

1. TAXATION OF SECURITY HOLDERS

The taxation of income and capital gains of holders of H Shares is subject to the laws and practices of the PRC and jurisdictions in which holders of H Shares are residents or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current laws and practices, makes no predictions on changes in or adjustments to relevant laws or policies and does not constitute any comments or suggestions accordingly. The discussion does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to an investment in the H Shares, nor does it take into account the specific circumstances of any particular investor, some of which may be subject to special regulation. Accordingly, you should consult your own tax advisor regarding the tax consequences of an investment in the H Shares. The discussion is based upon laws and relevant interpretations in effect as of the Latest Practicable Date, all of which are subject to changes or adjustments and may have retrospective effect.

This discussion does not address any aspects of PRC or Hong Kong taxation other than income tax, capital gains and profit tax, business tax/appreciation tax, stamp duty and estate duty. Prospective investors are urged to consult their financial advisors regarding the PRC, Hong Kong and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of H Shares.

A. The PRC Taxation

Taxation on Dividends

Individual Investors

Pursuant to the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法》) (the “IIT Law”) which was last amended on August 31, 2018 and the Regulations on Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國個人所得稅法實施條例》) which was last amended on December 18, 2018, dividends paid by PRC enterprises are subject to an individual income tax levied at a flat rate of 20%. For a foreign individual who is not a resident of the PRC, the receipt of dividends from an enterprise in the PRC is normally subject to an individual income tax of 20% unless specifically exempted by the tax authority of the State Council or reduced or waived by an applicable tax treaty.

Pursuant to the Notice of the SAT on Issues Concerning Taxation and Administration of Individual Income Tax after the Repeal of the Document Guo Shui Fa 1993 No. 045 (《國家稅務總局關於國稅發[1993]045號文件廢止後有關個人所得稅徵管問題的通知》) issued and implemented by the SAT on June 28, 2011, domestic non-foreign-invested enterprises issuing shares in Hong Kong may, when distributing dividends to non-PRC resident individuals in jurisdictions that have agreements with the PRC, withhold individual income tax at the rate of 10%. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are residents of jurisdictions that have entered into a tax agreement or arrangement with the PRC with tax rates lower than 10%, the non-foreign-invested enterprise whose Shares are listed in Hong Kong may apply on behalf of such holders for enjoying the lower preferential tax treatments, and, upon approval by the tax authorities, the amount which is over-withheld will be refunded. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are residents of jurisdictions that have entered into a tax agreement or arrangement with the PRC with tax rates higher than 10% but lower than 20%, the non-foreign-invested enterprise whose Shares are listed in Hong Kong is required to withhold the tax at the agreed rate under the treaties, and no application procedures will be necessary. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are residents of jurisdictions without taxation treaties or arrangements with the PRC or are under other situations, the non-foreign-invested enterprise whose Shares are listed in Hong Kong is required to withhold the tax at a rate of 20%.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the Corporate Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》) (the “CIT Law”) which was last amended as of December 29, 2018 and the Implementation Provisions for the Corporate Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》) which was last amended on April 23, 2019, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% corporate income tax on PRC-sourced income (including dividends received from a PRC resident enterprise), if such non-resident enterprise does not have an establishment or place in the PRC or has an establishment or place in the PRC but the PRC-sourced income is not connected with such establishment or place in the PRC. Such income tax for non-resident enterprises is deducted at source, where the payer of the income is required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise when such payment is made or due.

