

Sun Art Retail Group Ltd.

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

Stock Code: 6808

Advancing Phygital Development Across China

2017 Annual Report

SUN ART
Retail Group Ltd.



Meats

CASHIER

SPECIAL OFFER

Fresh Fruits

2	Corporate Information
3	Financial Highlights
5	Chairman's Statement
6	Chief Executive Officer's Statement
9	Management Discussion and Analysis
18	Profiles of Directors and Senior Management
25	Report of Directors
45	Risk Factors
51	Corporate Governance Report
60	Independent Auditor's Report
70	Audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes
148	Financial Summary

CORPORATE INFORMATION

DIRECTORS

Executive Director

Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER
(*Chief Executive Officer*)
(appointed on 11 July 2017)

Non-Executive Directors

ZHANG Yong (*Chairman*)
(appointed on 30 January 2018)
Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ
Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER
CHEN Jun (appointed on 30 January 2018)

Independent Non-Executive Directors

Karen Yifen CHANG
Desmond MURRAY
HE Yi

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Desmond MURRAY (*Chairman*)
Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC
Karen Yifen CHANG
HE Yi
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER
(appointed on 2 March 2018)

REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

Karen Yifen CHANG (*Chairman*)
CHEN Jun (appointed on 30 January 2018)
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER
Desmond MURRAY
HE Yi

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

HE Yi (*Chairman*)
CHEN Jun (appointed on 30 January 2018)
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER
Karen Yifen CHANG
Desmond MURRAY

COMPANY SECRETARY

CHAN Wai Ling, FCIS, FCS (PE)

AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES

Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER
(appointed on 11 July 2017)
CHAN Wai Ling

REGISTERED OFFICE IN HONG KONG

Level 54, Hopewell Centre
183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong

BRANCH OFFICE IN HONG KONG

Suite No. 02, 22/F, Sino Plaza
255-257 Gloucester Road
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

PLACE OF BUSINESS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (THE "PRC" OR "CHINA")

6th Floor, No. 165 Long Kou Road
Yangpu District, 200090 Shanghai, China

LEGAL ADVISOR

Herbert Smith Freehills
23rd Floor, Gloucester Tower
15 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong

HONG KONG SHARE REGISTRAR

Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services
Limited
Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor
Hopewell Centre
183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong

AUDITORS

KPMG
Certified Public Accountants
8th Floor, Prince's Building
10 Chater Road, Central, Hong Kong

COMPANY'S WEBSITE

www.sunartretail.com

STOCK CODE

6808

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	For the year ended 31 December		
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million	Change
Revenue	102,320	100,441	1.9%
Gross Profit	24,674	23,981	2.9%
Profit from Operations	4,487	3,936	14.0%
Profit for the Year	3,020	2,629	14.9%
Profit Attributable to Equity Shareholders of the Company	2,793	2,571	8.6%
Earnings Per Share (“EPS”) – Basic and diluted ⁽¹⁾	RMB0.29	RMB0.27	

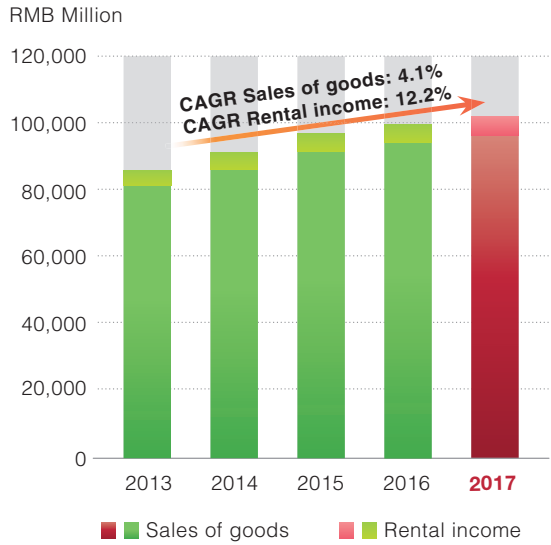
	As at 31 December		
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million	Change
Total Assets	59,737	60,341	(1.0)%
Total Liabilities	36,188	37,532	(3.6)%
Net Assets	23,549	22,809	3.2%
Net Financial Position ⁽²⁾	10,492	8,110	29.4%
Gearing Ratio ⁽³⁾	0.45	0.36	
Current Ratio ⁽⁴⁾	0.78	0.72	

Notes:

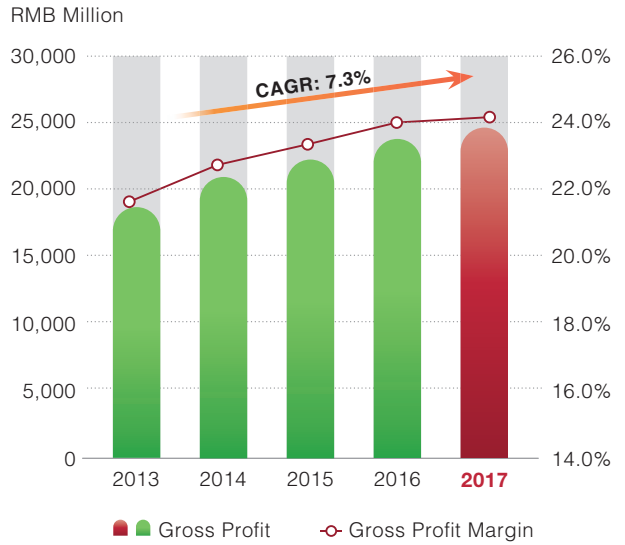
- (1) The calculation of basic and diluted EPS for the years ended 31 December 2017 and 2016 is based on the weighted average number of 9,539,704,700 ordinary shares in issue during the year.
- (2) The balance of net financial position is calculated as the sum of cash and cash equivalents and investments and time deposits minus bank loans.
- (3) Gearing Ratio = Net Financial Position/Total Equity
- (4) Current Ratio = Current Assets/Current Liabilities

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

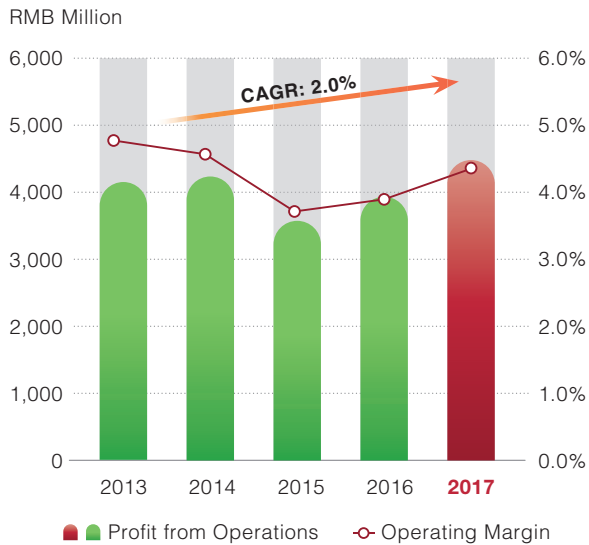
Revenue



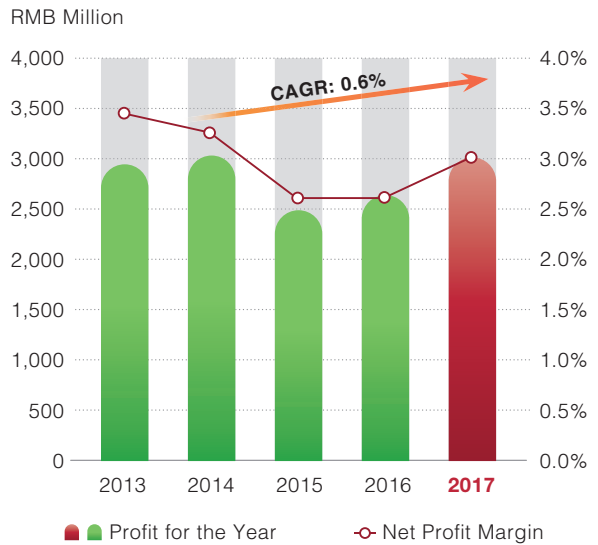
Gross Profit & Margin



Operating Margin



Net Profit and Margin



Dear Shareholders,

Thank you for your continued interest and support of Sun Art Retail. 2017 was a monumental year for both the retail industry in China as well as Sun Art. As fate would have it, many have observed that Sun Art Retail in Chinese is a playful homonym for “Engage New Retail.” Indeed, it is on the foundation of a common understanding and belief in New Retail that has brought Alibaba Group, Auchan Retail and Sun Art together. We are full of confidence and have a clear roadmap for bringing our vision of New Retail to fruition in the new year.

When Alibaba Group proposed New Retail in 2016, it wasn't merely a suggestion nor was it a publicity stunt. It was a vision that we truly believed in. We believe the internet and the physical realm should be a single, unified world. Digitization and technology will enable these two dimensions to become one, and bring about invaluable changes that will create more value for customers as well as the business.

