

Reliance Global Holdings Limited

信保環球控股有限公司*

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability) (Stock Code: 723)







Other Information

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Abbreviations

In this interim report, the following abbreviations have the following meanings unless otherwise specified:

"Board" Board of Directors of the Company

"Company" Reliance Global Holdings Limited

"Director(s)" director(s) of the Company

"Group" the Company and its subsidiaries

"Listing Rules" Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange

"Model Code" Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers set out in

Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules

"SFO" Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong)

"Share(s)" ordinary share(s) of HK\$0.01 each in the capital of the Company

"Shareholders" shareholders of the Company

"Stock Exchange" The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

"HK\$" and "HK cent(s)" Hong Kong dollars and cent(s)

"US\$" United States dollars

"%" per cent.

The Chinese version of this interim report is a translation of the English version and is for reference only. In case of any discrepancies or inconsistencies between the English version and the Chinese version, the English version shall prevail.

Corporate Information

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Directors

Ms. Wang Jingyu (Chairlady)

Mr. Lai Ming Wai (Chief Executive Officer)

Ms. Chan Yuk Yee

Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. Yam Kwong Chun

Mr. Chai Chi Keung

Mr. Wong Chi Kit

BOARD COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Ms. Wang Jingyu (Chairlady)

Mr. Lai Ming Wai

Ms. Chan Yuk Yee

Audit Committee

Mr. Yam Kwong Chun (Chairman)

Mr. Chai Chi Keung

Mr. Wong Chi Kit

Remuneration Committee

Mr. Wong Chi Kit (Chairman)

Mr. Yam Kwong Chun

Mr. Chai Chi Keung

Nomination Committee

Mr. Chai Chi Keung (Chairman)

Mr. Yam Kwong Chun

Mr. Wong Chi Kit

COMPANY SECRETARY

Ms. Chan Yuk Yee

LEGAL ADVISERS

Kitty So & Tong Solicitors Reed Smith Richards Butler

REGISTERED OFFICE

Clarendon House 2 Church Street Hamilton HM 11 Bermuda

PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Bank of Communications Co., Ltd.,
Hong Kong Branch
Bank of Communications (Hong Kong) Limited
Dah Sing Bank, Limited

HEAD OFFICE AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN HONG KONG

Room 2401A, 24th Floor Great Eagle Centre 23 Harbour Road Wanchai Hong Kong

SHARE REGISTRARS

Principal Share Registrar and Transfer Office

MUFG Fund Services (Bermuda) Limited 4th Floor North Cedar House 41 Cedar Avenue Bermuda

Hong Kong Branch Share Registrar and Transfer Office

Tricor Tengis Limited 17/F, Far East Finance Centre 16 Harcourt Road Hong Kong

AUDITOR

Crowe (HK) CPA Limited Certified Public Accountants Registered Public Interest Entity Auditor

TRADING OF SHARES

Hong Kong Stock Exchange (Stock Code: 723)

WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.relianceglobal.com.hk

BUSINESS REVIEW

For the six months ended 30 September 2023 ("HY2023"), the Group continued to operate in four business segments, namely, forest-related business comprising timber supply chain and sustainable forest management, money lending business and leasing of properties.

For HY2023, the Group recorded a 69% decline in revenue to HK\$80,927,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$259,505,000) and loss attributable to owners of the Company of HK\$3,348,000 (30 September 2022: profit of HK\$2,254,000), primarily owing to the challenging business conditions faced by the Group. The Group as a whole recorded a net loss of HK\$3,679,000 (30 September 2022: net profit of HK\$1,672,000), with a loss of HK\$331,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$582,000) being shared by the non-controlling interests. The loss incurred by the Group was mainly attributed to (i) the loss recorded by the Group's timber supply chain operation (the "TSC Operation") primarily due to the decline in its revenue, the squeeze in profit margin, the surge in energy costs in Europe and the impairment loss on trade receivables; and (ii) the decrease in profit recorded by the Group's money lending operation primarily due to the decline in its revenue resulted from the reduced size of its loan portfolio. Overall speaking, the money lending operation continued to register a profitable result of HK\$4,471,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$7,818,000), whilst the timber supply chain operation recorded a loss of HK\$1,937,000 (30 September 2022: profit of HK\$2,798,000) for the period.

Forest-related Business

Timber Supply Chain

During HY2023, the Group's timber supply chain operation continued with its strategic plan of building a global network of supply sources in Europe, Oceania and Africa to serve its customers predominantly in China as well as in other countries. The Group's TSC Operation in Europe continued to conduct its timber supply chain operation via its distribution hubs in Slovenia, Romania and Croatia, as well as the wood lumber processing ventures in Romania and Croatia including the lumber processing plant in Romania acquired in December 2021.

For HY2023, the Group's TSC Operation recorded a 70% decline in revenue to HK\$74,764,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$249,230,000) and a loss of HK\$1,937,000 (30 September 2022: profit of HK\$2,798,000). The decrease in revenue and the loss-making results of the TSC Operation were mainly due to (i) the drop in demand for timber owing to the significant slowdown of the real estate industry in China resulted in the Group facing significant drop in sales orders and selling price; (ii) the squeeze in profit margin of its operation in Europe; (iii) the significant rise in production, transportation and freight costs largely caused by the surge in energy costs in Europe resulting from the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine war; and (iv) the impairment loss on certain trade receivables. For HY2023, the transaction volume of timber and wood products traded by the operation was about 27,000 m³ (30 September 2022: 105,000 m³), decreased by 74% from the prior period. During the period, a majority of the transactions were conducted on CFR (Cost & Freight) basis with logistics support provided by the Group. The Group's TSC Operation is led by experienced management teams stationed in Hong Kong and Europe with extensive business network in the industry, with their great efforts, a solid supplier and customer base has been built over the years which continues to contribute recurrent business flow to the Group.

The TSC Operation is currently running two lines of business: the Conventional Business Model (the "CBM") and the Enhanced Business Model (the "EBM"):

CBM

Geographically, the CBM essentially represents the business of the TSC Operation other than its operation in Europe. Currently under the CBM, the operation principally performs a wholesaler role which sources mainly tropical domain hardwood timber from suppliers/forest owners in Papua New Guinea and sells or distributes to customers predominately in China and other countries, and being fully responsible for all the logistics of sea transport which usually involves the chartering of dry bulk vessels.

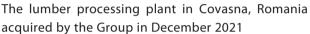
For HY2023, the CBM running under the TSC Operation generated a revenue of HK\$26,408,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$112,374,000), representing about 11,000 m³ (30 September 2022: 48,000 m³) of hardwood logs traded, and booked a loss of HK\$659,000 (30 September 2022: profit of HK\$1,253,000). The 76% and 77% respective decrease in the revenue and volume of the logs traded, that led to the loss-making result under the CBM, was to a large extent due to the significant slowdown of the real estate industry in China resulted in the Group facing significant drop in sales orders and selling price.

EBM

The EBM principally represents the business activities of the TSC Operation in Europe (the "European Operation"). The EBM is essentially a vertically-integrated timber supply chain operation which has coverage on the value-added works and services of a typical timber supply chain, including plantation & harvesting right, sourcing & procurement, timber harvesting & logging, quality inspection & land/sea transport, wood processing, inventory management, custom clearance, selling & marketing and after-sales services. The TSC Operation is currently running the EBM via its distribution hubs in Slovenia, Romania and Croatia and its wood processing ventures in Romania and Croatia, including the lumber processing plant in Romania acquired in December 2021.

For HY2023, the EBM running under the TSC Operation recorded a revenue of HK\$48,356,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$136,856,000) and a loss of HK\$1,278,000 (30 September 2022: profit of HK\$1,545,000), representing about 16,000 m³ (30 September 2022: 57,000 m³) of logs and wood products traded. The 65% and 72% respective decrease in revenue and trade volume and the loss-making result reported by the EBM were mainly due to (i) the drop in demand for timber owing to the significant slowdown of the real estate industry in China resulted in the Group facing significant drop in sales orders and selling price; (ii) the consequential squeeze in profit margin of logs and wood products sold; (iii) the significant rise in production, transportation and freight costs largely caused by the surge in energy costs in Europe resulting from the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine war; and (iv) the recognition of impairment loss on trade receivables of HK\$1,008,000 (30 September 2022: nil) upon assessment on collectability of these trade receivables.







