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## 中升集團控股有限公司 Zhongsheng Group Holdings Limited

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock code: 881)

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The board (the "Board") of directors (the "Directors") of Zhongsheng Group Holdings Limited (the "Company" or "we") is pleased to announce the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Group") for the six months ended 30 June 2025, as follows:

KEY HIGHLIGHTS			
Financial Summary			
	Unau	ıdited	
		For the six months ended 30 June 2024 in millions, unless	Year-on-year change as specified)
Revenue			
Sales of motor vehicles	63,945.6	69,052.3	(7.4)%
Accessories and after-sales services thereof after-sales services	13,376.5	13,369.1	0.1%
(Maintenance, warranty and collision)	11,445.3	10,964.1	4.4%
Total revenue	77,322.1	82,421.4	(6.2)%

	Unaudited			
	For the	For the		
	six months	six months		
	ended	ended	Year-on-year	
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024	change	
	(Renminbi	in millions, unles	s specified)	
Gross profit				
Sales of motor vehicles	(2,130.8)	(1,372.1)	55.3%	
Accessories and after-sales services	6,340.1	6,298.3	0.7%	
thereof after-sales services				
(Maintenance, warranty and collision)	5,440.5	5,035.0	8.1%	
Total gross profit	4,209.3	4,926.2	(14.6)%	
Commission income	1,845.1	1,941.6	(5.0)%	
Aggregate Profit	6,054.4	6,867.8	(11.8)%	
Profit for the year	924.1	1,500.0	(38.4)%	
Profit attributable to owners of the parent	1,011.4	1,579.6	(36.0)%	
Basic earnings per Share attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent	,		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
(RMB)	0.427	0.662	(35.5)%	
<b>Operating Metrics</b>				
	For the	For the		
	six months	six months		
	ended	ended	Year-on-year	
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024	change	
New car sales volume (Units)	228,649	232,543	(1.7)%	
thereof Luxury brands (Units)	142,406	142,634	(0.2)%	
Pre-owned automobiles trade volume (Units)	111,244	101,525	9.6%	

#### STRATEGY UPDATES

As we continue to be very strategically disciplined in managing our business — prioritising business density among our core cities and local market brand concentration, prioritising customer engagements, prioritising facility efficiency optimisation, we are encouraged by some market development so far in 2025, which we believe will bring long term positive impacts to the Chinese auto industry. The government has been more mindful of "Nei Juan" or involution practices that cause excessive competition and lead to unsustainable profitability in the Chinese auto industry. Relevant government agencies have issued various guidelines and state media outlets have voiced concerns with aims to temper some aggressive practices, such as long payment terms in supply chains and vicious price wars. The clampdown on "high interest rate, high commission" auto financing products by the banking regulator has also helped alleviate the downward pressure on auto retail prices.

At the industry level, we are seeing ongoing consolidation among auto dealerships creating some very attractive local market entry opportunities for us. Together with the two initiatives we officially announced, AITO in November 2024 and Audi in March 2025, we have gone through a major round of facility/outlet reshuffling in our history. Since November 2024, we have closed down a total of 37 authorised dealership stores across almost all brands we operate. During the same period, as we keep striving in increasing our local market density and brand concentration and optimising facility efficiency, we have added 57 new authorised stores and 20 collision centres, mostly newly opened, with a few acquired.

### Building a premium auto services brand as top priority

Since we announced our pivotal strategy in June 2023, we have been extremely committed to building Zhongsheng as a premium auto services brand in China. The strategic background to our pivot to be more customer oriented has been reiterated many times in the past that the Chinese automobile market has gone from a new car (incremental) market to a car parc (existing) market with flattish annual new car sales number and close to 80% repeat buyers. With hindsight, our pivot has proven to be imperative to our business as customer base (car parc) driven after-sales services become the predominant profit contributor as auto OEMs are wrestling for new car market share at the cost of gross margins because of the advancement of new energy vehicles in China.

Despite the technical differences in powertrain, the various after-sales services an auto owner may need do not differ much between a traditional internal combustion engine vehicle or a new energy vehicle. Therefore, our strategy puts more emphasis on the premium segment of the customers rather than any specific auto brands or powertrain types. Based on our estimates, Zhongsheng is currently serving 14.6% of the total 20.10 million premium segment customers across the 32 core cities where we have operational presence.

At the end of June 2025, Zhongsheng has an active customer base of 4.54 million, representing a 15.2% growth year over year and a further 8.3% growth over the end of December 2024. Our WeChat based membership platform, Zhongsheng GO, has 3.80 million subscription members. We have established direct contacts over WeCom, the enterprise version of WeChat, with close to 10.50 million customers. Zhongsheng GO membership and WeCom contacts have been our key digitization and centralization initiatives in pivoting to a customer-oriented provider of full-fledged OEM brand-agnostic auto services.

### Further strengthening local market density and brand concentration

We have benefited tremendously from our local market density and brand concentration in withstanding the current adverse market environment and executing our strategy in centralised brand-agnostic operations. We have, on average a total of 15 stores and collision centres in each of our 32 core cities, serving an average of 137 thousand active customers.

As we went through our biggest reshuffling of facility/outlet since November 2024, we have now over 46% of our stores (203 out of 439) being the dominating dealership operator (over 50% store count) in respective local markets. There are 89 stores that represent sole dealership of respective brands in their local markets.

Besides the potential bargaining power we may be able to exert in these local markets, such increasing operational density and local markets dominance benefits us in terms of building greater mindshare among our customers and paving ways for ongoing active customer relationships through our various brand-agnostic auto services even in the event of customers switching vehicle brands.

In the largest four core cities among our footprint, namely Chengdu, Dalian, Nanjing and Shenzhen, the total number of active customers in these four core cities grew 14.5% year on year, reaching 1.03 million in aggregate. The proportion of customers who did not purchase their vehicles from Zhongsheng but came in for regular servicing, or collision repair, or auto insurance renewal were 20%, 36% and 30% respectively in the first half of 2025.

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW AND OUTLOOK**

### **After-sales Services Business**

The after-sales services segment recorded revenue of RMB11.45 billion in the first half of 2025, representing a year-over-year increase of 4.4%. Gross profit for the segment notched RMB5.44 billion for the same period, growing an 8.1% from a year ago. These strong segment financial performances are being bolstered by 4.00 million after-sales services visits among our latest active customer base of 4.54 million, representing year-over-year increases of 1.7% and 15.2% respectively.

Since November 2024, we have gone through a major round of facility/outlet reshuffling in our history, which includes reconfiguring facilities to house multiple operations, converting dealership stores into dedicated Zhongsheng-branded collision centres, swapping operations across facilities, etc. Over 20% of our facilities/outlets experienced changes. We added a total of 57 stores and another 20 collision centres, while there were 37 stores closed down. 48 of these newly added stores are premium brands among which there are 36 AITO stores, 1 HIMA store, 1 Mercedes-Benz store, 3 Lexus stores, 1 Audi store and 6 Volvo stores.

These changes are aiming to optimise our operational efficiencies in terms of increasing business scale while incurring minimal corresponding investments and expenses. As a result of these changes, our active customer base popped by 15.2% on a year-over-year basis in contrast to the moderate after-sales visits growth of 1.7% as operational disruption caused by reshuffling and the closing down of some mass brand stores that used to contribute disproportionately more in terms of after-sales visits. Our same-store after-sales visits growth for the first half of 2025 was 4.5%. Same-store after-sales revenue increased by RMB813 million, which grew 7.9% on a year-over-year basis. Newly added facilities contributed RMB331 million to after-sales revenue, partially offsetting the RMB663 million after-sales revenue in the first half of 2024 attributed by the 37 stores closed down during the reshuffling. The net after-sales revenue incremental was RMB481 million or 4.4% over the same period last year.

Entering the second half of 2025, ongoing facility/outlet reshuffling returns to a normalised level. Newly added stores/facilities will continue their ramp-up and there are another 19 to become operational in the pipeline, including 11 Audi stores, 2 AITO stores, 2 Volvo stores, among others. Some of our premium brand stores' after-sales revenue more than doubled in the first half as a result of market consolidation as local competitors exited the business. The most representative examples are our Jaguar Land Rover store in Shenyang and our Volvo stores in Zhengzhou, both of which have become sole dealership in their local markets in the past 12 months. We expect to continue grabbing local market share in after-sales business and therefore revenue growth, especially in the premium segment as market consolidation continues.

We brokered 0.99 million auto insurance renewals in the first half, registering a year-over-year increase of 10.6%. Our total number of auto insurance policies brokered reached 1.20 million including new car insurance brokered, representing a year-over-year increase of 8.6%.

#### **New Automobile Business**

We sold around 229 thousand of new cars in the first half of 2025, down about 4 thousand units or 1.7% from a year ago. AITO brand contributed for the first time in our operations by adding 11 thousand units during the reported period offsetting some of the volume loss in other brands as our brand mix changes. The proportion of premium brands by units was lifted to 62.3% correspondingly in alignment with our strategic premium positioning.

The new car distribution business has been repeatedly tested since 2024 when new car margin entered the negative territory and operating cashflows were under strain due to widening gaps between inventory costs and retail transaction prices. In the past 18 months, our cumulative average transaction price per vehicle dropped by about RMB33 thousand or 12.5% in the first half of 2025 compared to that of 2023 full year average. OEMs in response have stepped up special compensations which in aggregate amounted to about RMB19 thousand per vehicle or 7.0% in the first half of 2025, allaying some pressure on gross margins and more importantly cashflows. Nevertheless, it has become unquestionable that to fundamentally reverse the disruptive negative new car margin, OEMs will have to drive more competitive new product offerings catering to local Chinese market attributes and rebalance and consolidate their existing dealership networks to match long term sustainable demand levels.

