

STRUCTURE OF THE GLOBAL OFFERING

The Global Offering

This prospectus is published in connection with the Hong Kong Public Offering as part of the Global Offering. The Global Offering comprises:

- (i) the Hong Kong Public Offering of 17,921,000 Offer Shares in Hong Kong as described below in the section entitled “The Hong Kong Public Offering” below; and
- (ii) the International Offering of an aggregate of initially 340,499,000 H Shares, consisting of the offering of our H Shares (i) in the United States to qualified institutional buyers in reliance on Rule 144A under the U.S. Securities Act and (ii) outside the United States in reliance on Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act. At any time from the date of the International Purchase Agreement until 30 days after the last day for the lodging of applications in the Hong Kong Public Offering, the Joint Global Coordinators, as representatives of the International Purchasers, have an option to require us to issue and allot up to 53,763,000 additional Offer Shares, representing approximately 15% of the initial number of Offer Shares to be offered in the Global Offering, at the Offer Price to, among other things, cover over-allocations in the International Offering, if any. If the H Share Over-Allotment Option is exercised in full, the additional Offer Shares will represent approximately 1.70% of the Company’s enlarged share capital immediately following the completion of the A Share Offering, the Global Offering and the exercise of the H Share Over-Allotment Option. In the event that the H Share Over-Allotment Option is exercised, a press announcement will be made.

Investors may apply for Offer Shares under the Hong Kong Public Offering or apply for or indicate an interest for Offer Shares under the International Offering, but may not do both.

The Offer Shares will represent approximately 11.50% of the enlarged issued share capital of the Company immediately after completion of the A Share Offering and the Global Offering without taking into account the exercise of the H Share Over-Allotment Option. If the H Share Over-Allotment Option is exercised in full, the Offer Shares will represent approximately 13.00% of the enlarged issued share capital immediately after completion of the A Share Offering, the Global Offering and the exercise of the H Share Over-Allotment Option as set out in the paragraph headed “H Share Over-Allotment Option” below.

The number of Offer Shares to be offered under the Hong Kong Public Offering and the International Offering may be subject to reallocation as described in the section headed “Reallocation” below.

The Hong Kong Public Offering

Number of Offer Shares initially offered

Our Company is initially offering 17,921,000 Offer Shares for subscription by the public in Hong Kong at the Offer Price, representing approximately 5% of the total number of Offer Shares initially available under the Global Offering.

The Hong Kong Public Offering is open to members of the public in Hong Kong as well as to institutional and professional investors. The Hong Kong Offer Shares will represent approximately 0.57% of the Company’s registered share capital immediately after completion of the A Share Offering and the Global Offering, assuming that the H Share Over-Allotment Option is not exercised. Professional investors generally include brokers, dealers, companies (including

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fund managers) whose ordinary business involves dealing in shares and other securities and corporate entities which regularly invest in shares and other securities.

Completion of the Hong Kong Public Offering is subject to the conditions as set out in the section headed "Conditions of the Hong Kong Public Offering" below.

Allocation

Allocation of Offer Shares to investors under the Hong Kong Public Offering will be based solely on the level of valid applications received under the Hong Kong Public Offering. The basis of allocation may vary, depending on the number of Hong Kong Offer Shares validly applied for by applicants. Such allocation could, where appropriate, consist of balloting, which would mean that some applicants may receive a higher allocation than others who have applied for the same number of Hong Kong Offer Shares, and those applicants who are not successful in the ballot may not receive any Hong Kong Offer Shares.

The total number of Offer Shares initially available under the Hong Kong Public Offering (after taking account of any reallocation referred to below) is to be divided into two pools for allocation purposes: 8,960,500 Offer Shares for pool A and 8,960,500 Offer Shares for pool B. The Offer Shares in pool A will be allocated on an equitable basis to applicants who have applied for Offer Shares with an aggregate price of HK\$5 million (excluding the brokerage, SFC transaction levy and Hong Kong Stock Exchange trading fee payable) or less. The Offer Shares in pool B will be allocated on an equitable basis to applicants who have applied for Offer Shares with an aggregate price of more than HK\$5 million (excluding the brokerage, SFC transaction levy and Hong Kong Stock Exchange trading fee payable) and up to the total value in pool B. Investors should be aware that applications in pool A and applications in pool B may receive different allocation ratios. If Offer Shares in one (but not both) of the pools are undersubscribed, the surplus Offer Shares will be transferred to the other pool to satisfy demand in this other pool and be allocated accordingly. For the purpose of this paragraph only, the "price" for Offer Shares means the price payable on application therefore (without regard to the Offer Price as finally determined). Applicants can only receive an allocation of Offer Shares from either pool A or pool B but not from both pools. Multiple or suspected multiple applications and any application for more than 8,960,500 Offer Shares are liable to be rejected.