The wood lumber produced in the processing plant

The following flowchart depicts the typical operation flow of a timber supply chain business:

Plantation & Harvesting rights: forest plantation, harvesting rights management, trees are harvested according to an agreed harvesting plan which is essential for sustainable and responsible forest management.

Sourcing & Procurement: market analyses on demand of timber and wood products are performed and purchases will be made at the best price available after negotiation with suppliers.

Harvesting & Logging: on-site selection of forest area to be harvested, formulate harvesting plan, arrangement of manpower, machinery and equipment for logging activities.

Quality inspection & Land transport: after on-site quality inspection, timber and wood products will be transported to log yards via rails and/or trucks.

Wood processing: deliver timber to processing plant for processing into wood products, production and quality control management.

Inventory management: maintain inventories in the distribution hubs and processing plants to readily meet the orders from customers and regularly advise the sales team in respect of availability of inventories.

Custom clearance: prepare documents to facilitate export and assist customers in importing cargoes in the buyers' country.

Quality inspection & Sea transport: after quality inspection, timber and wood products will be transported to customers via vessels or containers.

Selling & Marketing: timber and wood products are sold to customers in China and other countries, after-sales services will be provided to ensure customer satisfaction.

Distribution hubs in Slovenia, Romania and Croatia

The TSC Operation has established its distribution hubs in Maribor in Slovenia, Oituz in Romania and Ravna Gora in Croatia. The operation currently sources temperate domain softwood and hardwood timber (including spruce, pine, oak, beech, larch and maple logs) and wood products (including beech, ash and spruce lumber) from timber suppliers/forest owners in countries including Germany, the Czech Republic, Romania, Croatia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Serbia and sells or distributes to customers predominately in China and other countries with logistics support provided by the operation, which usually involves land transport via rails and trucks and sea transport via containers.

Wood processing venture in Romania

The TSC Operation has established a wood processing venture in Oituz, Romania and via entering into a harvesting right agreement with a Finnish leading forest management group for conducting timber logging in its forest interest in Oituz for a term of four years from January 2020. The operation has engaged local logging teams to conduct the logging activities and a wood processing plant for producing lumber. The wood harvested by the logging teams, together with the wood purchased from other forest owners (depending on the ordered quantity of sales orders on hand, the operation may purchase wood from other forest owners in order to fulfill the sales orders in case that the wood harvested by the logging teams is not sufficient to fulfill the orders), are used as inputs to the processing plant engaged to produce the wood lumber. At times when customers' sales orders exceed the production capacity of the processing plant engaged by the Group, the operation may purchase lumber from other local suppliers in order to fulfill the customers' orders. The lumber produced or purchased are then stored and kept as inventories until sold and delivered to customers under logistic arrangements provided by the operation.

As announced by the Company on 2 December 2021, the Group entered into an agreement to acquire a lumber processing plant in Covasna, Romania in order to expand its production capacity for wood lumber as well as to continue with its business expansion plan in the timber supply chain business, the acquisition was completed in January 2022. The lumber processing plant is fully operational and has a designed production capacity of up to 8,000 m³ of wood lumber per annum. The Group has fully integrated the operation of this newly acquired plant with its EBM and the plant has contributed revenue to the Group since January 2022. In addition, since January 2023, this newly acquired plant has taken over the lumber producing function of the wood processing plant as mentioned above.

Wood processing venture in Croatia

The TSC Operation has established another lumber processing venture in Croatia in January 2021. The operation entered into a service agreement with a wood processing plant in Croatia for a term of three years to produce beech and ash lumber in order to take advantage of the abundant local supply of beech and ash timber.

As the European Operation captures the additional monetary benefits through providing many value-added works and services in a typical timber supply chain, the gross profit margin of the EBM is usually higher than that of the CBM. The establishment of the distribution hubs in Slovenia, Romania and Croatia as well as the timber processing ventures in Romania and Croatia have significantly enhanced the competitive advantages of the Group's timber supply chain business, and effectively expanded and diversified the operation's customer base, revenue source, product type and market coverage. Traditionally, European timber logs and wood products are of high demand in China because of their high quality and wide usage, however, owing to the significant slowdown of the real estate industry in China, sales to the customers in China were substantially lower in the current period which also led to a lower inventory level at the period end of HK\$14,589,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$21,961,000). The diversity of the Group's timber supply chain business in terms of customer base, supply source and product type has enhanced the Group's strength and resilience in facing the current market challenges.

The European Operation is effectively 51% owned by the Group and 49% owned by the partner of the business venture.

Sustainable Forest Management

Since the Group suspended its harvesting operations in the State of Acre, Brazil owing to the unfavourable business environment in 2012, the Group had continued to explore the optimal way to enhance the income stream from its forest assets. However, in view of the unfavourable financial performance in operating the Group's forest assets in Brazil via licensing their harvesting rights, during the financial year ended 31 March 2022, the management had decided to dispose of the forest assets at a gain. At 30 September 2023, the Group was not holding any forest assets.

Notwithstanding the disposal of the forest assets in Brazil, the Group continues to seize investment opportunities in forest assets in Europe for the development of its sustainable forest management business.

Money Lending Business

The Group's money lending business is conducted through Reliance Credit Limited ("Reliance Credit") and Reliance Capital Finance Limited ("Reliance Capital"), both are wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Company, and are licensed to conduct money lending activities under the Money Lenders Ordinance. The Group aims to make loans that could be covered by sufficient collateral, preferably commercial and residential properties in Hong Kong, and to borrowers with good credit history. The Group has a stable source of loan deals through referrals from its marketing agents, cooperation with property agents and participation in co-lending activities, as well as through advertisements in traditional and digital media.

For HY2023, the Group's money lending business recorded a 40% decline in revenue to HK\$6,163,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$10,275,000) and a 43% decrease in profit to HK\$4,471,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$7,818,000). The decline in revenue of the business was mainly due to the reduced size of its loan portfolio when compared to the prior period, primarily owing to the cautious approach of the management in granting new loans in view of the prevailing economic conditions in Hong Kong during HY2023, whilst the decrease in its profit was a combined effect of the decline in interest income to HK\$5,968,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$9,739,000) and the recognition of net impairment loss on loan receivables of HK\$365,000 (30 September 2022: net reversal of impairment loss of HK\$903,000). The Group did not recognise any impairment loss on repossessed assets during the current period (30 September 2022: HK\$1,065,000). The impairment loss on loan receivables was determined after performing assessment on the current creditworthiness of the borrowers on an individual basis by considering factors including their repayment history and value of collateral provided, and the credit status of the Group's loan portfolio on a collective basis in light of the current economic and market conditions in Hong Kong. The reversal of impairment loss on loan receivables, on the other hand, was determined based on the recoveries from borrowers of certain credit-impaired loans. The impairment loss on repossessed assets, being properties in Hong Kong, was determined based on a valuation of the repossessed assets by a professional valuer engaged by the Group.

