# Notice of Annual General Meeting

NOTICE is hereby given that the Eighteenth Annual General Meeting of ORIENT OVERSEAS (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED (the "Company") will be held at the Concord Room, 8th Floor, Renaissance Harbour View Hotel, 1 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong on 27th April 2004 at 10:00 a.m. for the following purposes:

- 1. To consider and adopt the audited Statement of Accounts and the Reports of the Directors and the Auditors for the year ended 31st December 2003:
- 2. To declare the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31st December 2003;
- 3. To consider and, if thought fit, pass, with or without modification, the following resolutions as an Ordinary Resolution:

#### **ORDINARY RESOLUTION**

"THAT conditional upon the Listing Committee of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited granting listing of and permission to deal in the new shares of US\$0.10 each (individually a "Bonus Share" and collectively the "Bonus Shares") in the capital of the Company to be issued:

- (a) to capitalise such amount necessary to give effect to the issue of the Bonus Shares that is for the time being standing to the credit of the share premium account of the Company and the Directors be and are hereby authorised to apply such sum in paying up in full at par (US\$0.10) such number of Bonus Shares to be allotted and issued as fully paid to the shareholders of the Company on the basis of one (1) Bonus Share for every ten (10) issued ordinary shares of US\$0.10 each held by such shareholders whose names appear on the Register of Members of the Company at the close of business on 27th April 2004 and to allot and issue such Bonus Shares;
- (b) the Bonus Shares to be issued shall rank pari passu in all respects with the existing issued shares of the Company as at the date of issue of such Bonus Shares:
- (c) no fractional Bonus Shares (if any) shall be allotted to the shareholders of the Company and fractional entitlements will be rounded down to the nearest whole number and sold for the benefit of the Company; and
- (d) the Directors be and are hereby authorised to do all acts and things as may be necessary and expedient in connection with the issue of Bonus Shares.";
- 4. To re-elect Directors and authorise the Board of Directors to fix their remuneration;
- 5. To re-appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers as Auditors and to authorise the Board of Directors to fix their remuneration; and

6. To consider and, if thought fit, pass, with or without modification, the following resolutions as Ordinary Resolutions:-

## **ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS**

- (a) "THAT a general mandate be and is hereby generally and unconditionally given to the Directors to exercise during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) all the powers of the Company to allot, issue and otherwise deal with Shares (as hereinafter defined) or additional Shares of the Company and to make, issue or grant offers, agreements, options or warrants which will or might require the exercise of such mandate either during or after the Relevant Period, otherwise than pursuant to a rights issue, bonus issue, issue of scrip dividends or the exercise of rights of subscription or conversion under the terms of any shares, bonds, warrants or other securities carrying a right to subscribe for or purchase shares of the Company issued by the Company or a subsidiary or whose issue is authorised on or prior to the date this resolution is passed, not exceeding twenty per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount of the share capital of the Company in issue as at the date of passing of this resolution."
- (b) "THAT a general mandate be and is hereby generally and unconditionally given to the Directors to exercise during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) all the powers of the Company to purchase shares of all classes in the capital of the Company, securities convertible into shares and options, warrants or similar rights to subscribe for or purchase any shares or such convertible securities, provided however that the aggregate nominal amount of such shares, or (as the case may be) conversion, subscription or purchase rights attaching to the respective security, to be purchased shall not exceed ten per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount of such shares, or (as the case may be) conversion, subscription or purchase rights attaching to that security, in issue as at the date of passing of this resolution."

For the purposes of resolutions 6(a) and 6(b):

"Relevant Period" means the period from the passing of this resolution until whichever is the earlier 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 Bermudan law or the Bye-laws of the Company to be held; or
- (iii) the date on which the authority set out in this resolution is revoked or varied by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders in general meeting.

"Shares" means shares of all classes in the capital of the Company and securities convertible into shares and options, warrants or similar rights to subscribe for or purchase any shares or such convertible securities.

(c) "THAT the general mandate granted to the Directors to allot Shares pursuant to the resolution set out in item 6(a) of the Notice of this meeting be and is hereby extended by the addition thereto of an amount representing the aggregate nominal amount of the share capital of the Company purchased, or that share capital which would fall to be subscribed or purchased pursuant to the conversion, subscription or purchase rights attaching to any other securities purchased, by the Company pursuant to the authority granted by the resolution set out in item 6(b) of the Notice of this meeting, provided that such amount shall not exceed ten per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount of the shares, or (as the case may be) conversion, subscription or purchase rights attaching to that security, in issue as at the date of passing of this resolution."

