1. TAXATION OF SECURITY HOLDERS

The taxation of income and capital gains of holders of H Shares is subject to the laws and practices of the PRC and of jurisdictions in which holders of H Shares are resident or otherwise subject to tax. The following summary of certain relevant taxation provisions is based on current laws and practices, is subject to change and does not constitute legal or tax advice. The discussion does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to an investment in the H Shares, nor does it take into account the specific circumstances of any particular investor, some of which may be subject to special regulation. Accordingly, you should consult your own tax advisor regarding the tax consequences of an investment in the H Shares. The discussion is based upon laws and relevant interpretations in effect as of the date of this prospectus, all of which are subject to change and may have retrospective effect.

This discussion does not address any aspects of PRC or Hong Kong taxation other than income tax, capital tax, stamp duty and estate duty. Prospective investors are urged to consult their financial advisors regarding the PRC, Hong Kong and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of H Shares.

A. The PRC Taxation

Taxation on Dividends

Individual Investors

Pursuant to the latest Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (中華人民共和國個人所得稅法) (the "IIT Law") as amended on June 30, 2011 and the latest Regulations on Implementation of the Individual Income Tax Law of the PRC (中華人民共和國個人所得稅法實施條例) as amended on July 19, 2011, dividends distributed by PRC enterprises are subject to a PRC withholding tax levied at a flat rate of 20%. For a foreign individual who is not a resident of the PRC, the receipt of dividends from an enterprise in the PRC is normally subject to a withholding tax of 20% unless specifically exempted by the tax authority of the State Council or reduced by an applicable tax treaty.

Pursuant to the Notice of the State Administration of Taxation on Issues Concerning Taxation and Administration of Individual Income Tax After the Repeal of the Document (Guo Shui Fa [1993] No.045) (國家稅務總局關於國稅發[1993]045號文件廢止後有關個人所得稅徵管問題的通知) issued by SAT on June 28, 2011, domestic non-foreign-invested enterprises issuing shares in Hong Kong may, when distributing dividends, withhold individual income tax at the rate of 10%. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries that have entered into a tax treaty with the PRC with tax rates lower than 10%, the non-foreign-invested enterprise whose shares are listed in Hong Kong may apply on behalf of such holders for enjoying the lower preferential tax treatments, and, upon approval by the tax authorities, the amount which is over withheld will be refunded. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries that have entered into a tax treaty with the PRC with tax rates higher than 10% but lower than 20%, the non-foreign-invested enterprise is required to withhold the tax at the agreed rate under the treaties, and no application procedures will be necessary. For the individual holders of H Shares receiving dividends who are citizens of countries without taxation treaties with the PRC or otherwise, the non-foreign-invested enterprise is required to withhold the tax at a rate of 20%.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC (中華人民共和國企業所得稅法) (the "EIT Law"), and the Implementation provisions for the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the PRC

(中華人民共和國企業所得稅法實施條例), both effective as of January 1, 2008, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% enterprise income tax on PRC-sourced income (including dividends received from a PRC resident enterprise that issues shares in Hong Kong), if such non-resident enterprise does not have an establishment or place in the PRC or has an establishment or place in the PRC but the PRC-sourced income is not connected with such establishment or place. The withholding tax may be reduced or eliminated pursuant to applicable treaties for the avoidance of double taxation. Such withholding tax for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income are required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise when such payment is made or due. The Circular on Issues Relating to the Withholding of Enterprise Income Tax by PRC Resident Enterprises on Dividends Paid to Overseas Non-PRC Resident Enterprise Shareholders of H Shares (關於中國居民企業向境外H股非居民企業股東派發股息代扣代繳企業所得稅有關問題的通知) (Guo Shui Han [2008] No.897) which was issued by SAT on November 6, 2008, further clarified that a PRC-resident enterprise must withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends paid to non-PRC resident enterprise shareholders of H Shares with respect to the dividends of 2008 and onwards. In addition, the Response to Questions on Levying Enterprise Income Tax on Dividends Derived by Non-resident Enterprise from Holding Stock such as B-shares (國家稅務總局關於非居民企業取得B股等股票股息徵收企業所得稅問題的批覆) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No.394) which was issued by SAT on July 24, 2009, further provides that any PRC-resident enterprise that is listed on overseas stock exchanges must withhold enterprise income tax at a rate of 10% on dividends of 2008 and onwards that it distributes to non-resident enterprises. Such tax rates may be further modified pursuant to the tax treaty or agreement that China has concluded with a relevant jurisdiction, where applicable.

