

The following discussion is a summary of some anticipated tax consequences of our operations and of your investment in our Shares under tax laws of mainland China, Hong Kong and the Cayman Islands. The discussion does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to our operations or to your investment in our Shares. In particular, the discussion does not address the tax consequences under provincial, local and other (e.g. non-PRC, non-Hong Kong and non-Cayman Islands) tax laws. Accordingly, you should consult your tax advisor regarding your particular tax consequences of an investment in our Shares. The following discussion is based upon laws and their interpretations in effect as of the date of this prospectus, all of which are subject to change.

MAINLAND CHINA TAXATION

Because we are not incorporated in mainland China, your investment in our Shares is largely exempt from PRC tax laws, excepted as disclosed in “Risk Factors — Risks Relating to Our Business — Dividends payable by us to our foreign investors and gain on the sale of our Shares may become subject to withholding taxes under PRC tax laws.” But because virtually all of our business operations are in mainland China and we carry out these business operations through operating subsidiaries and joint ventures organized under the PRC law, our PRC operations and our operating subsidiaries and joint ventures in mainland China are subject to PRC tax laws and regulations, which indirectly affect your investment in our Shares.

Dividends from Our PRC Operations

Under the PRC tax laws effective prior to January 1, 2008, dividends paid by our PRC subsidiaries or joint ventures to us were exempt from PRC income tax. However, pursuant to the PRC Enterprise Income Tax Law and its implementation rules that became effective on January 1, 2008, dividends payable by foreign invested enterprises, such as subsidiaries and joint ventures in China, to their foreign investors are subject to a withholding tax at a rate of 10% unless any lower treaty rate is applicable.

Under the new tax law and its implementation rules, enterprises established under the laws of foreign jurisdictions but whose “de facto management body” is located in China are treated as “resident enterprises” for PRC tax purposes, and will be subject to PRC income tax on their worldwide income. For such PRC tax purposes, dividends from PRC subsidiaries to their foreign shareholders are excluded from such taxable worldwide income. Under the implementation rules of the new Enterprise Income Law, “de facto management bodies” is defined as the bodies that have material and overall management control over the business, personnel, accounts and properties of an enterprise. Because this tax law is new and its implementation rules are newly issued, there is uncertainty as to how this new law and its implementation rules will be interpreted or implemented by relevant tax bureaus.

Dividends We Pay to You

Because we are not incorporated in mainland China, under the PRC tax laws effective prior to January 1, 2008, even though we had significant operating subsidiaries and joint ventures in mainland China, our distribution of dividends to our overseas investors was not subject to PRC

tax. The new PRC enterprise income tax law and its implementation rules, however, impose a withholding tax at the rate of 10% on dividends paid to investors that are “non-resident enterprises,” to the extent such dividends are sourced within China. It is not clear whether you will be subject to such PRC withholding taxes as a result. A non-resident enterprise for such tax purposes is defined to include any non-PRC incorporated enterprise that does not have an establishment or place of business in China. Although a foreign investor has such establishment or place of business in China, such withholding is not applicable if the relevant income is not effectively connected with its establishment or place of business in China. Due to these new provisions in the PRC tax law, despite many uncertainties with respect to their actual intentions and practical effects, if we are considered a PRC resident enterprise, the dividends we pay to the non-resident enterprise investors with respect to our Shares may be treated as income derived from sources within China and be subject to the PRC withholding tax.

Transfer or Disposition of Our Shares

As we are not incorporated in mainland China, under the PRC tax laws, any transfer or disposition of our Shares by an overseas investor did not trigger PRC tax liabilities. The new PRC enterprise income tax law and its implementation rules, however, impose a withholding tax at the rate of 10% on capital gains realized by investors that are “non-resident enterprises,” to the extent such gains are sourced within China. It is not clear whether you will be subject to such PRC withholding taxes as a result. A non-resident enterprise for such tax purposes is defined to include any non-PRC incorporated enterprise that does not have an establishment or place of business in China. Any gain realized on the transfer of Shares by such investors is subject to 10% PRC income tax if such gain is regarded as income derived from sources within China. Due to these new provisions in the PRC tax law, despite many uncertainties with respect to their actual intentions and practical effects, if we are considered a PRC resident enterprise, the gain the non-resident enterprise investors may realize from the transfer of our Shares, may be treated as income derived from sources within China and be subject to the PRC income tax.

Our Operations in Mainland China

Our subsidiaries and joint ventures through which we conduct our business operations in mainland China are subject to PRC tax laws and regulations.

