

**PRINCIPAL TAXATION OF OUR COMPANY IN THE PRC****Enterprise Income Tax**

According to the Enterprise Income Tax Law of PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法》) (the “EIT Law”) and the Implementation Rules for the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例》), a resident enterprise shall pay EIT on its income originating from both inside and outside PRC at an EIT rate of 25%. Foreign invested enterprises in the PRC falls into the category of resident enterprises, which shall pay EIT for the income originated from domestic and overseas sources at an EIT rate of 25%. For a non-resident enterprise having no office or establishment inside China, or for a non-resident enterprise whose incomes have no actual connection to its office or establishment inside China, it shall pay enterprise income tax on the incomes derived from China. The enterprise income tax rate shall be 10%.

Pursuant to the Administrative Measures on Accreditation of High-tech Enterprises (《高新技術企業認定管理辦法》), qualifications of an accredited high-tech enterprise shall be valid for three years from the date of issuance of the certificate. Upon obtaining the qualification as a high-tech enterprise, the enterprise shall complete tax reduction and exemption formalities with the tax authorities in charge pursuant to the provisions of Article 4 of these Measures.

**Value-added Tax**

According to the Interim Regulations of the PRC on Value-Added Tax (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例》) and the Detailed Rules for the Implementation of the Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Value-added Tax (《中華人民共和國增值稅暫行條例實施細則》), all enterprises and individuals that engage in the sale of goods, the provision of processing, repair and replacement services, sales of service, intangible assets and real estate and the importation of goods within the territory of the PRC shall pay value-added tax at the rate of 17%, except when specified otherwise.

The Notice on the Adjustment to VAT Rates (《關於調整增值稅稅率的通知》), promulgated by the MOF and the STA on April 4, 2018 and became effective as of May 1, 2018 adjusted the applicative rate of VAT, and the deduction rates of 17% and 11% applicable to the taxpayers who have VAT taxable sales activities or imported goods are adjusted to 16% and 10%, respectively.

According to the Announcement on Relevant Policies for Deepening Value-Added Tax Reform (《關於深化增值稅改革有關政策的公告》), with respect to VAT taxable sales or imported goods of a VAT general taxpayer, where the VAT rate of 16% applies currently, it shall be adjusted to 13%; where the VAT rate of 10% applies currently, it shall be adjusted to 9%.

**OTHER PRC TAXATION****Taxation on Dividends***Enterprise Investors*

In accordance with the EIT Law and the Implementation Provisions of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC, 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 that issues shares in Hong Kong), if it does not have an establishment or premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. The aforesaid income tax payable for non-resident enterprises is withheld 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. Such withholding tax may be reduced pursuant to an applicable double taxation treaty upon application and approval.

The Circular on Issues Relating to the Withholding of Enterprise Income Tax by PRC Resident Enterprises on Dividends Paid to Overseas Non-Resident Enterprise Shareholders of H Shares (《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》), which was issued by the STA on November 6, 2008, further clarified that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold corporate income tax at a rate of 10% on the dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to overseas non-resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares.

In addition, the Response to Questions on Levying Corporate Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprise from Holding Stock such as B Shares (《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》), which was issued by the STA and came into effect on July 24, 2009, further provides that any PRC-resident enterprise whose shares are listed on overseas stock exchanges must withhold and remit corporate income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and the subsequent years that it distributes to non-resident enterprises. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has entered into with a relevant country or area, where applicable.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on 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》), which was signed on August 21, 2006, the Chinese Government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a PRC resident enterprise to Hong Kong residents (including natural persons and legal entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of the total dividends payable by the PRC resident enterprise. 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 Fourth 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 State Administration of Taxation (《國家稅務總局關於〈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〉第四議定書》), which came

into effect on December 29, 2015, states that such provisions shall not apply to arrangement made for the primary purpose of gaining such tax benefit. The application of the dividend clause of tax agreements is subject to the requirements of PRC tax law documents, 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》).

### *Individual Investor*

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 came into effect on January 1, 2019 and the Implementation Provisions 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 and came into effect on January 1, 2019, dividends distributed by PRC enterprises are subject to individual income tax levied at a flat rate of 20%.

According to the Notice on Issues concerning the Implementation of Differential Individual Income Tax Policies on Dividends and Bonuses of Listed Companies (Cai Shui [2015] No. 101) (《關於上市公司股息紅利差別化個人所得稅政策有關問題的通知》) (財稅[2015]101號) issued by the MOF on September 7, 2015, where an individual acquires the stocks of a listed company from public offering of the company or from the stock market, if the stock holding period is more than one year, the income from dividends shall be exempted from personal income tax for the time being. Where an individual acquires the stocks of a listed company in a public offering of the company or from the stock market, if the stock holding period is one month or less, the income from dividends shall be included into the taxable incomes in full amount; if the stock holding period is more than one month and up to one year, only 50% of the income from dividends shall be included into the taxable incomes of the individual; individual income taxes on the aforesaid incomes shall be collected at the uniform 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 individual income tax of 20% unless a reduction is approved by the MOF or exempted by an international convention or agreement to which the PRC government is a party.