While there is little sign of new car margin improvement in the first half of 2025, we remain confident that new car margin for the full year will show signs of improvement. As we further ramp up our AITO operations, our overall new car sales mix could further be optimised, supporting new car margin recovery. AITO branded new car sales helped lifted our overall new car sales gross margin by 0.6 percentage point in the first half of 2025. Our growing local market density and brand concentration, with over 46% of our stores dominating respective local markets, will help us better withstand market volatility in the future. Furthermore, major OEMs we work with have already entered into their next major new product cycle, spearheaded by Toyota, whose competitive new product offerings have reaped fruits in both volume and price in the first half of 2025 (more on this in the Market Review section). Increasing government oversight on taming excessive competition (counter measures on "Nei Juan") and further consolidation among dealers may potentially rachet up the momentum of price and margin recovery as well.

As at the latest practicable date, Zhongsheng has 439 dealership stores in the country. Toyota and Mercedes-Benz are still the two biggest OEMs we work with. We are the largest operator of Toyota and Lexus brands in China with 107 stores and 58 stores respectively. We operate 108 Mercedes-Benz stores in China, being the second largest in the country. There are also 36 AITO stores, 1 HIMA store, 26 Audi stores, 25 Volvo stores, 23 BMW stores and 14 Jaguar Land Rover stores in our premium brands portfolio.

#### **Pre-owned Automobile Business**

We sold around 111 thousand units of pre-owned automobiles in the first half of 2025. representing a year-over-year increase of 9.6%. However, the pre-owned automobile segment revenue was down by 27.0% to RMB6.02 billion. The sharp drop in revenue per vehicle of 33.4% year-over-year was caused by the trade-in policies issued by various local governments trying to stimulate consumption demand. While these stimulus policies did bolster a more resilient new car market, they stifled the pre-owned automobile market. Trade-in vehicles usually comprise the majority of our pre-owned automobile inventories. The strong push by the local governments on trade-in subsidies to consumers has led to significantly more aged vehicles traded to us, which is reflected in the precipitating average revenue per vehicle. Close to 80% of the pre-owned automobiles we transacted were 6 years old or above in the first half of 2025, an almost 10-percentage-point surge compared to a year ago. Price competition in new car market put further strain on the pre-owned automobile business. Average aggregate profit per vehicle was squeezed to less than RMB3 thousand correspondingly and the aggregate profit for the segment was about RMB300 million, representing a year over year decrease of 60.2%. The bigger contraction in profitability was mainly due to the limited retail value of the more aged trade-in vehicles.

While we believe the pre-owned automobile business has tremendous value in the long run and Zhongsheng is poised to seize the opportunity with its large active customer base and broad business networks, we expect muted growth in terms of profit contribution from the segment in the near term, attributed to the prolonged price competition in the new car market and government subsidies in trade-in vehicles. Nevertheless, pre-owned automobile business remains a key component to our other business segments, especially new car sales. Our stringent management in the business and the high turnover wholesale nature of most of our pre-owned automobile inventories create satiable profit safety margin for the business.

### MARKET REVIEW

2025 has so far been a very tumultuous period compounded by both unsettling international trade frictions with tariff wars and export bans, and domestic consumption demand struggles. The monthly consumer price index (CPI) stayed in the marginal negative territory for most of the first half and recorded a contraction of 0.1% year-on-year for the first half. As continued effort in consumer market stimulus, local governments kept providing subsidies in various forms to support general consumer consumption, ranging from major household item purchases to foot traffic driven dining and recreational activity vouchers.

The sales volume growth of Chinese new passenger vehicles registered continued the strong momentum from the year before. Spurred by the ongoing trade-in policies introduced by the central and local governments, total new car sales volume reached 10.72 million units based on auto insurance registration, representing a year-on-year increase of 0.78 million units or 7.9%. However, the corresponding retail sales value of new cars in China was nearly flat year-over-year as average unit transaction price further trended downward. According to third-party data, new car sales volumes for transaction price between RMB100-250 thousand, and below RMB100 thousand surged by 0.39 million and 0.83 million units respectively, while sales volume for transaction price above RMB250 thousand declined by 0.44 million units. "Nei Juan" or involution practices causing excessive competition among auto OEMs in China, coupled with sapped consumer confidence, have further driven down the average transaction price of passenger vehicles in the first half of 2025, while profit across industrial value chain is consequently being squeezed. State media outlets have voiced concerns in recent months calling for measures to counter "Nei Juan". In recent months, relevant government agencies have also exerted regulatory control. For example, the State Administration for Market Regulation has conducted symposiums and delivered guidance to various players in online platforms, photovoltaics and auto industries.

Toyota and Volkswagen, two major traditional mid-to-high-end brands, recorded new car sales volume growth of 7.7% and 0.5% respectively (based on the insurance registration volume), reversing their three-year sales decline. With a more advanced electrical/ electronic architecture on their new vehicle platforms and by working with local software suppliers, these two OEMs have both launched new vehicle models that can provide more robust smart cabin and autonomous driving features that are comparable to most of the new energy vehicles in the market. To better navigate the Chinese auto market dynamics, both OEMs have supplemented their new model launches with more innovative sales and marketing strategies, including "best and final" pricing and social media campaigns. We believe the relatively strong performances of these two OEMs in terms of market share reflect their strong brand reputation and customer loyalty. From Chinese consumers' perspective, when these traditional OEMs' products catch up on the software side, their products are seen a lot more competitive as their other product attributes become more stellar, especially in terms of safety and reliability. A lot of the novelty features brought by the Chinese OEMs during the hype of the new energy vehicle transition in the past few years have proven to be more of marketing gimmicks rather than what Chinese consumers really need.

Among the traditional luxury brands, Lexus has managed to maintain an annual sales volume at 180 thousand units' level amid fierce competition in recent years while other traditional luxury brands are shedding volume. In the first half of 2025 and based on auto insurance registration data, Lexus sales volume grew 7.1% year-over-year, demonstrating another strong period of tight collaboration and thus mutual benefits between the OEM and its dealers. The major German luxury brands, given their much higher volume base, have been actively adjusting their product mix. Mercedes-Benz sales volume dropped by 14.5% or about 51 thousand units to 300 thousand units in the first half compared to a year ago. Roughly 37 thousand units decline came from entry level models including A-Class, GLA and C-Class, and another around 10 thousand units decrease were from the EQ series, which are in the process of being succeeded by newer generation of EV products. BMW and Audi followed a similar pattern, volume dropping 19.5% and 15.0% year-over-year to 293 thousand units and 280 thousand units respectively. Major movers were 3 Series/i3 (down by 16 thousand units), X1/iX1 (down by 19 thousand units), X3/iX3 (down by 34 thousand units) and A4L (down by 17 thousand units). Based on public information, the brand-new Audi A5L and Mercedes CLA to be launched in China in the second half of 2025 will open the curtains of a serial product launches by the major German luxury brands in the Chinese market all based on their next-generation platforms equipped with software from local Chinese suppliers.

Last but not least, we are delighted to see AITO, which we added into our brand portfolio at the end of last year, delivering 11 thousand units in the first half of this year. AITO was chosen because of its successful premium positioning and new energy vehicle focus. To our reassurance, in the transaction price range above RMB300 thousand, AITO sales volume increased nearly 80% year-on-year in the first half of 2025 thanks to its successful launches of M9 facelift in March and brand-new M8 model in April.

With ongoing consolidation at the dealership level in the Chinese auto market, there are more and more cases where auto owners are left stranded because of the exit of authorised dealers in their respective local markets. In the auto after-sales business, they have become great opportunities for leading dealership groups like Zhongsheng to grasp opportunities of market consolidation by picking up these customers. In pursuant to Zhongsheng's local market density and concentration among its core cities, we may consider opportunities similar to our announced collaboration with Audi earlier this year, where we may gain meaningful access to certain local markets with more favorable terms and conditions than usual. As part of the collaboration, there will be 11 new Audi stores to be operational in the second half of 2025, all in local markets where we see great customer base assets.

The growth of pre-owned automobile sales was benign in the first half of the year. According to data from the China Automobile Dealers Association, pre-owned automobile transaction volume increased by 2.0% year-on-year during the period. At the same time, pre-owned automobiles transaction prices are lurching at low levels because of new car market price competition and trade-in policy induced supply-side disruption. It is anticipated that as the market order for new cars gradually normalises, the pre-owned automobile market will usher in restorative and healthy recovery in growth.

## INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

		Unaudited		
		For the	For the	
		six months	six months	
		ended	ended	
		30 June 2025	30 June 2024	
	Notes	RMB'000	RMB'000	
REVENUE	4(a)	77,322,084	82,421,409	
Cost of sales and services provided		(73,112,804)	(77,495,184)	
Gross profit		4,209,280	4,926,225	
Other income and gains, net	<i>4(b)</i>	2,229,015	2,367,526	
Selling and distribution costs		(3,434,209)	(3,447,486)	
Administrative expenses		(1,099,038)	(1,090,505)	
Profit from operations		1,905,048	2,755,760	
Finance costs	6	(681,412)	(792,249)	
Share of (losses)/profits of:		( )	( , , , , ,	
Joint ventures		(2,673)	(1,197)	
Associates		9	2,135	
Profit before tax	5	1,220,972	1,964,449	
Income tax expense	7	(296,903)	(464,422)	
meome tax expense	,	(270,703)	(404,422)	
Profit for the period		924,069	1,500,027	
Attributable to:				
Owners of the parent		1,011,351	1,579,552	
Non-controlling interests		(87,282)	(79,525)	
C				
		924,069	1,500,027	
Earnings per share attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent				
Basic				
— For profit for the period (RMB)	9	0.427	0.662	
Diluted				
— For profit for the period (RMB)	9	0.427	0.662	

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Unaudited			
	For the	For the		
	six months	six months		
	ended	ended		
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024		
	RMB'000	RMB'000		
Profit for the period	924,069	1,500,027		
Other comprehensive loss				
Other comprehensive loss that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:				
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	(60,630)	(39,436)		
Net other comprehensive loss that may be reclassified to	(50, 500)	(20, 42.6)		
profit or loss in subsequent periods	(60,630)	(39,436)		
Other comprehensive loss that will not be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:				
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	(81,257)	(65,759)		
Net other comprehensive loss that will not be reclassified to	(04.055)	(65.550)		
profit or loss in subsequent periods	(81,257)	(65,759)		
Other comprehensive loss for the period, net of tax	(141,887)	(105,195)		
Total comprehensive income for the period	782,182	1,394,832		
Attributable to:				
Owners of the parent	869,464	1,474,357		
Non-controlling interests	(87,282)	(79,525)		
	782,182	1,394,832		

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

*30 June 2025* 

	Notes	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment		17,627,208	17,323,828
Right-of-use assets		5,182,083	5,266,645
Land use rights		3,378,013	3,448,389
Prepayments		342,407	342,764
Intangible assets		9,079,380	9,238,214
Goodwill		8,316,434	8,272,614
Investments in joint ventures		51,181	53,854
Investments in associates		2,480	2,471
Derivative financial instruments		_	20,674
Debt investments at amortised cost		_	73,153
Deferred tax assets		486,354	548,214
Total non-current assets		44,465,540	44,590,820
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories	10	17,019,577	18,476,861
Trade receivables	11	4,660,900	4,653,569
Prepayments, other receivables and other assets		21,635,254	19,312,792
Amounts due from related parties	20(b)(i)	7,750	7,712
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		104,751	124,669
Term deposits and pledged bank deposits		7,054,189	4,256,545
Cash in transit		123,696	60,039
Cash and cash equivalents		12,859,286	18,687,542
Total current assets		63,465,403	65,579,729

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)

*30 June 2025* 

	Notes	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Bank loans and other borrowings	12	14,707,974	16,965,321
Trade and bills payables	13	16,294,264	12,607,800
Other payables and accruals		4,586,802	4,238,461
Lease liabilities		713,393	689,047
Amounts due to related parties	20(b)(ii)	3,221	6,731
Income tax payable		2,322,614	2,153,207
Dividends payable		2,000	2,000
Convertible Bonds	14		3,356,212
Total current liabilities		38,630,268	40,018,779
Net current assets		24,835,135	25,560,950
Total assets less current liabilities		69,300,675	70,151,770
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deferred tax liabilities		3,115,034	3,429,179
Lease liabilities		4,533,997	4,730,926
Bank loans and other borrowings	12	13,893,636	15,073,848
Derivative financial instruments		81,768	
Total non-current liabilities		21,624,435	23,233,953
Net assets		47,676,240	46,917,817

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)

*30 June 2025* 

	Notes	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 RMB'000
<b>EQUITY Equity attributable to owners of the parent</b>			
Share capital Treasury shares	15	207 (193,649)	207 (193,649)
Reserves		47,869,213	47,022,883
		47,675,771	46,829,441
Non-controlling interests		469	88,376
Total equity		47,676,240	46,917,817

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the six months ended 30 June 2025

Unaudited
Attributable to owners of the parent

					At	tributable to owne	ers of the paren	ıt						
	Share capital RMB'000	Share premium RMB'000	Share Option Reserve RMB'000	Treasury shares RMB'000	Equity component of convertible bonds RMB'000	Discretionary reserve fund RMB'000	Statutory reserve RMB'000	Merger reserve RMB'000	Other reserve RMB'000	Exchange fluctuation reserve RMB'000	Retained profits RMB'000	Total RMB'000	Non- controlling interests RMB'000	Total equity  RMB'000
At 1 January 2024 Profit for the year Other comprehensive loss for the year: Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	207 — —	4,827,943 — —	49,391 — —	- - -	20,884	37,110 — —	4,408,661 — —	(1,386,176) — — —	(2,127,183)	(961,426) — — (105,195)	40,927,885 1,579,552 —	45,797,296 1,579,552 — (105,195)	249,280 (79,525) —	46,046,576 1,500,027 — (105,195)
Total comprehensive income for the year Repurchase of shares Disposal of subsidiaries Dividends paid to non-controlling shareholders				(33,121)						(105,195)	1,579,552	1,474,357 (33,121) — (15,992)	(79,525) — (3,964)	1,394,832 (33,121) (3,964) (15,992)
Snarenoters Final 2023 dividend declared  At 30 June 2024	207	3,093,278	49,391	(33,121)	20,884	37,110	4,408,661	(1,386,176)	(2,127,183)	(1,066,621)	42,491,445	(15,992) (1,734,665) 45,487,875	165,791	(13,992) (1,734,665) 45,653,666
At 1 January 2025 Profit for the year Other comprehensive loss for the year: Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	207 — —	3,093,278	49,391 — — —	(193,649)	20,884	37,110 — — —	4,579,317 — — —	(1,386,176)	(2,127,183)	(1,197,163)	43,953,425 1,011,351 —	46,829,441 1,011,351 — (141,887)	88,376 (87,282) —	46,917,817 924,069 — (141,887)
Total comprehensive income for the year Dividends paid to non-controlling shareholders Redemption of 2025 convertible bonds	_ 		_ 		(20,884)		_ 	_ 		(141,887)	1,011,351 (2,250)	869,464 (2,250) (20,884)	(87,282) (625)	782,182 (2,875) (20,884)
At 30 June 2025	207	3,093,278	49,391	(193,649)		37,110	4,579,317	(1,386,176)	(2,127,183)	(1,339,050)	44,962,526	47,675,771	469	47,676,240

<sup>\*</sup> These reserve accounts comprise the consolidated reserves of RMB47,869,213,000 (31 December 2024: RMB47,022,883,000).

		Unaudited		
		For the six months ended	For the six months ended	
	Notes	30 June 2025 <i>RMB'000</i>		
Operating activities				
Profit before tax		1,220,972	1,964,449	
Adjustments for:				
Share of losses/(profits) of joint ventures and				
associates		2,664	(938)	
Depreciation and impairment of property, plant				
and equipment	5	867,930	1,022,091	
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	5	442,878	393,382	
Amortisation of land use rights	5	58,183	57,506	
Amortisation of intangible assets	5	196,655	201,922	
Impairment of trade receivables	5	(4,182)		
Interest income	<i>4(b)</i>	(301,848)	(224,321)	
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of items of property,		(20 = 1 = )		
plant and equipment	<i>4(b)</i>	(38,715)		
Net gain on disposal of intangible assets	<i>4(b)</i>	(162)	, ,	
Gain on termination of lease	<i>4(b)</i>		(2,761)	
Finance costs	6	681,412	792,249	
Fair value losses/(gains), net:			(0.514)	
<ul> <li>Listed equity investments held for trading</li> </ul>	<i>4(b)</i>	23,347	(9,511)	
— Funds	<i>4(b)</i>		264	
Interest income from debt investments at		(4.00)	(4.0 <b></b> )	
amortised cost	<i>4(b)</i>	(1,209)	(1,827)	
Dividends income from listed equity investment	<i>4(b)</i>	(1,491)	(1,487)	
Write-down of inventories to net realisable value	5	44,991	13,006	
Losses on disposal of subsidiaries	5	3,782	17,244	
		3,195,207	4,216,697	

(Continued)

	Unaudited			
	For the	For the		
	six months	six months		
	ended	ended		
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024		
	RMB'000	RMB'000		
Increase in cash in transit	(63,107)	(231,034)		
Decrease in trade receivables	5,368	143,743		
Increase in prepayments, other receivables and				
other assets	(2,188,318)	(548,211)		
Decrease/(increase) in inventories	1,465,685	(2,009,353)		
Increase in trade and bills payables	3,679,469	2,203,538		
Increase/(decrease) in other payables and accruals	245,574	(125,085)		
(Increase)/decrease in amounts due from related				
parties — trade related	(38)	22,705		
(Decrease)/increase in amounts due to related				
parties — trade related	(3,510)	291		
Cash generated from operations	6,336,330	3,673,291		
Tax paid	(387,962)	(747,708)		
Net cash generated from operating activities	5,948,368	2,925,583		

(Continued)

	Una	udited
	For the	For the
	six months	six months
	ended	ended
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
	RMB'000	<i>RMB'000</i>
Investing activities		
Purchase of items of property, plant and		
equipment	(1,604,966)	(1,238,252)
Proceeds from disposal of items of property, plant		
and equipment	405,161	662,164
Purchase of land use rights	(76,497)	(117,092)
Purchase of intangible assets	(5,356)	(3,379)
Proceeds from disposal of intangible assets	166	
Proceeds from disposal of debt investments at		
amortised cost	73,153	
Prepayments for the potential acquisitions of		
equity interests from third parties	(2,047)	(1,500)
Acquisitions of subsidiaries, net of cash acquired	(51,467)	19
Decrease in prepayments, other receivables and		
other assets	2,200	37,860
Interest received	301,848	224,321
Disposal of subsidiaries, net of cash	15,321	1,079
Dividends received from listed equity investments	1,491	1,487
Net cash used in investing activities	(940,993)	(433,293)

(Continued)

	Unaudited		
	For the	For the	
	six months	six months	
	ended	ended	
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024	
	RMB'000	RMB'000	
Financing activities			
Proceeds from bank loans and other borrowings	44,278,047	51,861,550	
Repayments of bank loans and other borrowings	(47,738,971)	(51,694,222)	
(Increase)/decrease in pledged bank deposits	(2,797,644)	164,246	
Lease payments	(693,897)	(532,891)	
Repurchase of shares	_	(33,121)	
Redemption of convertible bonds	(2,823,798)		
Increase in deposits to entities controlled by			
suppliers for borrowings	_	(39,248)	
Interest paid for bank loans and other borrowings	(522,917)	(652,770)	
Interest paid for convertible bonds	(528,162)		
Dividends paid to the non-controlling			
shareholders	(2,875)	(15,992)	
Net cash used in financing activities	(10,830,217)	(942,448)	
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(5,822,842)	1,549,842	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of each			
period	18,687,542	15,611,984	
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes, net	(5,414)	(15,391)	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of each period	12,859,286	17,146,435	

30 June 2025

#### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Zhongsheng Group Holdings Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (together, the "Group") are principally engaged in the sale and service of motor vehicles in Chinese Mainland.