Deed Tax. Under the PRC Interim Regulation on Deed Tax 《中華人民共和國契稅暫行條例》, a deed tax is chargeable to transferees of land use rights and/or ownership in real properties within the territory of mainland China. These taxable transfers include:

- grant of use right of state-owned land;
- sale, gift and exchange of land use rights, other than transfer of right to manage rural collective land; and
- sale, gift and exchange of real properties.

Deed tax rate is between 3% to 5% subject to determination by local governments at the provincial level in light of the local conditions.

Corporate Income Tax. Prior to the new Enterprise Income Tax Law and its implementation rules that became effective on January 1, 2008, our PRC subsidiaries and joint ventures were generally subject to a 33% corporate income tax. Under the new income tax law, effective from January 1, 2008, a unified enterprise income tax rate is set at 25% for both domestic enterprises and foreign-invested enterprises. The new Enterprise Income Tax Law and its implementation rules provide certain relieves to enterprises that were established prior to March 16, 2007, including (1) continuously enjoying the preferential income tax rate during a five-year transition period if such enterprises are entitled to preferential income tax rate before the effectiveness of new Enterprises Income Tax Law; (2) continuously enjoying the preferential income tax rate until its expiry if such enterprises are entitled to tax holidays for a fixed period under the relevant laws and regulations. However, where the preferential tax treatment has not commenced due to losses or accumulated loss not being fully offset, such preferential tax treatment shall be deemed to commence from January 1, 2008 and expire on December 31, 2013. In addition, dividends from PRC subsidiaries to their foreign shareholders will be subject to a withholding tax at a rate of 10% unless any lower treaty rate is applicable. However, under the new tax law and its implementation rules, enterprises established under the laws of foreign jurisdictions but whose “de facto management body” is located in China are treated as “resident enterprises” for PRC tax purposes, and will be subject to PRC income tax on their worldwide income. Dividends from PRC subsidiaries to their foreign shareholders are excluded from such taxable worldwide income. Under the implementation rules of the new Enterprise Income Law, “de facto management bodies” is defined as the bodies that have material and overall management control over the business, personnel, accounts and properties of an enterprise. Because this tax law is new and its implementation rules are newly issued, there is uncertainty as to how this new law and its implementation rules will be interpreted or implemented by relevant tax bureaus.

Business Tax. Under the PRC Interim Regulation on Business Tax 《中華人民共和國營業稅暫行條例》 of 1994, as amended in 2008, services in mainland China are subject to business tax. Taxable services include sale of real property in mainland China. Business tax rate is between 3% to 20% depending on the type of services provided. Sale of real properties and other improvements on the land attract a business tax at the rate of 5% of the turnover of the selling enterprise payable to the relevant local tax authorities.

On June 16, 2006, the State Administration of Taxation and the Ministry of Finance jointly issued a Notice on Adjusting the Relevant Policies for Real Estate Business Taxes 《關於加強住房營業稅徵收管理有關問題的通知》. According to the notice, from June 1, 2006, business tax will be imposed on the full amount of the sale income, upon the transfer of a residential house by an individual within five years from the purchase date. In the case of a residence other than an ordinary residence, business tax will be imposed on the difference between the sale income and the purchase price, provided that the transfer occurs after five years from the purchase date.

On December 29, 2008, the Ministry of Finance and the State Administration of Taxation issued a Notice on the Policy of Business Tax on Re-sale of Individual Residential Properties 《關於個人住房轉讓營業稅政策的通知》, from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, business tax will be imposed on the full amount of the sale income, upon the transfer a non-ordinary residence by an individual within two years from the purchase date; for the transfer of non-ordinary residence which is more than two years from the purchase date and ordinary residence

which is within two years from the purchase date, the business tax is to be levied on the difference between the sale income and the purchase price; and in the case of an ordinary residence, the business tax is exempted if that transfer occurs after two years from the purchase date.

Land Appreciation Tax. Under the PRC Interim Regulation on Land Appreciation Tax 《中華人民共和國土地增值稅暫行條例》 of 1994 and its implementation rules of 1995, LAT applies to both domestic and foreign investors in real properties in mainland China, irrespective of whether they are corporate entities or individuals. The tax is payable by a taxpayer on the appreciation value derived from the transfer of land use rights, buildings or other facilities on such land, after deducting the “deductible items” that include the following:

- payments made to acquire land use rights;
- costs and charges incurred in connection with the land development;
- construction costs and charges in the case of newly constructed buildings and facilities;
- assessed value in the case of old buildings and facilities;
- taxes paid or payable in connection with the transfer of the land use rights, buildings or other facilities on such land; and
- other items allowed by the Ministry of Finance.

