# CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY, LIMITED



(Incorporated in Hong Kong under the Companies Ordinance Cap. 32) (Stock code: **026**)

# **INTERIM RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT 2007/2008**

The Board of Directors announces that the unaudited consolidated profit of the Group for the six months ended 31st December, 2007 after making provisions for taxation amounted to HK\$162.58 million, compared with HK\$270.83 million for the same period last year. 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 PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the six months ended 31st December, 2007 - unaudited

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

		Six montl	ns ended
		31st Dec	ember,
		2007	2006
	Note	\$'000	\$'000
Turnover	2	40,973	37,519
Finance income	3	33,815	48,744
Other income	4	953	607
Staff costs		(3,821)	(3,717)
Depreciation		(284)	(279)
Other operating expenses		(5,857)	(5,512)
Operating profit	2 & 5	65,779	77,362
Share of results of jointly controlled entities		125,595	78,493
Net valuation (losses)/gains on investment			
properties		(31,442)	144,000
Profit before taxation		159,932	299,855
Taxation	6	2,650	(29,024)
Profit after taxation attributable to			
shareholders		162,582	270,831
Interim dividends declared after			
the interim period end	7	27,357	27,357
Earnings per share (basic and diluted)	8	HK\$3.57	HK\$5.94
Interim dividend per share		HK\$0.10	HK\$0.10
Special dividend per share		HK\$0.50	HK\$0.50

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

# At 31st December, 2007 - unaudited

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

(Expressed in Hong Kong donars)	At 31st December, 2007 \$'000	At 30th June, 2007 \$'000
Non-current assets		
Fixed assets	2,130,530	2,172,315
Interest in jointly controlled entities	1,051,554	943,359
Other investments	11,764	12,903
Defined benefit asset	656	656
	3,194,504	3,129,233
<b>Current assets</b>		
Properties under development for sale	688,286	629,199
Debtors, deposits and prepayments	67,413	2,211
Deposits with banks	1,473,319	1,318,991
Cash at banks and in hand	10,327	12,965
	2,239,345	1,963,366
Current liabilities		
Creditors and accruals	293,790	88,056
Taxation	4,260	3,711
Dividends payable	59,273	
	357,323	91,767
Net current assets	1,882,022	1,871,599
Total assets less current liabilities	5,076,526	5,000,832
Representing:		
Share capital	91,189	91,189
Reserves	4,380,533	4,298,733
	4,471,722	4,389,922
Deferred profits	441,197	441,197
Deferred taxation	163,607	169,713
	5,076,526	5,000,832

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

# 1. Significant accounting policies

### **Basis of preparation**

This 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"). It was authorised for issuance on 14th March, 2008.

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, 2007, except for the adoption of certain new standards, amendments and interpretations issued by the HKICPA, which are effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January, 2007. The adoption of the new standards, amendments and interpretations had no material effect on the Group's results of operation and financial position.

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.

This 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 2007 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 Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards.

This 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, 2007 that is included in the interim financial report as being previously reported information does not constitute the Company's statutory financial statements for that financial year but is derived from those financial statements. Statutory financial statements for the year ended 30th June, 2007 are available from the Company's registered office. The auditors have expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements in their report dated 18th October, 2007.

# 2. Turnover and segment information

The principal activities of the Group are property development and investment.

Segment information is presented in respect of the Group's business and geographical segments. Business segment information is chosen as the primary reporting format because this is more relevant to the Group's internal financial reporting.

# (a) Business segments

# For the six months ended 31st December, 2007

	Property development and investment	Treasury management	Unallocated	Consolidated
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Turnover	40,973	-	_	40,973
Finance income	-	33,815	-	33,815
Other income	393		560	953
Total revenue	41,366	33,815	560	75,741
Segment results	39,530	33,815		73,345
Unallocated expenses				(7,566)
Operating profit				65,779
Share of results of				
jointly controlled entities	125,595	-		125,595
Net valuation losses on				
investment properties	(31,442)	-		(31,442)
Profit before taxation				159,932

# For the six months ended 31st December, 2006

	Property development and investment	Treasury management	Unallocated	Consolidated
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Turnover	37,519	-	-	37,519
Finance income	-	48,744	-	48,744
Other income			607	607
Total revenue	37,519	48,744	607	86,870
Segment results	35,587	48,744		84,331
Unallocated expenses				(6,969)
Operating profit				77,362
Share of results of				
jointly controlled entities	78,493	-		78,493
Net valuation gains on				
investment properties	144,000	-		144,000
Profit before taxation				299,855

# (b) Geographical segments

	Group turnover		Operating profit	
	Six months ended		Six months ended	
	31st December,		31st December,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Geographical location of operations				
Hong Kong	10,506	9,017	33,166	40,964
United Kingdom	30,467	28,502	32,613	36,398
	40,973	37,519	65,779	77,362

In addition, the turnover of the jointly controlled entities attributable to the Group for the period amounted to \$27,413,000 (2006: \$23,140,000).