At 30 September 2023, the Group's loan portfolio was constituted by 18 loans (31 March 2023: 24 loans), there were 14 loans (31 March 2023: 20 loans) with carrying amount totalling HK\$94,713,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$147,491,000) (net of impairment allowance on loan receivables of HK\$8,592,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$8,227,000)) granted to 14 borrowers (31 March 2023: 20 borrowers), and 4 credit-impaired loans (31 March 2023: 4 credit-impaired loans) being classified as repossessed assets with carrying amount totalling HK\$50,130,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$50,724,000) (net of impairment allowance on repossessed assets of HK\$1,266,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$1,266,000)) after the Group took possession of the collateral assets. Details of the Group's loan portfolio (excluding credit-impaired loans classified as repossessed assets) are as follows:

	Approximate weighting to the carrying amount of the Group's loan	Interest rate		
Type of loan	portfolio	per annum	Original maturity	Remarks
First mortgage loans	73%	8.5%-12%	Within three years	Loans were secured by properties located in Hong Kong
Second mortgage loan	4%	12%	Within two years	Loan was secured by property located in Hong Kong
Corporate loans	23%	9%-12.5%	Within one year	Loans were granted to listed companies in Hong Kong or were secured by collateral
Total	100%			

At 30 September 2023, on a net of impairment allowance basis, the size of individual loan comprising the Group's loan portfolio ranged from approximately HK\$175,000 to HK\$16,690,000 (31 March 2023: from HK\$312,000 to HK\$16,690,000). The Group's loan portfolio was well spread with an average loan size of around HK\$6.8 million (31 March 2023: HK\$7.4 million), credit healthy as 95% (31 March 2023: 91%) of the portfolio was secured by collateral, and earning a good return with weighted average interest rate amounting to approximately 10% (31 March 2023: 10%). Collateral of the mortgage loans are mainly residential and commercial properties situated in Hong Kong with a total valuation attributable to the Group of around HK\$112 million (31 March 2023: HK\$162 million) as at the period end. Loans were granted to Hong Kong residents, companies incorporated in Hong Kong and companies listed on the Stock Exchange. At 30 September 2023, the loan made to the largest borrower amounted to HK\$16,690,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$16,690,000) and the loans made to the five largest borrowers totalled HK\$61,773,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$63,935,000), which accounted for 18% and 65% (31 March 2023: 11% and 43%) of the Group's loan portfolio (on a net of impairment allowance basis) respectively.

Before granting loans to potential borrowers, the Group performs credit assessment process to assess the potential borrowers' credit quality individually and defines the credit limits granted to the borrowers. The credit assessment process encompasses detailed assessment on the credit history and financial background of the potential borrowers, as well as the value and nature of the collateral to be pledged. The credit limits of loans successfully granted to the borrowers are reviewed by the management regularly as part of the ongoing loan monitoring process.

Risk management is an integral part of the success of the money lending business. The Group has clear credit policies, guidelines, controls and procedures in place which cover every aspect of the operation from information verification, credit assessment, loan approval, loan monitoring to collection. The operation has clear authorisation and approval hierarchy and is led and managed by a team of qualified and experienced personnel. The management team is able to deliver expedite credit approval process to customers without compromising the commercial benefits of the lending decisions made.

The following flowchart depicts the typical operational procedures in processing a loan application:



Verification: documents and information provided by the loan applicant will be verified by the delegated loan officer and where appropriate, legal and credit search on the loan applicant will be conducted.

Assessment: credit assessment on the loan applicant will be performed by the delegated loan officer and reviewed by the supervising officer, by making reference to the financial background and credit history of the applicant, and value of the collateral provided (if any), where appropriate, the credit assessment on the applicant will be further reviewed by the responsible director.

Approval: if the loan application is approved, the delegated loan officer will arrange preparation and signing of the loan documentation and the supervising officer will ensure their proper execution, including drawdown of the loan proceeds by the applicant.

Monitoring: there will be continuous monitoring on loan repayments from individual borrower by the loan officer and regular review if there are material changes of the borrower's repayment ability by the supervising officer, where appropriate, impairment allowance on individual loan will be made if there is deterioration of credit quality of the loan with approval from the responsible director.

Collection: will make calls and send reminders to individual borrower for overdue loan repayment and when there is a default of loan repayment, will take appropriate enforcement action, including legal action, to recover the loan.

The credit risk assessment process on the loan applicants typically involves (i) obtaining identity proof of the borrowers, and land search and preliminary valuation on the properties to be mortgaged; (ii) ascertaining the financial condition of the loan applicants by reviewing the income/asset proof of the individual borrowers and financial reports of the corporate borrowers, and to determine whether their regular income is sufficient to cover their loan repayment obligations; and (iii) conducting litigation and bankruptcy searches and credit search on the loan applicants. The information collected will then be input into the Group's credit risk rating system and the result of the credit assessment process on the loan applicant, together with the valuation of the property(ies) to be mortgaged performed by the independent valuer engaged by the Group (where appropriate), will be reviewed by the responsible director. The Group has also formulated credit policy and operation procedures which set out the acceptable types of identity proof, income/asset proof, financial report and collateral, and the criteria in determining loan tenor, loan size and charging interest rate. All loan applications are subject to the final approval of the respective board of directors of the Company's money lending subsidiaries and the Company's board of directors if a loan application constitutes a notifiable transaction under the Listing Rules.

In addition, the Group will also observe the requirements to comply with the anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing regulations in conducting its money lending business.

To lower the Group's exposure to the credit risk of property-backed loans, the percentage of loan-to-value for new drawdown will normally be within 80%. Onsite inspection of the property to be mortgaged may also be arranged where appropriate.

The loan officer and supervising officer are required to report any material loan defaults immediately upon occurrence to the management, and to report to the management on the remedial actions undertaken on a regular basis.

In respect of delinquent loans, the Group will issue standard demand letters. If satisfactory response is not received, the Group will instruct lawyers to issue formal legal demand letters. Thereafter, formal legal proceedings, including actions for taking possession of the collateral, may be commenced against the borrowers where appropriate.

The Group has a system in place to closely monitor the recoverability of its loan portfolio, its credit monitoring measures include regular collateral reviews against market information and regular communication with the borrowers of their financial positions, through which the Group will be able to keep updated with the latest credit profile and risk associated with each individual borrower and could take appropriate actions for recovery of a loan at the earliest time. If circumstances require, the Group will commence legal actions against the borrowers for recovery of the overdue loans and taking possession of the collateral pledged.

The Group performs impairment assessment on loan receivables under the expected credit losses ("**ECL**") model. The measurement of ECL is a function of the probability of default, the loss given default (i.e. the magnitude of the loss if there is a default) and the exposure at default (i.e. the magnitude of the loss after accounting for value of the collateral if there is a default). The assessment of probability of default and loss given default is based on historical data and forward-looking information, whilst the valuation of the properties and assets pledged to the Group as collateral are performed by independent professional valuer engaged by the Group at each reporting date for the purpose of determining ECL. In accordance with the Group's loan impairment policy, the amount of ECL is updated at each reporting date to reflect the changes in credit risk on loan receivables since initial recognition. For HY2023, the net impairment allowance recognised primarily represented the credit risk involved in collectability of certain default and non-default loans determined under the Group's loan impairment policy, with reference to factors including the credit history and financial conditions of the borrowers, the aging of the overdue balances, the realisation value of the collateral pledged to the Group, and forward-looking information including the future macroeconomic conditions affecting the borrowers (the state of economy in Hong Kong had also been considered).

In assessing ECL, the loan receivables have been assessed with reference to the latest analysis on credit rating of the loans on individual and collective basis. The Group's loan portfolio mainly comprised mortgage loans, and the loan-to-value ratio for each of the mortgaged properties have been under regular review. At 30 September 2023, the fair value of each mortgaged property was considered to be sufficient to cover the corresponding outstanding loan receivable (after impairment allowance, if any). For corporate loan, the credit rating of the loan was analysed with reference to the borrowers' creditworthiness and credit history, including its financial position, previous records of default in payment, value of collateral pledged and prevailing market conditions. For HY2023, a net impairment loss on loan receivables of HK\$365,000 (30 September 2022: net reversal of impairment loss of HK\$903,000) was recognised with the balance of the impairment allowance increased by 4% or HK\$365,000 to HK\$8,592,000 at 30 September 2023 (31 March 2023: HK\$8,227,000). The net impairment loss of HK\$365,000 was determined in accordance with the Group's loan impairment policy.

In January 2020, the Company successfully issued interest bearing notes totalling HK\$50,000,000 to investors for funding the development of the money lending business. The notes are secured by a debenture over the assets of a money lending subsidiary of the Company which effectively represents securitisation of its loan portfolio. During HY2023, the Group had utilised its surplus funds on hand to early repay HK\$22,000,000 of the principal amount of the notes to save finance costs, the outstanding principal amount of the notes at the period end was HK\$18,000,000.