Pursuant to the Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (內地和香港特別行政區關於對所得避免雙重徵稅和防止偷漏稅的安排) signed on August 21, 2006, the Chinese Government may levy taxes on the dividends paid by a Chinese company to Hong Kong residents (including natural persons and legal entities) in an amount not exceeding 10% of total dividends payable by the Chinese company. If a Hong Kong resident directly holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a Chinese company, then such tax shall not exceed 5% of the total dividends payable by the Chinese company. In addition, the implementation of dividend clauses in the tax agreements shall comply with the PRC tax laws and regulations, such as the Circular of the State Administration of Taxation on Relevant Issues relating to the Implementation of Dividend Clauses in Tax Agreements (國家稅務總局關於執行稅收協定股息條款有關問題的通知) (Guo Shui Han [2009] No. 81).

Tax Treaties

Investors who are not PRC residents and reside in countries which have entered into avoidance of double taxation treaties with the PRC are entitled to a reduction of the withholding taxes imposed on the dividends received from PRC companies. The PRC currently has Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaties with a number of countries and regions including HK, Macau, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States. Non-PRC resident enterprises entitled to preferential tax rates in accordance with the relevant income tax treaties or arrangements are required to apply to the Chinese tax authorities for a refund of the withholding tax in excess of the agreed tax rate, and the refund payment is subject to approval by the Chinese tax authorities.

Taxation on Share Transfer

Individual Investors

According to the IIT Law and its implementation provisions, gains realized on the sale of equity interests in the PRC resident enterprises are subject to the income tax at a rate of 20%.

Under the Circular Declaring that Individual Income Tax Continues to Be Exempted over Individual Income from Transfer of Shares (財政部、國家稅務總局關於個人轉讓股票所得繼續暫免徵收個人所得稅的通知) (Cai Shui Zi [1998] No.61) issued by the MOF and the SAT on March 30, 1998, from January 1, 1997, gains of individuals from the transfer of shares of listed enterprises continues to be exempted from individual income tax. In the latest IIT Law and its implementing rules, the SAT has not explicitly stated whether it will continue to exempt individuals from income tax on income derived from the transfer of listed shares.

However, on December 31, 2009, the MOF, the SAT and the CSRC jointly issued the Circular on Relevant Issues Concerning the Collection of Individual Income Tax over the Income Received by Individuals from Transfer of Listed Shares Subject to Sales Limitation (關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的通知) (Cai Shui [2009] No.167), which provides that individuals' income from transferring listed shares on certain domestic exchanges shall continue to be exempted from the individual income tax, except for certain shares which are subject to sales limitations as defined in the Supplementary Circular on Relevant Issues Concerning the Collection of Individual Income Tax over the Income Received by Individuals from Transfer of Listed Shares Subject to Sales Limitation (關於個人轉讓上市公司限售股所得徵收個人所得稅有關問題的補充通知) (Cai Shui [2010] No.70). As of the Latest Practicable Date, the aforesaid provision has not expressly provided that individual income tax shall be collected from non-PRC resident individuals on the sale of shares of PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges. To the knowledge of the Bank, in practice, the PRC tax authorities have not collected income tax from non-PRC resident individuals on gains from the sale of shares of PRC resident enterprises listed on overseas stock exchanges.

Enterprise Investors

In accordance with the EIT Law and its implementation provisions, a non-resident enterprise is generally subject to a 10% enterprise income tax on PRC-sourced income, including gains derived from the disposal of equity interests in a PRC resident enterprise, if it does not have an establishment or place in the PRC or has an establishment or place in the PRC but the PRC-sourced income is not connected with such establishment or place. Such income tax for non-resident enterprises are deducted at source, where the payer of the income are required to withhold the income tax from the amount to be paid to the non-resident enterprise when such payment is made or due. The withholding tax may be reduced or eliminated pursuant to applicable treaties or agreements on avoidance of double taxation.

