the broadcasting schedules, are capitalised as intangible assets. The intangible assets are amortised on an accelerated basis over the shorter of the expected economic life of 1 to 5 years and the licence period. Other costs incurred for the transmission rights for showing programmes, sports events and films on the Group's television channels, including sport rights for multiple seasons or competitions, of which the broadcasting schedules are determined by the content providers, are recognised in the consolidated income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of transmission rights across the season or competition. Other payments of programme costs made in advance or in arrears are recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position as prepayments, deposits and other current assets or accruals and other payables, as appropriate.

iii. Software

Costs incurred to acquire, develop or enhance scientific or technical knowledge, and design and implement new process or systems, licences and market knowledge are capitalised as intangible assets if they are identifiable and the Group has power to obtain future economic benefits flowing from the underlying resource.

Development costs that are directly attributable to the design and testing of the identifiable software are capitalised as intangible assets if the following criteria are met:

- it is technically feasible to complete the software so that it will be available for use;

- adequate technical, financial and other resources are available to complete the development and to use the software;

- the costs attributable to acquisition, development and enhancement of the software can be reliably measured; and

- the Group has power to obtain future economic benefits flowing from the underlying resource.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

j. Intangible assets (other than goodwill) *(continued)*

iii. Software *(continued)*

Development costs that do not meet the above criteria are expensed in the consolidated income statement as incurred.

Capitalised software costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 8 to 10 years.

iv. Other intangible assets

Other intangible assets that are acquired by the Group are stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less accumulated amortisation (where the estimated useful life is finite) and impairment losses (see note 2(o)(ii)). Expenditures on internally generated goodwill and brands are recognised as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

Amortisation of intangible assets with finite useful lives is charged to the consolidated income statement on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The following intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortised from the date they are available for use and their estimated useful lives are as follows:

Trademarks	20 years
Customer base	8 to 10 years

The assets' useful lives and their amortisation methods are reviewed annually.

k. Fulfilment costs

Direct costs incurred in fulfilling a contract with a customer, which mainly comprise setup and related costs in respect of the Group's telecommunications and pay-TV services, are capitalised as an asset to the extent that the cost generates or enhances resources of the Group that will be used in satisfying performance obligations in the future and are expected to be recovered. Fulfilment costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over the expected life of the customer contract.

l. Customer acquisition costs

Incremental costs incurred to obtain a contract with a customer, which mainly comprise sales commission, are capitalised as customer acquisition costs if the Group expects to recover those costs. Costs of obtaining a contract are amortised on a systematic basis over the expected life of the customer contract.

m. Contract assets/liabilities

Customer pays according to a pre-agreed payment schedule. If the performance obligations fulfilled by the Group exceed the total non-refundable payments received and unconditional rights to contract consideration to date, a contract asset is recognised. If the total non-refundable payments received and unconditional rights to contract consideration to date exceed the performance obligation fulfilled, a contract liability is recognised. The contract assets are transferred to receivables when the Group's rights to the contract consideration become unconditional.

Advances from customers represent refundable customer advances, please refer to note 2(u) for the accounting policies.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

n. Investments in debt and equity securities

Classification

The Group classifies its investments in debt and equity securities, other than interests in subsidiaries, associates, and joint arrangements, as:

– those to be measured subsequently at fair value (at either fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVOCI") or fair value through profit or loss ("FVPL")); and

– those to be measured at amortised cost.

The classification depends on the Group's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual terms of the cash flows.

For assets measured at fair value, gains and losses will either be recorded in profit or loss or other comprehensive income. For investments in debt instruments, this will depend on the business model in which the investment is held. For investments in equity instruments that are not held for trading, this will depend on whether the Group has made an irrevocable election at the time of initial recognition to account for the equity instrument at FVOCI.

The Group reclassifies debt instruments when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes.

Recognition and derecognition

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade-date, the date on which the Group commits to purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownerships.

Initial measurement

At initial recognition, the Group measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at FVPL, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at FVPL are expensed in the consolidated income statement.

Financial assets with embedded derivatives are considered in their entirety when determining whether their cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest.

Subsequent measurement

Debt instruments

Subsequent measurement of debt instruments depends on the Group's business model for managing the asset and the cash flow characteristics of the asset. There are three measurement categories into which the Group classifies its debt instruments:

– Amortised cost: Assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows where those cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest are measured at amortised cost. A gain or loss on a debt instrument that is subsequently measured at amortised cost is recognised in the consolidated income statement when the asset is derecognised or impaired. Interest income from these financial assets is included in interest income using the effective interest method.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

n. Investments in debt and equity securities *(continued)*

Subsequent measurement (continued)

Debt instruments *(continued)*

– FVOCI: Assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows and for sale, where the assets' cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest, are measured at FVOCI. Movements in the carrying amount are taken through other comprehensive income, except for the recognition of impairment losses, interest income using the effective interest method and foreign exchange gains and losses which are recognised in the consolidated income statement. When the financial asset is derecognised, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified from equity to the consolidated income statement and recognised in other gains/(losses), net.

– FVPL: Assets that do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or FVOCI are measured at FVPL. A gain or loss on a debt instrument that is subsequently measured at FVPL is recognised and presented net in the consolidated income statement within other gains/(losses), net in the period in which it arises.

Equity instruments

The Group subsequently measures all equity instruments at fair value. Where the Group's management has made an irrevocable election at initial recognition to present fair value gains and losses on equity instruments in other comprehensive income, there is no subsequent reclassification of fair value gains and losses to the consolidated income statement following the derecognition of the investment, any balance within the financial assets at FVOCI reserve for these equity investments is reclassified to retained profits. Dividends from such investments continue to be recognised in the consolidated income statement as other gains/(losses), net when the Group's right to receive payments is established.

Changes in the fair value of financial assets at FVPL are recognised in other gains/(losses), net in the consolidated income statement as applicable.

Impairment losses (and reversal of impairment losses) on equity instruments measured at FVOCI are not reported separately from other changes in fair value.

o. Impairment of assets

i. Investments in debt instruments and trade and other receivables

The Group assesses on forward-looking basis the expected credit losses associated with its debt instruments carried at amortised cost or FVOCI, and trade and other receivables carried at amortised cost.

For investments in debt instruments and other receivables, the Group considers the probability of default upon initial recognition of asset and whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk on an ongoing basis throughout each reporting period. To assess whether there is a significant increase in credit risk, the Group compares the risk of a default occurring on the asset as at the reporting date with the risk of default as at the date of initial recognition by considering available reasonable and supportive forward-looking information. Considerations may include:

– internal credit rating;

– external credit rating (as far as available);

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

o. Impairment of assets *(continued)*

i. Investments in debt instruments and trade and other receivables *(continued)*

- actual or expected significant adverse changes in business, financial or economic conditions that are expected to cause a significant change to the borrower's ability to meet its obligations;

- actual or expected significant changes in the operating results of the borrower;

- significant increases in credit risk on other financial instruments of the same borrower; and

- significant changes in the expected performance and behaviour of the borrower, including changes in the payment status of the borrower in the Group and changes in the operating results of the borrower.

Regardless of the analysis above, a significant increase in credit risk is presumed if a debtor is delinquent and in default status when there are unsettled amounts remaining on the account on the day after the invoice due date.

At each reporting date, the Group measures the loss allowance for a financial asset at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk on that financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk on a financial asset has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Group measures the loss allowance for that financial asset at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses.

For trade receivables and contract assets, the Group applies the simplified approach to providing for expected credit losses, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision for all trade receivables and contract assets. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due. When measuring expected credit losses, the Group considers the risk or probability that a credit loss occurs by reflecting the possibility that a credit loss occurs and possibility that no credit loss occurs.

Financial assets are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. The Group categorises a financial asset for write-off when a debtor fails to make contractual payments for a period greater than predefined limit. Where loans or receivables have been written off, the Group continues to engage in enforcement activity to attempt to recover the amounts due. Where recoveries are made, these are recognised in the consolidated income statement.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

o. Impairment of assets *(continued)*

ii. Impairment of other assets

Internal and external sources of information are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable, to identify indications that the following assets may be impaired or, except in the case of goodwill, an impairment loss previously recognised no longer exists or may have decreased:

– property, plant and equipment;

– right-of-use assets;

– interests in leasehold land;

– fulfilment costs;

– customer acquisition costs;

– intangible assets;

– interests in associates and joint ventures; and

– goodwill.

If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. Impairment tests are performed for CGUs containing goodwill, intangible assets that are not yet available for use and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives annually whether or not there is any indication of impairment.

– Calculation of recoverable amount

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use. Fair value less costs of disposal is the amount obtainable from the sale of an asset in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties, less the costs of disposal. In assessing value-in-use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. Where an asset does not generate cash inflows largely independent of those from other assets, the recoverable amount is determined for the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows independently (i.e. a CGU).

– Recognition of impairment losses

An impairment loss is recognised in the consolidated income statement whenever the carrying amount of an asset, or the CGU to which it belongs, exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses recognised in respect of CGUs are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the CGU and then, to reduce the carrying amount of the other assets in the CGU on a pro rata basis, except that the carrying amount of an asset will not be reduced below its individual fair value less costs of disposal, or value-in-use, if determinable.

– Reversals of impairment losses

In respect of assets other than goodwill, an impairment loss is reversed if there has been a favourable change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss in respect of goodwill is not allowed to be reversed.

A reversal of an impairment loss is limited to the asset's carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised in prior years. Reversals of impairment losses are credited to the consolidated income statement in the period in which the reversals are recognised.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

p. Derivative financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at their fair value at the end of each reporting period. The gain or loss on remeasurement to fair value is recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement, except where the derivatives are designated and qualify for hedge accounting, in which case recognition of any resultant gain or loss depends on the nature of the item being hedged (see note 2(q)).

The full fair value of a hedging derivative is classified as a non-current asset or liability when the remaining maturity of the hedged item is more than 12 months, and as a current asset or liability when the remaining maturity of the hedged item is 12 months or less than 12 months. Trading derivatives are classified as current assets or liabilities.

q. Hedging

At inception of the hedge relationship, the Group documents the economic relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items including whether changes in the cash flows of the hedging instruments are expected to offset changes in the cash flows of hedged items. The Group documents its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking its hedge transactions.

Cash flow hedges

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges is recognised in the hedging reserve within equity. The gain or loss relating to the ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement, within finance costs.

When forward contracts are used to hedge forecast transactions, the Group designates only the change in fair value of the forward contract related to the spot component as the hedging instrument. Gains or losses relating to the effective portion of the change in the spot component of the forward contracts are recognised in the hedging reserve within equity. The change in the forward element is recognised in the consolidated income statement.

When cross currency swap contracts are used to hedge future cash flows, the Group designates only the change in fair value of the swap contract after exclusion of the foreign currency basis spread component as the hedging instrument. Gains or losses relating to the effective portion of the swap contract after exclusion of foreign currency basis spread component are recognised in the hedging reserve within equity. The change in fair value of the foreign currency basis spread of the swap contract to the extent it relates to the hedged item is recognised in the costs of hedging reserve within equity.

Amounts accumulated in equity are reclassified in the periods when the hedged item affects the consolidated income statement, as follows:

– The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of forward contracts is recognised in the consolidated income statement as the hedged item affects profit or loss.

– The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of the cross currency swap contracts hedging borrowings denominated in foreign currency is recognised in the consolidated income statement within finance costs at the same time as the interest expense on the hedged borrowings.

– The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of the interest rate swap contracts hedging variable rate borrowings is recognised in the consolidated income statement within finance costs at the same time as the interest expense on the hedged borrowings.

When a hedging instrument expires, or is sold or terminated, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative deferred gain or loss and deferred costs of hedging in equity at that time remains in equity until the forecast transaction occurs and affects profit or loss. When the forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss and deferred costs of hedging that were reported in equity are immediately reclassified to the consolidated income statement.

Hedge ineffectiveness is recognised in the consolidated income statement within finance costs.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

r. Inventories

Inventories consist of purchased parts and materials, finished goods and consumable inventories.

Purchased parts and materials and finished goods are carried at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Consumable inventories, held for use in the maintenance and expansion of the Group's telecommunications systems, are stated at cost less provision for deterioration and obsolescence.

Cost is calculated using the weighted average cost formula and comprises all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition.

s. Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are recognised initially at the amount of consideration that is unconditional unless they contain significant financing component, when they are recognised at fair value. The Group holds trade and other receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore measures them subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less loss allowance for expected credit losses (see note 2(o)(i)).

t. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other financial institutions (other than restricted cash), and short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, having been within three months of maturity at acquisition and form an integral part of the Group's cash management.

u. Trade and other payables

Trade payables, intercompany payables, advances from customers and other payables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

v. Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, borrowings are stated at amortised cost with any difference between the amount initially recognised, being the proceeds net of transaction costs, and the redemption value being recognised in the consolidated income statement over the period of the borrowings, using the effective interest method.

w. Provisions and contingent liabilities

Provisions are recognised when (i) the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation arising as a result of a past event; (ii) it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and (iii) a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Where the time value of money is material, provisions are stated at the present value of the expenditure expected to settle the obligation. The increase in provision due to the passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

Where it is not probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required, or the amount cannot be estimated reliably, the obligation is disclosed as a contingent liability, unless the probability of outflow of economic benefits is remote. Possible obligations, whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more future events, are also disclosed as contingent liabilities unless the probability of outflow of economic benefits is remote.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

x. Revenue recognition

Telecommunications services comprise local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, mobile, enterprise solutions, the Pay TV business, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing, consulting, and contact centres.

Local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications and mobile businesses earn revenue primarily by providing access to and usage of the telecommunications network locally and internationally. As part of the bundled service offerings, the Group also delivers handsets, equipment, gifts and reward points from the Group's customer loyalty programme offering a variety of goods and services ("Reward Points"), which are considered as separate performance obligations.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sales of goods and rendering of services in the ordinary course of the Group's activities. Revenue is recognised when the control of the goods or services is transferred to the customer. Depending on the terms of the contract and the laws that apply to the contract, control of the goods or services may be transferred over time or at a point in time.

The Group often enters into bundled sale contracts with customers in which, apart from the provision of telecommunications, media entertainment, and other services, the Group has certain other performance obligations to customers such as the delivery of handsets, equipment, gifts and Reward Points. When multiple-element arrangements exist, the total transaction price receivable from customers is allocated among the Group's performance obligations on a relative stand-alone selling price basis. Management estimates the stand-alone selling price at contract inception mainly based on observable retail prices and observable market data of the respective performance obligations in similar circumstances to similar customers. If a bundled discount is granted, it is allocated to respective performance obligations based on their relative stand-alone selling prices. The costs of respective handsets, equipment and gifts delivered are recognised as cost of sales when the corresponding revenue is recognised.

For the telecommunications services, revenue is recognised over time as the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits provided by the Group's performance as the Group performs and is based on the output method, either as the service allowance units are used or as time elapses, because it reflects the pattern by which the Group satisfies the performance obligation through the rendering of services to the customer. For service plan based on usage, where monthly usage exceeds the allowance, the overage usage represents options held by the customer for incremental services and the usage-based fee is recognised when the customer exercises the option. Income from other telecommunications services are recognised when services are rendered. Customers are invoiced in advance on a monthly basis or invoiced according to the pre-agreed payment schedule as set out in the customer contracts.

For the sales of the handsets, equipment and gifts, revenue is generally recognised when control passes to the customer, being when the products are delivered to and accepted by the customer. The customer has full discretion over the handsets, equipment and gifts and there are no unfulfilled obligations that can affect the customer's acceptance of those goods. Customers are invoiced immediately or invoiced according to the pre-agreed payment schedule as set out in the customer contracts.

When the Reward Points are awarded to the members, such revenue at their relative stand-alone selling price is deferred as a liability until the Reward Points are redeemed. Breakage, referring to Reward Points that are expected to expire, is recognised and determined based on assumptions such as historical experience, future redemption pattern and programme design.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

x. Revenue recognition *(continued)*

Revenue from enterprise solutions services is recognised over time as the Group's performance creates or enhances an asset that the customer controls as the asset is created or enhanced. Input method is used to measure the progress as it depicts the Group's performance in transferring the control of the asset. The progress is measured by reference to the percentage of contract costs incurred to date to estimated total contract costs for the contract. When the outcome of a contract cannot be estimated reliably, revenue is recognised only to the extent that it is probable the contract costs incurred will be recoverable. Customers make settlement periodically throughout the contract period according to the pre-agreed payment schedule. Accumulated experience is used to estimate the variable consideration to the extent that it is highly probable that a significant reversal will not occur, using the expected value method, to be included in the transaction price.

Subscription income from the interactive pay-TV services is recognised rateably over the contract period which generally coincides with when the services are rendered.

Advertising income from interactive pay-TV services is recognised (i) when the advertisements are telecast on pay-TV, delivered through Internet and mobile platforms; or (ii) rateably over the contractual display period of the contract when the advertisements are placed on the Group's website and mobile platforms.

Commission income is recognised when entitlement to the income is ascertained.

Customers are invoiced in advance on a monthly basis or invoiced according to the pre-agreed payment schedule as set out in the customer contracts.

A financing component, if any, might exist when timing of the payment for goods or services by the customers, differs from the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligation. Such financing component is not significant to the Group.

y. Interest income

Interest income is recognised on a time-apportioned basis using the effective interest method.

z. Dividend income

Dividend income is recognised when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established.

aa. Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are expensed in the consolidated income statement in the period in which they are incurred, except to the extent that they are capitalised as being directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of an asset which necessarily takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale.

The capitalisation of borrowing costs as part of the cost of a qualifying asset commences when expenditure for the asset is being incurred, borrowing costs are being incurred and activities that are necessary to prepare the asset for its intended use or sale are in progress. Capitalisation of borrowing costs is suspended or ceases when substantially all the activities necessary to prepare the qualifying asset for its intended use or sale are interrupted or completed.

Discounts or premiums relating to borrowings, and ancillary costs incurred in connection with arranging borrowings, to the extent that they are regarded as adjustments to interest costs, are recognised as expenses over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest method.

ab. Cost of sales and general and administrative expenses

General and administrative expenses represent operating costs incurred other than cost of sales. Cost of sales mainly includes cost of inventories sold, connectivity costs and staff costs relating to sales; while general and administrative expenses mainly include depreciation of property, plant and equipment, depreciation of right-of-use assets, amortisation of land lease premium, amortisation of intangible assets, amortisation of fulfilment costs, amortisation of customer acquisition costs, impairment loss for trade receivables and other staff costs.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

ac. Income tax

i. Income tax for the year comprises current income tax and movements in deferred income tax assets and liabilities. Current income tax and movements in deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognised in the consolidated income statement except to the extent that they relate to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, in which case the relevant amounts are recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

ii. Current income tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period, and any adjustment to income tax payable in respect of previous years.

iii. Deferred income tax is recognised in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. Deferred income tax is not recognised for:

- temporary differences on the initial recognition of assets or liabilities in a transaction that is not a business combination and that affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss and does not give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences;

- temporary differences related to investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures to the extent that the Group is able to control the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences and it is probable that they will not reverse in the foreseeable future;

- taxable temporary differences arising on the initial recognition of goodwill; and

- those related to Pillar Two Income Taxes.

The Group recognised deferred income tax assets and deferred income tax liabilities separately in relation to its lease liabilities and right-of-use assets.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised for unused tax losses, unused tax credits and deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised, are recognised. Future taxable profits that may support the recognition of deferred income tax assets arising from deductible temporary differences include those that will arise from the reversal of existing taxable temporary differences, provided those differences relate to the same taxation authority and the same taxable entity, and are expected to reverse either in the same period as the expected reversal of the deductible temporary difference or in periods into which a tax loss arising from the deferred income tax asset can be carried back or forward.

The amount of deferred income tax recognised is measured based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised and the deferred income tax liability is settled. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

The carrying amount of a deferred income tax asset is reviewed at the end of each reporting period and is reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow the related tax benefit to be utilised. Any such reduction is reversed to the extent that it becomes probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

ac. Income tax *(continued)*

iv. Current income tax balances and deferred income tax balances, and movements therein, are presented separately from each other and are not offset. Current income tax assets are offset against current income tax liabilities, and deferred income tax assets against deferred income tax liabilities, if the Group has the legally enforceable right to set off current income tax assets against current income tax liabilities and the following additional conditions are met:

- in the case of current income tax assets and liabilities, the Group intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously; or

- in the case of deferred income tax assets and liabilities, if they relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either:

  - the same taxable entity; or

  - different taxable entities, which, in each future period in which significant amounts of deferred income tax liabilities or assets are expected to be settled or recovered, intend to realise the current income tax assets and settle the current income tax liabilities on a net basis or realise and settle simultaneously.

ad. Employee benefits

i. Short-term employee benefits
Salaries, annual bonuses, annual leave and the cost of non-monetary benefits are accrued in the year in which the associated services are rendered by employees. Where payment or settlement is deferred and the effect would be material, these amounts are stated at their present values.

ii. Retirement and other post-employment benefits
The Group offers the following retirement and other post-employment benefits to its employees:

- defined contribution retirement schemes (including the Mandatory Provident Fund “MPF”); and

- Long Service Payments (“LSP”) under Hong Kong Employment Ordinance for employees in Hong Kong.

The assets of retirement schemes are generally held in separate trustee-administered funds. The schemes are generally funded by contributions from the relevant companies in the Group.

For defined contribution retirement schemes, the Group pays contributions to publicly or privately administered pension insurance plans on a mandatory, contractual or voluntary basis. The Group has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid. The Group’s contributions to the defined contribution retirement schemes are recognised as an expense in the consolidated income statement in the period to which the contributions relate.

The Group’s LSP obligations (as classified as other payables) recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position are calculated annually by independent qualified actuaries using the projected unit credit method. The present values of the LSP obligations are determined by discounting the estimated future cash outflows using discount rate with reference to market bond yields at the end of the reporting period, which have terms approximating the terms of the related liabilities. The net interest cost is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net balance of the obligations. This cost is included in staff costs in the consolidated income statement. In calculating the Group’s LSP obligations, any actuarial gains and losses arising from experience adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are charged or credited to equity in other comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

ad. Employee benefits *(continued)*

iii. Share-based payments

PCCW, the HKT Trust and HKT operate share option schemes where employees of the Group (including directors) are granted options to acquire PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units at specified exercise prices. The fair value of the employee services received in exchange for the grant of options to acquire PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units is recognised as staff costs in the consolidated income statement with a corresponding increase in a capital contribution from members in respect of employee share-based compensation under equity. The fair value of the options granted is measured at grant date using the trinomial option pricing model, taking into account the terms and conditions upon which the options were granted, and spread over the respective vesting period during which the employees become unconditionally entitled to the options. During the vesting period, the number of options that are expected to vest is reviewed. Any adjustment to the cumulative fair value recognised in prior years regarding the options to acquire PCCW Shares and options to acquire Share Stapled Units is charged or credited in the consolidated income statement for the year of the review, unless the original staff costs qualify for recognition as an asset, with a corresponding adjustment to the capital contribution from members in respect of employee share-based compensation under equity. On vesting date, the amount recognised as staff costs regarding the options to acquire PCCW Shares and options to acquire Share Stapled Units is adjusted to reflect the actual number of options that vests (with a corresponding adjustment to the capital contribution from members in respect of employee share-based compensation under equity). The equity amount remains in the capital contribution from members in respect of employee share-based compensation under equity.

Share Stapled Units may be granted to employees at nil consideration under HKT's Share Stapled Units award schemes, under which the awarded Share Stapled Units are either newly issued at issue price (the "HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme") or purchased from the open market (the "HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme").

PCCW also grants PCCW Shares to employees of PCCW and its participating companies at nil consideration under its share award schemes, under which the awarded PCCW Shares are either newly issued at issue price (the "PCCW Subscription Scheme") or purchased from the open market (the "PCCW Purchase Scheme").

Awards under the share award schemes are accounted for as cash-settled share-based payments. The fair value of the awarded PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units representing the quoted market price of PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units purchased from the open market under the PCCW Purchase Scheme/HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme and the issue price of PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units under the PCCW Subscription Scheme/HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme is recognised as financial assets at FVPL, and subsequently measured at fair value. The fair value of the employee services received in exchange for the grant of PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units is recognised as staff costs in the consolidated income statement over the respective vesting period with a corresponding obligation being recognised. During the vesting period, the number of awarded PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units that are expected to vest is reviewed. Any adjustment to the cumulative fair value recognised in prior years is charged or credited in the consolidated income statement for the year of the review, unless the original staff costs qualify for recognition as an asset, with a corresponding adjustment to the obligation. On vesting date, the amount recognised as staff costs is adjusted to reflect the actual number of awarded PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units that vests (with a corresponding adjustment to the obligation) and the carrying amount of awarded PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units recognised in the financial assets at FVPL is offset with the obligation.

iv. Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised only after either an agreement is in place with the appropriate employee representatives specifying the terms of redundancy and the number of employees affected, or individual employees have been advised of the specific terms.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

ae. Translation of foreign currencies

Items included in the financial statements of each of the Group's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates (the "functional currency"). These consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars (HK$), which is the functional currency of the Company and the presentation currency of the Group.

Foreign currency transactions during the year are translated at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the end of the reporting period. Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the consolidated income statement, except when deferred in other comprehensive income as qualifying cash flow hedges.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the foreign exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are translated using the foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates when the fair values are determined. Exchange differences arising on translation of non-monetary assets and liabilities, such as equity instruments at FVPL, are reported as part of the fair value gain or loss in the consolidated income statement. Exchange differences arising on translation of non-monetary assets and liabilities, such as equity instruments measured at FVOCI, are included in the fair value gain or loss in the financial assets at FVOCI reserve under equity.

The results of foreign operations are translated into Hong Kong dollars at the exchange rates approximating the foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates of transactions. Items of foreign operations in the consolidated statement of financial position, including goodwill arising on consolidation of foreign operations, are translated into Hong Kong dollars at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the end of the reporting period. The resulting exchange differences are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated separately in the currency translation reserve under equity.

On consolidation, exchange differences arising from the translation of the net investment in foreign operations, and of borrowings and other currency instruments designated as hedges of such investments, if any, are taken to other comprehensive income and accumulated separately in the currency translation reserve under equity. On disposal of a foreign operation, the cumulative amount of the exchange differences recognised in the currency translation reserve under equity which relates to that foreign operation is included in the calculation of the profit or loss on disposal.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

af. Related parties

For the purposes of these consolidated financial statements, a party is considered to be related to the Group if:

i. the party has the ability, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, to control the Group or exercise significant influence over the Group in making financial and operating policy decisions, or has joint control over the Group;

ii. the Group and the party are subject to common control;

iii. the party is an associate of the Group or a joint venture in which the Group is a venturer;

iv. the party is a member of key management personnel of the Group or the Group's parent, or a close family member of such an individual, or is an entity under the control, joint control or significant influence of such individual;

v. the party is a close family member of a party referred to in note i above or is an entity under the control, joint control or significant influence of such party;

vi. the party is a post-employment benefit plan which is for the benefit of employees of the Group or of any entity that is a related party of the Group; or

vii. the entity, or any member of the Group of which it is a part, provides key management personnel services to the Group.

Close family members of an individual are those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that individual in their dealings with the entity.

ag. Segment reporting

Operating segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the chief operating decision-maker (the "CODM"). The CODM, who is responsible for allocating resources and assessing performance of the operating segments, has been identified as the Group's senior executive management.

Segment revenue, expenses, results and assets include items directly attributable to a segment as well as those that can be allocated on a reasonable basis to that segment. Segment revenue, expense and segment performance include transactions between segments. Inter-segment pricing is based on similar terms to those available to other external parties for similar services. Inter-segment transactions are eliminated in full in preparing these consolidated financial statements.

Segment capital expenditure is the total cost incurred during the year to acquire segment assets (including property, plant and equipment and interests in leasehold land) that are expected to be used for more than one year.

ah. Dividend distribution

Dividend distribution to the Company's sole shareholder is recognised as a liability in the consolidated financial statements in the period in which the dividend is approved by the Board or the Company's sole shareholder, where appropriate.

3 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The Group makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. Notes 15 and 33 contain information about the assumptions and their risk factors relating to goodwill impairment and financial instruments. Management has also made judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies. These judgements and other key sources of estimation uncertainty are discussed below:

i. Impairment of assets (other than investments in debt instruments and trade and other receivables)

At the end of each reporting period, the Group reviews internal and external sources of information to identify indications that the following assets may be impaired or, except in the case of goodwill, an impairment loss previously recognised no longer exists or may have decreased:

– property, plant and equipment;

– right-of-use assets;

– interests in leasehold land;

– fulfilment costs;

– customer acquisition costs;

– intangible assets;

– interests in associates and joint ventures; and

– goodwill.

If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. Impairment tests are performed for CGUs containing goodwill, intangible assets that are not yet available for use and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives annually whether or not there is any indication of impairment. Significant judgement is used to identify CGUs appropriately. An impairment loss is recognised in the consolidated income statement whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount.

The sources utilised to identify indications of impairment are often subjective in nature and the Group is required to use judgement in applying such information to its business. The Group's interpretation of this information has a direct impact on whether an impairment assessment is performed as at the end of any given reporting period. Such information is particularly significant as it relates to the Group's telecommunications services and infrastructure businesses in Hong Kong.

If an indication of impairment is identified, such information is further subject to an exercise that requires the Group to estimate the recoverable amount, representing the greater of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal or its value-in-use. Depending on the Group's assessment of the overall materiality of the asset under review and complexity of deriving a reasonable estimate of the recoverable amount, the Group may perform such assessments utilising internal resources or the Group may engage external advisors to counsel the Group. Regardless of the resources utilised, the Group is required to make many assumptions to make these assessments, including the utilisation of such asset, the cash flows to be generated, appropriate market discount rates and the projected market and regulatory conditions. Changes in any of these assumptions could result in a material change to future estimates of the recoverable amount of any asset.

3 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

ii. Revenue recognition

Under certain arrangements, apart from the provision of telecommunications, media entertainment, and other services, the Group has certain other performance obligations to customers such as the delivery of handsets, equipment, gifts and Reward Points. When multiple-element arrangements exist, the total transaction price receivable from customers is allocated among the Group's performance obligations on a relative stand-alone selling price basis. Management estimates the stand-alone selling price at contract inception mainly based on observable retail prices and observable market data of the respective performance obligations in similar circumstances to similar customers. If a bundled discount is granted, it is allocated to respective performance obligations based on their relative stand-alone selling prices. The Group is required to exercise considerable judgement in relation to estimating the stand-alone selling price.

iii. Deferred income tax

While deferred income tax liabilities are provided in full on all taxable temporary differences, deferred income tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised. In assessing the amount of deferred income tax assets that need to be recognised, the Group considers future taxable income and business plans. In the event that the Group's estimates of projected future taxable income and benefits from available business plans are changed, or changes in current income tax regulations are enacted that would impact the timing or extent of the Group's ability to utilise the tax benefits of net operating loss carry-forward in the future, adjustments to the recorded amount of net deferred income tax assets and income tax expense would be made.

iv. Current income tax

The Group makes a provision for current income tax based on estimated taxable income for the year. The estimated income tax liabilities are primarily computed based on the tax computations as prepared by the Group. Nevertheless, from time to time, there are queries raised by the tax authorities of Hong Kong and elsewhere on the tax treatment of items included in the tax computations and certain non-routine transactions. If the Group considers it probable that these queries or judgements will result in different tax positions, the most likely amounts of the outcome will be estimated and adjustments to the income tax expense and income tax liabilities will be made accordingly.

v. Lives of property, plant and equipment, intangible assets (other than goodwill), fulfilment costs and customer acquisition costs

The Group has significant property, plant and equipment, intangible assets (other than goodwill), fulfilment costs and customer acquisition costs. The Group is required to estimate the lives of property, plant and equipment, intangible assets (other than goodwill), fulfilment costs and customer acquisition costs in order to ascertain the amount of depreciation and amortisation charges for each reporting period.

The lives are estimated at the time of purchase of these assets or direct costs incurred in fulfilling or acquiring a contract with a customer after considering future technology changes, business developments, the Group's strategies and expected lives of customer contracts. The Group performs annual reviews to assess the appropriateness of the estimated lives. Such reviews take into account any unexpected adverse changes in circumstances or events, including declines in projected operating results, negative industry or economic trends and rapid advancements in technology. The Group extends or shortens the lives according to the results of the reviews.

vi. Lease term and discount rate determination

In determining the lease term, management considers facts and circumstances such as conditions of the Group's existing leases, future technology changes, business developments and the Group's strategies, that create an economic incentive to exercise an extension option, or not exercise a termination option. Extension options (or periods after termination options) are only included in the lease term if the lease is reasonably certain to be extended (or not terminated). Potential future cash outflows are not included in the lease liability because it is not reasonably certain that the leases will be extended (or not terminated). The assessment is reviewed if a significant event or a significant change in circumstances occurs which affects this assessment and that is within the control of the lessee. As at 31 December 2023, potential future undiscounted cash outflows of HK$640 million (2022: HK$602 million) have not been included in the lease liabilities because it is not reasonably certain that the lease will be extended (or not terminated).

