Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this announcement, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this announcement.



PARKSON RETAIL GROUP LIMITED 百盛商業集團有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 3368)

UNAUDITED FIRST QUARTERLY RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The board of directors (the "Board") of Parkson Retail Group Limited (the "Company") is pleased to announce the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Group") for the three months ended 31 March 2024, together with the comparative unaudited figures for the corresponding period in 2023 as follows.

The unaudited quarterly results of the Group are released in conjunction with the announcement of the quarterly results of Parkson Holdings Berhad, the holding company of the Company in Malaysia pursuant to the Bursa Malaysia Main Board Listing Requirements. This announcement is made pursuant to paragraph 13.09 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

HIGHLIGHTS

Total operating revenues for the three months ended 31 March 2024 amounted to RMB1,052.8 million, representing a decrease of RMB53.2 million or 4.8% as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

Same store sales ("SSS") for the three months ended 31 March 2024 decreased by 10.3% as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

The Group recorded total Gross Sales Proceeds ("GSP") inclusive of value-added tax of RMB2,666.5 million for the three months ended 31 March 2024, representing a decrease of 7.3% as compared to that of RMB2,877.3 million for the three months ended 31 March 2023.

Profit from operations for the three months ended 31 March 2024 was RMB143.9 million, an increase of RMB39.7 million or 38.1% as compared to RMB104.2 million for the corresponding period of last year.

Profit attributable to owners of the Company for the three months ended 31 March 2024 was RMB19.1 million, as compared to profit attributable to owners of the Company of RMB26.6 million (restated) recorded for the three months ended 31 March 2023.

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

	For the three months ended 31 March	
	2024 Unaudited	2023 Unaudited
	RMB'000	RMB'000
	RMB 000	(restated)
		(restatea)
Gross Sales Proceeds		
(inclusive of value-added tax)	2,666,451	2,877,260
Revenue	942,439	988,404
Other operating revenues	110,350	117,585
Total operating revenues	1,052,789	1,105,989
Operating expenses		
Purchases of goods and changes in inventories	(481,243)	(549,234)
Staff costs	(128,342)	(133,129)
Depreciation and amortisation	(127,373)	(141,330)
Rental expenses	(24,748)	(23,749)
Other operating expenses	(147,230)	(154,379)
Total operating expenses	(908,936)	(1,001,821)
Profit from operations	143,853	104,168
Finance income	12,859	13,827
Finance costs	(119,601)	(128,250)
Share of profits/(losses) of:		
 A joint venture 	-	(156)
- Associates	5,039	4,717
Profit/(Loss) before tax	42,150	(5,694)
Income tax (expense)/credit	(22,201)	35,265
Profit for the period	19,949	29,571
Attributable to:		
 Owners of the Company 	19,081	26,614
 Non-controlling interests 	868	2,957

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

		As at 31 March 2024 Unaudited <i>RMB'000</i>	As at 31 December 2023 Audited <i>RMB</i> '000
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment		2,772,857	2,807,192
Investment properties		543,174	548,468
Right-of-use assets		2,043,850	2,081,520
Goodwill		1,636,683	1,636,683
Investments in associates		56,754	51,715
Trade receivables		437,650	391,917
Time deposits		27,202	27,202
Other assets		217,967	233,520
Deferred tax assets		259,218	263,494
		7,995,355	8,041,711
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories		396,045	421,717
Trade receivables		283,049	289,215
Prepayments and other receivables		476,292	566,432
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		67,873	57,540
Restricted cash		79,482	100,191
Time deposits		13,293	16,563
Cash and bank balances		1,470,818	1,583,414
		2,786,852	3,035,072
CUDDENT LA DILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES Trade payables		630,577	702,563
Other payables and accruals		604,125	677,887
Contract liabilities		602,916	615,709
Interest-bearing bank loans	Note 1	2,308,501	161,350
Lease liabilities		615,580	656,677
Tax payable		35,746	27,619
		4,797,445	2,841,805
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ASSETS		(2,010,593)	193,267
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,984,762	8,234,978
10 IIII IIIIII EEDO CUMENT EMBILITIED		- /	, - ,

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CONTINUED)

	As at 31 March 2024 Unaudited <i>RMB</i> '000	As at 31 December 2023 Audited <i>RMB</i> '000
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Interest-bearing bank loans	148,948	2,330,564
Lease liabilities	2,291,128	2,360,886
Deferred tax liabilities	219,984	226,381
	2,660,060	4,917,831
NET ASSETS	3,324,702	3,317,147
EQUITY		
Issued capital	55,477	55,477
Reserves	3,196,519	3,189,465
	3,251,996	3,244,942
Non-controlling interests	72,706	72,205
TOTAL EQUITY	3,324,702	3,317,147

Note 1 Interest-bearing bank loans

On 15 March 2024, the Company, as borrower, entered into a loan agreement in relation to a syndicated loan facility in an aggregate amount of up to RMB2,500,000,000 with a syndicate of banks, as lenders. The loan facility has a term of 36 months commencing from the first drawdown date. The loan facility is to refinance the Group's existing syndicated loan of RMB 2,237,126,000 that will expire in January 2025.