Sun Art is very well-positioned after its many decades of development. The opportunity to participate in the future evolution of Sun Art Retail is an important milestone in Alibaba's advancement of New Retail. Alibaba is always fully committed to enabling its partners; it is all or nothing. Our goal moving forward is very clear: we need to take Sun Art Retail to the next level.

In addition to steady expansion of store footprint, Sun Art Retail will be guided by three core strategies in its New Retail transformation in 2018: digital transformation of storefronts; development of a variety of retail formats and a variety of distribution channels; and redefining the hypermarket model.

We will use internet-driven technology, data and mindset to create better and more streamlined processes in managing purchasing, operations, marketing, customer service and supply chain. We want to become truly data-driven and customer-driven. I sincerely believe that the combination of Alibaba's internet DNA, big data and data-driven technology together with Sun Art Retail's retail DNA, store management capabilities and high efficiency will lead to a positive chemical reaction that produces a new model of New Retail.

This retail transformation will be the largest in scale in the history of Chinese retail industry, with the widest geographic coverage and biggest population of beneficiaries. It will most likely alter the face of China's retail landscape.

Let us work together in 2018, and make Sun Art Retail the world's brightest star in New Retail.

ZHANG Yong

Chairman of the Board

2 March 2018

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S STATEMENT

Dear Shareholders,

The retail industry in China has continued its growth momentum over the past two years – expanding by 10.2% in 2017 – driven by the rise of the “New Retail Era”. Sun Art Retail Group Limited (the “**Company**”), together with its subsidiaries (the “**Group**”) have continued to achieve encouraging growth in this new era, bolstered by its e-commerce operation. While the emerging market is keen on creating the best brand experience for consumers to overcome technological and channel barriers, using Big Data analytics to analyze and utilize data will in fact be paramount for optimizing and upgrading the operation, sales and marketing, and service experience for consumers¹. The need to enhance all of these areas cannot be overemphasized given the enormity of the online retail sector, which saw sales surge to RMB5.54 trillion in the first 10 months of 2017 alone – a notable year-on-year increase of 34%². Such phenomenal growth further strengthened China’s position as the largest e-commerce market in the world.

Though the rapid rise of online retailing is deeply impressive, we recognize that our strength rests with our vast portfolio of hypermarkets and supermarkets, which collectively stands at 461 stores as of 31 December, 2017 – total GFA at approximately 12.46 million sq.m. In the past year alone, we have added 18 hypermarkets (17 for RT-Mart banner, 1 for Auchan banner), thus further bolstering our presence in China where we can be found in 226 cities and 29 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities. It is worth noting that in the coming three years we will be strengthening our national presence even more, having secured 78 sites in strategic points across the country, with 67 hypermarkets currently under construction. Besides these projects, we are also expanding our presence in a less obvious but no less effective manner. Specifically, we launched the first Auchan Minute unmanned box in Yangpu, Shanghai in late September 2017 and now have 67 stores as of year end, which can be found in the provinces of Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Anhui, Sichuan and Guangdong. These unmanned convenience boxes, which open 24 hours a day, are located within a three-kilometer radius of our Auchan hypermarkets and offer 500 product lines, including items that correspond with their location. Among the benefits that Auchan Minute boxes are able to capitalize on include flexible category mix and timely replenishment. Auchan Minute boxes also create the opportunity for reaching new customer demographics, the same customers targeted by their hypermarket counterparts.

¹ <http://m.yicai.com/news/5390788.html>

² http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-11/14/content_34521308.htm

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S STATEMENT

While reinforcing the brick-and-mortar operation is an essential part of our business strategy, so too is strengthening the Group's online presence, which is consistent with our overall goal of propelling the Group to the front of the new "phygital" realm where physical and digital retailing converges. Towards this objective, our stores now provides one-hour delivery of fresh products within three-kilometer radius, and we have launched a standalone "RT-Mart Fresh" APP as well that at last count has over 1 million registered members.

Indicative of our efforts at advancing the Group's phygital presence, our B2B business leveraged nearly 400 of our brick-and-mortar stores, which encompassed 200 cities across the country. And as of the close of 2017, the GMV of Feiniu topped RMB4.1 billion, almost a two-fold increase over 2016. It is also worth noting that online physical product sales accounted for 15% of our total retail sales in 2017, which is up a significant 28% over 2016.

In expediting our development both online and offline, a significant milestone was reached when our parent, Auchan Retail International S.A. ("**Auchan Retail**"), together with Ruentex Group, a stakeholder of the Company, and Alibaba Group Holding Limited ("**Alibaba Group**") established a strategic alliance. As a result of the alliance, Auchan Retail, Alibaba Group and Ruentex now have approximately 36.18%, 36.16% and 4.67% of effective interest in the Company, respectively. The new stakeholder makeup will present exciting opportunities for us as we will be able to capitalize on the Chinese internet retail giant's dominant presence in China. By bringing together the Group and Alibaba Group, two leaders that share a similar objective of offering seamless O2O experiences to consumers in China, the nation's 1.3 billion consumers can expect great things in the coming years. The electronic link-up between the Group and Alibaba Group is most timely given the rapid rise of e-commerce in China, and the need for both online and offline support. While e-commerce is particularly strong in top-tier cities, there is significantly greater room for growth in lower-tier cities. And given that 45% of our stores are in third-tier cities and 22% are in fourth-tier cities, we are well positioned to capture opportunities in such markets, which will spur our development into a leading phygital innovator. By fully integrating online and physical channels together, we look forward to delivering an original and delightful shopping experience to Chinese consumers that combines the indispensable role of our physical stores with the benefits of Alibaba's digital ecosystem.

It is also worth noting that the new alliance will reinforce what we consider to be our "three priorities and two necessities"; our priorities being to reinvent the hypermarket, develop a new business format, and encourage O2O, while our necessities involve establishing a common back office to leverage economies of scale and getting the best team at our disposal.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S STATEMENT

Looking ahead, we will continue to fortify our physical and online presence, which will include developing both large-scale and small-scale projects, i.e. hypermarkets and Auchan Minute boxes, as well as nurturing ties with Alibaba Group. As it is crucial that Sun Art outlets continue in their digital transformation, we will look at bolstering all aspects of operation with this in mind; hence, from upstream, spanning the supply chain to product structure, and procurement, encompassing inventory and sales reforms, to the modification of the operation model, which involves data collection, alignment of systems, membership access and payment methods, all of these areas will be gradually perfected while working together with Alibaba.³ In this way, we will edge ever closer to our goal of becoming a top phygital food retailer, helping advance phygital development across China, and fulfilling the aforementioned “three priorities and two necessities” that will underpin our development going forward.

At the Group, we have always believed that actions speak louder than words. With the latest actions taken by the Group and strategies that are set for implementation, we trust we will continue to quietly move forward all the while revolutionizing the retail sector in the process. 2017 was a key year for the Group and the launch of a new dynamic for our customers. In 2018, we will look forward to building on our achievements.

Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER

Executive Director

and

Chief Executive Officer

2 March 2018

³ http://www.linkshop.com.cn/web/archives/2018/394674.shtml?sf=wd_search

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue

Revenue is derived from sales of goods and rental income. Revenue from sales of goods is primarily derived from the hypermarkets and the E-commerce platforms where merchandise, mainly food, groceries, home appliances, textile and general goods, are laid out for sale. Revenue from sales of goods is net of value added tax and other applicable sales taxes after deducting any trade discounts. Revenue from rental income is derived from renting gallery space in hypermarket complexes to operators whose businesses are believed to be complementary to the stores.

The following table sets forth a breakdown of the revenue from sales of goods and rental income for the years indicated:

	Year ended 31 December		Change
	2017 (RMB million)	2016 (RMB million)	
Sales of goods	98,775	97,096	1.7%
Rental income	3,545	3,345	6.0%
Total revenue	102,320	100,441	1.9%

For the year ended 31 December 2017, revenue from sales of goods was RMB98,775 million, representing an increase of RMB1,679 million, or 1.7%, from RMB97,096 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. The increase was primarily attributable to the continued business expansion of the Group with the opening of new stores⁽¹⁾.

For the year ended 31 December 2017, the Group continued to expand in various areas of China and opened 18 stores, which contributed to the increase in sales of goods.

For the year ended 31 December 2017, the same store sales growth (the “SSSG”)⁽²⁾ was -0.98%, compared to -0.34% for the year ended 31 December 2016. During the year of 2017, the trend of online-to-offline (“O2O”) business integration accelerated and new retail formats have been launched, which provided customers with more choices. The Group has been making efforts to satisfy increasingly diversified needs of the customers by continuously developing its O2O business and deploying multi-formats. As part of this strategy, the Group entered into a business cooperation agreement with a subsidiary of Alibaba Group in late 2017 to leverage the online and offline advantages of both parties to provide customers with an integrated shopping experience.

For the year ended 31 December 2017, revenue from rental income was RMB3,545 million, representing an increase of RMB200 million, or 6.0%, from RMB3,345 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. This increase was primarily attributable to an increase in rentable area from new stores and an increase in rental income from existing stores as a result of better management of tenant mix.

