

INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board has resolved to declare an interim dividend of RMB0.01518 per share, totaling RMB58,384,557 for the six months ended 30th June 2001. Pursuant to the Articles of Association of the Company, dividends payable to the holders of Domestic Shares will be paid in RMB, while dividends payable to holders of H Shares will be paid in Hong Kong dollars. The dividends payable in Hong Kong dollars will be calculated based on the average exchange rate of RMB to Hong Kong dollar published by the People's Bank of China over a period of one calendar week prior to the declaration of the interim dividend (i.e. from 20th August, 2001 to 24th August, 2001). During the period, the average exchange rate of RMB to Hong Kong Dollar was RMB1.00=HK\$1.06119. Accordingly, the amount of interim dividend for each H Share of the Company is HK\$0.01430.

The register of the shareholders of the Company will be temporarily closed from Friday, 21st September, 2001 to Friday, 28th September, 2001 (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares will be registered. The interim dividend is expected to be paid on or before Thursday, 18th October, 2001, to the shareholders whose names appear on the register of shareholders on Friday, 28th September, 2001.

In order to qualify for the interim dividend, holders of H shares whose transfers have not been registered are requested to deposit the transfer documents together with relevant share certificates to the Company's H share Registrars: Hong Kong Registrars Limited at 2/F, Vicwood Plaza, No. 199, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hong Kong not later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday 20th September, 2001.