The Circular on Issues Relating to the Withholding of Corporate Income Tax by PRC Resident Enterprises on Dividends Paid to Overseas Non-PRC Resident Enterprise Shareholders of H Shares (《國家稅務總局關於中國居民企業向境外H股非居民企業股東派發股息代扣代繳企業所得稅有關問題的通知》) (Guo Shui Han [2008] No. 897) which was implemented by the SAT on November 6, 2008, further clarifies that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold corporate income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends paid to overseas non-resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares for 2008 and subsequent years. In addition, the Response to Questions on Levying Corporate Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprises from Holding Stocks such as B Shares (《國家稅務總局關於非居民企業取得B股等股票股息徵收企業所得稅問題的批覆》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 394) which was issued and implemented by the SAT on July 24, 2009, further provides that any PRC-resident enterprise that is listed on overseas stock exchanges must withhold corporate income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprises. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has concluded with a relevant jurisdiction, where applicable.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (《內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排》) entered into on August 21, 2006, PRC Government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a Chinese company to Hong Kong residents (including natural persons and legal entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of total dividends payable by the Chinese company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a Chinese company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. The Fifth Protocol of the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion issued by the SAT (《<內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排>第五議定書》) issued by the SAT and effective on December 6, 2019 states that such provisions shall not apply to arrangement made for the primary purpose of gaining such tax benefit, unless it can be confirmed that the tax benefits granted under such circumstances comply with the principles and purposes of the relevant regulations. The application of the dividend clause of tax agreements shall be subject to the PRC tax laws and regulations, such as the Notice of the State Administration of Taxation on the Issues Concerning the Application of the Dividend Clauses of Tax Agreements (《國家稅務總局關於執行稅收協定股息條款有關問題的通知》) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 81).

Tax Agreements

Non-PRC resident investors residing in jurisdictions which have entered into agreements or arrangements for the avoidance of double taxation with the PRC are entitled to a reduction of the corporate income taxes imposed on the dividends received from PRC companies. The PRC currently has entered into agreements/arrangements regarding avoidance of double taxation with a number of countries and regions including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Macao Special Administrative Region, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States. Non-PRC resident enterprises entitled to preferential tax rates in accordance with the relevant income tax agreements or arrangements may apply to the Chinese tax authorities for a refund of the corporate income tax in excess of the agreed tax rate, and the refund payment is subject to approval by the Chinese tax authorities.

Taxation on Share Transfer*Value-Added Tax (“VAT”) and Local Surcharges*

Pursuant to the Notice on the Full Implementation of Pilot Program for Transition from Business Tax to VAT (《關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知》) (Cai Shui [2016] No. 36) (“Circular 36”), effective from May 1, 2016, entities and individuals engaged in sales of services within the PRC shall be subject to VAT and “sales of services within the PRC” refer to the situation where either the seller or the buyer of a taxable service is located within the PRC. Circular 36 also provides that transfer of financial products, including transfer of the ownership of marketable securities, shall be subject to VAT at 6% on the taxable turnover (which is the balance of sales price upon deduction of purchase price), for a general or a foreign VAT taxpayer; however, individuals are exempt from VAT upon transfer of financial products.

In accordance with these rules, upon the sale or disposal of H shares, the holders are exempt from VAT in the PRC if they are non-resident individuals; in case the holders are non-resident enterprises, they are not subject to the VAT in the PRC if the purchasers of the H shares are individuals or entities located outside of the PRC whereas the holders may be subject to the VAT in the PRC if the purchasers of the H shares are individuals or entities located in the PRC.

However, in the absence of explicit rules, there remains uncertainty in the interpretation and application of the foregoing rules as to whether the disposal of H Shares by non-PRC resident enterprises is subject to PRC VAT.

Meanwhile, VAT taxpayers are also subject to urban maintenance and construction tax, education surcharge and local education surcharge (collectively, “local surcharges”), which is usually at 12% of the VAT payable, if any.

Income Tax***Individual Investors***

According to the IIT Law and the Regulations on Implementation of the IIT Law of the PRC, gains realized on the sale of equity interests in the PRC resident enterprises are subject to the individual income tax at a rate of 20%.

Pursuant to the Circular of the MOF and the SAT Declaring that Individual Income Tax Continues to be Exempted over Income of Individuals from Transfer of Shares (《財政部、國家稅務總局關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知》) (Cai Shui Zi [1998] No. 61) issued by the MOF and the SAT on March 30, 1998, from January 1, 1997, income of individuals from transfer of shares in listed enterprises continues to be exempted from individual income tax. The SAT has not stated whether it will continue to exempt individual income tax on income of individuals from transfer of listed shares in the latest amended IIT Law and its implementation regulations.