Notes:

- (1) New stores: Stores opened during the year ended 31 December 2017.
- (2) SSSG: For stores opened for over 12 full months as of 31 December 2017, we calculated and compared the sales derived in those stores from their opening month to the end of year 2016 with the same period in year 2017.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Gross Profit

For the year ended 31 December 2017, gross profit was RMB24,674 million, representing an increase of RMB693 million, or 2.9%, from RMB23,981 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. The gross profit margin for the year ended 31 December 2017 was 24.1%, representing an increase of 0.2 percentage points from 23.9% for the year ended 31 December 2016. The increase in the gross profit margin was a result of a greater increase in revenue of 1.9% as compared to the increase in cost of sales of 1.6%, reflecting the ability of the Group to leverage economies of scale to improve the gross profit margin.

Other Income

Other income consists of income from unutilised aged balances on prepaid cards, service income, income from disposal of packaging materials, interest income, government grants and other miscellaneous income.

For the year ended 31 December 2017, other income was RMB1,630 million, an increase of RMB757 million, or 86.7%, from RMB873 million for year ended 31 December 2016. This increase was primarily attributable to: (i) the income of RMB460 million recognised in respect of unutilised aged amounts of prepaid cards; (ii) an increase in service income of RMB62 million, which was mainly generated from the services provided in hypermarket complexes; and (iii) an increase in interest income of RMB137 million which was related to increased investment in financial products.

Operating Costs

Operating costs represent the costs relating to the operations of the stores and E-commerce platforms. Operating costs primarily consist of personnel expenses, operating lease charges, expenses for utilities, maintenance, advertising, shuttle bus services and cleaning, together with the amortisation of land use rights and the depreciation of property, plant and equipment.

For the year ended 31 December 2017, operating costs were RMB18,922 million, representing an increase of RMB880 million, or 4.9%, from RMB18,042 million for the year ended 31 December 2016.

This increase was primarily attributable to the increase in the number of stores as a result of the on-going expansion of the hypermarket network and the development of E-commerce platforms, which required recruitment of new staff. Meanwhile, the Group followed government guidance in relation to an increase in the minimum wage of staff. These developments led to an increase in personnel expenses. Also, the opening of new stores, operated on leased or self-owned sites, resulted in an increase in operating lease charges, amortisation of land use rights and depreciation of property, plant and equipment.

To expressed in percentage, the amount of operating costs for the year ended 31 December 2017 as of revenue was 18.5%, representing an increase of 0.5 percentage points, from 18.0% for the year ended 31 December 2016. The increase was a result of a greater increase in operating costs of 4.9% as compared to the increase in revenue of 1.9%.

Administrative Expenses

Administrative expenses primarily consist of personnel expenses, travelling expenses, amortisation of land use rights, depreciation of property, plant and equipment and other expenses for the administrative departments. For the year ended 31 December 2017, administrative expenses were RMB2,895 million, representing an increase of RMB19 million, or 0.7%, from RMB2,876 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. The increase was primarily attributable to an increase in the number of administrative staff to provide support services for the expanded network of hypermarket complexes and E-commerce platforms.

To expressed in percentage, the amount of administrative expenses for the year ended 31 December 2017 as of revenue was 2.8%, representing a decrease of 0.1 percentage points, from 2.9% for the year ended 31 December 2016. This decrease was a result of slower increase in administrative expenses of 0.7% as compared to the increase in revenue of 1.9%.

Profit from Operations

For the year ended 31 December 2017, profit from operations was RMB4,487 million, representing an increase of RMB551 million, or 14.0%, from RMB3,936 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. The operating margin for the year ended 31 December 2017 was 4.4%, representing an increase of 0.5 percentage points from 3.9% for the year ended 31 December 2016. The operating margin was 3.9%, excluding the income recognised for unutilised aged prepaid cards of RMB460 million, which demonstrated that the Group was able to maintain its profitability while developing its business.

Finance Costs

Finance costs primarily consist of interest expenses on borrowings. For the year ended 31 December 2017, the finance costs were RMB13 million, representing a decrease of RMB10 million, or 43.5% from RMB23 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. The decrease is mainly contributed by a lower average balance of borrowings during 2017 compared to the year of 2016.

Income Tax

For the year ended 31 December 2017, income tax expense was RMB1,449 million, representing an increase of RMB169 million, or 13.2%, from RMB1,280 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. The effective income tax rate was 32.4% for the year ended 31 December 2017, representing a decrease of 0.3 percentage points, compared to 32.7% for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Profit for the Year

For the year ended 31 December 2017, profit for the year was RMB3,020 million, representing an increase of RMB391 million, or 14.9%, from RMB2,629 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. Net profit margin for the year ended 31 December 2017 was 3.0%, increasing by 0.4 percentage points from 2.6% for the year ended 31 December 2016. In addition to the income of RMB345 million generated from the recognition of unutilised aged prepaid cards after income tax, the increase in profit for the year was also attributable to the reduced loss generated by our E-commerce platforms.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Profit Attributable to Equity Shareholders of the Company

For the year ended 31 December 2017, the profit attributable to equity shareholders of the Company was RMB2,793 million, representing an increase of RMB222 million, or 8.6%, from RMB2,571 million for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Profit Attributable to Non-Controlling Interests

For the year ended 31 December 2017, the profit attributable to non-controlling interests was RMB227 million, representing an increase of RMB169 million, or 291.4%, from RMB58 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. The profit attributable to non-controlling interests consists of: (i) interests in Auchan (China) Investment Co., Ltd (“**ACI**”) and Concord Investment (China) Co., Ltd (“**CIC**”) from the Auchan Scheme and the RT-Mart Scheme(*); (ii) the interests held by an independent third party in three of the subsidiaries, People’s RT-Mart Limited Jinan, Feiniu E-commerce Hong Kong Limited (“**Feiniu HK**”) and Fields Hong Kong Limited (“**Fields HK**”); and (iii) the interests held by Oney Bank S.A. (“**Oney Bank**”) in Oney Accord Business Consulting (Shanghai) Co., Ltd (“**Oney Accord**”).

Pursuant to the share transfer agreement between the Company and Grand Charm Ventures Limited (“**GCVL**”) dated 11 July 2017, the Company agreed to acquire 147.6 million shares in Feiniu HK (14.255%) from GCVL for a cash consideration of approximately RMB166.7 million. The transfer was completed on 17 July 2017. After the transaction, Feiniu HK became a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company.

Liquidity and Financial Resources

For the year ended 31 December 2017, cash flow generated from operating activities was RMB6,990 million, representing an increase of RMB38 million, or 0.5%, from RMB6,952 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. In addition to the cash flow generated from the improvement from the operating result, the calendar difference of Chinese New Year in 2017 and 2016 also impacted the Group’s working capital including prepaid cards, inventory and related trade payables, which partially offset the increase in cash flow from operating activities.

As at 31 December 2017, the net current liabilities decreased to RMB7,991 million from RMB10,371 million as of 31 December 2016. The decrease, which reflected the impact from calendar difference of Chinese New Year in 2016 and 2017, was primarily attributed to: (i) a decrease in trade payables and other payables of RMB1,361 million; and (ii) an increase in current assets of RMB925 million.

For the year ended 31 December 2017, the inventory turnover days and trade payable turnover days were approximately 70 days and 95 days, respectively, and were approximately 67 days and 93 days for the year ended 31 December 2016, respectively.

* The Group has established an Employee Trust Benefit Scheme of CIC and its subsidiaries (“**RT-Mart Scheme**”) and an Employee Trust Benefit Scheme of ACI and its subsidiaries (“**Auchan Scheme**”). For further details please refer to Note 4(b) of “Notes to the Consolidated financial statements” on page 101 of the annual report.

Investing Activities

For the year ended 31 December 2017, cash flow used in investing activities was RMB2,255 million, representing a decrease of RMB1,108 million, or 32.9%, from RMB3,363 million for the year ended 31 December 2016.

The cash flow used in investing activities mainly reflected the capital expenditure related to: (i) new stores and projects of RMB1,550 million; (ii) the upgrading and remodeling of the existing hypermarkets complexes for RMB478 million; (iii) the investment in distribution centers for RMB97 million; and (iv) the maintenance and upgrading of E-commerce platforms and offices for RMB16 million.

Financing Activities

For the year ended 31 December 2017, cash flow used in financing activities was RMB2,473 million, representing an increase of RMB383 million, or 18.3%, from RMB2,090 million for the year ended 31 December 2016. The increase was mainly attributable to: (i) the increase in dividend distribution of RMB382 million; (ii) the payment for acquisitions of non-controlling interests of RMB353 million during the year ended 31 December 2017; and (iii) partially offset by the decrease in bank borrowings net repayment of RMB591 million.

Dividends

The Board proposed a final dividend of HKD0.16 (equivalent to RMB0.13) per ordinary share (the “**Final Dividend**”) for the year ended 31 December 2017, amounting to approximately HKD1,526 million (equivalent to RMB1,235 million).