3 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

vi. Lease term and discount rate determination *(continued)*
In determining the discount rate, the Group is required to exercise considerable judgement by taking into account the nature of the underlying assets and the terms and conditions of the leases, at both the commencement date and the effective date of the lease modification (if any).

4 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the Group had the following significant transactions with related parties:

In HK$ million	Note	2022	**2023**
Telecommunications service fees, data centre service fees and contact centre service charges received or receivable from a substantial shareholder of PCCW	a	158	**186**
Telecommunications service fees and data centre service fees paid or payable to a substantial shareholder of PCCW	a	119	**163**
Telecommunications service fees, IT development and support service charges, contact centre service charges, hotline services fees, consultancy service charges, interest income and other costs recharge received or receivable from joint ventures	a	35	**42**
Telecommunications service fees and interest expense paid or payable to joint ventures	a	116	**127**
Telecommunications service fees, connectivity service fees, contact centre service charges, equipment sales, customer acquisition service fees, consultancy service charges, advertising fees and other costs recharge received or receivable from an associate	a	26	**27**
Customer acquisition service fees paid or payable to an associate	a	-	**2**
Advertising fees and licence fees received or receivable from an associate of PCCW	a	-	**11**
IT charges, logistics charges and other contractor services fees paid or payable to an associate of PCCW	a	397	**738**
Telecommunications service fees, data centre service fees, connectivity service fees, equipment sales, insurance premium, insurance agency service charges, advertising fees, management fee, travel agency service fees and other costs recharge received or receivable from related parties under common shareholders with the Company	a	82	**117**
Telecommunications service fees, outsourcing fees, insurance premium and rental charges paid or payable to related parties under common shareholders with the Company	a	347	**350**
Telecommunications service fees, carriage service fees, marketing and sales services fees, connectivity service fees, management fee, equipment sales, content provision fees, insurance premium, travel agency service fees, rental charges and other costs recharge received or receivable from fellow subsidiaries	a	2,455	**2,378**
Data centre service fees, IT and logistics charges, system development and integration charges, consultancy service charges, management fee, content provision fees, outsourcing fees, marketing and sales services fees and other costs recharge paid or payable to fellow subsidiaries	a	775	**306**
Interest paid or payable to the immediate holding company	a	71	**194**
Key management compensation	b	27	**26**

a. The above transactions were carried out after negotiations between the Group and the related parties in the ordinary course of business and on the basis of estimated market value as determined by the directors. In respect of transactions for which the price or volume has not yet been agreed with the relevant related parties, the directors have determined the relevant amounts based on their best estimation.

4 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Details of key management compensation

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Salaries and other short-term employee benefits	20	**19**
Share-based compensation	6	**6**
Post-employment benefits	1	**1**
	27	**26**

c. Balances with related companies and fellow subsidiaries

As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, other than as specified in notes 17 and 18 and the amount due to a related company which comprised an unsecured loan of HK$82 million (2022: HK$53 million) which bears interest at 2.5% per annum (2022: same) and is repayable within 1 year (2022: same), the amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the other amounts due from/to related companies are unsecured, non-interest bearing, and have no fixed repayment terms.

d. Amount due to the immediate holding company

The balances are unsecured, non-interest bearing and have no fixed repayment terms, except for a loan payable to the immediate holding company of HK$4,290 million as at 31 December 2023 (2022: HK$4,335 million) which bears interest at Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate ("HIBOR") plus 0.3% per annum (2022: same) and is repayable within 1 year (2022: same).

5 SEGMENT INFORMATION

The CODM is the Group's senior executive management. The CODM reviews the Group's internal reporting in order to assess performance and allocate resources and the segment information is reported below in accordance with this internal reporting.

The CODM considers the business from the product perspective and assesses the performance of the following segments:

- Telecommunications Services ("TSS") is the leading provider of technology and telecommunications and related services including enterprise solutions, total home solutions, healthtech services, and media entertainment. It operates primarily in Hong Kong, and also serves customers in mainland China and other parts of the world.

- Mobile includes the Group's mobile telecommunications businesses in Hong Kong.

- Other businesses of the Group ("Other Businesses") primarily comprise other new businesses such as The Club's loyalty platform and HKT Financial Services, and corporate support functions.

5 SEGMENT INFORMATION *(CONTINUED)*

The CODM assesses the performance of the operating segments based on a measure of adjusted earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation ("EBITDA"). EBITDA represents earnings before interest income, finance costs, income tax, depreciation and amortisation, gains/losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment, interests in leasehold land, right-of-use assets and intangible assets, net other gains/losses, losses on property, plant and equipment, restructuring costs, impairment losses on goodwill, tangible and intangible assets and interests in associates and joint ventures, and the Group's share of results of associates and joint ventures.

Segment revenue, expense and segment performance include transactions between segments. Inter-segment pricing is based on similar terms to those available to other external parties for similar services. The revenue from external parties reported to the CODM is measured in a manner consistent with that in the consolidated income statement.

Information regarding the Group's reportable segments as provided to the Group's CODM is set out below:

	2022				
In HK$ million	TSS	Mobile	Other Businesses	Eliminations	Consolidated
Revenue					
External revenue	22,705	10,556	864	-	34,125
Inter-segment revenue	1,267	1,010	17	(2,294)	-
Total revenue	23,972	11,566	881	(2,294)	34,125
External revenue from contracts with customers:					
Timing of revenue recognition					
At a point in time	3,357	3,224	766	-	7,347
Over time	19,272	7,332	98	-	26,702
External revenue from other sources:					
Rental income	76	-	-	-	76
	22,705	10,556	864	-	34,125
Results					
EBITDA	9,140	4,888	(930)	-	13,098
Other information					
Capital expenditure (including property, plant and equipment and interests in leasehold land) incurred during the year	1,426	791	129	-	2,346

5 SEGMENT INFORMATION *(CONTINUED)*

Information regarding the Group's reportable segments as provided to the Group's CODM is set out below: *(continued)*

	2023				
In HK$ million	TSS	Mobile	Other Businesses	Eliminations	Consolidated
Revenue					
External revenue	22,867	10,621	842	-	34,330
Inter-segment revenue	1,303	687	40	(2,030)	-
Total revenue	24,170	11,308	882	(2,030)	34,330
External revenue from contracts with customers:					
Timing of revenue recognition					
At a point in time	4,123	2,824	492	-	7,439
Over time	18,655	7,797	350	-	26,802
External revenue from other sources:					
Rental income	89	-	-	-	89
	22,867	10,621	842	-	34,330
Results					
EBITDA	9,371	5,060	(1,021)	-	13,410
Other information					
Capital expenditure (including property, plant and equipment and interests in leasehold land) incurred during the year	1,397	728	148	-	2,273

5 SEGMENT INFORMATION *(CONTINUED)*

A reconciliation of total segment EBITDA to profit before income tax is provided as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Total segment EBITDA	13,098	**13,410**
Losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets, net	(3)	**(2)**
Depreciation and amortisation	(5,807)	**(5,652)**
Other (losses)/gains, net	(9)	**14**
Finance costs, net	(1,660)	**(2,328)**
Share of results of associates	(106)	**(108)**
Share of results of joint ventures	(19)	**(16)**
Profit before income tax	5,494	**5,318**

The following table sets out information about the geographical location of the Group's revenue from external customers. In presenting information on the basis of geographical segments, segment revenue is based on the geographical location that the Group derives revenue from customers.

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Hong Kong (place of domicile)	28,120	**28,240**
Mainland and other parts of China	1,231	**1,583**
Others	4,774	**4,507**
	34,125	**34,330**

As at 31 December 2023, the total of non-current assets, other than financial instruments and deferred income tax assets, located in Hong Kong was HK$98,578 million (2022: HK$95,733 million), and the total of these non-current assets located in other geographical locations was HK$2,718 million (2022: HK$2,840 million).

6 REVENUE

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Revenue from contracts with customers	34,049	**34,241**
Revenue from other sources: rental income	76	**89**
	34,125	**34,330**

a. Revenue recognition in relation to contract liabilities

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liabilities balance at the beginning of the year	1,513	**1,410**

6 REVENUE *(CONTINUED)*

b. Unsatisfied long-term fixed-price contracts

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Aggregate amount of the transaction price allocated to long-term fixed-price contracts that are partially or fully unsatisfied as at 31 December	20,078	**19,953**

As at 31 December 2023, management expected that 54% and 29% (2022: 55% and 27%) of the transaction price allocated to the unsatisfied long-term fixed-price contracts would be recognised as revenue during the first and second year respectively after the end of the reporting period. The remaining 17% (2022: 18%) would be recognised as revenue in the periods afterward. The amount disclosed above does not include unsatisfied performance obligation that is related to the Group's contracts with customers with duration of one year or less and contracts with customers billed directly according to performance completed to date.

7 PROFIT BEFORE INCOME TAX

Profit before income tax was stated after charging and crediting the following:

a. Staff costs

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Salaries, bonuses and other benefits	2,361	**2,225**
Share-based compensation expenses	30	**31**
Retirement costs for staff under defined contribution retirement schemes	321	**308**
	2,712	**2,564**
Less: staff costs included in cost of sales	(788)	**(750)**
Staff costs included in general and administrative expenses	1,924	**1,814**

7 PROFIT BEFORE INCOME TAX *(CONTINUED)*

Profit before income tax was stated after charging and crediting the following: *(continued)*

b. Cost of sales

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Cost of inventories sold	6,509	**6,940**
Connectivity costs	7,028	**7,043**
Staff costs	788	**750**
Provision for/(Write-back of provision for) inventory obsolescence, net	23	**(3)**
Others	2,746	**2,724**
	17,094	**17,454**

c. General and administrative expenses

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Staff costs	1,924	**1,814**
Impairment loss for trade receivables	130	**188**
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	1,240	**1,301**
Depreciation of right-of-use assets – land and buildings	1,264	**1,224**
Depreciation of right-of-use assets – network capacity and equipment	116	**109**
Amortisation of land lease premium – interests in leasehold land	12	**12**
Amortisation of intangible assets	1,652	**1,419**
Amortisation of fulfilment costs	421	**386**
Amortisation of customer acquisition costs	1,102	**1,201**
Exchange (gains)/losses, net	(112)	**142**
Less: cash flow hedges: transfer from equity	123	**(126)**
Losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets, net	3	**2**
Auditor's remuneration		
- audit and audit related services	10	**10**
- non-audit services	5	**11**
Others	1,853	**1,427**
	9,743	**9,120**

8 FINANCE COSTS, NET

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Interest expense, excluding interest expense on lease liabilities	(1,586)	**(2,297)**
Interest expense on lease liabilities	(64)	**(84)**
Notional accretion on carrier licence fee liabilities	(95)	**(89)**
Other finance costs	(10)	**(9)**
Hedge ineffectiveness: cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts – cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk	(55)	**(97)**
Hedge ineffectiveness: interest rate swap contracts – cash flow hedges for interest rate risk	-	**19**
Cash flow hedges: transfer from equity	22	**21**
Unwind of derivative financial instruments	8	**-**
Impact of redesignation of fair value hedges	(16)	**(4)**
	(1,796)	**(2,540)**
Interest capitalised in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets *(note a)*	107	**156**
Total finance costs	(1,689)	**(2,384)**
Total interest income	29	**56**
Finance costs, net	(1,660)	**(2,328)**

a. The capitalisation rates used to determine the amount of interest eligible for capitalisation in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets ranged from 3.52% to 5.19% for the year ended 31 December 2023 (2022: from 3.00% to 4.37%).

9 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

The salaries and other short-term employee benefits and post-employment benefits of approximately HK$27 million and HK$1 million (2022: approximately HK$26 million and HK$1 million) respectively cover the compensation for the two directors of the Company for the year (2022: three).

10 INCOME TAX

a. Income tax in the consolidated income statement represents:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Current income tax:		
Hong Kong profits tax		
- provision for current year	453	**308**
- under/(over) provision in respect of prior years	3	**(392)**
Overseas tax		
- provision for current year	15	**25**
- under provision in respect of prior years	-	**2**
Movement of deferred income tax *(note 29(a))*	163	**524**
	634	**467**

Hong Kong profits tax is provided at the rate of 16.5% (2022: 16.5%) on the estimated assessable profits for the year.

Overseas tax is calculated on the estimated assessable profits for the year at the rates of taxation prevailing in the respective jurisdictions.

b. Reconciliation between income tax expense and accounting profit at applicable tax rate:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Profit before income tax	5,494	**5,318**
Notional tax on profit before income tax, calculated at the Hong Kong tax rate of 16.5% (2022: 16.5%)	907	**877**
Effect of different tax rates of subsidiaries operating overseas	3	**15**
Income not subject to tax	(13)	**(20)**
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	123	**140**
Tax losses not recognised	65	**68**
Under/(Over) provision in respect of prior years, net	3	**(390)**
Reversal/(Utilisation) of previously recognised/unrecognised tax losses	6	**(10)**
Recognition of previously unrecognised tax losses	(455)	**-**
Recognition of previously unrecognised temporary differences	59	**10**
Results of associates and joint ventures not deductible for tax purposes	21	**20**
Corporate income tax incentives	(85)	**(243)**
Income tax expense	634	**467**

10 INCOME TAX *(CONTINUED)*

c. Pillar Two Income Taxes

HKICPA made narrow-scope amendments to HKAS 12 which provide a temporary mandatory relief from the requirement to recognise and disclose deferred income taxes arising from enacted or substantively enacted tax law that implements the Pillar Two model rules, including tax law that implements qualified domestic minimum top-up taxes described in those rules. On adoption of the amendments to HKAS 12, the Group has applied the temporary mandatory exception to recognise and disclose information about deferred income tax assets and liabilities associated with Pillar Two income taxes.

The Group is within the scope of OECD Pillar Two model rules. Pillar Two legislation has been enacted or substantively enacted in several jurisdictions in which the Group operates, including Belgium, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, and will come into effect on or after 1 January 2024. It is expected that Hong Kong will apply the Pillar Two model rules from 2025 onwards. Since the Pillar Two legislation was not effective at the reporting date in the jurisdiction where the Group has operations, the Group has no related current Pillar Two tax exposure.

The management of HKT has assessed that any top-up tax exposure that may arise would be immaterial. The Group will continue to monitor global developments and reassess potential impacts.

11 DIVIDENDS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year of approximately HK$3.67 (2022: approximately HK$3.74) per ordinary share of the Company	2,377	**2,337**
Final dividend declared in respect of the previous financial year, approved and paid during the year of approximately HK$5.14 (2022: approximately HK$5.01) per ordinary share of the Company	3,187	**3,271**
	5,564	**5,608**
Final dividend declared after the end of the reporting period of approximately HK$5.30 (2022: approximately HK$5.14) per ordinary share of the Company	3,271	**3,369**

The final dividend declared after the end of the reporting period, referred to above, is not recognised as a liability as at the end of the reporting period.

12 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2022					
In HK$ million	Buildings	Exchange equipment	Transmission plant	Other plant and equipment	Projects under construction	Total
Cost						
Beginning of year	1,353	23,593	29,101	14,994	2,296	71,337
Additions	-	386	269	427	1,264	2,346
Disposals	-	(204)	(4)	(350)	-	(558)
Transfers	-	163	800	274	(1,237)	-
Exchange differences	-	(38)	11	(54)	(2)	(83)
End of year	1,353	23,900	30,177	15,291	2,321	73,042
Accumulated depreciation and impairment						
Beginning of year	781	17,668	17,554	10,136	-	46,139
Charge for the year	28	412	483	317	-	1,240
Disposals	-	(203)	(2)	(346)	-	(551)
Exchange differences	-	(31)	10	(51)	-	(72)
End of year	809	17,846	18,045	10,056	-	46,756
Net book value						
End of year	544	6,054	12,132	5,235	2,321	26,286
Beginning of year	572	5,925	11,547	4,858	2,296	25,198

12 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT *(CONTINUED)*

	2023					
In HK$ million	**Buildings**	**Exchange equipment**	**Transmission plant**	**Other plant and equipment**	**Projects under construction**	**Total**
Cost						
Beginning of year	**1,353**	**23,900**	**30,177**	**15,291**	**2,321**	**73,042**
Additions	**-**	**290**	**383**	**367**	**1,233**	**2,273**
Disposals	**-**	**(734)**	**(132)**	**(285)**	**-**	**(1,151)**
Transfers	**-**	**102**	**521**	**264**	**(887)**	**-**
Exchange differences	**-**	**2**	**56**	**(35)**	**16**	**39**
End of year	**1,353**	**23,560**	**31,005**	**15,602**	**2,683**	**74,203**
Accumulated depreciation and impairment						
Beginning of year	**809**	**17,846**	**18,045**	**10,056**	**-**	**46,756**
Charge for the year	**27**	**419**	**532**	**323**	**-**	**1,301**
Disposals	**-**	**(731)**	**(131)**	**(280)**	**-**	**(1,142)**
Exchange differences	**-**	**1**	**42**	**(33)**	**-**	**10**
End of year	**836**	**17,535**	**18,488**	**10,066**	**-**	**46,925**
Net book value						
End of year	**517**	**6,025**	**12,517**	**5,536**	**2,683**	**27,278**
Beginning of year	**544**	**6,054**	**12,132**	**5,235**	**2,321**	**26,286**

The depreciation charge for the year is included in general and administrative expenses in the consolidated income statement.

13 RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Land and buildings	1,672	**1,793**
Network capacity and equipment	225	**195**
Total	1,897	**1,988**

The Group obtains right to control the use of various land and buildings, and network capacity and equipment for a period of time through lease arrangements. Lease arrangements are negotiated on an individual basis and contain a wide range of different terms and conditions including lease payments and lease terms ranging from 1 to 14 years for land and buildings, and from 1 to 15 years for network capacity and equipment. Except for lease covenants mainly related to the maintenance and use of the leased assets that are commonly found in lease arrangements, there are no other covenants or restrictions imposed by the lease agreements. The leased assets may not be used as security for borrowing purposes.

Additions to the right-of-use assets during the year ended 31 December 2023 were HK$1,436 million (2022: HK$1,149 million).

During the year ended 31 December 2023, total cash outflow for leases amounted to HK$1,519 million (2022: HK$1,493 million), which included cash outflow for short-term lease expenses amounted to HK$89 million (2022: HK$104 million) that were recognised in the consolidated income statement.

The depreciation charge for the year is included in general and administrative expenses in the consolidated income statement.

14 INTERESTS IN LEASEHOLD LAND

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Cost		
Beginning and end of year	536	**536**
Accumulated amortisation		
Beginning of year	347	**359**
Charge for the year	12	**12**
End of year	359	**371**
Net book value		
End of year	177	**165**
Beginning of year	189	**177**

15 GOODWILL

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Cost		
Beginning of year	49,809	**49,803**
Exchange differences	(6)	**3**
End of year	49,803	**49,806**

Impairment tests for CGUs containing goodwill
Goodwill was allocated to the Group's CGUs identified according to operating segments as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
TSS		
- Local telephony and data services	31,740	**31,739**
- Global	1,210	**1,214**
Mobile	16,853	**16,853**
Total	49,803	**49,806**

The recoverable amounts of the CGUs are determined based on value-in-use calculations. For the year ended 31 December 2023, these calculations use cash flow projections based on financial budgets approved by management generally covering a 5-year period.

The key assumptions used for the value-in-use calculation of Local telephony and data services include average revenue growth rate of 1% (2022: 2%), average EBITDA growth rate of 1% (2022: 2%), estimated terminal growth rate of 1% (2022: 1%) and pre-tax discount rate of 9% (2022: 9%).

The key assumptions used for the value-in-use calculation of Global Business include average revenue growth rate of 2% (2022: 2%), average EBITDA growth rate of 8% (2022: 2%) based on past performance and taking into account expectation of future business and market developments, estimated terminal growth rate of 3% (2022: 3%) and pre-tax discount rate of 15% (2022: 15%).

The key assumptions used for the value-in-use calculation of Mobile include average revenue growth rate of 2% (2022: 2%), average EBITDA growth rate of 2% (2022: 2%), estimated terminal growth rate of 2% (2022: 2%) and pre-tax discount rate of 14% (2022: 12%).

The average revenue and EBITDA growth rates used are based on the financial budgets approved by management, taking into account the market growth rate, past experience, growth target of each CGU, as well as expected efficiency improvements. The terminal growth rates used to extrapolate the cash flows beyond the financial budgets period are based on the long-term average growth rates for the businesses in which the CGUs operate. The pre-tax discount rates used reflect specific risks relating to the relevant CGU.

There was no impairment required from the review on goodwill. A reasonably possible change in assumptions would not result in impairment and as such disclosure of sensitivity analysis is not considered necessary.

16 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2022						
In HK$ million	Trademarks	Carrier licences	Customer base	Software	Capitalised programme costs	Others	Total
Cost							
Beginning of year	2,054	8,324	2,926	10,500	227	67	24,098
Additions	-	193	-	2,151	105	3	2,452
Write-off	-	(52)	(2,716)	-	(39)	-	(2,807)
Exchange differences	(5)	-	-	-	-	-	(5)
End of year	2,049	8,465	210	12,651	293	70	23,738
Accumulated amortisation							
Beginning of year	856	2,337	2,682	2,470	128	8	8,481
Charge for the year	102	623	80	733	107	7	1,652
Write-off	-	(52)	(2,716)	-	(39)	-	(2,807)
Exchange differences	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	(3)
End of year	955	2,908	46	3,203	196	15	7,323
Net book value							
End of year	1,094	5,557	164	9,448	97	55	16,415
Beginning of year	1,198	5,987	244	8,030	99	59	15,617

16 INTANGIBLE ASSETS *(CONTINUED)*

	2023						
In HK$ million	**Trademarks**	**Carrier licences**	**Customer base**	**Software**	**Capitalised programme costs**	**Others**	**Total**
Cost							
Beginning of year	**2,049**	**8,465**	**210**	**12,651**	**293**	**70**	**23,738**
Additions	**-**	**50**	**-**	**2,334**	**81**	**212**	**2,677**
Write-off	**-**	**(50)**	**-**	**-**	**(19)**	**-**	**(69)**
Exchange differences	**4**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**4**
End of year	**2,053**	**8,465**	**210**	**14,985**	**355**	**282**	**26,350**
Accumulated amortisation							
Beginning of year	**955**	**2,908**	**46**	**3,203**	**196**	**15**	**7,323**
Charge for the year	**103**	**625**	**21**	**532**	**95**	**43**	**1,419**
Write-off	**-**	**(50)**	**-**	**-**	**(19)**	**-**	**(69)**
Exchange differences	**2**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2**
End of year	**1,060**	**3,483**	**67**	**3,735**	**272**	**58**	**8,675**
Net book value							
End of year	**993**	**4,982**	**143**	**11,250**	**83**	**224**	**17,675**
Beginning of year	**1,094**	**5,557**	**164**	**9,448**	**97**	**55**	**16,415**

The amortisation charge for the year is included in general and administrative expenses in the consolidated income statement.

As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, no impairment loss was recognised for the intangible assets. Impairment assessments for intangible assets are performed as part of the impairment assessments for the corresponding CGUs. For details of the accounting policies and the impairment assessments, please refer to notes 2(o)(ii) and 15.

17 INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Share of net assets of associates	469	**546**
Loan due from an associate	7	**7**
Provision for impairment	(66)	**(69)**
	410	**484**

17 INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES *(CONTINUED)*

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group made investments in an associate engaged in business in the provision of virtual banking services of HK$182 million (2022: HK$156 million).

As at 31 December 2023, loan due from an associate of HK$7 million (2022: HK$7 million), is secured, bears interest at 8% per annum (2022: same) and is repayable within 1 year (2022: same). The loan is considered as equity in nature for which full provision for impairment has been made as at 31 December 2022 and 2023.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, no provision for impairment was recognised for interests in associates in the consolidated income statement (2022: nil).

a. As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, the Group considered that there were no principal associates.

b. Contingent liabilities in respect of associates

There were no contingent liabilities relating to the Group's interests in the associates. As at 31 December 2023, the Group's share of the contingent liabilities of an associate was HK$2 million (2022: HK$2 million).

c. Summarised unaudited financial information of the Group's associates

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the aggregate net amounts of the Group's share of loss after income tax, other comprehensive income and total comprehensive loss of the individually immaterial associates that are accounted for using the equity method were HK$108 million (2022: HK$106 million), nil (2022: nil) and HK$108 million (2022: HK$106 million), respectively.

d. Reconciliation of summarised unaudited financial information of the Group's associates

As at 31 December 2023, the aggregate carrying amount of interests in individually immaterial associates that are accounted for using the equity method was HK$484 million (2022: HK$410 million).

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group did not have any unrecognised share of losses of associates (2022: nil). As at 31 December 2023, there was no accumulated share of losses of associates unrecognised by the Group (2022: nil).

18 INTERESTS IN JOINT VENTURES

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Share of net assets of joint ventures	132	**145**
Loan due from a joint venture	195	**156**
	327	**301**

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group made an investment in a joint venture engaged in business in the provision of electric vehicle charging solutions of HK$30 million (2022: nil).

As at 31 December 2023, the loan due from a joint venture of HK$156 million (2022: HK$195 million) bears interest at HIBOR plus 3% per annum (2022: same). The loan is unsecured and has no fixed repayment terms. The amount is considered as part of the interests in joint ventures.

a. As at 31 December 2023, the Group considered that there were no principal joint ventures (2022: one).

18 INTERESTS IN JOINT VENTURES *(CONTINUED)*

b. Commitments and contingent liabilities in respect of joint ventures

As at 31 December 2023, the Group's commitments in respect of joint ventures are as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
The Group's commitments to provide funding	34	**45**
The Group's share of joint ventures' capital commitments authorised and contracted for acquisition of property, plant and equipment	12	**19**
The Group's share of joint ventures' other commitments	25	**17**

There were no contingent liabilities relating to the Group's interests in the joint ventures. As at 31 December 2023, the Group had no share of contingent liabilities of the joint ventures (2022: nil).

c. Summarised unaudited financial information of the Group's joint ventures

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the aggregate net amounts of the Group's share of loss after income tax, other comprehensive loss and total comprehensive loss of the individually immaterial joint ventures that are accounted for using the equity method were HK$16 million (2022: HK$19 million), HK$1 million (2022: HK$5 million) and HK$17 million (2022: HK$24 million), respectively.

d. Reconciliation of summarised unaudited financial information of the Group's joint ventures

As at 31 December 2023, the aggregate carrying amount of interests in individually immaterial joint ventures that are accounted for using the equity method was HK$301 million (2022: HK$327 million).

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group did not have any unrecognised share of losses of joint ventures (2022: nil). As at 31 December 2023, there was no accumulated share of losses of joint ventures unrecognised by the Group (2022: nil).

19 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Beginning of year	124	**147**
Additions	23	**-**
Change in fair value	-	**(17)**
End of year	147	**130**

As at 31 December 2023, financial assets at FVOCI comprised unlisted equity investments which are held for strategic purposes (2022: same).

20 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Listed securities	91	**77**
Less: securities held for employee share award schemes to be vested within one year classified as current assets	(26)	**(28)**
Listed securities (non-current)	65	**49**
Unlisted securities (non-current)	10	**10**
Total non-current portion	75	**59**

Financial assets at FVPL mainly comprise:

- equity investments for which the Group has not elected to recognise fair value gains and losses through other comprehensive income;
- PCCW Shares acquired and subscribed under the PCCW Purchase Scheme and PCCW Subscription Scheme. Refer to note 26(c)(ii) for details of the share award schemes of PCCW; and
- Share Stapled Units acquired and subscribed under the HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme and HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme. Refer to note 26(c)(ii) for details of the Share Stapled Units award schemes of HKT.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, there was no disposal of unlisted instruments recognised as financial assets at FVPL (2022: HK$23 million).

During the year ended 31 December 2023, there was no addition of unlisted instruments recognised as financial assets at FVPL (2022: nil).

21 INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

a. Particulars of the principal subsidiaries of the Company as at 31 December 2023 are as follows:

Company name	Place of incorporation/ operations	Amount of issued capital/ registered capital	Interest held by the Company Directly	Interest held by the Company Indirectly	Principal activities
HKT Services Limited	Hong Kong	HK$1	-	100%	Provision of management services to group companies
Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited ("HKTL")	Hong Kong	HK$9,945,156,001	-	100%	Provision of telecommunications services
CSL Mobile Limited	Hong Kong	HK$7,900,280,100 ordinary shares and HK$1,254,000,000 non-voting deferred shares	-	100%	Provision of mobile services to its customers and the sale of mobile handsets and accessories
Sun Mobile Limited	Hong Kong	HK$41,600,002	-	60%[1]	Provision of mobile telecommunications services to customers in Hong Kong
Club HKT Limited	Hong Kong	HK$1	-	100%	Operating customer loyalty programme and online merchandise sales in Hong Kong
Gateway Global Communications Limited	United Kingdom	GBP2	-	100%	Provision of network-based telecommunications services to external customers and related companies
PCCW Global B.V.	Netherlands/ France	EUR18,000	-	100%	Sales, distribution and marketing of telecommunications services and products
PCCW Global, Inc.	Delaware, U.S.	US$18.01	-	100%	Provision of voice and network-based telecommunications services, and technical consulting and engineering services

21 INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES *(CONTINUED)*

a. Particulars of the principal subsidiaries of the Company as at 31 December 2023 are as follows: *(continued)*

Company name	Place of incorporation/ operations	Amount of issued capital/ registered capital	Interest held by the Company Directly	Interest held by the Company Indirectly	Principal activities
PCCW Global Limited	Hong Kong/ Dubai Media City	HK$240,016,690.65	-	100%	Provision of network-based telecommunications services
PCCW Global (Japan) K.K.	Japan	JPY10,000,000	-	100%	Provision of telecommunications services
PCCW Global (HK) Limited	Hong Kong	HK$10	-	100%	Provision of satellite-based and network-based telecommunications services
HKT Global (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.	Singapore/ Malaysia	S$260,960,522.64	-	100%	Provision of telecommunications solutions related services
PCCW (Macau), Limitada	Macau	MOP2,000,000	-	75%[2]	Selling customer premises equipment and related solutions, conducting systems integration projects and providing outsourced contact centre services
PCCW Media Limited	Hong Kong	HK$8,041,216,269 ordinary shares, HK$1 "A" Class share and HK$4 "B" Class shares	-	100%	Provision of pay television programme services, interactive multimedia services, the sale of advertising in various telephone directories, the publishing of those directories in Hong Kong and the sale of advertising on the Internet
PCCW Content Limited	Hong Kong	HK$1	-	100%	Distribution of media content
廣州電盈綜合客戶服務技術發展有限公司[4] (PCCW Customer Management Technology and Services (Guangzhou) Limited[5])	The People's Republic of China (the "PRC")	HK$93,240,000	-	100%	Customer service and consultancy

21 INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES *(CONTINUED)*

a. Particulars of the principal subsidiaries of the Company as at 31 December 2023 are as follows: *(continued)*

Company name	Place of incorporation/ operations	Amount of issued capital/ registered capital	Interest held by the Company Directly	Interest held by the Company Indirectly	Principal activities
HKT Teleservices International Limited	Hong Kong	HK$350,000,002	-	100%	Provision of customer relationship management and customer contact management solutions and services
北京訊通通信服務有限公司 (Beijing Xun Tong HKT Communications Services (China) Limited[5, 6])	The PRC	RMB10,000,000	-	50%[3]	Provision of telecommunications services, internet information services and computer system services

Certain subsidiaries which do not materially affect the results or financial position of the Group are not included in the above.

Notes:

1 The equity interest held by non-controlling interest is 40% as at 31 December 2023.
2 The equity interest held by non-controlling interest is 25% as at 31 December 2023.
3 The equity interest held by non-controlling interest is 50% as at 31 December 2023. The entity is accounted for as a subsidiary of the Group as the Group owns more than half of the voting rights in the board of directors even though the equity interest attributable to the Group is 50%.
4 Represents a wholly-foreign owned enterprise.
5 Unofficial company name.
6 Unofficial company name previously known as "Beijing Xun Tong Communications Services Limited".

b. Non-controlling interests of the Group's subsidiaries

The total of non-controlling interests as at 31 December 2023 was HK$70 million (2022: HK$60 million), of which HK$54 million (2022: HK$47 million) was attributable to non-controlling interests in Sun Mobile Limited and PCCW (Macau), Limitada.

