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## THIS CIRCULAR IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

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**If you are in any doubt** as to any aspect of this circular or as to the action to be taken, you should consult your stockbroker or other registered dealer in securities, bank manager, solicitor, professional accountant or other professional adviser.

**If you have sold or transferred** all your shares in Ping An Insurance (Group) Company of China, Ltd., you should at once hand this circular to the purchaser or transferee or to the bank, stockbroker or other agent through whom the sale or transfer was effected for transmission to the purchaser or the transferee.

The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited takes no responsibility for the contents of this circular, makes no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this circular.

This circular, for which the directors of the Company collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company.

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# 中国平安保险(集团)股份有限公司

PING AN INSURANCE (GROUP) COMPANY OF CHINA, LTD.

*(A joint stock limited company incorporated in the People's Republic of China with limited liability)*

**(Stock Code: 2318)**

## GENERAL MANDATE TO ISSUE SHARES, APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS, ADJUSTMENT TO THE INVESTMENT LIMITS OF THE BOARD, AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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A notice convening the Annual General Meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 23, 2005 at 6th Floor, Ping An Building, Ba Gua No. 3 Road, Shenzhen, PRC is set out on pages 10 to 15 of this circular.

A form of proxy for use at the Annual General Meeting is enclosed and is also published on the website of the Stock Exchange ([www.hkex.com.hk](http://www.hkex.com.hk)). Whether or not you intend to attend the Annual General Meeting, you are requested to complete and return (i) the enclosed reply slip in accordance with the instructions printed thereon not later than June 3, 2005 (Friday) and (ii) the enclosed form of proxy in accordance with the instructions printed thereon not less than 24 hours before the time fixed for holding the Annual General Meeting or any adjournment thereof (as the case may be). Completion and return of the form of proxy will not preclude you from attending and voting in person if you so wish.

April 28, 2005

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## DEFINITIONS

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*In this document, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings:*

“Annual General Meeting”	the annual general meeting of the Company to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 23, 2005 at 6th Floor, Ping An Building, Ba Gua No. 3 Road, Shenzhen, PRC
“Articles of Association”	the articles of association of the Company, as amended, modified or otherwise supplemented from time to time
“Board”	the board of Directors of the Company
“Company”	Ping An Insurance (Group) Company of China, Ltd., a joint stock limited company duly incorporated in the PRC with limited liability and the H Shares of which are listed on the Stock Exchange
“Directors”	directors of the Company
“Domestic Shares”	Shares which are subscribed for and or credited as paid up in Renminbi by PRC nationals and/or PRC corporate entities
“General Mandate”	a general mandate to issue Domestic Shares and H Shares representing up to the limit of 20% of each of the aggregate nominal values of the Domestic Shares and H Shares respectively in issue on the date of passing the related resolution
“Group”	the Company and the Subsidiaries
“H Shares”	overseas listed foreign Shares which are listed on the Stock Exchange, and subscribed for and traded in Hong Kong dollars
“HK\$” and “HK cent(s)”	Hong Kong dollars and cent(s) respectively, the lawful currency of Hong Kong
“Hong Kong”	Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China
“Latest Practicable Date”	April 21, 2005, being the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this circular for ascertaining certain information in this circular

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## DEFINITIONS

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“Listing Rules”	the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
“PRC”	means the People’s Republic of China, but for the purposes of this circular only, excludes Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan
“RMB”	means Renminbi, the lawful currency of the People’s Republic of China
“Share(s)”	means ordinary shares(s) of RMB1.00 each in the share capital of the Company
“Shareholders”	holders of Share(s)
“Subsidiary”	means a subsidiary within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 32 of the Laws of Hong Kong) for the time being of the Company whether incorporated in Hong Kong or elsewhere
“Stock Exchange”	The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

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## LETTER FROM THE BOARD

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# 中国平安保险(集团)股份有限公司

PING AN INSURANCE (GROUP) COMPANY OF CHINA, LTD.