The Company was incorporated on 23 June 2008 as an exempted company in the Cayman Islands with limited liability under the Companies Law of the Cayman Islands. The registered office of the Company is Third Floor, Century Yard, Cricket Square, P.O. Box 902, Grand Cayman, KY1-1103, Cayman Islands. The Company has established a principal place of business which is located at Rooms 1803–09, 18th Floor, Sun Hung Kai Centre, 30 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

The Company has its primary listing on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Hong Kong Stock Exchange").

In the opinion of the directors of the Company (the "Directors"), the ultimate Controlling Shareholders of the Company are Mr. Huang Yi and Mr. Li Guoqiang.

The interim condensed consolidated financial information for the six months ended 30 June 2025 have been presented in Renminbi ("RMB") and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand except when otherwise indicated. These interim condensed consolidated financial information was approved for issue on 28 August 2025. These interim condensed consolidated financial information has not been audited.

#### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 2.1 Basis of preparation

The interim condensed consolidated financial information for the six months ended 30 June 2025 has been prepared in accordance with HKAS 34 *Interim Financial Reporting*. The interim condensed consolidated financial information does not include all the information and disclosures required in the annual financial statements, and should be read in conjunction with the Group's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### 2.2 Changes in accounting policies and disclosures

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the interim condensed consolidated financial information are consistent with those applied in the preparation of the Group's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024, except for the adoption of the following amended HKFRS Accounting Standard for the first time for the current period's financial information.

Amendments to HKAS 21

Lack of Exchangeability

30 June 2025

### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### 2.2 Changes in accounting policies and disclosures (Continued)

The nature and impact of the amended HKFRS Accounting Standard are described below:

Amendments to HKAS 21 specify how an entity shall assess whether a currency is exchangeable into another currency and how it shall estimate a spot exchange rate at a measurement date when exchangeability is lacking. The amendments require disclosures of information that enable users of financial statements to understand the impact of a currency not being exchangeable. As the currencies that the Group had transacted with and the functional currencies of group entities for translation into the Group's presentation currency were exchangeable. The amendments did not have any impact on the interim condensed consolidated financial information.

#### 3. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Group is engaged in the principal business of sale and service of motor vehicles. For management purposes, the Group operates in one business unit based on its products and has one reportable segment which is the sale of motor vehicles and the provision of related services.

No operating segments have been aggregated to form the above reportable operating segment.

### Information about geographical area

Since over 90% of the Group's revenue and operating profit were generated from the sale and service of motor vehicles in Chinese Mainland and over 90% of the Group's non-current assets other than deferred tax assets were located in Chinese Mainland, no geographical segment information is presented in accordance with HKFRS 8 *Operating Segment*.

#### Information about major customers

Since none of the Group's sales to a single customer amounted to 10% or more of the Group's revenue during the six months ended 30 June 2025, no major customers segment information is presented in accordance with HKFRS 8 *Operating Segments*.

*30 June 2025* 

## 4. REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND GAINS, NET

An analysis of revenue and other income and gains is as follows:

### (a) Revenue

	Unaudited	
	For the	For the
	six months	six months
	ended	ended
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Revenue from contracts with customers		
Disaggregated revenue information		
Type of goods or services		
Sale of motor vehicles	63,945,559	69,052,326
Accessories and after-sales services	13,376,525	13,369,083
Total	77,322,084	82,421,409
Geographical markets		
Chinese Mainland	77,322,084	82,421,409
Timing of revenue recognition		
At a point in time	77,322,084	82,421,409

*30 June 2025* 

## 4. REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND GAINS, NET (Continued)

## (b) Other income and gains, net

	Unaudited	
	For the	For the
	six months	six months
	ended	ended
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Commission income	1,845,060	1,941,569
Rental income	45,495	16,787
Government grants	1,150	65,897
Interest income	301,848	224,321
Net gains/(losses) on disposal of items of property, plant and		
equipment	38,715	(7,498)
Net gains on disposal of intangible assets	162	394
Net gains on lease termination	_	2,761
Losses on disposal of subsidiaries	(3,782)	(17,244)
Interest income from debt investments at amortised cost	1,209	1,827
Fair value (losses)/gains, net:		
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
— listed equity investments	(23,347)	9,511
— funds	_	(264)
Dividend income from listed equity investments	1,491	1,487
Others	21,014	127,978
Total	2,229,015	2,367,526

*30 June 2025* 

### 5. PROFIT BEFORE TAX

The Group's profit before tax is arrived at after charging/(crediting):

	Unaudited	
	For the	For the
	six months	six months
	ended	ended
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Employee benefit expense (including directors' and chief executive officer's remuneration)		
Wages and salaries	2,126,352	1,876,388
Pension scheme contributions (defined contribution scheme)	479,276	535,018
Other welfare	191,919	233,242
	2,797,547	2,644,648
Cost of inventories sold	70,827,726	75,762,131
Depreciation and impairment of property, plant and equipment	867,930	1,022,091
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	442,878	393,382
Amortisation of land use rights	58,183	57,506
Amortisation of intangible assets	196,655	201,922
Promotion and advertisement	495,938	210,961
Office expenses	145,882	185,793
Lease payments not included in the measurement of lease	,	,,,,
liabilities	199,572	253,427
Logistics expenses	188,913	215,160
Impairment of trade receivables	(4,182)	(11,675)
Write-down of inventories to net realizable value	44,991	13,006
Net (gains)/losses on disposal of items of property, plant and		
equipment	(38,715)	7,498
Net gains on disposal of intangible assets	(162)	(394)
Net gains on lease termination	_	(2,761)
Dividend income from listed equity investments	(1,491)	(1,487)
Interest income from debt investments at amortised cost through		
profit or loss	(1,209)	(1,827)
Losses on disposal of subsidiaries	3,782	17,244
Fair value losses/(gains), net:		
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
— listed equity investments	23,347	(9,511)
— funds	_	264

*30 June 2025* 

### 6. FINANCE COSTS

	Unaudited	
	For the	For the
	six months	six months
	ended	ended
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Interest expense on bank borrowings	381,664	561,868
Interest expense on convertible bonds	21,399	54,146
Interest expense on other borrowings	149,530	53,198
Interest expense on lease liabilities	159,944	160,404
Less: Interest capitalised	(31,125)	(37,367)
Total	681,412	792,249

### 7. INCOME TAX

	Unaudited	
	For the	For the
	six months	six months
	ended	ended
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Current Chinese Mainland corporate income tax	541,654	358,736
Deferred tax	(244,751)	105,686
Total	296,903	464,422

### 8. DIVIDENDS

The Directors of the Company proposed not to declare any interim dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2025.

30 June 2025

## 9. EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT

The calculation of basic earnings per share amounts is based on the profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent, and the weighted average number of ordinary shares of 2,366,993,863 (six months ended 30 June 2024: 2,385,668,363) in issue during the period.

The calculation of diluted earnings per share amounts is based on the profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent, adjusted to reflect the interest on the convertible bonds. The weighted average number of ordinary shares used in the calculation is the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period, as used in the basic earnings per share calculation, and the weighted average number of ordinary shares assumed to have been issued at no consideration on the deemed conversion of all dilutive potential ordinary shares into ordinary shares.

The calculations of basic and diluted earnings per share are based on:

	Unaudited	
	For the six months ended	For the six months ended
	30 June 2025 RMB'000	30 June 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
Earnings		
Profit attributable to equity holders of the parent used in the basic earnings per share calculation Interest on convertible bonds	1,011,351 21,399	1,579,552 54,146
Profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent before interest on convertible bonds	1,032,750	1,633,698
Shares		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period used in the basic earnings per share calculation  Effect of dilution — weighted average number of ordinary shares:	2,366,993,863	2,385,668,363
Convertible bonds	55,460,648	69,391,381
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in diluted earnings per share calculation	2,422,454,511	2,455,059,744
Earnings per share		
Basic Diluted	0.427 0.427	0.662 0.662

30 June 2025

#### 10. INVENTORIES

		Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
	Motor vehicles	14,923,220	16,311,581
	Spare parts and others	2,207,823	2,231,755
		17,131,043	18,543,336
	Less: provision for inventories	111,466	66,475
	Total	17,019,577	18,476,861
11.	TRADE RECEIVABLES		
		Unaudited	Audited
		30 June	31 December
		2025	2024
		RMB'000	RMB'000
	Trade receivables	4,736,285	4,733,136
	Impairment	(75,385)	(79,567)
	Net carrying amount	4,660,900	4,653,569

The Group seeks to maintain strict control over its outstanding receivables and has a credit control department to minimise credit risk. On 30 June 2025, the Group had certain concentrations of credit risk as 20.4% (31 December 2024: 37.2%) of the Group's trade receivables were due from the Group's five largest customers. The Group does not hold any collateral or other credit enhancements over its trade receivable balances. Trade receivables are non-interest-bearing.