22 OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Prepayments	451	**438**
Deposits	120	**120**
	571	**558**

23 CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

a. Inventories

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Purchased parts and materials	930	**578**
Finished goods	631	**351**
Consumable inventories	46	**30**
	1,607	**959**

b. Prepayments, deposits and other current assets

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Prepayments	989	**795**
Deposits	334	**352**
Other current assets	1,747	**2,016**
	3,070	**3,163**

As at 31 December 2023, included in prepayments were prepaid programme costs of HK$87 million (2022: HK$235 million).

c. Trade receivables, net

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Trade receivables *(note i)*	3,400	**2,977**
Less: loss allowance *(note ii)*	(146)	**(139)**
Trade receivables, net	3,254	**2,838**

The balance represents amounts due from customers for goods sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. They are generally due for settlement within 30 days from the date of invoice and therefore are all classified as current. Details about the Group's impairment policies are provided in note 2(o)(i).

As at 31 December 2023, included in trade receivables, net were amounts due from related parties of HK$104 million (2022: HK$55 million).

i. The ageing of trade receivables based on the date of invoice is set out below:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
1 - 30 days	2,135	**1,873**
31 - 60 days	489	**363**
61 - 90 days	193	**175**
91 - 120 days	114	**139**
Over 120 days	469	**427**
	3,400	**2,977**

23 CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES *(CONTINUED)*

c. Trade receivables, net *(continued)*

ii. Impairment for trade receivables

The Group applies the HKFRS 9 (2014) simplified approach to measure loss allowance for expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for trade receivables.

To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables are grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due. The expected loss rates are estimated based on the corresponding historical credit losses experienced, adjusted with the expected change between current and forward-looking information on macroeconomic factors, if material. On that basis, the loss allowance as at 31 December 2023 was determined as follows:

Expected credit loss rate	2022	**2023**
Current	1%	**2%**
1 - 120 days past due	4%	**5%**
Over 120 days past due	37%	**26%**

The movements in the loss allowance during the year were as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Beginning of year	163	**146**
Net impairment loss recognised	130	**188**
Uncollectible amounts written off	(147)	**(195)**
End of year	146	**139**

d. Restricted cash

As at 31 December 2023, restricted cash included a cash balance of HK$211 million (2022: HK$375 million) which has been mainly received from and restricted for the use of certain customers.

e. Short-term borrowings

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
US$500 million 3.75% guaranteed notes due 2023 *(note i)*	3,894	**-**
Bank borrowings *(note ii)*	56	**1,049**
	3,950	**1,049**
Secured	-	**-**
Unsecured	3,950	**1,049**

i. US$500 million 3.75% guaranteed notes due 2023

On 8 March 2013, PCCW-HKT Capital No.5 Limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$500 million 3.75% guaranteed notes due 2023, which were listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes were irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTL and the Company and ranked pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTL and the Company. The notes were fully redeemed in March 2023 and were delisted from the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited.

ii. Refer to note 36 for details of the Group's banking facilities.

f. Trade payables

As at 31 December 2023, included in trade payables were amounts due to related parties of HK$96 million (2022: HK$325 million).

24 LONG-TERM BORROWINGS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Repayable within a period		
- over one year, but not exceeding two years	3,377	**6,969**
- over two years, but not exceeding five years	25,325	**25,366**
- over five years	11,186	**11,183**
	39,888	**43,518**
Representing:		
US$300 million zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030 *(note a)*	2,330	**2,335**
US$500 million 3.625% guaranteed notes due 2025 *(note b)*	3,881	**3,895**
EUR200 million 1.65% guaranteed notes due 2027 *(note c)*	1,646	**1,718**
US$750 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2026 *(note d)*	5,832	**5,845**
US$500 million 3.25% guaranteed notes due 2029 *(note e)*	3,851	**3,832**
US$650 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2032 *(note f)*	5,005	**5,016**
Bank borrowings *(note g)*	17,343	**20,877**
	39,888	**43,518**
Secured	-	**-**
Unsecured	39,888	**43,518**

a. US$300 million zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030
On 15 January 2015, HKT Capital No. 1 Limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$300 million zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030, which are listed on the Taipei Exchange. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTL and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTL and the Company.

b. US$500 million 3.625% guaranteed notes due 2025
On 2 April 2015, HKT Capital No. 2 Limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$500 million 3.625% guaranteed notes due 2025, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTL and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTL and the Company.

c. EUR200 million 1.65% guaranteed notes due 2027
On 10 April 2015, HKT Capital No. 3 Limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued EUR200 million 1.65% guaranteed notes due 2027, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTL and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTL and the Company.

d. US$750 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2026
On 14 July 2016, HKT Capital No. 4 Limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$750 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2026, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTL and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTL and the Company.

e. US$500 million 3.25% guaranteed notes due 2029
On 30 September 2019, HKT Capital No. 5 Limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$500 million 3.25% guaranteed notes due 2029, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTL and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTL and the Company.

24 LONG-TERM BORROWINGS *(CONTINUED)*

f. US$650 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2032

On 18 January 2022, HKT Capital No. 6 Limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$650 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2032, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTL and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTL and the Company.

g. Refer to note 36 for details of the Group's banking facilities.

25 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Non-current assets		
Cross currency swap contracts – cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk *(note a)*	27	**-**
Interest rate swap contracts – cash flow hedges for interest rate risk *(note b)*	-	**29**
	27	**29**
Current assets		
Cross currency swap contracts – cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk *(note a)*	58	**-**
Current liabilities		
Interest rate swap contract – cash flow hedge for interest rate risk *(note b)*	(98)	**(151)**
Non-current liabilities		
Cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts – cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk *(note a)*	(223)	**(602)**

Derivatives are mainly used for economic hedging purposes and not as speculative investments. However, where derivatives do not meet the hedge accounting criteria, they are accounted for at FVPL.

Hedge effectiveness is determined at the inception of the hedging relationship and through periodic prospective effectiveness assessments to ensure that an economic relationship exists between the hedged item and the hedging instrument.

Hedge ineffectiveness for the Group's cross currency swap, foreign exchange forward and interest rate swap contracts may occur due to:

- differences in critical terms between the hedged item and the hedging instrument; and

- changes in credit risk of the derivative counterparty.

25 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

a. Cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk

For certain borrowings denominated in foreign currencies, the Group has entered into cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge the foreign currency risk. The Group performed qualitative assessment of hedge effectiveness. As the cross currency swap contracts and the foreign exchange forward contracts have similar critical terms as the hedged items, such as notional amounts, maturity dates and payment dates, the economic relationship exists between the hedged items and the hedging instruments.

The effects of the foreign currency related hedging instruments outstanding at the end of the reporting period on the Group's financial position and performance are as follows:

	2022	**2023**
Net carrying amount (liabilities)	(HK$138 million)	**(HK$602 million)**
Notional amount	EUR200 million and US$3,370 million	**EUR200 million and US$2,870 million**
Maturity date	March 2023 to January 2032	**January 2025 to January 2032**
Hedge ratio	1:1*	**1:1***
Change# in fair value of the hedging instruments during the year	(HK$129 million)	**(HK$324 million)**
Change# in value of the hedged items during the year	HK$74 million	**HK$225 million**
Weighted average hedged exchange rate for the year	EUR1:HK$8.32 US$1:HK$7.80	**EUR1:HK$8.32** **US$1:HK$7.80**

* The hedge ratio is 1:1 as the notional amount and timing of the hedging instruments match with that of the hedged items.

\# Positive change refers to increase in net assets, whereas negative change refers to decrease in net assets.

25 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Cash flow hedges for interest rate risk

For certain borrowings subject to cash flow interest rate risk, the Group has entered into floating-to-fixed interest rate swap contracts. The Group performed qualitative assessment of hedge effectiveness. As the interest rate swap contracts have similar critical terms as the hedged items, such as notional amounts, maturity dates and payment dates, the economic relationship exists between the hedged items and the hedging instruments.

The effects of the interest rate related hedging instruments outstanding at the end of the reporting period on the Group's financial position and performance are as follows:

	2022	**2023**
Net carrying amount (liabilities)	(HK$98 million)	**(HK$122 million)**
Notional amount	HK$1,000 million	**HK$2,600 million**
Maturity date	March 2023	**March 2024 to July 2025**
Hedge ratio	1:1*	**1:1***
Change# in fair value of the hedging instruments during the year	HK$28 million	**HK$45 million**
Change# in value of the hedged items during the year	(HK$28 million)	**(HK$26 million)**
Weighted average receive leg/pay leg interest ratio	0.79	**1.16**

* The hedge ratio is 1:1 as the notional amount and timing of the hedging instruments match with that of the hedged items.

\# Positive change refers to increase in net assets, whereas negative change refers to decrease in net assets.

25 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Hedging reserve and costs of hedging reserve

The Group's hedging reserve and costs of hedging reserve relate to the following hedging instruments:

In HK$ million	Cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk	Cash flow hedges for interest rate risk	Total
Hedging reserve			
As at 1 January 2022	86	(11)	75
Cash flow hedges:			
- effective portion of changes in fair value	(74)	28	(46)
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	90	-	90
As at 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	**102**	**17**	**119**
Cash flow hedges:			
- effective portion of changes in fair value	**(205)**	**26**	**(179)**
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	**(159)**	**-**	**(159)**
As at 31 December 2023	**(262)**	**43**	**(219)**

In HK$ million	Cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk
Costs of hedging reserve	
As at 1 January 2022	(13)
Cash flow hedges:	
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	11
Costs of hedging	(114)
As at 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	**(116)**
Cash flow hedges:	
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	**12**
Costs of hedging	**(41)**
As at 31 December 2023	**(145)**

26 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

a. Employee retirement benefits – Defined contribution retirement schemes

The Group operates defined contribution retirement schemes, including the Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme (the "MPF scheme") under the Hong Kong Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance, for employees employed under the jurisdiction of the Hong Kong Employment Ordinance. The schemes are administered by independent trustees.

Under the defined contribution retirement scheme, the employer is required to make contributions to the scheme at rates specified under the rules of the scheme. Where employees leave the scheme prior to the full vesting of the employer's contributions, the amount of forfeited contributions is used to reduce the contributions payable by the Group.

Under the MPF scheme, the employer and its employees are each required to make contributions to the scheme at 5% of the employees' relevant income, subject to a current cap of monthly relevant income of HK$30,000. Contributions to the scheme vest immediately upon the completion of the services in the relevant service period.

Forfeited contributions totalling HK$10 million (2022: HK$13 million) were utilised during the year ended 31 December 2023 to reduce contributions and no forfeited contribution (2022: nil) was available as at 31 December 2023.

b. Other post-employment benefits

In July 2023, the HKICPA published "Accounting implications of the abolition of the MPF-LSP offsetting mechanism in Hong Kong" that provides accounting guidance relating to the offsetting mechanism and the abolition of the mechanism. As at 31 December 2023, included in other payables were LSP obligations of HK$22 million (2022: HK$7 million).

c. Equity compensation benefits

PCCW, the HKT Trust and HKT operate the following share option schemes and share award schemes:

Share option schemes

- Share option scheme of PCCW adopted on 8 May 2014 (the "PCCW 2014 Scheme").

- Share Stapled Units option scheme of the HKT Trust and HKT adopted on 7 May 2021 (the "2021-2031 Option Scheme").

Share award schemes

- Share award schemes of PCCW namely the PCCW Purchase Scheme and the PCCW Subscription Scheme (collectively the "PCCW Share Award Schemes").

- Share Stapled Units award schemes of HKT namely the HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme and the HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme (collectively the "Share Stapled Units Award Schemes").

26 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

i. Share option schemes

No share options/Share Stapled Unit options have been granted under the PCCW 2014 Scheme and the 2021-2031 Option Scheme since their adoption and up to and including 31 December 2023.

ii. Share award schemes

Subject to the relevant scheme rules of the PCCW Share Award Schemes and the Share Stapled Units Award Schemes, each scheme provides that prior to the vesting of the awards under the relevant scheme to selected participants (including any director or employee of PCCW and its participating companies for the PCCW Share Award Schemes, and any director or employee of HKT or any of its subsidiaries for the Share Stapled Units Award Schemes), the relevant PCCW Shares/Share Stapled Units will be held in trust by the trustee for such selected participants, and will be vested over a period of time determined by the respective approving body, provided that each selected participant shall remain at all times up to and including the relevant vesting date (or, as the case may be, each relevant vesting date) an employee or a director of PCCW, HKT, the relevant participating company or subsidiary, and satisfies any other conditions specified at the time the award is made, notwithstanding that the respective approving body shall be at liberty to waive such conditions. Other than satisfying the vesting conditions, selected participants are not required to provide any consideration in order to acquire the PCCW Shares/Share Stapled Units awarded to him/her under the relevant schemes.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, share-based compensation expenses in respect of the PCCW Share Award Schemes of HK$17 million (2022: HK$14 million) were recognised in the consolidated income statement and as an obligation in liabilities in the consolidated statement of financial position, respectively.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, share-based compensation expenses in respect of the Share Stapled Units Award Schemes of HK$14 million (2022: HK$16 million) were recognised in the consolidated income statement and as an obligation in liabilities in the consolidated statement of financial position, respectively.

26 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(1) Movements in the number of PCCW Shares held under the PCCW Share Award Schemes and the Share Stapled Units held under the Share Stapled Units Award Schemes

	Number of PCCW Shares	
	2022	**2023**
PCCW Purchase Scheme:		
Beginning of year	1,091,637	**1,036,729**
Purchases from the market by the trustee at weighted average market price of HK$3.90 (2022: HK$4.29) per PCCW Share	958,000	**1,099,000**
PCCW Shares vested	(1,012,908)	**(1,034,287)**
End of year	1,036,729	**1,101,442**
PCCW Subscription Scheme:		
Beginning of year	3,803,886	**9,165,906**
PCCW Shares obtained	8,000,000	**-**
PCCW Shares vested	(2,637,980)	**(2,351,198)**
End of year	9,165,906	**6,814,708**

	Number of Share Stapled Units	
	2022	**2023**
HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme:		
Beginning of year	429,725	**422,111**
Purchases from the market by the trustee at weighted average market price of HK$9.67 (2022: HK$10.80) per Share Stapled Unit	391,000	**435,000**
Share Stapled Units vested	(398,614)	**(420,559)**
End of year	422,111	**436,552**
HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme:		
Beginning of year	2,368,189	**5,329,111**
New Share Stapled Units jointly issued by the HKT Trust and HKT at issue price of approximately HK$10.84 per Share Stapled Unit	4,000,000	**-**
Share Stapled Units vested	(1,039,078)	**(991,441)**
End of year	5,329,111	**4,337,670**

26 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award

			2022				
			Number of PCCW Shares				
Date of award	Vesting period	Fair value on the date of award HK$	As at 1 January 2022	Awarded	Forfeited	Vested	As at 31 December 2022
PCCW Purchase Scheme (PCCW Shares)							
16 April 2020	16 April 2020 to 16 April 2022	4.64	525,777	-	(31,661)	(494,116)	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2022	4.53	562,417	-	(43,625)	(518,792)	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.53	562,410	-	(43,624)	-	518,786
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.52	-	517,681	-	-	517,681
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.52	-	517,674	-	-	517,674
Total			1,650,604	1,035,355	(118,910)	(1,012,908)	1,554,141
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			4.57	4.52	4.56	4.58	4.52
PCCW Subscription Scheme (PCCW Shares)							
28 February 2020	28 February 2020 to 17 April 2022	4.69	9,612	-	-	(9,612)	-
28 February 2020	28 February 2020 to 17 April 2023	4.69	9,610	-	(9,610)	-	-
16 April 2020	16 April 2020 to 16 April 2022	4.64	1,299,298	-	(36,245)	(1,263,053)	-
11 May 2020	11 May 2020 to 16 April 2022	4.77	40,900	-	(40,900)	-	-
11 May 2020	11 May 2020 to 16 April 2023	4.77	20,448	-	-	-	20,448
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2022	4.53	1,242,674	-	(37,358)	(1,205,316)	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.53	1,241,806	-	(146,559)	-	1,095,247
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2022	4.09	143,177	-	-	(143,177)	-
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.09	143,177	-	(111,857)	-	31,320
4 March 2022	4 March 2022 to 16 April 2022	4.34	-	16,822	-	(16,822)	-
4 March 2022	4 March 2022 to 16 April 2023	4.34	-	21,114	-	-	21,114
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.52	-	1,357,097	(121,204)	-	1,235,893
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.52	-	1,356,074	(121,093)	-	1,234,981
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.15	-	5,710	-	-	5,710
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.15	-	5,710	-	-	5,710
Total			4,150,702	2,762,527	(624,826)	(2,637,980)	3,650,423
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			4.54	4.52	4.47	4.56	4.52

26 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award *(continued)*

			2022				
			Number of Share Stapled Units				
Date of award	Vesting period	Fair value on the date of award HK$	As at 1 January 2022	Awarded	Forfeited	Vested	As at 31 December 2022
HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme (Share Stapled Units)							
16 April 2020	16 April 2020 to 16 April 2022	11.86	202,046	-	(12,167)	(189,879)	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2022	11.06	226,287	-	(17,552)	(208,735)	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	11.06	226,280	-	(17,552)	-	208,728
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	10.86	-	212,717	-	-	212,717
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	10.86	-	212,711	-	-	212,711
Total			654,613	425,428	(47,271)	(398,614)	634,156
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			11.31	10.86	11.27	11.44	10.93
HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme (Share Stapled Units)							
28 February 2020	28 February 2020 to 17 April 2022	11.66	3,845	-	-	(3,845)	-
28 February 2020	28 February 2020 to 17 April 2023	11.66	3,844	-	(3,844)	-	-
16 April 2020	16 April 2020 to 16 April 2022	11.86	499,289	-	(13,932)	(485,357)	-
11 May 2020	11 May 2020 to 16 April 2022	12.86	15,717	-	(15,717)	-	-
11 May 2020	11 May 2020 to 16 April 2023	12.86	7,858	-	-	-	7,858
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2022	11.06	500,518	-	(15,051)	(485,467)	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	11.06	499,639	-	(58,972)	-	440,667
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2022	10.56	57,607	-	-	(57,607)	-
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2023	10.56	57,606	-	(45,005)	-	12,601
4 March 2022	4 March 2022 to 16 April 2022	10.60	-	6,802	-	(6,802)	-
4 March 2022	4 March 2022 to 16 April 2023	10.60	-	8,537	-	-	8,537
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	10.86	-	593,177	(49,866)	-	543,311
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	10.86	-	592,158	(49,760)	-	542,398
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2023	11.00	-	2,347	-	-	2,347
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2024	11.00	-	2,346	-	-	2,346
Total			1,645,923	1,205,367	(252,147)	(1,039,078)	1,560,065
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			11.30	10.86	11.06	11.41	10.92

26 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award *(continued)*

			2023				
			Number of PCCW Shares				
Date of award	**Vesting period**	**Fair value on the date of award HK$**	**As at 1 January 2023**	**Awarded**	**Forfeited**	**Vested**	**As at 31 December 2023**
PCCW Purchase Scheme (PCCW Shares)							
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	**4.53**	**518,786**	-	**(1,087)**	**(517,699)**	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	**4.52**	**517,681**	-	**(1,093)**	**(516,588)**	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	**4.52**	**517,674**	-	**(25,149)**	-	**492,525**
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2024	**4.01**	-	**13,422**	-	-	**13,422**
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2025	**4.01**	-	**13,417**	-	-	**13,417**
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2024	**4.02**	-	**129,129**	-	-	**129,129**
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2025	**4.02**	-	**129,127**	-	-	**129,127**
1 June 2023	1 June 2023 to 1 June 2024	**3.97**	-	**4,301**	-	-	**4,301**
1 June 2023	1 June 2023 to 1 June 2025	**3.97**	-	**4,298**	-	-	**4,298**
4 August 2023	4 August 2023 to 4 August 2024	**3.92**	-	**437,373**	-	-	**437,373**
4 August 2023	4 August 2023 to 4 August 2025	**3.92**	-	**437,372**	-	-	**437,372**
Total			**1,554,141**	**1,168,439**	**(27,329)**	**(1,034,287)**	**1,660,964**
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			**4.52**	**3.94**	**4.52**	**4.53**	**4.12**
PCCW Subscription Scheme (PCCW Shares)							
11 May 2020	11 May 2020 to 16 April 2023	**4.77**	**20,448**	-	-	**(20,448)**	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	**4.53**	**1,095,247**	-	**(22,597)**	**(1,072,650)**	-
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2023	**4.09**	**31,320**	-	-	**(31,320)**	-
4 March 2022	4 March 2022 to 16 April 2023	**4.34**	**21,114**	-	-	**(21,114)**	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	**4.52**	**1,235,893**	-	**(35,937)**	**(1,199,956)**	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	**4.52**	**1,234,981**	-	**(132,455)**	-	**1,102,526**
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2023	**4.15**	**5,710**	-	-	**(5,710)**	-
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2024	**4.15**	**5,710**	-	-	-	**5,710**
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2024	**4.01**	-	**1,181,458**	**(103,314)**	-	**1,078,144**
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2025	**4.01**	-	**1,180,673**	**(103,230)**	-	**1,077,443**
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2024	**4.02**	-	**205,368**	**(3,268)**	-	**202,100**
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2025	**4.02**	-	**205,360**	**(3,267)**	-	**202,093**
23 June 2023	23 June 2023 to 23 June 2024	**3.85**	-	**72,391**	**(6,706)**	-	**65,685**
23 June 2023	23 June 2023 to 23 June 2025	**3.85**	-	**72,329**	**(6,695)**	-	**65,634**
Total			**3,650,423**	**2,917,579**	**(417,469)**	**(2,351,198)**	**3,799,335**
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			**4.52**	**4.00**	**4.24**	**4.52**	**4.15**

26 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award *(continued)*

2023

Number of Share Stapled Units

Date of award	Vesting period	Fair value on the date of award HK$	As at 1 January 2023	Awarded	Forfeited	Vested	As at 31 December 2023
HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme (Share Stapled Units)							
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	11.06	208,728	-	(437)	(208,291)	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	10.86	212,717	-	(449)	(212,268)	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	10.86	212,711	-	(10,334)	-	202,377
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2024	10.18	-	5,135	-	-	5,135
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2025	10.18	-	5,132	-	-	5,132
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2024	9.98	-	49,393	-	-	49,393
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2025	9.98	-	49,390	-	-	49,390
1 June 2023	1 June 2023 to 1 June 2024	9.96	-	1,646	-	-	1,646
1 June 2023	1 June 2023 to 1 June 2025	9.96	-	1,645	-	-	1,645
4 August 2023	4 August 2023 to 4 August 2024	9.10	-	167,292	-	-	167,292
4 August 2023	4 August 2023 to 4 August 2025	9.10	-	167,292	-	-	167,292
Total			634,156	446,925	(11,220)	(420,559)	649,302
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			10.93	9.33	10.87	10.96	9.80

Date of award	Vesting period	Fair value on the date of award HK$	As at 1 January 2023	Awarded	Forfeited	Vested	As at 31 December 2023
HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme (Share Stapled Units)							
11 May 2020	11 May 2020 to 16 April 2023	12.86	7,858	-	-	(7,858)	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	11.06	440,667	-	(9,090)	(431,577)	-
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2023	10.56	12,601	-	-	(12,601)	-
4 March 2022	4 March 2022 to 16 April 2023	10.60	8,537	-	-	(8,537)	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	10.86	543,311	-	(14,790)	(528,521)	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	10.86	542,398	-	(54,428)	-	487,970
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2023	11.00	2,347	-	-	(2,347)	-
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2024	11.00	2,346	-	-	-	2,346
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2024	10.18	-	452,085	(39,279)	-	412,806
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2025	10.18	-	451,298	(39,198)	-	412,100
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2024	9.98	-	78,560	(1,250)	-	77,310
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2025	9.98	-	78,548	(1,250)	-	77,298
23 June 2023	23 June 2023 to 23 June 2024	9.05	-	27,726	(2,570)	-	25,156
23 June 2023	23 June 2023 to 23 June 2025	9.05	-	27,666	(2,561)	-	25,105
Total			1,560,065	1,115,883	(164,416)	(991,441)	1,520,091
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			10.92	10.10	10.48	10.96	10.34

26 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award *(continued)*

The fair values of the PCCW Shares and the Share Stapled Units awarded during the year on the dates of award are measured by the respective quoted market prices of the PCCW Shares and the Share Stapled Units at the respective award dates.

The PCCW Shares and the Share Stapled Units unvested had a weighted average remaining vesting period at the end of the reporting period as follows:

	2022	**2023**
PCCW Purchase Scheme (PCCW Shares)	0.64 year	**0.83 year**
PCCW Subscription Scheme (PCCW Shares)	0.64 year	**0.67 year**
HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme (Share Stapled Units)	0.64 year	**0.81 year**
HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme (Share Stapled Units)	0.65 year	**0.66 year**

27 SHARE CAPITAL

	2022		**2023**	
	Number of shares	Nominal value HK$ million	**Number of shares**	**Nominal value HK$ million**
Authorised:				
Ordinary shares of US$1 each				
Beginning and end of year	650,000,000	5,070	**650,000,000**	**5,070**
Issued and fully paid:				
Ordinary shares of US$1 each				
Beginning of year	636,000,025	4,961	**636,000,026**	**4,961**
Issued during the year *(note a)*	1	-	**4**	**-**
End of year	636,000,026	4,961	**636,000,030**	**4,961**

a. During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Company issued four (2022: one) ordinary share(s) of US$1 each to the sole shareholder of the Company at a premium of approximately HK$206 million (2022: approximately HK$99 million).

28 RESERVES

In HK$ million	Share premium	Capital contribution reserve	Merger reserve	Currency translation reserve	Hedging reserve	Costs of hedging reserve	Other reserves	Retained profits	Total
				2022					
As at 1 January 2022	24,682	28	(695)	143	75	(13)	88	3,390	27,698
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year									
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,842	4,842
Other comprehensive income/(loss)									
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:									
Translation exchange differences:									
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of subsidiaries	-	-	-	(76)	-	-	-	-	(76)
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of joint ventures	-	-	-	(5)	-	-	-	-	(5)
Cash flow hedges:									
- effective portion of changes in fair value	-	-	-	-	(46)	-	-	-	(46)
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	-	-	-	-	90	11	-	-	101
Costs of hedging	-	-	-	-	-	(114)	-	-	(114)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	-	-	-	(81)	44	(103)	-	4,842	4,702
Transactions with equity holder									
Issue of ordinary shares *(note 27(a))*	99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	99
Receipt of PCCW Shares under the PCCW Subscription Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	36
Dividend paid in respect of the previous year *(note 11)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,187)	(3,187)
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year *(note 11)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,377)	(2,377)
Total transactions with equity holder	99	-	-	-	-	-	36	(5,564)	(5,429)
As at 31 December 2022	24,781	28	(695)	62	119	(116)	124	2,668	26,971

HKT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28 RESERVES *(CONTINUED)*

	2023									
In HK$ million	Share premium	Capital contribution reserve	Merger reserve	Currency translation reserve	Hedging reserve	Costs of hedging reserve	Financial assets at FVOCI reserve	Other reserves	Retained profits	Total
As at 1 January 2023	**24,781**	**28**	**(695)**	**62**	**119**	**(116)**	**-**	**124**	**2,668**	**26,971**
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year										
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**4,830**	**4,830**
Other comprehensive income/(loss)										
Item that will not be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:										
Change in the fair value of a financial asset at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	-	**(17)**	-	-	**(17)**
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:										
Translation exchange differences:										
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of subsidiaries	-	-	-	**26**	-	-	-	-	-	**26**
- exchange differences on translating foreign operations of joint ventures	-	-	-	**(1)**	-	-	-	-	-	**(1)**
Cash flow hedges:										
- effective portion of changes in fair value	-	-	-	-	**(179)**	-	-	-	-	**(179)**
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	-	-	-	-	**(159)**	**12**	-	-	-	**(147)**
Costs of hedging	-	-	-	-	-	**(41)**	-	-	-	**(41)**
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	**-**	**-**	**-**	**25**	**(338)**	**(29)**	**(17)**	**-**	**4,830**	**4,471**
Transactions with equity holder										
Issue of ordinary shares *(note 27(a))*	**206**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**206**
Dividend paid in respect of the previous year *(note 11)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**(3,271)**	**(3,271)**
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year *(note 11)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**(2,337)**	**(2,337)**
Total transactions with equity holder	**206**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(5,608)**	**(5,402)**
As at 31 December 2023	**24,987**	**28**	**(695)**	**87**	**(219)**	**(145)**	**(17)**	**124**	**1,890**	**26,040**

29 DEFERRED INCOME TAX

As at 31 December 2023, deferred income tax liabilities/(assets) represent:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Deferred income tax assets	(968)	**(895)**
Deferred income tax liabilities	5,048	**5,498**
	4,080	**4,603**

a. Movements in deferred income tax liabilities/(assets) were as follows:

		2022		
In HK$ million	Accelerated tax depreciation and amortisation	Tax losses	Others	Total
Beginning of year	4,790	(871)	(3)	3,916
Charged/(Credited) to the consolidated income statement *(note 10(a))*	461	(299)	1	163
Exchange differences	1	-	-	1
End of year	5,252	(1,170)	(2)	4,080

		2023		
In HK$ million	**Accelerated tax depreciation and amortisation**	**Tax losses**	**Others**	**Total**
Beginning of year	**5,252**	**(1,170)**	**(2)**	**4,080**
Charged to the consolidated income statement *(note 10(a))*	**457**	**67**	**-**	**524**
Exchange differences	**(1)**	**-**	**-**	**(1)**
End of year	**5,708**	**(1,103)**	**(2)**	**4,603**

b. Deferred income tax assets are recognised for tax losses carry-forward to the extent that realisation of the related tax benefit through utilisation against future taxable profits is probable. As at 31 December 2023, the Group had unutilised estimated tax losses for which no deferred income tax assets have been recognised of HK$3,433 million (2022: HK$3,003 million) to carry forward for deduction against future taxable income. Estimated tax losses of HK$268 million (2022: HK$246 million) and HK$2 million (2022: HK$5 million) will expire within 1 to 5 years and after 5 years from 31 December 2023 respectively. The remaining portion of the tax losses, mainly relating to Hong Kong companies, can be carried forward indefinitely.

30 CARRIER LICENCE FEE LIABILITIES

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had carrier licence fee liabilities payable as follows:

	2022			**2023**		
In HK$ million	Present value of the minimum annual fees	Interest expense relating to future periods	Total minimum annual fees	**Present value of the minimum annual fees**	**Interest expense relating to future periods**	**Total minimum annual fees**
Payable within a period						
- not exceeding one year	331	5	336	**338**	**5**	**343**
- over one year, but not exceeding two years	329	14	343	**286**	**11**	**297**
- over two years, but not exceeding five years	836	76	912	**857**	**77**	**934**
- over five years	2,175	537	2,712	**1,943**	**449**	**2,392**
	3,671	632	4,303	**3,424**	**542**	**3,966**
Less: amounts payable within one year classified as current liabilities	(331)	(5)	(336)	**(338)**	**(5)**	**(343)**
Non-current portion	3,340	627	3,967	**3,086**	**537**	**3,623**

31 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

a. Reconciliation of profit before income tax to net cash generated from operating activities

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Profit before income tax	5,494	**5,318**
Adjustments for:		
Other losses/(gains), net	9	**(14)**
Finance costs, net	1,660	**2,328**
Losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets, net	3	**2**
Provision for/(Write-back of provision for) inventory obsolescence, net	23	**(3)**
Impairment loss for trade receivables	130	**188**
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	1,240	**1,301**
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	1,380	**1,333**
Amortisation of land lease premium – interests in leasehold land	12	**12**
Amortisation of intangible assets	1,652	**1,419**
Amortisation of fulfilment costs	421	**386**
Amortisation of customer acquisition costs	1,102	**1,201**
Share of results of associates	106	**108**
Share of results of joint ventures	19	**16**
Share-based compensation expenses	30	**31**
Increase in PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units under share award schemes	(52)	**(8)**
(Increase)/Decrease in operating assets		
- inventories	(412)	**439**
- trade receivables, prepayments, deposits and other current assets	(289)	**147**
- contract assets	26	**60**
- amounts due from related companies	(12)	**3**
- restricted cash	(188)	**164**
- fulfilment costs	(567)	**(653)**
- customer acquisition costs	(1,057)	**(1,223)**
- other non-current assets	251	**13**
Increase/(Decrease) in operating liabilities		
- trade payables	250	**281**
- accruals and other payables	1,040	**728**
- amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	(1,224)	**(2,131)**
- amount due to a related company	-	**1**
- advances from customers	16	**(7)**
- contract liabilities	(231)	**(11)**
- other long-term liabilities	(13)	**(2)**
CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATIONS	10,819	**11,427**
Interest received	18	**41**
Income tax paid, net of tax refund		
- Hong Kong profits tax paid *	(73)	**(277)**
- overseas profits tax paid	(18)	**(18)**
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	10,746	**11,173**

* As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, the Hong Kong profits tax assessments and/or the current income tax liabilities of certain subsidiaries of the Group had not been received or not yet due, such that any corresponding tax charge settlement would be deferred to upcoming financial years.

