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CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY, LIMITED

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)
(Stock code: **026**)

INTERIM RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT 2021/2022

The Board of Directors announces that the unaudited consolidated profit after taxation of China Motor Bus Company, Limited ("the Company") and its subsidiaries (together referred to as "the Group") for the six months ended 31st December, 2021 amounted to HK\$31.12 million, compared with a consolidated loss after taxation of HK\$58.75 million for the six months ended 31st December, 2020, and the unaudited consolidated operating profit of the Group for the six months ended 31st December, 2021 was HK\$22.74 million, compared with HK\$61.31 million for the six months ended 31st December, 2020. These interim results have not been audited but have been reviewed by both the Company's auditors and the Company's audit committee. The independent review report of the auditors is included in the interim report to be sent to shareholders.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT for the six months ended 31st December, 2021 - unaudited (Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

| | | Six months ended 31st December, | |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|------------|
| | | 2021 | 2020 |
| | Note | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Turnover | 2 | 36,797 | 41,409 |
| Finance income | 4 | 3,567 | 38,795 |
| Other income | 5 | 663 | 259 |
| Staff costs | | (6,240) | (6,883) |
| Depreciation | | (1,704) | (1,701) |
| Other operating expenses | | (10,340) | (10,570) |
| Operating profit | 3 & 6 | 22,743 | 61,309 |
| Share of results of joint ventures | 7 | 44,463 | (63,762) |
| Share of results of associates | | (16) | 70 |
| Net valuation losses on investment properties | | (29,037) | (47,176) |
| Profit/(loss) before taxation | • | 38,153 | (49,559) |
| Income tax | 8 | (7,032) | (9,189) |
| Profit/(loss) after taxation attributable to | | <u>.</u> | |
| shareholders | : | 31,121 | (58,748) |
| Earnings/(loss) per share (basic and diluted) | 9 | HK\$0.69 | (HK\$1.30) |

Details of dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company are set out in note 13.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the six months ended 31st December, 2021 - unaudited

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

| (Expressed in Flong Rong donars) | | Six months ended 31st December, 2021 2020 | | |
|---|----------|---|--|--|
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | | |
| Profit/(loss) for the period | 31,121 | (58,748) | | |
| Other comprehensive income for the period | | | | |
| Item that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss: | | | | |
| Exchange differences arising on consolidation | (26,622) | 121,261 121,261 | | |
| Total comprehensive income for the period | | | | |
| attributable to shareholders | 4,499 | 62,513 | | |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31st December, 2021 - unaudited

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

| (Expressed in Hong Kong dollars) | | | |
|---|-------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | At 31st December, 2021 | At 30th June, 2021 |
| | Note | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Non-record and the | | | |
| Non-current assets | | 2 579 702 | 2 (24 590 |
| Fixed assets | | 2,578,702 | 2,624,589 |
| Interest in joint ventures | 10 | 2,808,740 | 2,817,277 |
| Interest in associates | 10 | 1,129,945 | 187,981 |
| Other investments | _ | 14,338 | 15,983 |
| Cumunt agests | ш | 6,531,725 | 5,645,830 |
| Current assets Debtors deposits and propayments | 11 | 3,383 | 4 520 |
| Debtors, deposits and prepayments Deposits with banks | 11 | 1,502,398 | 4,529 2,412,418 |
| Cash at banks and in hand | | 1,302,398 | 117,119 |
| Cash at banks and in hand | - | 1,638,161 | 2,534,066 |
| Current liabilities | IIIII | 1,030,101 | 2,334,000 |
| Creditors and accruals | 12 | 37,257 | 39,836 |
| Current tax payable | 12 | 7,763 | 8,750 |
| Dividends payable | | 81,555 | - |
| Dividends payable | _ | 126,575 | 48,586 |
| Not seemed and | | | |
| Net current assets | | 1,511,586 | 2,485,480 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 8,043,311 | 8,131,310 |
| Non-current liability | | | |
| Deferred taxation | | 50,115 | 47,466 |
| Net assets | = | 7,993,196 | 8,083,844 |
| CAPITAL AND RESERVES | | | |
| Share capital | 13(b) | 92,537 | 92,537 |
| Other reserves | 13(0) | 7,900,659 | 7,991,307 |
| Total equity | - | 7,993,196 | 8,083,844 |
| - our oquio, | = | ,,,,,,,,,,,, | 0,000,011 |

