

## Interim Dividend

The Board was authorised by the shareholders to consider and approve the payment of an interim dividend for 2003 at the shareholders' meeting held on May 28, 2003. The Board has resolved to pay an interim dividend of RMB0.098841 per share (inclusive of applicable tax) for the six months ended June 30, 2003. The payment shall be made to shareholders whose names appear on the register of members of the Company at the close of business on September 16, 2003. In accordance with Article 39 of the Company's articles of association, no transfer of shares shall be registered in the register of members five days before the record date for the Company's distribution of dividends. The register of members will be closed from September 11, 2003 to September 16, 2003, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares will be registered. In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all transfer documents must be lodged together with the relevant share certificates at the Hong Kong Registrars Limited, Rooms 1901-1905 Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong no later than 4 p.m. on September 10, 2003.

Details of the payment of the interim dividend for the six months ended June 30, 2003 are as follows:

(1) According to Article 149 of the articles of association of the Company, dividends payable to the Company's shareholders shall be declared in RMB. Dividends payable to holders of State-owned shares shall be paid in RMB while dividends payable to holders of H shares shall be paid in the local currency of the place of listing. Dividends payable to holders of H shares this time shall be paid in Hong Kong dollars and the following formula shall apply:

$$\text{Conversion rate for dividend per share (RMB to Hong Kong dollar)} = \frac{\text{Dividend per share in RMB}}{\text{Average of the closing exchange rates for RMB to Hong Kong dollar as announced by the People's Bank of China for the week prior to the declaration of the interim dividend}}$$

For the purpose of calculating the Hong Kong dollar equivalent of the amount of interim dividend payable per H share, the average of the closing exchange rates for RMB to Hong Kong dollar as announced by the People's Bank of China for the week prior to the declaration of the interim dividend is RMB1.0609 = HK\$1.00. Accordingly, the amount of interim dividend which will be payable per H share of the Company is HK\$0.093167.

(2) The Company has appointed Bank of China (Hong Kong) Trustees Limited as the receiving agent in Hong Kong (the "Receiving Agent") and will pay to such Receiving Agent the interim dividend declared pending payment to the holders of H shares.

Such interim dividend will be paid by the Receiving Agent on or about October 8, 2003.