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# CHINA MOBILE LIMITED 中國移動有限公司

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability under the Companies Ordinance)

(Stock Code: 941)

Executive Directors:
Xi Guohua (Chairman)
Li Yue (Chief Executive Officer)
Xue Taohai
Sha Yuejia
Liu Aili

Registered Office:
60th Floor
The Center
99 Queen's Road Central
Hong Kong

Independent Non-executive Directors:
Lo Ka Shui
Frank Wong Kwong Shing
Moses Cheng Mo Chi
Paul Chow Man Yiu

8 April 2015

To the shareholders

Dear Sir or Madam,

#### 1. REPURCHASE MANDATE

This is the explanatory statement required to be sent to shareholders under the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (the "Listing Rules") on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") in connection with the proposed ordinary resolution set out in item 6 of the notice of the annual general meeting dated 8 April 2015 (the "AGM Notice") for the approval of the renewal of the general mandate for repurchase of shares. This document also constitutes the memorandum required under section 239 of the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 622 of the Laws of Hong Kong). Reference in this document to "Shares" means share(s) of all classes in the capital of China Mobile Limited (the "Company").

#### **Exercise of the Repurchase Mandate**

Whilst the directors of the Company (the "**Directors**") do not presently intend to repurchase any Shares immediately, they believe that the flexibility afforded by the mandate granted to them if the ordinary resolution set out as item 6 of the AGM Notice (the "**Repurchase Mandate**") is passed would be beneficial to the Company and its shareholders as a whole.

It is proposed that up to 10 per cent. of the number of issued Shares on the date of the passing of the resolution to approve the Repurchase Mandate may be repurchased. As at 23 March 2015, the latest practicable date for determining such figures, 20,474,958,577 Shares were issued. On the basis of such figures, the Directors would be authorised to repurchase up to 2,047,495,857 Shares during the period up to the date of the next annual general meeting in 2016, or the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by law to be held, or the revocation or variation of the Repurchase Mandate by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders at a general meeting of the Company, whichever of these three events occurs first.

#### Reasons for Repurchases

Repurchases of Shares will only be made when the Directors believe that such a repurchase will benefit the Company and its shareholders. Such repurchases may, depending on the market conditions and funding arrangements at the time, lead to an enhancement of the net value of the Company and its assets and/or its earnings per Share.

#### **Funding of Repurchases**

Repurchases pursuant to the Repurchase Mandate would be financed entirely from the Company's available cash flow or working capital facilities. Any repurchases will be made out of funds of the Company legally permitted to be utilised in this connection in accordance with its articles of association and the laws of Hong Kong, including distributable profits. Under the Companies Ordinance, a company's distributable profits, in relation to the making of a payment by the company, are those profits out of which the company could lawfully make a distribution equal in value to the payment.

There might be a material adverse impact on the working capital or gearing position of the Company (as compared with the position disclosed in its most recent published audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2014 dated 19 March 2015) in the event that the Repurchase Mandate is exercised in full. However, the Directors do not propose to exercise the Repurchase Mandate to such an extent as would, in the circumstances, have a material adverse effect on the working capital requirements of the Company or the gearing levels which in the opinion of the Directors are from time to time appropriate for the Company.

#### **Disclosure of Interests**

None of the Directors, and to the best of their knowledge, having made all reasonable enquiries, none of their associates, have any present intention, if the Repurchase Mandate is approved by the shareholders of the Company, to sell any Shares to the Company or its subsidiaries.

No connected persons (as defined in the Listing Rules) have notified the Company that they have a present intention to sell Shares to the Company, nor have they undertaken not to do so, if the Repurchase Mandate is approved by the shareholders of the Company.

# Directors' Undertaking

The Directors have undertaken to the Stock Exchange that, so far as the same may be applicable, they will exercise the Repurchase Mandate in accordance with the Listing Rules and the applicable laws of Hong Kong.

## Share Repurchases Made by the Company

No repurchases of Shares have been made by the Company during the last six months (whether on the Stock Exchange or otherwise).

#### **Takeovers Code Consequences**

If as a result of a repurchase of Shares by the Company, a shareholder's proportionate interest in the voting rights of the Company increases, such increase will be treated as an acquisition for the purpose of the Hong Kong Code on Takeovers and Mergers (the "Takeovers Code"). As a result, a shareholder, or group of shareholders acting in concert, depending on the level of increase of its or their shareholding, could obtain or consolidate control of the Company and become obliged to make a mandatory offer in accordance with Rule 26 of the Takeovers Code. The Directors are aware of the consequences arising under the Takeovers Code of any repurchase.