7. To consider and, if thought fit, pass, with or without modification, the following resolution as a Special Resolution:-

## **SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

"THAT the existing bye-laws of the Company be and are hereby amended in the following manner:

- (a) by adding the following definition in Bye-law 1 immediately after the definition of "Act"
  - ""associate" the meaning attributed to it in the rules of the Designated Stock Exchange.";
- (b) by deleting the existing Bye-law 2(e) in its entirety and substituting therefor the following:
  - "2(e) expressions referring to writing shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including printing, lithography, photography and other modes of representing words or figures in a visible form, and including where the representation takes the form of electronic display, provided that both the mode of service of the relevant document or notice and the shareholder's election comply with all applicable Statutes, rules and regulations;";
- (c) by adding the following new Bye-law 2(k):
  - "2(k) references to a document being executed include references to it being executed under hand or under seal or by electronic signature or by any other method and references to a notice or document include a Notice or document recorded or stored in any digital, electronic, electrical, magnetic or other retrievable form or medium and information in visible form whether having physical substance or not.";
- (d) by deleting the existing Bye-law 51 in its entirety and substituting therefor the following:
  - "51. The registration of transfers of shares or of any class of shares may, after notice has been given by advertisement in an appointed newspaper and, where applicable, any other newspapers in accordance with the requirements of any Designated Stock Exchange or by any means in such manner as may be accepted by the Designated Stock Exchange to that effect be suspended at such times and for such periods (not exceeding in the whole thirty (30) days in any year) as the Board may determine.";
- (e) by deleting the existing Bye-law 66 in its entirety and substituting therefor the following:
  - "66. Subject to any special rights or restrictions as to voting for the time being attached to any shares by or in accordance with these Bye-laws, at any general meeting on a show of hands every Member present in person or by proxy or by attorney or (being a corporation) is present by a representative duly authorised under Section 78 of the Act shall have one vote and on a poll every Member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every fully paid share of which he is the holder. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless it is required by the rules of the Designated Stock Exchange that such resolution shall be voted by way of poll or a poll is demanded before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands or on the withdrawal of any other demand for a poll:
    - (a) by the Chairman; or

- (b) by at least three Members present in person or by proxy for the time being entitled to vote at the meeting; or
- (c) by a Member or Members present in person or by proxy and representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all Members having the right to vote at the meeting; or
- (d) by a Member or members present in person or by proxy and holding shares in the Company conferring a right to vote at the meeting being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all shares conferring that right.

A demand by a person as proxy for a Member shall be deemed to be the same as a demand by the Member.

- (f) by re-numbering existing Bye-law 76 as Bye-law 76(1) and adding the following new Bye-law 76(2) immediately thereafter:
  - "(2) Where any Member is, under the rules of the Designated Stock Exchange, required to abstain from voting on any particular resolution or restricted to voting only for or only against any particular resolution, any votes cast by or on behalf of such Member in contravention of such requirement or restriction shall not be counted.";
- (g) by deleting the word "special" in the second line in Bye-law 86(4) and substituting therefore the word "ordinary";
- (h) by deleting the existing Bye-law 89 in its entirety and substituting therefor the following:
  - "89. No person other than a Director retiring at the meeting shall, unless recommended by the Directors for election, be eligible for election as a Director at any general meeting unless a notice in writing signed by a Member (other than the person to be proposed) duly qualified to attend and vote at the meeting for which such notice is given of his intention to propose such person for election and also a notice in writing signed by the person to be proposed of his willingness to be elected shall have been lodged at the Office or the head office provided that the minimum length of the period, during which such notice(s) are given, shall be at least seven (7) days and that the period for lodgment of such notice(s) shall commence no earlier than the day after the dispatch of the notice of the general meeting appointed for such election and end no later than seven (7) days prior to the date of such general meeting.";
- (i) by deleting the existing Bye-law 104 in its entirety and substituting therefor the following:
  - "104.(1) A Director shall not vote (nor be counted in the quorum) on any resolution of the Board approving of any contract or arrangement or any other proposal in which he or any of his associates is materially interested, but this prohibition shall not apply to any of the following matters namely:
    - (a) any contract or arrangement for the giving to such Director or his associate(s) any security or indemnity in respect of money lent by him or any of his associates or obligations incurred or undertaken by him or any of his associates at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiaries;
    - (b) any contract or arrangement for the giving of any security or indemnity to a third party in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries for which the Director or his associate(s) has himself/themselves assumed responsibility in whole or in part whether alone or jointly under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;