(A joint stock limited company incorporated in the People's Republic of China with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 2318)

*Executive Directors:*

Ma Mingzhe

Sun Jianyi

*Non-executive Directors:*

Huang Jianping

Liu Haifeng David

Henry Cornell

Lin Yu Fen

Cheung Lee Wah

Anthony Philip Hope

Yip Dicky Peter

Lin Lijun

Fan Gang

Dou Wenwei

Shi Yuxin

Hu Aimin

*Registered office:*

Ping An Building

Ba Gua No. 3 Road

Shenzhen

PRC

*Principal place of business in Hong Kong:*

11th Floor, Dah Sing Financial Center

108 Gloucester Road

Wan Chai

Hong Kong

*Independent non-executive Directors:*

Bao Youde

Kwong Che Keung Gordon

Cheung Wing Yui

April 28, 2005

*To the Shareholders*

Dear Sir or Madam,

**GENERAL MANDATE TO ISSUE SHARES,  
APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS,  
ADJUSTMENT TO THE INVESTMENT LIMITS OF THE BOARD,  
AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION  
AND  
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Company proposes to grant the General Mandate to the Directors to allot, issue and otherwise deal with additional Domestic Shares and H Shares and to appoint Mr. Chen Hongbo as a non-executive Director and Mr. Chow Wing Kin, Anthony as an independent non-executive Director of the Company respectively. Moreover, the Company proposes to amend

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## LETTER FROM THE BOARD

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its Articles of Association to reflect the share capital structure of the Company after completion of its global offering in June 2004, to be consistent with Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules and to increase the flexibility and efficiency in operation.

At the Annual General Meeting, among other things, (i) a special resolution will be proposed to approve the grant of the General Mandate to the Directors to enable them to allot, issue and otherwise deal with additional Domestic Shares and H Shares of the Company up to the limit of 20% of each of the aggregate nominal values of the Domestic Shares and H Shares of the Company respectively in issue on the date of passing such resolution to grant the General Mandate; (ii) ordinary resolutions will be proposed to approve the appointment of Mr. Chen Hongbo as a non-executive Director and Mr. Chow Wing Kin, Anthony as an independent non-executive Director of the Company respectively; (iii) an ordinary resolution will be proposed to adjust the investment limits of the Board; and (iv) a special resolution will be proposed to approve certain amendments to the Articles of Association.

The purpose of this document is to give you notice of Annual General Meeting and to provide you with all the information reasonably necessary to enable you to make an informed decision on whether to vote for or against the proposed resolutions at the Annual General Meeting.

### **GENERAL MANDATE TO ISSUE SHARES**

To increase the flexibility and efficiency in operation, the Company proposes to grant the General Mandate to the Directors to allot, issue and otherwise deal with additional Domestic Shares and H Shares of the Company up to the limit of 20% of each of the aggregate nominal values of the Domestic Shares and H Shares of the Company respectively in issue on the date of passing such resolution to grant the General Mandate. Any exercise of the power by the Directors under the General Mandate shall comply with the relevant requirements of the Listing Rules, the Articles of Association and the applicable laws and regulations of PRC. The Board has no present plan to issue new Shares pursuant to the General Mandate.

### **APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS**

The Company proposes to appoint Mr. Chen Hongbo as a non-executive Director and Mr. Chow Wing Kin, Anthony as an independent non-executive Director of the Company. Details of Mr. Chen Hongbo and Mr. Chow Wing Kin, Anthony are set out in the Appendix to this circular.

### **ADJUSTMENT TO THE INVESTMENT LIMITS OF THE BOARD**

The existing level of the investment limits of the Board are that (i) the Board is authorised to review and approve investments where the value of the investment amounts to 8% to 15% of the net assets value of the Group as shown in the latest annual audit accounts (the “Net Assets Value”); (ii) the Board committee is authorised to review and approve investments where the value of the investment amounts to 2.5% to 8% of the Net Assets Value; and (iii) the chairman of the Board is authorised to review and approve investments where the value of the investment is below 2.5% of the Net Assets Value. For consistency with the expansion of the Company’s operation, the Company proposes to seek the shareholders’ approval of adjustment to the existing level of the investment limits of the Board. If the adjustment is approved, the Board will be able to (i) review and approve investments where all the percentage ratios (as

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## LETTER FROM THE BOARD

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defined under the Listing Rules) for classification of the relevant transaction are less than 25%, subject always to the relevant requirements of the Listing Rules, the Articles of Association and the applicable laws and regulations of the PRC; and (ii) authorise Board committees or the chairman of the Board to exercise such power mentioned above.

### AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

A special resolution will be proposed to approve the following amendments to the Articles of Association:

- To extend the business scope of the Company, two sub-paragraphs will be added at the end of Article 14 of the Articles of Association as follows with the proposed amendments underlined for reference:

(a) Article 14

*“The business scope of the Company shall be in accordance with the items approved by the agency with which the Company is registered.*

*The business scope of the Company shall include:*

- (1) investment in insurance enterprises;*
- (2) supervising and managing various types of domestic and international businesses of the subsidiaries;*
- (3) application of insurance funds;*
- (4) approved domestic and international insurance businesses;*
- (5) other businesses approved by China Insurance Regulatory Commission and the relevant governmental authorities.”*

- To reflect the share capital structure of the Company after completion of its global offering in June 2004, each of Articles 19, 20 and 23 of the Articles of Association will be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following respectively:

(b) Article 19

*“Following the approval by the authority in charge of companies authorized by the State Council, the total amount of ordinary shares that the Company can issue are 6,195,053,334 shares. The number of shares issued to the promoters at the time of reorganization of the Company into a joint-stock company on January 16, 1997 is 2,191,610,986, representing 35.38% of the total number of ordinary shares of the Company in issue. 72,955,249 shares of the promoter shares were converted into H shares as a result of the disposal of the state-owned shares at the time of initial overseas offering and listing of H shares on June 24, 2004”*

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## LETTER FROM THE BOARD

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(c) Article 20

*“After the issue, the composition of the Company’s share capital shall be: 6,195,053,334 shares, comprising 3,636,409,636 domestic shares representing 58.70% of the total number of ordinary shares in issue and 2,558,643,698 H shares (including 1,170,751,698 H shares converted from foreign shares) representing 41.30% of the total number of ordinary shares of the Company in issue.”*

(d) Article 23

*“The registered capital of the Company is RMB6,195,053,334.”*

- To increase the flexibility in operation, Article 111, which is the provision of the Articles of Association in relation to the composition of the Board, will be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

(e) Article 111

*“The Company shall establish a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be composed of five to nineteen directors, which shall include the chairman of the board and one or two vice chairmen of the board, and include at least two executive directors and at least three independent directors.”*

- To be consistent with Appendix 14 (Code of Corporate Governance Practices) to the Listing Rules, the first paragraph of each of Articles 119 and 120 will be amended as follows with the proposed amendments underlined for reference:

(f) Article 119

*“Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least four times per year. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be convened by the chairman of the Board by giving a notice to all Directors 14 days before the meetings are held.”*

(g) Article 120

*“The Board of Directors may hold extraordinary meeting of the board by way of resolving by means of communications. Notice of the meeting may not be restricted by the requirement of 14 days’ prior notice provided that the notice is effectually delivered to the directors on time.”*

- To be consistent with the provisions in Chapter 14 (Notifiable Transactions) and Chapter 14A (Connected Transactions) of the Listing Rules, Chapter 15 of the Articles of Association, which comprises Articles 177 and 178 will be deleted in its entirety.



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## LETTER FROM THE BOARD

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- To increase the flexibility and efficiency in operation, a new Article 192 will be added after the existing Article 191 to authorize the Directors to distribute interim dividends and the article numbers of the existing articles and the references to such article numbers in the Articles of Association will be adjusted accordingly:

(h) new Article 192

*“Unless otherwise resolved at the shareholders’ meetings, the Directors are authorized by the shareholders’ meeting to distribute interim dividend. Unless otherwise regulated by laws and regulations, the amount of interim dividend shall not be more than 50% of the distributable profit in the interim profit and loss account of the Company.”*

The full text of the above proposed amendments to the Articles of Association is contained in the notice of Annual General Meeting set out on pages 10 to 15 of this circular. Such proposed amendments to the Articles of Association are subject to the approval of the Shareholders by way of a special resolution at the Annual General Meeting.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A notice convening the Annual General Meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 23, 2005 at 6th Floor, Ping An Building, Ba Gua No. 3 Road, Shenzhen, PRC, is set out on pages 10 to 15 of this circular.

