

This Appendix contains a summary of laws and regulations on companies and securities in the PRC, certain major differences between the PRC Company Law and Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance and the Companies Ordinance as well as the additional regulatory provisions of the Stock Exchange on joint stock limited companies of the PRC. The principal objective of this summary is to provide potential investors with an overview of the principal laws and regulations applicable to us. This summary is with no intention to include all the information which may be important to the potential investors. For discussion of laws and regulations specifically governing the business of our Company, please see section entitled “Regulatory Overview” in this prospectus.

## **PRC LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

### **The PRC Legal System**

The PRC legal system is based on the PRC Constitution (《中華人民共和國憲法》, the “**Constitution**”), which was adopted and came effected on December 4, 1982 and amended on March 11, 2018. The PRC legal system is made up of written laws, administrative regulations, local regulations, autonomous regulations, separate regulations, rules and regulations of State Council departments, rules and regulations of local governments, laws of special administrative regions and international treaties of which the PRC government is a signatory and other regulatory documents. Court judgments do not constitute legally binding precedents, although they are used for the purposes of judicial reference and guidance.

The National People’s Congress (the “**NPC**”) and its Standing Committee are empowered to exercise the legislative power of the State in accordance with the Constitution and the PRC Legislation Law (《中華人民共和國立法法》, the “**Legislation Law**”), which was adopted on July 1, 2000 and amended on March 15, 2015. The NPC has the power to formulate and amend basic laws governing state organs, civil, criminal and other matters. The Standing Committee of the NPC formulates and amends laws other than those required to be enacted by the NPC and to supplement and amend parts of the laws enacted by the NPC during the adjournment of the NPC, provided that such supplements and amendments are not in conflict with the basic principles of such laws.

The State Council is the highest organ of state administration and has the power to formulate administrative regulations based on the Constitution and laws.

The people’s congresses of the provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities and their respective standing committees may formulate local regulations based on the specific circumstances and actual needs of their respective administrative areas, provided that such local regulations do not contravene any provision of the Constitution, laws or administrative regulations. The people’s congresses of cities divided into districts and their respective standing committees may formulate local regulations on aspects such as urban and rural construction and management, environmental protection and historical and cultural protection based on the specific circumstances and actual needs

of such cities, provided that such local regulations do not contravene any provision of the Constitution, laws, administrative regulations and local regulations of their respective provinces or autonomous regions. If the law provides otherwise on the matters concerning formulation of local regulations by cities divided into districts, those provisions shall prevail. Such local regulations will become enforceable after being reported to and approved by the standing committees of the people's congresses of the relevant provinces or autonomous regions. The standing committees of the people's congresses of the provinces or autonomous regions examine the legality of local regulations submitted for approval, and such approval should be granted within four months if such local regulations are not in conflict with the Constitution, laws, administrative regulations and local regulations of such provinces or autonomous regions. Where, during the examination for approval of local regulations of cities divided into districts by the standing committees of the people's congresses of the provinces or autonomous regions, conflicts are identified with the rules and regulations of the people's governments of the provinces or autonomous regions concerned, a decision should be made by the standing committees of the people's congresses of provinces or autonomous regions to resolve the issue. People's congresses of national autonomous areas have the power to enact autonomous regulations and separate regulations in light of the political, economic and cultural characteristics of the ethnic groups in the areas concerned. The people's congresses and their standing committees of the provinces and cities where special economic zones are located may, upon authorization by the National People's Congress, formulate regulations and enforce them within the special economic zones.

The ministries and commissions of the State Council, People's Bank of China, National Audit Office and the subordinate institutions with administrative functions directly under the State Council may formulate departmental rules within the jurisdiction of their respective departments based on the laws and administrative regulations, and the decisions and orders of the State Council. Provisions of departmental rules should govern the matters related to the enforcement of the laws and administrative regulations, and the decisions and orders of the State Council. The people's governments of the provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities and cities or autonomous prefectures divided into districts may formulate rules and regulations based on the laws, administrative regulations and local regulations of such provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.

According to the Constitution, the power to interpret laws is vested in the Standing Committee of the NPC. Pursuant to the Resolution of the Standing Committee of the NPC Providing an Improved Interpretation of the Law (《全國人民代表大會常務委員會關於加強法律解釋工作的決議》) implemented on June 10, 1981, issues related to the application of laws in a court trial should be interpreted by the Supreme People's Court, issues related to the application of laws in a prosecution process of a procuratorate should be interpreted by the Supreme People's Procuratorate. If there is any disagreement in principle between Supreme People's Court's interpretations & Supreme People's Procuratorate's interpretations, such issues shall be reported to the Standing Committee of the NPC for interpretation or judgment. The other issues related to the application of laws other than the abovementioned should be interpreted by the State Council and the competent authorities. The

State Council and its ministries and commissions are also vested with the power to give interpretations of the administrative regulations and departmental rules which they have promulgated. At the regional level, the power to interpret regional laws and regulations as well as administrative rules is vested in the regional legislative and administrative authorities which promulgate such laws, regulations and rules.

### **The PRC Judicial System**

Under the Constitution and the Law of Organization of the People's Courts of the PRC (《中華人民共和國人民法院組織法》), the PRC judicial system is made up of the Supreme People's Court, the local people's courts and the special people's courts. The local people's courts are divided into three levels, namely, the basic people's courts, the intermediate people's courts and the higher people's courts. The basic people's courts may set up civil, criminal and economic divisions, and certain people's courts based on the facts of the region, population and cases. The intermediate people's courts have divisions similar to those of the basic people's courts and may set up other special divisions, such as the intellectual property division, if needed. These two levels of people's courts are subject to supervision by people's courts at higher levels. The Supreme People's Court is the highest judicial authority in the PRC. It supervises the administration of justice by the people's courts at all levels and special people's courts. The Supreme People's Procuratorate is authorized to supervise the judgment and ruling of the people's courts at all levels which have been legally effective, and the people's procuratorate at a higher level is authorized to supervise the judgment and ruling of a people's court at lower levels which have been legally effective.

A people's court takes the rule of the second instance as the final rule, that is, the judgments or rulings of the second instance at a people's court are final. A party may appeal against the judgment or ruling of the first instance of a local people's court. The people's procuratorate may present a protest to the people's court at the next higher level in accordance with the procedures stipulated by the laws. In the absence of any appeal by the parties and any protest by the people's procuratorate within the stipulated period, the judgments or rulings of the people's court are final. Judgments or rulings of the second instance of the intermediate people's courts, the higher people's courts and the Supreme People's Court, and judgments or rulings of the first instance of the Supreme People's Court are final. However, if the Supreme People's Court finds some definite errors in a legally effective judgment, ruling or conciliation statement of the people's court at any level, or if the people's court at a higher level finds such errors in a legally effective judgment, ruling or conciliation statement of the people's court at a lower level, it has the authority to review the case itself or to direct the lower-level people's court to conduct a retrial. If the president of all levels of people's courts finds some definite errors in a legally effective judgment, ruling or conciliation statement, and considers a retrial is preferred, such case shall be submitted to the judicial committee of the people's court at the same level for discussion and decision.

The Civil Procedure Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國民事訴訟法》), the “**PRC Civil Procedure Law**”) adopted on April 9, 1991 and amended three times on October 28, 2007,

August 31, 2012 and June 27, 2017 prescribes the conditions for instituting a civil action, the jurisdiction of the people's courts, the procedures for conducting a civil action, and the procedures for enforcement of a civil judgment or ruling. All parties to a civil action conducted within the PRC must abide by the PRC Civil Procedure Law. A civil case is generally heard by the court located in the defendant's place of domicile. The court of jurisdiction in respect of a civil action may also be chosen by explicit agreement among the parties to a contract, provided that the people's court having jurisdiction should be located at places substantially connected with the disputes, such as the plaintiff's or the defendant's place of domicile, the place where the contract is executed or signed or the place where the object of the action is located. However, such choice shall not in any circumstances contravene the regulations of differential jurisdiction and exclusive jurisdiction.

A foreign individual, a person without nationality, a foreign enterprise or a foreign organization is given the same litigation rights and obligations as a citizen, a legal person or other organizations of the PRC when initiating actions or defending against litigations at a PRC court. Should a foreign court limit the litigation rights of PRC citizens, enterprises and other organizations, the PRC court may apply the same limitations to the citizens, enterprises and organizations of such foreign country as per the principle of reciprocity. A foreign individual, a person without nationality, a foreign enterprise or a foreign organization must engage a PRC lawyer in case he or it needs to engage a lawyer for the purpose of initiating actions or defending against litigations at a PRC court. In accordance with the international treaties to which the PRC is a signatory or participant or according to the principle of reciprocity, a people's court and a foreign court may request each other to serve documents, conduct investigation and collect evidence and conduct other actions on its behalf. A PRC court shall not accommodate any request made by a foreign court which will result in the violation of sovereignty, security or public interests of the PRC.

All parties to a civil action shall perform the legally effective judgments and rulings. If any party to a civil action refuses to abide by a judgment or ruling made by a people's court or an award made by an arbitration tribunal in the PRC, the other party may apply to the people's court for the enforcement of the same within two years subject to application for postponed enforcement or revocation. If the party subject to enforcement fails to perform as the judgment, ruling or other legal instrument requires pursuant to the enforcement notice, the court may mandatorily enforce the judgment on such party or entrust a relevant unit or other person to do so.