*30 June 2025* 

### 11. TRADE RECEIVABLES (Continued)

An ageing analysis of the trade receivables as at each end of reporting period (based on the invoice date) is as follows:

	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
Within 3 months More than 3 months but less than 1 year Over 1 year	4,399,628 253,810 7,462	4,545,090 105,073 3,406
Total	4,660,900	4,653,569

*30 June 2025* 

### 12. BANK LOANS AND OTHER BORROWINGS

	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
Bank loans and overdrafts repayable:		
— within one year or on demand	11,799,632	13,827,155
— in the second year	5,529,109	3,593,988
— in the third to fifth years	594,893	2,572,424
	17,923,634	19,993,567
Other borrowings repayable		
— within one year	2,908,342	3,138,166
— in the third to fifth years	5,248,841	6,393,754
	8,157,183	9,531,920
Syndicated term loans		
— in the second year	_	2,513,682
— in the third to fifth years	2,520,793	
	2,520,793	2,513,682
Total bank loans and other borrowings	28,601,610	32,039,169
Less: Portion classified as current liabilities	14,707,974	16,965,321
Long-term portion	13,893,636	15,073,848

*30 June 2025* 

### 13. TRADE AND BILLS PAYABLES

	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
Trade payables Bills payable	3,953,363 12,340,901	2,907,697 9,700,103
Trade and bills payables	16,294,264	12,607,800

The trade and bills payables are non-interest-bearing.

An ageing analysis of the trade and bills payables as at the end of reporting period, based on the invoice date, is as follows:

	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
Within 3 months 3 to 6 months 6 to 12 months Over 12 months	15,568,223 672,458 1,860 51,723	11,864,667 635,130 95,224 12,779
Total	16,294,264	12,607,800

30 June 2025

#### 14. CONVERTIBLE BONDS

On 21 May 2020, the Company issued zero coupon convertible bonds due 2025 with a nominal value of HK\$4,560,000,000 (the "2025 Convertible Bonds"). The bonds are convertible at the option of the bondholders into ordinary shares at any time on or after 1 July 2020 until and including 11 May 2025 at a conversion price of HK\$45.61 per share. By the end of 31 December 2023, the Company has redeemed principal amounts of HK\$1,436,000,000 of the bonds. In light of the payment of a final dividend of HK\$1.09 per Share for the year ended 31 December 2022 and a final dividend of HK\$0.797 per Share for the year ended 31 December 2023, the conversion price of the 2025 Convertible Bonds was adjusted from HK\$45.61 to HK\$45.02 per Share with effect from 29 June 2023 and further to HK\$43.88 per Share with effect from 4 July 2024, respectively. Any convertible bonds not converted were redeemed on 21 May 2025 at 117.49% of their principal amount. There was no conversion of the 2025 convertible bonds during the period.

The fair value of the liability component was estimated at the issuance date using an equivalent market interest rate for a similar bond without a conversion option. The residual amount is assigned as the equity component and is included in shareholders' equity.

The convertible bonds issued during the period have been split into the liability and equity components as follows:

	Unaudited	Audited
	30 June	31 December
	2025	2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Nominal value of 2025 Convertible Bonds	4,169,664	4,169,664
Equity component	(30,760)	(30,760)
Direct transaction costs attributable to the liability component	(37,239)	(37,239)
Liability component at the issuance date	4,101,665	4,101,665
Interest expense	645,188	623,789
Interest paid	(528,162)	_
Redemption of convertible bonds	(4,242,695)	(1,418,897)
Exchange realignment	24,004	49,655
Liability component at the end of the period		3,356,212

30 June 2025

#### 15. SHARE CAPITAL

	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
Authorised: 1,000,000,000,000 shares of HK\$0.0001 each (HK\$'000)	100,000	100,000
Issued and fully paid: 2,385,668,363 (2024: 2,385,668,363) ordinary shares (HK\$'000)	239	239
Equivalent to RMB'000	207	207

#### 16. SHARE OPTION SCHEME

The Company operates a share option scheme (the "Scheme") for the purposes of providing incentives and rewards to eligible participants who contribute to the success of the Group's operations. Eligible participants of the Scheme include the employee, management member or director of the Company, or any of the Company's subsidiaries and third-party service providers. The Scheme was conditionally approved by a resolution of the shareholders on 9 February 2010 and adopted by a resolution of the Board on the same day. The Scheme expired on 25 March 2020. No further options can be granted or offered but the provisions of the Share Option Scheme shall remain in full force and effect to exercise any subsisting options granted prior to the expiry of the Share Option Scheme or otherwise as handled in accordance with the provisions of the Share Option Scheme.

The share options do not confer rights on the holders to dividends or to vote at shareholders' meetings.

The following share options were outstanding under the Scheme during the period:

	Unaudited			
	<b>30 June 2025</b> 30 June 2024		2024	
	Weighted		Weighted	
	average	Number of	average	Number of
	exercise price	options	exercise price	options
	HK\$ per share	'000	HK\$ per share	'000
At 1 January	22.60	5,500	22.60	5,500
At 30 June	22.60	5,500	22.60	5,500

30 June 2025

#### 16. SHARE OPTION SCHEME (Continued)

The exercise prices and exercise periods of the share options outstanding as at the end of the reporting period are as follows:

Number of options	30 June 2025 Exercise price HK\$ per share	Exercise period
5,500	22.60	26 April 2019 to 25 April 2028 (both dates inclusive)

The fair value of the share options granted was HK\$29,068,000 (HK\$5.29 each). On 30 October 2023, the Company cancelled the 5,500,000 Share Options under the Share Option Scheme. No equity-settled share option expense has been recognised by the Group in the statement of profit or loss during this period (six months ended 30 June 2024: Nil).

The fair value of these share options granted determined using the Binominal Option Pricing Model. The significant inputs into the model were the exercise price of HK\$22.60 at the grant date, volatility of 33.94%, dividend yield of 3.00% and an annual risk-free interest rate of 2.22%.

The validity period of the options is 10 years. The expected volatility reflects the assumption that the historical volatility is indicative of future trends, which may also not necessarily be the actual outcome.

No other feature of the options granted was incorporated into the measurement of fair value.

At the end of the reporting period, the Company had 5,500,000 share options outstanding under the Scheme. The exercise in full of the outstanding share options would, under the present capital structure of the Company results in the issue of 5,500,000 additional ordinary shares of the Company and additional share capital of HK\$550 (before issue expenses).

When the share options are forfeited after the vesting date or are still not exercised at the expiry date, the amount previously recognised in the share option reserve will be transferred to retained profits.

30 June 2025

#### 17. BUSINESS COMBINATION

As part of the Group's plan to expand its motor vehicle sales and service business in Chinese Mainland, the Group acquired 100% of the equity interests of Beijing Zhongsheng Jiefeng Automobile Sales and Service Co., Ltd., Wuhan Zhongsheng Lexus Automobile Sales and Service Co., Ltd. and Shaoxing Zhongsheng Lexus Automobile Sales and Service Co., Ltd. which are engaged in the motor vehicle sales and service business in Chinese Mainland, from a third parties on 1 January 2025 and 30 June 2025 at total considerations of RMB19,230,000, RMB30,000,000 and RMB30,000,000. The purchase consideration for the acquisition was in the form of cash, and RMB30,000,000 have not been paid by the end of June 2025.

Company Name	Acquired equity interests
Beijing Zhongsheng Jiefeng Automobile Sales and Service Co., Ltd.	
(北京中升捷豐汽車銷售服務有限公司)	100%
Wuhan Zhongsheng Lexus Automobile Sales and Service Co., Ltd.	
(武漢中升雷克薩斯汽車銷售服務有限公司)	100%
Shaoxing Zhongsheng Lexus Automobile Sales and Service Co., Ltd.	
(紹興中升雷克薩斯汽車銷售服務有限公司)	100%

30 June 2025

### 17. BUSINESS COMBINATION (Continued)

The acquisition had the following effect on the Group's assets and liabilities on the acquisition date:

	Recognised fair values on acquisition date RMB'000
Property, plant and equipment Right-of-use assets Intangible assets* Inventories Trade receivable Prepayments, other receivables and other assets Cash in transit Cash and cash equivalents Trade and bills payables Other payables and accruals Bank borrowings Deferred tax liabilities*	72,205 25,460 32,600 53,392 8,517 51,129 550 27,763 (6,995) (169,182) (23,365) (8,150)
Lease liabilities	(28,514)
Total identifiable net assets at fair value  Goodwill on acquisition*	35,410 43,820
Total purchase consideration	79,230
An analysis of the cash flows in respect of the acquisition of the subsidiary is as follows	lows:
Cash consideration paid Cash and cash equivalents acquired	(79,230) 27,763
Total net cash outflow	(51,467)

Since the acquisition, the acquired business contributed RMB195,067,000 to the Group's revenue and RMB850,000 of profit to the consolidated profit for the six months ended 30 June 2025.

\* The Group engaged an independent appraiser to assist with the identification and determination of fair values to be assigned to the assets and liabilities of the acquired company as disclosed in note 17. However, the valuation was not finalised and hence the initial accounting for the business combination of the company was incomplete as of the date of this announcement. Therefore, these amounts recognised in the Group's interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2025 in relation to the acquisition of the company was on a provisional basis.

*30 June 2025* 

### 18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 30 June 2025, neither the Group nor the Company had any significant contingent liabilities.