In order to determine the list of Shareholders who are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Company and to receive the final dividend for the year ended December 31, 2004, the registers of members will be closed from Tuesday, May 24, 2005 to Thursday, June 23, 2005, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of Shares will be effected. Holders of the Company’s H Shares and Domestic Shares whose names appear on the registers of members on Thursday, June 23, 2005 are entitled to attend the meeting. In order to qualify for the final dividend and to attend and vote at the meeting, holders of H Shares of the Company whose transfers have not been registered shall deposit the transfer documents together with the relevant share certificates at the H share registrar of the Company, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, at or before 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 23, 2005. The address of the transfer office of Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited is Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen’s Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong. The final dividend for the year ended December 31, 2004 is expected to be paid on or before June 30, 2005 to the Shareholders whose names appear on the registers of members of the Company on Thursday, June 23, 2005.

A form of proxy for use at the Annual General Meeting is enclosed and is also published on the website of the Stock Exchange ([www.hkex.com.hk](http://www.hkex.com.hk)). Whether or not you intend to attend the Annual General Meeting, you are requested to complete and return (i) the enclosed reply slip in accordance with the instructions printed thereon not later than June 3, 2005 (Friday) and (ii) the enclosed form of proxy in accordance with the instructions printed thereon not less than 24 hours before the time fixed for holding the Annual General Meeting or any adjournment thereof (as the case may be). Completion and return of the form of proxy will not preclude you from attending and voting in person if you so wish.

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## LETTER FROM THE BOARD

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### PROCEDURE FOR DEMANDING A POLL AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

According to the Articles of Association, a resolution will be determined on a show of hands unless before or after any vote on a show of hands, a poll is demanded. A poll may be demanded by (i) the chairman of the meeting; or (ii) at least two Shareholders entitled to vote, present in person or by proxy; or (iii) by one or more Shareholders present in person or by proxy representing more than 10% of all Shares carrying the voting rights at the meeting.

### RECOMMENDATION

The Directors believe that (i) the special resolution in relation to the proposed grant of the General Mandate; (ii) the ordinary resolutions in relation to the proposed appointment of Mr. Chen Hongbo as a non-executive Director and Mr. Chow Wing Kin, Anthony as an independent non-executive Director of the Company respectively; (iii) the ordinary resolution in relation to the proposed adjustment to the investment limits of the Board; and (iv) the special resolution in relation to the proposed amendments to the Articles of Association, are in the best interests of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole. Accordingly, the Directors recommend that all the Shareholders should vote in favour of the relevant resolutions to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting as set out in the notice of Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board  
**PING AN INSURANCE (GROUP) COMPANY OF CHINA, LTD.**  
**Ma Mingzhe**  
*Chairman*

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## APPENDIX      DETAILS OF DIRECTORS PROPOSED TO BE APPOINTED

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*The following are the particulars of the Directors proposed to be appointed at the Annual General Meeting:*

**Mr. Chen Hongbo (陳洪博)**, aged 53, is the chairman and the Secretary of the Party Committee of Shenzhen Investment Holdings Co., Ltd. since September 2004. Mr. Chen was the deputy director of Shenzhen State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (深圳市國有資產監督管理委員會) from June 2004 to September 2004 and the assistant director, the deputy general director of the Economic System Reform Office of Shenzhen Municipal Government (深圳市人民政府經濟體制改革辦公室) from December 1992 to June 2004. Mr. Chen graduated from Huazhong Normal University (華中師範大學) with a master degree in political economy.

The Company proposes to appoint Mr. Chen as a non-executive Director to hold the office until the expiry of the term of the current Board. Mr. Chen does not have any relationship with the other Directors, senior management or substantial or controlling Shareholders of the Company and does not hold any other position within the Company or the Group. As at the Latest Practicable Date, he does not have any interests in the Shares of the Company within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance.

**Mr. Chow Wing Kin, Anthony (周永健)**, SBS, JP, aged 54, has been practicing as a solicitor in Hong Kong for the past 24 years and is a partner in the law firm, Peter C. Wong, Chow & Chow. Mr. Chow is the Vice Chairman of Estate Agents Authority. He is a Member of the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong and is also a Council Member of the Hong Kong Institute of Education. He was appointed as a Member of National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in January 2003 and also presently serves as a Steward of the Hong Kong Jockey Club. Mr. Chow is a non-executive director of Kingmaker Footwear Holdings Limited and an independent non-executive director of Fountain Set Holdings Limited, which are listed companies in Hong Kong.