Where a party applies for enforcement of a legally effective judgment or ruling made by a people's court, and the opposite party or his property is not within the territory of the PRC, the applicant may directly apply to a foreign court with jurisdiction for recognition and enforcement of the judgment or ruling, or the people's court may, in accordance with the provisions of the international treaties concluded or acceded to by the PRC or with the principle of reciprocity, request recognition and enforcement by a foreign court. If a legally effective judgment or ruling made by a foreign court requires recognition and enforcement by a people's court of the PRC, the parties concerned may directly apply to the intermediate people's court of the PRC with jurisdiction for recognition and enforcement, or the foreign court may request recognition and enforcement by the

people's court in accordance with the provisions of international treaties concluded or acceded to by the country and the PRC or in accordance with the principle of reciprocity, provided that the PRC has entered into, or acceded to, international treaties with the relevant foreign country, which provided for such recognition and enforcement, or if the judgment or ruling satisfies the court's examination according to the principle of reciprocity, unless the people's court considers that the recognition or enforcement of such judgment or ruling would violate the basic legal principles of the PRC, its sovereignty or national security, or against the social and public interests.

### **The PRC Company Law, Special Regulations, the Mandatory Provisions and Official Reply**

The PRC Company Law (《中華人民共和國公司法》) was adopted by the 5th meeting of the Standing Committee of the 8th National People's Congress Session on December 29, 1993 and came into effect on July 1, 1994. It was amended on December 25, 1999, August 28, 2004, October 27, 2005, December 28, 2013, and October 26, 2018. The latest revised PRC Company Law was implemented on October 26, 2018.

The Special Regulations of the State Council on the Overseas Offering and Listing of Shares by Joint Stock Limited Companies (《國務院關於股份有限公司境外募集股份及上市的特別規定》) (the "Special Regulations") was passed at the 22nd Standing Committee Meeting of the State Council and took effect on August 4, 1994. The Special Regulations was applicable to the overseas share offering and listing of joint stock limited companies.

The Mandatory Provisions for Articles of Association of Companies to be Listed Overseas (《到境外上市公司章程必備條款》) (the "Mandatory Provisions") jointly promulgated by the former Securities Commission of the State Council and the former State Commission for Restructuring the Economic System and implemented on September 29, 1994 prescribe that the provisions should be incorporated in the articles of association of joint stock limited companies to be listed in overseas stock exchanges. Accordingly, the contents required by the Mandatory Provisions have been incorporated in the Articles of Association. References to a "company" made in this Appendix are to a joint stock limited company established under the PRC Company Law with overseas-listed foreign invested shares to be issued.

According to The State Council issued the Official Reply of the State Council on the Adjustment of the Notice Period for the General Meeting and Other Matters Applicable to the Overseas Listed Companies (《國務院關於調整適用在境外上市公司召開股東大會通知期限等事項規定的批覆》) with effect from October 17, 2019, State Council agreed that joint stock limited companies registered in China and listed abroad shall comply with the PRC Company Law with respect to the notice period, shareholders right to formulate proposals and the procedures for convening a general meeting, and that relevant procedures set forth in Article 20 to Article 22 of the Special Regulations shall no longer apply.

Set out below is a summary of the major provisions of the PRC Company Law, the Special Regulations, the Mandatory Provisions and Official Reply.

**General**

A “joint stock limited company” (“company”) refers to a corporate legal person incorporated in China under the PRC Company Law with independent legal person properties and entitlements to such legal person properties and with its registered capital divided into shares of equal par value. The liability of the company for its own debts is limited to all the properties it owns and the liability of its shareholders for the company is limited to the extent of the shares they subscribe for.

**Incorporation**

A company may be established by promotion or subscription. A company shall have a minimum of two but no more than 200 people as its promoters, and over half of the promoters must be resident within the PRC. Companies established by promotion are companies of which the registered capital is the total share capital subscribed for by all the promoters registered with the company’s registration authorities. No share offering shall be made before the shares subscribed for by the promoters are fully paid up. For companies established by subscription, the registered capital is the total paid-up share capital as registered with the company’s registration authorities. If laws, administrative regulations and State Council decisions provide otherwise on paid-in registered capital and the minimum registered capital, the company should follow such provisions.

For companies incorporated by way of promotion, the promoters shall subscribe in writing for the shares required to be subscribed for by them and pay up their capital contributions under the articles of association. Procedures relating to the transfer of titles to non-monetary assets shall be duly completed if such assets are to be contributed as capital. Promoters who fail to pay up their capital contributions in accordance with the foregoing provisions shall assume default liabilities in accordance with the covenants set out in the promoters’ agreement. After the promoters have subscribed for the capital contribution under the articles of association, a board of directors and a supervisory board shall be elected and the board of directors shall apply for registration of establishment by filing the articles of association with the relevant company registration authority, and other documents as required by the law or administrative regulations.

Where companies are incorporated by subscription, not less than 35% of their total number of shares must be subscribed for by the promoters, unless otherwise provided by the laws or administrative regulations. A promoter who offers shares to the public must announce a prospectus and prepare a share subscription form to be completed, signed and sealed by subscribers, specifying the number and amount of shares to be subscribed for and the subscribers’ addresses. The subscribers shall pay up monies for the shares they subscribe for. Where a promoter is offering shares to the public, such offer shall be underwritten by security companies established under PRC law, and underwriting agreements shall be entered into. A promoter offering shares to the public shall also enter into agreements with banks in relation to the receipt of subscription monies. The receiving banks shall receive and keep in custody the subscription monies, issue receipts to subscribers who have paid the subscription monies and is obliged to furnish evidence of receipt of

those subscription monies to relevant authorities. After the subscription monies for the share issue have been paid in full, a capital verification institution established under PRC law must be engaged to conduct a capital verification and furnish a certificate thereof. The promoters shall preside over and convene an inauguration meeting within 30 days from the date of the full payment of subscription monies. The inauguration meeting shall be formed by the promoters and subscribers. Where the shares issued remain under subscribed by the cut-off date stipulated in the prospectus, or where the promoter fails to convene an inauguration meeting within 30 days of the subscription monies for the shares issued being fully paid up, the subscribers may demand that the promoters refund the subscription monies so paid together with the interest at bank rates of a deposit for the same period. Within 30 days of the conclusion of the inauguration meeting, the board of directors shall apply to the company registration authority for registration of the establishment of the company. A company is formally established and has the capacity of a legal person after approval of registration has been given by the relevant company registration authority and a business license has been issued.

A company's promoter shall be liable for the followings:

- (1) the debts and expenses incurred in the establishment process jointly and severally if the company cannot be incorporated;
- (2) the refund of subscription monies paid by the subscribers together with interest at bank rates of deposit for the same period jointly and severally if the company cannot be incorporated; and
- (3) the compensation of any damages suffered by the company as a result of the promoters' fault in the course of its establishment.

### **Share Capital**

The promoters may make a capital contribution in currencies, or non-monetary assets such as in kind or intellectual property rights or land use rights which can be appraised with monetary value and transferred lawfully, except for assets which are prohibited from being contributed as capital by the laws or administrative regulations. If a capital contribution is made in non-monetary assets, a valuation of the assets contributed must be carried out pursuant to the provisions of the laws or administrative regulations on valuation without any overvaluation or under-valuation.

The issuance of shares shall be conducted in a fair and equitable manner. The same class of shares must carry equal rights. For shares issued at the same time and within the same class, the conditions and price per share must be the same. The share offering price may be equal to or greater than the nominal value of the share, but may not be less than the nominal value.

A company must obtain the approval of China Securities Regulatory Commission (“CSRC”) to offer its shares to the overseas public. According to the Special Regulations and the Mandatory

Provisions, the shares issued to foreign investors and listed overseas by a company shall be in registered form, denominated in Renminbi and subscribed for in foreign currency. Shares issued to foreign investors and listed overseas are classified as overseas-listed foreign shares, and those shares issued to investors within the PRC, are known as domestic shares. Qualified foreign institutional investors approved by CSRC may hold domestic listed shares. Under the Special Regulations, upon approval of CSRC, a company may agree, in the underwriting agreement in respect of an issue of overseas-listed foreign shares, to retain not more than 15% of the aggregate number of such overseas-listed foreign invested shares proposed to be issued in addition to the number of underwritten shares. The issuance of the retained shares is deemed to be a part of this issuance.

Under the PRC Company Law, a company issuing registered share certificates shall maintain a shareholder registry which sets forth the following matters:

- (1) the name and domicile of each shareholder;
- (2) the number of shares held by each shareholder;
- (3) the serial numbers of shares held by each shareholder; and
- (4) the date on which each shareholder acquired the shares.

### **Increase in Share Capital**

Under the PRC Company Law, where a company is issuing new shares, resolutions shall be passed at shareholder's general meeting in accordance with the articles of association in respect of the class and amount of the new shares, the issue price of the new shares, the commencement and end dates for the issue of the new shares and the class and amount of the new shares proposed to be issued to existing shareholders.