The payment of the Final Dividend is subject to the approval by the shareholders of the Company at the forthcoming annual general meeting (“**AGM**”). For details of the Final Dividend, please refer to the section headed “Final Dividend” in this annual report on page 25.

BUSINESS REVIEW

Operating Environment

During 2017, China’s gross domestic product (“**GDP**”) grew by 6.9% to approximately RMB82,712.2 billion. The overall consumer price index (“**CPI**”) was up by 1.6% compared to 2016, in which the food section was down by 1.4%, driven mainly by the pork which declined by 8.8%, vegetable declined by 8.1% and egg declined by 4%. Non-food section observed an increase of 2.3%.

Total retail sales of consumer goods in China reached RMB36,626.2 billion, representing a growth of 10.2% year on year. National online sales reached RMB7,175.1 billion, a growth of 32.2% compared to 2016. Online physical products sales of year 2017 amounted to RMB5,480.6 billion, representing an increase of 28.0% and accounted for 15% of total retail sales. According to the China Nation Commercial Information Center, the sales growth of 50 key retailers has increased by 3.3%.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Strategic Alliance

On 20 November 2017, Chinese Internet retail giant Alibaba Group, Auchan Retail and Ruentex Group announced a strategic alliance to pursue new opportunities in China's food retail sector, by way of Taobao China Holding Limited ("**Taobao China**") (being an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Alibaba Group) agreeing to acquire, itself or through the designated co-investors, an aggregate of approximately 26.02% interest in the Company.

On 7 December 2017, Hangzhou Alibaba Zetai Information Technology Company Limited ("**Alibaba Zetai**") (being an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Alibaba Group), the Company, ACI and CIC entered into a business cooperation agreement (the "**Business Cooperation Agreement**"), pursuant to which Hangzhou Alibaba Zetai Information Technology Company Limited has agreed to provide services including, among others, (a) granting access by the stores operated by ACI and CIC to its business model and online platforms; (b) data sharing; (c) integration of systems and POS hardware; and (d) delivery services. Taobao (China) Software Co., Ltd. (being an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Alibaba Group) will enter into two implementation agreements with ACI and CIC, respectively, for implementation of the cooperation contemplated in the Business Cooperation Agreement. Further announcement in respect of the implementation agreements will be made by the Company as and when appropriate.

Further, CIC has entered into a supply agreement with Zhejiang Tmall Supply Management Co., Ltd. ("**Tmall Supply**") on 29 December 2017, in relation to the supply of certain popular products on the Tmall platform by Tmall Supply to CIC.

The alliance with Alibaba Group brings win-win to the long-term development of the Group, the stakeholders, the employees and the consumers. The Group can leverage Alibaba Group's data-driven technology to complete digital transformation of the mortar stores and as a result, to integrate the membership system, inventory and payment. In addition, through Taobao mobile application ("**APP**"), orders and revenue will be brought to the stores and the integration of online and offline will be realized whilst striding forward to the New Retail Era.

With Alibaba's Technology and Traffic Import, Accelerating the Integration of Online and Offline

Currently, a standalone "RT-Mart Fresh" APP has been rolled out to all RT-Mart stores. Consumers can order commodities via this APP and the nearest stores can provide one-hour delivery service from the relevant store to home for the consumer. The "RT-Mart Fresh" APP now has approximately 6,000 to 7,500 stock keeping units ("**SKUs**") including fresh, fast moving consumer goods ("**FMCG**") and general goods, of which 1,300 to 1,500 SKUs are fresh products. In addition to traditional fresh products such as vegetables and fruits, seafood, dairy, butchery and eggs, the APP can also provide bakery, dim sum and delicatessen products. The fresh product range of "RT-Mart Fresh" APP not only focuses on premium fresh products but also ordinary fresh products, and it provides a purchase solution for online fresh products to all kinds of consumers.

The first “RT-Mart Fresh” APP has been successfully launched inside the RT-Mart Yangpu store in early July 2017 along with the retrofit of the in-store area and the installment of a conveyor belt system. For illustration purpose, in December 2017, daily order numbers of RT-Mart Yangpu store reached over 1,000 orders, of which the sales of fresh products accounted for more than 50%. In December 2017, two RT-Mart Stores located in Shanghai were retrofitted. “RT-Mart Fresh” APP now has over one million registered members, of which 330,000 are active. Each active member purchased over four times in average per month. The conversion rate of unique visitors was over 40%, and the cannibalization rate between online and offline was about 15%. Going forward, “RT-Mart Fresh” will also benefit from the traffic generated from “Taobao Daojia” via Taobao APP.

From March 2018, the digital transformation of the Group’s existing stores will be rolled out in succession. All the transformation will be completed by the end of 2018. Afterwards online and offline will be integrated and our internetized hypermarkets will become the model of New Retail in the future.

Deployment of Multi-format and Omni-channel

On 28 September 2017, the first unmanned convenience box named “Auchan Minute” was launched in Shanghai. As of 31 December 2017, the Group has rolled out 67 “Auchan Minute” unmanned convenience boxes located in Shanghai, Jiangsu Province, Zhejiang Province, Anhui Province, Sichuan Province and Guangdong Province. The unmanned convenience boxes are all deployed within a radius of three kilometers of each participating store, and leverages the advantages of scaled supplier chains, flexible category mix, seasonal products, timely replenishment and zero inventory pressure. “Auchan Minute” is an 18-square-meter box with 500 SKUs, which offers various combinations of products based on its location at competitive prices compared to the convenience stores nearby. During the year under review, 43 stores under the Auchan banner have participated in this project. The Group will accelerate the deployment of these unmanned convenience boxes in the near future.

During the year ended 31 December 2017, both sales and customer numbers of the first Hi!Auchan Premium Supermarket increased by more than 30% compared to 2016. The stake of fresh and FMCG accounts for 90% of total sales, especially in the fresh sector, the sales contribution rate is close to 60%. Moreover, we are also investigating and exploring the medium-size format. When the business mode is finalised, it will be the one of our multi-formats. During the year under review, the Group opened five LLABEAU (萊碧) beauty shops in Shanghai, Suzhou, Kunshan and Ningbo, with an area of 60 to 160 square meters, mainly selling skincare and make-up products. We believe that the future medium-size and small-size formats will be integrated with online infrastructure, as part of a development plan to become multi-format and multi-channel retailer.

In 2017, Feiniu moved its focus to “Business to Business” (“**B2B**”) business. During the year under review, sales contribution of B2B business accounted for 60% of total gross merchandise value (“**GMV**”) of Feiniu. “RT-Mart e Lu Fa” (大潤發e路發), as a standalone B2B APP of Feiniu, currently has about 200,000 B2B clients with more than 12,000 SKUs. The B2B clients involve companies, retail, mother and baby, wholesale, entertainment, and catering.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The B2B business is relying on nearly 400 mortar stores, within the compass of 200 cities nationwide. Using the stores as B2B warehouses and leveraging the advantage of a strong supplier chain, the Group is able to deliver the products with high quality and low price to tier three cities and tier four cities, to carry a full product range and provide efficient delivery to the small mom-and-pop grocery stores and help those stores to transform and upgrade.

As of 31 December 2017, the GMV of Feiniu has reached RMB4.1 billion, almost double the size compared to 2016 and has narrowed the loss recorded for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Expansion Status

During the year under review, the Group opened 18 new hypermarket complexes, of which one was under the Auchan banner and 17 were under the RT-Mart banner. Among the new stores, five were located in Eastern China, five were located in North-eastern China, two were located in Central China, two were located in Western China and four were located in Southern China. No new stores were opened in Northern China. In year ended 31 December 2017, the Group closed one store under the RT-Mart banner in Shanghai, and two stores under the Auchan banner in Qingdao and Shenyang respectively.

As of 31 December 2017, the Group had a total of 461 hypermarket complexes in China with a total gross floor area (“GFA”) of approximately 12.46 million square meters. Approximately 69.5% of the GFA was operated as leased space, 30.3% of the GFA was in self-owned properties and 0.2% of the GFA was in Contracted Stores. Please refer to note 1 below for definitions of regional zones.

As of 31 December 2017, approximately 8% of the Group’s stores were located in first-tier cities, 17% in second-tier cities, 45% in third-tier cities, 22% in fourth-tier cities and 8% in fifth-tier cities. Please refer to note 2 below for definitions of tiers.

As of 31 December 2017, through the execution of lease contracts or acquisition of land plots, the Group had identified and secured 78 sites to open hypermarket complexes, of which 67 were under construction. Given that more and more new stores are going to be opened in lower tier cities, in order to ensure the quality of the stores, the Group has upgraded site selection standards.