Leasing of Properties

The Group was not holding any investment property during HY2023. The Group has been seeking acquisition opportunities of investment properties with good yield and/or high appreciation potential. However, as the conditions of the property market in Hong Kong have been unstable during the past years, the management has acted prudently in evaluating potential acquisition opportunities. The Group's present business strategy is to allocate its financial resources to the money lending and timber supply chain businesses which have better earning potential.

OVERALL RESULTS

For HY2023, the Group recorded a loss attributable to owners of the Company of HK\$3,348,000 (30 September 2022: profit of HK\$2,254,000), and basic loss per share were HK0.037 cent (30 September 2022: basic earnings per share of HK0.025 cent). The Group as a whole recorded a net loss of HK\$3,679,000 (30 September 2022: net profit of HK\$1,672,000), with a loss of HK\$331,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$582,000) being shared by the non-controlling interests. The total comprehensive expense attributable to owners of the Company was HK\$4,122,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$2,586,000), after having recognised the other comprehensive expense of HK\$1,518,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$9,490,000) representing the exchange differences on translation of foreign operations for the period.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In order to cope with the Group's expanding scale of operation and continuous business development, on 26 March 2018, Champion Alliance Enterprises Limited ("**Champion Alliance**"), a substantial shareholder of the Company, granted to the Company a loan facility to the extent of HK\$200,000,000 (the "**Loan Facility**") for the purpose of meeting its working capital requirements. The Loan Facility is unsecured and interest-free and has been mainly applied to the Group's money lending and timber supply chain businesses to facilitate their significant business developments. At 30 September 2023, the outstanding amount under the Loan Facility was HK\$2,000,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$40,000,000).

For the purpose of financing the operation of the timber supply chain business, the Group has also obtained from well-established banks in Hong Kong bills discounting facilities in the amounts of US\$200,000,000 and HK\$100,000,000 (the "Bills Discounting Facilities"). The Bills Discounting Facilities obtained have substantially strengthened the Group's financial flexibility in conducting its timber supply chain business. At 30 September 2023, the advances drawn under the Bills Discounting Facilities amounted to HK\$17,627,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$27,506,000).

In January 2020, the Company entered into a placing agreement with a placing agent, on a best effort basis, to procure placees to subscribe for notes with an aggregate principal amount of up to HK\$300,000,000, carrying interest at 7.125% per annum, and maturing on the third anniversary of the issue date for each tranche of the notes (the "Three-Year Notes") issued. A debenture incorporating a first floating charge over all the undertakings, property and assets of Reliance Credit, one of the Company's money lending subsidiaries, has been issued in favour of a security trustee as trustee for the noteholders. The first tranche of the Three-Year Notes which amounted to HK\$50,000,000 has been issued in January 2020, and in January 2023, the maturity date of the first tranche of the Three-Year Notes has been extended to January 2025. The Group had repaid HK\$10,000,000 and HK\$22,000,000 of the principal amount of the notes in January 2023 and September 2023 respectively by utilising surplus funds on hand for the purpose of saving finance costs, accordingly, at 30 September 2023, the outstanding amount of notes payable was HK\$18,000,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$40,000,000).

The decrease in the Group's finance costs to HK\$1,566,000 for the period (30 September 2022: HK\$2,761,000) was the combined effect that interest on advances drawn on bill receivables discounted with full recourse decreased by 85% to HK\$147,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$950,000), and interest on notes payable decreased by 22% to HK\$1,390,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$1,786,000).

Liquidity and Financial Resources

For HY2023, the Group financed its businesses mainly by cash generated from operations, the Bills Discounting Facilities provided by banks, the Loan Facility from Champion Alliance, the first tranche of the Three-Year Notes issued, and the shareholders' funds.

At 30 September 2023, the Group had current assets of HK\$245,597,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$344,979,000) and cash and cash equivalents of HK\$57,618,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$65,761,000). The Group's current ratio, calculated based on current assets over current liabilities of HK\$27,880,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$84,887,000), was at a strong ratio of about 8.8 (31 March 2023: 4.1).

At 30 September 2023, the Group's borrowings comprised the outstanding principal amount of the first tranche of the Three-Year Notes of HK\$18,000,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$40,000,000), and bank borrowings of HK\$17,627,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$27,506,000) representing the advances to the Group for the bill receivables discounted to banks with full recourse. The bank borrowings bore interests at floating rates, secured by the relevant bill receivables and were repayable within one year.

At 30 September 2023, the equity attributable to owners of the Company decreased by 2% or HK\$4,122,000 to HK\$241,675,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$245,797,000). The Group's gearing ratio expressed as a percentage of the total borrowings of HK\$35,627,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$67,506,000) over the equity attributable to owners of the Company of HK\$241,675,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$245,797,000), decreased to 15% at 30 September 2023 (31 March 2023: 27%) and was mainly a result of the decreases in notes payable and bank borrowings as of the period end date.

With the amount of liquid assets on hand, the Bills Discounting Facilities from banks and the Loan Facility from Champion Alliance, the management is of the view that the Group has sufficient financial resources to meet its ongoing operational requirement and future business development.

Charge on Assets

A debenture incorporating a first floating charge over all the undertakings, property and assets of Reliance Credit, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company engaging in money lending business, has been issued in favour of the security trustee as trustee for the noteholders in relation to the Three-Year Notes. At 30 September 2023, the outstanding principal amount of the first tranche of the Three-Year Notes amounted to HK\$18,000,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$40,000,000).

At 30 September 2023, bill receivables of HK\$17,627,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$27,506,000) were pledged to banks to secure the advances drawn on the bill receivables.

Contingent Liabilities

At 30 September 2023, the Group had no significant contingent liability (31 March 2023: nil).

Litigation

At 30 September 2023, there was no litigation claim against the Group (31 March 2023: nil).

Foreign Exchange Risk

The Group mainly operates in Hong Kong, Europe and China. During HY2023, the revenue, costs and expenses of the Group's operations were mainly denominated in Hong Kong dollar, United States dollar, Euro, Romanian Leu and Renminbi.

The Group maintains a prudent strategy in its foreign currency risk management, where possible, foreign exchange risks are minimised via balancing the foreign currency monetary assets versus the corresponding foreign currency liabilities, and foreign currency revenues versus the corresponding foreign currency expenditures. The Group is not subject to foreign exchange risk of United States dollar as it is pegged with Hong Kong dollar, the Group is nevertheless exposed to potential foreign exchange risk as a result of the fluctuations of Euro, Romanian Leu and Renminbi. In addition, some of the Group's assets are located in Europe and denominated in Euro and Romanian Leu while the Group's reporting currency is in Hong Kong dollar, this also exposes the Group to potential foreign exchange risk upon translation of these assets on each reporting date.

For HY2023, the Group incurred net exchange loss of HK\$2,003,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$9,337,000) charged to profit and loss largely due to the fluctuation of Euro. As for Romanian Leu and Renminbi, the Group's exposure to their exchange rate fluctuations were not significant as their weightings to the Group's total transaction volume, assets and liabilities were low. For the Group's assets in Europe, any foreign exchange gains or losses due to the translation of the carrying value of these assets to the Group's reporting currency on the reporting dates are unrealised and non-cash in nature, accordingly, the Group has not entered into any arrangements or financial instruments for the purpose of hedging against these potential foreign exchange risks. For HY2023, the Group recorded an exchange loss of HK\$1,518,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$9,490,000) primarily due to the translation of the financial statements of the Group's operations in Europe.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND REMUNERATION POLICY

At 30 September 2023, the Group had 78 employees (including directors) (30 September 2022: 85) stationed in Hong Kong, Europe and China. During HY2023, the total remuneration paid by the Group to its employees (including directors) decreased by 5% to HK\$8,499,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$8,938,000), and was mainly a result of the decrease in headcount of the Group's operations in Europe during the period. The Group rewards its employees (including directors) according to prevailing market terms, individual competence, experience and performance, and requirements under the applicable labour laws where the Group's operations are located. The Group operates a Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme (the "MPF Scheme") for its employees in Hong Kong and participates in other central pension schemes (the "Central Pension Schemes") operated by the local municipal governments for its employees in Europe. In addition to the provision of paid holidays, annual bonus, medical insurance and subsidised training programme, employees (including directors) may also be entitled to discretionary performance bonus.