When a company launches a public issue of new shares upon the approval by CSRC, a new share offering document (prospectus) and financial accounting report must be published and a subscription form must be prepared. After the issue of new share the company has been paid up, the change must be registered with the company registration authorities and a public announcement must be made accordingly. Where an increase in registered capital of a company is made by means of an issue of new shares, the subscription of new shares by shareholders shall be made in accordance with the relevant provisions on the payment of subscription monies for the establishment of a company.

### **Reduction of Share Capital**

A company may reduce its registered capital in accordance with the following procedures prescribed by the PRC Company Law:

- (1) the company shall prepare a balance sheet and an inventory of assets;



- (2) the reduction of registered capital must be approved by shareholders at general meeting;
- (3) the company shall notify its creditors of the reduction in share capital within 10 days and publish the relevant announcement in newspapers within 30 days of the resolution approving the reduction being passed;
- (4) the creditors of the company may require the company to repay its debts or provide guarantees for covering the debts within 30 days of receipt of the notification or within 45 days of the date of the announcement if he/she/it has not received any notification; and
- (5) the company must apply to the company registration authority for registration of the change on the reduction of registered capital.

**Repurchase of Shares**

A company shall not purchase its own shares except under any of the following circumstances:

- (1) Reducing the registered capital of the company.
- (2) Merging with another company that holds its shares.
- (3) Using shares for employee stock ownership plan or equity incentives.
- (4) A shareholder requesting the company to purchase the shares held by him since he objects to a resolution of the shareholders' meeting on the combination or division of the company.
- (5) Using shares for converting convertible corporate bonds issued by the listed company.
- (6) It is necessary for a listed company to protect the corporate value and interests of shareholders.

A company purchasing its own shares under any of the circumstances set forth in items (1) and (2) of the preceding paragraph shall be subject to a resolution of the shareholders' meeting; and a company purchasing its own shares under any of the circumstances set forth in items (3), (5) and (6) of the preceding paragraph may, pursuant to the articles of association or the authorization of the shareholders' meeting, be subject to a resolution of a meeting of the board of directors at which more than two-thirds of directors are present.

After purchasing its own shares pursuant to the provisions of the first paragraph of this article, a company shall, under the circumstance set forth in item (1), cancel them within 10 days after the purchase; while under the circumstance set forth in either item (2) or (4), transfer or cancel them

within six months; and while under the circumstance set forth in item (3), (5) or (6), aggregately hold not more than 10% of the total shares that have been issued by the company, and transfer or cancel them within three years.

A listed company purchasing its own shares shall perform the obligation of information disclosure according to the Securities Law of the People's Republic of China. A listed company purchasing its own shares under any of the circumstances set forth in items (3), (5) and (6) of paragraph 1 of this article shall carry out trading in a public and centralized manner.

A company shall not accept its own shares as the subject matter of pledge.

### **Transfer of Shares**

Shares held by shareholders may be transferred legally. Under the PRC Company Law, a shareholder of a joint stock listed company should effect a transfer of his shares on a stock exchange established in accordance with laws or by any other means as required by the State Council. Registered shares may be transferred after the shareholders endorse the back of the share certificates or in any other manner specified by the laws or administrative regulations. Following the transfer, the company shall enter the names and domiciles of the transferees into its share register. No changes of registration in the share register described above shall be effected during a period of 20 days prior to convening a shareholders' general meeting or 5 days prior to the record date for the purpose of determining entitlements to dividend distributions, unless otherwise stipulated by laws on the registration of changes in the share register of listed companies. The transfer of bearer share certificates shall become effective upon the delivery of the certificates to the transferee by the shareholder. The Mandatory Provision provides that changes due to share transfer should not be made to shareholder registry within 30 days before a shareholders' general meeting or within 5 days before the record date for the purpose of determining entitlements to dividend distributions.

Under the PRC Company Law, shares held by promoters may not be transferred within one year of the establishment of the company. Shares of the company issued prior to the public issuance of shares may not be transferred within one year of the date of the company's listing on a stock exchange. Directors, supervisors and the senior management of a company shall declare to the company their shareholdings in it and any changes in such shareholdings. During their terms of office, they may transfer no more than 25% of the total number of shares they hold in the company every year. They shall not transfer the shares they hold within one year of the date of the company's listing on a stock exchange, nor within six months after they leave their positions in the company. The articles of association may set out other restrictive provisions in respect of the transfer of shares in the company held by its directors, supervisors and the senior management.

**Shareholders**

Under the PRC Company Law, the rights of holders of ordinary shares of a company include:

- (1) to receive a return on assets, participate in significant decision-making and select management personnel;
- (2) to petition the people's court to revoke any resolution passed at a shareholders' general meeting or a meeting of board of directors that has not been convened in compliance with the laws, administrative regulations or the articles of association or whose voting has been conducted in an invalid manner, or any resolution the contents of which are in violation of the articles of association, provided that such petition shall be submitted within 60 days of the passing of such resolution;
- (3) to transfer the shares of the shareholders in accordance with laws, administrative regulations and provisions of the articles of associations;
- (4) to attend or appoint a proxy to attend shareholders' general meetings and vote at the meetings;
- (5) to inspect the articles of association, share register, counterfoil of company debentures, minutes of shareholders' general meetings, board resolutions, resolutions of the supervisory board and financial and accounting reports and to make suggestions or inquiries in respect of the company's operations;
- (6) to receive dividends in respect of the number of shares held;
- (7) to participate in residual properties of the company in proportion to their shareholdings upon the liquidation of the company;
- (8) and any other shareholders' rights provided for in laws, administrative regulations, other regulatory documents and the articles of association.

The obligations of shareholders include the obligation to abide by the company's articles of association, to pay the subscription monies in respect of the shares subscribed for, to be liable for the company's debts and liabilities to the extent of the amount of his or her subscribed shares and any other shareholder obligation specified in the articles of association.

**Shareholders' General Meetings**

The general meeting is the organ of authority of the company, which exercises its powers in accordance with the PRC Company Law. The general meeting may exercise its powers:

- (1) to decide on the company's operational objectives and investment plans;

- (2) to elect and dismiss the directors and supervisors (not being representative(s) of employees) and to decide on the matters relating to the remuneration of directors and supervisors;
- (3) to review and approve the reports of the board of directors;
- (4) to review and approve the reports of the supervisory board;
- (5) to review and approve the company's annual financial budgets and final accounts;
- (6) to review and approve the company's profit distribution proposals and loss recovery proposals;
- (7) to decide on any increase or reduction of the company's registered capital;
- (8) to decide on the issue of corporate bonds;
- (9) to decide on merger, division, dissolution and liquidation of the company or change of its corporate form;
- (10) to amend the company's articles of association; and
- (11) to exercise any other authority stipulated in the articles of association.

A shareholders' general meeting is required to be held once every year. An extraordinary general meeting is required to be held within two months of the occurrence of any of the following:

- (1) the number of directors is less than the number stipulated by the PRC Company Law or less than two-thirds of the number specified in the articles of association;
- (2) the outstanding losses of the company amounted to one-third of the company's total paid-in share capital;
- (3) shareholders individually or in aggregate holding 10% or more of the company's shares request the convening of an extraordinary general meeting;
- (4) the board deems necessary;
- (5) the supervisory board proposes to hold; or
- (6) any other circumstances as provided for in the articles of association.

A shareholders' general meeting shall be convened by the board of directors, and presided over by the chairman of the board of directors. In the event that the chairman is incapable of performing or is not performing his duties, the meeting shall be presided over by the vice chairman. In the event that the vice chairman is incapable of performing or is not performing his duties, a director nominated by half or more of the directors shall preside over the meeting. Where the board of directors is incapable of performing or is not performing its duties to convene the general meeting, the supervisory board shall convene and preside over shareholders' general meeting in a timely manner. If the supervisory board fails to convene and preside over shareholders' general meeting, shareholders individually or in aggregate holding 10% or more of the company's shares for 90 days or more consecutively may unilaterally convene and preside over shareholders' general meeting.

In accordance with the PRC Company Law, a notice of the general meeting stating the date and venue of the meeting and the matters to be considered at the meeting shall be given to all shareholders 20 days before the meeting. A notice of extraordinary general meeting shall be given to all shareholders 15 days prior to the meeting. For the issuance of bearer share certificates, the time and venue of and matters to be considered at the meeting shall be announced 30 days before the meeting. A single shareholder who holds, or several shareholders who jointly hold, three percent or more of the shares of the company may submit an interim proposal in writing to the board of directors ten days before the general meeting is held. The board of directors shall notify other shareholders within two days upon receipt of the proposal, and submit the said interim proposal to the general meeting for deliberation. The contents of the interim proposal shall fall within the scope of powers of the general meeting, and the proposal shall have a clear agenda and specific matters on which resolutions are to be made. The general meeting shall not make any resolution in respect of any matter not set out in the above-mentioned two types of notices. Holders of bearer share certificates who wish to attend a general meeting shall deposit their share certificates with the company five days before the meeting and till the conclusion of the meeting.

Under the PRC Company Law, shareholders present at a shareholders' general meeting have one vote for each share they hold, save that the company's shares held by the company are not entitled to any voting rights.