As of 31 December 2017, the number of stores and their GFA in each major region of China are set out below:

Region	Number of hypermarket complexes (As of 31 December 2017)				Total GFA of hypermarket complexes (sq.m.) (As of 31 December 2017)		
	Auchan	RT-Mart	Total	Percentage	Auchan	RT-Mart	Total
Eastern China	51	134	185	40%	2,067,785	3,253,686	5,321,471
Northern China	5	42	47	10%	151,064	1,045,298	1,196,362
Northeastern China	1	49	50	11%	32,033	1,361,428	1,393,461
Southern China	5	79	84	18%	124,523	1,930,956	2,055,479
Central China	10	63	73	16%	293,766	1,574,654	1,868,420
Western China	5	17	22	5%	223,839	400,909	624,748
Total	77	384	461	100%	2,893,010	9,566,931	12,459,941

Notes:

- (1) The Group adopts the following regional zoning according to the national regional economic planning guidelines:

Eastern China:	Shanghai City, Zhejiang Province, Jiangsu Province
Northern China:	Beijing City, Tianjin City, Shandong Province, Hebei Province, Shanxi Province, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region (West)
Northeastern China:	Jilin Province, Liaoning Province, Heilongjiang Province, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region (North)
Southern China:	Guangdong Province, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Fujian Province, Hainan Province, Yunnan Province, Guizhou Province
Central China:	Anhui Province, Hunan Province, Hubei Province, Henan Province, Jiangxi Province
Western China:	Sichuan Province, Gansu Province, Shaanxi Province, Chongqing City, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region

- (2) City tiers were classified according to the following standards:

First-tier cities:	Municipalities under the direct jurisdiction of the central government and Guangzhou City
Second-tier cities:	Provincial capitals and sub-provincial cities
Third-tier cities:	Prefecture-level cities
Fourth-tier cities:	County-level cities
Fifth-tier cities:	Townships and towns

Human Resources

As of 31 December 2017, the Group had 147,693 employees.

The Group always pays great attention to the training and development opportunities of employees. The Group endeavors to enhance the professionalism of its employees, to improve incentives, to advance career planning for employees, and to reduce the turnover rate. Human resources are the cornerstone of the Group's response to increasingly fierce competition and to support future development.

Outlook

Along with the rise of new retail, the new configuration of China's retail industry has been gradually transformed. Facing this new configuration, the priorities of the Group are to reinvent the hypermarket complexes, to explore and deploy multi-formats, and to become a model of New Retail with not only multi-channel and multi-format but also O2O and B2B business. We will build the best team and improve synergy among the Auchan banner, the RT-Mart banner and Alibaba Group.

Entering the New Retail Era and integrating online and offline are inevitable. By combining our supply chain with Alibaba Group's technology and traffic, we can make it more convenient for customers to shop, let the customers of tier four cities and tier five cities to enjoy the same choice as higher tier cities and as a result to advance consumption upgrading.

We believe that, through the strategic alliance with Alibaba Group, we are able to optimize our product range, improve customer options and enhance efficiency through big data technology. The Group aims to introduce a new streamlined shopping experience to customers and become the most popular retailer for customers.

PROFILES OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT



Executive Director

Mr. Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER, aged 50, is the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of the Company since 11 July 2017. Mr. Holinier has over 21 years of experience in retail management ever since having joined the Group in July 1995. He has been the Chief Performance Officer at Auchan Retail International S.A. since October 2015. Also, since June 2014, he has been the Director of Planning and Group Management Control, Chairman of the GIE computing group and Chairman of the Indirect Purchasing Group of Auchan Retail International S.A., one of the ultimate controlling shareholders of the Company, and Chairman of Auchan Luxembourg. From July 2003 to May 2014, he was the Chief of Operations, Chief Performance and Planning Officer and store director at Auchan

Russia. From July 2001 to June 2003, he served as the Management Control Director at Auchan USA. From July 1995 to June 2001, he served as the Deputy Store Director and Management Control Director at Auchan Luxembourg. From 1991 to 1995, he served as the department store manager at Auchan Villeneuve d'Ascq. Mr. Holinier obtained a Master of Business Administration from SKEMA Business School in 1990. He is also non-executive chairman of the board of each of RT Mart Taiwan International and Auchan Retail Vietnam. Mr. Holinier is also a director of certain of the subsidiaries of the Group, including Feiniu HK, Fields HK, Auchan (China) Hong Kong Ltd. ("**ACHK**"), ACI, Concord Champion International Ltd. ("**CCIL**"), RT-Mart Holdings Limited ("**RT-Mart Holdings**"), Feiniu E-Commerce (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. ("**FESH**"), and Shanghai Fields Trading Co., Ltd. as well as various other operating subsidiaries in the PRC under the "Auchan" banner.



Non-Executive Directors

Mr. ZHANG Yong, aged 46, is the Chairman and a Non-executive Director of the Company since 30 January 2018. Mr. Zhang has been appointed as the chief executive officer of Alibaba Group, a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands with its American depository shares listed on the New York Stock Exchange, stock code: BABA) since May 2015, and he currently also serves on the board of directors of Alibaba Group. Prior to his current position, Mr. Zhang has held several other senior positions within Alibaba Group, including the chief financial officer of Taobao marketplace after joining in August 2007. He was appointed as the chief operating officer of Taobao marketplace and general manager of Tmall.com (then Taobao Mall) in April 2008, and then as the president of Tmall.com in June 2011

before his appointment as the chief operating officer of Alibaba Group in September 2013. Before joining Alibaba Group, Mr. Zhang served as a senior manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers' audit and business advisory division in Shanghai from 2002 to 2005, and later the chief financial officer of Shanda Interactive Entertainment Limited (an online game developer and operator then listed on NASDAQ) from August 2005 to August 2007. Mr. Zhang has served as a director of Weibo Corporation (a company listed on NASDAQ, stock code: WB) since May 2014. He was also a non-executive director of Haier Electronics Group Co., Ltd. (a company listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "**Stock Exchange**"), stock code: 1169) from 25 March 2014 to 21 June 2017; a non-executive director of Alibaba Health Information Technology Limited (formerly known as CITIC 21CN COMPANY LIMITED, a company listed on the Stock Exchange, stock code: 241) from 30 April 2014 to 7 September 2015; and a non-executive director of Intime Retail (Group) Company Limited (a company then listed on the Stock Exchange and delisted on 19 May 2017) from 7 July 2014 to 19 May 2017. Mr. Zhang received a bachelor's degree in finance from Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. Mr. Zhang is also a member of the Chinese Institute of Certified Public Accountants.



Non-Executive Directors

Mr. CHEN Jun, aged 44, is a Non-executive Director of the Company since 30 January 2018. Mr. Chen currently serves as a vice president of Alibaba Group, and is also a managing director of Alibaba strategic investment division and the investment head of Alibaba new retail fund. He has more than 18 years of experience in strategy management, strategic market development, and business and financial advisory services. He has been in charge of strategic investments by Alibaba Group in various types of companies, including high-growth private companies and public companies listed in the PRC and overseas. The portfolio companies he manages are in a wide spectrum of industries such as retail, logistics, travel, healthcare, sports, and software and solutions. Prior to joining Alibaba Group in 2011,

Mr. Chen worked for SAP, a Fortune 500 high-tech software company from 1999 to 2011, taking roles including strategic adviser in the office of CEO and industry director. From 1995 to 1998, he worked as an auditor for Arthur Andersen Consulting Co. Ltd. Mr. Chen was a non-executive director of Alibaba Health Information Technology Limited (formerly known as CITIC 21CN COMPANY LIMITED, a company listed on the Stock Exchange, stock code: 241) from 30 April 2014 to 7 September 2015, and he is currently also a director of Best Inc. (a company listed on the New York Stock Exchange, stock code BSTI), and a director of Singapore Post Limited (a company listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange, stock code: S08.SI). Mr. Chen received an EMBA degree from INSEAD.



Non-Executive Directors

Mr. Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ, aged 46, is a Non-executive Director of the Company since 12 September 2012. Mr. Leclercq has been a managing director of Crehol China Consultancy Co., Ltd. since 2011. Crehol China Consultancy Co., Ltd. is an investment company of Mulliez Family in the People's Republic of China. The Mulliez Family comprises Mr. Gerard Mulliez, who is the founder of Auchan Holding S.A. and other members of the family in France, who hold interests in various companies such as Auchan Holding S.A. Through various companies under Auchan Holding S.A., the Mulliez Family conducts or pursues various business interests in food retail activities, real estate development, and banking.

Mr. Leclercq is the president of Jungle & MTL Holdings, a company incorporated in the U.S.A. since 1993. Mr. Leclercq is also a co-owner of (i) MTL, a weaving decoration production factory in the U.S.A., (ii) Breteuil, a company which is a fabric furnishing agent in the U.S.A., (iii) IPM US, a design company and converter in decoration in the U.S.A., and (iv) Bayart Tissage, a design company and converter in decoration in France. Moreover, Mr. Leclercq is a chief executive officer in charge of coaching at Donghia, a company engaged in high end upholstery in the U.S.A. since 2005.