However, on December 31, 2009, the MOF, the SAT and CSRC jointly issued the Circular on Related Issues on Collection of Individual Income Tax over the Income Received by Individuals from Transfer of Listed Shares Subject to Sales Limitation (《關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的通知》) (Cai Shui [2009] No. 167) which became effective from January 1, 2010 and states that individuals' income from transfer of listed shares obtained from the public offering of listed companies and the transfer market on the Shanghai Stock Exchange and Shenzhen Stock Exchange shall continue to be exempted from individual income tax, except for the relevant shares which are subject to sales restriction (as defined in Supplementary Notice on Issues Concerning the Levy of Individual Income Tax on Individuals' Income from the Transfer of Restricted Stocks of Listed Companies (《關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的補充通知》) (Cai Shui [2010] No. 70), which was jointly issued by the MOF, the SAT and CSRC on November 10, 2010). As of the Latest Practicable Date, no aforesaid provisions have expressly provided that whether individual income tax shall be collected from non-Chinese resident individuals on the transfer of shares in PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges, and to the best of our knowledge, in practice such tax has not been collected by the PRC tax authorities.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the CIT Law and its implementation provisions, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% corporate income tax on PRC-sourced income, including gains derived from the disposal of equity interests in a PRC resident enterprise, if it does not have an establishment or place in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but the PRC-sourced income is not connected in reality with such establishment or premise. Such income tax for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income are required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise when such payment is made or due. The withholding tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to applicable treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

Stamp Duty

Pursuant to the Provisional Regulations of the PRC Concerning Stamp Duty (《中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例》) issued on August 6, 1998 and amended on January 8, 2011, and the Detailed Rules for Implementation of Provisional Regulations of the PRC Concerning Stamp Duty (《中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例施行細則》) effective from October 1, 1988, PRC stamp duty only applies on specific proof executed or received within the PRC and having legally binding force in the PRC and protected under the PRC laws, thus the requirements of the stamp duty imposed on the transfer of shares of PRC listed companies shall not apply to the acquisition and disposal of H Shares by non-PRC investors outside of the PRC.

Estate Duty

As of the Latest Practicable Date, no estate duty has been levied in China under the PRC laws.

B. Hong Kong Taxation*Tax on Dividends*

Under the current practice of the Inland Revenue Department of Hong Kong, no tax is payable in Hong Kong in respect of dividends paid by us.

Profit Tax

No profit tax is imposed in Hong Kong in respect of the sale of H shares. However, trading profits from the sale of the H shares by persons carrying on any industry, profession or business in Hong Kong, where such profits are derived from or arise in Hong Kong from such industry, profession or business will be subject to Hong Kong profits tax. Trading profits from sales of the H shares effected on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange will be considered to be derived from or arise in Hong Kong. Liability for Hong Kong profits tax would thus arise in respect of trading profits from sales of H shares effected on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange realized by persons carrying on a business of trading or dealing in securities in Hong Kong. The trading profits from sales of the H shares for certain categories of taxpayers are likely to be regarded as deriving trading profits rather than capital gains (for example, financial institutions, insurance companies and securities dealers) unless these taxpayers can prove that the investment securities are held for long-term investment purposes.

Currently, the profit tax rate for the first HK\$2 million of assessable profits of an incorporated company is 8.25%, and profits above such amount is subject to a tax rate of 16.5%. The profit tax rate for the first HK\$2 million of assessable profits of an unincorporated company is 7.5%, and profits above such amount is subject to a tax rate of 15%.

Stamp Duty

Hong Kong stamp duty shall be paid on the sale or purchase of H Shares at the current tax rate of 0.26% of the consideration for, or (if greater) the value of, the H Shares being sold or purchased, whether or not the sale or purchase is made on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange or otherwise. In addition, a fixed duty of HK\$5.00 is currently payable on any instrument of transfer of H Shares.

Where one of the parties is a resident outside Hong Kong and does not pay the ad valorem duty due by it, the duty not paid will be assessed on the instrument of transfer (if any) and will be payable by the transferee. If no stamp duty is paid on or before the due date, a penalty of up to 10 times the duty payable may be imposed.