The Company proposes to appoint Mr. Chow as an independent non-executive Director to hold the office until the expiry of the term of the current Board. The amount of the proposed director's fee of RMB300,000 to Mr. Chow is determined by the Board with reference to the prevailing market situation, his duties and responsibilities with the Company. Mr. Chow does not have any relationship with the other Directors, senior management or substantial or controlling Shareholders of the Company and does not hold any other position within the Company or the Group. As at the Latest Practicable Date, he does not have any interests in the Shares of the Company within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance.

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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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# 中国平安保险(集团)股份有限公司

PING AN INSURANCE (GROUP) COMPANY OF CHINA, LTD.

*(A joint stock limited company incorporated in the People's Republic of China with limited liability)*

**(Stock Code: 2318)**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the annual general meeting of Ping An Insurance (Group) Company of China, Ltd. (the “Company”) will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 23, 2005 at 6th Floor, Ping An Building, Ba Gua No. 3 Road, Shenzhen, PRC for the purposes of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolutions:

### AS ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

1. To consider and approve the report of the board of directors of the Company (the “Board of Directors”) for the year ended December 31, 2004.
2. To consider and approve the report of the supervisory committee of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2004.
3. To consider and approve the report of the auditors and audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2004.
4. To consider and approve the profit distribution plan and the recommendation for dividend for the year ended December 31, 2004.
5. To consider and approve the re-appointment of Ernst & Young Hua Ming as the PRC auditors and Ernst & Young as the international auditors of the Company to hold office until the conclusion of the next annual general meeting and to authorize the Board of Directors to fix their remuneration.
6. To consider and approve the appointment of Mr. Chen Hongbo (陳洪博) as a non-executive director of the Company to hold office with immediate effect until the expiry of the term of the current Board of Directors.
7. To consider and approve the appointment of Mr. Chow Wing Kin, Anthony (周永健) as an independent non-executive director of the Company to hold office with immediate effect until the expiry of the term of the current Board of Directors.
8. To consider and approve the increase of the annual independent non-executive directors’ fees from RMB60,000 to RMB150,000 for each domestic independent non-executive director of the Company and from RMB200,000 to RMB300,000 for each foreign independent non-executive director of the Company.

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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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9. To consider and approve the increase of the annual independent supervisors' fees from RMB40,000 to RMB60,000 for each independent supervisor of the Company and from RMB200,000 to RMB250,000 for the independent supervisor of the Company who also holds the office of the chairman of the supervisory committee of the Company.
10. To consider and approve the adjustment to the investment limits of the Board of Directors.

### AS SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

11. To give a general mandate to the Board of Directors to issue, allot and deal with additional Domestic Shares not exceeding 20% of the Domestic Shares of the Company in issue and additional H Shares not exceeding 20% of the H Shares of the Company in issue and authorize the Board of Directors to make corresponding amendments to the Articles of Association as it thinks fit so as to reflect the new capital structure upon the allotment or issuance of shares:

**“THAT**

- (A) (a) subject to paragraph (c) and in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, the Articles of Association of the Company and the applicable laws and regulations of the People's Republic of China, the exercise by the Board of Directors during the Relevant Period of all the powers of the Company to allot, issue and deal with, either separately or concurrently, additional domestic shares and H shares of the Company and to make or grant offers, agreements, options and rights of exchange or conversion which might require the exercise of such powers be hereby generally and unconditionally approved;
- (b) the approval in paragraph (a) shall authorize the Board of Directors during the Relevant Period to make or grant offers, agreements, options and rights of exchange or conversion which might require the exercise of such powers after the end of the Relevant Period;
- (c) each of the aggregate nominal amounts of domestic shares and H shares allotted, issued and dealt with or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be allotted, issued and dealt with (whether pursuant to an option or otherwise) by the Board of Directors pursuant to the approval granted in paragraph (a) shall not exceed 20% of each of the aggregate nominal amounts of domestic shares and H shares of the Company in issue at the date of passing this resolution, otherwise than pursuant to (i) a Rights Issue or (ii) any scrip dividend or similar arrangement providing for allotment of shares in lieu of the whole or part of a dividend on shares of the Company in accordance with the Articles of Association; and

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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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(d) for the purposes of this resolution:

“Relevant Period” means the period from the passing of this resolution until whichever is the earliest of:

- (i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company;
- (ii) the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by the Articles of Association of the Company or other applicable laws to be held; or
- (iii) the revocation or variation of the authority given under this resolution by a special resolution of the Company in general meeting.