Mr. Leclercq has been appointed as directors of A-RT Retail Holdings Limited ("**A-RT**") and RT-Mart International Ltd. ("**RT-Mart Int'l**") since September 2012 and June 2014 respectively. He has also been appointed as a director of Auchan Holding S.A. and Auchan Retail International S.A. since 5 March 2015, the ultimate controlling shareholders. With effect from 2 December 2015 and 7 March 2016, Mr. Leclercq resigned as directors of Auchan Holding S.A. and Auchan Retail International S.A. respectively.

Mr. Leclercq has been appointed as directors of FESH on 8 August 2013, Feiniu HK on 3 February 2015 and Fields HK on 2 April 2015 respectively, subsidiaries of the Company. With effect from 5 November 2015, Mr. Leclercq resigned as a director of Fields HK.

Mr. Leclercq received a Bachelor of Arts major in international marketing and finance from Middlesex University in London in 1992 and a CESEM degree from Reims Management School in 1992.

Mr. Leclercq does not have any relationship with any directors or senior management or substantial shareholders or controlling shareholders of the Company except that he is one of the family members of the Mulliez Family.

PROFILES OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT



Non-Executive Directors

Mr. Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC, aged 62, is a Non-executive Director of the Company since 8 February 2001. Mr. Delom de Mezerac received a degree from ESSEC Business School (Diplome de L'ESSEC, Ecole Superieure des Sciences economiques et Commerciales) in 1978. Mr. Delom de Mezerac has been a director of the Company since 8 February 2001. From 1985 to 1993, Mr. Delom de Mezerac was with the Corning group (Corning), a global specialty glass and ceramics producer, in its United States, Mexico and France operations, where he worked in various financial and management positions including as financial manager for Corning's Europe operations. From 1994 to 1997, Mr. Delom de Mezerac was with Euro Disney S.A.S. as its chief financial officer. From 1997 to

1999, Mr. Delom de Mezerac was with Alcatel Alsthom S.A. as its deputy chief financial officer. From 1999 to 2015, Mr. Delom de Mezerac was with Auchan Holding S.A. as its chief financial officer and a member of the executive committee. Since May 2014, he has been the chairman of Oney Bank S.A., which is the consumer finance subsidiary of Auchan Holding S.A. Since December 2015, he has been the general secretary and a member of the "**Directoire**" of Auchan Holding S.A. He is also a director of A-RT, which is one of the controlling shareholders of the Company, and a director of certain of the subsidiaries of the Group, including ACHK, RT-Mart Holdings and CCIL.



Non-Executive Directors

Mr. Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER, aged 55, has been a Non-executive Director of the Company since 11 December 2015. Mr. Hubner graduated from "Institut d'Administration des Entreprises" as mechanical engineer.

Mr. Hubner joined Auchan Hypermarche S.A.S. (formerly "Auchan France S.A."), a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Auchan Holding S.A., one of the Company's ultimate controlling shareholders, in 1987 as a department manager of a hypermarket located in the north of France. During his career in Auchan Hypermarche S.A.S., he was in charge of textiles and checkout sectors. He was also a director of three different hypermarkets in France before being appointed as a chief operating officer of the "Ile de France" area.

In 2010, Mr. Hubner joined Auchan LLC in Russia, a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Auchan Holding S.A., where he became a sales director for the hypermarket business. He was as a general manager of Auchan LLC from April 2014 to January 2016.

In November 2015, Mr. Hubner was appointed as a general manager of Auchan Retail International S.A., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Auchan Holding S.A., the new holding company of Auchan Group for its whole retail activities. He has also been member and president of the executive board of Auchan Holding S.A. from December 2015 until 31 December 2017.

Mr. Hubner has been appointed as board members of ACHK, RT-Mart Int'l, the subsidiaries of the Company, and A-RT, the immediate controlling shareholder of the Company, on 11 December 2015, 4 January 2016 and 4 February 2016 respectively.



Independent Non-Executive Directors

Ms. Karen Yifen CHANG (張挹芬), aged 54, is an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company and has been a director of the Company since 27 June 2011. Ms. Chang served as the chief executive officer of Jack Wolfskin Trading (Shanghai) Co, Ltd, a leading international outdoor brand, since August 2017 after being the non-executive director for 2 years. As a veteran from retail and consumer industry, she was chief executive officer for Natural Beauty Bio-Technology Limited (Stock Code: 157), the chief financial officer, the chief executive officer and the chief executive director of Pou Sheng International (Holdings) Limited (Stock Code: 3813) from October 2007 to December 2015. In addition, Ms. Chang has many years of management consultancy and investment banking experiences from working with KPMG in

Washington DC and Los Angeles in the United States as well as Jardine Fleming, Merrill Lynch and Credit Suisse in Shanghai and Hong Kong from 1992 to 2006.

Ms. Chang received a Bachelor degree in Arts in English Literature from Fu-Jen Catholic University in Taiwan in 1986 and a Master of Business Administration degree from the George Washington University in Washington D.C. in the United States in 1988.



Independent Non-Executive Directors

Mr. Desmond MURRAY, aged 63, is an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company since 27 June 2011. Mr Murray graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce from the University College Dublin in 1976 and is a qualified accountant and a member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He was an audit partner in PricewaterhouseCoopers Hong Kong from 1987 to 2000. Since withdrawing from practice with PricewaterhouseCoopers, Mr. Murray has taken on a number of non-executive directorships. These include a major retailer in Ireland and Clear Media Limited ("**CML**", Stock Code: 100), a company listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange. With effect from 1 July 2016, Mr. Murray has relinquished his position as chairman of the

remuneration committee of CML. With effect from 9 August 2016, Mr. Murray has resigned as an independent non-executive director, as chairman of the audit committee, and as a member of each of the audit committee, the remuneration committee and the nomination committee of CML.

Mr. Murray was a non-executive director of iShares plc, iShares II plc, iShares III plc, iShares IV plc and iShares V plc, companies all listed on the Main Board of the London Stock Exchange until 31 March 2013. He was also a non-executive director of Black Rock Fixed Income Dublin Funds plc, Black Rock Institutional Pooled Funds plc and Institutional Cash Series plc, companies all listed on the Dublin Stock Exchange until 31 March 2013. Mr. Murray also acts as a business consultant to a number of smaller businesses. While working with PricewaterhouseCoopers, Mr. Murray advised boards and audit committees of companies listed in Hong Kong, both as an audit partner and as an adviser in relation to both internal audit and corporate governance. He was Honorary Consul for Ireland in Hong Kong from 1996 to 1999.

PROFILES OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT



Independent Non-Executive Directors

Mr. HE Yi (何毅), aged 64, is an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company since 27 June 2011. Mr. He studied management and strategy from HEC International Business School (ecole des Hautes etudes Commerciales) from 1989 to 1991. Mr. He is also currently a director of Essilor International (Compagnie Generale d'Optique), listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange. From 1978 to 1989, he was a representative of the People's Republic of China Embassy in France, Paris where he was successively in charge of consular affairs, cultural affairs, protocol, relations with media and cooperation in administrative matters between the PRC and France. From 1991 to 1996, he joined the Danone Group's Shanghai subsidiary as a general manager. Mr. He joined the Essilor Group as the

chief executive officer of Shanghai Essilor Optical Co., Ltd. in 1996 and has been the chairman of Essilor (China) Holding Company and a director of Essilor International since 2010.



Senior Management

Mr. HUANG Ming-Tuan (黃明端), aged 62, is the Chairman of Group of subsidiaries operating under the "RT-Mart" banner in China. Mr. Huang resigned as an Executive Director of the Company on 30 January 2018 and remains as a member of the Investment Committee, the Operations Committee and Disclosure Committee of the Company. Mr. Huang received a Master of Business Administration from the College of Management, National Taiwan University in 1984. He is responsible for the overall strategic planning and management of our business. Mr. Huang was a director of the Company during the period from 28 April 2011 to 30 January 2018. He joined the Group in 2001 and has since been the chief executive officer of RT-Mart Limited Shanghai ("**Shanghai RT-Mart**") where

he is responsible for devising and implementing its overall strategies and the supervision of its business operations. Mr. Huang has been involved in the business and operational strategies of the Company. Mr. Huang is also a director of certain of the subsidiaries of the Group, including Feiniu HK, Fields HK, ACHK, CCIL, RT-Mart Holdings, and CIC.

Prior to joining the Group in 2001, Mr. Huang was the general manager of Ruentex Industries Limited ("**Ruentex Industries**") from 1991 to 1997, where he was responsible for devising and implementing its overall strategies and the supervision of its business operations. From 1997 to 2001, Mr. Huang was the vice chairman of RT-Mart Int'l.



Senior Management

Mr. HSU Sheng-Yu (徐盛育), aged 62, is the Chief Financial Officer of the Group of subsidiaries operating under the "RT-Mart" banner in China. He is responsible for the financial, controlling and legal matters of our operations under our "RT-Mart" banner. Prior to joining the Group in 1999, Mr. Hsu has been with Ruentex, previous controlling shareholders of the Group. From 1983 to 1999, Mr. Hsu held various positions in Ruentex's operations in Taiwan, including the position of finance manager, vice general manager, general manager and chairman in Ruentex Industries, Xingye Construction Co., Ltd. (興業建設股份有限公司), Ruentex Construction and Engineer Co., Ltd. (潤泰營造股份有限公司) and Runhong Engineering Co., Ltd. (潤弘工程股份有限公司) respectively.