Notes to unaudited interim financial report (Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

1. Basis of preparation

The interim results set out in the announcement do not constitute the Group's interim report for the six months ended 31st December, 2021 but are extracted from the report.

The interim financial report has been prepared in accordance with the applicable disclosure provisions of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, including compliance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard ("HKAS") 34, *Interim financial reporting*, issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA").

The interim financial report has been prepared in accordance with the same accounting policies adopted in the annual financial statements for the year ended 30th June, 2021 except for the accounting policy changes that are expected to be reflected in the 2022 annual financial statements.

The HKICPA has issued certain amendments to Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") that are first effective for the current accounting period of the Group. None of these developments have had a material effect on how the Group's results and financial position for the current or prior periods have been prepared or presented in this interim financial report. The Group has not applied any new standard or interpretation that is not yet effective for the current accounting period.

The preparation of an interim financial report in conformity with HKAS 34 requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses on a year to date basis. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The interim financial report contains condensed consolidated financial statements and selected explanatory notes. The notes include an explanation of events and transactions that are significant to an understanding of the changes in financial position and performance of the Group since the 2021 annual financial statements. The condensed consolidated interim financial statements and notes thereon do not include all of the information required for full set of financial statements prepared in accordance with HKFRSs.

1. Basis of preparation (continued)

The interim financial report is unaudited, but has been reviewed by KPMG in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410, *Review of interim financial information performed by the independent auditor of the entity*, issued by the HKICPA. KPMG's independent review report to the board of directors is included in the interim report to be sent to shareholders.

The financial information relating to the financial year ended 30th June, 2021 that is included in the interim financial report as comparative information does not constitute the Company's statutory annual consolidated financial statements for that financial year but is derived from those financial statements. Further information relating to these statutory financial statements disclosed in accordance with section 436 of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) is as follows:

The Company has delivered the financial statements for the year ended 30th June, 2021 to the Registrar of Companies in accordance with section 662(3) of, and Part 3 of Schedule 6 to, the Companies Ordinance.

The Company's auditor has reported on those financial statements. The auditor's report was unqualified; did not include a reference to any matters to which the auditor drew attention by way of emphasis without qualifying its report; and did not contain a statement under section 406(2), 407(2) or (3) of the Companies Ordinance.

2. Turnover

The principal activities of the Group are property development and investment. Turnover represents rental income.

| Six mont | hs ended |
|----------|----------|
| 31st Dec | ember, |
| 2021 | 2020 |
| \$'000 | \$'000 |
| | |
| 36,797 | 41,409 |

Rentals from investment properties

3. Segment information

The Group manages its businesses according to the nature of the operations and the services and products provided. Management has determined that the reportable operating segments for measuring performance and allocating resources are the same as those reported previously. The segments are property development and investment and treasury management.

Property development and investment segment encompasses activities relating to the development, construction, sale and marketing of the Group's trading properties primarily in Hong Kong and property leasing. Currently, the Group's properties portfolio, which consists of retail, office and apartments, are located in Hong Kong and London.

Treasury management segment includes activities for managing the Group's listed investments, financial assets and other treasury operations.

Management evaluates performance primarily based on operating profit as well as the equity share of results of joint ventures and associates of each segment.

Segment assets principally comprise all tangible assets and current assets directly attributable to each segment with the exception of corporate assets. Segment liabilities include all liabilities directly attributable to and managed by each segment with the exception of defined benefit obligation, income tax liabilities, dividends payable, deferred taxation and other corporate liabilities.

