

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT



Operating under tough retail conditions during the year, the Group posted a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$55 million compared to a profit of HK\$93 million for last year. Group turnover increased by 9% from HK\$1,137 million last year to HK\$1,243 million this year.

The Board does not recommend payment of a dividend and will keep the funds to reduce borrowing and for working capital. However, in the next financial year 2001/2002, if, we maintain or better profit levels for this year, the Board will recommend payment of a dividend.

### REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

A full review of operations is set out on page 4 and 5.

### PROSPECTS

To ensure that the Group will be prepared for the turnaround when it occurs, we will concentrate on reengineering our three core retail operations to improve overall performance, profitability and efficiency.

### APPRECIATION

I express my appreciation to other Board members and all staff for their commitment and efforts during the year.

**Wong Chue Meng**  
*Chairman*

Hong Kong, 19th July 2001