

Company Profile



The Company's office building in Beijing

China Unicom Limited (the "Company") was incorporated in Hong Kong in February 2000.

The Company was listed on the New York Stock Exchange and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong on 21 June 2000 and 22 June 2000 respectively. On 1 June 2001, the Company was included as a constituent stock of the Hang Seng Index.

China United Telecommunications Corporation ("Unicom Group") is the major shareholder of the Company. As of 31 December 2004, Unicom Group indirectly and effectively holds 57.92% of shares in the Company through China Unicom (BVI) Limited and China United Telecommunications Corporation Limited. The public investors of the A Share market in Shanghai indirectly and effectively hold 19.49% of shares in the Company. The remaining 22.59% of shares in the Company are held by public investors in Hong Kong and New York.

At present, the Company is engaged in the cellular business (both GSM and CDMA) in 30 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions in China through China Unicom Corporation Limited and Unicom New World Telecommunications Corporation Limited, the provision of international and domestic long distance calls, data communications and Internet business, as well as other related telecommunication value-added businesses nationwide.

As to its cellular business, the Company is one of the two mobile telecommunication operators in the PRC. As of 31 December 2004, there were 112.081 million subscribers to the Company's GSM and CDMA cellular businesses. In terms of the number of subscribers, the Company was ranked as the third largest mobile telecommunication operator in the world. The number of the Company's CDMA cellular subscribers reached 27.814 million and the Company was ranked as the second largest CDMA cellular operator in the world.

The Company has constructed the second largest broadband optical fiber transmission network with nationwide coverage in the PRC. This network serves as a shared platform, which supports the operation of cellular business, international and domestic long distance calls, data and Internet and this sound network resources serves as a good support for the rapid development of the Company's various businesses.

In September 2004, China Unicom formally completed the acquisition of China Unicom International Limited ("Unicom International"), the wholly-owned subsidiary of Unicom Group. Unicom International is engaged in telecommunications businesses both in Hong Kong and USA. In March 2005, China Unicom (Macau) Limited, registered in Macau Special Administrative Region ("Macau") and invested by the Company, won the CDMA license in Macau. This is the first time that a mainland telecommunication carrier has obtained such mobile service license outside the Mainland China.