Senior Management

Mr. CHIANG Yeong-Fang (蔣永芳), aged 61, is the Chief Executive Officer of the Group of subsidiaries operating under the “RT-Mart” banner in China, where his responsibilities include the management of hypermarket complexes as well as the formulation of strategies for our business operations under the “RT-Mart” banner. Prior to joining the Group in 2001, Mr. Chiang has been with Ruentex, previous controlling shareholders of the Group. From 2000 to 2001, Mr. Chiang was the vice-general manager of Ruentex Industries, where he was responsible for general operational matters of the group of companies under Ruentex Industries, including procurement, operational efficiency management of the group’s factories, human resource and administration. From 1979 to 2000, Mr. Chiang was

a career army officer with the army of the Republic of China. Mr. Chiang is also a director of Shanghai RT-Mart, one of the subsidiaries of the Group.



Senior Management

Mr. Jean CHAUSSE, aged 54, has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer of the Company since November 2016. Mr. Chausse received a degree from HEC Business School, and has extensive experience in the banking and financial management field. He started his career in France first at Credit Commercial de France (now HSBC) mainly in commercial banking, and then worked at Credit Mutuel Arkea firstly as Head of Trading, CEO of the Asset Management Branch, and then CFO. He joined Auchan Holding S.A. in 2008, as Head of Treasury and Funding. He was subsequently promoted to Deputy CFO of Auchan Holding S.A. overseeing accounting consolidation, risk management and insurance, treasury and investors relations.



Senior Management

Mr. Vincent MIGNOT, aged 46, has been the Chief Operation Officer of Auchan banner since June 2017. He is responsible for the strategic direction and overall performance of Auchan banner. Joining the Group as a section manager in France in 1997, Mr. Mignot has worked as Division Manager, Store Manager and the Operation Director in different stores in Auchan France. From 2010 to 2015, he worked as General Manager of Auchan France and was also the board member of Immochan France. Mr. Mignot started his working in Auchan China since 2016 as the Director of Customer and Innovation. At the same time, Mr. MIGNOT is a board member of Auchan Vietnam and Oney China since 2016. Mr. Mignot received a degree of Management and Marketing in IFAG Business School.

PROFILES OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT



Senior Management

Mr. Olivier SOULE-DE-BAS, aged 53, is responsible for the common purchase project between Auchan and RT-Mart. Prior to joining the Group in 2007, Mr. Soule-De-Bas has been with Auchan Holding S.A., one of the ultimate controlling shareholders of the Group. From 1986 to 1997, Mr. Soule-De-Bas held various positions in Auchan Holding S.A.'s operations in France, including the position of section manager, financial controller and division manager. From 1997 to 2005, Mr. Soule-De-Bas was based in China and was involved in the initial stages of the establishment of our "Auchan" hypermarkets in China where he worked as a financial controller. He also worked as a store manager and a general manager respectively during this period. From 2005 to 2007, Mr. Soule-De-Bas was based in

Taiwan where he was the chief financial officer of RT-Mart Int'l. Mr. Soule-De-Bas received a master degree of Higher Accounting and Financial Education from the Education Ministry in Bordeaux in France in 1990 (DESCF).



Company Secretary

Ms. Chan Wai Ling (陳蕙玲), FCIS, FCS (PE), is a director of Corporate Services of Tricor Services Limited. Ms. Chan is a Chartered Secretary and Fellow of both The Hong Kong Institute of Chartered Secretaries ("HKICS") and The Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators in the United Kingdom. Ms. Chan is a holder of the Practitioner's Endorsement from HKICS. Ms. Chan is currently the joint company secretary of SITC International Holdings Company Limited (Stock Code: 1308) and Razer Inc. (Stock Code: 1337) as well as the company secretary of China Polymetallic Mining Limited (Stock Code: 2133), China Maple Leaf Education Systems Limited (Stock Code: 1317) and IMAX China Holding, Inc. (Stock Code: 1970). Ms. Chan was also a former company secretary of TCC International Holdings Limited (Stock Code: 1136, delisted on 20 November 2017).

The board (the “**Board**”) of directors (the “**Directors**”) of the Company are pleased to present this report and the audited consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Group are the operation of hypermarkets and E-commerce platforms in the PRC. An analysis of the Group’s revenue by category is set out in note 2 to the consolidated financial statements on page 99.

Financial Statements

The results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2017 are set out in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income on page 70.

The financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2017 is set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position of the Group on pages 71 to 72. The financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2017 is set out in note 25 to the consolidated financial statement on page 136.

The cash flows of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2017 are set out in the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement on pages 75 to 76.

Final Dividend

At the Board meeting held on 2 March 2018 (Friday), the Directors proposed that a Final Dividend of HKD0.16 (equivalent to RMB0.13) per ordinary share for the year ended 31 December 2017, amounting to approximately HKD1,526 million (equivalent to RMB1,235 million) be paid no later than 13 July 2018 (Friday) to the shareholders of the Company whose names appear on the Company’s register of members at the close of business at 4:30 p.m. on 16 May 2018 (Wednesday). The proposed Final Dividend is subject to the approval by the shareholders of the Company at the forthcoming AGM to be held on 9 May 2018 (Wednesday).

There is no arrangement under which a shareholder of the Company has waived or agreed to waive any dividends.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

Reserves

Details of the movements in the reserves of the Group and the Company during the year ended 31 December 2017 are set out in the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity on pages 73 to 74 and note 20(a) to the consolidated financial statements.

As at 31 December 2017, the Company's reserves available for distribution to the shareholders amounted to RMB1,420 million in accordance with the Company's new articles of association ("**Articles of Association**") adopted on 14 May 2015.

Fixed Assets

Details of the movements in the fixed assets of the Group during the year ended 31 December 2017 are set out in note 10 to the consolidated financial statements.

The Group also manages retail galleries in our hypermarket buildings, in which we lease spaces to third parties. The portion of the buildings containing the retail galleries which are owned by the Group are classified as investment properties. The Group has applied the cost model for investment properties.

As at 31 December 2017, there are 107 retail galleries classified as investment properties. All of the galleries were of similar nature and all located in the PRC. There were a large number of individual properties and none of the properties was material on an individual basis.

An independent professional valuer has been engaged to value the properties owned by the Group. As at 31 December 2017, the total fair value of such properties was RMB37,612 million. And the fair value of investment property was RMB4,609 million.

Details of the fair value of the investment properties as at 31 December 2017 and 2016 and the valuation technique are set out in notes 10(iv) and 10(v) to the consolidated financial statements respectively.

Bank Loans

Details of the Group's bank loans as at 31 December 2017 are set out in note 18 to the consolidated financial statements.

Donations

Donations made by the Group during the year ended 31 December 2017 amounted to RMB4 million.

Share Capital

Details of the movements in share capital of the Company during the year ended 31 December 2017 are set out in note 20(a) to the consolidated financial statements.

Sufficiency of Public Float

Based on the information that is publicly available to the Company and within the knowledge of the Directors, as at the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this annual report, the Company has maintained the amount of public float as approved by The Stock Exchange and as permitted under The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange (the “**Listing Rules**”).

Closure of Register of Members and Record Date**(a) For determining the entitlement to attend and vote at the 2018 AGM**

The Company's register of members will be closed from 4 May 2018 (Friday) to 9 May 2018 (Wednesday), both dates inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares will be registered. To ensure that shareholders are entitled to attend and vote at the 2018 AGM, shareholders must deliver their duly stamped instruments of transfer, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, to the Company's share registrar, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, located at Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong for registration no later than 4:30 p.m. on 3 May 2018 (Thursday).

(b) For determining the entitlement to the proposed Final Dividend

The proposed Final Dividend is subject to the approval of the shareholders at the 2018 AGM. For determining the entitlement to the proposed Final Dividend, the record date is fixed on 16 May 2018 (Wednesday). Shareholders must deliver their duly stamped instruments of transfer, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, to the Company's share registrar, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, located at Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong for registration no later than 4:30 p.m. on 16 May 2018 (Wednesday).