The Group's contributions to the MPF Scheme and Central Pension Schemes are calculated as a percentage of the employees' relevant income and vest fully and immediately with the employees, thus there were no forfeited contributions available to the Group to reduce the existing level of contributions to the MPF Scheme and Central Pension Schemes.

PROSPECTS

The Group continued to operate in a challenging business environment during HY2023 owing to the adverse impact brought by the significant slowdown of the real estate industry in China, the high inflation in some major western and European economies, the surge in energy costs in Europe and market uncertainties resulting from the Russia-Ukraine war, despite that global economic activities were returning to their normality following the containment of the pandemic.

Against this backdrop, the Group will continue to adopt a disciplined and prudent approach in managing the Group's timber supply chain and money lending businesses, as well as in seeking organic growth and vertical expansion business opportunities which are expected to further expand the scale of the Group's operations and to create new value to the shareholders.

Report on Review of Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements



國富浩華(香港)會計師事務所有限公司 Crowe (HK) CPA Limited

香港 銅鑼灣 禮頓道77號 禮頓中心9樓 9/F Leighton Centre, 77 Leighton Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RELIANCE GLOBAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

INTRODUCTION

We have reviewed the condensed consolidated interim financial statements set out on pages 20 to 45, which comprise the condensed consolidated statement of financial position of Reliance Global Holdings Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (together, the "Group") at 30 September 2023 and the related condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity and the condensed consolidated statement of cash flows for the six-month period then ended and explanatory notes. The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited require the preparation of a report on the condensed interim financial statements to be in compliance with the relevant provisions thereof and International Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of these condensed interim financial statements in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting". Our responsibility is to form a conclusion, based on our review, on the condensed consolidated interim financial statements and to report our conclusion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with our agreed terms of engagement and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

We conducted our review in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagement 2410, "Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A review of these condensed consolidated interim financial statements consists of making inquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Report on Review of Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements

CONCLUSION

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the condensed consolidated interim financial statements are not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting".

Crowe (HK) CPA Limited

Certified Public Accountants
Hong Kong, 29 November 2023

Sze Chor Chun, Yvonne

Practising Certificate Number: P05049

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

For the six months ended 30 September

		30 Sept	emper
		2023	2022
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	Notes	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Revenue	5	80,927	259,505
Cost of sales		(67,034)	(230,235)
Other income	6	281	771
Administrative expenses		(14,757)	(24,454)
Other operating expenses	7(c)	(1,373)	(141)
(Loss)/profit from operations		(1,956)	5,446
Finance income		245	30
Finance costs		(1,566)	(2,761)
Net finance costs	7(a)	(1,321)	(2,731)
(Loss)/profit before taxation	7	(3,277)	2,715
Income tax expense	8	(402)	(1,043)
(Loss)/profit for the period		(3,679)	1,672
Attributable to:			
Owners of the Company		(3,348)	2,254
Non-controlling interests		(331)	(582)
3			
		(3,679)	1,672
(Loss)/earnings per share	10		
– Basic	10	HK(0.037) cent	HK0.025 cent
– Diluted		HK(0.036) cent	HK0.024 cent

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

	For the six months ended		
	30 September		
	2023	2022	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
(Loss)/profit for the period	(3,679)	1,672	
Other comprehensive expense for the period:			
Item that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations, net	(1,518)	(9,490)	
Total comprehensive expense for the period	(5,197)	(7,818)	
Total comprehensive expense for the period	(3,197)	(7,616)	
Total comprehensive expense attributable to:			
Owners of the Company	(4,122)	(2,586)	
Non-controlling interests	(1,075)	(5,232)	
	(5,197)	(7,818)	

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

At 30 September 2023

	Notes	At 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i> (Unaudited)	At 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i> (Audited)
Non-current assets Property, plant and equipment Right-of-use assets Intangible assets	11	20,167 1,286 174	21,756 1,770 174
Loan receivables	13	38,317	23,700
Current assets Inventories Trade and other receivables Loan receivables Repossessed assets Tax recoverable Cash and cash equivalents	12 13 14	14,589 41,912 78,023 50,130 3,325 57,618	21,961 55,844 147,491 50,724 3,198 65,761
Current liabilities Trade and other payables Bank borrowings Lease liabilities Amounts received from a shareholder	15 16 17 18	7,285 17,627 968 2,000	16,438 27,506 943 40,000
Net current assets		217,717	260,092
Total assets less current liabilities		256,034	283,792
Non-current liabilities Notes payable Lease liabilities Deferred tax liabilities	19 17	18,000 334 406 18,740	40,000 836 465 41,301
Net assets		237,294	242,491
Capital and reserves Share capital Reserves	20	122,053 119,622	122,053 123,744
Total equity attributable to owners of the Company Non-controlling interests		241,675 (4,381)	245,797 (3,306)
Total equity		237,294	242,491

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

	Attributable to owners of the Company									
	Share capital HK\$'000	Share premium <i>HK\$</i> ′000	Contributed surplus HK\$'000	Distributable reserve HK\$'000	Capital redemption reserve HK\$'000	Exchange fluctuation reserve HK\$'000	Accumulated losses HK\$'000	Sub-total HK\$'000	Non- controlling interests HK\$'000	Total equity HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022 (Audited)	122,886	69,728	2,885,431	2,298	8,000	(849)	(2,842,745)	244,749	3,559	248,308
Profit/(loss) for the period	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,254	2,254	(582)	1,672
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations, net	-	-	-	-	-	(4,840)	-	(4,840)	(4,650)	(9,490)
Total other comprehensive expense						(4,840)		(4,840)	(4,650)	(9,490)
Total comprehensive (expense)/income for the period						(4,840)	2,254	(2,586)	(5,232)	(7,818)
Conversion of convertible preferred shares (note 20)	(833)	833	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unclaimed dividends forfeited							1,710	1,710		1,710
At 30 September 2022 (Unaudited)	122,053	70,561	2,885,431	2,298	8,000	(5,689)	(2,838,781)	243,873	(1,673)	242,200
At 1 April 2023 (Audited)	122,053	70,561	2,885,431	2,323	8,000	(1,791)	(2,840,780)	245,797	(3,306)	242,491
Loss for the period	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,348)	(3,348)	(331)	(3,679)
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations, net	-	_	-	-	-	(774)	_	(774)	(744)	(1,518)
Total other comprehensive expense						(774)		(774)	(744)	(1,518)
Total comprehensive expense for the period						(774)	(3,348)	(4,122)	(1,075)	(5,197)
At 30 September 2023 (Unaudited)	122,053	70,561	2,885,431	2,323	8,000	(2,565)	(2,844,128)	241,675	(4,381)	237,294

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

	For the six months ended 30 September		
	2023	2022	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities	64,714	(81,335)	
Net cash used in investing activities	(60)	(1,812)	
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of notes payable	(22,000)	_	
Proceeds from bank advances on bill receivables			
discounted with full recourse	28,248	122,193	
Repayment of bank advances on bill receivables			
discounted with full recourse	(38,127)	(45,588)	
Decrease in amounts received from a shareholder	(38,000)	_	
Other cash flows arising from financing activities	(2,043)	(3,568)	
Net cash (used in)/generated from financing activities	(71,922)	73,037	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(7,268)	(10,110)	
·			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	65,761	70,713	
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes	(875)	(7,460)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	57,618	53,143	
cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	37,010	33,173	

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

1. CORPORATE INFORMATION

The Company was incorporated in Bermuda as an exempted company with limited liability under the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda and its ordinary shares are listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange.

The principal activities of the Company are investment holding and provision of management services. The principal activities of the subsidiaries of the Company comprise money lending business conducted pursuant to the Money Lenders Ordinance (Chapter 163 of the Laws of Hong Kong), forest-related business comprising sustainable forest management and timber supply chain, and leasing of properties.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 September 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the applicable disclosure requirements of Appendix 16 to the Listing Rules, applicable International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") and International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB").

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements have not been audited, but have been reviewed by Crowe (HK) CPA Limited, in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410, "Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity", issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The independent review report of Crowe (HK) CPA Limited to the Company's Board of Directors is included on pages 18 to 19 of this interim report.