“Rights Issue” means an offer of shares open for a period fixed by the directors to holders of shares on the register on a fixed record date in proportion to their then holdings of such shares (subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the directors may deem necessary or expedient in relation to fractional entitlements or having regard to any restrictions or obligations under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognized regulatory body or any stock exchange in any territory outside Hong Kong) and an offer, allotment or issue of shares by way of rights shall be construed accordingly.

- (B) The Board of Directors be authorized to make corresponding amendments to the Articles of Association of the Company as it thinks fit so as to reflect the new capital structure upon the allotment or issuance of shares as provided in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (A) of this resolution.”

12. To consider and approve the amendments to the Articles of Association of the Company:

“**THAT** the existing Articles of Association of the Company be amended as follows:

- (1) Two sub-paragraphs be added at the end of the existing Article 14 as follows with the proposed amendments underlined for reference:

*14 The business scope of the Company shall be in accordance with the items approved by the agency with which the Company is registered.*

*The business scope of the Company shall include:*

- (1) investment in insurance enterprises;*
- (2) supervising and managing various types of domestic and international businesses of the subsidiaries;*
- (3) application of insurance funds;*

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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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*(4) approved domestic and international insurance businesses;*

*(5) other businesses approved by China Insurance Regulatory Commission and the relevant governmental authorities.*

- (2) Existing Article 19 of the Articles of Association be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

*19 Following the approval by the authority in charge of companies authorized by the State Council, the total amount of ordinary shares that the Company can issue are 6,195,053,334 shares. The number of shares issued to the promoters at the time of reorganization of the Company into a joint-stock company on January 16, 1997 is 2,191,610,986, representing 35.38% of the total number of ordinary shares of the Company in issue. 72,955,249 shares of the promoter shares were converted into H shares as a result of the disposal of the state-owned shares at the time of initial overseas offering and listing of H shares on June 24, 2004.*

- (3) Existing Article 20 of the Articles of Association be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

*20 After the issue, the composition of the Company's share capital shall be: 6,195,053,334 shares, comprising 3,636,409,636 domestic shares representing 58.70% of the total number of ordinary shares in issue and 2,558,643,698 H shares (including 1,170,751,698 H shares converted from foreign shares) representing 41.30% of the total number of ordinary shares of the Company in issue.*

- (4) Existing Article 23 of the Articles of Association be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

*23 The registered capital of the Company is RMB6,195,053,334.*

- (5) Existing Article 111 of the Articles of Association be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

*111 The Company shall establish a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be composed of five to nineteen directors, which shall include the chairman of the board and one or two vice chairmen of the board, and include at least two executive directors and at least three independent directors.*

- (6) The first paragraph of existing Article 119 of the Articles of Association be amended as follows with the proposed amendments underlined for reference:

*119 Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least four times per year. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be convened by the chairman of the board by giving a notice to all directors 14 days before the meetings are held.*

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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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- (7) The first paragraph of existing Article 120 of the Articles of Association be amended as follows with the proposed amendments underlined for reference:

*120 The Board of Directors may hold extraordinary meeting of the board by way of resolving by means of communications. Notice of the meeting may not be restricted by the requirement of 14 days' prior notice provided that the notice is effectually delivered to the directors on time.*

- (8) Chapter 15 of the Articles of Association comprising the existing Articles 177 and 178 be deleted in its entirety.