An accumulative voting system may be adopted for the election of directors and supervisors at the general meeting pursuant to the provisions of the articles of association or a resolution of the general meeting. Under the accumulative voting system, each share shall be entitled to the number of votes equivalent to the number of directors or supervisors to be elected at the general meeting, and shareholders may consolidate their votes for one or more directors or supervisors when casting a vote.

Under the PRC Company Law, resolutions of the general meeting must be passed by more than half of the voting rights held by shareholders present in person (including those represented by proxies) at the meeting, with the exception of matters relating to merger, division or dissolution of the company, increase or reduction of registered share capital, change of corporate form or

amendments to the articles of association, which in each case must be passed by at least two-thirds of the voting rights held by the shareholders present at the meeting. Where the PRC Company Law and the articles of association provide that the transfer or acquisition of significant assets or the provision of external guarantees by the company and the other matters must be approved by way of resolution of the general meeting, the directors shall convene a shareholders' general meeting promptly to vote on such matters by shareholders' general meeting.

Minutes shall be prepared in respect of matters considered at the general meeting and the chairperson and directors attending the meeting shall endorse such minutes by signature. The minutes shall be kept together with the shareholders' attendance register and the proxy forms.

According to the Mandatory Provisions, the increase or reduction of share capital, the issuance of shares of any class, warrants or other similar securities and bonds, the division, merger, dissolution and liquidation of the company, the amendments to the articles of association and any other matters, which, as resolved by way of an ordinary resolution of the general meeting, may have a material impact on the company and require adoption by way of a special resolution, must be approved through special resolutions by no less than two-thirds of the voting rights held by shareholders (including proxies thereof) present at the meeting.

The Mandatory Provisions require a special resolution to be passed at the general meeting and a class meeting to be held in the event of a variation or derogation of the class rights of a shareholder class. For this purpose, holders of domestic shares and H shares are deemed to be shareholders of different classes.

### **Board**

A company shall have a board, which shall consist of 5 to 19 members. Members of the board may include staff representatives, who shall be democratically elected by the company's staff at a staff representative assembly, general staff meeting or otherwise. The term of a director shall be stipulated in the articles of association, provided that no term of office shall last for more than three years. A director may serve consecutive terms if re-elected. A director shall continue to perform his/her duties as a director in accordance with the laws, administrative regulations and the articles of association until a duly reelected director takes office, if re-election is not conducted in a timely manner upon the expiry of his/her term of office or if the resignation of directors results in the number of directors being less than the quorum.

Under the PRC Company Law, the board of directors may exercise its powers:

- (1) to convene shareholders' general meetings and report on its work to the shareholders' general meetings;
- (2) to implement the resolutions passed by the shareholders at the shareholders' general meetings;

- (3) to decide on the company's operational plans and investment proposals;
- (4) to formulate proposal for the company's annual financial budgets and final accounts;
- (5) to formulate the company's profit distribution proposals and loss recovery proposals;
- (6) to formulate proposals for the increase or reduction of the company's registered capital and the issue of corporate bonds;
- (7) to formulate proposals for the merger, division or dissolution of the company or change of corporate form;
- (8) to decide on the setup of the company's internal management organs;
- (9) to appoint or dismiss the company's manager and decide on his/her remuneration and, based on the manager's recommendation, to appoint or dismiss any deputy general manager and financial officer of the company and to decide on their remunerations;
- (10) to formulate the company's basic management system; and
- (11) to exercise any other authority stipulated in the articles of association.

In addition, the Mandatory Provisions provide that the board of directors is also responsible for formulating the proposals for amendment of the articles of association of a company.

Meetings of the board of directors shall be convened at least twice each year. Notices of meeting shall be given to all directors and supervisors 10 days before the meeting. Interim board meetings may be proposed to be convened by shareholders representing more than 10% of the voting rights, more than one-third of the directors or the supervisory board. The chairman shall convene the meeting within 10 days of receiving such proposal, and preside over the meeting. The board may otherwise determine the means and the period of notice for convening an interim board meeting. Meetings of the board of directors shall be held only if more than half of the directors are present. Resolutions of the board shall be passed by more than half of all directors. Each director shall have one vote for a resolution to be approved by the board. Directors shall attend board meetings in person. If a director is unable to attend for any reason, he/she may appoint another director to attend the meeting on his/her behalf by a written power of attorney specifying the scope of authorization.

If a resolution of the board of directors violates the laws, administrative regulations or the articles of association or resolutions of the general meeting, and as a result of which the company sustains serious losses, the directors participating in the resolution are liable to compensate the company. However, if it can be proved that a director expressly objected to the resolution when the

resolution was voted on, and that such objection was recorded in the minutes of the meeting, such director shall be relieved from that liability.

Under the PRC Company Law, the following person may not serve as a director in a company:

- (1) a person who is unable or has limited ability to undertake any civil liabilities;
- (2) a person who has been convicted of an offense of corruption, bribery, embezzlement, misappropriation of property or destruction of the socialist market economic order, or who has been deprived of his political rights due to his crimes, in each case where less than five years have elapsed since the date of completion of the sentence;
- (3) a person who has been a former director, factory manager or manager of a company or an enterprise that has entered into insolvent liquidation and who was personally liable for the insolvency of such company or enterprise, where less than three years have elapsed since the date of the completion of the bankruptcy and liquidation of the company or enterprise;
- (4) a person who has been a legal representative of a company or an enterprise that has had its business license revoked due to violations of the law or has been ordered to close down by law and the person was personally responsible, where less than three years have elapsed since the date of such revocation; and
- (5) a person who is liable for a relatively large amount of debts that are overdue.

Where a company elects or appoints a director to which any of the above circumstances applies, such election or appointment shall be null and void. A director to which any of the above circumstances applies during his/her term of office shall be released of his/her duties by the company.

Other circumstances under which a person is disqualified from acting as a director of a company are set out in the Mandatory Provisions.

Under the PRC Company Law, the board shall appoint a chairman and may appoint a vice chairman.

The chairman and the vice chairman shall be elected with approval of more than half of all the directors. The chairman shall convene and preside over board meetings and review the implementation of board resolutions. The vice chairman shall assist the chairman to perform his/her duties. Where the chairman is incapable of performing or is not performing his/her duties, the duties shall be performed by the vice chairman. Where the vice chairman is incapable of performing or is not performing his/her duties, a director nominated by more than half of the directors shall perform his/her duties.



The legal representative of a company, in accordance with the company's articles of association, shall be the chairman. The Special Regulations provide that a company's directors, supervisors, managers and other officers bear fiduciary duties and the duty to act diligently. They are required to faithfully perform their duties, protect the interests of the company and not to use their positions for their own benefit.

### **Supervisory Board**

A company shall have a supervisory board composed of not less than three members. The supervisory board shall consist of representatives of the shareholders and an appropriate proportion of representatives of the company's staff, of which the proportion of representatives of the company's staff shall not be less than one-third, and the actual proportion shall be determined in the articles of association. Representatives of the company's staff at the supervisory board shall be democratically elected by the company's staff at the staff representative assembly, general staff meeting or otherwise. Directors and senior management shall not act concurrently as supervisors.

Each term of office of a supervisor is three years and he/she may serve consecutive terms if reelected. A supervisor shall continue to perform his/her duties as a supervisor in accordance with the laws, administrative regulations and the articles of association until a duly re-elected supervisor takes office, if re-election is not conducted in a timely manner upon the expiry of his/her term of office or if the resignation of supervisors results in the number of supervisors being less than the quorum.

The supervisory board may exercise its powers:

- (1) to review the company's financial position;
- (2) to supervise the directors and senior management in their performance of their duties and to propose the removal of directors and senior management who have violated laws, regulations, the articles of association or resolutions of the shareholders' general meetings;
- (3) when the acts of a director or senior management personnel are detrimental to the company's interests, to require the director and senior management to correct these acts;
- (4) to propose the convening of extraordinary shareholders' general meetings and to convene and preside over shareholders' general meetings when the board fails to perform the duty of convening and presiding over shareholders' general meetings under the PRC Company Law;
- (5) to submit proposals to the shareholders' general meetings;

- (6) to bring actions against directors and senior management personnel pursuant to the relevant provisions of the PRC Company Law; and
- (7) to exercise any other authority stipulated in the articles of association.

Supervisors may be present at board meetings and make inquiries or proposals in respect of the resolutions of the board. The supervisory board may investigate any irregularities identified in the operation of the company and, when necessary, may engage an accounting firm to assist its work at the cost of the company.

The supervisory board shall appoint a chairman and may appoint a vice chairman. The chairman and the vice chairman of the supervisory board shall be elected by more than half of the supervisors. According to the Reply of the Overseas Listing Department of CSRC and the Production System Department of the State Commission for Restructuring the Economic System on Opinions Concerning the Supplement and Amendment to Articles of Association by Companies to Be Listed in Hong Kong (《中國證監會海外上市部、國家體改委生產體制司關於到香港上市公司對公司章程作補充修改的意見的函》), which is promulgated and implemented on April 3, 1995, the chairman of the supervisory board shall be selected by more than two-thirds of the supervisors.