(a) Segment results, assets and liabilities

| | Six mo | onths ended 31s | st December, | 2021 |
|---|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | Property development and investment \$'000 | Treasury management \$'000 | Unallocated \$'000 | Consolidated \$'000 |
| Turnover | 36,797 | - | _ | 36,797 |
| Finance income | - | 3,567 | - | 3,567 |
| Other income | - | - | 663 | 663 |
| Total revenue | 36,797 | 3,567 | 663 | 41,027 |
| Segment results | 33,274 | 3,567 | | 36,841 |
| Net unallocated expenses | | | _ | (14,098) |
| Operating profit | | | · - | 22,743 |
| Share of results of | | | | |
| joint ventures | 44,463 | - | | 44,463 |
| Share of results of associates | (16) | - | | (16) |
| Net valuation losses on | | | | |
| investment properties | (29,037) | - | _ | (29,037) |
| Profit before taxation | | | _ | 38,153 |
| | | At 31st Decen | nber, 2021 | |
| | Property development | | XX 11 1 | G 111 1 |
| | and investment | Treasury management | Unallocated | Consolidated |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Segment assets | 6,421,214 | 1,649,689 | 98,983 | 8,169,886 |
| (including interest in joint ventures and associates) | 3,938,685 | | | 3,938,685 |
| Segment liabilities | 19,826 | - | 156,864 | 176,690 |

3. Segment information (continued)

| | Property development and investment \$'000 | Treasury management \$'000 | Unallocated \$'000 | Consolidated \$'000 |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Turnover | 41,409 | - | - | 41,409 |
| Finance income | - | 38,795 | - | 38,795 |
| Other income | - | - | 259 | 259 |
| Total revenue | 41,409 | 38,795 | 259 | 80,463 |
| Segment results | 38,697 | 38,795 | | 77,492 |
| Net unallocated expenses | | | _ | (16,183) |
| Operating profit | | | · | 61,309 |
| Share of results of | | | | |
| joint ventures | (63,762) | - | | (63,762) |

Six months ended 31st December, 2020

70

(49,559)

96,052

76,072

At 30th June, 2021 Property development and investment Treasury management Unallocated Consolidated \$'000 \$'000 \$'000 \$'000 Segment assets 5,532,201 2,546,558 101,137 8,179,896 (including interest in joint ventures and associates) 3,005,258 3,005,258

70

(47,176)

19,980

(b) Geographical information

Share of results of associates

Net valuation losses on

Segment liabilities

investment properties Loss before taxation

| | Group turnover | | Operating profit | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------|------------------|--------|
| | Six mont | hs ended | Six months ended | |
| | 31st December, | | 31st December, | |
| | 2021 | 2020 | 2021 | 2020 |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Geographical location of operations | | | | |
| Hong Kong | 20,213 | 25,936 | 6,670 | 46,179 |
| United Kingdom | 16,584 | 15,473 | 16,073 | 15,130 |
| | 36,797 | 41,409 | 22,743 | 61,309 |

In addition, the turnover of the joint ventures attributable to the Group for the period amounted to \$50,990,000 (2020: \$44,057,000).

4. Finance income

| | Six month | Six months ended | | |
|--|-----------|------------------|--|--|
| | 31st Dec | 31st December, | | |
| | 2021 | 2020 | | |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | | |
| Interest income | 1,869 | 7,763 | | |
| Dividend income from other investments | 232 | 197 | | |
| Exchange gains | 3,111 | 29,665 | | |
| Net unrealised (losses)/gains on | | | | |
| other investments at fair value | (1,645) | 1,170 | | |
| | 3,567 | 38,795 | | |
| | | | | |

Note: Exchange gains primarily related to unrealised gains on the Group's US Dollar deposits (2020: Sterling deposits).