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENTS

	For the three months ended 31 March 2024 Unaudited RMB'000
Net cash flows from operating activities	198,919
Net cash flows from investing activities	(19,193)
Net cash flows used in financing activities	(313,031)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(133,305)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period	1,683,605
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period	1,550,300
Analysis of balances of cash and cash equivalents Cash and bank balances Non-pledged time deposits with original maturity of less than three months when acquired	1,234,825 235,993
Restricted cash	79,482
Cash and cash equivalents	1,550,300
Cash and cash equivalents Time deposits Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	1,550,300 40,495 67,873
Cash and cash equivalents, deposits and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss at end of the period	1,658,668

Operation and Financial Review

GSP and total operating revenues

The Group recorded total GSP inclusive of value-added tax of RMB2,666.5 million for the three months ended 31 March 2024, representing a decrease of 7.3% as compared to the same period of last year. The decrease in GSP as there is a shift towards more rational consumer behaviour after the pandemic. SSS decreased by 10.3% during the three months ended 31 March 2024 as compared to the same period of last year.

The following table sets out a breakdown of our total merchandise sales through different channels for the periods indicated:

	For the three months ended 31 March				
	2024		2023		Year-on-year
	RMB'000	% of total	RMB'000	% of total	change (%)
Concessionaire sales	1,539,450	73.5%	1,688,535	72.4%	(8.8%)
Direct sales	555,238	26.5%	642,826	27.6%	(13.6%)
	2,094,688	100.0%	2,331,361	100.0%	(10.2%)

Total operating revenues of the Group decreased by RMB53.2 million or 4.8% to RMB1,052.8 million for the three months ended 31 March 2024 as compared to RMB1,106.0 million for the three months ended 31 March 2023. The decrease in total operating revenues was mainly due to the decrease in the revenue from contracts with customers. The revenue from contracts with customers consists of sale of goods from direct sales, commissions from concessionaire sales and consultancy and management service fees. For the three months ended 31 March 2024, revenue from contracts with customers, which constituted 71.9% of our total operating revenues for the three months ended 31 March 2024 decreased by 12.9% compared to the same period of last year.

Operating expenses

Total operating expenses excluding purchases of goods and changes in inventories decreased by RMB24.9 million or 5.5% to RMB427.7 million for the three months ended 31 March 2024 as compared to RMB452.6 million for the three months ended 31 March 2023. On a same store basis, total operating expenses excluding purchases of goods and changes in inventories decreased by 6.0%. The decrease was mainly due to: (i) decrease in depreciation for the right-of-use assets of the properties as a result of changed in rental and payment terms for certain stores; and (ii) decrease in other operating expenses mainly due to closure of Qingdao store during 2023.

Profit from operations

Profit from operations of the Group was RMB143.9 million for the three months ended 31 March 2024, an increase of RMB39.7 million or 38.1% as compared to RMB104.2 million for the three months ended 31 March 2023.

Profit attributable to owners of the Company

The Group recorded profit attributable to owners of the Company of RMB19.1 million for the three months ended 31 March 2024 as compared to RMB26.6 million (restated) recorded for the three months ended 31 March 2023.

During the period under review, the Group opened a supermarket in Mianyang City, Sichuan Province, in January 2024. The Group has been closely monitor the post-pandemic changes in consumption behavior and adjust the strategy accordingly.

As at 31 March 2024, the Group and its associates operated and managed 43 stores (including department stores, shopping malls, city outlets, the "Parkson Beauty" concept store and supermarkets) and 2 Parkson Newcore City Malls, in 28 major cities across China and Laos.

Acknowledgement

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board, management and all our staff for their hard work and dedication. I would also like to thank the shareholders and our loyal customers for their strong support to the Group.

On behalf of the Board

Parkson Retail Group Limited

Tan Sri Cheng Heng Jem

Executive Director & Chairman

23 May 2024

As at the date of this announcement, the Executive Directors of the Company are Tan Sri Cheng Heng Jem and Ms. Juliana Cheng San San, the Non-executive Director is Dato' Sri Dr. Hou Kok Chung and the Independent Non-executive Directors are Dato' Fu Ah Kiow, Mr. Yau Ming Kim, Robert and Datuk Koong Lin Loong.