22 DEFERRED TAXATION - THE GROUP (CONT'D)

Movements on the provision for deferred taxation are as follows:

	2000	1999
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
At 1 January	900	248
Transferred to profit and loss account (note 5)	5,853	189
Acquisition of subsidiaries	463	463
At 31 December	7,216	900

No provision has been made for deferred tax liability in respect of the timing differences relating to the revaluation of certain leasehold land and buildings of the Group. The revaluation does not constitute a timing difference for taxation purposes because the management of the Group intend to operate these properties on a long-term basis.

23 Notes to the consolidated cash flow statement

(a) Reconciliation of profit before taxation to net cash inflow from operating activities

	2000	1999
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Profit before taxation	924,270	613,861
Interest income	(140,330)	(43,830)
Interest expenses	20,585	32,243
Share of profits less losses of associated companies	(13,677)	(9,389)
Depreciation	95,939	78,376
Provision for diminution in value of investments	5,790	—
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(7,205)	(1,142)
Increase in inventories	(51,529)	(23,855)
Increase in trade and bills receivable, other receivables,		
prepayments and deposits including amounts		
due from associated companies	(708,861)	(402,231)
Increase in trade and bills payable, accrued charges		
and sundry payables including amounts due to		
associated companies	931,854	380,808
Net cash inflow from operating activities	1,056,836	624,841

23 Notes to the consolidated cash flow statement (Cont'd)

(b) Disposal of a subsidiary

	2000	1999
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Net assets disposed of:		
Investments	34,639	—
Loan to an investee company	38,650	—
	73,289	
Satisfied by cash	73,289	

Analysis of inflow of cash and cash equivalents in respect of disposal of a subsidiary:

	2000	1999
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cash consideration	73,289	



23 Notes to the consolidated cash flow statement (Cont'd)

(c) Purchase of subsidiaries

	2000	1999
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Net assets acquired:		
Fixed assets	115,133	18,619
Investments	20,950	10,017
Investments	· · · ·	12 802
Trade and other receivables	5,437	13,892 163,163
	350,222	
Cash and bank balances	230,968	105,711
Trade and other payables	(401,186)	(208,067)
Obligations under finance leases	(5,461)	
Bank loans and overdrafts	_	(13,451)
Taxation payable	(8,001)	(6,074)
Deferred taxation	(463)	(463)
Minority interests	(1,711)	(26,391)
Long-term bank loans	(75,936)	
Long-term loan from the Group	(19,600)	—
Loans from minority shareholders of a subsidiary	(7,616)	—
Exchange reserve	_	(182)
	202,736	46,757
Goodwill on consolidation	2,106,128	477,579
Goodwill on consolidation		
	2,308,864	524,336
	2,000,001	021,000
Satisfied by:		
Cash consideration	321,314	488,350
Interests in associated companies	,	2,776
Consideration shares (<i>note</i> $19(h)$)	1,952,493	
Expenses incurred in respect of acquisition	2,202,200	
of subsidiaries and the related restructuring costs	35,057	33,210
or substantines and the related restructuring costs		
	2,308,864	524,336

23 Notes to the consolidated cash flow statement (Cont'd)

(c) Purchase of subsidiaries (CONT'D)

Analysis of the net outflow of cash and cash equivalents in respect of the acquisition of subsidiaries:

	2000	1999
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cash consideration	321,314	488,350
Expenses incurred in respect of acquisition		
of subsidiaries and the related restructuring costs	35,057	33,210
Outstanding purchase consideration payable	(123,750)	(335,880)
Cash consideration paid	232,621	185 <i>,</i> 680
Cash and cash equivalents acquired	(230,968)	(92,260)
Net outflow of cash and cash equivalents in respect of		
acquisition of subsidiaries	1,653	93,420



23 Notes to the consolidated cash flow statement (Cont'd)

Analysis of changes in financing during the year (d)