Estate Duty

Hong Kong estate duty was abolished with effective from February 11, 2006. No Hong Kong estate duty is payable by a holders of H Shares whose death occurs on or after February 11, 2006.

2. PRINCIPAL TAXATION OF OUR BANK BY THE PRC**Corporate Income Tax**

Pursuant to the CIT Law, enterprises and other organizations which generate income within the PRC are corporate income tax payers and shall pay corporate income tax at a tax rate of 25%.

Business Tax/Appreciation Tax

Pursuant to the Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Business Tax (《中華人民共和國營業稅暫行條例》), which became effective on January 1, 1994, subsequently amended on November 10, 2008 and implemented on January 1, 2009, banks engaging in banking activities within the PRC shall be subject to a 5% business tax.

Pursuant to Notice on Implementing the Pilot Reform for Transition from Business Tax to Value-added Tax Nationwide issued by the MOF and SAT (《財政部、國家稅務總局 關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知》) (Cai Shui [2016] No. 36) promulgated on March 23, 2016 and effective from May 1, 2016, from May 1, 2016 onwards, the pilot reform for the transition from business tax to VAT is implemented nationwide, and the financial industry is included in such pilot and is required to pay VAT instead of Business Tax. Pursuant to the Implementation Measures for Transition from Business Tax to Value-added Tax (《營業稅改徵增值稅試點實施辦法》), the appendix to the aforesaid notice, unless otherwise provided in the implementation measures, the tax rate is generally 6% for tax payers who conducted taxable behaviors. The Bank started to calculate and pay VAT instead of business tax since May 1, 2016.

3. TAXATION OF OUR BANK IN HONG KONG

Our Directors consider that none of our Bank's income is derived from or arises in Hong Kong. Our Bank is therefore not subject to Hong Kong taxation.

4. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

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

On January 29, 1996, the State Council promulgated Regulations of the PRC for Foreign Exchange Control (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) (the "Foreign Exchange Control Regulations") which was implemented on April 1, 1996. The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations classifies all international payments and transfers into current items and capital items. Most of the current items are no longer subject to SAFE's approval, while capital items still are subject to such approval. The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations were subsequently amended on January 14, 1997 and August 1, 2008, pursuant to which no restriction will be imposed on international current payments and transfers in the PRC.

On June 20, 1996, PBOC promulgated the Regulations for the Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange (《結匯、售匯及付匯管理規定》) (the "Settlement Regulations") which became effective on July 1, 1996. The Settlement Regulations abolished the remaining restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange under current items, while retaining the existing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions under capital account items.

According to the Announcement on Issues regarding Improving the Reform of the Renminbi (《關於完善人民幣匯率形成機制改革的公告》) (PBOC Announcement [2005] No. 16), issued by PBOC on July 21, 2005 and implemented on the same date, with effect from July 21, 2005, the PRC began to implement a managed floating exchange rate system in which the exchange rate would be determined based on market supply and demand and

adjusted with reference to a basket of currencies. The Renminbi exchange rate was no longer pegged solely to the U.S. dollar. PBOC would publish the closing price of the exchange rate of the Renminbi against trading currencies such as the U.S. dollar in the interbank foreign exchange market after the closing of the market on each working day, as the central parity of the currency against Renminbi transactions on the following working day.

Starting from January 4, 2006, PBOC introduced over-the-counter transactions into the interbank spot foreign exchange market for the purpose of improving the formation mechanism of the central parity of Renminbi exchange rates, and the practice of matching was kept at the same time. In addition to the above, PBOC introduced the market-maker rule to provide liquidity to the foreign exchange market. On July 1, 2014, PBOC further improved the formation mechanism of the RMB exchange rate by authorizing the China Foreign Exchange Trade Center to make inquiries with the market makers before the interbank foreign exchange market opens every day for their offered quotations which are used as samples to calculate the central parity of the RMB against the USD on that day using the weighted average of the remaining market makers' offered quotations after excluding the highest and lowest quotations, and announce the central parity of the RMB against currencies such as the USD at 9:15 a.m. on each working day. On August 11, 2015, PBOC announced to improve the central parity quotations of RMB against the USD by authorizing market-makers to provide central parity quotations to the China Foreign Exchange Trading Center before the interbank foreign exchange market opens every day with reference to the interbank foreign exchange market closing rate of the previous day, the supply and demand for foreign exchange as well as changes in major international currency exchange rates.