### 19. COMMITMENTS

The Group had the following contractual commitments at the end of the reporting period:

	Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 <i>RMB'000</i>
Buildings	14,237	35,905

*30 June 2025* 

# 20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

## (a) Transactions with related parties

The following transactions were carried out with related parties during the six months ended 30 June 2025:

	Unau	dited
	For the	For the
	six months	six months
	ended	ended
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000
(i) Sales of goods to a joint venture:		
— Xiamen Zhongsheng Toyota Automobile Sales		
& Services Co., Ltd. ("Xiamen Zhongsheng")	20,000	79,859
, , ,		
(ii) Purchase of goods or services from joint ventures:	26.225	56.064
— Xiamen Zhongsheng	26,337	56,964
— Shanghai Zhongsheng Hehai	11,199	5
— TAC Automobile Accessories Trading (Shanghai)		5.550
Co., Ltd. ("TAC")	1	7,552
	37,537	64,521
Purchase of goods from an associate:		
— Shanghai Zhongsheng Yongtai	796	4,609
(iii) Repayment of borrowing from an associate		
— Shanghai Zhongsheng Yongtai	_	7,000
Shanghai Zhongsheng Tongtai		7,000
(iv) Interest income from an associate:		
— Shanghai Zhongsheng Yongtai		253

30 June 2025

# 20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES (Continued)

## (b) Balances with related parties

The Group had the following significant balances with its related parties as at 30 June 2025:

		Unaudited 30 June 2025 RMB'000	Audited 31 December 2024 RMB'000
(i)	Due from related parties:		
	Trade related		
	Joint ventures		
	— Xiamen Zhongsheng	7,400	7,562
	— Shanghai Zhongsheng Hehai	350	150
	Total	7,750	7,712
(ii)	Due to related parties: Trade related		
	Joint ventures		
	— Xiamen Zhongsheng	411	354
	— Zhongsheng Tacti	80	80
	— TAC	2	_
	— Zhongsheng Hehai	2,728	5,885
		3,221	6,319
	An associate		
	— Zhongsheng Yongtai		412

On 9 August 2023, the Group borrowed a loan of RMB11,000,000 to Zhongzheng Yongtai, and received repayment of RMB7,000,000 from Zhongzheng Yongtai on 25 March 2024. The interest rate was in line with the benchmark interest rate prescribed by the People's Bank of China. Early repayment is allowed.

Apart from the above-mentioned other borrowing to Zhongsheng Yongtai, the amounts due to related parties are unsecured, interest-free and has no fixed terms of repayment.

30 June 2025

# 20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES (Continued)

## (c) Compensation of key management personnel of the Group:

	Unaudited		
	For the	For the	
	six months	six months	
	ended	ended	
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024	
	RMB'000	RMB'000	
Short term employee benefits	30,518	30,120	
Post-employee benefits	210	190	
Total compensation paid to key management personnel	30,728	30,310	

## 21. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying amounts and fair values of the Group's financial instruments, other than those with carrying amounts that reasonably approximate to fair values, are as follows:

	Carrying :	amounts	Fair values	
	30 June 2025	31 December 2024	30 June 2025	31 December 2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000	RMB'000	RMB'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Financial assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss Financial assets at fair value	104,751	124,669	104,751	124,669
through other comprehensive income		20,674		20,674
Total	104,751	145,343	104,751	145,343
	Carrying :	amounts	Fair va	alues
		31 December		31 December
	30 June 2025	2024	30 June 2025	2024
	RMB'000	RMB'000	RMB'000	RMB'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Financial liabilities Financial liabilities at fair value through other				
comprehensive income	81,768		81,768	

*30 June 2025* 

# 21. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

## Fair value hierarchy

The following tables illustrate the fair value measurement hierarchy of the Group's financial instruments:

## Assets measured at fair value:

As at 30 June 2025

	Quoted prices in active markets (Level 1) RMB'000 (Unaudited)	Fair value meas Significant observable inputs (Level 2) RMB'000 (Unaudited)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) RMB'000 (Unaudited)	Total <i>RMB'000</i> (Unaudited)
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss: Listed equity investments, at fair value (i)	104,751			104,751
As at 31 December 2024				
	Quoted prices in active markets (Level 1)  RMB'000 (Audited)	Fair value meas Significant observable inputs (Level 2) RMB'000 (Audited)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) RMB'000 (Audited)	Total <i>RMB'000</i> (Audited)
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss: Listed equity investments, at fair value (i) Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income:	124,669	_	_	124,669
Cross-currency interest rate swaps		20,674		20,674

30 June 2025

# 21. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

Fair value hierarchy (Continued)

Liabilities measured at fair value:

As at 30 June 2025

	Fair value measurement using				
		Significant	Significant		
	Quoted prices in	observable	unobservable		
	active markets	inputs	inputs		
	(Level 1)	(Level 2)	(Level 3)	Total	
	RMB'000	RMB'000	RMB'000	RMB'000	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
Financial liabilities at fair value through other comprehensive income:					
Cross-currency interest rate					
swaps		81,768		81,768	

The Group did not have any financial liabilities measured at fair value as at 31 December 2024.

During the period, there were no transfers of fair value measurements between Level 1 and Level 2 and no transfers into or out of Level 3 (six months ended 30 June 2024: Nil).

#### Note:

(i) The fair values of listed equity investments and the funds issued by financial institutions are based on quoted market prices.

#### MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### Revenue

Revenue for the six months ended 30 June 2025 was RMB77,322.1 million, representing a decrease of RMB5,099.3 million or 6.2% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024. The following table sets forth the Group's revenue by different business segments for the six months ended 30 June 2025 and the six months ended 30 June 2024:

	Unaudited			
	For the	For the		
	six months	six months		
	ended	ended	Year-on-year	
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024	change	
	(Renminbi			
	unless sp			
New automobile sales	57,931.0	60,812.0	(4.7)%	
Pre-owned automobile sales	6,014.6	8,240.3	(27.0)%	
After-sales services	11,445.3	10,964.1	4.4%	
Accessories and others	1,931.2	2,405.0	(19.7)%	
Total revenue	77,322.1	82,421.4	(6.2)%	

- Revenue from new automobile sales for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB57,931.0 million, representing a decrease of RMB2,881.0 million or 4.7% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decline in the sales volume of new automobile and average selling price of new automobile during the period.
- Revenue from pre-owned automobile sales for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB6,014.6 million, representing a decrease of RMB2,225.7 million or 27.0% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decline in the average selling price of pre-owned automobiles.
- Revenue from after-sales services (maintenance, warranty and collision) for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB11,445.3 million, representing an increase of RMB481.2 million or 4.4% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, which was primarily due to the increase in the number of visits for after-sales services during the period and the increase in average value per unit.
- Revenue from accessories and others for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB1,931.2 million, representing a decrease of RMB473.8 million or 19.7% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decrease in the volume of maintenance package transactions.

New automobile sales business accounted for a substantial portion of the Group's revenue, representing 74.9% (for the six months ended 30 June 2024: 73.8%) of the total revenue for the six months ended 30 June 2025. Pre-owned automobile sales accounted for 7.8% of the total revenue for the six months ended 30 June 2025 (for the six months ended 30 June 2024: 10.0%). Accessories and after-sales services business accounted for 17.3% of the total revenue for the six months ended 30 June 2025 (for the six months ended 30 June 2024: 16.2%). During the six months ended 30 June 2025, almost all of the Group's revenue was derived from business located in the PRC.

In terms of revenue from new automobile sales, Mercedes-Benz is the Group's top selling brand, with revenue from the sales of which representing 35.1% of the Group's total revenue from new automobile sales (for the six months ended 30 June 2024: 40.5%).

#### Cost of Sales and Services Provided

Cost of sales and services for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB73,112.8 million, representing a decrease of RMB4,382.4 million or 5.7% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decline in new automobile sales volume and the increase in rebates and subsidies from OEMs, which offset new automobile costs, resulting in a decrease in new automobile costs. At the same time, the average purchase price of pre-owned automobiles also declined.

#### **Gross Profit**

The Group's gross profit for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB4,209.3 million, representing a decrease of RMB716.9 million or 14.6% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024. The following table sets out the Group's gross profit by different business segments for the six months ended 30 June 2025 and the six months ended 30 June 2024:

	Unaudited			
	For the	For the		
	six months	six months		
	ended	ended	Year-on-year	
	30 June 2025	30 June 2024	change	
	(Renminbi i			
	unless sp			
New automobile sales	(2,387.8)	(1,990.1)	20.0%	
Pre-owned automobile sales	257.0	618.0	(58.4)%	
After-sales services	5,440.5	5,035.0	8.1%	
Accessories and others	899.6	1,263.3	(28.8)%	
Total gross profit	4,209.3	4,926.2	(14.6)%	

- Gross loss from new automobile sales business for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB2,387.8 million, representing an increase of RMB397.7 million or 20.0% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decline in new automobile sales volume for the period, and the increase of gross loss for new automobile sales at the dealership end as a result of the increasing competition in the domestic new automobile market and the decrease in the average selling price of new automobiles for the period.
- Gross profit from pre-owned automobile sales for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB257.0 million, representing a decrease of RMB361.0 million or 58.4% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decline in the unit value of pre-owned automobiles during the period, which compressed profit margins.
- Gross profit from after-sales services (maintenance, warranty and collision) for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB5,440.5 million, representing an increase of RMB405.5 million or 8.1% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the increase in the number of visits for after-sales services during the period and the increase in average value per unit, and the slight increase in gross profit margin due to improvement of the cost structure.
- Gross profit from accessories and others for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB899.6 million, representing a decrease of RMB363.7 million or 28.8% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decrease in the volume of maintenance package transactions and the decline in the gross profit margin of accessories.

The Group's gross profit margin for the six months ended 30 June 2025 was 5.4% (the six months ended 30 June 2024: 6.0%).

## Other Income and Gains, Net

The other income and gains mainly consisted of commission income, interest income, rental income and other gains and losses, etc. The other income and gains, net, for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB2,229.0 million, representing a decrease of RMB138.5 million or 5.9% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024.

Among which, the commission income (commission from automobile insurance, automobile financing and automobile registration services, etc.) for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB1,845.1 million, representing a decrease of RMB96.5 million or 5.0% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decline in the sales volume of new automobiles and revenue of new automobiles for the period.

The interest income for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB301.8 million, representing an increase of RMB77.5 million or 34.6% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the increase in average cash balances during the period.