5. Other income

| 21 / D. I. | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|--|--|
| 31st December | 31st December, | | |
| 2021 202 | 0 | | |
| \$'000 \$'00 | 0 | | |
| Management fee 248 2 | 48 | | |
| Sundry income 415 | 11 | | |
| 663 2 | 59 | | |

6. Operating profit

| | Six months ended 31st December, | | |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|--|
| | 2021 \$'000 | 2020 \$'000 | |
| Operating profit is arrived at after charging: | 7 000 | , , , , | |
| Legal and professional fees Property expenses | 3,448 3,089 | 5,239 1,982 | |

7. Share of results of joint ventures

| | Six months ended | | |
|---|------------------|----------|--|
| | 31st December, | | |
| | 2021 | 2020 | |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | |
| Share of operating profit of joint ventures | 33,348 | 29,494 | |
| Share of valuation gains/(losses) on | | | |
| investment properties | 16,580 | (86,615) | |
| Share of taxation | (5,465) | (6,641) | |
| Share of results of joint ventures | 44,463 | (63,762) | |

8. Income tax

| | Six months ended 31st December, | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------|
| | 2021 | 2020 |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Current tax - Provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax | | |
| Tax for the period | 1,532 | 2,574 |
| Current tax - Overseas | | |
| Tax for the period | 2,852 | 2,867 |
| Under-provision in respect of prior years | | 69 |
| | 2,852 | 2,936 |
| Deferred taxation | | |
| Origination and reversal of temporary differences | 2,648 | 3,679 |
| | 7,032 | 9,189 |

The provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax is calculated in accordance with the two-tiered profits tax rates regime. Under the two-tiered profits tax rates regime, the first \$2 million of profits of qualifying corporations will be taxed at 8.25%, and profits above \$2 million will be taxed at 16.5%. The profits of corporations not qualifying for the two-tiered profits tax rates regime will continue to be taxed at a flat rate of 16.5% (2020: 16.5%).

Taxation for overseas subsidiaries is similarly calculated at the appropriate current rates of taxation ruling in the relevant countries.

8. Income tax (continued)

A tax charge of \$5,465,000 (2020: \$6,641,000) being share of taxation of joint ventures for the six months ended 31st December, 2021 is included in share of results of joint ventures in the consolidated income statement.

9. Earnings/(loss) per share

The calculation of basic and diluted earnings/(loss) per share is based on the profit attributable to shareholders of \$31,121,000 (2020: loss of \$58,748,000) and the weighted average of 45,308,056 ordinary shares (2020: 45,308,056 shares) in issue during the period.

10. Interest in associates

| | At 31st December, 2021 \$'000 | At 30th June, 2021 \$'000 |
|--------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Share of net liabilities | (307) | (292) |
| Loan to an associate | 1,130,252 | 188,273 |
| | 1,129,945 | 187,981 |

The increase in interest in associates is mainly due to increase in loan to an associate for payment of land premium relating to the former Chai Wan Bus Depot project.

11. Debtors, deposits and prepayments

Included in debtors, deposits and prepayments are trade debtors with the following ageing analysis, based on invoice date:

| | At 31st | At 30th |
|---|-----------|---------|
| | December, | June, |
| | 2021 | 2021 |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Within 1 month | 386 | 525 |
| 1 to 3 months | - | 54 |
| Over 3 months | - | - |
| Total trade debtors | 386 | 579 |
| Deposits, prepayments and other receivables | 2,997 | 3,950 |
| | 3,383 | 4,529 |

A defined credit policy is maintained within the Group.

An amount of \$1,257,000 (at 30th June, 2021: \$1,721,000) included in debtors, deposits and prepayments under current assets is expected to be recovered after more than one year.

12. Creditors and accruals

Included in creditors and accruals are trade creditors with the following ageing analysis, based on invoice date:

| | At 31st December, 2021 \$'000 | At 30th June, 2021 \$'000 |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Within 1 month | 11 | 418 |
| 1 to 3 months | - | - |
| Over 3 months | 201 | 201 |
| Total trade creditors | 212 | 619 |
| Other payables and accruals | 37,045 | 39,217 |
| | 37,257 | 39,836 |

An amount of \$9,410,000 (at 30th June, 2021: \$8,198,000) included in other payables and accruals under current liabilities is expected to be settled after more than one year.