The chairman of the supervisory board shall convene and preside over supervisory board meetings. Where the chairman of the supervisory board is incapable of performing or is not performing his/her duties, the vice chairman of the supervisory board shall convene and preside over supervisory board meetings. Where the vice chairman of the supervisory board is incapable of performing or is not performing his/her duties, a supervisor recommended by more than half of the supervisors shall convene and preside over supervisory board meetings.

### **Manager and Senior Management**

Under the PRC Company Law, a company shall have a manager who shall be appointed or removed by the board of directors. The manager, who reports to the board of directors, may exercise his/her powers:

- (1) to manage the production and operation and administration of the company and arrange for the implementation of the resolutions of the board of directors;
- (2) to arrange for the implementation of the company's annual operation plans and investment proposals;
- (3) to formulate proposals for the establishment of the company's internal management organs;
- (4) to formulate the fundamental management system of the company;

- (5) to formulate the company's specific rules and regulations;
- (6) to recommend the appointment or dismissal of any deputy manager and any financial officer of the company;
- (7) to appoint or dismiss management personnel (other than those required to be appointed or dismissed by the board of directors); and
- (8) to exercise any other authority granted by the board of directors.

Other provisions in the articles of association on the manager's powers shall also be complied with. The manager shall be present at meetings of the board of directors. However, the manager shall have no voting rights at meetings of the board of directors unless he/she concurrently serves as a director.

According to the PRC Company Law, senior management refers to the manager, deputy manager, financial officer, secretary to the board of a listed company and other personnel as stipulated in the articles of association.

#### **Duties of Directors, Supervisors and Senior Management**

Directors, supervisors and senior management are required under the PRC Company Law to comply with the relevant laws, administrative regulations and the articles of association, and carry out their duties of loyalty and diligence.

Directors, supervisors and senior management are prohibited from abusing their authority in accepting bribes or other unlawful income and from misappropriating the company's property.

Directors and senior management are prohibited from:

- (1) misappropriating company funds;
- (2) depositing company funds into accounts under their own names or the names of other individuals to deposit;
- (3) loaning company funds to others or providing guarantees in favor of others supported by company's property in violation of the articles of association or without approval of the general meeting or the board of directors;
- (4) entering into contracts or transactions with the company in violation of the articles of association or without approval of the general meeting;

- (5) using their position to procure business opportunities for themselves or others that should have otherwise been available to the company or operating businesses similar to that of the company for their own benefits or on behalf of others without approval of the general meeting;
- (6) accepting commissions paid by a third party for transactions conducted with the company;
- (7) unauthorized divulgence of confidential information of the company; and
- (8) other acts in violation of their duty of loyalty to the company.

Income generated by directors or senior management in violation of aforementioned shall be returned to the company.

A director, supervisor or senior management who contravenes law, administrative regulation or articles of association in the performance of his/her duties resulting in any loss to the company shall be liable to the company for compensation.

Where a director, supervisor or senior management is required to attend a shareholders' general meeting, such director, supervisor or senior management shall attend the meeting and answer the inquiries from shareholders. Directors and senior management shall furnish relevant information and data to the supervisory board, without impeding the discharge of duties by the supervisory board or supervisors.

Where a director or senior management contravenes law, administrative regulation or articles of association in the performance of his/her duties resulting in any loss to the company, shareholder(s) holding individually or in aggregate no less than 1% of the company's shares consecutively for at least 180 days may request in writing that the supervisory board institute litigation at a people's court on its behalf. Where the supervisory board violates the laws or administrative regulations or the articles of association in the discharge of its duties resulting in any loss to the company, such shareholder(s) may request in writing that the board of directors institute litigation at a people's court on its behalf. If the supervisory board or the board of directors refuses to institute litigation after receiving this written request from the shareholder(s), or fails to institute litigation within 30 days of the date of receiving the request, or in case of emergency where failure to institute litigation immediately will result in irrecoverable damage to the company's interests, such shareholder(s) shall have the power to institute litigation directly at a people's court in its own name for the company's benefit. For other parties who infringe the lawful interests of the company resulting in loss to the company, such shareholder(s) may institute litigation at a people's court in accordance with the procedure described above. Where a director or senior management contravenes any laws, administrative regulations or the articles of association in infringement of shareholders' interests, a shareholder may also institute litigation at a people's court.

The Special Regulations and the Mandatory Provisions provide that a company's directors, supervisors and other senior management shall have duty of loyalty to the company. They are required to faithfully perform their duties, to protect the interests of the company and not to use their positions in the company for their own benefits. The Mandatory Provisions contain detailed stipulations on these duties.

**Finance and Accounting**

A company shall establish its own financial and accounting systems according to the laws, administrative regulations and the regulations of the competent financial departments of the State Council. At the end of each financial year, a company shall prepare a financial report which shall be audited by an accounting firm in accordance with the laws. The financial and accounting reports shall be prepared in accordance with the laws, administrative regulations and the regulations of the financial departments of the State Council.

The company's financial reports shall be made available for shareholders' inspection at the company 20 days before the convening of an annual general meeting. A joint stock limited company that makes public stock offerings shall publish its financial reports.

When distributing each year's profits after taxation, the company shall set aside 10% of its profits after taxation for the company's statutory common reserve fund until the fund has reached 50% or more of the company's registered capital. When the company's statutory common reserve fund is not sufficient to make up for the company's losses for the previous years, the current year's profits shall first be used to make good the losses before any allocation is set aside for the statutory common reserve fund. After the company has made allocations to the statutory common reserve fund from its profits after taxation, it may, upon passing a resolution at a shareholders' general meeting, make further allocations from its profits after taxation to the discretionary common reserve fund. After the company has made good its losses and made allocations to its discretionary common reserve fund, the remaining profits after taxation shall be distributed in proportion to the number of shares held by the shareholders, except for those which are not distributed in a proportionate manner as provided by the articles of association.

Profits distributed to shareholders by a resolution of a shareholders' general meeting or the board of directors before losses have been made good and allocations have been made to the statutory common reserve fund in violation of the requirements described above must be returned to the company. The company shall not be entitled to any distribution of profits in respect of shares held by it.

The premium over the nominal value of the shares of the company earned from the issue of share and other income as required by CSRC to be treated as the capital reserve fund shall be accounted for as the capital reserve fund. The common reserve fund of a company shall be applied to make good the company's losses, expand its business operations or increase its capital. The capital

reserve fund, however, shall not be used to make good the company's losses. Upon the transfer of the statutory common reserve fund into capital, the balance of the fund shall not be less than 25% of the registered capital of the company before such transfer.

The company shall have no accounting books other than the statutory books. The company's assets shall not be deposited in any account opened under the name of an individual.

**Appointment and Retirement of Auditors**

Pursuant to the PRC Company Law, the engagement or dismissal of an accounting firm responsible for the company's auditing shall be determined by a shareholders' general meeting or the board of directors in accordance with the articles of association. The accounting firm should be allowed to make representations when the general meeting or the board of directors conduct a vote on the dismissal of the accounting firm. The company should provide true and complete accounting evidence, accounting books, financial and accounting reports and other accounting information to the engaged accounting firm without any refusal or withholding or falsification of information.

The Special Regulations require a company to engage an independent qualified accounting firm to audit the company's annual reports and to review and check other financial reports of the company. The accounting firm's term of office shall commence from the end of the shareholders' annual general meeting to the end of the next shareholders' annual general meeting.

**Profit Distribution**

According to the PRC Company Law, a company shall not distribute profits before losses are covered and the statutory common reserve fund is provided. The Special Regulations require that any dividend and other distribution to shareholders of overseas-listed foreign shares shall be declared and calculated in RMB and paid in foreign currency.

Under the Mandatory Provisions, a company shall make foreign currency payments to shareholders through receiving agents.

**Amendments to the Articles of Association**

Pursuant to PRC Company Law, the resolution of a shareholders' general meeting regarding any amendment to a company's articles of association requires affirmative votes by at least two-thirds of the votes held by shareholders attending the meeting. Pursuant to the Mandatory Provisions, the company may amend its articles of association according to the laws, administrative regulations and the articles of association. The amendment to articles of association involving content of the Mandatory Provisions will only be effective upon approval of the department in charge of company examination and approval and the securities regulatory department of the State Council authorized by the State Council, while the amendment to articles of association involving matters of company registration must be registered with the relevant authority in accordance with applicable laws.

**Dissolution and Liquidation**

Under the PRC Company Law, a company shall be dissolved for any of the following reasons:

- (1) the term of its operation set out in the articles of association has expired or other events of dissolution specified in the articles of association have occurred;
- (2) the shareholders have resolved at a shareholders' general meeting to dissolve the company;
- (3) the company is dissolved by reason of its merger or division;
- (4) the business license of the company is revoked or the company is ordered to close down or to be dissolved in accordance with the laws; or
- (5) the company is dissolved by a people's court in response to the request of shareholders holding shares that represent more than 10% of the voting rights of all shareholders of the company, on the grounds that the operation and management of the company has suffered serious difficulties that cannot be resolved through other means, rendering ongoing existence of the company a cause for significant losses to the shareholders.

In the event of paragraph 1 above, the company may carry on its existence by amending its articles of association. The amendments to the articles of association in accordance with the provisions described above shall require the approval of more than two-thirds of voting rights of shareholders attending a shareholders' general meeting.