31 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Movements of financial (assets)/liabilities arising from financing activities

Movements of financial (assets)/liabilities arising from financing activities are as follows:

	2022							
In HK$ million	Prepaid finance costs (included in prepayments, deposits and other current assets)	Interest payable (included in accruals and other payables)	Borrowings	Derivative financial instruments, net	Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	Amount due to a related company	Lease liabilities	Total
As at 1 January 2022	(9)	211	43,689	(3)	6,428	65	2,185	52,566
Cash flows in financing activities								
New borrowings raised	(27)	7	22,823	-	-	-	-	22,803
Finance costs (paid)/received	-	(1,087)	-	188	-	-	-	(899)
Repayments of borrowings	-	-	(22,502)	-	-	-	-	(22,502)
Payment for lease liabilities (including interest)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,389)	(1,389)
Movement in amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	-	-	-	-	1,199	-	-	1,199
Movement in amount due to a related company	-	-	-	-	-	(7)	-	(7)
Cash flows in investing activities								
Loan repayment in relation to licence fee *(note 33(b)(i))*	-	-	(130)	-	-	-	-	(130)
Other changes (including non-cash movements)	19	1,899	(42)	51	(1,129)	(4)	1,178	1,972
As at 31 December 2022	(17)	1,030	43,838	236	6,498	54	1,974	53,613

31 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Movements of financial (assets)/liabilities arising from financing activities *(continued)*

Movements of financial (assets)/liabilities arising from financing activities are as follows: *(continued)*

	2023							
In HK$ million	**Prepaid finance costs (included in prepayments, deposits and other current assets)**	**Interest payable (included in accruals and other payables)**	**Borrowings**	**Derivative financial instruments, net**	**Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company**	**Amounts due to related companies**	**Lease liabilities**	**Total**
As at 1 January 2023	**(17)**	**1,030**	**43,838**	**236**	**6,498**	**54**	**1,974**	**53,613**
Cash flows in financing activities								
New borrowings raised	**(14)**	**5**	**22,992**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**22,983**
Finance costs (paid)/received	**-**	**(1,885)**	**-**	**288**	**-**	**(2)**	**-**	**(1,599)**
Repayments of borrowings	**-**	**-**	**(23,040)**	**46**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(22,994)**
Payment for lease liabilities (including interest)	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(1,430)**	**(1,430)**
Movement in amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,106**	**-**	**-**	**2,106**
Movement in amount due to a related company	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**29**	**-**	**29**
Cash flows in investing activities								
Loan repayment in relation to licence fee *(note 33(b)(i))*	**-**	**-**	**(130)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(130)**
Other changes (including non-cash movements)	**6**	**1,208**	**907**	**154**	**(1,937)**	**3**	**1,505**	**1,846**
As at 31 December 2023	**(25)**	**358**	**44,567**	**724**	**6,667**	**84**	**2,049**	**54,424**

31 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Total cash and bank balances	2,487	**1,920**
Less: restricted cash	(375)	**(211)**
Less: short-term deposits	(116)	**(79)**
Cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December	1,996	**1,630**

32 CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The Group's primary objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can continue to provide returns for equity holder of the Group and benefits for other stakeholders to support the Group's stability and growth; and to earn a margin commensurate with the level of business and market risks in the Group's operation.

The Group monitors capital by reviewing the level of capital that is at the disposal of the Group ("Adjusted Capital"), taking into consideration the future capital requirements of the Group, prevailing and projected profitability, projected operating cash flows, projected capital expenditures and projected strategic investment opportunities. Adjusted Capital comprises all components of equity.

The Group is not subject to externally imposed capital requirements, except for the debt covenant requirement of loan agreements with external parties and the minimum capital requirement of a subsidiary regulated by the Bermuda Monetary Authority. A subsidiary of the Group also has a minimum capital requirement as a condition for a stored value facilities licence granted by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority.

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The tables below analyse financial instruments by category:

	2022				
In HK$ million	Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial assets at FVOCI	Financial assets at FVPL	Derivatives used for hedging	Total
Non-current assets					
Financial assets at FVOCI	-	147	-	-	147
Financial assets at FVPL	-	-	75	-	75
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	-	27	27
Other non-current assets (excluding prepayments)	120	-	-	-	120
	120	147	75	27	369
Current assets					
Prepayments, deposits and other current assets (excluding prepayments)	2,081	-	-	-	2,081
Trade receivables, net	3,254	-	-	-	3,254
Amounts due from related companies	25	-	-	-	25
Financial assets at FVPL	-	-	26	-	26
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	-	58	58
Restricted cash	375	-	-	-	375
Short-term deposits	116	-	-	-	116
Cash and cash equivalents	1,996	-	-	-	1,996
	7,847	-	26	58	7,931
Total	7,967	147	101	85	8,300

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

The tables below analyse financial instruments by category: *(continued)*

In HK$ million	2022 Derivatives used for hedging	Other financial liabilities at amortised cost	Total
Current liabilities			
Short-term borrowings	-	(3,950)	(3,950)
Trade payables	-	(5,500)	(5,500)
Accruals and other payables	-	(5,957)	(5,957)
Derivative financial instrument	(98)	-	(98)
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	(331)	(331)
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	-	(6,498)	(6,498)
Amount due to a related company	-	(54)	(54)
Advances from customers	-	(286)	(286)
Lease liabilities	-	(1,049)	(1,049)
	(98)	(23,625)	(23,723)
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	-	(39,888)	(39,888)
Derivative financial instruments*	(223)	-	(223)
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	(3,340)	(3,340)
Lease liabilities	-	(925)	(925)
Other long-term liabilities	-	(1,692)	(1,692)
	(223)	(45,845)	(46,068)
Total	(321)	(69,470)	(69,791)

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

The tables below analyse financial instruments by category: *(continued)*

In HK$ million	Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial assets at FVOCI	Financial assets at FVPL	Derivatives used for hedging	Total
	2023				
Non-current assets					
Financial assets at FVOCI	**-**	**130**	**-**	**-**	**130**
Financial assets at FVPL	**-**	**-**	**59**	**-**	**59**
Derivative financial instruments	**-**	**-**	**-**	**29**	**29**
Other non-current assets (excluding prepayments)	**120**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**120**
	120	**130**	**59**	**29**	**338**
Current assets					
Prepayments, deposits and other current assets (excluding prepayments)	**2,368**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,368**
Trade receivables, net	**2,838**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,838**
Amounts due from related companies	**22**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**22**
Financial assets at FVPL	**-**	**-**	**28**	**-**	**28**
Restricted cash	**211**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**211**
Short-term deposits	**79**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**79**
Cash and cash equivalents	**1,630**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,630**
	7,148	**-**	**28**	**-**	**7,176**
Total	**7,268**	**130**	**87**	**29**	**7,514**

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

The tables below analyse financial instruments by category: *(continued)*

In HK$ million	**2023** **Derivatives used for hedging**	**Other financial liabilities at amortised cost**	**Total**
Current liabilities			
Short-term borrowings	**-**	**(1,049)**	**(1,049)**
Trade payables	**-**	**(5,781)**	**(5,781)**
Accruals and other payables	**-**	**(5,984)**	**(5,984)**
Derivative financial instrument	**(151)**	**-**	**(151)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	**-**	**(338)**	**(338)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	**-**	**(6,667)**	**(6,667)**
Amounts due to related companies	**-**	**(84)**	**(84)**
Advances from customers	**-**	**(279)**	**(279)**
Lease liabilities	**-**	**(1,070)**	**(1,070)**
	(151)	**(21,252)**	**(21,403)**
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	**-**	**(43,518)**	**(43,518)**
Derivative financial instruments*	**(602)**	**-**	**(602)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	**-**	**(3,086)**	**(3,086)**
Lease liabilities	**-**	**(979)**	**(979)**
Other long-term liabilities	**-**	**(1,935)**	**(1,935)**
	(602)	**(49,518)**	**(50,120)**
Total	**(753)**	**(70,770)**	**(71,523)**

* As at 31 December 2023, derivative financial instruments classified as non-current liabilities of HK$34 million (2022: HK$29 million) related to foreign exchange forward contracts with an aggregate notional contract amount of US$470 million (approximately HK$3,686 million) (2022: US$470 million (approximately HK$3,686 million)) were designated as cash flow hedges of US$300 million zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030. The US$300 million guaranteed notes may be redeemed at the option of the Group on 15 January 2025 at an early redemption amount of US$470 million (2022: US$470 million). Refer to notes 24(a) and 25(a) for details of the guaranteed notes and the foreign exchange forward contracts respectively.

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

Exposure to credit, liquidity and market risk (including foreign currency risk and interest rate risk) arises in the normal course of the Group's business. The Group is also exposed to equity price risk arising from its equity investments in other entities. Exposure to these risks is controlled by the Group's financial management policies and practices described below.

a. Credit risk

The Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to cash and cash equivalents, short-term deposits, restricted cash, trade receivables, contract assets, amounts due from related companies, investments in debt instruments, derivative financial instruments, deposits and other receivables. Management has policies in place and exposure to these credit risks is monitored on an ongoing basis.

The Group's normal credit period for customers is ranging up to 30 days from the date of invoice unless there is a separate mutual agreement on extension of the credit period. The Group maintains a well-defined credit policy and individual credit evaluations are performed on all customers requiring credit over a certain amount. These evaluations focus on the customer's past history of making payments when due and current ability to pay, and take into account information specific to the customer as well as pertaining to the economic environment in which the customer operates. Debtors who have overdue balances are requested to settle all outstanding balances before any further credit is granted. Normally, the Group does not obtain collateral from customers. As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, the Group did not have a significant exposure to any individual debtors or counterparties.

Further quantitative disclosures in respect of the Group's exposure to credit risk arising from trade receivables are set out in note 23(c).

The overall impact of impairment of the contract assets on these consolidated financial statements is considered by management. Management considered the lifetime expected losses with respect to these contract assets were minimal as at 31 December 2022 and 2023 and the Group made no write-off or provision for these contract assets during the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

Investments in debt instruments, amounts due from related companies, deposits and other receivables are considered to have low credit risk. These assets are continuously monitored by assessing the credit quality of the counterparty, taking into account its financial position, past experience and other factors. Where necessary, provision for impairment loss is made for estimated irrecoverable amounts. As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, investments in debt instruments, amounts due from related companies, deposits and other receivables were fully performing.

Derivative financial instruments, restricted cash, short-term deposits and cash and cash equivalents are considered to have low credit risk. These assets are executed with creditworthy financial institutions or investment counterparties and the Group does not expect any significant counterparty risk. Moreover, credit limits are set for individual counterparties and periodic reviews are conducted to ensure that the limits are strictly followed.

The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each financial asset, including derivative financial instruments, in the consolidated statement of financial position. Except for the guarantees given by the Group as disclosed in note 35, the Group does not provide any other guarantees which would expose the Group to credit risk.

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Liquidity risk

The Group's policy is to regularly monitor current and expected liquidity requirements and its compliance with debt covenants, to ensure that it maintains sufficient reserves of cash and adequate lines of funding from major financial institutions to meet its liquidity requirements in the short and longer term. Management believes there is no significant liquidity risk as the Group has sufficient cash and banking facilities to fund its operations and debt servicing requirements.

The Group is subject to certain corporate guarantee obligations to guarantee performance of its subsidiaries in the normal course of thier businesses. Refer to note 35 for details.

The following tables detail the remaining contractual maturities at the end of the reporting periods of the Group's non-derivative financial liabilities and derivative financial liabilities, which are based on contractual undiscounted cash flows (including interest payments computed using contractual rates or, if floating, based on rates current at the end of the reporting period) and the earliest date the Group can be required to pay:

	2022					
In HK$ million	Within 1 year or on demand	More than 1 year but within 2 years	More than 2 years but within 5 years	More than 5 years	Total contractual undiscounted cash outflow	Carrying amount
Current liabilities						
Short-term borrowings	(3,956)	-	-	-	(3,956)	(3,950)
Trade payables	(5,500)	-	-	-	(5,500)	(5,500)
Accruals and other payables *(note (iv))*	(5,997)	-	-	-	(5,997)	(5,957)
Derivative financial instrument *(note (ii))*	(100)	-	-	-	(100)	(98)
Carrier licence fee liabilities	(336)	-	-	-	(336)	(331)
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	(6,702)	-	-	-	(6,702)	(6,498)
Amount due to a related company	(54)	-	-	-	(54)	(54)
Advances from customers	(286)	-	-	-	(286)	(286)
Lease liabilities	(1,106)	-	-	-	(1,106)	(1,049)
	(24,037)	-	-	-	(24,037)	(23,723)
Non-current liabilities						
Long-term borrowings *(note (i))*	(1,531)	(4,786)	(27,826)	(12,146)	(46,289)	(39,888)
Derivative financial instruments	36	(37)	(105)	(140)	(246)	(223)
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	(343)	(912)	(2,712)	(3,967)	(3,340)
Lease liabilities	-	(603)	(340)	(3)	(946)	(925)
Other long-term liabilities *(note (iii))*	-	(35)	(1,000)	(2,332)	(3,367)	(1,692)
	(1,495)	(5,804)	(30,183)	(17,333)	(54,815)	(46,068)
Total	(25,532)	(5,804)	(30,183)	(17,333)	(78,852)	(69,791)

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*
b. Liquidity risk *(continued)*

In HK$ million	2023 Within 1 year or on demand	More than 1 year but within 2 years	More than 2 years but within 5 years	More than 5 years	Total contractual undiscounted cash outflow	Carrying amount
Current liabilities						
Short-term borrowings	**(1,071)**	-	-	-	**(1,071)**	**(1,049)**
Trade payables	**(5,781)**	-	-	-	**(5,781)**	**(5,781)**
Accruals and other payables	**(5,984)**	-	-	-	**(5,984)**	**(5,984)**
Derivative financial instrument *(note (ii))*	**(153)**	-	-	-	**(153)**	**(151)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	**(343)**	-	-	-	**(343)**	**(338)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and the immediate holding company	**(6,896)**	-	-	-	**(6,896)**	**(6,667)**
Amounts due to related companies	**(84)**	-	-	-	**(84)**	**(84)**
Advances from customers	**(279)**	-	-	-	**(279)**	**(279)**
Lease liabilities	**(1,145)**	-	-	-	**(1,145)**	**(1,070)**
	(21,736)	-	-	-	**(21,736)**	**(21,403)**
Non-current liabilities						
Long-term borrowings *(note (i))*	**(1,904)**	**(8,717)**	**(28,018)**	**(11,884)**	**(50,523)**	**(43,518)**
Derivative financial instruments	**63**	**(84)**	**(209)**	**(470)**	**(700)**	**(602)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	**(297)**	**(934)**	**(2,392)**	**(3,623)**	**(3,086)**
Lease liabilities	-	**(636)**	**(349)**	**(60)**	**(1,045)**	**(979)**
Other long-term liabilities *(note (iii))*	-	**(89)**	**(950)**	**(2,335)**	**(3,374)**	**(1,935)**
	(1,841)	**(9,823)**	**(30,460)**	**(17,141)**	**(59,265)**	**(50,120)**
Total	**(23,577)**	**(9,823)**	**(30,460)**	**(17,141)**	**(81,001)**	**(71,523)**

Notes:

(i) As at 31 December 2023, bank borrowings of HK$1,040 million (2022: HK$1,170 million) included in long-term borrowings were outstanding for financing a 15-year 3G spectrum utilisation fee paid upfront by the Group.

(ii) As at 31 December 2023, derivative financial instrument included HK$153 million (2022: HK$107 million) of short-term interest payable, which related to interest drawn under an arrangement with a bank to receive agreed amounts by instalments to settle interest payments of a floating-to-fixed interest rate swap contract with a notional contract amount of HK$1,000 million (2022: HK$1,000 million).

(iii) As at 31 December 2023, other long-term liabilities included HK$618 million (2022: HK$535 million) of long-term interest payable, which related to interest drawn under an arrangement with a bank to receive agreed amounts by instalments to settle interest payments of a fixed-to-fixed cross currency swap contract with a notional contract amount of EUR200 million (approximately HK$1,665 million) (2022: EUR200 million (approximately HK$1,665 million)). Refer to notes 24(c) and 25(a) for details of the guaranteed notes and the derivative financial instruments respectively.

(iv) As at 31 December 2022, accruals and other payables included HK$715 million of short-term interest payable, which related to interest drawn under the arrangements with banks to receive agreed amounts by instalments to settle interest payments of fixed-to-fixed cross currency swap contracts with an aggregate notional contract amount of US$500 million (approximately HK$3,879 million). Refer to notes 23(e)(i) and 25(a) for details of the guaranteed notes and the derivative financial instruments respectively.

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Market risk

Market risk comprises foreign currency, interest rate and equity price exposure deriving from the Group's operation, investment and funding activities. As a matter of policy, the Group enters into cross currency swap contracts, interest rate swap contracts, foreign exchange forward contracts and other financial instruments to manage its exposure to market risk directly related to its operations and financing. The Group does not undertake any speculative trading activities in connection with these financial instruments or enter into or acquire high market risk instruments for trading purposes.

The Finance and Management Committee, a sub-committee of the Executive Committee of the board of directors of HKT, determines the appropriate risk management activities with the aim of prudently managing the market risk associated with transactions undertaken in the normal course of the Group's business.

All treasury risk management activities are carried out in accordance with policies and guidelines approved by the Finance and Management Committee, which are reviewed on a regular basis. Early termination and amendments to the terms of the transaction would typically occur when there are changes in the underlying assets or liabilities or in the risk management strategy of the Group.

In the normal course of business, the Group uses the above-mentioned financial instruments to limit its exposure to adverse fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and interest rates. These instruments are executed with creditworthy financial institutions and all contracts are denominated in major currencies.

i. Foreign currency risk

The Group operates internationally and is exposed to foreign currency risk arising from various currency exposure. Foreign currency risk arises when the Group's recognised assets and liabilities are denominated in a currency that is not the functional currency of the relevant group entity.

The Group's borrowings are substantially denominated in Hong Kong dollars, United States dollars and Euro. As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, all of the Group's borrowings denominated in United States dollars/Euro were swapped into Hong Kong dollars by cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts. Given this, management does not expect that there will be any significant foreign currency risk associated with the Group's borrowings. The cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts outstanding as at 31 December 2023 with an aggregate notional contract amount of US$2,870 million (approximately HK$22,400 million) (2022: US$3,370 million (approximately HK$26,279 million)) and EUR200 million (approximately HK$1,665 million) (2022: EUR200 million (approximately HK$1,665 million)) were designated or redesignated as cash flow hedges against foreign currency risk.

In respect of trade receivables and payables held in currencies other than the functional currency of the operations to which they relate, the Group ensures that the net exposure is kept to an acceptable level by buying or selling foreign currencies at spot or forward rates where necessary to address short-term imbalances.

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Market risk *(continued)*

i. Foreign currency risk *(continued)*

The following table details the Group's exposure at the end of the reporting period to currency risk arising from significant monetary assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies:

In HK$ million	2022 United States Dollars	2022 Euro	**2023 United States Dollars**	**2023 Euro**
Trade receivables	1,242	36	**1,168**	**40**
Short-term deposits	-	-	**70**	**-**
Cash and cash equivalents	410	63	**289**	**39**
Short-term borrowings	(3,894)	-	**-**	**-**
Trade payables	(3,029)	(36)	**(2,529)**	**(53)**
Advances from customers	(16)	(1)	**(16)**	**(1)**
Lease liabilities	(57)	(9)	**(52)**	**(8)**
Long-term borrowings	(20,899)	(1,646)	**(20,923)**	**(1,718)**
Gross exposure arising from net monetary liabilities	(26,243)	(1,593)	**(21,993)**	**(1,701)**
Net monetary (assets)/liabilities denominated in respective entities' functional currencies	(81)	(2)	**(69)**	**3**
Borrowings with hedging instruments	24,793	1,646	**20,923**	**1,718**
Overall net exposure	(1,531)	51	**(1,139)**	**20**

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Market risk *(continued)*

i. Foreign currency risk *(continued)*

As at 31 December 2023, if the Hong Kong dollar had weakened/strengthened by 1% (2022: same) against the United States dollar, with all other variables held constant, the profit after tax of the Group for the year would have decreased/increased by approximately HK$10 million (2022: HK$13 million), mainly as a result of foreign exchange losses/gains on translation of United States dollar denominated monetary assets and liabilities which are not hedged by hedging instruments. Meanwhile, the hedging reserve and costs of hedging reserve of the Group as at 31 December 2023 would have collectively debited/credited by approximately HK$209 million (2022: HK$248 million), mainly as a result of foreign exchange losses/gains on the borrowings being hedged by cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts.

As at 31 December 2023, if the Hong Kong dollar had weakened/strengthened by 5% (2022: same) against Euro, with all other variables held constant, the profit after tax of the Group for the year would have increased/decreased by approximately HK$1 million (2022: HK$2 million), mainly as a result of foreign exchange gains/losses on translation of Euro denominated monetary assets and liabilities which are not hedged by hedging instruments. Meanwhile, the hedging reserve and costs of hedging reserve of the Group as at 31 December 2023 would have collectively debited/credited by approximately HK$86 million (2022: HK$82 million), mainly as a result of foreign exchange losses/gains on the long-term borrowings being hedged by a cross currency swap contract.

The sensitivity analysis has been determined assuming that the change in foreign exchange rates occurred at the end of the reporting period and applied to the Group's exposure to currency risk for monetary assets and liabilities in existence at those dates, and that all other variables, in particular interest rates, remained constant.

The stated changes represent management's assessment of reasonably possible changes in foreign exchange rates over the period until the end of the next annual reporting period. In this respect, it is assumed that the pegged rate between the Hong Kong dollar and the United States dollar would be materially unaffected by any change in the movement in value of the United States dollar against other currencies. The analysis was performed on the same methodology for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

ii. Interest rate risk

Given the relatively insignificant amount of interest-bearing assets, the Group's income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates.

The Group's interest rate risk arises primarily from borrowings and interest-bearing amount due to the immediate holding company. Borrowings and balances with group companies at variable rates and fixed rates expose the Group to cash flow interest rate risk and fair value interest rate risk respectively. In addition, from time to time, the Group draws under its revolving credit facilities which are substantially denominated in Hong Kong dollars with floating rate interest.

The Group has entered into floating-to-fixed interest rate swap contracts to hedge the cash flow interest rate risk arising from certain floating rate borrowings.

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Market risk *(continued)*

ii. Interest rate risk *(continued)*

The following table details the interest rate profile of the Group's borrowings and interest-bearing amount due to the immediate holding company at the end of the reporting period, after taking into account the effect of the cash flow hedging instruments:

	2022		**2023**	
	Effective interest rate %	HK$ million	**Effective interest rate %**	**HK$ million**
Net fixed rate borrowings:				
Short-term bank borrowing with hedging instrument	-	-	**4.62**	**994**
Short-term borrowing with hedging instruments	4.53	3,894	**-**	**-**
Long-term bank borrowings with hedging instruments	2.71	997	**4.07**	**1,589**
Long-term borrowings with hedging instruments	3.32	22,545	**2.93**	**22,641**
Variable rate borrowings and amount due to the immediate holding company:				
Short-term bank borrowing	5.27	56	**5.07**	**55**
Long-term bank borrowings	3.14	16,346	**5.21**	**19,288**
Amount due to the immediate holding company	1.63	4,335	**4.51**	**4,290**
Total borrowings		48,173		**48,857**

As at 31 December 2023, if the interest rate on variable rate borrowings and amount due to the immediate holding company had increased/decreased by 75 basis points (2022: same), with all other variables held constant, the profit after tax of the Group for the year would have decreased/increased by approximately HK$149 million (2022: HK$131 million), mainly as a result of higher/lower interest expense on floating rate borrowings and amount due to the immediate holding company in existence at the end of the reporting period.

The sensitivity analysis has been determined assuming that the change in interest rate occurred at the end of the reporting period and applied to the Group's exposure to interest rate risk for floating rate borrowings and amount due to the immediate holding company in existence at those dates. The 75 basis points (2022: same) increase or decrease represents management's assessment of a reasonably possible change in interest rate over the period until the end of the next annual reporting period. The analysis was performed on the same methodology for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

iii. Equity price risk

The Group is exposed to equity price changes arising from equity investments. Other than unlisted equity securities held for strategic purposes, all of these investments are listed on a recognised stock exchange market.

Given the insignificant portfolio of listed equity securities held by the Group, management believes that the Group's equity price risk is minimal.

Performance of the Group's unlisted investments held for long-term strategic purposes is assessed at least semi-annually against the performance of the associated business as well as similar listed entities, based on the limited information available to the Group, together with an assessment of their relevance to the Group's long-term strategic plans.

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

d. Fair values of financial instruments measured at amortised cost

All financial instruments were carried at amounts not materially different from their fair values as at 31 December 2023 except as follows:

In HK$ million	2022 Carrying amount	2022 Fair value	**2023 Carrying amount**	**2023 Fair value**
Short-term borrowings	3,950	3,945	**1,049**	**1,049**
Long-term borrowings	39,888	37,741	**43,518**	**42,128**

The fair values of borrowings are the net present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the prevailing market rates. The fair values are within level 2 of the fair value hierarchy (as defined in note 33(e)).

e. Estimation of fair values

Financial instruments carried at fair value are analysed by valuation method and the different levels are defined as follows:

- Level 1: The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets (such as publicly traded derivatives and equity securities) is based on quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period. The quoted market price used for the financial assets held by the Group is the current bid price. These instruments are included in level 1.

- Level 2: The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (for example, over-the-counter derivatives) is determined using valuation techniques which maximise the use of observable market data and rely as little as possible on entity-specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in level 2.

- Level 3: If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the instrument is included in level 3. This is the case for unlisted securities.

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

e. Estimation of fair values *(continued)*

The following tables present the Group's financial assets and liabilities that were measured at fair value:

	As at 31 December 2022			
In HK$ million	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets				
Financial assets at FVOCI				
- Unlisted securities (non-current)	-	-	147	147
Financial assets at FVPL				
- Unlisted securities (non-current)	-	-	10	10
- Listed securities (non-current)	65	-	-	65
- Listed securities (current)	26	-	-	26
Derivative financial instruments				
- Non-current	-	27	-	27
- Current	-	58	-	58
Total assets	91	85	157	333
Liabilities				
Derivative financial instruments				
- Current	-	(98)	-	(98)
- Non-current	-	(223)	-	(223)
Total liabilities	-	(321)	-	(321)

	As at 31 December 2023			
In HK$ million	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
Assets				
Financial assets at FVOCI				
- Unlisted securities (non-current)	**-**	**-**	**130**	**130**
Financial assets at FVPL				
- Unlisted securities (non-current)	**-**	**-**	**10**	**10**
- Listed securities (non-current)	**49**	**-**	**-**	**49**
- Listed securities (current)	**28**	**-**	**-**	**28**
Derivative financial instruments				
- Non-current	**-**	**29**	**-**	**29**
Total assets	**77**	**29**	**140**	**246**
Liabilities				
Derivative financial instruments				
- Current	**-**	**(151)**	**-**	**(151)**
- Non-current	**-**	**(602)**	**-**	**(602)**
Total liabilities	**-**	**(753)**	**-**	**(753)**

33 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

e. Estimation of fair values *(continued)*

Instruments included in level 1 comprised PCCW Shares acquired or subscribed under PCCW Share Award Schemes and Share Stapled Units acquired or subscribed under Share Stapled Units Award Schemes and classified as financial assets at FVPL.

Instruments included in level 2 comprised cross currency swap contracts, interest rate swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts classified as derivative financial instruments. In measuring the swap transactions, the fair value is the net present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the market quoted swap foreign exchange rates and interest rates. The fair value of the foreign exchange forward contracts is calculated based on the prevailing market foreign exchange rates quoted for contracts with the same notional amounts adjusted for maturity differences.

Instruments included in level 3 comprised investments in unlisted instruments classified as financial assets at FVOCI or financial assets at FVPL. During the year ended 31 December 2023, there was no movement in the unlisted instruments classified as financial assets at FVPL included in level 3 (2022: a disposal of HK$23 million) and except for a change in fair value of HK$17 million, there was no movement in the unlisted instruments classified as financial assets at FVOCI included in level 3 (2022: an addition of HK$23 million).

For unlisted securities or financial assets without an active market, the Group establishes the fair value by using valuation techniques including the use of recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, and discounted cash flow analysis, making maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on entity-specific inputs.

There were no transfers of financial assets and liabilities between fair value hierarchy classifications during the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

There were no material changes in valuation techniques during the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

f. Group's valuation process

The Group performs and monitors the valuations of financial instruments required for financial reporting purposes, including level 3 fair values. Material movements in valuations are reported to senior management immediately. Valuation results are reviewed by senior management at least on a semi-annual basis.

34 COMMITMENTS

a. Capital

As at 31 December 2023, capital commitments authorised and contracted for by nature were as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	1,273	**1,632**

34 COMMITMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Committed leases not yet commenced

As at 31 December 2023, the total future lease payments for leases committed but not yet commenced were payable as follows:

Land and buildings

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Within 1 year	13	**8**
After 1 year but within 5 years	14	**10**
	27	**18**

Network capacity and equipment

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Within 1 year	9	**7**
After 1 year but within 5 years	48	**16**
	57	**23**

c. Others

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had other outstanding commitments as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Purchase of rights to broadcast certain TV content	1,275	**833**
Operating expenditure commitments	507	**506**
	1,782	**1,339**

d. Lease receivables

As at 31 December 2023, the maturity analysis of the total future minimum lease receipts under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Within 1 year	39	**36**
After 1 year but within 2 years	29	**22**
After 2 years but within 3 years	17	**15**
After 3 years but within 4 years	12	**7**
After 4 years but within 5 years	7	**-**
	104	**80**

The Group leases out properties under operating leases. The majority of the leases typically run for periods of 1 to 5 years (2022: 1 to 5 years). None of the leases include material contingent rentals.

35 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Performance guarantees	1,053	**1,027**
Others	6	**2**
	1,059	**1,029**

The Group is subject to certain corporate guarantee obligations to guarantee the performance of its subsidiaries in the normal course of their businesses. The amount of liabilities arising from such obligations, if any, cannot be ascertained but the directors are of the opinion that any resulting liability will not materially affect the financial position of the Group.

36 BANKING FACILITIES

Aggregate banking facilities as at 31 December 2023 was HK$34,812 million (2022: HK$32,013 million) of which the undrawn facilities amounted to HK$12,733 million (2022: HK$14,459 million).

Majority of the Group's banking facilities are subject to the fulfilment of covenants relating to certain of the Group's consolidated statement of financial position ratios, as are commonly found in lending arrangements with financial institutions. If the Group was to breach the covenants, the drawn down facilities would become payable on demand and the undrawn facilities would be cancelled. The Group regularly monitors its compliance with these covenants. As at 31 December 2023, the Group was in compliance with the covenants relating to the banking facilities. Further details of the Group's management of liquidity risk are set out in note 33(b).

Summaries of short-term and long-term borrowings are set out in notes 23(e) and 24 respectively.

37 POSSIBLE IMPACT OF NEW AND AMENDED STANDARDS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE FOR THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTING PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Up to the date of approval of these consolidated financial statements, the HKICPA has issued the following new and amended Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards which are not yet effective for the accounting period ended 31 December 2023 and which have not been early adopted in these consolidated financial statements:

		Effective for accounting periods beginning on or after
HKAS 1 (Revised) (Amendments)	Presentation of Financial Statements	1 January 2024
HKAS 7 (Amendments)	Statement of Cash Flows	1 January 2024
HKAS 21 (Amendments)	The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates	1 January 2025
HKAS 28 (2011) (Amendments)	Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures	To be announced
HKFRS 7 (Amendments)	Financial Instruments: Disclosures	1 January 2024
HKFRS 10 (Amendments)	Consolidated Financial Statements	To be announced
HKFRS 16 (Amendments)	Leases	1 January 2024
HK Interpretation 5 (Revised)	Presentation of Financial Statements – Classification by the Borrower of a Term Loan that Contains a Repayment on Demand Clause	1 January 2024

Apart from the above, a number of improvements and minor amendments to Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards have also been issued by the HKICPA but they are not yet effective for the accounting period ended 31 December 2023 and have not been early adopted in these consolidated financial statements.

None of the above is expected to have a significant effect on the result of operation and financial position of the Group.

HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

羅兵咸永道

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED
(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

Opinion

What we have audited

The consolidated financial statements of Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (together the "Group"), which are set out on pages 3 to 78, comprise:

- the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023;
- the consolidated income statement for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of changes in equity for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the consolidated financial statements, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

Our opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2023, and of its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA").