13. Capital, reserves and dividends

(a) Dividends

(i) Dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the interim period:

| | Six months ended | |
|--|------------------|--------|
| | 31st December, | |
| | 2021 | 2020 |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Interim dividend declared after the interim period end of \$0.10 (2020: \$0.10) per share Special dividend declared with interim dividend after | 4,531 | 4,531 |
| the interim period end of \$1.00 (2020: \$1.00) per share | 45,308 | 45,308 |
| | 49,839 | 49,839 |

The interim and special dividends declared after the interim period end have not been recognised as liabilities at the interim period end date.

(ii) Dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the previous financial year, declared/approved during the interim period:

| | Six mont | Six months ended | |
|---|----------|------------------|--|
| | 31st De | 31st December, | |
| | 2021 | 2020 | |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | |
| Second interim dividend in respect of previous financial | | | |
| year declared after the end of the reporting period of \$0.30 (2020: \$0.30) per share | 13,592 | 13,592 | |
| Final dividend approved in respect of | , | , | |
| previous financial year of \$0.10 | 4.521 | 4.501 | |
| (2020: \$0.10) per share | 4,531 | 4,531 | |
| Special dividend approved with final dividend in respect of previous financial year of \$1.70 | | | |
| (2020: \$8.00) per share | 77,024 | 362,464 | |
| (====: ; r ======= | 95,147 | 380,587 | |
| | | | |

(b) Share capital

| | At 31st December, | | At 30th June, | | |
|---|-------------------|--------|----------------|--------|--|
| | 2021 No. of | | 2021 No. of | | |
| | shares | | shares | | |
| | | \$'000 | | \$'000 | |
| Ordinary shares, issued and fully paid: | | | | | |
| At 31st December/30th June | 45,308,056 | 92,537 | 45,308,056 | 92,537 | |

INTERIM DIVIDENDS

The Board has resolved to pay an interim dividend of HK\$0.10 per share in respect of the year ending 30th June, 2022. The Board has also resolved to pay a special dividend of HK\$1.00 per share in respect of the year ending 30th June, 2022. The aggregate dividend of HK\$1.10 per share will be paid to shareholders whose names appear in the Company's register of members at the close of business on 7th June, 2022.

Dividend warrants will be posted to shareholders on or about 24th June, 2022.

The Company's dividend policy is to pay regular dividends. In setting the Company's dividend policy, the board of directors of the Company (the "Board") recognises the need to strike a balance between paying regular cash dividends to shareholders and retaining sufficient cash to reinvest to grow the Company's future profits, enabling the payment of higher dividends to shareholders in the future.

The Board targets to declare dividends broadly equivalent to the profits earned from recurring income (i.e. profits from rentals and finance income), after tax, during the year in question. When further profits are made from the sale of investment properties/developments for sale, the Board will consider the payment of one off special dividends after taking into account the Company's opportunities to earn future profits from reinvestment of such proceeds. Unrealised profits due to revaluation of investment properties (as these are of a non-cash nature) are not considered when setting dividends.

The Board will continue to carefully monitor its dividend policy and act in the best interests of all the shareholders as a whole.

CLOSURE OF REGISTER

The register of members will be closed from 6th June, 2022 to 7th June, 2022 (both days inclusive) during which period no share transfer will be effected. To qualify for the interim dividend and the special dividend, all unregistered transfers should be lodged with the Company's Registrars, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, at 17/F, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong not later than 4:30 p.m. on 2nd June, 2022.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The unaudited profit after taxation attributable to shareholders for the six months ended 31st December, 2021 after including the effect of investment properties revaluation and the share of results of joint ventures and associates was HK\$31.12 million, compared with a loss of HK\$58.75 million for the same period last year. This reflects the effect of the decrease in net revaluation losses on investment properties held by the Group together with the net valuation gains on investment properties held by the joint ventures as compared with net valuation losses last year. The unaudited operating profit of the Group for the same period before including the effect of investment properties revaluation and share of results of joint ventures and associates was HK\$22.74 million, compared with HK\$61.31 million for the same period of the previous year. This reflects the effect of decrease in exchange gains on deposits held in £ Sterling as well as lower interest income as a result of decrease in interest rates and smaller deposits due to payment of the share of land premium of Chai Wan project.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW: -

