

## Chairman's Statement

For the financial year ended 31 December 2000, the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") recorded a net loss of approximately HK\$189 million. Further details of the Group's past performance are explained under the "Management Discussion and Analysis" section. The Board of Directors does not recommend the payment of final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2000.

It has been another difficult year for the Group. Metal trading business continued to shrink, compelling us to explore other opportunities. We have been putting resources in developing new lines of business, such as developing trading business in communication products. We have also invested in a listed company in Hong Kong, Beauforte Investors Corporation Limited. We are still optimistic on the future in Hong Kong, and will further adjust our investment focus. In time, we may eventually take on a new and rewarding direction for the Group in future.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all management and staff members for their hard work and dedication during the past year.

Chiu Tao

*Chairman*

Hong Kong, 10 April 2001