On August 5, 2008, the State Council promulgated the revised Regulations for Foreign Exchange Control, which have made substantial changes to the foreign exchange supervision system of the PRC. First, it has adopted an approach of balancing the inflow and outflow of foreign exchange. Foreign exchange income received overseas can be repatriated or deposited overseas, and foreign exchange and settlement funds under the capital account are required to be used only for purposes as approved by the competent authorities and foreign exchange administrative authorities; second, it has improved the RMB exchange rate system based on market supply and demand under management; third, in the event that international balance of payment suffer or may suffer a material misbalance, or the national economy encounters or may encounter a severe crisis, the State may adopt necessary safeguard or control measures against international balance of payment; fourth, it has enhanced the supervision and administration of foreign exchange transactions and grant extensive authorities to the SAFE to enhance its supervisory and administrative powers.

According to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, PRC enterprises (including foreign-invested enterprises) which need foreign exchange for current item transactions may, without the approval of the SAFE, effect payment from foreign exchange accounts at the designated foreign exchange banks, on the strength of valid transaction receipt or evidence. Foreign-invested enterprises which need foreign exchange for the distribution of profits to their shareholders and PRC enterprises which, in accordance with regulations, are required to pay dividends to their shareholders in foreign exchange (such as our Bank) may, on the strength of resolutions of the board of directors or the shareholders' general meeting on the distribution of profits, effect payment from foreign exchange accounts at the designated foreign exchange banks or effect exchange and payment at the designated foreign exchange banks.

On October 23, 2014, the State Council promulgated the Decisions on Matters including Canceling and Adjusting a Batch of Administrative Approval Items (《國務院關於取消和調整一批行政審批項目等事項的決定》) (Guo Fa [2014] No. 50), which canceled the approval requirement of the SAFE and its branches for the

remittance and settlement of the proceeds raised from the overseas listing of the foreign shares into RMB domestic accounts.

On December 26, 2014, the SAFE issued and implemented the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Issues Concerning the Foreign Exchange Administration of Overseas Listing (《國家外匯管理局關於境外上市外匯管理有關問題的通知》) (Hui Fa [2014] No. 54), pursuant to which a domestic company shall, within 15 working days of the date of the end of its overseas listing issuance, register the overseas listing with the SAFE's local branch at the place of its establishment; the proceeds from an overseas listing may be remitted to the domestic account or deposited in an overseas account, but the use of the proceeds shall be consistent with the content of the prospectus and other disclosure documents.

On February 13, 2015, the SAFE issued the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Further Simplifying and Improving Policies for the Foreign Exchange Administration of Direct Investment (《國家外匯管理局關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知》) (Hui Fa [2015] No. 13) which became effective from June 1, 2015. The notice has canceled the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and the confirmation of foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment, instead, banks shall directly examine and handle foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment, and the SAFE and its branch offices shall indirectly regulate the foreign exchange registration of direct investment through banks.

According to the Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange of the PRC on Revolutionize and Regulate Capital Account Settlement Management Policies (《國家外匯管理局關於改革和規範資本項目結匯管理政策的通知》) (Hui Fa [2016] No. 16) issued and implemented by the SAFE on June 9, 2016, foreign currency earnings in capital account that relevant policies of willingness exchange settlement have been clearly implemented on (including the recalling of raised capital by overseas listing) may undertake foreign exchange settlement in the banks according to actual business needs of the domestic institutions. The tentative percentage of foreign exchange settlement for foreign currency earnings in capital account of domestic institutions is 100%, subject to adjust of the SAFE in due time in accordance with international revenue and expenditure situations.

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