As at 23 March 2015 (being the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this document), the immediate controlling shareholder of the Company, China Mobile Hong Kong (BVI) Limited ("CMHKBVI"), was recorded in the registers required to be kept by the Company under section 336 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) as having an interest in 14,890,116,842 Shares, representing approximately 72.72 per cent. of the number of issued shares of the Company as at that date. In the event that the Repurchase Mandate is exercised in full and assuming that there is no change in the number of Shares held by CMHKBVI, the shareholding of CMHKBVI in the Company will be increased to approximately 80.80 per cent. of the reduced number of issued shares of the Company immediately after the exercise in full of the Repurchase Mandate. The Directors are not aware of any consequences in relation to CMHKBVI which would arise under the Takeovers Code as a result of such share repurchase by the Company. In addition, in exercising the Repurchase Mandate (whether in full or otherwise), the Directors will ensure that the Company shall comply with the requirements of the Listing Rules, including the minimum percentage of Shares being held in public hands.

#### **Market Prices**

The highest and lowest prices at which the Shares have traded on the Stock Exchange during each of the previous 12 months before the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this document were:

	<b>Traded Market Price</b>	
	Highest	Lowest
	HK\$	HK\$
2014		
March	74.65	63.65
April	75.30	68.60
May	78.60	71.65
June	77.00	73.75
July	87.00	75.45
August	96.75	84.45
September	102.20	89.65
October	96.90	87.15
November	99.30	93.50
December	95.90	87.40
2015		
January	105.10	87.90
February	108.30	101.00
March (up to and including 23 March 2015)	106.40	97.85

#### **Extension of Share Issue Mandate**

A resolution as set out in item 8 of the AGM Notice will also be proposed at the annual general meeting authorising the Directors to increase the maximum number of new Shares which may be issued under the general mandate for the issuance and allotment of Shares by adding to it the number of any Shares repurchased pursuant to the Repurchase Mandate.

#### 2. RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

In accordance with Article 95 of the Company's Articles of Association, Mr. XUE Taohai, Mr. Frank WONG Kwong Shing and Dr. Moses CHENG Mo Chi will retire by rotation at the forthcoming annual general meeting of the Company and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The biographies of the directors proposed for re-election at the forthcoming annual general meeting ("Directors for Re-election") are set out in the Appendix I to this circular. Except as disclosed in such biographies, the Directors for Re-election have not held any other directorships in any listed public companies in the last three years. Further, except as noted in the biographies, none of the Directors for Re-election is connected with any directors, senior management or substantial or controlling shareholders of the Company and, except as disclosed in the paragraphs headed "Directors' and Chief Executive's Interest and Short Positions in Shares, Underlying Shares and Debentures" and "Share Option Schemes" in the 2014 Annual Report of the Company, none of them has any interests in the shares of the Company within the meaning of Part XV of the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Ordinance.

The service contracts of all the Directors for Re-election do not provide for a specified length of service and each of such directors will be subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at annual general meetings of the Company every three years. Each of the Directors for Re-election is entitled to an annual director's fee of HK\$180,000 as proposed by the Board and approved by the shareholders of the Company. Director's fees are payable on a time pro-rata basis for any non full year's service. Mr. Frank WONG Kwong Shing is entitled to an additional annual fee of HK\$290,000 as a chairman of the Audit Committee, a member of the Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee. Dr. Moses CHENG Mo Chi is entitled to an additional annual fee of HK\$260,000 as a member of each of the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee. In addition, for the financial year ended 31 December 2014, Mr. XUE Taohai received annual remuneration including retirement scheme contributions of HK\$1,170,000, plus a discretionary bonus as determined by the Board with respect to the director's performance. The remuneration of the director has been determined with reference to the individual's duties, responsibilities and experience, and to prevailing market conditions.

None of the Directors for Re-election has an unexpired service contract which is not determinable by the Company or any of its subsidiaries within one year without payment of compensation, other than under normal statutory obligations.

Save as disclosed above, there are no other matters relating to the re-election of the Directors for Re-election that need to be brought to the attention of the shareholders of the Company nor is there any information to be disclosed pursuant to any of the requirements of Rule 13.51(2) of the Listing Rules.