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing ("HKSAs") issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the HKICPA's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the "Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Consolidated Financial Statements

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT *(CONTINUED)*

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED *(CONTINUED)*
(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. We report our opinion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with our agreed terms of engagement and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with HKSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with HKSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Certified Public Accountants

Hong Kong, 12 April 2024

HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note	2022	**2023**
Revenue	5	14,999	**16,526**
Cost of sales	6(a)	(5,235)	**(6,032)**
General and administrative expenses	6(b)	(4,756)	**(4,051)**
Other gains, net		-	**3**
Finance costs, net	7	(1,629)	**(2,316)**
Share of result of a joint venture		(6)	**(5)**
Profit before income tax	6	3,373	**4,125**
Income tax	9	(515)	**(86)**
Profit for the year		2,858	**4,039**
Profit attributable to:			
Equity holder of the Company		2,851	**4,034**
Non-controlling interests		7	**5**
Profit for the year		2,858	**4,039**

The notes on pages 10 to 78 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Profit for the year	2,858	**4,039**
Other comprehensive (loss)/income		
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:		
Exchange differences on translating foreign operations of subsidiaries	(2)	**-**
Cash flow hedges:		
- effective portion of changes in fair value	(46)	**(179)**
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	101	**(147)**
Costs of hedging	(114)	**(41)**
Other comprehensive loss for the year	(61)	**(367)**
Total comprehensive income for the year	2,797	**3,672**
Attributable to:		
Equity holder of the Company	2,790	**3,667**
Non-controlling interests	7	**5**
Total comprehensive income for the year	2,797	**3,672**

The notes on pages 10 to 78 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		2022		
In HK$ million	Note	Attributable to equity holder of the Company	Non-controlling interests	Total equity
As at 1 January 2022		11,613	3	11,616
Total comprehensive income for the year				
Profit for the year		2,851	7	2,858
Other comprehensive (loss)/income				
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:				
Exchange differences on translating foreign operations of subsidiaries		(2)	-	(2)
Cash flow hedges:				
- effective portion of changes in fair value	22(c)	(46)	-	(46)
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	22(c)	101	-	101
Costs of hedging	22(c)	(114)	-	(114)
Other comprehensive loss		(61)	-	(61)
Total comprehensive income for the year		2,790	7	2,797
Transactions with equity holder				
Final dividend paid in respect of the previous year	10	(2,050)	-	(2,050)
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year	10	(1,265)	-	(1,265)
Total transactions with equity holder		(3,315)	-	(3,315)
As at 31 December 2022		11,088	10	11,098

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY *(CONTINUED)*
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note	2023 Attributable to equity holder of the Company	Non-controlling interests	Total equity
As at 1 January 2023		**11,088**	**10**	**11,098**
Total comprehensive income for the year				
Profit for the year		**4,034**	**5**	**4,039**
Other comprehensive loss				
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:				
Cash flow hedges:				
- effective portion of changes in fair value	22(c)	**(179)**	**-**	**(179)**
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	22(c)	**(147)**	**-**	**(147)**
Costs of hedging	22(c)	**(41)**	**-**	**(41)**
Other comprehensive loss		**(367)**	**-**	**(367)**
Total comprehensive income for the year		**3,667**	**5**	**3,672**
Transactions with equity holder				
Final dividend paid in respect of the previous year	10	**(1,565)**	**-**	**(1,565)**
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year	10	**(1,615)**	**-**	**(1,615)**
Total transactions with equity holder		**(3,180)**	**-**	**(3,180)**
As at 31 December 2023		**11,575**	**15**	**11,590**

The notes on pages 10 to 78 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note(s)	2022	**2023**
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	11	23,264	**24,332**
Right-of-use assets	12	949	**1,201**
Interests in leasehold land	13	177	**165**
Goodwill	14	32,630	**32,630**
Intangible assets	15	14,783	**15,912**
Fulfilment costs		1,607	**1,874**
Customer acquisition costs		315	**312**
Contract assets		59	**50**
Interest in a joint venture	16	137	**93**
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	17	16	**16**
Derivative financial instruments	22	27	**29**
Other non-current assets	19	52	**46**
		74,016	**76,660**
Current assets			
Inventories	20(a)	1,010	**623**
Prepayments, deposits and other current assets	20(b)	1,672	**1,865**
Contract assets		297	**219**
Trade receivables, net	20(c)	1,032	**527**
Amounts due from related companies	4(c)	21	**18**
Amounts due from fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company, intermediate holding companies and the ultimate holding company	4(c), 4(d)	15,277	**4,582**
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	17	13	**13**
Derivative financial instruments	22	58	**-**
Restricted cash	20(d)	19	**1**
Short-term deposits		116	**79**
Cash and cash equivalents	28(c)	821	**742**
		20,336	**8,669**

HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION *(CONTINUED)*
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note(s)	2022	**2023**
Current liabilities			
Short-term borrowing	20(e)	(3,894)	**(994)**
Trade payables		(4,187)	**(4,562)**
Accruals and other payables		(3,751)	**(3,876)**
Derivative financial instrument	22	(98)	**(151)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	27	(331)	**(338)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and intermediate holding companies	4(c), 4(d)	(18,987)	**(7,536)**
Amount due to a related company	4(c)	-	**(1)**
Advances from customers		(107)	**(91)**
Contract liabilities		(644)	**(567)**
Lease liabilities		(614)	**(662)**
Current income tax liabilities		(362)	**(11)**
		(32,975)	**(18,789)**
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	21	(39,888)	**(43,518)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	4(c)	(34)	**(62)**
Derivative financial instruments	22	(223)	**(602)**
Deferred income tax liabilities	26	(4,787)	**(5,252)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	27	(3,340)	**(3,086)**
Contract liabilities		(13)	**(7)**
Lease liabilities		(393)	**(576)**
Other long-term liabilities		(1,601)	**(1,847)**
		(50,279)	**(54,950)**
Net assets		11,098	**11,590**
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Share capital	24	9,945	**9,945**
Reserves	25	1,143	**1,630**
Equity attributable to equity holder of the Company		11,088	**11,575**
Non-controlling interests	18(b)	10	**15**
Total equity		11,098	**11,590**

Approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors of the Company (the "Board") on 12 April 2024 and signed on behalf of the Board by

Hui Hon Hing, Susanna
Director

Poon Chi Ho
Director

The notes on pages 10 to 78 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS (HKT) LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

In HK$ million	Note	2022	**2023**
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	28(a)	7,109	**7,958**
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		4	**6**
Purchases of property, plant and equipment		(1,675)	**(1,743)**
Additions of intangible assets		(2,514)	**(2,701)**
Loans to a joint venture		(46)	**(63)**
Decrease in short-term deposits with maturity more than three months		356	**37**
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(3,875)	**(4,464)**
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
New borrowings raised	28(b)	22,691	**22,951**
Finance costs paid	28(b)	(899)	**(1,592)**
Repayments of borrowings	28(b)	(22,390)	**(22,962)**
Payment for lease liabilities (including interest)	28(b)	(799)	**(889)**
Movement in balances with fellow subsidiaries and an intermediate holding company	28(b)	1,234	**2,097**
Dividends paid to equity holder of the Company	10	(3,315)	**(3,180)**
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES		(3,478)	**(3,575)**
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		(244)	**(81)**
Exchange differences		20	**2**
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Beginning of year		1,045	**821**
End of year	28(c)	821	**742**

The notes on pages 10 to 78 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited (the "Company") is a limited liability company incorporated in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("Hong Kong"). The address of its registered office is 39th Floor, PCCW Tower, Taikoo Place, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong.

The Company is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of HKT (Hong Kong) Limited, which is a limited liability company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, and is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of HKT Limited ("HKT"), which is a limited liability company incorporated in the Cayman Islands with its share stapled units (the "Share Stapled Units") jointly issued with the HKT Trust listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"). The directors consider PCCW Limited ("PCCW"), a limited liability company incorporated in Hong Kong with its shares listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange and traded in the form of American Depositary Receipts on the OTC Markets Group Inc. in the United States, to be the ultimate holding company of the Company.

The principal activities of the Company and its subsidiaries (together the "Group") are the provision of telecommunications and related services which include local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting primarily in Hong Kong.

These financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars, unless otherwise stated.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Statement of compliance

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, which is a collective term for all individual Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs"), Hong Kong Accounting Standards ("HKASs") and Interpretations issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong. A summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Group is set out below.

b. Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The following amended Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards are adopted for the financial year beginning 1 January 2023, but have no material effect on the Group's reported results and financial position for the current and prior accounting periods.

- HKAS 1 (Revised) (Amendments), *Presentation of Financial Statements*
- HKAS 8 (Amendments), *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*
- HKAS 12 (Amendments), *Income Taxes*
- HKFRS 17 and HKFRS 17 (Amendments), *Insurance Contracts*

The Group has not early adopted any new or amended Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards that are not yet effective for the current accounting period, details of which are set out in note 34.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

b. Basis of preparation of the financial statements *(continued)*

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 have been prepared for refinancing purpose. The Company, as a holding company has applied Section 379(3) of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) to prepare company level financial statements as the Company's statutory financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023. Consequently, these consolidated financial statements and the comparatives do not constitute the Company's statutory financial statements for either of the years ended 31 December 2022 or 2023. Information relating to the Company's statutory financial statements required to be disclosed in accordance with Section 436 of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) is as follows:

As the Company is a private company, it is not required to deliver its financial statements to the Registrar of Companies, and has not done so.

The Company's auditor has reported on the company level financial statements for both years. The auditor's reports were unqualified; did not include a reference to any matters to which the auditor drew attention by way of emphasis without qualifying its reports; and did not contain a statement under Sections 406(2), 407(2) or (3) of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622).

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 comprise the financial statements of the Group, and the Group's interest in a joint venture.

The measurement basis used in the preparation of the financial statements is the historical cost basis, except that the following assets and liabilities are stated at fair value as explained in the accounting policies set out below:

- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (see note 2(m)); and
- derivative financial instruments (see note 2(o)).

As at 31 December 2023, the current liabilities of the Group exceeded its current assets by HK$10,120 million. Included in the current liabilities were (i) short-term borrowing of HK$994 million, which represented borrowing with maturity date falls due within the next 12-month period and the Group has arrangement to refinance this balance via long-term borrowing; and (ii) current portion of contract liabilities of HK$567 million recognised for which no direct cash settlement is required but will gradually reduce over the contract terms through the satisfaction of performance obligations. Also, considering the Group's ability to generate net operating cash inflows and raise additional debt financing, and the undrawn banking facilities totalling HK$12,733 million as at 31 December 2023, management considers the Group is able to meet its liabilities as and when they fall due within the next 12-month period. Accordingly, these consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of judgements about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements made by management in the application of Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards that have significant effect on the consolidated financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are discussed in note 3.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

c. Subsidiaries and non-controlling interests

Subsidiaries are entities (including structured entities) controlled by the Group. Control exists when the Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity.

An interest in a subsidiary is consolidated into the consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases.

The acquisition method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries by the Group. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the aggregate fair value of the assets transferred, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed at the date of exchange. The consideration transferred includes the fair value of any asset, liability or equity resulting from a contingent consideration arrangement. A subsequent change to the fair value of the contingent consideration that is deemed to be an asset or a liability is recognised in accordance with HKFRS 9 (2014) *Financial Instruments* in the consolidated income statement. Contingent consideration that is classified as equity is not remeasured, and its subsequent settlement is accounted for within equity.

Acquisition-related costs are expensed as incurred. Identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured initially at their fair values at the acquisition date. On an acquisition-by-acquisition basis, the Group recognises any non-controlling interest in the acquiree either at fair value or at the non-controlling interest's proportionate share of the acquiree's net assets. All other components of non-controlling interests are measured at their acquisition-date fair value, unless another measurement basis is required by Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards.

The excess of the consideration transferred, the amount of any non-controlling interest in the acquiree and the acquisition-date fair value of any previous equity interest in the acquiree over the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired is recorded as goodwill (see note 2(h)). If this is less than the fair value of the net assets of the subsidiary acquired in the case of a bargain purchase, the difference is recognised directly in the consolidated income statement. Where businesses are acquired and fair values of the net assets of the acquired business are finalised within 12 months of the acquisition date, all fair value adjustments are recorded with effect from the date of acquisition and consequently may result in the restatement of previously reported financial results.

If the business combination is achieved in stages, the acquisition-date carrying amount of the acquirer's previously held equity interest in the acquiree is remeasured to fair value at the acquisition date; any gains or losses arising from such remeasurement are recognised in the consolidated income statement.

The Group treats transactions with non-controlling interests that do not result in a loss of control as transactions with equity holder of the Group. The difference between the fair value of any consideration paid and the relevant share acquired of the carrying amount of net assets of the subsidiary is recorded in equity. Gains or losses on disposals to non-controlling interests are also recorded in equity.

For subsidiaries which have accounting year ends different from the Group, the subsidiaries prepare, for the purpose of consolidation, financial statements up to and as at the same date as the Group.

Adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries when necessary to align their accounting policies to ensure consistency with policies adopted by the Group.

Intra-group balances and transactions and any unrealised profits arising from intra-group transactions are eliminated in full in preparing the consolidated financial statements. Unrealised losses resulting from intra-group transactions are eliminated in the same way as unrealised profits.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

d. Joint arrangements

The Group applies HKFRS 11 *Joint Arrangements* to all joint arrangements. Under HKFRS 11, joint arrangements are classified as either joint ventures or joint operations depending on the contractual rights and obligations of each investor.

The Group classifies joint arrangements as joint ventures when the Group has rights to the net assets of the joint arrangement.

Investment in a joint venture is accounted for in the consolidated financial statements using the equity method and is initially recorded at cost. The Group's interest in a joint venture includes goodwill identified on acquisition, net of any accumulated impairment loss and adjust thereafter for the post-acquisition changes in the Group's share of the joint venture's net assets. The consolidated income statement includes the Group's share of post-acquisition, post-tax result of the joint venture and any impairment losses for the year. The consolidated statement of comprehensive income includes the Group's share of the post-acquisition, post-tax items of the joint venture's other comprehensive income.

When the Group's share of losses exceeds its interest in the joint venture, the Group's interest is reduced to nil and recognition of further losses is discontinued except to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the joint venture. For this purpose, the Group's interest in the joint venture is the carrying amount of the investment using the equity method together with the Group's long-term interests that in substance form part of the Group's net interest in the joint venture.

Unrealised profits and losses resulting from transactions between the Group and its joint venture are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the joint venture, except where unrealised losses provide evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred, in which case they are recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement.

If the ownership interest in a joint venture is reduced but joint control is retained, only a proportionate share of the amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified to the consolidated income statement where appropriate.

Adjustments are made to the financial statements of the joint venture when necessary to align its accounting policies to ensure consistency with policies adopted by the Group.

e. Gaining or losing control

When the Group ceases to have control, any retained interest in the entity is remeasured to its fair value at the date when control is lost, with the change in carrying amount recognised in the consolidated income statement. The fair value is the initial carrying amount for the purposes of subsequently accounting for the retained interest as an associate, joint arrangement or financial asset. In addition, any amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income in respect of that entity are accounted for as if the Group had disposed of the related assets or liabilities. This may mean that amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income are reclassified to the consolidated income statement.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

f. Property, plant and equipment

The following items of property, plant and equipment are stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses (see note 2(n)(ii)):

- buildings held for own use which are situated on leasehold land, where the fair value of the building could be measured separately from the fair value of the leasehold land at the inception of the lease (see note 2(g)); and
- other items of plant and equipment.

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment comprises (i) its purchase price, (ii) any directly attributable costs of bringing the asset to its working condition and location for its intended use, and (iii) the initial estimate at the time of installation and during the period of use, where relevant, of the costs of dismantling and removing the items and restoring the site on which they are located.

Subsequent costs are included in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment or recognised as a separate item of property, plant and equipment, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other costs, such as repairs and maintenance and overhaul costs, are recognised in the consolidated income statement as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

Gains or losses arising from the retirement or disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment are determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the item and are recognised in the consolidated income statement on the date of retirement or disposal.

Projects under construction are not depreciated. Depreciation on other property, plant and equipment is calculated to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment, less their expected residual value, if any, using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Buildings	Over the shorter of the unexpired term of land lease and the estimated useful life
Exchange equipment	5 to 25 years
Transmission plant	5 to 50 years
Other plant and equipment	1 to 20 years

The assets' useful lives and residual values, if any, are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

g. Leased assets

An arrangement, comprising a transaction or a series of transactions, is or contains a lease if the Group determines that the arrangement conveys a right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. Such determination is made on an evaluation of the substance of the arrangement, regardless of whether the arrangements take the legal form of a lease.

i. Assets leased to the Group

Leases are initially recognised as a right-of-use asset/interest in leasehold land and corresponding liability, where applicable, at the date of which the leased asset is available for use by the Group. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and finance cost. The finance cost is charged to the consolidated income statement over the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. The right-of-use asset is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term. Interest in leasehold land is amortised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

The Group has elected the practical expedient not to separate lease and non-lease components of certain class of underlying assets and account for whole as a single lease component in the measurement of lease liabilities and right-of-use assets.

Assets leased to the Group and the corresponding liabilities are initially measured on a present value basis. Lease liabilities include the net present value of the following lease payments:

- fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- variable lease payments that are based on an index or a rate; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the Group, as a lessee, exercising an option to terminate the lease.

Lease payments to be made under reasonably certain extension options are also included in the measurement of the liability.

The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if that rate can be determined, or the incremental borrowing rate of respective entities. Right-of-use assets are measured at cost comprising the following:

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liabilities;
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any lease incentives received;
- any initial direct costs; and
- restoration costs.

Payments associated with short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognised on a straight-line basis as an expense in the consolidated income statement. Short-term leases are leases with a lease term of 12 months or less. Low-value assets comprise equipment and small items of office furniture.

ii. Assets leased out by the Group

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an underlying asset. A lease is classified as an operating lease if it does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an underlying asset.

Where the Group leases out assets under operating leases, the assets are included in the consolidated statement of financial position according to their nature and, where applicable, are depreciated in accordance with the Group's depreciation policies. Impairment losses are accounted for in accordance with the accounting policy as set out in note 2(n)(ii). Revenue arising from operating leases is recognised in the consolidated income statement in equal instalments over the accounting periods covered by the lease term. Lease incentives granted are recognised in the consolidated income statement as an integral part of the aggregate net lease payments receivable. Contingent rentals are recognised as income in the accounting period in which they are earned.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

h. Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of the consideration transferred, the amount of any non-controlling interest in the acquiree and the acquisition-date fair value of any previous equity interest in the acquiree over the Group's interest in the net fair value of the acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities at the date of acquisition.

Goodwill is stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is allocated to the cash-generating unit ("CGU") and is tested at least annually for impairment (see note 2(n)(ii)). In respect of the joint venture, the carrying amount of goodwill is included in the carrying amount of the interest in a joint venture.

On disposal of a CGU or part of a CGU, or a joint venture during the year, any attributable amount of purchased goodwill is included in the calculation of the gain or loss on disposal.

i. Intangible assets (other than goodwill)

i. Carrier licences

Carrier licences to establish and maintain the telecommunications network and to provide telecommunications services are recorded as intangible assets. Upon the issuance of the licence, the cost thereof, which is the discounted value of the minimum annual fees payable over the period of the licence and directly attributable costs of preparing the asset for its intended use, is recorded as an intangible asset together with the related obligations. Where the Group has the right to return a licence and expects to do so, the asset and the related obligation recorded reflect the expected period that the licence will be held. Amortisation is provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the licence, commencing from the date of launch of the relevant telecommunications services.

The difference between the discounted value of the minimum annual fees and the total minimum annual fee payments represents the effective cost of financing. Such finance cost will be charged to the consolidated income statement in the period in which it is incurred using the effective interest method.

Variable annual payments on top of the minimum annual payments, if any, are recognised in the consolidated income statement as incurred.

ii. Software

Costs incurred to acquire, develop or enhance scientific or technical knowledge, and design and implement new process or systems, licences and market knowledge are capitalised as intangible assets if they are identifiable and the Group has power to obtain future economic benefits flowing from the underlying resource.

Development costs that are directly attributable to the design and testing of the identifiable software are capitalised as intangible assets if the following criteria are met:

- it is technically feasible to complete the software so that it will be available for use;
- adequate technical, financial and other resources are available to complete the development and to use the software;
- the costs attributable to acquisition, development and enhancement of the software can be reliably measured; and
- the Group has power to obtain future economic benefits flowing from the underlying resource.

Development costs that do not meet the above criteria are expensed in the consolidated income statement as incurred.

Capitalised software costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 8 to 10 years.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

i. Intangible assets (other than goodwill) *(continued)*

iii. Other intangible assets

Other intangible assets that are acquired by the Group are stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less accumulated amortisation (where the estimated useful life is finite) and impairment losses (see note 2(n)(ii)). Expenditures on internally generated goodwill and brands are recognised as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

Amortisation of intangible assets with finite useful lives is charged to the consolidated income statement on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The following intangible asset with finite useful life is amortised from the date it is available for use and its estimated useful life is as follows:

Trademarks	20 years

The assets' useful lives and their amortisation methods are reviewed annually.

j. Fulfilment costs

Direct costs incurred in fulfilling a contract with a customer, which mainly comprise setup and related costs in respect of the Group's telecommunications services, are capitalised as an asset to the extent that the cost generates or enhances resources of the Group that will be used in satisfying performance obligations in the future and are expected to be recovered. Fulfilment costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over the expected life of the customer contract.

k. Customer acquisition costs

Incremental costs incurred to obtain a contract with a customer, which mainly comprise sales commission, are capitalised as customer acquisition costs if the Group expects to recover those costs. Costs of obtaining a contract are amortised on a systematic basis over the expected life of the customer contract.

l. Contract assets/liabilities

Customer pays according to a pre-agreed payment schedule. If the performance obligations fulfilled by the Group exceed the total non-refundable payments received and unconditional rights to contract consideration to date, a contract asset is recognised. If the total non-refundable payments received and unconditional rights to contract consideration to date exceed the performance obligation fulfilled, a contract liability is recognised. The contract assets are transferred to receivables when the Group's rights to the contract consideration become unconditional.

Advances from customers represent refundable customer advances, please refer to note 2(t) for the accounting policies.

m. Investments in debt and equity securities

Classification

The Group classifies its investments in debt and equity securities, other than interests in subsidiaries and interest in a joint venture, as:

- those to be measured subsequently at fair value (at either fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVOCI") or fair value through profit or loss ("FVPL")); and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

The classification depends on the Group's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual terms of the cash flows.

For assets measured at fair value, gains and losses will either be recorded in profit or loss or other comprehensive income. For investments in debt instruments, this will depend on the business model in which the investment is held. For investments in equity instruments that are not held for trading, this will depend on whether the Group has made an irrevocable election at the time of initial recognition to account for the equity instrument at FVOCI.

The Group reclassifies debt instruments when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

m. Investments in debt and equity securities *(continued)*

Recognition and derecognition

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade-date, the date on which the Group commits to purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownerships.

Initial measurement

At initial recognition, the Group measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at FVPL, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at FVPL are expensed in the consolidated income statement.

Financial assets with embedded derivatives are considered in their entirety when determining whether their cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest.

Subsequent measurement

Debt instruments

Subsequent measurement of debt instruments depends on the Group's business model for managing the asset and the cash flow characteristics of the asset. There are three measurement categories into which the Group classifies its debt instruments:

- Amortised cost: Assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows where those cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest are measured at amortised cost. A gain or loss on a debt instrument that is subsequently measured at amortised cost is recognised in the consolidated income statement when the asset is derecognised or impaired. Interest income from these financial assets is included in interest income using the effective interest method.

- FVOCI: Assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows and for sale, where the assets' cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest, are measured at FVOCI. Movements in the carrying amount are taken through other comprehensive income, except for the recognition of impairment losses, interest income using the effective interest method and foreign exchange gains and losses which are recognised in the consolidated income statement. When the financial asset is derecognised, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified from equity to the consolidated income statement and recognised in other gains/(losses), net.

- FVPL: Assets that do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or FVOCI are measured at FVPL. A gain or loss on a debt instrument that is subsequently measured at FVPL is recognised and presented net in the consolidated income statement within other gains/(losses), net in the period in which it arises.

Equity instruments

The Group subsequently measures all equity instruments at fair value. Where the Group's management has made an irrevocable election at initial recognition to present fair value gains and losses on equity instruments in other comprehensive income, there is no subsequent reclassification of fair value gains and losses to the consolidated income statement following the derecognition of the investment, any balance within the financial assets at FVOCI reserve for these equity investments is reclassified to retained profits. Dividends from such investments continue to be recognised in the consolidated income statement as other gains/(losses), net when the Group's right to receive payments is established.

Changes in the fair value of financial assets at FVPL are recognised in other gains/(losses), net in the consolidated income statement as applicable.

Impairment losses (and reversal of impairment losses) on equity instruments measured at FVOCI are not reported separately from other changes in fair value.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

n. Impairment of assets

i. Investments in debt instruments, intercompany receivables and trade and other receivables

The Group assesses on forward-looking basis the expected credit losses associated with its debt instruments, intercompany receivables and trade and other receivables carried at amortised cost.

For investments in debt instruments, intercompany receivables and other receivables, the Group considers the probability of default upon initial recognition of asset and whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk on an ongoing basis throughout each reporting period. To assess whether there is a significant increase in credit risk, the Group compares the risk of a default occurring on the asset as at the reporting date with the risk of default as at the date of initial recognition by considering available reasonable and supportive forward-looking information. Considerations may include:

- internal credit rating;
- external credit rating (as far as available);
- actual or expected significant adverse changes in business, financial or economic conditions that are expected to cause a significant change to the borrower's ability to meet its obligations;
- actual or expected significant changes in the operating results of the borrower;
- significant increases in credit risk on other financial instruments of the same borrower; and
- significant changes in the expected performance and behaviour of the borrower, including changes in the payment status of the borrower in the Group and changes in the operating results of the borrower.

Regardless of the analysis above, a significant increase in credit risk is presumed if a debtor is delinquent and in default status when there are unsettled amounts remaining on the account on the day after the invoice due date.

At each reporting date, the Group measures the loss allowance for a financial asset at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk on that financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk on a financial asset has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Group measures the loss allowance for that financial asset at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses.

For trade receivables and contract assets, the Group applies the simplified approach to providing for expected credit losses, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision for all trade receivables and contract assets. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due. When measuring expected credit losses, the Group considers the risk or probability that a credit loss occurs by reflecting the possibility that a credit loss occurs and possibility that no credit loss occurs.

Financial assets are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. The Group categorises a financial asset for write-off when a debtor fails to make contractual payments for a period greater than predefined limit. Where loans or receivables have been written off, the Group continues to engage in enforcement activity to attempt to recover the amounts due. Where recoveries are made, these are recognised in the consolidated income statement.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

n. Impairment of assets *(continued)*

ii. Impairment of other assets

Internal and external sources of information are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable, to identify indications that the following assets may be impaired or, except in the case of goodwill, an impairment loss previously recognised no longer exists or may have decreased:

- property, plant and equipment;
- right-of-use assets;
- interests in leasehold land;
- fulfilment costs;
- customer acquisition costs;
- intangible assets;
- interest in a joint venture; and
- goodwill.

If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. Impairment tests are performed for the CGU containing goodwill, intangible assets that are not yet available for use and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives annually whether or not there is any indication of impairment.

- Calculation of recoverable amount

  The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use. Fair value less costs of disposal is the amount obtainable from the sale of an asset in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties, less the costs of disposal. In assessing value-in-use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. Where an asset does not generate cash inflows largely independent of those from other assets, the recoverable amount is determined for the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows independently (i.e. a CGU).

- Recognition of impairment losses

  An impairment loss is recognised in the consolidated income statement whenever the carrying amount of an asset, or the CGU to which it belongs, exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses recognised in respect of the CGU are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the CGU and then, to reduce the carrying amount of the other assets in the CGU on a pro rata basis, except that the carrying amount of an asset will not be reduced below its individual fair value less costs of disposal, or value-in-use, if determinable.

- Reversals of impairment losses

  In respect of assets other than goodwill, an impairment loss is reversed if there has been a favourable change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss in respect of goodwill is not allowed to be reversed.

  A reversal of an impairment loss is limited to the asset's carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised in prior years. Reversals of impairment losses are credited to the consolidated income statement in the period in which the reversals are recognised.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

o. Derivative financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at their fair value at the end of each reporting period. The gain or loss on remeasurement to fair value is recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement, except where the derivatives are designated and qualify for hedge accounting, in which case recognition of any resultant gain or loss depends on the nature of the item being hedged (see note 2(p)).

The full fair value of a hedging derivative is classified as a non-current asset or liability when the remaining maturity of the hedged item is more than 12 months, and as a current asset or liability when the remaining maturity of the hedged item is 12 months or less than 12 months. Trading derivatives are classified as current assets or liabilities.

p. Hedging

At inception of the hedge relationship, the Group documents the economic relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items including whether changes in the cash flows of the hedging instruments are expected to offset changes in the cash flows of hedged items. The Group documents its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking its hedge transactions.

Cash flow hedges

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges is recognised in the hedging reserve within equity. The gain or loss relating to the ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement, within finance costs.

When forward contracts are used to hedge forecast transactions, the Group designates only the change in fair value of the forward contract related to the spot component as the hedging instrument. Gains or losses relating to the effective portion of the change in the spot component of the forward contracts are recognised in the hedging reserve within equity. The change in the forward element is recognised in the consolidated income statement.

When cross currency swap contracts are used to hedge future cash flows, the Group designates only the change in fair value of the swap contract after exclusion of the foreign currency basis spread component as the hedging instrument. Gains or losses relating to the effective portion of the swap contract after exclusion of foreign currency basis spread component are recognised in the hedging reserve within equity. The change in fair value of the foreign currency basis spread of the swap contract to the extent it relates to the hedged item is recognised in the costs of hedging reserve within equity.

Amounts accumulated in equity are reclassified in the periods when the hedged item affects the consolidated income statement, as follows:

- The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of forward contracts is recognised in the consolidated income statement as the hedged item affects profit or loss.

- The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of the cross currency swap contracts hedging borrowings denominated in foreign currency is recognised in the consolidated income statement within finance costs at the same time as the interest expense on the hedged borrowings.

- The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of the interest rate swap contracts hedging variable rate borrowings is recognised in the consolidated income statement within finance costs at the same time as the interest expense on the hedged borrowings.

When a hedging instrument expires, or is sold or terminated, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative deferred gain or loss and deferred costs of hedging in equity at that time remains in equity until the forecast transaction occurs and affects profit or loss. When the forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss and deferred costs of hedging that were reported in equity are immediately reclassified to the consolidated income statement.

Hedge ineffectiveness is recognised in the consolidated income statement within finance costs.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

q. Inventories

Inventories consist of purchased parts and materials, finished goods and consumable inventories.

Purchased parts and materials and finished goods are carried at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Consumable inventories, held for use in the maintenance and expansion of the Group's telecommunications systems, are stated at cost less provision for deterioration and obsolescence.

Cost is calculated using the weighted average cost formula and comprises all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition.

r. Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables and intercompany receivables are recognised initially at the amount of consideration that is unconditional unless they contain significant financing component, when they are recognised at fair value. The Group holds trade and other receivables and intercompany receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore measures them subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less loss allowance for expected credit losses (see note 2(n)(i)).

s. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other financial institutions (other than restricted cash), and short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, having been within three months of maturity at acquisition and form an integral part of the Group's cash management.

t. Trade and other payables

Trade payables, intercompany payables, advances from customers and other payables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

u. Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, borrowings are stated at amortised cost with any difference between the amount initially recognised, being the proceeds net of transaction costs, and the redemption value being recognised in the consolidated income statement over the period of the borrowings, using the effective interest method.

v. Provisions and contingent liabilities

Provisions are recognised when (i) the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation arising as a result of a past event; (ii) it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and (iii) a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Where the time value of money is material, provisions are stated at the present value of the expenditure expected to settle the obligation. The increase in provision due to the passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

Where it is not probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required, or the amount cannot be estimated reliably, the obligation is disclosed as a contingent liability, unless the probability of outflow of economic benefits is remote. Possible obligations, whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more future events, are also disclosed as contingent liabilities unless the probability of outflow of economic benefits is remote.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

w. Revenue recognition

Telecommunications services comprise local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications, wholesale mobile, enterprise solutions, and other telecommunications businesses such as customer premises equipment sales, outsourcing and consulting.

Local telephony, local data and broadband, international telecommunications and wholesale mobile businesses earn revenue primarily by providing access to and usage of the telecommunications network locally and internationally. As part of the bundled service offerings, the Group also delivers equipment, gifts and reward points from the customer loyalty programme operated by a fellow subsidiary offering a variety of goods and services ("Reward Points"), which are considered as separate performance obligations.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sales of goods and rendering of services in the ordinary course of the Group's activities. Revenue is recognised when the control of the goods or services is transferred to the customer. Depending on the terms of the contract and the laws that apply to the contract, control of the goods or services may be transferred over time or at a point in time.