The tax rate is progressive and ranges from 30% to 60% of the appreciation value as compared to the “deductible items” as follows:

<u>Appreciation value</u>	<u>LAT rate</u>
Portion not exceeding 50% of deductible items.	30%
Portion over 50% but not more than 100% of deductible items.	40%
Portion over 100% but not more than 200% of deductible items.	50%
Portion over 200% of deductible items.	60%

Exemption from LAT is available to the following cases:

- Taxpayers constructing ordinary residential properties for sale (i.e. the residences built in accordance with the local standard for residential properties used by the general population, excluding deluxe apartments, villas, resorts and other high-end premises), where the appreciation amount does not exceed 20% of the sum of deductible items;
- Real estate taken over and repossessed according to laws due to the construction requirements of the state; and

- Due to redeployment of work or improvement of living standard, transfers by individuals of originally self-used residential properties, with five years or longer of self-used residence and with tax authorities' approval.

According to a notice issued by the Ministry of Finance in January 1995, the LAT regulation does not apply to the following transfers of land use rights:

- real estate transfer contracts executed before January 1, 1994; and
- first time transfers of land use rights and/or premises and buildings during the five years commencing on January 1, 1994 if the land grant contracts were executed or the development projects were approved before January 1, 1994 and the capital has been injected for the development in compliance with the relevant regulations.

After the enactment of the LAT regulations and the implementation rules in 1994 and 1995, respectively, due to the long period of time typically required for real estate developments and their transfers, many jurisdictions, while implementing these regulations and rules, did not require real estate development enterprises to declare and pay the LAT as they did other taxes. Therefore, in order to assist the local tax authorities in the collection of LAT, the Ministry of Finance, State Administration of Taxation, Ministry of Construction and State Land Administration Bureau separately and jointly issued several notices to reiterate that, after the assignments are signed, the taxpayers should declare the tax to the local tax authorities where the real estate is located, and pay the LAT in accordance with the amount as calculated by the tax authority and within the time period as required. For those who fail to acquire proof as regards the tax paid or the tax exemption from the tax authorities, the real estate administration authority will not process the relevant title change procedures, and will not issue the property ownership certificates.

The State Administration of Taxation issued a further notice in July 2002 to require local tax authorities to require prepayment of LAT on basis of proceeds from pre-sale of real estate.

In December 2006, the State Administration of Taxation issued a Notice on the Administration of the Settlement of Land Appreciation Tax of Property Development Enterprises 《關於房地產開發企業土地增值稅清算管理有關問題通知》, which came into effect on February 1, 2007. The notice required settlement of LAT liabilities by real estate developers. Provincial tax authorities are given authority to formulate their implementation rules according to the notice and their local situation.

To further strengthen LAT collection, in May 2009, the State Administration of Taxation released the Rules on the Administration of the Settlement of Land Appreciation Tax 《土地增值稅清算管理規程》, which come into force in June 1, 2009.

Urban Land Use Tax. Pursuant to the PRC Interim Regulations on Land Use Tax in respect of Urban Land 《中華人民共和國城鎮土地使用稅暫行條例》 promulgated by the State Council in September 1988, the land use tax in respect of urban land is levied according to the area of relevant land. The annual tax on urban land was between RMB 0.2 and RMB 10 per square meter. An amendment by the State Council in December 2006 changed the annual tax rate to between RMB 0.6 and RMB 30 per square meter of urban land.

Buildings Tax. Under the PRC Interim Regulations on Buildings Tax 《中華人民共和國房產稅暫行條例》 promulgated by the State Council in September 1986, buildings tax applicable to domestic enterprises is 1.2% if it is calculated on the basis of the residual value of a building and 12% if it is calculated on the basis of the rental.

And according to the Notice on Issues Relating to Assessment of Buildings Tax against Foreign-invested Enterprises and Foreign Individuals 《關於對外資企業及外籍個人徵收房產稅有關問題的通知》, the foreign-invested enterprises, foreign enterprises and foreign individuals are to be levied the same as domestic enterprise.

Stamp Duty. Under the PRC Interim Regulations on Stamp Duty 《中華人民共和國印花稅暫行條例》 promulgated by the State Council in August 1988, for property transfer instruments, including those in respect of property ownership transfers, the duty rate is 0.05% of the amount stated therein; for permits and certificates relating to rights, including property ownership certificates and land use rights certificates, stamp duty is levied on an item-by-item basis of RMB 5 per item.