Where the company is dissolved under the circumstances set forth in paragraph 1, 2, 4 or 5 above, it should establish a liquidation committee within 15 days of the date on which the dissolution matter occurs. The liquidation committee shall be composed of directors or any other person determined by a shareholders' general meeting. If a liquidation committee is not established within the prescribed period, the company's creditors may file an application with a people's court to appoint relevant personnel to form a liquidation committee to administer the liquidation. The people's court should accept such application and form a liquidation committee to conduct liquidation in a timely manner.

The liquidation committee may exercise following powers during the liquidation:

- (1) to sort out the company's assets and to prepare a balance sheet and an inventory of assets;
- (2) to notify the company's creditors or publish announcements;

- (3) to deal with any outstanding business related to the liquidation;
- (4) to pay any overdue tax together with any tax arising during the liquidation process;
- (5) to settle the company's claims and liabilities;
- (6) to handle the company's remaining assets after its debts have been paid off; and
- (7) to represent the company in any civil procedures.

The liquidation committee shall notify the company's creditors within 10 days of its establishment, and publish an announcement in newspapers within 60 days.

A creditor shall lodge his claim with the liquidation committee within 30 days of receipt of the notification or within 45 days of the date of the announcement if he has not received any notification. A creditor shall report all matters relevant to his claimed creditor's rights and furnish relevant evidence. The liquidation committee shall register such creditor's rights. The liquidation committee shall not make any settlement to creditors during the period of the claim.

Upon disposal of the company's property and preparation of the required balance sheet and inventory of assets, the liquidation committee shall draw up a liquidation plan and submit this plan to a shareholders' general meeting or a people's court for endorsement. The remaining part of the company's assets, after payment of liquidation expenses, employee wages, social insurance expenses and statutory compensation, outstanding taxes and the company's debts, shall be distributed to shareholders in proportion to shares held by them. The company shall continue to exist during the liquidation period, although it cannot conduct operating activities that are not related to the liquidation. The company's property shall not be distributed to shareholders before repayments are made in accordance with the requirements described above.

Upon liquidation of the company's property and preparation of the required balance sheet and inventory of assets, if the liquidation committee becomes aware that the company does not have sufficient assets to meet its liabilities, it must apply to a people's court for a declaration of bankruptcy in accordance with the laws. Following such declaration by the people's court, the liquidation committee shall hand over the administration of the liquidation to the people's court.

Upon completion of the liquidation, the liquidation committee shall prepare a liquidation report and submit it to the shareholders' general meeting or a people's court for confirmation of its completion. Following such confirmation, the report shall be submitted to the company registration authority to apply for canceling the company's registration, and an announcement of its termination shall be published. Members of the liquidation committee are required to discharge their duties in good faith and perform their obligation in compliance with laws. Members of the liquidation committee shall be prohibited from abusing their authority in accepting bribes or other unlawful



income and from misappropriating the company's properties. Members of the liquidation committee are liable to indemnify the company and its creditors in respect of any loss arising from their willful or material default.

Liquidation of a company declared bankrupt according to laws shall be processed in accordance with the laws on corporate bankruptcy.

### **Overseas Listing**

Pursuant to the Special Regulations, the shares of a company shall only be listed overseas after obtaining approval from CSRC and the listing must be arranged in accordance with the procedures specified by the State Council.

According to Rule 2(6) of the Regulatory Guidelines for the Application Documents and Examination Procedures for the Overseas Share Issuance and Listing by Joint Stock Limited Companies (《關於股份公司境外發行股票和上市申報文件及審核程序的監管指引》) promulgated by CSRC (effective from January 1, 2013), the approval documents for overseas stock issuance and listing by the company granted by CSRC shall be valid for a period of 12 months.

### **Loss of Share Certificates**

A shareholder may, in accordance with the public notice procedures set out in the PRC Civil Procedure Law, apply to a people's court if his share certificate(s) in registered form is either stolen, lost or destroyed, for a declaration that such certificate(s) will no longer be valid. After the people's court declares that such certificate(s) will no longer be valid, the shareholder may apply to the company for the issue of a replacement certificate(s).

The Mandatory Provisions provide for a separate procedure regarding the loss of share certificates of overseas-listed foreign shares or of H share certificates, details of which are set out in our Articles of Association.

### **Merger and Division**

A merger agreement shall be signed by merging companies and the involved companies shall prepare respective balance sheets and inventory of assets. The companies shall within 10 days of the date of passing the resolution approving the merger notify their respective creditors and publicly announce the merger in newspapers within 30 days. A creditor may, within 30 days of receipt of the notification, or within 45 days of the date of the announcement if he has not received the notification, request the company to settle any outstanding debts or provide relevant guarantees. In case of a merger, the credits and debts of the merging parties shall be assumed by the surviving or the new company.

In case of a division, the company's assets shall be divided and a balance sheet and an inventory of assets shall be prepared. When a resolution regarding the company's division is approved, the company should notify all its creditors within 10 days of the date of passing such resolution and publicly announce the division in newspapers within 30 days. Unless an agreement in writing is reached with creditors before the company's division in respect of the settlement of debts, the liabilities of the company which have accrued prior to the division shall be jointly borne by the divided companies.

Changes in the business registration of the companies as a result of the merger or division shall be registered with the relevant company registration authority.

In accordance with the laws, cancelation of a company shall be registered when a company is dissolved and incorporation of a company shall be registered when a new company is incorporated.

### **The PRC Securities Laws, Regulations**

The PRC has promulgated a number of regulations that relate to the issue and trading of the Shares and disclosure of information of companies. In October 1992, the State Council established the Securities Committee and CSRC. The Securities Committee is responsible for coordinating the drafting of securities regulations, formulating securities-related policies, planning the development of securities markets, directing, coordinating and supervising all securities-related institutions in the PRC and administering CSRC. CSRC is the regulatory arm of the Securities Committee and is responsible for the drafting of regulatory provisions governing securities markets, supervising securities companies, regulating public offerings of securities by PRC companies in the PRC or overseas, regulating the trading of securities, compiling securities-related statistics and undertaking relevant research and analysis. In April 1998, the State Council consolidated the Securities Committee and CSRC and reformed China Securities Regulatory Commission.

On April 22, 1993, the State Council promulgated the Provisional Regulations Concerning the Issue and Trading of Shares (《股票發行與交易管理暫行條例》) governing matter including the application and approval procedures for public offerings of shares, issuance of and trading in shares, the acquisition of listed companies, deposit, clearing and transfer of shares, the disclosure of information, investigation, penalties and dispute resolutions with respect to a listed company.

On December 25, 1995, the State Council promulgated the Regulations of the State Council Concerning Domestic Listed Foreign Shares of Joint Stock Limited Companies (《國務院關於股份有限公司境內上市外資股的規定》). These regulations principally govern the issue, subscription, trading and declaration of dividends and other distributions of domestic listed foreign shares and disclosure of information of joint stock limited companies having domestic listed foreign shares.

The Securities Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國證券法》), the “**PRC Securities Law**”) took effect on July 1, 1999 and was revised as of August 28, 2004, October 27, 2005, June 29, 2013,

August 31, 2014 and December 28, 2019, respectively. The PRC Securities Law, which was revised on December 28, 2019 and came into effect on March 1, 2020, is divided into 14 chapters and 226 articles, regulating, among other things, the issue and trading of securities, the listing of securities, and takeovers by listed companies. Article 224 of the PRC Securities Law provides that domestic enterprises which, directly or indirectly, issue securities or list and trade their securities outside the PRC shall comply with the relevant regulations of the State Council. Currently, the issue and trading of foreign issued securities (including shares) are principally governed by the regulations and rules promulgated by the State Council and the CSRC.

#### **Arbitration and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards**

The Arbitration Law of the PRC (《中華人民共和國仲裁法》) (the “**PRC Arbitration Law**”) was enacted by the Standing Committee of the NPC on August 31, 1994, which became effective on September 1, 1995 and was amended on August 27, 2009 and September 1, 2017, respectively. It is applicable to, among other matters, economic disputes involving foreign parties where all parties have entered into a written agreement to resolve disputes by arbitration before an arbitration committee constituted in accordance with the PRC Arbitration Law. The PRC Arbitration Law provides that an arbitration committee may, before the promulgation of arbitration regulations by the PRC Arbitration Association, formulate interim arbitration rules in accordance with the PRC Arbitration Law and the PRC Civil Procedure Law. Where the parties have agreed to settle disputes by means of arbitration, a people’s court will refuse to handle a legal proceeding initiated by one of the parties at such people’s court, unless the arbitration agreement is invalid.

The Listing Rules and the Mandatory Provisions require an arbitration clause to be included in the articles of association of a company listed in Hong Kong and, in the case of the Listing Rules, also in contracts between the company and each director or supervisor. Pursuant to such clause, whenever a dispute or claim arises from any right or obligation provided in the articles of association, the PRC Company Law or other relevant laws and administrative regulations concerning the affairs of the company between (i) a holder of overseas listed foreign shares and the company; (ii) a holder of overseas listed foreign shares and a holder of domestic shares; or (iii) a holder of overseas listed foreign shares and the company’s directors, supervisors or other management personnel, such parties shall be required to refer such dispute or claim to arbitration at either the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (“**CIETAC**”) or the Hong Kong International Arbitration Center (“**HKIAC**”). Disputes in respect of the definition of shareholder and disputes in relation to the company’s shareholder registry need not be resolved by arbitration. If the party seeking arbitration elects to arbitrate the dispute or claim at the HKIAC, then either party may apply to have such arbitration conducted in Shenzhen in accordance with the securities arbitration rules of the HKIAC.