## **Selling and Distribution Expenses**

Selling and distribution expenses for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB3,434.2 million, representing a decrease of RMB13.3 million or 0.4% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, which remained stable.

# **Administrative Expenses**

Administrative expenses for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB1,099.0 million, representing an increase of RMB8.5 million or 0.8% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, which remained stable.

# **Profit from Operations**

The profit from operations for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB1,905.0 million, representing a decrease of RMB850.7 million or 30.9% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024. Such change was primarily due to the increase in gross loss from new automobiles sales and the decline in gross profit from pre-owned automobiles sales mentioned above. The operating profit margin for the six months ended 30 June 2025 was 2.5% (for the six months ended 30 June 2024: 3.3%).

#### **Finance Costs**

Finance costs for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB681.4 million, representing a decrease of RMB110.8 million or 14.0% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decline in financing rates.

## Share of (losses)/profits of Joint Ventures and Associates

The share of losses of joint ventures and associates for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB2.7 million, as compared to the share of profits of joint ventures and associates for the six months ended 30 June 2024 of RMB0.9 million.

## **Income Tax Expense**

Income tax for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB296.9 million, representing a decrease of RMB167.5 million or 36.1% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the decline in profit from operations for the period.

#### **Profit Attributable to Owners of the Parent**

The profit attributable to owners of the parent for the six months ended 30 June 2025 amounted to RMB1,011.4 million, representing a decrease of RMB568.2 million or 36.0% as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024.

# LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

#### Cash Flow

The Group primarily uses cash to pay for new automobiles, pre-owned automobiles, spare parts and automobile accessories, to repay its indebtedness, to fund its working capital and normal operating expenses and to newly establish, acquire and rebuild outlets. The Group finances its liquidity requirements mainly through a combination of cash flows generated from its operating activities, bank loans and other borrowings and other funds raised from the capital markets and currently expects that future liquidity will continue to be satisfied mainly by the foregoing.

The cash position of the Group as at 30 June 2025 and 31 December 2024 was as follows:

	Unaudited 30 June 2025 (Renminbi 1	in millions,
	unless sp	pecified)
Cash and cash equivalents	12,859.3	18,687.5
Cash in transit	123.7	60.0
Time deposits and pledged bank deposits	7,054.2	4,256.5
Total cash	20,037.2	23,004.0

As at 30 June 2025, the cash balance of the Group was RMB20,037.2 million, representing a decrease of RMB2,966.8 million in cash balance as compared to that as at 31 December 2024, which was mainly attributable to the cash flows used in financing activities.

For the six months ended 30 June 2025, the Group generated free cash flow of RMB3,973.0 million, which was the net cash flow from operating activities of RMB5,948.4 million, partially offset by the Group's net cash outflow from capital expenditures of RMB1,281.5 million and lease payments of RMB693.9 million.

## Cash Flow Generated from Operating Activities

For the six months ended 30 June 2025, the net cash generated from operating activities by the Group amounted to RMB5,948.4 million, representing an increase of RMB3,022.8 million as compared to that for the six months ended 30 June 2024, primarily due to the release of working capital as a result of the decrease in inventories and the increase in trade and bills payables.

## Cash Flow Used in Investing Activities

For the six months ended 30 June 2025, the net cash used in investing activities by the Group amounted to RMB941.0 million, primarily used for the acquisitions of property, plant and equipment (fleet).

# Cash Flow Used in Financing Activities

For the six months ended 30 June 2025, the net cash used in financing activities by the Group amounted to RMB10,830.2 million, primarily used for the repayment of bank loans, redemption of convertible bonds, payment of lease and financing interest, increase of time deposits and others.

# **Bank Loans and Other Borrowings**

As at 30 June 2025, the Group's bank loans and other borrowings amounted to RMB28,601.6 million (31 December 2024: RMB32,039.2 million), and its convertible bonds liability portion amounted to nil (31 December 2024: RMB3,356.2 million). The decrease in the Group's bank loans and other borrowings during the six months ended 30 June 2025 was primarily due to the decrease in inventory financing scale as a result of reduced inventory, while the Group continued to optimise its inventory financing channel structure. The annual interest rates of the bank loans and other borrowings ranged from 1.0% to 6.0%.

#### **CONVERTIBLE BONDS**

## **2025** Convertible Bonds

On 12 May 2020, the Company, Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited and Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc (the "2025 Convertible Bond Managers") entered into a bond subscription agreement, according to which the Company agreed to issue, and the 2025 Convertible Bond Managers conditionally agreed to subscribe and pay for (or to procure subscribers to subscribe and pay for) zero coupon convertible bonds due 2025 in an aggregate principal amount of HK\$4,560 million (the "2025 Convertible Bonds").

The 2025 Convertible Bonds are convertible into share(s) of the Company (the "Share(s)") at an initial conversion price of HK\$45.61 per Share at the option of the holder thereof, at any time on or after 1 July 2020 up to the close of business on the

tenth day prior to the maturity date, being a date falling on or about 21 May 2025. The issue of the 2025 Convertible Bonds in an aggregate principal amount of HK\$4,560 million was completed on 21 May 2020. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the 2025 Convertible Bonds, certain holders of the 2025 Convertible Bonds served notices of redemption on the Company, requiring the Company to redeem an outstanding principal amount of HK\$1,436,000,000 of the 2025 Convertible Bonds at 110.15% of their principal amount on 21 May 2023, representing approximately 31.49% of the principal amount of the 2025 Convertible Bonds. Immediately after the early redemption, such redeemed 2025 Convertible Bonds were cancelled and the principal amount of the outstanding 2025 Convertible Bonds was HK\$3,124,000,000.

Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the 2025 Convertible Bonds, in light of the payment of a final dividend of HK\$1.09 per Share for the year ended 31 December 2022 and a final dividend of HK\$0.797 per Share for the year ended 31 December 2023, the conversion price of the 2025 Convertible Bonds was adjusted from HK\$45.61 to HK\$45.02 per Share with effect from 29 June 2023 and further to HK\$43.88 per Share with effect from 4 July 2024, respectively.

On 21 May 2025, the Company redeemed and cancelled the outstanding 2025 Convertible Bonds in the aggregate amount of HK\$3,124,000,000 at 117.49% of its principal amount. On 21 May 2025, the Company completed the redemption of all outstanding 2025 Convertible Bond. As at the date of this announcement, there are no outstanding 2025 Convertible Bonds in issue.

Please refer to the announcements of the Company dated 12, 13, 14, 21, 22 and 25 May 2020 and 26 April 2023 and 19 June 2023 and 21 June 2024, respectively, for further details on the 2025 Convertible Bonds.

#### **BONDS**

## **2026 Bonds**

On 6 January 2021, the Company and Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited, Mizuho Securities Asia Limited, CCB International Capital Limited, MUFG Securities Asia Limited and Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc (the "2026 Bond Managers") entered into a bond subscription agreement, according to which the Company agreed to issue, and the 2026 Bond Managers conditionally agreed to subscribe and pay for (or to procure subscribers to subscribe and pay for) the 3.00% bonds due 2026 in an aggregate principal amount of US\$450 million (the "2026 Bonds"). The maturity date of the 2026 Bonds is 13 January 2026.

In July 2024, the Company made an offer to purchase for cash the 2026 Bonds at a purchase price of US\$966 per US\$1,000 principal amount of the 2026 Bonds, plus accrued interest, from certain holders of the 2026 Bonds (the "Offer"). The aggregate principal amount of the 2026 Bonds validly tendered pursuant to the Offer amounted to

US\$292,166,000. All of the validly tendered 2026 Bonds were accepted, purchased and cancelled by the Company on 1 August 2024. Following the settlement of the Offer and cancellation of the 2026 Bonds purchased pursuant to the Offer, the outstanding aggregate principal amount of the 2026 Bonds is US\$157,834,000 as at 1 August 2024.

On 28 July 2025, the Company informed the trustee and the bondholders of the 2026 Bonds that it would redeem the outstanding 2026 Bonds in whole on 27 August 2025. On 27 August 2025, the Company redeemed and cancelled all of the outstanding 2026 Bonds. As at the date of this announcement, there are no outstanding 2026 Bonds in issue.

Please refer to the announcements of the Company dated 4, 7, 13 and 14 January 2021, 22 and 30 July and 1 August 2024 and 28 July and 27 August 2025, respectively, for further details on the 2026 Bonds.

## **2028 Bonds**

On 23 July 2024, the Company and Goldman Sachs (Asia) L.L.C., The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc, MUFG Securities Asia Limited, Mizuho Securities Asia Limited, J.P. Morgan Securities (Asia Pacific) Limited and China CITIC Bank International Limited (the "2028 Bond Managers") entered into a bond subscription agreement, according to which the Company agreed to issue, and the 2028 Bond Managers conditionally agreed to subscribe and pay for (or to procure subscribers to subscribe and pay for) the 5.98% bonds due January 2028 in an aggregate principal amount of US\$600 million (the "2028 Bonds"). The maturity date of the 2028 Bonds is 30 January 2028, on which the Company is scheduled to redeem each 2028 Bond at its principal amount.

Please refer to the announcements of the Company dated 22, 24, 30 and 31 July 2024, respectively, for further details on the 2028 Bonds.

#### Panda Bonds

On 20 May 2024, the Company made an application (the "Application") to the National Association of Financial Market Institutional Investors (the "Association") for registration of debt financing instruments in the aggregate amount of not more than RMB5 billion (the "Panda Bonds") to be issued in one or multiple tranches as and when appropriate within two years from the date of receipt of the notice of acceptance of the registration of the Panda Bonds from the Association. The Application was approved by the Association on 19 July 2024.

The issue of the first tranche of the Panda Bonds was completed on 1 August 2024. Based on the bookbuilding and placement results, the total issue size of the first tranche of the Panda Bonds was RMB1 billion, with a coupon rate of 3.5% and a maturity of three years.