# 3. Finance income

	Six montl	ns ended	
	31st Dec	31st December,	
	2007	2006	
	\$'000	\$'000	
Interest income	35,624	32,563	
Dividend income from other investments	209	164	
Exchange (losses)/gains	(5,056)	15,221	
Net unrealised gains on			
other investments at fair value	1,713	796	
Gain on disposal of other investments	1,325	-	
	33,815	48,744	

# 4. Other income

	Six month	ns ended	
	31st Dec	31st December,	
	2007	2006	
	\$'000	\$'000	
Management fee	248	248	
(Loss)/gain on disposal of fixed assets	(10)	3	
Sundry income	715	356	
	953	607	

# 5. Operating profit

	Six mont	hs ended
	31st December,	
	2007	2006
	\$'000	\$'000
Operating profit is arrived at after charging:		
Property expenses	1,532	1,691

#### 6. Taxation

	Six months ended 31st December,	
	2007	2006
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current tax - Provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax</b>		
Tax for the period	227	21
	227	21
Current tax - Overseas		
Tax for the period	2,881	2,553
Under/(over)provision in respect of prior years	348	(189)
	3,229	2,364
Deferred taxation		
Origination and reversal of temporary differences		
- relating to property valuation	(7,604)	25,200
- others	1,498	1,439
	(6,106)	26,639
	(2,650)	29,024

The provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax is calculated at 17.5% (2006: 17.5%) of the estimated assessable profits for the six months ended 31st December, 2007. Taxation for overseas subsidiaries is similarly calculated at the appropriate current rates of taxation ruling in the relevant countries.

Share of taxation of jointly controlled entities for the six months ended 31st December, 2007 amounting to \$15,961,000 (2006: \$906,000) is included in share of results of jointly controlled entities in the consolidated profit and loss account.

On 27th February, 2008, a reduction in the Hong Kong Profits Tax rate from 17.5% to 16.5% with effect from the fiscal year 2008-09 was announced. No adjustments have been made to this interim report in this regard.

#### 7. Dividends

(a) Dividends attributable to the interim period:

	Six mont	hs ended
	31st December,	
	2007	2006
	\$'000	\$'000
Interim dividend declared after the interim period end of \$0.10 per share (2006: \$0.10)	4,559	4,559
Special dividend declared with interim dividend after the interim period end of \$0.50 per share (2006: \$0.50)	22,798	22,798
	27,357	27,357

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

(b) Dividends attributable to the previous financial years, declared/approved during the interim period:

	Six mont	hs ended
	31st December,	
	2007	2006
	\$'000	\$'000
Second interim dividend declared in respect of		
previous financial year of \$0.30 per share		
(at 30th June, 2007:\$0.30 per share)	13,678	13,678
Final dividend approved in respect of		
previous financial year of \$0.10 per share		
(at 30th June, 2007: \$0.10 per share)	4,559	4,559
Special dividend approved with final dividend in respect		
of previous financial year of \$1.20 per share		
(at 30th June, 2007: \$1.00 per share)	54,714	45,595
	72,951	63,832

# 8. Earnings per share

The calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share is based on the profit attributable to shareholders of \$162,582,000 (2006: \$270,831,000) and the weighted average of 45,594,656 ordinary shares (2006: 45,594,656 shares) in issue during the period.

#### 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, 2008. The Board has also resolved to pay a special dividend of HK\$0.50 per share in respect of the year ending 30th June, 2008. The aggregate dividend of HK\$0.60 per share will be paid to shareholders whose names appear in the Company's register of members at the close of business on 23rd April, 2008.

Dividend warrants will be posted to shareholders on or about 27th June, 2008.

## **CLOSURE OF REGISTER**

The register of members will be closed from 22nd April, 2008 to 23rd April, 2008 (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 21st April, 2008.

#### REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The unaudited profit attributable to shareholders for the six months ended 31st December, 2007 was HK\$162.58 million, compared with HK\$270.83 million for the same period of the previous year. The decrease in profit was mainly attributable to net revaluation losses of investment properties of the Group, which reflect a decrease in value in investment properties in the United Kingdom, net of an increase in value of investment properties in Hong Kong. Share of results of jointly controlled entities increased compared with the same period last year.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW: -

# Inland Lot 7105, Kam Hong Street, North Point (ISLAND LODGE)

The property has a site area of approximately 17,870 sq. ft. After completing negotiations with Government on the modification of the Government Lease, including payment of a premium of HK\$568.3 million in October 2005, your Company has transferred the site to a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company to enable the site to be developed into an upmarket commercial and residential complex with a total gross floor area not exceeding 16,866.6 square metres. The subsidiary has appointed a wholly-owned subsidiary of Swire Properties Ltd. to design and build the development on the site and to market and sell the units on its behalf. This prestigious development, known as "Island Lodge", comprises 184 luxurious residential units with sizes ranging from 777 square feet to 2,265 square feet in a single 45 storey block with a tastefully decorated clubhouse, 50 car parking spaces and retail facilities on the ground floor. At 31st December, 2007, construction of most of the podium and over three quarters of the final height of the residential tower was completed. The project is planned for completion in the first half of 2009. Pre-sale consent has been given in July 2007. At 31st December, 2007, just over half of the residential units have been sold.

#### Inland Lot 88, No. 391 Chai Wan Road, Chai Wan

The property, which is wholly-owned by the Company, continues to be held for investment purposes and derives rental income. The property has a site area of approximately 102,420 sq. ft. In May 2001, the site was rezoned and designated as a Comprehensive Development Area. In February 2002, the Town Planning Board approved, subject to a number of planning conditions, the Company's application under Section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance for redevelopment. Planning approval was extended in January 2008 for a further three years until 8th February, 2011 subject to the same conditions. The Company is continuing discussion with Government on the modification of the Government Lease. The Company remains committed to maximising the potential of the site.

### **UK Properties**

The Group's commercial properties in London, namely Albany House, Thanet House and Scorpio House were fully let. However the price of commercial properties in the United Kingdom saw a decline in the second half of 2007. Although the market is somewhat volatile, this has adversely affected the value of the Group's commercial properties in London. The Group however maintains that high quality commercial properties let to reputable tenants in central London will continue to be valuable long term investments.

## **OUTLOOK**

Construction work on Island Lot 7105 in North Point (Island Lodge) is progressing smoothly and just over half of the residential units have already been sold at prices that are higher than originally anticipated. In light of the recent solid growth in residential prices on Hong Kong Island, it is anticipated that further residential units will be offered for sale before completion. If the current market trend is maintained, Island Lodge should be a highly successful project for the Group.

The present uncertainty in the economic climate in the USA is also clouding the economic outlook for the UK and the Eurozone as a whole. Stock markets, currency markets and property markets as well show considerable volatility. Notwithstanding this present situation, the Group will continue with its policy to pursue investment opportunities in a prudent manner whenever they may arise.

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

During the six months ended 31st December, 2007, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has repurchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

# **DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO LISTING RULE 13.13 AND 13.22**

At 31st December, 2007, the Group had the following loans to its affiliated companies (as defined by the Listing Rules):

	Amount	Type	Tenure
	\$'000		
Island Land Development Ltd	505,350	Interest free,	No fixed terms of
		unsecured loan	repayment
Hareton Ltd	207,707	Interest free,	No fixed terms of
		unsecured loan	repayment
	713,057		

Combined balance sheet of the above affiliated companies at 31st December, 2007 is as follows:

	\$'000
Fixed assets	1,448,000
Retirement benefit assets	220
	1,448,220
Current assets	210,111
Current liabilities	(20,676)
	189,435
Non-current liabilities	(76,578)
	1,561,077

Attributable interest to the Group at 31st December, 2007 in the above affiliated companies amounted to \$780,538,000 (at 30th June, 2007: \$670,712,000).

## CODE ON 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 Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules") throughout the six months ended 31st December, 2007, except the following:

- (i) The Company has not separated the roles of the Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer as required under code provision A2.1 of the Code. The Company believes that separation of Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer would not result in enhanced efficiency and improved governance. The balance of power and authority between Chief Executive Officer and the Board is ensured by regular discussion and meetings of the full Board and active participation of independent non-executive directors.
- (ii) Code A4.2 stipulates that all directors including those appointed for a specified term should retire by rotation at least every three years. Certain executive directors of the Company do not rotate as there are specific provisions governing the rotation of directors in the Company's Articles of Association.
- (iii) Code B1.1 stipulates that the Company should establish a remuneration committee. The Company has not established a remuneration committee in view of the Company's size and simple structure. The full Board reviews the remuneration of the executive directors and determines their remuneration.

NGAN Kit-ling Chairman

Hong Kong, 14th March, 2008

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of Directors of the company comprises NGAN Kit-ling, Dr. NGAN Kit-keung, Dr. Henry NGAN, Dr. LIU Lit-mo\*, Fritz HELMREICH, Anthony Grahame STOTT\* and TSE Yiu-wah\*.

<sup>\*</sup> *Independent non-executive director*