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Group's annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements are denominated in Hong Kong dollars. Unless otherwise specifically stated, all amounts are presented in thousand (HK\$'000).

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounting policies and basis of preparation adopted in the preparation of the condensed consolidated interim financial statements are consistent with those used in the Group's annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023, except as described below.

In the current interim period, the Group has applied the following amendments to IFRSs issued by the IASB, for the first time, which are mandatorily effective for the annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023 for the preparation of the Group's condensed consolidated interim financial statements:

IFRS 17 and related Amendments Insurance Contracts

Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Disclosure of Accounting Policies

Practice Statement 2

Amendments to IAS 8 Definition of Accounting Estimates

Amendments to IAS 12 Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a

Single Transaction

Amendments to IAS 12 International Tax Reform – Pillar Two Model Rules

The application of the amendments to IFRSs in the current interim period has had no material impact on the Group's financial positions and performance for the current and prior periods and/or on the disclosures set out in the condensed consolidated interim financial statements.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

4. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Group manages its businesses by divisions, which are organised by a mixture of both business lines (products and services) and geographical location. In a manner consistent with the way in which information is reported internally to the Board of Directors for the purposes of resource allocation and performance assessment, the Group has presented the following reportable segments. No operating segments have been aggregated to form the following reportable segments.

Specifically, the Group's reportable and operating segments under IFRS 8 are as follows:

- Money lending: money lending business conducted pursuant to the Money Lenders Ordinance (Chapter 163 of the Laws of Hong Kong).
- Forest-related business:
 - (i) Sustainable forest management: sustainable forest management of and investment in natural forests, licensing of harvesting rights, timber and wood processing, trading and sales of forestry and timber products.
 - (ii) Timber supply chain: sales of timber and wood products including processed timber products.
- Leasing of properties: leasing of properties to generate rental income and to gain from appreciation in property values.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

4. **SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

Segment results represent the profit/loss from each segment without allocation of corporate income, corporate expenses and finance costs.

Segment assets include all non-current assets and current assets attributable to an individual reportable segment with the exception of right-of-use assets and certain corporate assets.

All liabilities are allocated to reportable segments other than lease liabilities, deferred tax liabilities, amounts received from a shareholder and certain corporate liabilities.

Segment revenue, results, assets and liabilities

An analysis of the Group's reportable segments is reported below:

For the six months ended 30 September 2023 (Unaudited)

		Forest-related business			
	Money lending HK\$'000	Sustainable forest management HK\$'000	Timber supply chain HK\$'000	Leasing of properties HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Segment revenue Revenue from external customers	6,163		74,764		80,927
Results Segment results	4,471		(1,937)		2,534
Unallocated corporate income Unallocated corporate expenses Finance costs					74 (4,319) (1,566)
Loss before taxation					(3,277)
Other segment information Capital expenditure Depreciation of property, plant and equipment Interest income	- - 24		(305) (1,216) 171	-	(305) (1,216) 195

RELIANCE GLOBAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

4. **SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

Segment revenue, results, assets and liabilities (continued)

At 30 September 2023 (Unaudited)

		Forest-related business			
	Money lending	Sustainable forest management	Timber supply chain	Leasing of properties	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Segment assets	180,376		100,566		280,942
Unallocated:					
– Right-of-use assets					1,286
- Corporate assets					1,686
					283,914
Segment liabilities	18,209		23,124		41,333
Unallocated:					
 Lease liabilities 					1,302
– Deferred tax liabilities					406
 Amounts received from a shareholder 					2,000
– Corporate liabilities					1,579
					46,620

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

4. **SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

Segment revenue, results, assets and liabilities (continued)

For the six months ended 30 September 2022 (Unaudited)

		Forest-relate	d business		
		Sustainable	Timber		
	Money	forest	supply	Leasing of	
	lending	management	chain	properties	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Segment revenue					
Revenue from external customers	10,275		249,230		259,505
Results					
Segment results	7,818		2,798		10,616
Unallocated corporate income					76
Unallocated corporate expenses					(5,216)
Finance costs					(2,761)
Profit before taxation					2,715
Other segment information					
Capital expenditure	-	-	(1,914)	-	(1,914)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	-	-	(1,586)	-	(1,586)
Interest income	1		29		30

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

4. **SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

Segment revenue, results, assets and liabilities (continued)

At 31 March 2023 (Audited)

		Forest-related			
		Sustainable	Timber		
	Money	forest	supply	Leasing of	
	lending	management	chain	properties	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Segment assets	206,418		142,794		349,212
Unallocated:					
– Right-of-use assets					1,770
– Corporate assets					17,697
					368,679
Segment liabilities	37,813		41,280		79,093
Unallocated:					
– Lease liabilities					1,779
– Deferred tax liabilities					465
 Amounts received from a shareholder 					40,000
- Corporate liabilities					4,851
					126,188

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

5. REVENUE

An analysis of the Group's revenue is as follows:

	For the six m	For the six months ended		
	30 September			
	2023	2022		
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000		
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)		
Sales from timber supply chain business	74,764	249,230		
Interest income from money lending business	5,968	9,739		
Arrangement fee income from money lending business	195	536		
	80,927	259,505		

Note:

Revenue is recognised at a point in time except for interest income from money lending business which falls outside the scope of IFRS 15.

6. OTHER INCOME

	For the six m	onths ended	
	30 September		
	2023	2022	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
Government subsidies (note)	-	410	
Sales of residual products	92	296	
Sundry income	189	65	
	281	771	

Note:

The amount represented the cash subsidies received from The Government of the HKSAR under the Anti-Epidemic Fund for the purpose of relieving financial burdens of the businesses operating in Hong Kong.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

7. (LOSS)/PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

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

			For the six months ended 30 September	
		2023 <i>HK\$'000</i> (Unaudited)	2022 <i>HK\$'000</i> (Unaudited)	
(a)	Net finance costs			
	Finance income: Interest income from bank deposits	(245)	(30)	
	Finance costs: Interest on lease liabilities	29	25	
	Interest on advances drawn on bill receivables discounted with full recourse Interest on notes payable	147 1,390	950 1,786	
		1,566	2,761	
		1,321	2,731	
(b)	Staff costs (including directors' emoluments) Salaries, wages and other benefits Contributions to retirement benefits scheme	8,146 353	8,587 351	
		8,499	8,938	
(c)	Other items Cost of inventories Depreciation of property, plant and equipment Depreciation of right-of-use assets Lease payments not included in the measurement	61,084 1,238 484	188,561 1,641 916	
	of lease liabilities Net exchange loss	324 2,003	482 9,337	
	Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment* Impairment losses under expected credit losses ("ECL") model - Trade receivables (note 12)* - Loan receivables (note 13)* Impairment loss on repossessed assets	1,008 581 -	(21) - 1,081 1,065	
	Reversal of impairment loss on loan receivables under ECL model (note 13)*	(216)	(1,984)	
		1,373	141	

^{*} These items are included in "Other operating expenses" on the face of the condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

8. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

	For the six months ended 30 September	
	2023 <i>HK\$'000</i> (Unaudited)	2022 <i>HK\$'000</i> (Unaudited)
Hong Kong Profits Tax – current tax	471	1,099
Croatia corporate income tax – current tax – overprovision in prior years		3
Romania corporate income tax – current tax	(24)	3 49
Deferred tax	(45)	(108)
	402	1,043

For the six months ended 30 September 2023, the provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax is calculated at a flat rate of 16.5% (30 September 2022: 16.5%) on the estimated assessable profits for the period, except for a group entity which is a qualifying corporation under the two-tiered profits tax rates regime. For this group entity, the first HK\$2,000,000 of assessable profits are taxed at 8.25%, and the remaining assessable profits are taxed at 16.5%. Such basis had been applied for the calculation of the provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax for another group entity for the six months ended 30 September 2022.

Taxation arising in other jurisdictions is calculated at the rates prevailing in the relevant jurisdictions.

9. DIVIDEND

The directors of the Company do not recommend the payment or declaration of any dividend for the six months ended 30 September 2023 (30 September 2022: nil).