Reallocation

The allocation of the Offers Shares between the Hong Kong Public Offering and the International Offering is subject to adjustment. Pursuant to the grant of the clawback waiver by the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (for details please refer to the section headed "Waivers — Waiver in Relation to Clawback Mechanism" of this prospectus), if the number of the H Shares validly applied for under the Hong Kong Public Offering represents (i) 15 times or more but less than 50 times, (ii) 50 times or more but less than 100 times, and (iii) 100 times or more the number of the H Shares initially available for subscription under the Hong Kong Public Offering, then the H Shares will be reallocated to the Hong Kong Public Offering from the International Offering. As a result of such reallocation, the total number of Offer Shares available under the Hong Kong Public Offering will be increased to 26,881,600 Offer Shares (in the case of (i)), 35,842,000 Offer Shares (in the case of (ii)) and 71,684,000 Offer Shares (in the case of (iii)), representing approximately 7.5%, 10% and 20% of the Offer Shares initially available under the Global Offering, respectively (before any exercise of the H Shares Over-Allotment Option). In each case, the additional Offer Shares reallocated to the Hong Kong Public Offering will be allocated between pool A and pool B and the number of Offer Shares allocated to the International Offering will be correspondingly reduced in such manner as the Joint Global Coordinators deem

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appropriate. In addition, the Joint Global Coordinators may allocate Offer Shares from the International Offering to the Hong Kong Public Offering to satisfy valid applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering.

If the Hong Kong Public Offering is not fully subscribed for, the Joint Global Coordinators have the authority to reallocate all or any unsubscribed Hong Kong Offer Shares to the International Offering, in such proportions as the Joint Global Coordinators deem appropriate.

Applications

Each applicant under the Hong Kong Public Offering will also be required to give an undertaking and confirmation in the application submitted by him that he and any person(s) for whose benefit he is making the application have not applied for or taken up, or indicated an interest for, and will not apply for or take up, or indicate an interest for, any Offer Shares under the International Offering, and such applicant's application is liable to be rejected if the said undertaking and/or confirmation is breached and/or untrue (as the case may be) or it has been or will be placed or allocated Offer Shares under the International Offering.

The listing of the Offer Shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange is sponsored by the Joint Sponsors. Applicants under the Hong Kong Public Offering are required to pay, on application, the maximum price of HK\$34.33 per H Share in addition to any brokerage, SFC transaction levy and Hong Kong Stock Exchange trading fee payable on each Offer Share. If the Offer Price, as finally determined in the manner described in the section headed "Pricing of the Global Offering" below, is less than the maximum price of HK\$34.33 per H Share, appropriate refund payments (including the brokerage, SFC transaction levy and Hong Kong Stock Exchange trading fee attributable to the surplus application monies) will be made to successful applicants, without interest. Further details are set out below in the section entitled "How to Apply for Hong Kong Offer Shares."

References in this prospectus to applications, Application Forms, application monies or the procedure for application relate solely to the Hong Kong Public Offering.

The International Offering

Number of Offer Shares offered

Subject to reallocation as described above, the International Offering will consist of an aggregate of 340,499,000 Offer Shares to be offered by us.

Allocation

The International Offering will include selective marketing of Offer Shares to institutional and professional investors and other investors anticipated to have a sizeable demand for such Offer Shares. Professional investors generally include brokers, dealers, companies (including fund managers) whose ordinary business involves dealing in shares and other securities and corporate entities which regularly invest in shares and other securities. Allocation of Offer Shares pursuant to the International Offering will be effected in accordance with the "book-building" process described in the section entitled "Pricing of the Global Offering" below and based on a number of factors, including the level and timing of demand, the total size of the relevant investor's invested assets or equity assets in the relevant sector and whether or not it is expected that the relevant investor is likely to buy further Offer Shares, and/or hold or sell its Offer Shares, after the listing of the Offer Shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Such allocation is intended to result in a distribution of the Offer Shares on a basis which would lead to the establishment of a

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solid professional and institutional shareholder base to the benefit of our Company and our shareholders as a whole.

The Joint Global Coordinators (on behalf of the Underwriters) may require any investor who has been offered Offer Shares under the International Offering, and who has made an application under the Hong Kong Public Offering to provide sufficient information to the Joint Global Coordinators so as to allow them to identify the relevant application under the Hong Kong Public Offering and to ensure that it is excluded from any application of Offer Shares under the Hong Kong Public Offering.