Under the PRC Arbitration Law and PRC Civil Procedure Law, an arbitral award shall be final and binding on the parties involved in the arbitration. If any party fails to comply with the arbitral award, the other party to the award may apply to a people’s court for its enforcement. The people’s

court can issue a ruling prohibiting the enforcement of an arbitral award made by an arbitration commission after verification by collegial bench formed by the people's court if there is any procedural irregularity (including but not limited to irregularity in the composition of the arbitration tribunal or arbitration proceedings, the jurisdiction of the arbitration commission, or the making of an award on matters beyond the scope of the arbitration agreement).

Any party seeking to enforce an award of a foreign affairs arbitral body of the PRC against a party who or whose property is not located within the PRC may apply to a foreign court with jurisdiction over the case for recognition and enforcement of the award. Likewise, an arbitral award made by a foreign arbitral body may be recognized and enforced by a PRC court in accordance with the principle of reciprocity or any international treaties concluded or acceded to by the PRC.

The PRC acceded to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (《承認及執行外國仲裁裁決公約》, the “**New York Convention**”) adopted on June 10, 1958 pursuant to a resolution passed by the Standing Committee of the NPC on December 2, 1986. The New York Convention provides that all arbitral awards made in a state which is a party to the New York Convention shall be recognized and enforced by other parties thereto subject to their rights to refuse enforcement under certain circumstances, including but not limited to where the enforcement of the arbitral award is against the public policy of that state. At the time of the PRC's accession to the Convention, the Standing Committee of the NPC declared that (i) the PRC will only apply the Convention to the recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards made in the territories of other parties based on the principle of reciprocity; and (ii) the New York Convention will only be applied to disputes deemed under PRC laws to be arising from contractual or non-contractual mercantile legal relations.

An arrangement for mutual enforcement of arbitral awards between Hong Kong and the Supreme People's Court of China was reached. The Supreme People's Court of China adopted the Arrangements of the Supreme People's Court of China on the Mutual Enforcement of Arbitral Awards between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (《最高人民法院關於內地與香港特別行政區相互執行仲裁裁決的安排》) on June 18, 1999, which went into effect on February 1, 2000. The arrangements reflect the spirit of the New York Convention. Under the arrangements, the awards by the Mainland arbitral bodies recognized by Hong Kong may be enforced in Hong Kong and the awards by the Hong Kong arbitral bodies according to the Arbitration Ordinance of Hong Kong SAR may also be enforced in the Mainland China. If the Mainland court finds that the enforcement of awards made by the Hong Kong arbitral bodies in the Mainland will be against public interests of the Mainland, or the court of Hong Kong SAR decides that the enforcement of the arbitral awards in Hong Kong SAR will be against public policies of Hong Kong SAR, the awards may not be enforced.

**MATERIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CERTAIN ASPECTS OF CORPORATION LAW IN  
THE PRC AND HONG KONG**

Hong Kong company law is primarily set out in the Companies Ordinance and the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, supplemented by common law and rules of equity that apply to Hong Kong. As a joint stock limited company incorporated in the PRC that is seeking a listing of shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, we are governed by the PRC Company Law and all other rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the PRC Company Law. Set out below is a summary of certain material differences between Hong Kong company law and the PRC Company Law. This summary is, however, not intended to be an exhaustive comparison.

**Corporate Existence**

Under Hong Kong company law, a company with share capital is incorporated by the Registrar of Companies in Hong Kong, which issues a certificate of incorporation to the Company upon its incorporation, and the company will acquire an independent corporate existence henceforth. A company may be incorporated as a public company or a private company. Pursuant to the Companies Ordinance, the articles of association of a private company incorporated in Hong Kong shall contain certain pre-emptive provisions. A public company's articles of association do not contain such pre-emptive provisions.

Under the PRC Company Law, a joint stock limited company may be incorporated by promotion or public subscription.

**Share Capital**

Hong Kong company law does not provide for authorized share capital. The share capital of a Hong Kong company would be issued share capital. Under Hong Kong law, the directors of a Hong Kong company may, with the prior approval of the shareholders if required, issue new shares of the company. The PRC Company Law does not provide for authorized share capital either. The Company's registered capital is the amount of its issued share capital. Any increase in the Company's registered capital must be approved by our Shareholders' general meeting and shall be approved by/filed with the relevant PRC governmental and regulatory authorities (if applicable).

The Companies Ordinance does not prescribe any minimum capital requirement for companies incorporated in Hong Kong.

Under the PRC Company Law, the shares may be subscribed for in the form of money or non-monetary assets (other than assets not entitled to be used as capital contributions under relevant laws or administrative regulations). For non-monetary assets to be used as capital contributions, appraisals must be carried out to ensure there is no overvaluation or undervaluation of the assets. There is no such restriction on a company incorporated in Hong Kong.

**Restrictions on Shareholding and Transfer of Shares**

If the H shares of the company are eligible securities under the Southbound Trading Link, they are also subscribed for and traded by PRC investors in accordance with the rules and limits of Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect or Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect.

Under the PRC Company Law, a promoter of a joint stock limited company is not allowed to transfer the shares it holds for a period of one year after the date of establishment of the company. Shares in issue prior to a public offering of the company cannot be transferred within one year from the listing date of the shares on a stock exchange. The directors, supervisors and senior management of a joint stock limited company shall report to the company their holdings of the company's shares and any changes thereof. Shares in a joint stock limited liability company held by its directors, supervisors and senior management and transferred each year during their term of office shall not exceed 25% of the total shares they held in a company, and the shares they held in a company cannot be transferred within one year from the listing date of the shares, and also cannot be transferred within half a year after the said personnel has left office. The articles of association may set other restrictive requirements on the transfer of a company's shares held by its directors, supervisors and senior management. There are no restrictions on shareholdings and transfers of shares under Hong Kong law apart from (i) the restriction on the Company to issue additional Shares within six months, and (ii) 12-month lockup on the Controlling Shareholders' disposal of Shares, after the Global Offering.

**Financial Assistance for Acquisition of Shares**

The PRC Company Law does not prohibit or restrict a joint stock limited company or its subsidiaries from providing financial assistance for the purpose of an acquisition of its own or its holding company's shares. However, the Mandatory Provisions contain certain restrictions on a company and its subsidiaries on providing such financial assistance similar to those under Hong Kong company law.

**Notice of Shareholders' Meetings**

Under the PRC Company Law, notice of a shareholder's annual general meeting must be given not less than 20 days before the meeting. Whereas notice of an extraordinary general meeting must be given not less than 15 days before the meeting. If a company issues bearer shares, notice of a shareholder's general meeting must be given at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

For a company incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability, the minimum period of notice of a general meeting is 14 days. Further, where a meeting involves consideration of a resolution requiring special notice, the company must also give its shareholders notice of the resolution at least 14 days before the meeting. The notice period for the annual shareholders' general meeting is 21 days.

**Quorum for Shareholders' Meetings**

The PRC Company Law does not specify any quorum requirement for a shareholders' general meeting. Under Hong Kong law, the quorum for a shareholders' meeting is two members, unless the articles of association of a company specifies otherwise or the company has only one member, in which case the quorum is one.

**Voting at Shareholders' Meetings**

Under the PRC Company Law, the passing of any resolution requires more than one-half of the affirmative votes held by our shareholders present in person or by proxy at a shareholders' meeting except in cases such as proposed amendments to our Articles of Association, increase or decrease of registered capital, merger, division, dissolution or transformation, which require two-thirds of the affirmative votes cast by shareholders present in person or by proxy at a shareholders' general meeting.

Under Hong Kong law, an ordinary resolution is passed by a simple majority of affirmative votes cast by shareholders present in person, or by proxy, at a general meeting, and a special resolution is passed by not less than three-fourths of affirmative votes cast by shareholders present in person, or by proxy, at a general meeting.

**Variation of Class Rights**

The PRC Company Law makes no specific provision relating to variation of class rights. However, the PRC Company Law states that the State Council can promulgate requirements relating to other kinds of shares. The Mandatory Provisions contain detailed provisions relating to the circumstances which are deemed to be variations of class rights and the approval procedures required to be followed in respect thereof. These provisions have been incorporated in the Articles of Association, which are summarized in "Appendix VI — Summary of Articles of Association" to this document.

Under the Companies Ordinance, no rights attached to any class of shares can be varied except (i) with the passing of a special resolution by the shareholders of the relevant class at a separate meeting sanctioning the variation, (ii) with the written consent of shareholders representing at least three-fourths of the total voting rights of shareholders of the relevant class, or (iii) if there are provisions in the articles of association relating to the variation of those rights, then in accordance with those provisions.