Municipal Maintenance Tax. Under the PRC Interim Regulations on Municipal Maintenance Tax 《中華人民共和國城市維護建設稅暫行條例》 promulgated by the State Council in 1985, taxpayer, whether an individual or otherwise, of product tax, value-added tax or business tax are required to pay municipal maintenance tax calculated on the basis of product tax, value-added tax and business tax. The tax rate is 7% for a taxpayer whose domicile is in an urban area, 5% for a taxpayer whose domicile is in a county or a town, and 1% for a taxpayer whose domicile is not in any urban area or county or town. Under the Circular Concerning Temporary Exemption from Municipal Maintenance Tax and Education Surcharge For Enterprises with Foreign Investment and Foreign Enterprises issued by the State Administration of Taxation in February 1994, the municipal maintenance tax is not applicable to foreign invested enterprises for the time being, until further explicit stipulations are issued by the State Council.

Education Surcharge. Under the Interim Provisions on Imposition of Education Surcharge 《徵收教育費附加的暫行稅條例》 promulgated by the State Council in April 1986 and amended in 1990 and in August 2005, any taxpayer, whether an individual or otherwise, of value-added tax, business tax or consumption tax is liable for an education surcharge, unless such taxpayer is required to pay a rural area education surcharge as provided by the Notice of the State Council on Raising Funds for Schools in Rural Areas. The Education Surcharge rate is 3% calculated on the basis of consumption tax, value-added tax and business tax. Under the Circular Concerning Temporary Exemption from Municipal Maintenance Tax and Education Surcharge For Enterprises with Foreign Investment and Foreign Enterprises issued by the State Administration of Taxation in February 1994 and the Supplementary Circular Concerning Imposition of Education Surcharge issued by the State Council in October 1994, the education surcharge is not applicable to foreign invested enterprises the time being.

HONG KONG TAXATION

Dividends

Under the current practice of the Hong Kong Inland Revenue Department, no tax is payable in Hong Kong in respect of dividends we pay to our shareholders. Dividends distributed to our shareholders are free of withholding taxes in Hong Kong.

Capital Gains and Profit Tax

No tax is imposed in Hong Kong in respect of capital gains from the sale of our Shares. Trading gains from the sale of our Shares by persons carrying on a business in Hong Kong, where such gains are sourced in Hong Kong and arise from such business, will be chargeable to Hong Kong profits tax. Currently, profits tax is imposed on corporations at the rate of 16.5% and on individuals at a maximum rate of 15.0%. Gains from sale of our Shares effected on the Stock Exchange will be considered to be sourced in Hong Kong. Liability for Hong Kong profits tax would thus arise in respect of trading gains from sale of our Shares effected on the Stock Exchange realized by persons carrying on a business of trading or dealing in securities in Hong Kong.

Stamp duty

Hong Kong stamp duty will be payable by the purchaser on every purchase, and by the seller on every sale, of our Shares. The duty is charged at the ad valorem rate of 0.1% of the consideration for, or (if greater) the value of, our Shares transferred on each sale and purchase. In other words, a total of 0.2% of stamp duty is currently payable on a typical sale and purchase transaction of our Shares. In addition, any instrument of transfer (if required) will be subject to a flat rate of stamp duty of HK\$5. Where a sale or purchase of our Shares is effected by a non-Hong Kong resident and any stamp duty payable on the contract notes is not paid, the relevant instrument of transfer (if any) will be chargeable with such duty, together with the duty otherwise chargeable thereon, and the transferee will be liable to pay such duty.

CAYMAN ISLANDS TAXATION

Pursuant to section 6 of the Tax Concessions Law (1999 Revision) of the Cayman Islands, We have obtained an undertaking from the Governor in Cabinet:

- (a) that no law which is enacted in the Cayman Islands imposing any tax to be levied on profits or income or gains or appreciation will apply to us or our operations; and
- (b) in addition, that no tax to be levied on profits, income gains or appreciations or which is in the nature of estate duty or inheritance tax will be payable by us:
 - (i) on or in respect of our shares, debentures or other obligations; or
 - (ii) by way of withholding in whole or in part of any relevant payment as defined in Section 6(3) of the Tax Concession Law (1999 Revision).

The undertaking is for a period of 20 years from July 4, 2006.

The Cayman Islands currently levies no taxes on individuals or corporations based upon profits, income, gains or appreciations and there is no taxation in the nature of inheritance tax or estate duty. There are no other taxes likely to be material us levied by the Government of the Cayman Islands save certain stamp duties which may be applicable, from time to time, on certain instruments executed in or brought within the jurisdiction of the Cayman Islands. The Cayman Islands is not a party to any double tax treaties.

No stamp duty is payable in the Cayman Islands on transfers of shares of Cayman Islands companies except those which hold interests in land in the Cayman Islands. We do not hold, and do not intend to hold, any interest in land in the Cayman Islands.