Pursuant to the Circular on Certain Policy Questions Concerning Individual Income Tax (《關於個人所得稅若干政策問題的通知》), which was issued by MOF and STA on May 13, 1994 and came into effect on the same date, the incomes gained by individual foreigners from dividends and bonuses of enterprise with foreign investment are exempt from individual income tax for the time being.

### *Tax Treaties*

Non-PRC resident investors residing in countries which have entered into treaties for the avoidance of double taxation with the PRC or residing in Hong Kong or Macau are entitled to a reduction of the withholding taxes imposed on the dividends received from PRC companies. The PRC currently has entered into Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaties/Arrangements with a number of countries and regions including Hong Kong, Macau, 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 are required to apply to the Chinese tax authorities for a refund of the withholding 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**

#### ***Enterprise Investors***

In accordance with the EIT Law and its implementation provisions, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to corporate income tax at the rate of a 10% 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 premise in the PRC or has an establishment or premise in the PRC but its PRC-sourced income has no real connection with such establishment or premise. Such income tax payable for non-resident enterprises are 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. Such tax may be reduced or exempted pursuant to relevant tax treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

#### ***Individual Investors***

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

Pursuant to the Circular of Declaring that Individual Income Tax Continues to be Exempted over Income of Individuals from the Transfer of Shares (《關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知》) issued by the MOF and the State Administration of Taxation on March 20, 1998, from January 1, 1997, income of individuals from transfer of the shares of listed enterprises continues to be exempted from individual income tax.

As of the Latest Practicable Date, no aforesaid provisions have expressly provided that whether individual income tax shall be levied from non-Chinese resident individuals on the transfer of shares in PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges, and to our knowledge, no such individual income tax was levied by PRC tax authorities in practice. However, there is no assurance that the PRC tax authorities will not change these practices which could result in levying income tax on non-PRC resident individuals on gains from the sale of H shares.

### **Stamp Duty**

Pursuant to the Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Stamp Duty (《中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例》), which came into effect on October 1, 1988 and amended on January 8, 2011, and the Implementation Provisions of Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Stamp Duty (《中華人民共和

國印花稅暫行條例施行細則》), which came into effect on October 1, 1988, PRC stamp duty only applies to specific proof executed or received within the PRC, 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.

According to the Stamp Duty Law of the People's Republic of China (《中華人民共和國印花稅法》), which was promulgated on June 10, 2021 and will come into effect on July 1, 2022, the disposal of H Shares by non-PRC investors outside of the PRC is still not subject to the requirements of the Stamp Duty Law of the People's Republic of China.

### **Estate Duty**

The PRC currently does not impose any estate duty.

### **Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect Taxation Policy**

On November 5, 2016, Ministry of Finance, State Taxation Administration and China Securities Regulatory Commission jointly promulgated the Circular on the Relevant Taxation Policy regarding the Pilot Inter-connected Mechanism for Trading on the Shenzhen Stock Market and the Hong Kong Stock Market (《關於深港股票市場交易互聯互通機制試點有關稅收政策的通知》) (“**SZHK Stock Connect Tax Policies**”), which clearly set forth tax policies applicable to transactions via SZHK Stock Connect and took effect on December 5, 2016.

According to the SZHK Stock Connect Tax Policies, revenues gained by mainland individual investors from the price difference arising from the trade of shares on the HKEx through SZHK Stock Connect may be exempted from VAT during China's pilot fiscal reform where the business tax is to be replaced by VAT. The dividends obtained by mainland individual investors from the listing of H-shares on HKEx via SZHK Stock Connect shall be subject to 20% personal income tax, provided that the H-share companies shall submit application to China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited (“**CSDC**”), after which CSDC will furnish them with a roster of the mainland individual investors, and the H-share companies may withdraw personal income tax at a rate of 20% in accordance therewith. If, however, dividends are generated from the listing of non-H-shares on HKEx via SZHK Stock Connect, such personal income tax at the rate of 20% will be deducted by CSDC. In case the individual investors have paid taxes in other jurisdictions by withdrawal in advance, the investors may apply for tax exemption to the tax authority in charge of CSDC using materials evidencing such withdrawal. Dividends gained by mainland securities investment funds via investing in shares listed on the HKEx via SZHK Stock Connect shall be subject to personal income tax according to the aforementioned provisions as if they are individual investors.