Mr. Frank WONG Kwong Shing was appointed as an independent non-executive director of the Company since August 2002. He has many years of finance and commercial experience and is a highly valued and respected member of the Board. He is also a chairman of the Audit Committee, a member of the Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee. Each year, Mr. Frank WONG Kwong Shing provided the Company with a confirmation of his independence in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Listing Rules and the Board believes that Mr. Frank WONG Kwong Shing is independent. The Board also believes that he is able to discharge his duties as an independent non-executive director of the Company and will also continue to contribute to the various committees of the Board. Accordingly, the Board is of the view that the re-election of Mr. Frank WONG Kwong Shing as an independent non-executive director of the Company is in the interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole.

Dr. Moses CHENG Mo Chi was appointed as an independent non-executive director of the Company since March 2003. He has extensive legal expertise and is a highly valued and respected member of the Board. He is also a member of each of the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee. Each year, Dr. Moses CHENG Mo Chi provided the Company with a confirmation of his independence in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Listing Rules and the Board believes that Dr. Moses CHENG Mo Chi is independent. The Board also believes that he is able to discharge his duties as an independent non-executive director of the Company and will also continue to contribute to the various committees of the Board. Accordingly, the Board is of the view that the re-election of Dr. Moses CHENG Mo Chi as an independent non-executive director of the Company is in the interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole.

Yours faithfully
Wong Wai Lan, Grace
Company Secretary

#### APPENDIX I

# BIOGRAPHIES OF THE DIRECTORS PROPOSED FOR RE-ELECTION AT THE FORTHCOMING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### MR. XUE TAOHAI

Age 58, Executive Director, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, principally in charge of the corporate affairs, finance and internal audit of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in July 2002. He is also a Vice President of CMCC, a director of CMC, and director and Chairman of China Mobile Finance. Mr. Xue previously served as the Deputy Director General of the Finance Department of the former Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, Deputy Director General of the Department of Financial Adjustment and Clearance of the MII and Deputy Director General of the former Directorate General of Telecommunications. He graduated from Henan University and received an EMBA degree from Peking University. Mr. Xue is a senior accountant with many years of experience in the telecommunications industry and financial management.

#### MR. FRANK WONG KWONG SHING

Age 67, Independent Non-Executive Director of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in August 2002. He was appointed as the Chairman of the Audit Committee in May 2013. He currently also serves as an Independent Non-Executive Director of Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited (China), Chairman and Independent Non-Executive Director of Mapletree Greater China Commercial Trust Management Ltd, Non-Executive Director of PSA International Pte Ltd and PSA Corporation Limited in Singapore. He previously served as Vice Chairman of DBS Bank, Chairman of DBS Bank (Hong Kong) and DBS Bank (China) and was a member of the Boards of DBS Bank and DBS Group Holdings. Early on in his professional career, Mr Wong held a series of progressively senior positions at Citibank, JP Morgan and NatWest. More recently, Mr Wong was an Independent Non-Executive Director of Mapletree Investments Pte Ltd and National Healthcare Group Pte Ltd in Singapore. Committed to public service, he has held various positions with Hong Kong government bodies including Chairman of the Hong Kong Futures Exchange between 1993 and 1998 and member of HKSAR's Financial Services Development Council between 2013 and 2015.

# DR. MOSES CHENG MO CHI, GBS, OBE, JP

Age 65, Independent Non-Executive Director of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in March 2003. Dr. Cheng is a practising solicitor and the senior partner of Messrs. P.C. Woo & Co. Dr. Cheng was a member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong. He is the founder chairman of the Hong Kong Institute of Directors of which he is now the Honorary President and Chairman Emeritus. Dr. Cheng currently holds directorships in Liu Chong Hing Investment Limited, China Resources Enterprise, Limited, Towngas China Company Limited, Kader Holdings Company Limited, K. Wah International Holdings Limited, Guangdong Investment Limited and Tian An China Investments Company Limited, all of which are public listed companies in Hong Kong. He is also an independent non-executive director of ARA Asset Management Limited, a company whose shares are listed on Singapore Exchange Limited. His other directorships in public listed companies in the last 3 years include Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and Hong Kong Television Network Limited (formerly known as City Telecom (H.K.) Limited).