



CURRENCY EXCHANGE RISK

The Group carries out its day-to-day business activities mainly in the PRC. A large amount of capital income and expenditure is principally denominated in Renminbi, with a small amount of expenditure being denominated in Hong Kong dollars. The Group's foreign exchange debt is mainly applied to the payment of commissions outside China and payment of dividends to holders of H shares. The Group's cash balances are usually deposited with financial institutions in the form of short-term deposits. Bank loans were borrowed in Renminbi and can be repaid out of the income received in Renminbi.

As at 30 June 2003, the Group has not pledged any of its foreign currency deposits.