The Group often enters into bundled sale contracts with customers in which, apart from the provision of telecommunications and other services, the Group has certain other performance obligations to customers such as the delivery of equipment, gifts and Reward Points. When multiple-element arrangements exist, the total transaction price receivable from customers is allocated among the Group's performance obligations on a relative stand-alone selling price basis. Management estimates the stand-alone selling price at contract inception mainly based on observable retail prices and observable market data of the respective performance obligations in similar circumstances to similar customers. If a bundled discount is granted, it is allocated to respective performance obligations based on their relative stand-alone selling prices. The costs of respective equipment and gifts delivered are recognised as cost of sales when the corresponding revenue is recognised.

For the telecommunications services, revenue is recognised over time as the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits provided by the Group's performance as the Group performs and is based on the output method, either as the service allowance units are used or as time elapses, because it reflects the pattern by which the Group satisfies the performance obligation through the rendering of services to the customer. For service plan based on usage, where monthly usage exceeds the allowance, the overage usage represents options held by the customer for incremental services and the usage-based fee is recognised when the customer exercises the option. Income from other telecommunications services are recognised when services are rendered. Customers are invoiced in advance on a monthly basis or invoiced according to the pre-agreed payment schedule as set out in the customer contracts.

For the sales of the equipment and gifts, revenue is generally recognised when control passes to the customer, being when the products are delivered to and accepted by the customer. The customer has full discretion over the equipment and gifts and there are no unfulfilled obligations that can affect the customer's acceptance of those goods. Customers are invoiced immediately or invoiced according to the pre-agreed payment schedule as set out in the customer contracts.

When the Reward Points are awarded to the members, such revenue at their relative stand-alone selling price is deferred as a liability until the Reward Points are redeemed. Breakage, referring to Reward Points that are expected to expire, is recognised and determined based on assumptions such as historical experience, future redemption pattern and programme design.

Revenue from enterprise solutions services is recognised over time as the Group's performance creates or enhances an asset that the customer controls as the asset is created or enhanced. Input method is used to measure the progress as it depicts the Group's performance in transferring the control of the asset. The progress is measured by reference to the percentage of contract costs incurred to date to estimated total contract costs for the contract. When the outcome of a contract cannot be estimated reliably, revenue is recognised only to the extent that it is probable the contract costs incurred will be recoverable. Customers make settlement periodically throughout the contract period according to the pre-agreed payment schedule. Accumulated experience is used to estimate the variable consideration to the extent that it is highly probable that a significant reversal will not occur, using the expected value method, to be included in the transaction price.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

w. Revenue recognition *(continued)*

A financing component, if any, might exist when timing of the payment for goods or services by the customers, differs from the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligation. Such financing component is not significant to the Group.

x. Interest income

Interest income is recognised on a time-apportioned basis using the effective interest method.

y. Dividend income

Dividend income is recognised when the member's right to receive payment is established.

z. Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are expensed in the consolidated income statement in the period in which they are incurred, except to the extent that they are capitalised as being directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of an asset which necessarily takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale.

The capitalisation of borrowing costs as part of the cost of a qualifying asset commences when expenditure for the asset is being incurred, borrowing costs are being incurred and activities that are necessary to prepare the asset for its intended use or sale are in progress. Capitalisation of borrowing costs is suspended or ceases when substantially all the activities necessary to prepare the qualifying asset for its intended use or sale are interrupted or completed.

Discounts or premiums relating to borrowings, and ancillary costs incurred in connection with arranging borrowings, to the extent that they are regarded as adjustments to interest costs, are recognised as expenses over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest method.

aa. Cost of sales and general and administrative expenses

General and administrative expenses represent operating costs incurred other than cost of sales. Cost of sales mainly includes cost of inventories sold and connectivity costs; while general and administrative expenses mainly include depreciation of property, plant and equipment, depreciation of right-of-use assets, amortisation of land lease premium, amortisation of intangible assets, amortisation of fulfilment costs, amortisation of customer acquisition costs, impairment loss for trade receivables and staff costs.

ab. Income tax

i. Income tax for the year comprises current income tax and movements in deferred income tax assets and liabilities. Current income tax and movements in deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognised in the consolidated income statement except to the extent that they relate to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, in which case the relevant amounts are recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

ii. Current income tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period, and any adjustment to income tax payable in respect of previous years.

iii. Deferred income tax is recognised in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. Deferred income tax is not recognised for:

- temporary differences on the initial recognition of assets or liabilities in a transaction that is not a business combination and that affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss and does not give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences;

- temporary differences related to investments in subsidiaries and investment in a joint venture to the extent that the Group is able to control the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences and it is probable that they will not reverse in the foreseeable future; and

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

ab. Income tax *(continued)*

iii. *(continued)*

- taxable temporary differences arising on the initial recognition of goodwill.

The Group recognised deferred income tax assets and deferred income tax liabilities separately in relation to its lease liabilities and right-of-use assets.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised for unused tax losses, unused tax credits and deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised, are recognised. Future taxable profits that may support the recognition of deferred income tax assets arising from deductible temporary differences include those that will arise from the reversal of existing taxable temporary differences, provided those differences relate to the same taxation authority and the same taxable entity, and are expected to reverse either in the same period as the expected reversal of the deductible temporary difference or in periods into which a tax loss arising from the deferred income tax asset can be carried back or forward.

The amount of deferred income tax recognised is measured based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised and the deferred income tax liability is settled. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

The carrying amount of a deferred income tax asset is reviewed at the end of each reporting period and is reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow the related tax benefit to be utilised. Any such reduction is reversed to the extent that it becomes probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available.

iv. Current income tax balances and deferred income tax balances, and movements therein, are presented separately from each other and are not offset. Current income tax assets are offset against current income tax liabilities, and deferred income tax assets against deferred income tax liabilities, if the Group has the legally enforceable right to set off current income tax assets against current income tax liabilities and the following additional conditions are met:

- in the case of current income tax assets and liabilities, the Group intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously; or

- in the case of deferred income tax assets and liabilities, if they relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either:

  - the same taxable entity; or

  - different taxable entities, which, in each future period in which significant amounts of deferred income tax liabilities or assets are expected to be settled or recovered, intend to realise the current income tax assets and settle the current income tax liabilities on a net basis or realise and settle simultaneously.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

ac. Employee benefits

i. Short-term employee benefits

Salaries, annual bonuses, annual leave and the cost of non-monetary benefits are accrued in the year in which the associated services are rendered by employees. Where payment or settlement is deferred and the effect would be material, these amounts are stated at their present values.

ii. Retirement and other post-employment benefits

The Group offers defined contribution retirement schemes (including the Mandatory Provident Fund "MPF") to its employees.

The assets of retirement schemes are generally held in separate trustee-administered funds. The schemes are generally funded by contributions from the relevant companies in the Group.

For defined contribution retirement schemes, the Group pays contributions to publicly or privately administered pension insurance plans on a mandatory, contractual or voluntary basis. The Group has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid. The Group's contributions to the defined contribution retirement schemes are recognised as an expense in the consolidated income statement in the period to which the contributions relate.

iii. Share-based payments

PCCW, the HKT Trust and HKT operate share option schemes where employees of the Group (including directors) are granted options to acquire shares of PCCW (the "PCCW Shares") and Share Stapled Units at specified exercise prices. The fair value of the employee services received in exchange for the grant of options to acquire PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units is recognised as staff costs in the consolidated income statement with a corresponding increase in a capital contribution from members in respect of employee share-based compensation under equity. The fair value of the options granted is measured at grant date using the trinomial option pricing model, taking into account the terms and conditions upon which the options were granted, and spread over the respective vesting period during which the employees become unconditionally entitled to the options. During the vesting period, the number of options that are expected to vest is reviewed. Any adjustment to the cumulative fair value recognised in prior years regarding the options to acquire PCCW Shares and options to acquire Share Stapled Units is charged or credited in the consolidated income statement for the year of the review, unless the original staff costs qualify for recognition as an asset, with a corresponding adjustment to the capital contribution from members in respect of employee share-based compensation under equity. On vesting date, the amount recognised as staff costs regarding the options to acquire PCCW Shares and options to acquire Share Stapled Units is adjusted to reflect the actual number of options that vests (with a corresponding adjustment to the capital contribution from members in respect of employee share-based compensation under equity). The equity amount remains in the capital contribution from members in respect of employee share-based compensation under equity.

Share Stapled Units may be granted to employees at nil consideration under HKT's Share Stapled Units award schemes, under which the awarded Share Stapled Units are either newly issued at issue price (the "HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme") or purchased from the open market (the "HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme").

PCCW also grants PCCW Shares to employees of PCCW and its participating companies at nil consideration under its share award schemes, under which the awarded PCCW Shares are either newly issued at issue price (the "PCCW Subscription Scheme") or purchased from the open market (the "PCCW Purchase Scheme").

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

ac. Employee benefits *(continued)*

iii. Share-based payments *(continued)*

Awards under the share award schemes are accounted for as cash-settled share-based payments. The fair value of the awarded PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units representing the quoted market price of PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units purchased from the open market under the PCCW Purchase Scheme/HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme and the issue price of PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units under the PCCW Subscription Scheme/HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme is recognised as financial assets at FVPL, and subsequently measured at fair value. The fair value of the employee services received in exchange for the grant of PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units is recognised as staff costs in the consolidated income statement over the respective vesting period with a corresponding obligation being recognised. During the vesting period, the number of awarded PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units that are expected to vest is reviewed. Any adjustment to the cumulative fair value recognised in prior years is charged or credited in the consolidated income statement for the year of the review, unless the original staff costs qualify for recognition as an asset, with a corresponding adjustment to the obligation. On vesting date, the amount recognised as staff costs is adjusted to reflect the actual number of awarded PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units that vests (with a corresponding adjustment to the obligation) and the carrying amount of awarded PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units recognised in the financial assets at FVPL is offset with the obligation.

iv. Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised only after either an agreement is in place with the appropriate employee representatives specifying the terms of redundancy and the number of employees affected, or individual employees have been advised of the specific terms.

ad. Translation of foreign currencies

Items included in the financial statements of each of the Group's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates (the "functional currency"). The consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars (HK$), which is the functional currency of the Company and the presentation currency of the Group.

Foreign currency transactions during the year are translated at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the end of the reporting period. Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the consolidated income statement, except when deferred in other comprehensive income as qualifying cash flow hedges.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the foreign exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are translated using the foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates when the fair values are determined. Exchange differences arising on translation of non-monetary assets and liabilities, such as equity instruments at FVPL, are reported as part of the fair value gain or loss in the consolidated income statement.

The results of foreign operations are translated into Hong Kong dollars at the exchange rates approximating the foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates of transactions. Items of foreign operations in the consolidated statement of financial position, including goodwill arising on consolidation of foreign operations, are translated into Hong Kong dollars at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the end of the reporting period. The resulting exchange differences are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated separately in the currency translation reserve under equity.

On consolidation, exchange differences arising from the translation of the net investment in foreign operations, and of borrowings and other currency instruments designated as hedges of such investments, if any, are taken to other comprehensive income and accumulated separately in the currency translation reserve under equity. On disposal of a foreign operation, the cumulative amount of the exchange differences recognised in the currency translation reserve under equity which relates to that foreign operation is included in the calculation of the profit or loss on disposal.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(CONTINUED)*

ae. Related parties

For the purposes of these consolidated financial statements, a party is considered to be related to the Group if:

i. the party has the ability, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, to control the Group or exercise significant influence over the Group in making financial and operating policy decisions, or has joint control over the Group;

ii. the Group and the party are subject to common control;

iii. the party is an associate of the Group or a joint venture in which the Group is a venturer;

iv. the party is a member of key management personnel of the Group or the Group's parent, or a close family member of such an individual, or is an entity under the control, joint control or significant influence of such individual;

v. the party is a close family member of a party referred to in note i above or is an entity under the control, joint control or significant influence of such party;

vi. the party is a post-employment benefit plan which is for the benefit of employees of the Group or of any entity that is a related party of the Group; or

vii. the entity, or any member of the Group of which it is a part, provides key management personnel services to the Group.

Close family members of an individual are those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that individual in their dealings with the entity.

af. Segment reporting

Operating segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the chief operating decision-maker (the "CODM"). The CODM, who is responsible for allocating resources and assessing performance of the operating segments, has been identified as the Group's senior executive management.

ag. Dividend to the sole member of the Company

Dividend to the Company's sole member is recognised as a liability in the consolidated financial statements in the period in which the dividend is approved by the Board or the Company's sole member, where appropriate.

3 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The Group makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. Notes 14 and 30 contain information about the assumptions and their risk factors relating to goodwill impairment and financial instruments. Management has also made judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies. These judgements and other key sources of estimation uncertainty are discussed below:

i. Impairment of assets (other than intercompany receivables and trade and other receivables)

At the end of each reporting period, the Group reviews internal and external sources of information to identify indications that the following assets may be impaired or, except in the case of goodwill, an impairment loss previously recognised no longer exists or may have decreased:

- property, plant and equipment;
- right-of-use assets;
- interests in leasehold land;
- fulfilment costs;
- customer acquisition costs;
- intangible assets;
- interest in a joint venture; and
- goodwill.

If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. Impairment tests are performed for the CGU containing goodwill, intangible assets that are not yet available for use and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives annually whether or not there is any indication of impairment. Significant judgement is used to identify the CGU appropriately. An impairment loss is recognised in the consolidated income statement whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount.

The sources utilised to identify indications of impairment are often subjective in nature and the Group is required to use judgement in applying such information to its business. The Group's interpretation of this information has a direct impact on whether an impairment assessment is performed as at the end of any given reporting period. Such information is particularly significant as it relates to the Group's telecommunications services and infrastructure businesses in Hong Kong.

If an indication of impairment is identified, such information is further subject to an exercise that requires the Group to estimate the recoverable amount, representing the greater of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal or its value-in-use. Depending on the Group's assessment of the overall materiality of the asset under review and complexity of deriving a reasonable estimate of the recoverable amount, the Group may perform such assessments utilising internal resources or the Group may engage external advisors to counsel the Group. Regardless of the resources utilised, the Group is required to make many assumptions to make these assessments, including the utilisation of such asset, the cash flows to be generated, appropriate market discount rates and the projected market and regulatory conditions. Changes in any of these assumptions could result in a material change to future estimates of the recoverable amount of any asset.

ii. Revenue recognition

Under certain arrangements, apart from the provision of telecommunications and other services, the Group has certain other performance obligations to customers such as the delivery of equipment, gifts and Reward Points. When multiple-element arrangements exist, the total transaction price receivable from customers is allocated among the Group's performance obligations on a relative stand-alone selling price basis. Management estimates the stand-alone selling price at contract inception mainly based on observable retail prices and observable market data of the respective performance obligations in similar circumstances to similar customers. If a bundled discount is granted, it is allocated to respective performance obligations based on their relative stand-alone selling prices. The Group is required to exercise considerable judgement in relation to estimating the stand-alone selling price.

3 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

iii. Deferred income tax

While deferred income tax liabilities are provided in full on all taxable temporary differences, deferred income tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised. In assessing the amount of deferred income tax assets that need to be recognised, the Group considers future taxable income and business plans. In the event that the Group's estimates of projected future taxable income and benefits from available business plans are changed, or changes in current income tax regulations are enacted that would impact the timing or extent of the Group's ability to utilise the tax benefits of net operating loss carry-forward in the future, adjustments to the recorded amount of net deferred income tax assets and income tax expense would be made.

iv. Current income tax

The Group makes a provision for current income tax based on estimated taxable income for the year. The estimated income tax liabilities are primarily computed based on the tax computations as prepared by the Group. Nevertheless, from time to time, there are queries raised by the tax authorities of Hong Kong and elsewhere on the tax treatment of items included in the tax computations and certain non-routine transactions. If the Group considers it probable that these queries or judgements will result in different tax positions, the most likely amounts of the outcome will be estimated and adjustments to the income tax expense and income tax liabilities will be made accordingly.

v. Lives of property, plant and equipment, intangible assets (other than goodwill), fulfilment costs and customer acquisition costs

The Group has significant property, plant and equipment, intangible assets (other than goodwill), fulfilment costs and customer acquisition costs. The Group is required to estimate the lives of property, plant and equipment, intangible assets (other than goodwill), fulfilment costs and customer acquisition costs in order to ascertain the amount of depreciation and amortisation charges for each reporting period.

The lives are estimated at the time of purchase of these assets or direct costs incurred in fulfilling or acquiring a contract with a customer after considering future technology changes, business developments, the Group's strategies and expected lives of customer contracts. The Group performs annual reviews to assess the appropriateness of the estimated lives. Such reviews take into account any unexpected adverse changes in circumstances or events, including declines in projected operating results, negative industry or economic trends and rapid advancements in technology. The Group extends or shortens the lives according to the results of the reviews.

vi. Lease term and discount rate determination

In determining the lease term, management considers facts and circumstances such as conditions of the Group's existing leases, future technology changes, business developments and the Group's strategies, that create an economic incentive to exercise an extension option, or not exercise a termination option. Extension options (or periods after termination options) are only included in the lease term if the lease is reasonably certain to be extended (or not terminated). Potential future cash outflows are not included in the lease liability because it is not reasonably certain that the leases will be extended (or not terminated). The assessment is reviewed if a significant event or a significant change in circumstances occurs which affects this assessment and that is within the control of the lessee. As at 31 December 2023, potential future undiscounted cash outflows of HK$166 million (2022: HK$165 million) have not been included in the lease liabilities because it is not reasonably certain that the lease will be extended (or not terminated).

In determining the discount rate, the Group is required to exercise considerable judgement by taking into account the nature of the underlying assets and the terms and conditions of the leases, at both the commencement date and the effective date of the lease modification (if any).

4 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the Group had the following significant transactions with related parties:

In HK$ million	Note	2022	**2023**
Telecommunications service fees and interest income received or receivable from a joint venture	a	22	**27**
Telecommunications service fees and interest expense paid or payable to a joint venture	a	122	**137**
Telecommunications service fees, data centre service fees, connectivity service fees, equipment sales and customer acquisition service fees received or receivable from related companies	a	27	**31**
IT charges, data centre service fees, customer acquisition service fees and rental charges paid or payable to related companies	a	227	**418**
Telecommunications service fees, connectivity service fees and equipment sales received or receivable from related parties under a common shareholder with the ultimate holding company	a	32	**34**
Telecommunications service fees, IT and logistics charges, system development charges, management fee, equipment sales, interest income and other costs recharge received or receivable from fellow subsidiaries	a	3,957	**4,461**
Telecommunications service fees, IT and logistics charges, system development and integration charges, consultancy service charges, rental and facilities management charges, management fee, content provision fees, interest expense and other costs recharge paid or payable to fellow subsidiaries	a	2,291	**1,888**
Interest expense paid or payable to an intermediate holding company	a	71	**194**

a. The above transactions were carried out after negotiations between the Group and the related parties in the ordinary course of business and on the basis of estimated market value as determined by the directors. In respect of transactions for which the price or volume has not yet been agreed with the relevant related parties, the directors have determined the relevant amounts based on their best estimation.

b. Details of key management compensation

Key management compensation for the year ended 31 December 2023 was borne by a fellow subsidiary of the Company (2022: same).

c. Balances with related companies, fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company and the ultimate holding company

As at 31 December 2023, other than a loan payable of Renminbi ("RMB") 36 million (approximately HK$40 million) to a fellow subsidiary which bears interest at 3.75% per annum classified as a non-current liability and is repayable in 2027, a loan payable of United States dollar ("US$") 29 million (approximately HK$228 million) to a fellow subsidiary which bears interest at Secured Overnight Financing Rate per annum and is repayable on demand, and loans payable of RMB20 million (approximately HK$22 million) to fellow subsidiaries which bear interest at 3.42% per annum classified as non-current liabilities and are repayable in 2025, the balances with related companies, the immediate holding company and the remaining balances with fellow subsidiaries are unsecured, non-interest bearing, and have no fixed repayment terms.

4 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Balances with related companies, fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company and the ultimate holding company *(continued)*

As at 31 December 2022, other than a loan payable of RMB30 million (approximately HK$34 million) to a fellow subsidiary which bears interest at 3.75% per annum classified as a non-current liability and is repayable in 2024, a loan payable of US$29 million (approximately HK$228 million) to a fellow subsidiary which bears interest at United States Interbank Offered Rate per annum and is repayable on demand, loans payable of RMB32 million (approximately HK$36 million) to fellow subsidiaries which bear interest at 2.93% per annum and are repayable within one year, and a loan payable of RMB1 million (approximately HK$1 million) to a fellow subsidiary which bears interest at 3.75% per annum and is repayable within one year, the balances with a related company, the immediate holding company, the ultimate holding company and the remaining balances with fellow subsidiaries are unsecured, non-interest bearing, and have no fixed repayment terms.

d. Balances with intermediate holding companies

The balances with intermediate holding companies are unsecured, non-interest bearing, and have no fixed repayment terms, except for a loan payable of HK$4,290 million (2022: HK$4,335 million) which bears interest at Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate ("HIBOR") plus 0.3% per annum (2022: same) and is repayable within one year (2022: same).

5 REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Revenue from contracts with customers:		
Timing of revenue recognition		
At a point in time	2,071	**2,791**
Over time	12,853	**13,647**
Revenue from other sources:		
Rental income	75	**88**
	14,999	**16,526**

a. Revenue recognition in relation to contract liabilities

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liabilities balance at the beginning of the year	675	**644**

b. Unsatisfied long-term fixed-price contracts

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Aggregate amount of the transaction price allocated to long-term fixed-price contracts that are partially or fully unsatisfied as at 31 December	9,561	**9,304**

As at 31 December 2023, management expected that 54% and 30% (2022: 55% and 26%) of the transaction price allocated to the unsatisfied long-term fixed-price contracts would be recognised as revenue during the first and second year respectively after the end of the reporting period. The remaining 16% (2022: 19%) would be recognised as revenue in the periods afterward. The amount disclosed above does not include unsatisfied performance obligation that is related to the Group's contracts with customers with duration of one year or less and contracts with customers billed directly according to performance completed to date.

5 REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION *(CONTINUED)*

c. Segment information

The directors consider that the Group as a whole is an operating segment since the Group is only engaged in local and international telecommunications and related business. No geographical information has been disclosed as the majority of the Group's operating activities are carried out in Hong Kong. The Group's assets located and operating revenue derived from activities outside Hong Kong are less than 5% (2022: same) of the Group's total assets and operating revenue, respectively.

6 PROFIT BEFORE INCOME TAX

Profit before income tax was stated after charging and crediting the following:

a. Cost of sales

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Cost of inventories sold	1,893	**2,732**
Connectivity costs	825	**765**
Provision for/(Write-back of provision for) inventory obsolescence, net	10	**(4)**
Others	2,507	**2,539**
	5,235	**6,032**

b. General and administrative expenses

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Staff costs	263	**216**
Impairment loss for trade receivables	66	**79**
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	761	**808**
Depreciation of right-of-use assets – land and buildings	758	**797**
Depreciation of right-of-use assets – network capacity and equipment	22	**17**
Amortisation of land lease premium – interests in leasehold land	12	**12**
Amortisation of intangible assets	1,347	**1,140**
Amortisation of fulfilment costs	412	**376**
Amortisation of customer acquisition costs	372	**346**
Exchange (gains)/losses, net	(108)	**126**
Less: cash flow hedges: transfer from equity	123	**(126)**
Gains on disposal of property, plant and equipment, net	(1)	**(4)**
Auditor's remuneration	7	**9**
Others	722	**255**
	4,756	**4,051**

7 FINANCE COSTS, NET

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Interest expense, excluding interest expense on lease liabilities	(1,587)	**(2,304)**
Interest expense on lease liabilities	(32)	**(54)**
Notional accretion on carrier licence fee liabilities	(95)	**(89)**
Other finance costs	(5)	**(5)**
Hedge ineffectiveness: cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts – cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk	(55)	**(97)**
Hedge ineffectiveness: interest rate swap contracts – cash flow hedges for interest rate risk	-	**19**
Cash flow hedges: transfer from equity	22	**21**
Unwind of derivative financial instruments	8	**-**
Impact of redesignation of fair value hedges	(16)	**(4)**
	(1,760)	**(2,513)**
Interest capitalised in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets *(note a)*	107	**156**
Total finance costs	(1,653)	**(2,357)**
Total interest income	24	**41**
Finance costs, net	(1,629)	**(2,316)**

a. The capitalisation rates used to determine the amount of interest eligible for capitalisation in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets ranged from 3.52% to 5.19% for the year ended 31 December 2023 (2022: from 3.00% to 4.37%).

8 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

Directors' emoluments for the year ended 31 December 2023 were borne by a fellow subsidiary of the Company (2022: same).

9 INCOME TAX

a. Income tax in the consolidated income statement represents:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Current income tax:		
Hong Kong profits tax		
- provision for current year	113	**11**
- over provision in respect of prior years	-	**(392)**
Overseas tax		
- provision for current year	-	**2**
- under provision in respect of prior years	1	**-**
Movement of deferred income tax *(note 26(a))*	401	**465**
	515	**86**

9 INCOME TAX *(CONTINUED)*

a. Income tax in the consolidated income statement represents: *(continued)*

Hong Kong profits tax is provided at the rate of 16.5% (2022: 16.5%) on the estimated assessable profits for the year.

Overseas tax is calculated on the estimated assessable profits for the year at the rates of taxation prevailing in the respective jurisdictions.

b. Reconciliation between income tax expense and accounting profit at applicable tax rate:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Profit before income tax	3,373	**4,125**
Notional tax on profit before income tax, calculated at the Hong Kong tax rate of 16.5% (2022: 16.5%)	557	**681**
Income not subject to tax	(3)	**(7)**
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	37	**36**
Tax losses not recognised	3	**3**
Under/(Over) provision in respect of prior years	1	**(392)**
Utilisation of previously unrecognised tax losses	(5)	**(4)**
Recognition of previously unrecognised tax losses	(3)	**-**
Recognition of previously unrecognised temporary differences	12	**11**
Result of a joint venture not deductible for tax purposes	1	**1**
Corporate income tax incentives	(85)	**(243)**
Income tax expense	515	**86**

10 DIVIDENDS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year of approximately 64.91 HK cents (2022: approximately 50.84 HK cents) per ordinary share of the Company	1,265	**1,615**
Final dividend declared in respect of the previous financial year, approved and paid during the year of approximately 62.90 HK cents (2022: approximately 82.39 HK cents) per ordinary share of the Company	2,050	**1,565**
	3,315	**3,180**
Final dividend of approximately 95.95 HK cents (2022: approximately 62.90 HK cents) per ordinary share of the Company proposed after the end of the reporting period	1,565	**2,388**

The final dividend proposed after the end of the reporting period, referred to above, is not recognised as a liability as at the end of the reporting period.

11 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2022					
In HK$ million	Buildings	Exchange equipment	Transmission plant	Other plant and equipment	Projects under construction	Total
Cost						
Beginning of year	1,353	21,882	25,542	14,776	1,508	65,061
Additions	-	357	239	283	889	1,768
Disposals	-	(203)	(4)	(46)	-	(253)
Transfers	-	119	855	136	(1,110)	-
End of year	1,353	22,155	26,632	15,149	1,287	66,576
Accumulated depreciation and impairment						
Beginning of year	781	16,336	14,822	10,862	-	42,801
Charge for the year	28	288	359	86	-	761
Disposals	-	(202)	(2)	(46)	-	(250)
End of year	809	16,422	15,179	10,902	-	43,312
Net book value						
End of year	544	5,733	11,453	4,247	1,287	23,264
Beginning of year	572	5,546	10,720	3,914	1,508	22,260

11 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (*CONTINUED)*

	2023					
In HK$ million	**Buildings**	**Exchange equipment**	**Transmission plant**	**Other plant and equipment**	**Projects under construction**	**Total**
Cost						
Beginning of year	**1,353**	**22,155**	**26,632**	**15,149**	**1,287**	**66,576**
Additions	**-**	**275**	**346**	**238**	**1,019**	**1,878**
Disposals	**-**	**(514)**	**(127)**	**(207)**	**-**	**(848)**
Transfers	**-**	**14**	**517**	**137**	**(668)**	**-**
End of year	**1,353**	**21,930**	**27,368**	**15,317**	**1,638**	**67,606**
Accumulated depreciation and impairment						
Beginning of year	**809**	**16,422**	**15,179**	**10,902**	**-**	**43,312**
Charge for the year	**27**	**311**	**401**	**69**	**-**	**808**
Disposals	**-**	**(514)**	**(126)**	**(206)**	**-**	**(846)**
End of year	**836**	**16,219**	**15,454**	**10,765**	**-**	**43,274**
Net book value						
End of year	**517**	**5,711**	**11,914**	**4,552**	**1,638**	**24,332**
Beginning of year	**544**	**5,733**	**11,453**	**4,247**	**1,287**	**23,264**

The depreciation charge for the year is included in general and administrative expenses in the consolidated income statement.

12 RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Land and buildings	915	**1,176**
Network capacity and equipment	34	**25**
Total	949	**1,201**

The Group obtains right to control the use of various land and buildings, and network capacity and equipment for a period of time through lease arrangements. Lease arrangements are negotiated on an individual basis and contain a wide range of different terms and conditions including lease payments and lease terms ranging from 1 to 14 years for land and buildings, and from 1 to 5 years for network capacity and equipment. Except for lease covenants mainly related to the maintenance and use of the leased assets that are commonly found in lease arrangements, there are no other covenants or restrictions imposed by the lease agreements. The leased assets may not be used as security for borrowing purposes.

Additions to the right-of-use assets during the year ended 31 December 2023 were HK$1,068 million (2022: HK$716 million).

During the year ended 31 December 2023, total cash outflow for leases amounted to HK$891 million (2022: HK$823 million), which included cash outflow for short-term lease expenses amounted to HK$2 million (2022: HK$24 million) that were recognised in the consolidated income statement.

The depreciation charge for the year is included in general and administrative expenses in the consolidated income statement.

13 INTERESTS IN LEASEHOLD LAND

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Cost		
Beginning and end of year	536	**536**
Accumulated amortisation		
Beginning of year	347	**359**
Charge for the year	12	**12**
End of year	359	**371**
Net book value		
End of year	177	**165**
Beginning of year	189	**177**

14 GOODWILL

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Cost		
Beginning and end of year	32,630	**32,630**

The recoverable amount of the CGU is determined based on value-in-use calculation. For the year ended 31 December 2023, the calculation uses cash flow projection based on financial budget approved by management covering a 5-year period.

The key assumptions used for the value-in-use calculation of Local telephony and data services include average revenue growth rate of 1% (2022: 2%), average EBITDA growth rate of 1% (2022: 2%), estimated terminal growth rate of 1% (2022: 1%) and pre-tax discount rate of 9% (2022: 9%).

The average revenue and EBITDA growth rates used are based on the financial budget approved by management, taking into account the market growth rate, past experience, growth target of the CGU, as well as expected efficiency improvements. The terminal growth rate used to extrapolate the cash flows beyond the financial budget period is based on the long-term average growth rate for the businesses in which the CGU operates. The pre-tax discount rate used reflect specific risks relating to the CGU.

There was no impairment required from the review on goodwill. A reasonably possible change in assumptions would not result in impairment and as such disclosure of sensitivity analysis is not considered necessary.

15 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

			2022		
In HK$ million	Trademarks	Carrier licences	Software	Others	Total
Cost					
Beginning of year	459	8,324	10,262	8	19,053
Additions	-	193	2,023	3	2,219
Write-off	-	(52)	-	-	(52)
End of year	459	8,465	12,285	11	21,220
Accumulated amortisation					
Beginning of year	302	2,337	2,503	-	5,142
Charge for the year	23	623	700	1	1,347
Write-off	-	(52)	-	-	(52)
End of year	325	2,908	3,203	1	6,437
Net book value					
End of year	134	5,557	9,082	10	14,783
Beginning of year	157	5,987	7,759	8	13,911

15 INTANGIBLE ASSETS (*CONTINUED*)

In HK$ million	Trademarks	Carrier licences	Software	Others	Total
			2023		
Cost					
Beginning of year	**459**	**8,465**	**12,285**	**11**	**21,220**
Additions	**-**	**50**	**2,219**	**-**	**2,269**
Write-off	**-**	**(50)**	**-**	**-**	**(50)**
End of year	**459**	**8,465**	**14,504**	**11**	**23,439**
Accumulated amortisation					
Beginning of year	**325**	**2,908**	**3,203**	**1**	**6,437**
Charge for the year	**23**	**625**	**491**	**1**	**1,140**
Write-off	**-**	**(50)**	**-**	**-**	**(50)**
End of year	**348**	**3,483**	**3,694**	**2**	**7,527**
Net book value					
End of year	**111**	**4,982**	**10,810**	**9**	**15,912**
Beginning of year	**134**	**5,557**	**9,082**	**10**	**14,783**

The amortisation charge for the year is included in general and administrative expenses in the consolidated income statement.

As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, no impairment loss was recognised for the intangible assets. Impairment assessments for intangible assets are performed as part of the impairment assessments for the CGU. For details of the accounting policies and the impairment assessments, please refer to notes 2(n)(ii) and 14.