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

10. (LOSS)/EARNINGS PER SHARE

(a) The calculation of basic and diluted (loss)/earnings per share is based on the (loss)/profit attributable to owners of the Company and the reconciliation of the weighted average number of shares as shown in note 10(b) below:

	For the six months ended 30 September	
	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
(Loss)/profit (Loss)/profit for the purpose of calculating basic		
and diluted (loss)/earnings per share	(3,348)	2,254

(b) Weighted average number of shares

	For the six months ended 30 September	
	2023	2022
	′000	′000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Number of shares Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating basic (loss)/earnings per share Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares arising from conversion of convertible preferred shares	9,115,435	9,114,362
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating diluted (loss)/earnings per share	9,211,992	9,210,919

11. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

During the six months ended 30 September 2023, the Group acquired property, plant and equipment totalling HK\$305,000 (30 September 2022: HK\$1,948,000).

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

12. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

		At 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	At 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$</i> ′000
	Notes	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Trade receivables Less: impairment allowance		16,493 (2,313)	18,415 (1,375)
	(i)	14,180	17,040
Interest receivables Less: impairment allowance		3,219 (226) 2,993	5,251 (226) 5,025
Bill receivables Other receivables	(ii)	17,627 4,074	27,800 3,085
Financial assets at amortised costs Trade and logging deposits Other deposits and prepayments	(iii)	38,874 2,280 758	52,950 1,445 1,449
		41,912	55,844

Notes:

(i) Trade receivables

An aging analysis of the Group's trade receivables as of the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date, and net of impairment allowance, is as follows:

At	At
30 September	31 March
2023	2023
HK\$'000	HK\$'000
(Unaudited)	(Audited)
442	1,279
2,259	371
1,392	11,904
10,087	3,486
14,180	17,040
	2023 HK\$'000 (Unaudited) 442 2,259 1,392 10,087

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

12. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (continued)

Notes: (continued)

(i) Trade receivables (continued)

The Group's trading terms with its customers are mainly on credit, except for new customers where payment in advance and cash on delivery are normally required. Invoices are normally payable between 30 and 120 days after issuance. The Group seeks to maintain strict control over its outstanding receivables to minimise credit risk. Overdue balances are reviewed regularly by management.

At 30 September 2023, trade receivables of aggregate gross carrying amount of HK\$11,894,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$15,156,000) were past due and an impairment allowance of HK\$2,313,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$1,375,000) had been provided. The Group does not hold any collateral over the balances (31 March 2023: nil).

(ii) Bill receivables

At 30 September 2023, included in bill receivables of HK\$17,627,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$27,800,000), bill receivables of HK\$17,627,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$27,506,000) were discounted to banks with full recourse with a maturity period of less than 90 days (31 March 2023: less than 90 days). The Group recognised the full amount of the discounted proceeds as liabilities as set out in note 16.

The following table is the Group's financial assets at 30 September 2023 and 31 March 2023 that were transferred to banks by discounting these receivables on a full recourse basis. As the Group had not transferred the significant risks and rewards relating to these receivables, it continued to recognise the full carrying amount of the receivables and recognised the cash received on the transfer as a secured borrowing. These financial assets were carried at amortised cost.

	At	At
	30 September	31 March
	2023	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Carrying amount of the transferred assets	17,627	27,506
Carrying amount of the associated liabilities	(17,627)	(27,506)
	-	_

(iii) Trade and logging deposits

At 30 September 2023, trade and logging deposits totalling HK\$2,280,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$1,445,000) were prepaid in relation to the Group's timber supply chain business.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

13. LOAN RECEIVABLES

	At	At
	30 September	31 March
	2023	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Fixed-rate loan receivables	103,305	155,718
Less: impairment allowance	(8,592)	(8,227)
	94,713	147,491
Analysed as:		
Current portion	78,023	147,491
Non-current portion	16,690	-
tion cancile portion		
	94,713	147,491
	94,713	147,491
Analysed as:		
Secured	89,736	134,449
Unsecured	4,977	13,042
	94,713	147,491

All loans were denominated in Hong Kong dollars. At 30 September 2023, the loan receivables carried interest rates ranging from 8.5% to 12.5% per annum (31 March 2023: 8.5% to 14.5% per annum).

Before granting loans to potential borrowers, the Group performs internal credit assessment process to assess the potential borrowers' credit quality individually and defines the credit limits granted to the borrowers. The credit limits attributed to the borrowers are reviewed by the management regularly.

The Group has a policy for assessing the impairment on loan receivables on an individual basis. The assessment includes evaluation of collectability, current creditworthiness, account aging and past collection history of each borrower as well as the value of collateral provided, under the Group's credit risk rating system.

In determining the recoverability of loan receivables on a collective basis, the Group considers any change in the credit quality of the loan receivables from the date the credit was initially granted up to the reporting date. This includes assessing the credit history of the borrowers, such as financial difficulties or default in payments, and current market conditions.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

13. LOAN RECEIVABLES (continued)

At 30 September 2023, loan receivables with an aggregate carrying amount of HK\$89,736,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$134,449,000) were secured by collateral provided by the borrowers. At the end of the reporting period, loan receivables with aggregate gross carrying amount of HK\$103,305,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$155,718,000), (i) HK\$50,410,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$137,706,000) were not past due; (ii) HK\$35,083,000 (31 March 2023: nil) had been past due for less than 90 days; (iii) nil (31 March 2023: nil) had been past due for more than 90 days but less than 180 days; and (iv) HK\$17,812,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$18,012,000) had been past due for 180 days or more. The loan receivables that were past due for 180 days or more are credit-impaired loans.

At the end of each reporting period, the Group's loan receivables were individually and collectively assessed for impairment. An impairment allowance of HK\$8,592,000 had been provided at 30 September 2023 (31 March 2023: HK\$8,227,000).

14. REPOSSESSED ASSETS

The nature and carrying value of the repossessed assets held are summarised as follows:

	At	At
	30 September	31 March
	2023	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Repossessed assets – residential properties	51,396	51,990
Less: impairment allowance	(1,266)	(1,266)
	50,130	50,724

Repossessed assets represent the underlying collateral assets in which the Group has the rights to lease or sell, and were possessed by the Group through recovery of credit-impaired loan and interest receivables through court proceedings. They are carried at amortised cost and are subject to the ECL model. An impairment allowance of HK\$1,266,000 had been provided at 30 September 2023 (31 March 2023: HK\$1,266,000).

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

15. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	At	At
	30 September	31 March
	2023	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Trade payables (note)	1,610	8,945
Other payables and accruals	4,819	4,877
Receipt in advance	718	2,178
Amounts due to non-controlling interests (note 21(b)(ii))	138	438
	7,285	16,438

Note:

An aging analysis of the Group's trade payables as of the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date, is as follows:

	At	At
	30 September	31 March
	2023	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
0 to 30 days	668	3,948
31 to 90 days	215	3,415
91 to 180 days	159	1,582
Over 180 days	568	-
	1,610	8,945

The average credit period is within 90 days for the six months ended 30 September 2023 (30 September 2022: within 90 days).

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

16. BANK BORROWINGS

	At	At
	30 September	31 March
	2023	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Advances drawn on bill receivables discounted		
with full recourse (note)	17,627	27,506

Note:

The amount represented the Group's borrowings secured by the bill receivables discounted to banks with full recourse (note 12(ii)), the amount was repayable within one year and carried interest at the banks' lending rate plus certain basis points.

An analysis of the carrying amount of bank borrowings is as follows:

	At	At
	30 September	31 March
	2023	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
The carrying amount of bank borrowings that contain a repayable on demand clause (classified under current liabilities)		
Within one year	17,627	27,506
Less: amounts shown under current liabilities	(17,627)	(27,506)
Amounts shown under non-current liabilities		

All of the banking facilities are subject to fulfillment of covenants. If the Group is in breach of the covenants, the drawn down facilities will become repayable on demand. In addition, certain of the Group's bank borrowings contain covenants which give the lender the right at its sole discretion to demand immediate repayment at any time irrespective of whether the Group has complied with the covenants and met the scheduled repayment obligations.