H Share Over-Allotment Option

In connection with the Global Offering, we are expected to grant an H Share Over-Allotment Option to the International Purchasers exercisable by the Joint Global Coordinators on behalf of the International Purchasers.

Pursuant to the H Share Over-Allotment Option, the Joint Global Coordinators have the right, exercisable at any time from the date of the International Purchase Agreement until 30 days after the last date for the lodging of applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering, to require our Company to issue and allot up to 53,763,000 additional Offer Shares, representing approximately 15% of the initial Offer Shares, at the same price per Offer Share under the International Offering to cover, among other things, over-allocation in the International Offering, if any. If the H Share Over-Allotment Option is exercised in full, the additional Offer Shares will represent approximately 1.70% of the Company's enlarged share capital immediately following the completion of the A Share Offering, the Global Offering and the exercise of the H Share Over-Allotment Option. In the event that the H Share Over-Allotment Option is exercised, a press announcement will be made.

Pricing of the Global Offering

The International Purchasers will be soliciting from prospective investors indications of interest in acquiring Offer Shares in the International Offering. Prospective professional and institutional investors will be required to specify the number of Offer Shares under the International Offering they would be prepared to acquire either at different prices or at a particular price. This process, known as "book-building," is expected to continue up to, and to cease on or around, the last day for lodging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering.

Pricing for the Offer Shares for the purpose of the various offerings under the Global Offering will be fixed on the Price Determination Date, which is expected to be on or around Thursday, December 8, 2011, and in any event on or before Wednesday, December 14, 2011, by agreement between the Joint Global Coordinators (on behalf of the Underwriters) and the Company and the number of Offer Shares to be allocated under various offerings will be determined shortly thereafter.

The Offer Price will not be more than HK\$34.33 per H Share and is expected to be not less than HK\$28.20 per H Share unless otherwise announced, as further explained below, not later than the morning of the last day for lodging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering. **Prospective investors should be aware that the Offer Price to be determined on the Price Determination Date may be, but is not expected to be, lower than the indicative Offer Price range stated in this prospectus.**

The Joint Global Coordinators, on behalf of the Underwriters, may, where considered appropriate, based on the level of interest expressed by prospective professional and institutional investors during the book-building process, and with the consent of our Company, reduce the number of Offer Shares offered in the Global Offering and/or the indicative Offer Price range

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below that stated in this prospectus at any time on or prior to the morning of the last day for lodging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering. In such a case, our Company will, as soon as practicable following the decision to make such reduction, and in any event not later than the morning of the day which is the last day for lodging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering, cause there to be published in South China Morning Post (in English) and Hong Kong Economic Times (in Chinese) and to be posted on the website of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (www.hkexnews.hk) and on the website of our Company (www.newchinalife.com) notices of the reduction. Upon issue of such a notice, the number of Offer Shares offered in the Global Offering and/or the revised offer price range will be final and conclusive and the offer price, if agreed upon by the Joint Global Coordinators, on behalf of the Underwriters, and our Company, will be fixed within such revised Offer Price range. Applicants should have regard to the possibility that any announcement of a reduction in the number of Offer Shares being offered under the Global Offering and/or the indicative Offer Price range may not be made until the day which is the last day for lodging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering. Such notice will also include confirmation or revision, as appropriate, of the working capital statement and the profit forecast for the year ending December 31, 2011 and the Global Offering statistics as currently set out in this prospectus, and any other financial information which may change as a result of such reduction. **Applicants under the Hong Kong Public Offering should note that in no circumstances can applications be withdrawn once submitted, even if the number of Offer Shares being offered under the Global Offering and/or the offer price range is so reduced.** In the absence of any such notice so published, the Offer Price, if agreed upon with our Company and the Joint Global Coordinators, will under no circumstances be set outside the Offer Price range as stated in this prospectus.

In the event of a reduction in the number of Offer Shares being offered under the Global Offering, the Joint Global Coordinators may at their discretion reallocate the number of Offer Shares to be offered under the Hong Kong Public Offering and the International Offering, provided that the number of H Shares comprised in the Hong Kong Public Offering shall not be less than 5% of the total number of Offer Shares in the Global Offering. The Offer Shares to be offered in the International Offering and the Offer Shares to be offered in the Hong Kong Public Offering may, in certain circumstances, be reallocated as between these offerings at the discretion of the Joint Global Coordinators.