16 INTEREST IN A JOINT VENTURE

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Share of net liabilities of a joint venture	(58)	**(63)**
Loan due from a joint venture	195	**156**
	137	**93**

As at 31 December 2023, the loan due from a joint venture of HK$156 million (2022: HK$195 million) bears interest at HIBOR plus 3% per annum (2022: same). The loan is unsecured and has no fixed repayment terms. The amount is considered as part of the interest in the joint venture.

a. As at 31 December 2023, the Group considered that there was no principal joint venture (2022: one).

b. Commitments and contingent liabilities in respect of the joint venture

As at 31 December 2023, the Group's commitments in respect of the joint venture are as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
The Group's commitments to provide funding	34	**45**
The Group's share of joint venture's capital commitments authorised and contracted for acquisition of property, plant and equipment	12	**17**

16 INTEREST IN A JOINT VENTURE (*CONTINUED)*

b. Commitments and contingent liabilities in respect of the joint venture *(continued)*

There were no contingent liabilities relating to the Group's interest in the joint venture. As at 31 December 2023, the Group had no share of contingent liabilities of the joint venture (2022: nil).

c. Summarised unaudited financial information of the Group's joint venture

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the net amounts of the Group's share of loss after income tax, other comprehensive income and total comprehensive loss of the joint venture that is accounted for using the equity method were HK$5 million (2022: HK$6 million), nil (2022: nil) and HK$5 million (2022: HK$6 million), respectively.

d. Reconciliation of summarised unaudited financial information of the Group's joint venture

As at 31 December 2023, the carrying amount of interest in the joint venture that is accounted for using the equity method was HK$93 million (2022: HK$137 million).

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group did not have any unrecognised share of losses of the joint venture (2022: nil). As at 31 December 2023, there was no accumulated share of losses of the joint venture unrecognised by the Group (2022: nil).

17 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Listed securities	19	**19**
Less: securities held for employee share award schemes to be vested within one year classified as current assets	(13)	**(13)**
Listed securities (non-current)	6	**6**
Unlisted securities (non-current)	10	**10**
Total non-current portion	16	**16**

Financial assets at FVPL mainly comprise:

- equity investments for which the Group has not elected to recognise fair value gains and losses through other comprehensive income;

- PCCW Shares acquired and subscribed under the PCCW Purchase Scheme and PCCW Subscription Scheme. Refer to note 23(b)(ii) for details of the share award schemes of PCCW; and

- Share Stapled Units acquired and subscribed under the HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme and HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme. Refer to note 23(b)(ii) for details of the Share Stapled Units award schemes of HKT.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, there was no disposal of unlisted instruments recognised as financial assets at FVPL (2022: nil).

During the year ended 31 December 2023, there was no addition of unlisted instruments recognised as financial assets at FVPL (2022: nil).

18 INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

a. Particulars of the principal subsidiaries of the Company as at 31 December 2023 are as follows:

Company name	Place of incorporation/ operations	Amount of issued capital/ registered capital	Interest held by the Company Directly	Interest held by the Company Indirectly	Principal activities
北京訊通通信服務有限公司 (Beijing Xun Tong HKT Communications Services (China) Limited[1, 2]) ("Xun Tong")	The People's Republic of China (the "PRC")	RMB10,000,000	50%[3]	-	Provision of telecommunications services, internet information services and computer system services
eSmartHealth Limited	Hong Kong	HK$ 1	-	100%	Sale of health care products and electronic devices, health care services and data management services
HKT Advance Limited	Hong Kong	HK$ 1	100%	-	Engaging in non-fungible token and metaverse business
HKT Capital No. 1 Limited	British Virgin Islands	US$1	100%	-	Notes issuer
HKT Capital No. 2 Limited	British Virgin Islands	US$1	100%	-	Notes issuer
HKT Capital No. 3 Limited	British Virgin Islands	US$1	100%	-	Notes issuer
HKT Capital No. 4 Limited	British Virgin Islands	US$1	100%	-	Notes issuer
HKT Capital No. 5 Limited	British Virgin Islands	US$1	100%	-	Notes issuer
HKT Capital No. 6 Limited	British Virgin Islands	US$1	100%	-	Notes issuer
HKT CSP Limited	Hong Kong	HK$1	100%	-	Provision of customer services and online sales of products and services
PCCW-HKT Consumer Services Limited	Hong Kong	HK$2	-	100%	Investment holding
電訊盈科科技（北京）有限公司[4] (PCCW Technology (Beijing) Limited[1])	The PRC	RMB40,000,000	100%	-	System integration, software development and technical services consultancy
廣東電盈信息科技有限公司 (PCCW Information Communication Technologies Co. Ltd.[1])	The PRC	HK$12,000,000	50%[3]	-	Internet data centre/internet services provider licensing in China

18 INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARIES *(CONTINUED)*

a. Particulars of the principal subsidiaries of the Company as at 31 December 2023 are as follows: *(continued)*

Certain subsidiaries which do not materially affect the results or financial position of the Group are not included in the above.

Notes:

1 Unofficial company name.
2 Unofficial company name previously known as "Beijing Xun Tong Communications Services Limited".
3 The equity interest held by non-controlling interest is 50% as at 31 December 2023. The entity is accounted for as a subsidiary of the Group as the Group owns more than half of the voting rights in the board of directors even though the equity interest attributable to the Group is 50%.
4 Represents a wholly-foreign owned enterprise.

b. Non-controlling interests of the Group's subsidiaries

The total of non-controlling interests as at 31 December 2023 was HK$15 million (2022: HK$10 million), which was mainly attributable to non-controlling interest in Xun Tong.

19 OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Prepayments	2	**1**
Deposits	50	**45**
	52	**46**

20 CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

a. Inventories

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Purchased parts and materials	888	**552**
Finished goods	79	**42**
Consumable inventories	43	**29**
	1,010	**623**

b. Prepayments, deposits and other current assets

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Prepayments	424	**423**
Deposits	238	**249**
Other current assets	1,010	**1,193**
	1,672	**1,865**

c. Trade receivables, net

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Trade receivables *(note i)*	1,074	**576**
Less: loss allowance *(note ii)*	(42)	**(49)**
Trade receivables, net	1,032	**527**

20 CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES *(CONTINUED)*

c. Trade receivables, net *(continued)*

The balance represents amounts due from customers for goods sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. They are generally due for settlement within 30 days from the date of invoice and therefore are all classified as current. Details about the Group's impairment policies are provided in note 2(n)(i).

As at 31 December 2023, included in trade receivables, net were amounts due from related parties of HK$51 million (2022: HK$24 million).

i. The ageing of trade receivables based on the date of invoice is set out below:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
1 – 30 days	663	**451**
31 – 60 days	168	**45**
61 – 90 days	56	**16**
91 – 120 days	28	**11**
Over 120 days	159	**53**
	1,074	**576**

ii. Impairment for trade receivables

The Group applies the HKFRS 9 (2014) simplified approach to measure loss allowance for expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for trade receivables.

To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables are grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due. The expected loss rates are estimated based on the corresponding historical credit losses experienced, adjusted with the expected change between current and forward-looking information on macroeconomic factors, if material. On that basis, the loss allowance as at 31 December 2023 was determined as follows:

Expected credit loss rate	2022	**2023**
Current	2%	**4%**
1 – 120 days past due	7%	**20%**
Over 120 days past due	4%	**21%**

The movements in the loss allowance during the year were as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Beginning of year	45	**42**
Net impairment loss recognised	66	**79**
Uncollectible amounts written off	(69)	**(72)**
End of year	42	**49**

d. Restricted cash

As at 31 December 2023, restricted cash included a cash balance of HK$1 million (2022: HK$19 million) which has been mainly received from and restricted for the use of a customer.

20 CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES *(CONTINUED)*

e. Short-term borrowing

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
US$500 million 3.75% guaranteed notes due 2023 *(note i)*	3,894	**-**
Bank borrowing *(note ii)*	-	**994**
	3,894	**994**
Secured	-	**-**
Unsecured	3,894	**994**

i. US$500 million 3.75% guaranteed notes due 2023

On 8 March 2013, PCCW-HKT Capital No.5 Limited, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$500 million 3.75% guaranteed notes due 2023, which were listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes were irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKT Group Holdings Limited ("HKTGH") and the Company and ranked pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTGH and the Company. The notes were fully redeemed in March 2023 and were delisted from the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited.

ii. Refer to note 33 for details of the Group's banking facilities.

21 LONG-TERM BORROWINGS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Repayable within a period		
– over one year, but not exceeding two years	3,377	**6,969**
– over two years, but not exceeding five years	25,325	**25,366**
– over five years	11,186	**11,183**
	39,888	**43,518**
Representing:		
US$300 million zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030 *(note a)*	2,330	**2,335**
US$500 million 3.625% guaranteed notes due 2025 *(note b)*	3,881	**3,895**
EUR200 million 1.65% guaranteed notes due 2027 *(note c)*	1,646	**1,718**
US$750 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2026 *(note d)*	5,832	**5,845**
US$500 million 3.25% guaranteed notes due 2029 *(note e)*	3,851	**3,832**
US$650 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2032 *(note f)*	5,005	**5,016**
Bank borrowings *(note g)*	17,343	**20,877**
	39,888	**43,518**
Secured	-	**-**
Unsecured	39,888	**43,518**

21 LONG-TERM BORROWINGS *(CONTINUED)*

a. US$300 million zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030

On 15 January 2015, HKT Capital No. 1 Limited, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$300 million zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030, which are listed on the Taipei Exchange. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTGH and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTGH and the Company.

b. US$500 million 3.625% guaranteed notes due 2025

On 2 April 2015, HKT Capital No. 2 Limited, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$500 million 3.625% guaranteed notes due 2025, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTGH and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTGH and the Company.

c. EUR200 million 1.65% guaranteed notes due 2027

On 10 April 2015, HKT Capital No. 3 Limited, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued EUR200 million 1.65% guaranteed notes due 2027, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTGH and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTGH and the Company.

d. US$750 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2026

On 14 July 2016, HKT Capital No. 4 Limited, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$750 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2026, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTGH and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTGH and the Company.

e. US$500 million 3.25% guaranteed notes due 2029

On 30 September 2019, HKT Capital No. 5 Limited, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$500 million 3.25% guaranteed notes due 2029, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTGH and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTGH and the Company.

f. US$650 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2032

On 18 January 2022, HKT Capital No. 6 Limited, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, issued US$650 million 3.00% guaranteed notes due 2032, which are listed on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited. The notes are irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed by HKTGH and the Company and rank pari passu with all other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of HKTGH and the Company.

g. Refer to note 33 for details of the Group's banking facilities.

22 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Non-current assets		
Cross currency swap contracts – cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk *(note a)*	27	**-**
Interest rate swap contracts – cash flow hedges for interest rate risk *(note b)*	-	**29**
	27	**29**
Current assets		
Cross currency swap contracts – cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk *(note a)*	58	**-**
Current liabilities		
Interest rate swap contract – cash flow hedge for interest rate risk *(note b)*	(98)	**(151)**
Non-current liabilities		
Cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts – cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk *(note a)*	(223)	**(602)**

Derivatives are mainly used for economic hedging purposes and not as speculative investments. However, where derivatives do not meet the hedge accounting criteria, they are accounted for at FVPL.

Hedge effectiveness is determined at the inception of the hedging relationship and through periodic prospective effectiveness assessments to ensure that an economic relationship exists between the hedged item and the hedging instrument.

Hedge ineffectiveness for the Group’s cross currency swap, foreign exchange forward and interest rate swap contracts may occur due to:

- differences in critical terms between the hedged item and the hedging instrument; and
- changes in credit risk of the derivative counterparty.

22 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

a. Cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk

For borrowings denominated in foreign currencies, the Group has entered into cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge the foreign currency risk. The Group performed qualitative assessment of hedge effectiveness. As the cross currency swap contracts and the foreign exchange forward contracts have similar critical terms as the hedged items, such as notional amounts, maturity dates and payment dates, the economic relationship exists between the hedged items and the hedging instruments.

The effects of the foreign currency related hedging instruments outstanding at the end of the reporting period on the Group's financial position and performance are as follows:

	2022	**2023**
Net carrying amount (liabilities)	(HK$138 million)	(HK$602 million)
Notional amount	EUR200 million and US$3,370 million	EUR200 million and US$2,870 million
Maturity date	March 2023 to January 2032	January 2025 to January 2032
Hedge ratio	1:1*	1:1*
Change# in fair value of the hedging instruments during the year	(HK$129 million)	(HK$324 million)
Change# in value of the hedged items during the year	HK$74 million	HK$225 million
Weighted average hedged exchange rate for the year	EUR1:HK$8.32 US$1:HK$7.80	EUR1:HK$8.32 US$1:HK$7.80

* The hedge ratio is 1:1 as the notional amount and timing of the hedging instruments match with that of the hedged items.

\# Positive change refers to increase in net assets, whereas negative change refers to decrease in net assets.

b. Cash flow hedges for interest rate risk

For certain borrowings subject to cash flow interest rate risk, the Group has entered into floating-to-fixed interest rate swap contracts. The Group performed qualitative assessment of hedge effectiveness. As the interest rate swap contracts have similar critical terms as the hedged items, such as notional amounts, maturity dates and payment dates, the economic relationship exists between the hedged items and the hedging instruments.

The effects of the interest rate related hedging instruments outstanding at the end of the reporting period on the Group's financial position and performance are as follows:

	2022	**2023**
Net carrying amount (liabilities)	(HK$98 million)	(HK$122 million)
Notional amount	HK$1,000 million	HK$2,600 million
Maturity date	March 2023	March 2024 to July 2025
Hedge ratio	1:1*	1:1*
Change# in fair value of the hedging instruments during the year	HK$28 million	HK$45 million
Change# in value of the hedged items during the year	(HK$28 million)	(HK$26 million)
Weighted average receive leg/pay leg interest ratio	0.79	1.16

* The hedge ratio is 1:1 as the notional amount and timing of the hedging instruments match with that of the hedged items.

\# Positive change refers to increase in net assets, whereas negative change refers to decrease in net assets.

22 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Hedging reserve and costs of hedging reserve

The Group's hedging reserve and costs of hedging reserve relate to the following hedging instruments:

In HK$ million	Cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk	Cash flow hedges for interest rate risk	Total
Hedging reserve			
As at 1 January 2022	86	(11)	75
Cash flow hedges:			
- effective portion of changes in fair value	(74)	28	(46)
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	90	-	90
As at 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	**102**	**17**	**119**
Cash flow hedges:			
- effective portion of changes in fair value	**(205)**	**26**	**(179)**
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	**(159)**	**-**	**(159)**
As at 31 December 2023	**(262)**	**43**	**(219)**

In HK$ million	Cash flow hedges for foreign currency risk
Costs of hedging reserve	
As at 1 January 2022	(13)
Cash flow hedges:	
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	11
Costs of hedging	(114)
As at 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	**(116)**
Cash flow hedges:	
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	**12**
Costs of hedging	**(41)**
As at 31 December 2023	**(145)**

23 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

a. Employee retirement benefits – Defined contribution retirement schemes

The Group participates in defined contribution retirement schemes, including the Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme (the "MPF scheme") under the Hong Kong Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance, for employees employed under the jurisdiction of the Hong Kong Employment Ordinance. The schemes are administered by independent trustees.

Under the defined contribution retirement scheme, the employer is required to make contributions to the scheme at rates specified under the rules of the scheme. Where employees leave the scheme prior to the full vesting of the employer's contributions, the amount of forfeited contributions is used to reduce the contributions payable by the Group.

23 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

a. Employee retirement benefits – Defined contribution retirement schemes *(continued)*

Under the MPF scheme, the employer and its employees are each required to make contributions to the scheme at 5% of the employees' relevant income, subject to a current cap of monthly relevant income of HK$30,000. Contributions to the scheme vest immediately upon the completion of the services in the relevant service period.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group made contributions of HK$110 million (2022: HK$118 million) to the defined contribution retirement schemes.

Forfeited contributions totalling HK$6 million (2022: HK$6 million) were utilised during the year ended 31 December 2023 to reduce contributions and no forfeited contribution (2022: nil) was available as at 31 December 2023.

b. Equity compensation benefits

PCCW, the HKT Trust and HKT operate the following share option schemes and share award schemes:

Share option schemes

- Share option scheme of PCCW adopted on 8 May 2014 (the "PCCW 2014 Scheme").

- Share Stapled Units option scheme of the HKT Trust and HKT adopted on 7 May 2021 (the "2021-2031 Option Scheme").

Share award schemes

- Share award schemes of PCCW namely the PCCW Purchase Scheme and the PCCW Subscription Scheme (collectively the "PCCW Share Award Schemes").

- Share Stapled Units award schemes of HKT namely the HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme and the HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme (collectively the "Share Stapled Units Award Schemes").

i. Share option schemes

No share options/Share Stapled Unit options have been granted under the PCCW 2014 Scheme and the 2021-2031 Option Scheme since their adoption and up to and including 31 December 2023.

ii. Share award schemes

Subject to the relevant scheme rules of the PCCW Share Award Schemes and the Share Stapled Units Award Schemes, each scheme provides that prior to the vesting of the awards under the relevant scheme to selected participants (including any director or employee of PCCW and its participating companies for the PCCW Share Award Schemes, and any director or employee of HKT or any of its subsidiaries for the Share Stapled Units Award Schemes), the relevant PCCW Shares/Share Stapled Units will be held in trust by the trustee for such selected participants, and will be vested over a period of time determined by the respective approving body, provided that each selected participant shall remain at all times up to and including the relevant vesting date (or, as the case may be, each relevant vesting date) an employee or a director of PCCW, HKT, the relevant participating company or subsidiary, and satisfies any other conditions specified at the time the award is made, notwithstanding that the respective approving body shall be at liberty to waive such conditions. Other than satisfying the vesting conditions, selected participants are not required to provide any consideration in order to acquire the PCCW Shares/Share Stapled Units awarded to him/her under the relevant schemes.

23 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

During the year ended 31 December 2023, share-based compensation expenses in respect of the PCCW Share Award Schemes of HK$8 million (2022: HK$7 million) were recognised in the consolidated income statement and as an obligation in liabilities in the consolidated statement of financial position, respectively.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, share-based compensation expenses in respect of the Share Stapled Units Award Schemes of HK$7 million (2022: HK$8 million) were recognised in the consolidated income statement and as an obligation in liabilities in the consolidated statement of financial position, respectively.

(1) Movements in the number of PCCW Shares held under the PCCW Share Award Schemes and the Share Stapled Units held under the Share Stapled Units Award Schemes

	Number of PCCW Shares	
	2022	**2023**
PCCW Purchase Scheme:		
Beginning of year	219,384	**137,957**
Purchases from the market by the trustee at weighted average market price of HK$3.91 (2022: HK$4.30) per PCCW Share	181,581	**94,810**
PCCW Shares vested	(144,098)	**(137,957)**
Transfer of PCCW Shares to group companies	(118,910)	**-**
End of year	137,957	**94,810**
PCCW Subscription Scheme:		
Beginning of year	2,478,584	**2,366,496**
PCCW Shares vested	(1,823,299)	**(1,557,629)**
Transfer of PCCW Shares from group companies	1,711,211	**1,440,553**
End of year	2,366,496	**2,249,420**

	Number of Share Stapled Units	
	2022	**2023**
HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme:		
Beginning of year	86,311	**56,110**
Purchases from the market by the trustee at weighted average market price of HK$10.01 (2022: HK$10.79) per Share Stapled Unit	73,662	**38,269**
Share Stapled Units vested	(56,592)	**(56,110)**
Transfer of Share Stapled Units to group companies	(47,271)	**(608)**
End of year	56,110	**37,661**
HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme:		
Beginning of year	1,073,459	**1,035,917**
Share Stapled Units vested	(716,274)	**(668,678)**
Transfer of Share Stapled Units from group companies	678,732	**548,582**
End of year	1,035,917	**915,821**

23 **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS** *(CONTINUED)*

b. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award

			2022					
			Number of PCCW Shares/Share Stapled Units					
Date of award	Vesting period	Fair value on the date of award HK$	As at 1 January 2022	Awarded	Forfeited	Vested	Transfer from group companies	As at 31 December 2022
PCCW Purchase Scheme (PCCW Shares)								
16 April 2020	16 April 2020 to 16 April 2022	4.64	108,359	-	(31,661)	(76,698)	-	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2022	4.53	111,025	-	(43,625)	(67,400)	-	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.53	111,022	-	(43,624)	-	-	67,398
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.52	-	70,559	-	-	-	70,559
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.52	-	70,556	-	-	-	70,556
Total			330,406	141,115	(118,910)	(144,098)	-	208,513
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			4.57	4.52	4.56	4.59	-	4.52
PCCW Subscription Scheme (PCCW Shares)								
16 April 2020	16 April 2020 to 16 April 2022	4.64	995,314	-	(18,304)	(978,256)	1,246	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2022	4.53	827,229	-	(14,667)	(813,723)	1,161	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.53	826,623	-	(77,544)	-	6,634	755,713
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2022	4.09	31,320	-	-	(31,320)	-	-
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.09	31,320	-	-	-	-	31,320
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.52	-	851,849	(72,076)	-	4,563	784,336
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.52	-	851,151	(72,006)	-	4,562	783,707
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.15	-	5,710	-	-	-	5,710
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.15	-	5,710	-	-	-	5,710
Total			2,711,806	1,714,420	(254,597)	(1,823,299)	18,166	2,366,496
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			4.56	4.52	4.53	4.58	4.53	4.52
HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme (Share Stapled Units)								
16 April 2020	16 April 2020 to 16 April 2022	11.86	41,641	-	(12,167)	(29,474)	-	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2022	11.06	44,670	-	(17,552)	(27,118)	-	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	11.06	44,669	-	(17,552)	-	-	27,117
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	10.86	-	28,993	-	-	-	28,993
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	10.86	-	28,992	-	-	-	28,992
Total			130,980	57,985	(47,271)	(56,592)	-	85,102
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			11.31	10.86	11.27	11.48	-	10.92

23 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award *(continued)*

			2022					
			Number of Share Stapled Units					
Date of award	Vesting period	Fair value on the date of award HK$	As at 1 January 2022	Awarded	Forfeited	Vested	Transfer from group companies	As at 31 December 2022
HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme (Share Stapled Units)								
16 April 2020	16 April 2020 to 16 April 2022	11.86	382,475	-	(7,035)	(375,919)	479	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2022	11.06	333,199	-	(5,913)	(327,753)	467	-
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	11.06	332,582	-	(31,199)	-	2,668	304,051
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2022	10.56	12,602	-	-	(12,602)	-	-
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2023	10.56	12,601	-	-	-	-	12,601
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	10.86	-	385,387	(29,657)	-	1,875	357,605
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	10.86	-	384,680	(29,588)	-	1,875	356,967
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2023	11.00	-	2,347	-	-	-	2,347
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2024	11.00	-	2,346	-	-	-	2,346
Total			1,073,459	774,760	(103,392)	(716,274)	7,364	1,035,917
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			11.33	10.86	11.00	11.47	11.01	10.92

23 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award *(continued)*

			2023					
			Number of PCCW Shares/Share Stapled Units					
Date of award	Vesting period	Fair value on the date of award HK$	As at 1 January 2023	Awarded	Forfeited	Vested	Transfer from/(to) group companies	As at 31 December 2023
PCCW Purchase Scheme (PCCW Shares)								
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.53	67,398	-	-	(67,398)	-	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.52	70,559	-	-	(70,559)	-	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.52	70,556	-	(24,057)	-	-	46,499
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2024	4.02	-	24,254	-	-	-	24,254
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2025	4.02	-	24,254	-	-	-	24,254
Total			208,513	48,508	(24,057)	(137,957)	-	95,007
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			4.52	4.02	4.52	4.52	-	4.26
PCCW Subscription Scheme (PCCW Shares)								
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.53	755,713	-	(13,350)	(747,131)	4,768	-
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2023	4.09	31,320	-	-	(31,320)	-	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.52	784,336	-	(22,306)	(773,468)	11,438	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.52	783,707	-	(79,669)	-	1,448	705,486
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2023	4.15	5,710	-	-	(5,710)	-	-
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2024	4.15	5,710	-	-	-	-	5,710
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2024	4.01	-	760,115	(53,144)	-	(27,144)	679,827
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2025	4.01	-	759,592	(53,094)	-	(27,128)	679,370
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2024	4.02	-	78,360	(3,268)	-	(1,775)	73,317
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2025	4.02	-	78,357	(3,267)	-	(1,775)	73,315
23 June 2023	23 June 2023 to 23 June 2024	3.85	-	23,267	(2,528)	-	(4,536)	16,203
23 June 2023	23 June 2023 to 23 June 2025	3.85	-	23,243	(2,523)	-	(4,528)	16,192
Total			2,366,496	1,722,934	(233,149)	(1,557,629)	(49,232)	2,249,420
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			4.52	4.01	4.26	4.51	3.80	4.17
HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme (Share Stapled Units)								
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	11.06	27,117	-	-	(27,117)	-	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	10.86	28,993	-	-	(28,993)	-	-
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	10.86	28,992	-	(9,885)	-	-	19,107
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2024	9.98	-	9,277	-	-	-	9,277
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2025	9.98	-	9,277	-	-	-	9,277
Total			85,102	18,554	(9,885)	(56,110)	-	37,661
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			10.92	9.98	10.86	10.96	-	10.43

23 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Equity compensation benefits *(continued)*

ii. Share award schemes *(continued)*

(2) Movements in the number of unvested PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units and their related weighted average fair value on the date of award *(continued)*

			2023 Number of Share Stapled Units					
Date of award	**Vesting period**	**Fair value on the date of award HK$**	**As at 1 January 2023**	**Awarded**	**Forfeited**	**Vested**	**Transfer from/(to) group companies**	**As at 31 December 2023**
HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme (Share Stapled Units)								
16 April 2021	16 April 2021 to 16 April 2023	**11.06**	**304,051**	**-**	**(5,371)**	**(300,598)**	**1,918**	**-**
2 July 2021	2 July 2021 to 16 April 2023	**10.56**	**12,601**	**-**	**-**	**(12,601)**	**-**	**-**
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2023	**10.86**	**357,605**	**-**	**(9,176)**	**(353,132)**	**4,703**	**-**
19 April 2022	19 April 2022 to 19 April 2024	**10.86**	**356,967**	**-**	**(32,736)**	**-**	**597**	**324,828**
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2023	**11.00**	**2,347**	**-**	**-**	**(2,347)**	**-**	**-**
15 August 2022	15 August 2022 to 19 April 2024	**11.00**	**2,346**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,346**
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2024	**10.18**	**-**	**291,055**	**(20,355)**	**-**	**(10,393)**	**260,307**
19 April 2023	19 April 2023 to 19 April 2025	**10.18**	**-**	**290,533**	**(20,308)**	**-**	**(10,375)**	**259,850**
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2024	**9.98**	**-**	**29,976**	**(1,250)**	**-**	**(679)**	**28,047**
30 May 2023	30 May 2023 to 30 May 2025	**9.98**	**-**	**29,971**	**(1,250)**	**-**	**(679)**	**28,042**
23 June 2023	23 June 2023 to 23 June 2024	**9.05**	**-**	**8,917**	**(969)**	**-**	**(1,740)**	**6,208**
23 June 2023	23 June 2023 to 23 June 2025	**9.05**	**-**	**8,888**	**(965)**	**-**	**(1,730)**	**6,193**
Total			**1,035,917**	**659,340**	**(92,380)**	**(668,678)**	**(18,378)**	**915,821**
Weighted average fair value on the date of award (HK$)			**10.92**	**10.13**	**10.51**	**10.94**	**9.66**	**10.40**

The fair values of the PCCW Shares and the Share Stapled Units awarded during the year on the dates of award are measured by the respective quoted market prices of the PCCW Shares and the Share Stapled Units at the respective award dates.

The PCCW Shares and the Share Stapled Units unvested had a weighted average remaining vesting period at the end of the reporting period as follows:

	2022	**2023**
PCCW Purchase Scheme (PCCW Shares)	0.64 year	0.56 year
PCCW Subscription Scheme (PCCW Shares)	0.63 year	0.65 year
HKT Share Stapled Units Purchase Scheme (Share Stapled Units)	0.64 year	0.55 year
HKT Share Stapled Units Subscription Scheme (Share Stapled Units)	0.64 year	0.63 year

24 SHARE CAPITAL

	2022 Number of shares	2022 Share capital HK$ million	**2023 Number of shares**	**2023 Share capital HK$ million**
Issued and fully paid:				
Ordinary shares of no par value				
Beginning and end of year	2,488,200,001	9,945	**2,488,200,001**	**9,945**

25 RESERVES

In HK$ million	2022 Capital contribution reserve	Merger reserve	Currency translation reserve	Hedging reserve	Costs of hedging reserve	Retained profits	Total
As at 1 January 2022	28	(695)	4	75	(13)	2,269	1,668
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year							
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	2,851	2,851
Other comprehensive income/(loss)							
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:							
Exchange differences on translating foreign operations of subsidiaries	-	-	(2)	-	-	-	(2)
Cash flow hedges:							
- effective portion of changes in fair value	-	-	-	(46)	-	-	(46)
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	-	-	-	90	11	-	101
Costs of hedging	-	-	-	-	(114)	-	(114)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	-	-	(2)	44	(103)	2,851	2,790
Transactions with equity holder							
Final dividend paid in respect of the previous year	-	-	-	-	-	(2,050)	(2,050)
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year	-	-	-	-	-	(1,265)	(1,265)
Total transactions with equity holder	-	-	-	-	-	(3,315)	(3,315)
As at 31 December 2022	28	(695)	2	119	(116)	1,805	1,143

25 RESERVES *(CONTINUED)*

In HK$ million	Capital contribution reserve	Merger reserve	Currency translation reserve	Hedging reserve	Costs of hedging reserve	Retained profits	Total
				2023			
As at 1 January 2023	**28**	**(695)**	**2**	**119**	**(116)**	**1,805**	**1,143**
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year							
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	**4,034**	**4,034**
Other comprehensive income/(loss)							
Items that have been reclassified or may be reclassified subsequently to consolidated income statement:							
Cash flow hedges:							
- effective portion of changes in fair value	-	-	-	**(179)**	-	-	**(179)**
- transfer from equity to consolidated income statement	-	-	-	**(159)**	**12**	-	**(147)**
Costs of hedging	-	-	-	-	**(41)**	-	**(41)**
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	-	-	-	**(338)**	**(29)**	**4,034**	**3,667**
Transactions with equity holder							
Final dividend paid in respect of the previous year	-	-	-	-	-	**(1,565)**	**(1,565)**
Interim dividend declared and paid in respect of the current year	-	-	-	-	-	**(1,615)**	**(1,615)**
Total transactions with equity holder	-	-	-	-	-	**(3,180)**	**(3,180)**
As at 31 December 2023	**28**	**(695)**	**2**	**(219)**	**(145)**	**2,659**	**1,630**

26 DEFERRED INCOME TAX

a. Movements in deferred income tax liabilities/(assets) were as follows:

	2022			
In HK$ million	Accelerated tax depreciation and amortisation	Tax losses	Others	Total
Beginning of year	4,389	-	(3)	4,386
Charged/(Credited) to the consolidated income statement *(note 9(a))*	403	(3)	1	401
End of year	4,792	(3)	(2)	4,787

	2023			
In HK$ million	**Accelerated tax depreciation and amortisation**	**Tax losses**	**Others**	**Total**
Beginning of year	**4,792**	**(3)**	**(2)**	**4,787**
Charged/(Credited) to the consolidated income statement *(note 9(a))*	**467**	**(2)**	**-**	**465**
End of year	**5,259**	**(5)**	**(2)**	**5,252**

b. Deferred income tax assets are recognised for tax losses carry-forward to the extent that realisation of the related tax benefit through utilisation against future taxable profits is probable. As at 31 December 2023, the Group had unutilised estimated tax losses for which no deferred income tax assets have been recognised of HK$159 million (2022: HK$168 million) to carry forward for deduction against future taxable income. Estimated tax losses of HK$10 million (2022: HK$22 million) will expire within 1 to 5 years from 31 December 2023. The remaining portion of the tax losses, relating to Hong Kong companies, can be carried forward indefinitely.