Stamp Duty

Pursuant to the Provisional Regulations of the PRC Concerning Stamp Duty (中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例) effective as of October 1, 1988 and amended on January 8, 2011, and the Detailed Rules for Implementation of Provisional Regulations of the PRC Concerning Stamp Duty (中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例施行細則) effective as of October 1, 1988, PRC stamp duty on transfer of listed shares of PRC enterprises does not apply to the acquisition and disposal of H Shares by non-PRC investors outside of the PRC, as PRC stamp duty is imposed on documents that are executed or received in the PRC, legally binding in the PRC and governed by the PRC laws.

Estate Duty

As of the date of this prospectus, no estate duty has been levied in China under the PRC laws.

B. Hong Kong Taxation

Tax on Dividends

Under the current practice of the Inland Revenue Department of Hong Kong, no tax is payable in Hong Kong in respect of dividends paid by the Group.

Capital Gains and Profit Tax

No tax is imposed in Hong Kong in respect of capital gains from the sale of H Shares. However, trading gains from the sale of the H Shares by persons carrying on a trade, profession or business in Hong Kong, where such gains are derived from or arise in Hong Kong from such trade, profession or business will be subject to Hong Kong profits tax, which is currently imposed at the maximum rate of 16.5% on corporations and at the maximum rate of 15% on unincorporated businesses. Certain categories of taxpayers (for example, financial institutions, insurance companies and securities dealers) are likely to be regarded as deriving trading gains rather than capital gains unless these taxpayers can prove that the investment securities are held for long-term investment purposes.

Trading gains from sales of the H Shares effected on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange will be considered to be derived from or arise in Hong Kong. Liability for Hong Kong profits tax would thus arise in respect of trading gains from sales of H Shares effected on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange realized by persons carrying on a business of trading or dealing in securities in Hong Kong.

Stamp Duty

Hong Kong stamp duty, currently charged at the ad valorem rate of 0.1% on the higher of the consideration for or the market value of the H Shares, will be payable by the purchaser on every purchase and by the seller on every sale of any Hong Kong securities, including H Shares (in other words, a total of 0.2% is currently payable on a typical sale and purchase transaction involving H Shares). In addition, a fixed stamp duty of HK$5.00 is currently payable on any instrument of transfer of H Shares. Where one of the parties is a resident outside Hong Kong and does not pay the ad valorem duty due by it, the duty not paid will be assessed on the instrument of transfer (if any) and will be payable by the transferee. If no stamp duty is paid on or before the due date, a penalty of up to 10 times the duty payable may be imposed.

Estate Duty

The Revenue (Abolition of Estate Duty) Ordinance 2005 abolished estate duty in respect of deaths occurring on or after February 11, 2006.

2. PRINCIPAL TAXATION OF THE BANK IN THE PRC

Enterprise Income Tax

As stipulated under the EIT Law, enterprises and other organizations which generate income within the PRC are enterprise income tax payers and subject to enterprise income tax at the rate of 25%.

Business Tax

Pursuant to the Provisional Regulations of the PRC on Business Tax (中華人民共和國營業稅暫行條例), which became effective on January 1, 1994, subsequently amended on November 5, 2008 and implemented on January 1, 2009, the Group is subject to a 5% business tax for its banking operations in the PRC.

According to the Pilot Reform for Transition from Business Tax to VAT (營業稅改徵增值稅試點方案) (Cai Shui [2011] No.110) issued by MOF and SAT and effected on November 16, 2011, pilot reforms for transition from business tax to VAT have been started since January 1, 2012 in certain service industries such as transportation and some of the modern service industries in pilot areas such as Shanghai and Beijing. According to a further notice of MOF and SAT, such reform has been expanded nationwide since August 1, 2013.