Chai Wan Inland Lot No. 178, No. 391 Chai Wan Road, Chai Wan (the "Property")

The Group has a 20% interest in Windcharm Investments Limited, a joint venture company whose shares are held as to 20% by Affluent Dragon Island Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, and as to the remaining 80% by Bright Faith Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Swire Properties Limited. Windcharm Investments Limited is the holding company of Joyful Sincere Limited which has purchased Chai Wan Inland Lot No. 88 (the "Old Lot") from the Company, with the view to redeveloping it into a residential and commercial complex. This proposed development in Chai Wan will house a residential and commercial complex comprising three residential towers with retail space and a covered public transport terminus. The development will have an aggregate residential and retail gross floor area of 64,500 sq. m.

On 16th September, 2019, the Old Lot was assigned by the Company to Joyful Sincere Limited.

On 3rd December, 2021, the Director of Planning on behalf of the Town Planning Board approved an application for amendment of the current planning permission for the Old Lot, to permit an increase in the number of residential units in the redevelopment within the total permitted gross floor area, an increase in the ceiling height of the typical floors, as well as design improvements to increase overall efficiency.

On 28th December, 2021, Conditions of Exchange No. 20390 were entered into between the Government and Joyful Sincere Limited, whereby the Old Lot was surrendered to Government in exchange for the grant of the Property for the term of 50 years from 28th December, 2021, subject to payment of a land premium in the sum of HK\$4,540.21 million of which the Group's share was HK\$908.04 million. Hoarding, demolition and site investigation works at the Property have been completed. Decontamination and associated works, as well as foundation works, are currently in progress.

Based on current market conditions and the outlook for the Hong Kong residential market, the Company believes that while this will be a significant investment for the Group, shareholders are likely to reap profits from the sale of units in this development over the coming years.

Aberdeen Inland Lot No. 461, 8 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen (South Island Place)

South Island Place is a modern 28 floor Grade A office building with a gross floor area of 35,535 sq. m., held by Hareton Limited, a joint venture company whose shares are held as to 50% by the Company (through Heartwell Limited, its wholly owned subsidiary) and as to the remaining 50% by Swire Properties Limited (through Amber Sky Ventures Limited, its wholly owned subsidiary).

Currently, approximately 88% of the office space in South Island Place has been let.

UK Properties

Albany House and Scorpio House, the Group's freehold investment properties in Central London, remain fully let.

OUTLOOK

The global economy has been significantly affected by the coronavirus pandemic since 2020. As at the date of this interim report, Hong Kong is significantly impacted by a fifth wave of local COVID-19 outbreaks which were sparked largely by the Omicron variant. The recent sharp rise in the number of local infection cases, Government's tightened social distancing measures, as well as a further delay in the planned resumption of quarantine-free travel between Hong Kong and mainland China are likely to have a significant short term negative impact on the Hong Kong economy.

Notwithstanding the continuing uncertainty around the COVID pandemic, both the Hong Kong Government, as well as local financial analysts, have predicted the local economy to see growth in 2022, but given the current situation such forecasts could well be subject to a wide margin of error. According to a statement made in January this year by Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, Hong Kong's economic growth for 2021 reached 6.4% after emerging from a pronounced recession, and growth is expected to continue in 2022, although the breadth, depth and speed of the expansion will be affected by Omicron, inflation and geopolitical issues. Even allowing for such a bounce

back, Hong Kong's GDP at the end of 2022 may well still be less than pre-pandemic levels. The threat of inflation, leading to increases in interest rates, has started to be seen in the US and Europe, and while mainland China has recently cut its benchmark interest rate, the HK\$/US\$ peg means there is a greater chance of mortgage rates in Hong Kong rising than falling.