27 CARRIER LICENCE FEE LIABILITIES

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had carrier licence fee liabilities payable as follows:

In HK$ million	2022 Present value of the minimum annual fees	2022 Interest expense relating to future periods	2022 Total minimum annual fees	**2023 Present value of the minimum annual fees**	**2023 Interest expense relating to future periods**	**2023 Total minimum annual fees**
Payable within a period						
- not exceeding one year	331	5	336	**338**	**5**	**343**
- over one year, but not exceeding two years	329	14	343	**286**	**11**	**297**
- over two years, but not exceeding five years	836	76	912	**857**	**77**	**934**
- over five years	2,175	537	2,712	**1,943**	**449**	**2,392**
	3,671	632	4,303	**3,424**	**542**	**3,966**
Less: amounts payable within one year classified as current liabilities	(331)	(5)	(336)	**(338)**	**(5)**	**(343)**
Non-current portion	3,340	627	3,967	**3,086**	**537**	**3,623**

28 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

a. Reconciliation of profit before income tax to net cash generated from operating activities

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Profit before income tax	3,373	**4,125**
Adjustments for:		
Other gains, net	-	**(3)**
Finance costs, net	1,629	**2,316**
Gains on disposal of property, plant and equipment, net	(1)	**(4)**
Provision for/(Write-back of provision for) inventory obsolescence, net	10	**(4)**
Impairment loss for trade receivables	66	**79**
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	761	**808**
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	780	**814**
Amortisation of land lease premium – interests in leasehold land	12	**12**
Amortisation of intangible assets	1,347	**1,140**
Amortisation of fulfilment costs	412	**376**
Amortisation of customer acquisition costs	372	**346**
Share of result of a joint venture	6	**5**
Share-based compensation expenses	15	**15**
Increase in PCCW Shares and Share Stapled Units under share award schemes	(15)	**(13)**
(Increase)/Decrease in operating assets		
- inventories	(268)	**391**
- trade receivables, prepayments, deposits and other current assets	215	**240**
- contract assets	107	**87**
- amounts due from related companies	(11)	**3**
- restricted cash	(12)	**18**
- fulfilment costs	(546)	**(643)**
- customer acquisition costs	(341)	**(343)**
- other non-current assets	(40)	**6**
(Decrease)/Increase in operating liabilities		
- trade payables, accruals and other payables, balances with fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company, intermediate holding companies and the ultimate holding company, net	(751)	**(1,767)**
- amount due to a related company	-	**1**
- advances from customers	14	**(16)**
- contract liabilities	(36)	**(83)**
- other long-term liabilities	(1)	**(2)**
CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATIONS	7,097	**7,904**
Interest received	13	**26**
Income tax paid, net of tax refund		
- Hong Kong profits tax refund*	-	**30**
- overseas profits tax paid	(1)	**(2)**
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	7,109	**7,958**

* As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, the Hong Kong profits tax assessments and/or the current income tax liabilities of the Company had not been received or not yet due, such that any corresponding tax charge settlement would be deferred to upcoming financial years.

28 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Movements of financial (assets)/liabilities arising from financing activities

Movements of financial (assets)/liabilities arising from financing activities are as follows:

	2022						
In HK$ million	Prepaid finance costs (included in prepayments, deposits and other current assets)	Interest payable (included in accruals and other payables)	Borrowings	Derivative financial instruments, net	Balances with fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company, the ultimate holding company and intermediate holding companies, net	Lease liabilities	Total
As at 1 January 2022	(9)	211	43,628	(3)	4,338	1,049	49,214
Cash flows in financing activities							
New borrowings raised	(27)	7	22,711	-	-	-	22,691
Finance costs (paid)/received	-	(1,087)	-	188	-	-	(899)
Repayments of borrowings	-	-	(22,390)	-	-	-	(22,390)
Payment for lease liabilities (including interest)	-	-	-	-	-	(799)	(799)
Movement in balances with fellow subsidiaries and an intermediate holding company	-	-	-	-	1,234	-	1,234
Cash flows in investing activities							
Loan repayment in relation to licence fee *(note 30(b)(i))*	-	-	(130)	-	-	-	(130)
Other changes (including non-cash movements)	19	1,899	(37)	51	(1,828)	757	861
As at 31 December 2022	(17)	1,030	43,782	236	3,744	1,007	49,782

28 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Movements of financial (assets)/liabilities arising from financing activities *(continued)*

Movements of financial (assets)/liabilities arising from financing activities are as follows: *(continued)*

	2023						
In HK$ million	Prepaid finance costs (included in prepayments, deposits and other current assets)	Interest payable (included in accruals and other payables)	Borrowings	Derivative financial instruments, net	Balances with fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company and intermediate holding companies, net	Lease liabilities	Total
As at 1 January 2023	(17)	1,030	43,782	236	3,744	1,007	49,782
Cash flows in financing activities							
New borrowings raised	(14)	5	22,960	-	-	-	22,951
Finance costs (paid)/received	-	(1,880)	-	288	-	-	(1,592)
Repayments of borrowings	-	-	(23,008)	46	-	-	(22,962)
Payment for lease liabilities (including interest)	-	-	-	-	-	(889)	(889)
Movement in balances with fellow subsidiaries and an intermediate holding company	-	-	-	-	2,097	-	2,097
Cash flows in investing activities							
Loan repayment in relation to licence fee *(note 30(b)(i))*	-	-	(130)	-	-	-	(130)
Other changes (including non-cash movements)	6	1,203	908	154	(2,825)	1,120	566
As at 31 December 2023	(25)	358	44,512	724	3,016	1,238	49,823

28 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Total cash and bank balances	956	**822**
Less: restricted cash	(19)	**(1)**
Less: short-term deposits	(116)	**(79)**
Cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December	821	**742**

29 CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The Group's primary objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can continue to provide returns for equity holder of the Group and benefits for other stakeholders to support the Group's stability and growth; and to earn a margin commensurate with the level of business and market risks in the Group's operation.

The Group monitors capital by reviewing the level of capital that is at the disposal of the Group ("Adjusted Capital"), taking into consideration the future capital requirements of the Group, prevailing and projected profitability, projected operating cash flows, projected capital expenditures and projected strategic investment opportunities. Adjusted Capital comprises all components of equity.

The Group is not subject to externally imposed capital requirements, except for the debt covenant requirement of loan agreements with external parties.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The tables below analyse financial instruments by category:

	2022			
In HK$ million	Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial assets at FVPL	Derivatives used for hedging	Total
Non-current assets				
Financial assets at FVPL	-	16	-	16
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	27	27
Other non-current assets (excluding prepayments)	50	-	-	50
	50	16	27	93
Current assets				
Prepayments, deposits and other current assets (excluding prepayments)	1,248	-	-	1,248
Trade receivables, net	1,032	-	-	1,032
Amount due from a related company	21	-	-	21
Amounts due from fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company, intermediate holding companies and the ultimate holding company	15,277	-	-	15,277
Financial assets at FVPL	-	13	-	13
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	58	58
Restricted cash	19	-	-	19
Short-term deposits	116	-	-	116
Cash and cash equivalents	821	-	-	821
	18,534	13	58	18,605
Total	18,584	29	85	18,698

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

The tables below analyse financial instruments by category: *(continued)*

		2022	
In HK$ million	Derivatives used for hedging	Other financial liabilities at amortised cost	Total
Current liabilities			
Short-term borrowing	-	(3,894)	(3,894)
Trade payables	-	(4,187)	(4,187)
Accruals and other payables	-	(3,739)	(3,739)
Derivative financial instrument	(98)	-	(98)
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	(331)	(331)
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and intermediate holding companies	-	(18,987)	(18,987)
Advances from customers	-	(107)	(107)
Lease liabilities	-	(614)	(614)
	(98)	(31,859)	(31,957)
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	-	(39,888)	(39,888)
Amount due to a fellow subsidiary	-	(34)	(34)
Derivative financial instruments*	(223)	-	(223)
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	(3,340)	(3,340)
Lease liabilities	-	(393)	(393)
Other long-term liabilities	-	(1,598)	(1,598)
	(223)	(45,253)	(45,476)
Total	(321)	(77,112)	(77,433)

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

The tables below analyse financial instruments by category: *(continued)*

In HK$ million	2023 Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial assets at FVPL	Derivatives used for hedging	Total
Non-current assets				
Financial assets at FVPL	-	16	-	16
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	29	29
Other non-current assets (excluding prepayments)	45	-	-	45
	45	16	29	90
Current assets				
Prepayments, deposits and other current assets (excluding prepayments)	1,442	-	-	1,442
Trade receivables, net	527	-	-	527
Amounts due from related companies	18	-	-	18
Amounts due from fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company and an intermediate holding company	4,582	-	-	4,582
Financial assets at FVPL	-	13	-	13
Restricted cash	1	-	-	1
Short-term deposits	79	-	-	79
Cash and cash equivalents	742	-	-	742
	7,391	13	-	7,404
Total	7,436	29	29	7,494

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

The tables below analyse financial instruments by category: *(continued)*

In HK$ million	2023 Derivatives used for hedging	Other financial liabilities at amortised cost	Total
Current liabilities			
Short-term borrowing	-	**(994)**	**(994)**
Trade payables	-	**(4,562)**	**(4,562)**
Accruals and other payables	-	**(3,865)**	**(3,865)**
Derivative financial instrument	**(151)**	-	**(151)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	**(338)**	**(338)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and intermediate holding companies	-	**(7,536)**	**(7,536)**
Amount due to a related company	-	**(1)**	**(1)**
Advances from customers	-	**(91)**	**(91)**
Lease liabilities	-	**(662)**	**(662)**
	(151)	**(18,049)**	**(18,200)**
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	-	**(43,518)**	**(43,518)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	-	**(62)**	**(62)**
Derivative financial instruments*	**(602)**	-	**(602)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	**(3,086)**	**(3,086)**
Lease liabilities	-	**(576)**	**(576)**
Other long-term liabilities	-	**(1,844)**	**(1,844)**
	(602)	**(49,086)**	**(49,688)**
Total	**(753)**	**(67,135)**	**(67,888)**

* As at 31 December 2023, derivative financial instruments classified as non-current liabilities of HK$34 million (2022: HK$29 million) related to foreign exchange forward contracts with an aggregate notional contract amount of US$470 million (approximately HK$3,686 million) (2022: US$470 million (approximately HK$3,686 million)) were designated as cash flow hedges of US$300 million zero coupon guaranteed notes due 2030. The US$300 million guaranteed notes may be redeemed at the option of the Group on 15 January 2025 at an early redemption amount of US$470 million (2022: US$470 million). Refer to notes 21(a) and 22(a) for details of the guaranteed notes and the foreign exchange forward contracts respectively.

Exposure to credit, liquidity and market risk (including foreign currency risk and interest rate risk) arises in the normal course of the Group's business. The Group is also exposed to equity price risk arising from its equity investments in other entities. Exposure to these risks is controlled by the Group's financial management policies and practices described below.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

a. Credit risk

The Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to cash and cash equivalents, short-term deposits, restricted cash, trade receivables, contract assets, amounts due from related companies, fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company, intermediate holding companies and the ultimate holding company, derivative financial instruments, deposits and other receivables. Management has policies in place and exposure to these credit risks is monitored on an ongoing basis.

The Group's normal credit period for customers is ranging up to 30 days from the date of invoice unless there is a separate mutual agreement on extension of the credit period. The Group maintains a well-defined credit policy and individual credit evaluations are performed on all customers requiring credit over a certain amount. These evaluations focus on the customer's past history of making payments when due and current ability to pay, and take into account information specific to the customer as well as pertaining to the economic environment in which the customer operates. Debtors who have overdue balances are requested to settle all outstanding balances before any further credit is granted. Normally, the Group does not obtain collateral from customers. As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, the Group did not have a significant exposure to any individual debtors or counterparties.

Further quantitative disclosures in respect of the Group's exposure to credit risk arising from trade receivables are set out in note 20(c).

The overall impact of impairment of the contract assets on the consolidated financial statements is considered by management. Management considered the lifetime expected losses with respect to these contract assets were minimal as at 31 December 2022 and 2023 and the Group made no write-off or provision for these contract assets during the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

Amounts due from related companies, fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company, intermediate holding companies and the ultimate holding company, deposits and other receivables are considered to have low credit risk. These assets are continuously monitored by assessing the credit quality of the counterparty, taking into account its financial position, past experience and other factors. Where necessary, provision for impairment loss is made for estimated irrecoverable amounts. As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, amounts due from related companies, fellow subsidiaries, the immediate holding company, intermediate holding companies and the ultimate holding company, deposits and other receivables were fully performing.

Derivative financial instruments, restricted cash, short-term deposits and cash and cash equivalents are considered to have low credit risk. These assets are executed with creditworthy financial institutions or investment counterparties and the Group does not expect any significant counterparty risk. Moreover, credit limits are set for individual counterparties and periodic reviews are conducted to ensure that the limits are strictly followed.

The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each financial asset, including derivative financial instruments, in the consolidated statement of financial position. Except for the guarantees given by the Group as disclosed in note 32, the Group does not provide any other guarantees which would expose the Group to credit risk.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Liquidity risk

The Group's policy is to regularly monitor current and expected liquidity requirements and its compliance with debt covenants, to ensure that it maintains sufficient reserves of cash and adequate lines of funding from major financial institutions to meet its liquidity requirements in the short and longer term. Management believes there is no significant liquidity risk as the Group has sufficient cash and banking facilities to fund its operations and debt servicing requirements.

The Group is subject to certain corporate guarantee obligations to guarantee performance of the Company in the normal course of its businesses. Refer to note 32 for details.

The following tables detail the remaining contractual maturities at the end of the reporting periods of the Group's non-derivative financial liabilities and derivative financial liabilities, which are based on contractual undiscounted cash flows (including interest payments computed using contractual rates or, if floating, based on rates current at the end of the reporting period) and the earliest date the Group can be required to pay:

	2022					
In HK$ million	Within 1 year or on demand	More than 1 year but within 2 years	More than 2 years but within 5 years	More than 5 years	Total contractual undiscounted cash outflow	Carrying amount
Current liabilities						
Short-term borrowing	(3,899)	-	-	-	(3,899)	(3,894)
Trade payables	(4,187)	-	-	-	(4,187)	(4,187)
Accruals and other payables *(note (iv))*	(3,779)	-	-	-	(3,779)	(3,739)
Derivative financial instrument *(note (ii))*	(100)	-	-	-	(100)	(98)
Carrier licence fee liabilities	(336)	-	-	-	(336)	(331)
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and intermediate holding companies	(19,199)	-	-	-	(19,199)	(18,987)
Advances from customers	(107)	-	-	-	(107)	(107)
Lease liabilities	(667)	-	-	-	(667)	(614)
	(32,274)	-	-	-	(32,274)	(31,957)
Non-current liabilities						
Long-term borrowings *(note (i))*	(1,531)	(4,786)	(27,826)	(12,146)	(46,289)	(39,888)
Amount due to a fellow subsidiary	(1)	(34)	-	-	(35)	(34)
Derivative financial instruments	36	(37)	(105)	(140)	(246)	(223)
Carrier licence fee liabilities	-	(343)	(912)	(2,712)	(3,967)	(3,340)
Lease liabilities	-	(309)	(96)	(2)	(407)	(393)
Other long-term liabilities *(note (iii))*	-	(3)	(934)	(2,330)	(3,267)	(1,598)
	(1,496)	(5,512)	(29,873)	(17,330)	(54,211)	(45,476)
Total	(33,770)	(5,512)	(29,873)	(17,330)	(86,485)	(77,433)

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

b. Liquidity risk *(continued)*

In HK$ million	Within 1 year or on demand	More than 1 year but within 2 years	More than 2 years but within 5 years	More than 5 years	Total contractual undiscounted cash outflow	Carrying amount
	2023					
Current liabilities						
Short-term borrowing	**(1,015)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(1,015)**	**(994)**
Trade payables	**(4,562)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(4,562)**	**(4,562)**
Accruals and other payables	**(3,865)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(3,865)**	**(3,865)**
Derivative financial instrument *(note (ii))*	**(153)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(153)**	**(151)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	**(343)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(343)**	**(338)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and intermediate holding companies	**(7,774)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(7,774)**	**(7,536)**
Amount due to a related company	**(1)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(1)**	**(1)**
Advances from customers	**(91)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(91)**	**(91)**
Lease liabilities	**(736)**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(736)**	**(662)**
	(18,540)	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(18,540)**	**(18,200)**
Non-current liabilities						
Long-term borrowings *(note (i))*	**(1,904)**	**(8,717)**	**(28,018)**	**(11,884)**	**(50,523)**	**(43,518)**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	**(2)**	**(24)**	**(41)**	**-**	**(67)**	**(62)**
Derivative financial instruments	**63**	**(84)**	**(209)**	**(470)**	**(700)**	**(602)**
Carrier licence fee liabilities	**-**	**(297)**	**(934)**	**(2,392)**	**(3,623)**	**(3,086)**
Lease liabilities	**-**	**(349)**	**(256)**	**(59)**	**(664)**	**(576)**
Other long-term liabilities *(note (iii))*	**-**	**(13)**	**(929)**	**(2,334)**	**(3,276)**	**(1,844)**
	(1,843)	**(9,484)**	**(30,387)**	**(17,139)**	**(58,853)**	**(49,688)**
Total	**(20,383)**	**(9,484)**	**(30,387)**	**(17,139)**	**(77,393)**	**(67,888)**

Notes:

(i) As at 31 December 2023, bank borrowings of HK$1,040 million (2022: HK$1,170 million) included in long-term borrowings were outstanding for financing a 15-year 3G spectrum utilisation fee paid upfront by the Group.

(ii) As at 31 December 2023, derivative financial instrument included HK$153 million (2022: HK$107 million) of short-term interest payable, which related to interest drawn under an arrangement with a bank to receive agreed amounts by instalments to settle interest payments of a floating-to-fixed interest rate swap contract with a notional contract amount of HK$1,000 million (2022: HK$1,000 million).

(iii) As at 31 December 2023, other long-term liabilities included HK$618 million (2022: HK$535 million) of long-term interest payable, which related to interest drawn under an arrangement with a bank to receive agreed amounts by instalments to settle interest payments of a fixed-to-fixed cross currency swap contract with a notional contract amount of EUR200 million (approximately HK$1,665 million) (2022: EUR200 million (approximately HK$1,665 million)). Refer to notes 21(c) and 22(a) for details of the guaranteed notes and the derivative financial instruments respectively.

(iv) As at 31 December 2022, accruals and other payables included HK$715 million of short-term interest payable, which related to interest drawn under the arrangements with banks to receive agreed amounts by instalments to settle interest payments of fixed-to-fixed cross currency swap contracts with an aggregate notional contract amount of US$500 million (approximately HK$3,879 million). Refer to notes 20(e) and 22(a) for details of the guaranteed notes and the derivative financial instruments respectively.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Market risk

Market risk comprises foreign currency, interest rate and equity price exposure deriving from the Group's operation, investment and funding activities. As a matter of policy, the Group enters into cross currency swap contracts, interest rate swap contracts, foreign exchange forward contracts and other financial instruments to manage its exposure to market risk directly related to its operations and financing. The Group does not undertake any speculative trading activities in connection with these financial instruments or enter into or acquire high market risk instruments for trading purposes.

The Finance and Management Committee, a sub-committee of the Executive Committee of the board of directors of HKT, determines the appropriate risk management activities with the aim of prudently managing the market risk associated with transactions undertaken in the normal course of the Group's business.

All treasury risk management activities are carried out in accordance with policies and guidelines approved by the Finance and Management Committee, which are reviewed on a regular basis. Early termination and amendments to the terms of the transaction would typically occur when there are changes in the underlying assets or liabilities or in the risk management strategy of the Group.

In the normal course of business, the Group uses the above-mentioned financial instruments to limit its exposure to adverse fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and interest rates. These instruments are executed with creditworthy financial institutions and all contracts are denominated in major currencies.

i. Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk arises when the Group's recognised assets and liabilities are denominated in a currency that is not the functional currency of the relevant group entity.

The Group's borrowings are substantially denominated in Hong Kong dollars, United States dollars and Euro. As at 31 December 2022 and 2023, all of the Group's borrowings denominated in United States dollars/Euro were swapped into Hong Kong dollars by cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts. Given this, management does not expect that there will be any significant foreign currency risk associated with the Group's borrowings. The cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts outstanding as at 31 December 2023 with an aggregate notional contract amount of US$2,870 million (approximately HK$22,400 million) (2022: US$3,370 million (approximately HK$26,279 million)) and EUR200 million (approximately HK$1,665 million) (2022: EUR200 million (approximately HK$1,665 million)) were designated or redesignated as cash flow hedges against foreign currency risk.

In respect of trade receivables and payables held in currencies other than the functional currency of the operations to which they relate, the Group ensures that the net exposure is kept to an acceptable level by buying or selling foreign currencies at spot or forward rates where necessary to address short-term imbalances.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Market risk *(continued)*

i. Foreign currency risk *(continued)*

The following table details the Group's exposure at the end of the reporting period to currency risk arising from significant monetary assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies:

	2022		**2023**	
In HK$ million	United States Dollars	Euro	**United States Dollars**	**Euro**
Trade receivables	83	7	**9**	**-**
Short-term deposits	-	-	**70**	**-**
Cash and cash equivalents	143	11	**69**	**2**
Short-term borrowing	(3,894)	-	**-**	**-**
Trade payables	(2,350)	-	**(1,978)**	**-**
Amount due to fellow subsidiaries	(238)	-	**(250)**	**-**
Long-term borrowings	(20,899)	(1,646)	**(20,923)**	**(1,718)**
Gross exposure arising from net monetary liabilities	(27,155)	(1,628)	**(23,003)**	**(1,716)**
Borrowings with hedging instruments	24,793	1,646	**20,923**	**1,718**
Overall net exposure	(2,362)	18	**(2,080)**	**2**

As at 31 December 2023, if the Hong Kong dollar had weakened/strengthened by 1% (2022: same) against the United States dollar, with all other variables held constant, the profit after tax of the Group for the year would have decreased/increased by approximately HK$17 million (2022: HK$20 million), mainly as a result of foreign exchange losses/gains on translation of United States dollar denominated monetary assets and liabilities which are not hedged by hedging instruments. Meanwhile, the hedging reserve and costs of hedging reserve of the Group as at 31 December 2023 would have collectively debited/credited by approximately HK$209 million (2022: HK$248 million), mainly as a result of foreign exchange losses/gains on the borrowings being hedged by cross currency swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts.

As at 31 December 2023, if the Hong Kong dollar had weakened/strengthened by 5% (2022: same) against Euro, with all other variables held constant, the profit after tax of the Group for the year would have increased/decreased by an immaterial amount (2022: HK$1 million), mainly as a result of foreign exchange gains/losses on translation of Euro denominated monetary assets and liabilities which are not hedged by hedging instruments. Meanwhile, the hedging reserve and costs of hedging reserve of the Group as at 31 December 2023 would have collectively debited/credited by approximately HK$86 million (2022: HK$82 million), mainly as a result of foreign exchange losses/gains on the long-term borrowings being hedged by a cross currency swap contract.

The sensitivity analysis has been determined assuming that the change in foreign exchange rates occurred at the end of the reporting period and applied to the Group's exposure to currency risk for monetary assets and liabilities in existence at those dates, and that all other variables, in particular interest rates, remained constant.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Market risk *(continued)*

i. Foreign currency risk *(continued)*

The stated changes represent management's assessment of reasonably possible changes in foreign exchange rates over the period until the end of the next annual reporting period. In this respect, it is assumed that the pegged rate between the Hong Kong dollar and the United States dollar would be materially unaffected by any change in the movement in value of the United States dollar against other currencies. The analysis was performed on the same methodology for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

ii. Interest rate risk

Given the relatively insignificant amount of interest-bearing assets, the Group's income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates.

The Group's interest rate risk arises primarily from borrowings, amounts due to fellow subsidiaries and amount due to an intermediate holding company. Borrowings and balances with group companies at variable rates and fixed rates expose the Group to cash flow interest rate risk and fair value interest rate risk respectively. In addition, from time to time, the Group draws under its revolving credit facilities which are substantially denominated in Hong Kong dollars with floating rate interest.

The Group has entered into floating-to-fixed interest rate swap contracts to hedge the cash flow interest rate risk arising from certain floating rate borrowings.

The following table details the interest rate profile of the Group's borrowings and balances with group companies at the end of the reporting period, after taking into account the effect of the cash flow hedging instruments:

	2022		**2023**	
	Effective interest rate %	HK$ million	**Effective interest rate %**	**HK$ million**
Net fixed rate balances:				
Short-term bank borrowing with hedging instrument	-	-	**4.62**	**994**
Short-term borrowing with hedging instruments	4.53	3,894	**-**	**-**
Long-term bank borrowings with hedging instruments	2.71	997	**4.07**	**1,589**
Long-term borrowings with hedging instruments	3.32	22,545	**2.93**	**22,641**
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	3.33	71	**3.61**	**62**
Variable rate balances:				
Long-term bank borrowings	3.14	16,346	**5.21**	**19,288**
Amount due to a fellow subsidiary	1.78	228	**5.10**	**228**
Amount due to an intermediate holding company	1.63	4,335	**4.51**	**4,290**
Total		48,416		**49,092**

As at 31 December 2023, if the interest rate on variable rate borrowings and balances with group companies had increased/decreased by 75 basis points (2022: same), with all other variables held constant, the profit after tax of the Group for the year would have decreased/increased by approximately HK$150 million (2022: HK$132 million), mainly as a result of higher/lower interest expense on floating rate borrowings and balances with group companies in existence at the end of the reporting period.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

c. Market risk *(continued)*

ii. Interest rate risk *(continued)*

The sensitivity analysis has been determined assuming that the change in interest rate occurred at the end of the reporting period and applied to the Group's exposure to interest rate risk for floating rate borrowings and balances with group companies in existence at those dates. The 75 basis points (2022: same) increase or decrease represents management's assessment of a reasonably possible change in interest rate over the period until the end of the next annual reporting period. The analysis was performed on the same methodology for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

iii. Equity price risk

The Group is exposed to equity price changes arising from equity investments. Other than unlisted equity securities held for strategic purposes, all of these investments are listed on a recognised stock exchange market.

Given the insignificant portfolio of listed equity securities held by the Group, management believes that the Group's equity price risk is minimal.

Performance of the Group's unlisted investments held for long-term strategic purposes is assessed at least semi-annually against the performance of the associated business as well as similar listed entities, based on the limited information available to the Group, together with an assessment of their relevance to the Group's long-term strategic plans.

d. Fair values of financial instruments measured at amortised cost

All financial instruments were carried at amounts not materially different from their fair values as at 31 December 2023 except as follows:

	2022		**2023**	
In HK$ million	Carrying amount	Fair value	**Carrying amount**	**Fair value**
Short-term borrowing	3,894	3,889	**994**	**994**
Long-term borrowings	39,888	37,741	**43,518**	**42,128**

The fair values of borrowings are the net present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the prevailing market rates. The fair values are within level 2 of the fair value hierarchy (as defined in note 30(e)).

e. Estimation of fair values

Financial instruments carried at fair value are analysed by valuation method and the different levels are defined as follows:

- Level 1: The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets (such as publicly traded derivatives and equity securities) is based on quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period. The quoted market price used for the financial assets held by the Group is the current bid price. These instruments are included in level 1.

- Level 2: The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (for example, over-the-counter derivatives) is determined using valuation techniques which maximise the use of observable market data and rely as little as possible on entity-specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in level 2.

- Level 3: If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the instrument is included in level 3. This is the case for unlisted securities.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

e. Estimation of fair values *(continued)*

The following tables present the Group's financial assets and liabilities that were measured at fair value:

	As at 31 December 2022			
In HK$ million	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets				
Financial assets at FVPL				
- Unlisted securities (non-current)	-	-	10	10
- Listed securities (non-current)	6	-	-	6
- Listed securities (current)	13	-	-	13
Derivative financial instruments				
- Non-current	-	27	-	27
- Current	-	58	-	58
Total assets	19	85	10	114
Liabilities				
Derivative financial instruments				
- Current	-	(98)	-	(98)
- Non-current	-	(223)	-	(223)
Total liabilities	-	(321)	-	(321)

	As at 31 December 2023			
In HK$ million	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
Assets				
Financial assets at FVPL				
- Unlisted securities (non-current)	**-**	**-**	**10**	**10**
- Listed securities (non-current)	**6**	**-**	**-**	**6**
- Listed securities (current)	**13**	**-**	**-**	**13**
Derivative financial instruments				
- Non-current	**-**	**29**	**-**	**29**
Total assets	**19**	**29**	**10**	**58**
Liabilities				
Derivative financial instruments				
- Current	**-**	**(151)**	**-**	**(151)**
- Non-current	**-**	**(602)**	**-**	**(602)**
Total liabilities	**-**	**(753)**	**-**	**(753)**

Instruments included in level 1 comprised PCCW Shares acquired or subscribed under PCCW Share Award Schemes and Share Stapled Units acquired or subscribed under Share Stapled Units Award Schemes and classified as financial assets at FVPL.

Instruments included in level 2 comprised cross currency swap contracts, interest rate swap contracts and foreign exchange forward contracts classified as derivative financial instruments. In measuring the swap transactions, the fair value is the net present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the market quoted swap foreign exchange rates and interest rates. The fair value of the foreign exchange forward contracts is calculated based on the prevailing market foreign exchange rates quoted for contracts with the same notional amounts adjusted for maturity differences.

30 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

e. Estimation of fair values *(continued)*

Instruments included in level 3 comprised investments in unlisted instruments classified as financial assets at FVPL. During the year ended 31 December 2023, there was no addition in the unlisted instruments included in level 3 (2022: nil).

For unlisted securities or financial assets without an active market, the Group establishes the fair value by using valuation techniques including the use of recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, and discounted cash flow analysis, making maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on entity-specific inputs.

There were no transfers of financial assets and liabilities between fair value hierarchy classifications during the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

There were no material changes in valuation techniques during the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023.

f. Group's valuation process

The Group performs and monitors the valuations of financial instruments required for financial reporting purposes, including level 3 fair values. Material movements in valuations are reported to senior management immediately. Valuation results are reviewed by senior management at least on a semi-annual basis.

31 COMMITMENTS

a. Capital

As at 31 December 2023, capital commitments authorised and contracted for by nature were as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	1,016	**1,441**

b. Committed leases not yet commenced

As at 31 December 2023, the total future lease payments for leases committed but not yet commenced were payable as follows:

Land and buildings

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Within 1 year	13	**8**
After 1 year but within 5 years	14	**10**
	27	**18**

c. Others

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had other outstanding commitments as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Operating expenditure commitments	458	**458**

31 COMMITMENTS *(CONTINUED)*

d. Lease receivables

As at 31 December 2023, the maturity analysis of the total future minimum lease receipts under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows:

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Within 1 year	37	**36**
After 1 year but within 2 years	29	**22**
After 2 years but within 3 years	17	**15**
After 3 years but within 4 years	12	**7**
After 4 years but within 5 years	7	**-**
	102	**80**

The Group leases out properties under operating leases. The majority of the leases typically run for periods of 1 to 5 years (2022: 1 to 5 years). None of the leases include material contingent rentals.

32 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

In HK$ million	2022	**2023**
Performance guarantees	172	**134**

The Group is subject to certain corporate guarantee obligations to guarantee the performance of the Company in the normal course of its businesses. The amount of liabilities arising from such obligations, if any, cannot be ascertained but the directors are of the opinion that any resulting liability will not materially affect the financial position of the Group.

33 BANKING FACILITIES

Aggregate banking facilities as at 31 December 2023 was HK$34,757 million (2022: HK$31,957 million) of which the undrawn facilities amounted to HK$12,733 million (2022: HK$14,459 million).

All of the Group’s banking facilities are subject to the fulfilment of covenants relating to certain of HKTGH’s consolidated statement of financial position ratios, as are commonly found in lending arrangements with financial institutions. If the Group and HKTGH were to breach the covenants, the drawn down facilities would become payable on demand and the undrawn facilities would be cancelled. The Group and HKTGH regularly monitor their compliance with these covenants. As at 31 December 2023, the Group and HKTGH were in compliance with the covenants relating to the banking facilities. Further details of the Group’s management of liquidity risk are set out in note 30(b).

Summaries of short-term and long-term borrowings are set out in notes 20(e) and 21 respectively.

34 POSSIBLE IMPACT OF NEW AND AMENDED STANDARDS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE FOR THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTING PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Up to the date of approval of these consolidated financial statements, the HKICPA has issued the following new and amended Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards which are not yet effective for the accounting period ended 31 December 2023 and which have not been early adopted in these consolidated financial statements:

		Effective for accounting periods beginning on or after
HKAS 1 (Revised) (Amendments)	Presentation of Financial Statements	1 January 2024
HKAS 7 (Amendments)	Statement of Cash Flows	1 January 2024
HKAS 21 (Amendments)	The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates	1 January 2025
HKAS 28 (2011) (Amendments)	Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures	To be announced
HKFRS 7 (Amendments)	Financial Instruments: Disclosures	1 January 2024
HKFRS 10 (Amendments)	Consolidated Financial Statements	To be announced
HKFRS 16 (Amendments)	Leases	1 January 2024
HK Interpretation 5 (Revised)	Presentation of Financial Statements – Classification by the Borrower of a Term Loan that Contains a Repayment on Demand Clause	1 January 2024

Apart from the above, a number of improvements and minor amendments to Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards have also been issued by the HKICPA but they are not yet effective for the accounting period ended 31 December 2023 and have not been early adopted in these consolidated financial statements.

None of the above is expected to have a significant effect on the result of operation and financial position of the Group.