Pursuant to the Notice of the Comprehensive Implementation of the Pilot Reform for Transition from Business Tax to VAT (關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知) (Cai Shui [2016] No.36) issued by MOF and SAT on March 23, 2016, the national pilot reform has commenced since May 1, 2016. The taxpayer of the business tax in financial industry shall be included in the pilot reform scale, paying VAT instead of the business tax, and the tax ratio of VAT shall be 6%.

VAT

The PRC government has been progressively implementing the pilot reform for the transition from business tax to value-added tax ("VAT") in certain regions and industries from 2012. Pursuant to the Notice on the Full Implementation of Pilot Reform for Transition from Business Tax to Value-added Tax (Cai Shui [2016] No. 36) (關於全面推開營業稅改徵增值稅試點的通知) issued by the MOF and SAT on March 23, 2016, the pilot program started to apply to the financial industry from May 1, 2016. The Bank started to calculate and pay VAT instead of business tax on the same date.

3. TAXATION OF THE BANK IN HONG KONG

The Bank's directors do not consider that any of the Bank's income is derived from or arises in Hong Kong for the purpose of Hong Kong taxation. The Bank will therefore not be subject to Hong Kong taxation.

4. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The lawful currency of the PRC is the Renminbi, which is currently subject to foreign exchange control and is not freely convertible into foreign exchange. The SAFE, under the authority of PBOC, is responsible for administration of all matters relating to foreign exchange, including the enforcement of foreign exchange control regulations.

In accordance with the Notice of the State Council on Further Reforming the Foreign Exchange Management System (國務院關於進一步改革外匯管理體制的通知) (Guo Fa [1993] No.89) issued by the State Council, since January 1, 1994, the conditional convertibility of Renminbi in current account items has been implemented, and the official Renminbi exchange rate and the market rate for Renminbi have been unified. The former dual exchange rate system for Renminbi had been abolished and a unitary and managed floating rate based on market demand and supply was introduced. PBOC set and published daily the medium price of Renminbi against the U.S. dollar and the exchange rates of

Renminbi against other currencies in reference to the changes in the international foreign exchange markets, which was permitted to float to a certain extent in foreign exchange transactions.

On January 29, 1996, the State Council promulgated the new Regulations of the PRC for Foreign Exchange Control (中華人民共和國外匯管理條例) (the "Foreign Exchange Control Regulations") which became effective on April 1, 1996. The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations classifies all international payments and transfers into current account items and capital account items. Most of the current account items are no longer subject to SAFE's approval, while capital account items still are. The Foreign Exchange Control Regulations were subsequently amended on January 14, 1997 and August 5, 2008. The latest amended Foreign Exchange Control Regulations clearly states that the State will not impose any restriction on international payments and transfers under the current account items.

On June 20, 1996, PBOC promulgated the Provision on the Settlement and Sale of and Payment in Foreign Exchange (結匯、售匯及付匯管理規定) (the "Settlement Regulations") which became effective on July 1, 1996. The Settlement Regulations abolished all other restrictions on convertibility of foreign exchange under current account items, while retaining the existing restrictions on foreign exchange transactions under capital account items.

According to the Announcement on Improving the Reform of the Renminbi (關於完善人民幣匯率形成機制改革的公告) (PBOC Announcement [2005] No.16), issued by PBOC on July 21, 2005, from the same date, the PRC began to implement a managed floating exchange rate system in which the exchange rate would be determined based on market supply and demand and adjusted with reference to a basket of currencies. The Renminbi exchange rate was no longer pegged to the U.S. dollar. PBOC would publish the closing price of foreign currencies such as the U.S. dollar against Renminbi in the interbank foreign exchange market after the closing of the market on each working day, which will be used as the central parity for the transactions of such foreign currency against Renminbi exchange rate on the following working day.