The Group regularly monitors its compliance with the covenants of the banking facilities and does not consider it is probable that the banks will exercise their discretion to demand repayment so long as the Group continues to meet the requirements. At 30 September 2023, none of the covenants relating to the drawn down facilities had been breached (31 March 2023; nil).

All of the bank borrowings are carried at amortised cost.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

17. LEASE LIABILITIES

The following table shows the remaining contractual maturities of the Group's lease liabilities at 30 September 2023:

	At	At
	30 September	31 March
	2023	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Within one year	968	943
After one year but within two years	334	836
	1,302	1,779

18. AMOUNTS RECEIVED FROM A SHAREHOLDER

The amounts received from a shareholder, Champion Alliance Enterprises Limited ("Champion Alliance"), which were accounted for as a loan from a shareholder, are unsecured, interest-free and repayable at the end of the twelve-month period from the date of the loan facility agreement. Under the agreement, the loan facility is extendable for another twelve-month period and subsequent twelve-month period(s), or on such other date at the request of the Company and agreed by the shareholder in writing. The funds received from Champion Alliance have been applied as working capital of the Group to support its business development. Champion Alliance has undertaken not to demand for repayment of the amounts due to it (which are unsecured and interest-free) until the Group is financially viable to do so.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

19. NOTES PAYABLE

On 2 January 2020, the Company entered into a placing agreement (the "**Placing Agreement**") with an independent placing agent, pursuant to which the Company agreed to place through the placing agent, on a best effort basis, to independent third parties the three-year secured notes with an aggregate principal amount of up to HK\$300,000,000 and carrying interest at 7.125% per annum.

On 15 January 2020, the Company completed the issue of the first tranche of the notes of an aggregate principal amount of HK\$50,000,000 which would be due on 16 January 2023. The notes payable are secured by a debenture which incorporating a first floating charge over all the undertakings, property and assets of a subsidiary of the Company engaging in the money lending business in favour of a security trustee as trustee for and on behalf of the noteholders.

On 16 January 2023, the Company entered into a deed of amendment with the noteholders pursuant to which the noteholders agreed to extend the maturity dates of the notes to the fifth anniversary of the issue date.

The Group had repaid HK\$10,000,000 and HK\$22,000,000 of the principal amount of the notes in January 2023 and September 2023 respectively by utilising surplus funds on hand for the purpose of saving finance costs, accordingly, at 30 September 2023, the outstanding amount of notes payable was HK\$18,000,000 (31 March 2023: HK\$40,000,000).

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

20. SHARE CAPITAL

	Number of ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 per share '000	HK\$'000	Number of convertible preferred shares of HK\$0.01 per share '000	HK\$′000	Total <i>HK\$'000</i>
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			<u>-</u>
Authorised:					
At 1 April 2022, 31 March 2023,					
1 April 2023 and 30 September 2023	30,000,000	300,000	27,534,000	275,340	575,340
Issued and fully paid:					
At 1 April 2022	9,112,745	91,127	3,175,909	31,759	122,886
Conversion of convertible preferred shares					
(note)	2,690	27	(86,076)	(860)	(833)
At 31 March 2023, 1 April 2023 and					
30 September 2023	9,115,435	91,154	3,089,833	30,899	122,053

Note:

During the year ended 31 March 2023, an aggregate of 2,689,863 ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each of the Company were issued upon conversion of 86,075,633 convertible preferred shares of HK\$0.01 each, pursuant to which approximately HK\$27,000 was credited to share capital and the balance of approximately HK\$833,000 was credited to share premium account.

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

21. MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Group had the following transactions with related parties during the six months ended 30 September 2023:

(a) Key management personnel remuneration

The key management personnel of the Group included the directors of the Company, details of key management personal remuneration are summarised below:

	For the six months ended		
	30 September		
	2023	2022	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
Salaries and other short-term employee benefits	1,217	1,870	
Post-employment benefits	119	128	
	1,336	1,998	

(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

- (i) Details of the amounts received from a shareholder are disclosed in note 18.
- (ii) The amounts due to non-controlling interests disclosed in note 15 are unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand.

22. APPROVAL OF UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR ISSUE

The unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 September 2023 are authorised for issue by the Board on 29 November 2023.

Other Information

INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board has resolved not to declare an interim dividend for the six months ended 30 September 2023 (30 September 2022: nil).

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES, UNDERLYING SHARES AND DEBENTURES

As at 30 September 2023, the interests and short positions of the directors and chief executive of the Company in the Shares, underlying Shares and debentures of the Company or its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under section 352 of the SFO, or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code contained in the Listing Rules, were as follows:

Long position in the Shares:

Name of Director	Capacity and nature of interest	Number of Shares held	Approximate percentage of the Company's issued Shares
Wang Jingyu (" Ms. Wang ")	Interest of controlled corporation	2,444,359,944 (Note 2)	26.82%

Notes:

- 1. The approximate percentage of the Company's issued Shares was calculated on the basis of 9,115,435,181 Shares in issue as at 30 September 2023.
- 2. These interests were held by Champion Alliance Enterprises Limited ("Champion Alliance"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Elite Prosperous Enterprises Limited ("Elite Prosperous") which in turn was wholly owned by Ms. Wang. Ms. Wang was also the sole director of Champion Alliance and Elite Prosperous. Accordingly, Ms. Wang was deemed to be interested in the 2,444,359,944 Shares under the SFO.

Save as disclosed above, as at 30 September 2023, none of the directors or chief executive of the Company had registered an interest or short positions in the Shares, underlying Shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) that was required to be recorded pursuant to section 352 of the SFO, or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code.

DIRECTORS' RIGHTS TO ACQUIRE SHARES OR DEBENTURES

At no time during the six months ended 30 September 2023 was the Company or any of its subsidiaries a party to any arrangements to enable the directors of the Company to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any other body corporate, and none of the directors of the Company or their spouse or minor children had any rights to subscribe for the securities of the Company, or had exercised any such rights during the six months ended 30 September 2023.

Other Information

INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS OF SHAREHOLDERS DISCLOSEABLE UNDER THE SFO

As at 30 September 2023, the following interests of more than 5% of the issued Shares were recorded in the register of interests required to be kept by the Company pursuant to section 336 of the SFO:

Long positions in the Shares:

			Approximate percentage of	
Name of Shareholders	Capacity and nature of interest	Number of Shares held	the Company's issued Shares	
Ms. Wang	Interest of controlled corporation	2,444,359,944 (Note 2)	26.82%	
Elite Prosperous	Interest of controlled corporation	2,444,359,944 (Note 2)	26.82%	
Champion Alliance	Beneficial owner	2,444,359,944 (Note 2)	26.82%	

Notes:

- 1. The approximate percentage of the Company's issued Shares was calculated on the basis of 9,115,435,181 Shares in issue as at 30 September 2023.
- 2. These interests were held by Champion Alliance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Elite Prosperous which in turn was wholly owned by Ms. Wang. Ms. Wang was also the sole director of Champion Alliance and Elite Prosperous. Accordingly, Ms. Wang and Elite Prosperous were deemed to be interested in the 2,444,359,944 Shares under the SFO.

Save as disclosed above, the Company had not been notified of any other relevant interests or short positions in the Shares and underlying Shares as at 30 September 2023 as required to be recorded pursuant to section 336 of the SFO.

MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS

The Company has adopted the Model Code set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules as its own code of conduct regarding securities transactions by directors of the Company. Having made specific enquiry with the directors, all of them confirmed that they had complied with the required standards set out in the Model Code during the six months ended 30 September 2023.

Other Information

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Company had complied with all the applicable code provisions of the Corporate Governance Code set out in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules for the six months ended 30 September 2023.

REVIEW OF CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Group's condensed consolidated interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 September 2023 have not been audited, but have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and the Company's auditor, Crowe (HK) CPA Limited, in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410, "Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The report on review of the condensed consolidated interim financial statements by the auditor is set out on pages 18 to 19 of this interim report.

PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED SECURITIES

During the six months ended 30 September 2023, neither the Company, nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

By Order of the Board
Reliance Global Holdings Limited
Wang Jingyu
Chairlady

Hong Kong, 29 November 2023