According to the SZHK Stock Connect Tax Policies, revenues made by mainland company investors from their transfer of shares that they have invested in on the HKEx via SZHK Stock

Connect shall be factored in their total revenues and subject to company income tax, and if it is the mainland entity investors that earn incomes through trading shares listed on HKEx via SZHK Stock Connect, these incomes are exempted from VAT during the pilot period of replacement of business tax by VAT. If mainland company investors gain dividends through investment in shares listed on the HKEx via SZHK Stock Connect, such dividends shall be calculated in the total revenue of the companies and will be subject to income tax accordingly, in which case, a mainland domiciled company legally holding H shares for no less than 12 consecutive months will be exempted from company income tax for the amounts earned from the H shares during such 12-month period, while in case of a HK-based H-share company listed on the HKEx, the company shall apply to CSDC, who will provide to it the roster of mainland company investors, upon which the H-share company refrains from deducting income tax from the dividends, and payable income tax shall be declared and paid by the investors themselves; when declaring company income tax, if a mainland company investor has any tax imposed on the dividends deducted by a non-H-share company listed on the HKEx, the investor may apply for tax offset.

According to the SZHK Stock Connect Tax Policies, in case that any mainland investor trades, inherits or gives as gift shares listed on the HKEx, stamp tax will be imposed thereon according to the tax law currently prevalent in Hong Kong SAR, and the both CSDC and Hong Kong Securities Clearing Company Limited may collect the stamp tax on behalf of one another.

## **TAXATION IN HONG KONG**

### **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.

### **Capital Gains and Profit Tax**

No tax is imposed in Hong Kong in respect of capital gains from the sale of H Shares. However, trading gains from the sale of the H Shares by persons carrying on a trade, profession or business in Hong Kong, where such gains are derived from or arise in Hong Kong from such trade, profession or business will be subject to Hong Kong profits tax, which is currently imposed at the maximum rate of 16.5% on corporations and at the maximum rate of 15% on unincorporated businesses. Certain categories of taxpayers (for example, financial institutions, insurance companies and securities dealers) are likely to be regarded as deriving trading gains rather than capital gains unless these taxpayers can prove that the investment securities are held for long-term investment purposes. Trading gains from sales of 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 gains 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.

### Stamp Duty

Hong Kong stamp duty, currently charged at the ad valorem rate of 0.13% on the higher of the consideration for or the market value of the H Shares, will be payable by the purchaser on every purchase and by the seller on every sale of Hong Kong securities, including H Shares (in other words, a total of 0.26% is currently payable on a typical sale and purchase transaction involving H Shares). 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 ten times the duty payable may be imposed.

### Estate Duty

The Revenue (Abolition of Estate Duty) Ordinance 2005 came into effect on February 11, 2006 in Hong Kong, pursuant to which no Hong Kong estate duty is payable and no estate duty clearance papers are needed for an application of a grant of representation in respect of holders of H Shares whose deaths occur on or after February 11, 2006.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The lawful currency of the PRC is Renminbi, which is currently subject to foreign exchange control and cannot be freely converted into foreign currency. The SAFE, with 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 the Regulations of the PRC on Foreign Exchange Control (《中華人民共和國外匯管理條例》) (the “**Foreign Exchange Control Regulations**”) and it came into effect 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 not subject to the approval of foreign exchange administration agencies, while capital items are subject to such approval. The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations were subsequently amended on January 14, 1997 and August 1, 2008, and came into effect on August 5, 2008. The latest amendment to the Foreign Exchange Control Regulations clearly states that PRC will not impose any restriction on international current payments and transfers.

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 does not impose any restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange under current items, while imposing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions under capital account items.

According to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, PRC enterprises (including foreign investment enterprises) which need foreign exchange for current item transactions may, without the

approval of the foreign exchange administrative authorities, effect payment through foreign exchange accounts opened at financial institutions that carries foreign exchange business or operating institutions that carries settlement and sale business, on the strength of valid receipts and proof. Foreign investment 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 Company) may, on the strength of resolutions of the board of directors or the shareholders' meeting on the distribution of profits, effect payment from foreign exchange accounts opened at financial institutions that carries foreign exchange business or institutions that carries settlement and sale business, or effect exchange and payment at financial institutions that carries foreign exchange business or institutions that carries settlement and sale business.

On December 26, 2014, the SAFE issued 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》). Pursuant to the notice, a domestic company shall, within 15 business days of the date of the end of its overseas listing issuance, register the overseas listing with the Administration of Foreign Exchange at the place of its establishment; the proceeds from an overseas listing of a domestic company 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. A domestic company (except for bank financial institutions) shall present its certificate of overseas listing to open a “special account for overseas listing of domestic company” at a local bank for its initial public offering (or follow-on offering) and repurchase business to handle the exchange, remittance and transfer of funds for the business concerned.

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》). The notice came into effect on June 1, 2015. The notice has canceled two of the administrative examination and approval items, being 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》) issued by the SAFE and came into effect 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 adjustment of the SAFE in due time in accordance with international revenue and expenditure situations.

On January 18, 2017, Notice of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange 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》) was issued by SAFE to further expand the scope of settlement for domestic foreign exchange loans, allow settlement for domestic foreign exchange loans with export background under goods trading, allow repatriation of funds under domestic guaranteed foreign loans for domestic utilization, allow settlement for domestic foreign exchange accounts of foreign institutions operating in the Free Trade Pilot Zones, and 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.