Starting from January 4, 2006, PBOC introduced over-the-counter transactions into the interbank spot foreign exchange market for the purpose of improving the formation mechanism of the central parity of Renminbi exchange rates, and the practice of matching was kept at the same time. In addition to the above, PBOC introduced the market-maker rule to provide liquidity to the foreign exchange market. On July 1, 2014, PBOC further improved the formation mechanism of the RMB exchange rate by authorizing the China Foreign Exchange Trade System to make inquiries with the market makers before the interbank foreign exchange market opens every day for their offered quotations which are used as samples to calculate the central parity of the RMB against the USD of the current day, which shall be finally decided on the weighted average of the prices of all market makers after excluding the highest and lowest quotations, and announce it at 9:15 a.m. on each working day. On August 11, 2015, PBOC announced to improve the central parity quotations of RMB against the U.S. dollar by authorizing market-makers to provide central parity quotations to the China Foreign Exchange Trading Center with reference to the interbank foreign exchange market closing rate of the previous day, the supply and demand for foreign exchange as well as changes in major international currency exchange rates.

On August 5, 2008, the State Council promulgated the revised Foreign Exchange Control Regulations (the "Revised Foreign Exchange Control Regulations"), which have made substantial changes to the foreign exchange supervision system of the PRC. First, the Revised Foreign Exchange Control Regulations have adopted an approach of balancing the inflow and outflow of foreign exchange. Foreign exchange income received overseas can be repatriated or deposited overseas, and foreign exchange and foreign exchange settlement funds under the capital account are required to be used only for purposes as approved by the competent authorities and foreign exchange administrative authorities. Second, the Revised Foreign Exchange Control Regulations have improved the mechanism for determining the RMB exchange rate based on market supply and demand. Third, the Revised Foreign Exchange Control Regulations have enhanced the monitoring of cross-border foreign currency fund flows. In the event that revenues and costs in connection with international transactions suffer or may suffer a material misbalance, or the national economy encounters or may encounter a severe crisis, the State may adopt necessary safeguard or control measures. Fourth, the Revised Foreign Exchange Control Regulations have enhanced the supervision and administration of foreign exchange transactions and grant extensive authorities to SAFE to enhance its supervisory and administrative powers.

PRC enterprises (including foreign-invested enterprises) which need foreign exchange for transactions relating to current account items may, without the approval of SAFE, effect exchange and payment from their foreign exchange accounts at the designated foreign exchange banks with the support of valid receipts and proof. Foreign-invested enterprises which need foreign exchange for the distribution of profits to their shareholders and PRC enterprises which, in accordance with regulations, are required to pay dividends to their shareholders in foreign exchange (such as the Bank) may, on the strength of resolutions of the board of directors or the shareholders' meeting approving the distribution of profits, effect exchange and payment from their foreign exchange accounts or convert and pay dividends at the designated foreign exchange banks.

On October 23, 2014, the State Council promulgated the Decisions on Matters including Canceling and Adjusting a Batch of Administrative Approval Items (國務院關於取消和調整一批行政審批項目等事項的決定) (Guo Fa [2014] No.50), which canceled the approval requirement by the SAFE and its branches for the repatriation and settlement of foreign exchange of overseas-raised funds through overseas listing.

On December 26, 2014, the SAFE issued the Notice of the SAFE on Issues Concerning the Foreign Exchange Administration of Overseas Listing (國家外匯管理局關於境外上市外匯管理有關問題的通知), pursuant to which a domestic issuer shall, within 15 business days of the end of its initial public offering overseas, register the overseas listing with the SAFE's local branch at the place of its incorporation; and the proceeds from an overseas listing may be remitted to the domestic account or deposited in an overseas account, but the use of the proceeds shall be consistent with the content of the prospectus and other disclosure documents.

On February 13, 2015, the SAFE issued the Notice of the SAFE on Further Simplifying and Improving the Foreign Exchange Management Policies for Direct Investment (國家外匯管理局關於進一步簡化和改進直接投資外匯管理政策的通知) (Hui Fa [2015] No.13), which came into effect on June 1, 2015. The Notice cancels the foreign exchange registration approval under domestic direct investment and foreign exchange registration approval under overseas direct investment, and requires the banks to review and carry out foreign exchange registration under domestic direct investment and foreign exchange registration under overseas direct investment directly. SAFE and its branches shall implement indirect supervision over foreign exchange registration of direct investment via the banks.