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- (c) any contract or arrangement concerning an offer of shares or debentures or other securities of or by the Company or any other company which the Company may promote or be interested in for subscription or purchase, where the Director or his associate(s) is/are or is/are to be interested as a participant in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of the offer;
- (d) any contract or arrangement in which the Director or his associate(s) is/are interested in the same manner as other holders of shares or debentures or other securities of the Company by virtue only of his/their interest in shares or debentures or other securities of the Company;
- (e) any contract or arrangement concerning any other company in which the Director or his associate(s) is/are interested only, whether directly or indirectly, as an officer or executive or a shareholder other than a company in which the Director and his associate(s) are beneficially interested in five (5) per cent. or more of the issued shares or of the voting rights of any class of shares of such company (or any third company through which his interest or that of any of his associates is derived); or
- (f) any proposal concerning the benefit of employees of the Company or its subsidiaries, including the adoption, modification or operation of (i) any employee's share scheme or any share incentive or share option scheme under which the Director or his associate(s) may benefit; or (ii) a pension fund or retirement, death or disability benefits scheme or other arrangement which relates both to Directors, his associates and employees of the Company or of any of its subsidiaries and does not provide in respect of any Director, or his associate(s), as such any privilege or advantage not accorded to the employees to which such scheme or fund relates.
- (2) A company shall be deemed to be a company in which a Director and/or his associate(s) owns five (5) per cent. or more if and so long as (but only if and so long as) he and/or his associates, (either directly or indirectly) are the holders of or beneficially interested in five (5) per cent. or more of any class of the equity share capital of such company or of the voting rights available to members of such company (or of any third company through which his/their interest or that of any of his associates is derived). For the purpose of this paragraph there shall be disregarded any shares held by a Director or his associate(s) as bare or custodian trustee and in which he or any of them has no beneficial interest, any shares comprised in a trust in which the interest of the Director or his associate(s) is/are in reversion or remainder if and so long as some other person is entitled to receive the income thereof, and any shares comprised in an authorised unit trust scheme in which the Director or his associate(s) is/are interested only as a unit holder.
- (3) Where a company in which a Director and/or his associate(s) holds five (5) per cent. or more is/are materially interested in a transaction, then that Director and/or his associate(s) shall also be deemed materially interested in such transaction.
- (4) If any question shall arise at any meeting of the Board as to the materiality of the interest of a Director (other than the chairman of the meeting) or his associate(s) or as to the entitlement of any Director (other than such chairman) to vote and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, such question shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting and his ruling in relation to such other Director shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the Director and/or his associate(s) concerned as known to such Director has not been fairly disclosed to the Board. If any question as aforesaid shall arise in respect of the chairman of the meeting such question shall be decided by a resolution of the Board (for which purpose such chairman shall not vote thereon) and such resolution shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of such chairman as known to such chairman has not been fairly disclosed to the Board.";

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- (j) By deleting the existing Bye-law 160 in its entirety and substituting therefor the following:
  - "160. Any notice or document (including any "corporate communication" within the meaning ascribed thereto under the rules of the Designated Stock Exchange), whether or not to be given or issued under these Bye-laws, from the Company to a Member shall be in writing or by cable, telex or facsimile transmission message or other form of electronic transmission or communication and any such notice and document may be served or delivered by the Company on or to any Member either personally or by sending it through the post in a prepaid envelope addressed to such Member at his registered address as appearing in the Register or at any other address supplied by him to the Company for the purpose or, as the case may be, by transmitting it to any such address or transmitting it to any telex or facsimile transmission number or electronic number or address supplied by him to the Company for the giving of notice or document to him or which the person transmitting the notice or document reasonably and bona fide believes at the relevant time will result in the notice or document being duly received by the Member or may also be served by advertisement in appointed newspapers (as defined in the Act) or in newspapers published daily and circulating generally in the territory of and in accordance with the requirements of the Designated Stock Exchange or, to the extent permitted by the applicable laws, by placing it on the Company's website and giving to the member a notice stating that the notice or document is available there (a "notice of availability"). The notice of availability may be given to the Member by any of the means set out above. In the case of joint holders of a share all notices or documents shall be given to that one of the joint holders whose name stands first in the Register and notice or document so given shall be deemed a sufficient service on or delivery to all the joint holders.";
- (k) By renumbering the existing Bye-law 161(b) as a new Bye-law 161(c) and by inserting the following new Bye-law 161(b):
  - "161(b) if sent by electronic communication, shall be deemed to be given on the day on which it is transmitted from the server of the Company or its agent. A notice or document placed on the Company's website is deemed given by the Company to a Member on the day following that on which a notice of availability is deemed served on the Member;";
- (l) By substituting for the full stop "." appearing at the end of the new Bye-law 161(c) with a semi-colon ";" and inserting the word "and" after the semi-colon ";";
- (m) By adding the following new Bye-law 161(d):
  - "161(d) may be given to a Member either in the English language or the Chinese language, subject to due compliance with all applicable Statutes, rules and regulations."; and
- (n) By inserting, in Bye-law 163, after the words "a cable or telex or facsimile", the following words:

"or electronic".

By Order of the Board **Lammy Lee** *Secretary* 

Hong Kong, 19th March 2004

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#### Notes:

- (i) Any member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and vote on his behalf in accordance with the Bye-laws of the Company. A proxy need not be a member of the Company.
- (ii) A proxy form is enclosed and to be valid, the proxy form must be deposited at the principal place of business of the Company in Hong Kong, 33rd Floor, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong together with the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed (or a certified copy thereof) as soon as possible but in any event not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the above meeting or any adjournment thereof.
- (iii) The Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 20th April 2004 to 27th April 2004, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.
- (iv) An explanatory statement containing further details regarding Ordinary Resolutions no. 3, 6(a), 6(b) and 6(c) will be dispatched to the members of the Company together with the Annual Report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2003.
- (v) Special Resolution no.7 to amend the Bye-laws of the Company for the purposes of, amongst other things, complying with the recent amendments to Appendix 3 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited and generally extending the mode of communication with the members of the Company.
- (vi) The translation into Chinese language of this notice (including the Special Resolution which contains the proposed new Bye-laws) is for reference only. In case of any inconsistency, the English version shall prevail.