- (9) The following new Article 192 be added after the existing Article 191 of the Articles of Association and the article numbers of the Articles and the references to such article numbers in the Articles of Association be adjusted accordingly:

*192 Unless otherwise resolved at the shareholders' meetings, the Directors are authorized by the shareholders' meeting to distribute interim dividend. Unless otherwise regulated by laws and regulations, the amount of interim dividend shall not be more than 50% of the distributable profit in the interim profit and loss account of the Company."*

By order of the Board of Directors

**Ma Mingzhe**

Chairman

Shenzhen, PRC

April 28, 2005

*As at the date of this notice, the executive directors of the Company are Ma Mingzhe, Sun Jianyi, the non-executive directors of the Company are Huang Jianping, Liu Haifeng David, Henry Cornell, Lin Yu Fen, Cheung Lee Wah, Anthony Philip Hope, Yip Dicky Peter, Lin Lijun, Fan Gang, Dou Wenwei, Shi Yuxin, Hu Aimin, and the independent non-executive directors are Bao Youde, Kwong Che Keung Gordon and Cheung Wing Yui.*

*Notes:*

1. According to the Articles of Association of the Company, the resolutions will be determined on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded before or after any vote on a show of hands. A poll may be demanded by (i) the chairman of the meeting; or (ii) at least two shareholders entitled to vote, present in person or by proxy; or (iii) one or more shareholders present in person or by proxy representing more than 10% of all shares carrying the voting rights at the meeting.



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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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2. In order to determine the list of shareholders who are entitled to attend the annual general meeting of the Company and to receive the final dividend for the year ended December 31, 2004, the registers of members will be closed from Tuesday, May 24, 2005 to Thursday, June 23, 2005, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares will be effected. Holders of the Company's H shares and domestic shares whose names appear on the registers of members on Thursday, June 23, 2005 are entitled to attend the meeting. In order to qualify for the final dividend and to attend and vote at the meeting, holders of H shares of the Company whose transfers have not been registered shall deposit the transfer documents together with the relevant share certificates at the H share registrar of the Company, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, at or before 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 23, 2005. The address of the transfer office of Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited is Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong. The final dividend for the year ended December 31, 2004 is expected to be paid on or before June 30, 2005 to the shareholders whose names appear on the registers of members of the Company on Thursday, June 23, 2005.
3. A shareholder entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote in his stead. A proxy need not be a shareholder of the Company.
4. The instrument appointing a proxy must be in writing under the hand of a shareholder or his attorney duly authorized in writing. If the shareholder is a corporation, that instrument must be either under its common seal or under the hand of its director(s) or duly authorized attorney(s). If that instrument is signed by an attorney of the shareholder, the power of attorney authorizing that attorney to sign or other authorization document must be notarized.
5. In order to be valid, the form of proxy together with the power of attorney or other authorization document (if any) must be deposited at the Secretariat of the Board of Directors of the Company for holders of domestic shares and at the H share registrar of the Company for holders of H shares not less than 24 hours before the time fixed for holding the meeting or any adjournment thereof (as the case may be). Completion and return of a form of proxy will not preclude a shareholder from attending and voting in person at the meeting if he so wishes. The H share registrar of the Company is Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited at 46th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong.
6. Shareholders who intend to attend the meeting in person or by proxy should return the reply slip to the Company's principal place of business in the PRC or Hong Kong on or before Friday, June 3, 2005 by hand, by post or by fax. The Company's principal place of business in the PRC is at Ping An Building, Ba Gua No. 3 Road, Shenzhen, PRC (Tel: (86 755) 8226 2888, Fax: (86 755) 8243 1029). The contact persons are JIANG Ning (江寧) (Tel: (86 755) 8226 2888 ext. 3210) and DA Kai (笪愷) (Tel: (86 755) 8226 2888 ext. 3388). The Company's principal place of business in Hong Kong is at 11th Floor, Dah Sing Financial Center, 108 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong (Tel: (852) 2827 1883, Fax: (852) 2802 0018).
7. The meeting is expected to be concluded within half a day. Shareholders (in person or by proxy) attending the meeting are responsible for their own transportation and accommodation expenses. Shareholders or their proxies attending the meeting shall produce their identity documents.
8. A circular containing, inter alia, details of the proposed amendments to the Articles of Association and notice of annual general meeting will be dispatched to the shareholders on Thursday, April 28, 2005. The information of Mr. Chen Hongbo and Mr. Chow Wing Kin, Anthony regarding the proposed resolutions 6 and 7 is also included in the circular. Concerning the proposed resolution 11, the purpose of seeking approval of such mandate is to give directors flexibility and discretion to issue new shares in the event that it comes desirable for the Company and the directors have no present plan to issue new shares pursuant to such mandate.