While macroeconomic factors will continue to create uncertainties in the Group's operating performance and in the capital values across the portfolio of the Group's investment properties, there are signs that the local property market has, before the fifth wave of local COVID-19 outbreaks, begun to stabilise. In the office market, rental decline is believed to have moderated, even though recovery for the retail market still hinges on the pandemic and re-opening of the borders. Since the Group has maintained a high liquidity and does not have external borrowings, it is well able to weather the current economic slowdown and maintain a healthy financial position overall. Further, the redevelopment of the former CMB bus depot site in Chai Wan, in which the Group has a 20% stake, is now proceeding on track and foundation works are already in progress. The Board believes that the redevelopment should in future enable the Company to make profits for shareholders' benefits.

Having regard to the outlook of the local property market, the directors will act prudently in considering any new investment opportunities, and will in the meantime also pursue other means of enhancing shareholder value.

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

During the six months ended 31st December, 2021, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has repurchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO LISTING RULES 13.20 AND 13.22

At 31st December, 2021, the Group had the following loans to its affiliated companies (as defined by the Listing Rules):

| | | | Amount of | Amount of | |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|
| | | | advances made | other | |
| | Group's | Amount of | by the Group | advances | Total financial |
| | attributable | unutilised | under the loan | made by the | assistance given |
| Name of affiliated company | interest | loan facility | facility | Group | by the Group |
| | | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Hareton Limited | 50% | 755,650 | 1,044,350 | 205,407 | 2,005,407 |
| Joyful Sincere Limited | 20% | 827,748 | 1,130,252 | - | 1,958,000 |

The financial assistance and other advances mentioned in the above are unsecured, interest-free and have no fixed terms of repayment except that a certain portion of the financial assistance to Joyful Sincere Limited would bear interest of 4.5% p.a. if and to the extent that Joyful Sincere Limited shall have surplus funds after payment of development costs and other liabilities as stipulated in a Funding Agreement dated 29th May, 2015.

The combined statement of financial position of the above affiliated companies, excluding advances made by shareholders of \$8,150,774,000, at 31st December, 2021 is as follows:

| \$'000 |
|------------|
| 4,775,107 |
| 5,793,279 |
| (68,341) |
| 5,724,938 |
| (38,779) |
| 10,461,266 |
| |

Attributable interest to the Group at 31st December, 2021 in the above affiliated companies amounted to \$3,535,389,000 (at 30th June, 2021: \$2,624,274,000).

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

In the opinion of the directors, the Company complied with the code provisions (the "Code") as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules throughout the six months ended 31st December, 2021, except the following:

- (i) Code A5.1 provides that the Company should establish a nomination committee. The Company does not have a nomination committee as the role and the function of such a committee are performed by the Board. The Chairman and the other directors review from time to time the composition of the Board. The Board makes recommendations to shareholders on directors standing for reelection, providing information on directors to enable shareholders to make an informed decision on the re-election, and where necessary, to appoint directors to fill casual vacancies. (Note)
- (ii) Code C2.5 provides that the Company should have an internal audit function. Given the structure and size of the Group's business, the Board at present believes that there is no need to establish an internal audit function.

Note: Following the upgrading of Code A5.1 to Listing Rule 3.27A with effect on 1st January, 2022, the Company has on 21st February, 2022 established a Nomination Committee comprising of the Chairman of the Board and all the independent non-executive directors.

Dr. Henry NGAN Chairman

Hong Kong, 24th February, 2022

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of Directors of the company comprises Dr. Henry NGAN, Fritz HELMREICH, Anthony Grahame STOTT*, Stephen TAN*, Dr. Chau Ming-tak* and Michael John MOIR.

^{*} *Independent non-executive director*