Please refer to the announcements of the Company dated 20 May, 24 July and 1 August 2024, respectively, for further details on the Panda Bonds.

#### OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## **Capital Expenditures and Investment**

The Group's capital expenditures comprised of expenditures on property, plant and equipment (other than motor vehicles), land use rights and business acquisition. For the six months ended 30 June 2025, the Group's total capital expenditures amounted to RMB818.7 million (for the six months ended 30 June 2024: RMB618.7 million). Save as disclosed above, the Group did not make any significant investments during the six months ended 30 June 2025.

# **Inventory Analysis**

The Group's inventories primarily consisted of new automobiles, pre-owned automobiles, spare parts and automobile accessories. Generally, each of the operated outlets of the Group individually manages the planning and orders for new automobiles and spare parts. To leverage scale advantage and centralisation efficiency, the Group also coordinates and aggregates orders for pre-owned automobiles, automobile accessories and other automobile-related products through its dealership network and centralised platform. The Group manages its quotas and inventory levels through its information technology systems, including an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

The Group's inventories decreased from RMB18,476.9 million as at 31 December 2024 to RMB17,019.6 million as at 30 June 2025, primarily due to the Group's adjustment and optimisation of its inventory structure.

The following table sets forth the average inventory turnover days of the Group for the periods indicated:

	For the six months ended 30 June		
	2025	2024	
Average inventory turnover days	38.3	36.2	

The inventory turnover days of the Group showed an increase during the six months ended 30 June 2025 as compared to the six months ended 30 June 2024, which was mainly because the Group adjusted the level of its inventory to adapt to market changes. During the six months ended 30 June 2025, the Group had taken effective measures in managing and reducing inventory level, and the Group's inventory mix will gradually optimise.

## Interest Rate Risk and Foreign Exchange Rate Risk

As at 30 June 2025, the Group did not use any derivatives to hedge interest rate risk. The operations of the Group are mainly carried out in the PRC with most transactions settled in RMB. Most cash and bank deposits of the Group are denominated in RMB. In general, the Group's bank loans and other borrowings were denominated in RMB, United States dollars and Hong Kong dollars, and the liability component of convertible bonds were denominated in Hong Kong dollars. The Group has used derivative financial instruments related to cross-currency interest rate swaps to hedge its foreign currency exposure. The Group's exposure to the risk of changes in market interest rates relates primarily to the Group's debt obligations with a floating interest rate.

## Pledge of the Group's Assets

The Group pledged its assets as securities for bank and other loan and banking facilities which were used to finance daily business operations. As at 30 June 2025, the pledged assets of the Group amounted to RMB13.2 billion (31 December 2024: RMB12.2 billion).

## Material Acquisitions and Disposals of Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures

During the six months ended 30 June 2025, the Group did not have any material acquisitions nor disposals of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures.

# Future Plans for Material Investments and Capital Assets

As at 30 June 2025, the Group did not have any detailed future plans for material investments or capital assets.

## **Gearing Ratio**

As at 30 June 2025, the gearing ratio of the Group was 42.1% (31 December 2024: 42.5%), which was calculated from net debt divided by the sum of net debt and total equity.

## **Share Option Scheme**

The Share Option Scheme (as defined in the Company's prospectus dated 16 March 2010) was conditionally approved by a resolution of the shareholders of the Company (the "Shareholders") on 9 February 2010 and adopted by a resolution of the Board on the same day. The Share Option Scheme expired on 25 March 2020. No further options can be granted or offered but the provisions of the Share Option Scheme shall remain in full force and effect to exercise any subsisting options granted prior to the expiry of the Share Option Scheme or otherwise as handled in accordance with the provisions of the Share Option Scheme.

Details of the outstanding options to subscribe for Shares pursuant to the Share Option Scheme and the movement during the six months ended 30 June 2025 are set out below:

		Number of Share Options					
			Outstanding			Lapsed/	
Name of Grantees	Date of grant	Exercise price per Share	as at 31 December 2024	Granted during the period	Exercised during the period	Cancelled during the period	Outstanding as at 30 June 2025
Mr. Zhang Zhicheng — Executive Director	26 April 2018	HK\$22.60	5,500,000(1)	_	_	_	5,500,000
Total							5,500,000

#### Note:

(1) On 26 April 2018, the Company offered to grant share options (the "Share Options") to Mr. Zhang Zhicheng under the Share Option Scheme, which entitle him to subscribe for an aggregate of 5,500,000 new Shares. The vesting period of the Share Options were one year from the date of grant of the Share Options. The Share Options were fully vested on 26 April 2019. The Share Options are exercisable from 26 April 2019 to 25 April 2028 (both dates inclusive) at a price of HK\$22.60 per Share. The closing price of the Shares immediately before 26 April 2018 was HK\$22.35 per Share.

During the six months ended 30 June 2025, no options had been granted, exercised, cancelled or lapsed pursuant to the Share Option Scheme. As at 30 June 2025, the total number of Shares that may be issued under the Share Option Scheme was 5,500,000 Shares, representing approximately 0.23% of the issued share capital of the Company (excluding treasury shares) as at the date of this announcement, and approximately 0.23% of the weighted average number of Shares in issue during the six months ended 30 June 2025.

## **CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS**

There was no connected transaction entered into by the Group during the six months ended 30 June 2025 that is required to be disclosed under the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules").

## EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

There have not been any significant events affecting the Group after 30 June 2025.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND OTHER INFORMATION

## Compliance with the Corporate Governance Code

The Company has adopted the principles and code provisions as set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the "CG Code") contained in Appendix C1 to the Listing Rules. Throughout the six months ended 30 June 2025 and up to the date of this announcement, the Company has been in compliance with the code provisions set out in the CG Code.

# Compliance with the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Model Code") as set out in Appendix C3 to the Listing Rules. Specific enquiries have been made to all the Directors and the Directors have confirmed that they have complied with the Model Code throughout the six months ended 30 June 2025 and up to the date of this announcement.

## Purchase, Sale or Redemption of the Company's Listed Securities

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries had purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities (including sale of treasury shares) during the six months ended 30 June 2025.

As at 30 June 2025 and up to the date of this announcement, 18,674,500 Shares repurchased are held by the Company as treasury shares, and none of such treasury shares has been sold by the Company. Subject to compliance with the Listing Rules, the Company may consider using the treasury shares for future resales, transfers or cancellation.

## **Employee and Remuneration Policy**

The Group adheres to a strong belief that one of the most valuable assets of a corporation is its employees. The Group values its human resources and recognises the importance of attracting and retaining qualified staff for its continuing success.

As at 30 June 2025, the Group had 28,943 employees (31 December 2024: 26,357). The Group strives to offer a harmonious, efficient and productive working environment, a diversified range of training programmes as well as an attractive remuneration package to its employees. Remuneration packages are set at levels to ensure comparability and competitiveness with other companies in the industry and market competing for a similar talent pool. The Group endeavours to motivate its staff with performance-based remuneration and reward its staff who had outstanding performances with cash bonuses, honorary awards or a combination of all the above to further align the interests of the employees and the Company, to attract talented individuals and to create long-term incentives for its staff.

## **Review of Interim Results**

The audit committee of the Company (the "Audit Committee") comprises three independent non-executive Directors, being Mr. Ying Wei, Mr. Chin Siu Wa Alfred and Ms. Cheng Po Chuen.

The Audit Committee has considered and reviewed the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and has discussed matters in relation to internal control and financial reporting with the management, including the review of the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements of the Group for the six months ended 30 June 2025. The Audit Committee considers that the interim financial results for the six months ended 30 June 2025 are in compliance with the relevant accounting standards, rules and regulations and appropriate disclosures have been made.

## INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board proposed not to declare any interim dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2025.

# PUBLICATION OF RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT AND INTERIM REPORT ON THE WEBSITES OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE COMPANY

This announcement is published on the websites of the Stock Exchange (www.hkexnews.hk) and the Company (www.zs-group.com.cn).

The interim report of the Company for the six months ended 30 June 2025 will be published on the above websites in due course.

#### APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Board, we extend our sincere appreciation to all our staff and the management team for their exceptional dedication, relentless efforts, and unwavering commitment to standing with the Company through challenges and successes. We also express our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed shareholders and partners for their consistent trust and steadfast support.

By order of the Board of

Zhongsheng Group Holdings Limited

Huang Yi

Chairman

Hong Kong, 28 August 2025

As at the date of this announcement, the executive directors of the Company are Mr. Huang Yi, Mr. Li Guoqiang, Mr. Zhang Zhicheng, Mr. Tang Xianfeng, Ms. Yu Ning and Ms. Zhou Xin; the non-executive directors of the Company are Mr. Chan Ho Yin and Mr. Sun Yanjun; and the independent non-executive directors of the Company are Mr. Ying Wei, Mr. Chin Siu Wa Alfred, Mr. Li Yanwei and Ms. Cheng Po Chuen.

This announcement contains forward-looking statements relating to the business outlook, estimates of financial performance, forecast business plans and development strategies of the Group. These forward-looking statements are based on information currently available to the Group and are stated herein on the basis of the outlook at the time of this announcement. They are based on certain expectations, assumptions and premises, some of which are subjective or beyond control of the Group. These forward-looking statements may prove to be incorrect and may not be realised in the future. Underlying these forward-looking statements are a large number of risks and uncertainties. In light of the risks and uncertainties, the inclusion of forward-looking statements in this announcement should not be regarded as representations by the Board or the Company that the plans and objectives will be achieved. Furthermore, this announcement also contains statements based on the Group's management accounts, which have not been audited by the Group's auditor. Shareholders and potential investors of the Company should therefore not place undue reliance on such statements.