The net proceeds of the Global Offering accruing to our Company (after deduction of underwriting fees and other expenses payable by our Company in relation to the Global Offering, assuming the H Share Over-Allotment Option is not exercised) are estimated to be approximately HK\$9,659 million, assuming an Offer Price per H Share of HK\$28.20, or approximately HK\$11,789 million, assuming an Offer Price per H Share of HK\$34.33 (or if the H Share Over-Allotment Option is exercised in full, approximately HK\$11,127 million, assuming an Offer Price per H Share of HK\$28.20, or approximately HK\$13,577 million, assuming an Offer Price per H Share of HK\$34.33).

The Offer Price for H Shares under the Global Offering is expected to be announced on Friday, December 9, 2011. The indications of interest in the Global Offering, the results of applications and the basis of allotment of Offer Shares available under the Hong Kong Public Offering, are expected to be announced on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 in South China Morning Post (in English) and Hong Kong Economic Times (in Chinese) and to be posted on the website of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (www.hkexnews.hk) and on the website of our Company (www.newchinalife.com).

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Hong Kong Underwriting Agreement

The Hong Kong Public Offering is fully underwritten by the Hong Kong Underwriters under the terms of the Hong Kong Underwriting Agreement and is conditional upon the International Purchase Agreement being signed and becoming unconditional.

Our Company expects to enter into the International Purchase Agreement relating to the International Offering on or around the Price Determination Date.

These underwriting arrangements, and the respective Underwriting Agreements, are summarized in the section entitled "Underwriting."

H Shares will be eligible for CCASS

All necessary arrangements have been made enabling the H Shares to be admitted into CCASS.

If the Hong Kong Stock Exchange grants the listing of, and permission to deal in, the H Shares and our Company complies with the stock admission requirements of HKSCC, the H Shares will be accepted as eligible securities by HKSCC for deposit, clearance and settlement in CCASS with effect from the date of commencement of dealings in the H Shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange or any other date HKSCC chooses. Settlement of transactions between participants of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange is required to take place in CCASS on the second Business Day after any trading day.

All activities under CCASS are subject to the General Rules of CCASS and CCASS Operational Procedures in effect from time to time.

Dealing

Assuming that the Hong Kong Public Offering becomes unconditional at or before 8:00 a.m. in Hong Kong on Thursday, December 15, 2011, it is expected that dealings in the H Shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange will commence at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2011. Our H Shares will be traded in board lots of 100 H Shares each and the stock code of our H Shares will be 1336.

Conditions of the Hong Kong Public Offering

Acceptance of all applications for Offer Shares pursuant to the Hong Kong Public Offering will be conditional on:

- (i) the Listing Committee of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange granting listing of, and permission to deal in, the Offer Shares being offered pursuant to the Global Offering (including the additional Offer Shares which may be made available pursuant to the exercise of the H Share Over-Allotment Option) (subject only to allotment);
- (ii) the Offer Price having been fixed on or around the Price Determination Date;
- (iii) the execution and delivery of the International Purchase Agreement on or around the Price Determination Date; and
- (iv) the obligations of the Underwriters under each of the respective Underwriting Agreements becoming and remaining unconditional and not having been terminated in accordance with the terms of the respective agreements,

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in each case on or before the dates and times specified in the respective Underwriting Agreements (unless and to the extent such conditions are validly waived on or before such dates and times) and in any event not later than January 1, 2012.

If, for any reason, the Offer Price is not agreed between our Company and the Joint Global Coordinators (on behalf of the Underwriters), the Global Offering will not proceed and will lapse.

The consummation of each of the Hong Kong Public Offering and the International Offering is conditional upon, among other things, the other offering becoming unconditional and not having been terminated in accordance with its terms.

If the above conditions are not fulfilled or waived prior to the times and dates specified, the Global Offering will lapse and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange will be notified immediately. Notice of the lapse of the Hong Kong Public Offering will be published by our Company in South China Morning Post (in English) and Hong Kong Economic Times (in Chinese) on the next day following such lapse. In such eventuality, all application monies will be returned, without interest, on the terms set out in the section entitled "How to Apply for Hong Kong Offer Shares." In the meantime, all application monies will be held in (a) separate bank account(s) with the receiving banker or other licensed bank(s) in Hong Kong licensed under the Banking Ordinance (Chapter 155 of the Laws of Hong Kong) (as amended).

H Share certificates for the Offer Shares are expected to be issued on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 but will only become valid certificates of title at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2011 provided that (i) the Global Offering has become unconditional in all respects and (ii) the right of termination as described in the section entitled "Underwriting — Grounds for Termination" has not been exercised.