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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:
Shang Bing (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

11 April 2016

To the shareholders

Dear Sir or Madam,

#### 1. BUY-BACK 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 11 April 2016 (the "AGM Notice") for the approval of the renewal of the general mandate for buy-back 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 Buy-back Mandate**

Whilst the directors of the Company (the "**Directors**") do not presently intend to buy back any Shares immediately, they believe that the flexibility afforded by the mandate granted to them if the ordinary resolution set out as item 5 of the AGM Notice (the "**Buy-back 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 Buy-back Mandate may be bought back. As at 23 March 2016, the latest practicable date for determining such figures, 20,475,482,897 Shares were issued. On the basis of such figures, the Directors would be authorised to buy back up to 2,047,548,289 Shares during the period up to the date of the next annual general meeting in 2017, 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 Buy-back Mandate by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders at a general meeting of the Company, whichever of these three events occurs first.

## Reasons for Buy-backs

Buy-backs of Shares will only be made when the Directors believe that such a buy-back will benefit the Company and its shareholders. Such buy-backs 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 Buy-backs**

Buy-backs pursuant to the Buy-back Mandate would be financed entirely from the Company's available cash flow or working capital facilities. Any buy-backs 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 2015 dated 17 March 2016) in the event that the Buy-back Mandate is exercised in full. However, the Directors do not propose to exercise the Buy-back 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 Buy-back Mandate is approved by the shareholders of the Company, to sell any Shares to the Company or its subsidiaries.

No core 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 Buy-back 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 Buy-back Mandate in accordance with the Listing Rules and the applicable laws of Hong Kong.

## Share Buy-backs Made by the Company

No buy-backs 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 buy-back 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 buy-back.

As at 23 March 2016 (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) (the "SFO") 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 Buy-back 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 Buy-back 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 buy-back by the Company. In addition, in exercising the Buy-back 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:

	Traded Market Price	
	Highest	Lowest
	HK\$	HK\$
2015		
March	106.40	97.85
April	118.00	100.30
May	113.20	102.00
June	104.90	97.75
July	102.60	85.00
August	103.80	89.75
September	97.85	88.40
October	97.20	91.00
November	95.85	87.05
December	91.30	87.20
2016		
January	87.35	79.00
February	86.90	80.60
March (up to and including 23 March 2016)	87.30	82.65

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

A resolution as set out in item 7 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 bought back pursuant to the Buy-back Mandate.

## 2. RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

In accordance with Article 99 of the Company's Articles of Association, Mr. SHANG Bing will hold office until the forthcoming annual general meeting of the Company and will then be eligible for re-election. Besides, in accordance with Article 95 of the Company's Articles of Association, Mr. LI Yue, Mr. SHA Yuejia and Mr. LIU Aili 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 Scheme" in the 2015 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 SFO.

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. Each of the Directors for Re-election has voluntarily waived his director's fees for the year ended 31 December 2015. In addition, the remuneration package of each of the Directors for Re-election consists of a basic salary, a performance-linked annual bonus and a term incentive. 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.

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. SHANG BING

Age 60, Executive Director and Chairman of the Company, in charge of the overall management of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in September 2015. He is currently the Chairman of China Mobile Communications Corporation ("CMCC") and China Mobile Communication Company Limited ("CMC"). Mr. Shang formerly served as a Director of Industrial Technology Development Centre in Liaoning Province, a General Manager of Economic and Technological Development Company in Liaoning Province, a General Manager of China United Telecommunications Corporation Liaoning Branch, a Director, Vice President and President of China United Telecommunications Corporation, an Executive Director and President of China United Telecommunications Corporation Limited and China Unicom Limited, a Vice President of China Telecommunications Corporation, an Executive Director, President and Chief Operating Officer of China Telecom Corporation Limited and the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China. Mr. Shang graduated from Shenyang Chemical Industry Institution with a Bachelor's degree in 1982. He received a Master's degree in business administration from the State University of New York in 2002 and a Doctor's degree in business administration from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2005. Mr. Shang is a senior economist, has long-term experience in the operations and management in basic telecommunications enterprises, with extensive experience in enterprise management and telecommunications industry. Mr. Shang has not held any other directorships in any listed public companies in the last three years.

#### MR. LI YUE

Age 56, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, in charge of the operation and management of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in March 2003. He is also the President and Director of CMCC and CMC. Mr. Li started his career in 1976 and previously served as Deputy Director General and Chief Engineer of Tianjin Long-Distance Telecommunications Bureau, Deputy Director General of Tianjin Posts and Telecommunications Administration, President of Tianjin Mobile Communications Company, Deputy Head of the preparatory team and Vice President of CMCC, Chairman of Aspire Holdings Limited, non-executive director of Phoenix Satellite Television Holdings Limited and Chairman of Union Mobile Pay Limited. Mr. Li holds a Bachelor's degree in telephone exchange from the Correspondence College of Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, a Master's degree in business administration from Tianjin University and a doctoral degree in business administration from Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He is a professor-level senior engineer and had won many national, provincial and ministerial level scientific and technological progress awards. Mr. Li has been engaging in telecommunications network operations and maintenance, planning and construction, operational management, development strategies and has many years of experience in the telecommunications industry.

## MR. SHA YUEJIA

Age 57, Executive Director and Vice President of the Company, principally in charge of marketing, data business, corporate customer and international businesses of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in March 2006. He is also a Vice President of CMCC, a director of CMC, non-executive director of Phoenix Satellite Television Holdings Limited and Shanghai Pudong

## APPENDIX I

Development Bank Co., Ltd. He previously served as Director of the Engineering Construction Department IV Division of Beijing Telecommunications Administration, President of Beijing Telecommunications Planning Design Institute, Deputy Director General of Beijing Telecommunications Administration, Vice President of Beijing Mobile Communications Company, and Chairman and President of China Mobile Group Beijing Company Limited. Mr. Sha graduated from Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, and received a Master's Degree from the Academy of Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and a Doctoral degree in business administration from Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He is a professor-level senior engineer with many years of experience in the telecommunications industry.

#### MR. LIU AILI

Age 52, Executive Director and Vice President of the Company, principally in charge of planning and construction, network operation and business support of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in March 2006. He is also a Vice President of CMCC, a director of CMC and a Vice President of China Internet Infrastructure Resources Association. Mr Liu has been appointed as the Chairman of China Tower Corporation Limited (formerly known as China Communications Facilities Services Corporation Limited) with effect from July 2014. Since November 2012, He ceased to be a non-executive director of China Communications Services Corporation Limited, a company listed in Hong Kong. He previously served as Deputy Director General of Shandong Mobile Telecommunications Administration, Director General of Shandong Mobile Telecommunications Administration and General Manager of Shandong Mobile Communications Enterprises, Vice President of Shandong Mobile Communications Company, Director-General of Network Department of CMCC, Chairman and President of China Mobile Group Shandong Company Limited and China Mobile Group Zhejiang Company Limited, and Chairman of CMPak Limited. Mr. Liu graduated from Heilongjiang Posts and Telecommunications School with an associate degree. Mr. Liu also received a Master of Management degree from Norwegian School of Management BI and a Doctoral degree in business administration from Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He is a professor-level senior engineer with many years of experience in the telecommunications industry.