	2000				1999				
	Share capital including share premium HK\$'000	Long- term bank loans HK\$'000	Obligations under finance leases HK\$'000	Loans from minority shareholders HK\$'000	Minority interests HK\$'000	Share capital including share premium HK\$'000	Long- term bank loans HK\$'000	Amounts due from holding company and fellow subsidiaries HK\$'000	Minority interests HK\$'000
At 1 January	795,721	458,651	-	-	4,460	716,663	489,558	(768)	(24,595)
Non cash movement Share of (losses)/profits	_	_	_	_	(10,296)	_	_	_	2,585
Acquisition of subsidiaries Consideration Shares	-	75,936	5,461	7,616	1,711	_	_	_	123
to be issued (<i>note 19(h</i>)) Premium paid on acquisition of	2,830	-	-	-	-	_	_	-	_
subsidiaries/business Exchange adjustment		(2,691)	_		469	_	(907)	_	26,262 (34)
0 7	798,551	531,896	5,461	7,616	(3,656)	716,663	488,651	(768)	4,341
Proceeds from issue of shares Bank and other loans raised	2,035,496	-	_		-	79,058		-	_
Repayment of bank loans Capital element of	_	(430,492)	-	- 18,160 -	-	_	250,000 (280,000)	_	_
finance lease payments Repayments from holding company	_	-	(266)	-	-	-	-	-	_
and fellow subsidiaries Dividends paid	-	-	-		 (50)		-	768	(113)
Repayment to a minority shareholder Capital contribution	_	-	_	-	318	-	_	_	_
from a minority shareholder					23,249				232
At 31 December	2,834,047	101,404	5,195	25,776	19,861	795,721	458,651	_	4,460

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24 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

	The C	Group	The C	Company
	2000	1999	2000	1999
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Bills of exchange discounted				
with recourse	916,857	469,931	—	—
Guarantees in respect of				
banking facilities granted to:				
Subsidiaries	—	—	7,700,655	6,441,380
Associated companies	76,050	52,460	46,800	23,315
Other guarantees	9,600	11,000	—	_
	1,002,507	533,391	7,747,455	6,464,695

25 Commitments

(a) Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2000, the Group had commitments to make payments in the next twelve months under operating leases which expire as follows:

	The Group					
	2000	2000	1999	1999		
	Land and buildings HK\$'000	Others HK\$'000	Land and buildings HK\$′000	Others HK\$'000		
		11100 000		111χφ 000		
Within one year In the second to	26,364	—	15,385	—		
fifth year inclusive	36,607	572	22,064	—		
After the fifth year	4,475		147			
	67,446	572	37,596			

(b) Capital commitments for property, plant and equipment

	The Group		
	2000	1999	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Contracted but not provided for	5,992	3,185	

26 CHARGE OF ASSETS

At 31 December 2000, there were charges on the assets and undertakings, of one (1999: two) overseas subsidiary and the Group's land and buildings, with net book values amounting to HK\$117,385,000 (1999: HK\$213,588,000) and HK\$101,210,000 (1999: HK\$913,858,000) respectively in favour of banks to cover banking facilities granted to these subsidiaries.

27 Related party transaction

On 27 March 2000, the Group entered into an agreement (the "Agreement") to dispose of its entire interest in a subsidiary, Neptune Pacific Limited ("Neptune"), to Li & Fung (1937) Limited, a substantial shareholder of the Company, at a consideration of approximately HK\$73.3 million. Neptune owns 20% interest in the share capital of LF Distribution Centers Limited which in turn holds 70% equity interest in Lifung (Panyu) DistriCenter Company Limited. Lifung (Panyu) DistriCenter Company Limited owns a warehouse and logistic center located in the Guangdong Province of the People's Republic of China. Dr Victor FUNG Kwok King and Dr William FUNG Kwok Lun, the directors of the Company, are the controlling shareholders of Li & Fung (1937) Limited.

28 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The accounts were approved by the Board of Directors on 26 March 2001.