As required by the Hong Kong Listing Rules and the Mandatory Provisions, we have adopted in the Articles of Association provisions protecting class rights in a similar manner to those found in Hong Kong law. Holders of overseas listed shares and domestic listed shares are defined in the Articles of Association as different classes. The special procedures for voting by a class of Shareholders shall not apply in the following circumstances: (i) where we issue, either separately or

concurrently in any 12-month period, upon approval by special resolutions passed at a general meeting, domestic shares and H shares not more than 20% of each of the existing issued domestic shares and H shares, respectively; (ii) where the plan for the issue of domestic shares and H shares upon our establishment is implemented within 15 months following the date of approval or within the valid period of the approval by the securities regulatory authorities under the State Council or within the stated period as stipulated by applicable requirements.

**Derivative Action by Minority Shareholders**

Under Hong Kong company law, a shareholder may, with the leave of the Court, start a derivative action on behalf of a company for any misconduct committed by its directors against the company. For example, leave may be granted where the directors control a majority of votes at a general meeting, and could thereby prevent the company from suing the directors in its own name.

Pursuant to the PRC Company Law, in the event where the directors and senior management of a joint stock limited company violate laws, administrative regulations or its articles of association, resulting in losses to the company, the shareholders individually or jointly holding over 1% of the shares in the company for more than 180 consecutive days may request in writing the board of supervisors to initiate proceedings in the people's court. In the event that the supervisors violate as such, the above said shareholders may send written request to the board of directors to initiate proceedings in the people's court. Upon receipt of such written request from the shareholders, if the board of supervisors or the board of directors refuses to initiate such proceedings, or has not initiated proceedings within 30 days upon receipt of the request, or if under urgent situations, failure of initiating immediate proceeding may cause irremediable damages to the company, the above said shareholders shall, for the benefit of the company's interests, have the right to initiate proceedings directly to the court in their own name.

In addition, the Mandatory Provisions provide us with certain remedies against the Directors, Supervisors and senior management who breach their duties to the Company. In addition, as a condition to the listing of overseas listed foreign Shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, each director and supervisor of a joint stock limited company is required to give an undertaking to observe the articles of association in favor of the company. This allows minority Shareholders to take action against our Directors and Supervisors in default.

**Minority Shareholder Protection**

Under the Companies Ordinance, a shareholder who alleges that the affairs of a company are conducted in a manner unfairly prejudicial to his interests may petition to the Court to make an appropriate order to give relief to the unfairly prejudicial conduct. Alternatively, pursuant to the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, a shareholder may seek to wind up the company on the just and equitable ground. In addition, on the application of a specified number of members, the Financial Secretary may appoint inspectors who are given extensive statutory powers to investigate the affairs of a company incorporated or registered in Hong Kong.



The PRC Company Law provides that any shareholders holding 10% or above of the shareholder voting rights of the company may request a People's Court to dissolve the company to the extent that the operation or management of the company experiences any serious difficulties and its continuous existence would cause serious losses to them, and no other alternatives can resolve such difficulties.

The Company, as required by the Mandatory Provisions, has adopted in its Articles of Association minority Shareholder protection provisions similar to (though not as comprehensive as) those available under the Hong Kong law. These provisions state that a controlling shareholder may not exercise its voting rights in a manner prejudicial to the interests of other shareholders, may not relieve a director or supervisor of his duty to act honestly in our best interests or may not approve the expropriation by a director or supervisor of our assets or the individual rights of other shareholders.

### **Directors**

The PRC Company Law, unlike Hong Kong company law, does not contain any requirements relating to the declaration of directors' interests in material contracts, restrictions on directors' authority in making major dispositions, restrictions on companies providing certain benefits to directors and indemnification in respect of directors' liability and prohibitions against compensation for loss of office without shareholders' approval. The Mandatory Provisions, however, contain certain requirements and restrictions on major disposals and specify the circumstances under which a director may receive compensation for loss of office.

### **Board of Supervisors**

Under the PRC Company Law, a joint stock limited company's directors and senior management are subject to the supervision of a board of supervisors. There is no mandatory requirement for the establishment of a board of supervisors for a company incorporated in Hong Kong. The Mandatory Provisions provide that each supervisor owes a duty, in the exercise of his powers, to act in good faith and honestly in what he considers to be in the best interests of the Company and to exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.

### **Fiduciary Duties**

In Hong Kong, directors owe fiduciary duties to the company, including the duty not to act in conflict with the company's interests. Furthermore, the Companies Ordinance has codified the directors' statutory duty of care. Under the Special Regulations, directors, supervisors and other senior management of the company shall honestly and diligently perform their duties for the company.

**Financial Disclosure**

Under the PRC Company Law, a joint stock limited company is required to make available at the company for inspection by shareholders its financial report 20 days before its annual general meeting. In addition, a joint stock limited company of which the shares are publicly offered must publish its financial report.

The Companies Ordinance requires a company incorporated in Hong Kong to send to every shareholder a copy of its financial statements, auditors' report and directors' report, which are to be presented before the company in its annual general meeting, not less than 21 days before such meeting. According to the PRC laws, a company shall prepare its financial accounting reports as at the end of each accounting year, and submit the same to accounting firms for auditing as required by law. The Mandatory Provisions require that a company must, in addition to preparing financial statements according to the Chinese accounting standards and regulations, have its financial statements prepared and audited in accordance with international or Hong Kong accounting standards and its financial statements must also contain a statement of the financial effect of the material differences (if any) from the financial statements prepared in accordance with the Chinese accounting standards.

The Special Regulations require that there should not be any inconsistency between the information disclosed within and outside the PRC and that, to the extent that there are differences in the information disclosed in accordance with the relevant PRC and overseas laws, regulations and requirements of the relevant stock exchanges, such differences should also be disclosed simultaneously.

**Information on Directors and Shareholders**

The PRC Company Law gives shareholders the right to inspect the company's articles of association, minutes of the general meetings and financial and accounting reports. Under the Articles of Association, shareholders have the right to inspect and copy (at reasonable charges) certain information on shareholders and on directors which is similar to the rights of shareholders of Hong Kong companies under the Companies Ordinance.

**Receiving Agent**

Under both the PRC and Hong Kong law, dividends once declared will become debts payable to shareholders. The limitation period for debt recovery action under Hong Kong law is six years, while under the PRC law this limitation period is three years. The Mandatory Provisions require that the relevant company shall appoint a receiving agent for shareholders who hold overseas listed foreign shares, and the receiving agent shall receive on behalf of such holders of shares dividends declared and other monies owed by the company in respect of its overseas listed foreign shares.

**Corporate Reorganization**

Corporate reorganization involving a company incorporated in Hong Kong may be effected in a number of ways, such as a transfer of the whole or part of the business or property of the company in the course of voluntary winding up to another company pursuant to Section 237 of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance or a compromise or arrangement between the company and its creditors or between the company and its members pursuant to Section 673 and Division 2 of Part 13 of the Companies Ordinance, which requires the sanction of the court. In addition, subject to the shareholders' approval, an intra-group wholly-owned subsidiary company may also be amalgamated horizontally or vertically under the Companies Ordinance. Under PRC law, merger, division, dissolution of the company or the conversion of the corporate form has to be approved by shareholders in general meeting.

**Mandatory Transfers**

Under the PRC Company Law, a company is required to make transfers equivalent to certain prescribed percentages of its after tax profit to the statutory common reserve fund. There are no corresponding provisions under Hong Kong law.

**Arbitration of Disputes**

In Hong Kong, disputes between shareholders and a company or its directors, managers and other senior management may be resolved through the courts. The Mandatory Provisions provides that disputes between a holder of H shares and the Company, a holder of H shares and directors, supervisors, managers and other members of senior management of the Company or a holder of H shares and a holder of domestic listed shares, arising from the Articles of Association, the PRC Company Law or other relevant laws and administrative regulations which concerns the affairs of the Company should, with certain exceptions, be referred to arbitration at either the HKIAC or the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission, at the claimant's choice. Such arbitration is final and conclusive.

**Remedies of a Company**

Under the PRC Company Law, if a director, supervisor or senior management person in carrying out his duties infringes any law, administrative regulation or the articles of association of a company, which results in damage to the company, that director, supervisor or senior management person should be responsible to the company for such damages. In addition, in compliance with the Listing Rules and the Mandatory Provisions, remedies of the company similar to those available under Hong Kong law (including rescission of the relevant contract and recovery of profits from a director, supervisor or senior management) have been set out in the Articles of Association.

**Dividends**

Pursuant to relevant PRC laws and regulations, the company in certain circumstances shall withhold, and pay to the relevant tax authorities, any tax payable under PRC law on any dividends or

other distributions payable to a shareholder. Under Hong Kong law, the limitation period for an action to recover a debt (including the recovery of declared dividends) is six years, whereas under PRC laws, the relevant limitation period is three years. The company must not exercise its powers to forfeit any unclaimed dividend in respect of shares until after the expiry of the applicable limitation period.

**Closure of Register of Shareholders**

The Companies Ordinance requires that the register of shareholders of a company must not be closed for the registration of transfers of shares for more than thirty days (extendable to sixty days in certain circumstances) in a year, whereas, as required by the Mandatory Provisions, share transfers shall not be registered within thirty days before the date of convening a general meeting or within five days before the base date of distribution of dividends.