Purchase, Sale or Redemption of Shares of the Company's Listed Securities

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities during the year ended 31 December 2017.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

Directors

The Directors during the year ended 31 December 2017 and as of the date of this annual report were as follows:

Executive Director:

Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER (*Chief Executive Officer*) (Appointed on 11 July 2017)
(Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC, Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ and Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER as his alternates, all were appointed on 11 July 2017)

Bruno, Robert MERCIER (*Former Chief Executive Officer*) (Resigned on 11 July 2017)
(Ceased to act as alternate to Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC, Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ and Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER on 11 July 2017)
(Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC, Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ and Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER as his alternates, all ceased to act on 11 July 2017)

HUANG Ming-Tuan (Resigned on 30 January 2018)
(CHENG Chuan-Tai ceased to act as his alternate on 30 January 2018)

Non-executive Directors:

ZHANG Yong (*Chairman*) (Appointed on 30 January 2018)
(CHEN Jun as his alternate, appointed on 30 January 2018)

CHENG Chuan-Tai (*Former Chairman*) (Resigned on 30 January 2018)
(HUANG Ming-Tuan ceased to act as his alternate on 30 January 2018)

Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ (Appointed on 12 September 2012)
(Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC, Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER and Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER were appointed as his alternates on 12 September 2012, 11 December 2015 and 11 July 2017 respectively)

Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC (Appointed on 8 February 2001)
(Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ, Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER and Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER were appointed as his alternates on 12 September 2012, 11 December 2015 and 11 July 2017 respectively)

Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER (Appointed on 11 December 2015)
(Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ, Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC and Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER as his alternates, save for Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER who was appointed on 11 July 2017, all were appointed on 11 December 2015)

CHEN Jun (Appointed on 30 January 2018)
(ZHANG Yong and XU Panhua⁽¹⁾ as his alternates, appointed on 30 January 2018)

Independent Non-executive Directors:

Karen Yifen CHANG (Appointed on 27 June 2011)

Desmond MURRAY (Appointed on 27 June 2011)

HE Yi (Appointed on 27 June 2011)

Note:

(1) Mr. XU Panhua was appointed as an alternate director to Mr. CHEN Jun pursuant to the Article of Association.

Biographies of the Directors as at the date of this annual report are set forth in the section headed “Profiles of Directors and Senior Management” of this annual report on pages 18 to 24.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Mr. Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER, Mr. ZHANG Yong, Mr. CHEN Jun, Mr. Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ and Mr. Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC will retire as Executive Director and Non-executive Directors and, being eligible, have offered themselves to be re-elected and re-appointed at the forthcoming 2018 AGM.

The Company has received annual confirmation of independence from each of the existing Independent Non-executive Directors in accordance with Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules. The Company considers that all of the Independent Non-executive Directors are independent in accordance with the Listing Rules.

Directors of Subsidiaries

During the year ended 31 December 2017 or during the period from 1 January 2018 to the date of this Report, the names of all directors who have served on the boards of the subsidiaries of the Company are available on the Company’s website (http://www.sunartretail.com/html/about_gov.php).

Business Review

A fair review of the business of the Company and a discussion and analysis of the Group’s performance during the year under review and the material factors underlying its results and financial position are provided in the Chairman’s Statement, Chief Executive Officer’s Statement, Financial Review, Business Review respectively from pages 5 to 17 of this annual report.

Description of the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Company can be found throughout this annual report, particularly in the Risk Factors section on pages 45 to 50.

Particulars of important events affecting the Company that have occurred since the end of the financial year 2017, if any, can also be found in the abovementioned sections and the notes to the consolidated financial statements.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

The outlook of the Company's business is discussed throughout this annual report including in the Chairman's Statement and Chief Executive Officer's Statement from pages 5 to 8 of this annual report.

An account of the Company's relationships with its key stakeholders including its employees, customers and suppliers is included in the Report of Directors section, on pages 36 and 42 of this annual report, respectively.

In addition, more details regarding the Group's performance by reference to environmental and social related key performance indicators and policies, as well as compliance with relevant laws and regulations which have a significant impact on the Company, are provided in the Report of Directors section, on page 43 in the annual report.

Permitted Indemnity

Pursuant to the Company's Articles of Association, subject to the statues, every Director shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all costs, charges, expenses, losses and liabilities which he/she may sustain or incur in the execution of his/her office or otherwise in relation thereto. Subject to the applicable laws and the Company's Articles of Association, the Company has taken out insurance against the liability and costs associated with legal actions against the Directors arising out of corporate activities.

Directors' Service Contracts

Each of the Independent Non-executive Directors of the Company is appointed for a specific term of three years and shall be subject to retirement provisions stipulated in the Company's Articles of Association.

The Company will enter into a service agreement with each of the Executive and Non-executive Directors with a term within three years from the relevant effective date.

There was no service contract entered by the Company and any Directors which is not determinable by the Company within one year without payment of compensation, other than statutory compensation.

Directors' Interests in Contracts

Other than those transactions disclosed in note 24 to the consolidated financial statements and in the section headed "Connected Transactions" below, there was no other significant contract to which the Company or any member of the Group was a party and in which the Directors possessed direct or indirect substantial interests, subsisted during or at the end of the year.

Directors' Interest and Short Positions in Shares, Underlying Shares and Debentures

As at 31 December 2017, the interest or short position of the Directors or chief executives of the Company in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or its associated corporations within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "SFO") required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interest and/or short positions which they were taken or deemed to have under such provisions of the SFO) or which were required, pursuant to section 352 of the SFO, to be entered in the register, or which were required, pursuant to Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Companies as set out in the Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules (the "Model Code"), to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange, are as follows:

Name of director/ chief executive	Name of corporation	Nature of interest	Total number of shares⁽¹⁾	Approximate percentage shareholding of the relevant entity
Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER ⁽²⁾	Auchan Holding S.A. ⁽³⁾	Beneficial owner	736(L) ⁽⁷⁾	0.0024%
HUANG Ming-Tuan ⁽⁴⁾	Company	Beneficial owner, interest of spouse and interest in a controlled corporation ⁽⁵⁾	117,234,074(L)	1.2289%
CHENG Chuan-Tai ⁽⁶⁾	Company	Beneficial owner	6,000,000(L)	0.0629%
Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC	Auchan Holding S.A. ⁽³⁾	Beneficial owner	470(L) ⁽⁸⁾ 736(L) ⁽⁹⁾	0.0016% 0.0024%
	Oney Bank S.A. ⁽¹⁰⁾	Beneficial owner	1,173(L) ⁽¹¹⁾	0.0809%
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER	Auchan Holding S.A. ⁽³⁾	Beneficial owner	953(L) ⁽¹²⁾ 3,653(L) ⁽¹³⁾	0.0032% 0.0121%
Desmond MURRAY	Company	Beneficial owner	55,000(L)	0.0006%

Notes:

- (1) The letter "L" denotes the person's long position in the shares.
- (2) Mr. Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER has been appointed as Executive Director on 11 July 2017.
- (3) Auchan Holding S.A. (formerly "Groupe Auchan S.A.") is a company incorporated in France and comprises various companies controlled by the members of the Mulliez family through which they conduct or pursue their various business interests in retail operations, real-estate development and banking. Auchan Holding S.A. is our ultimate controlling shareholder. Auchan Holding S.A. has adopted various share incentive plans pursuant to which share-based awards are granted to eligible directors and employees of Auchan Holding S.A. and its subsidiaries. These share incentive plans include the following:

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

- (i) Stock Option Plan (2018) relating to the grant of options to subscribe for shares in Auchan Holding S.A. with a vesting period from 29 August 2018 to 30 September 2018.
- (ii) Stock Option Plan (2019) relating to the grant of options to subscribe for shares in Auchan Holding S.A. with a vesting period from 28 August 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Note: With effect from 9 May 2012, the only class of shares issued by Auchan Holding S.A. is ordinary shares, the restricted shares and Class S shares were converted to ordinary shares on 9 May 2012. The issued share capital of Auchan Holding S.A. is 30,194,690 shares as at 31 December 2017.

- (4) Mr. Huang Ming-Tuan resigned as Executive Director on 30 January 2018.
- (5)
 - (i) Mr. HUANG Ming-Tuan holds 15,559,258 shares.
 - (ii) Ms. LEE Chih-Lan is the spouse of Mr. HUANG Ming-Tuan and holds 1,551,238 shares. Accordingly, Mr. HUANG Ming-Tuan is deemed to be interested in all of the shares held by Ms. LEE Chih-Lan.
 - (iii) Mr. HUANG Ming-Tuan is the legal and beneficial owner of the entire issued share capital of Victor Spring Ltd., a limited liability company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands. Accordingly, he is deemed to be interested in all of the 17,969,614 shares held by Victor Spring Ltd.
 - (iv) Mr. HUANG Ming-Tuan is the legal and beneficial owner of 50% of the share capital of Unique Grand Trading Ltd., a limited liability company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, and Ms. LEE Chih-Lan, the spouse of Mr. HUANG Ming-Tuan, holds the remaining 50%. Accordingly, he is deemed to be interested in all of the 82,153,964 shares held by Unique Grand Trading Ltd.
- (6) Mr. CHENG Chuan-Tai resigned as Non-executive Director on 30 January 2018.
- (7) This represents stock options in respect of 736 shares in Auchan Holding S.A. granted pursuant to the Auchan Holding S.A. Stock Option Plan (2019).
- (8) This represents stock options in respect of 470 shares in Auchan Holding S.A. granted pursuant to the Auchan Holding S.A. Stock Option Plan (2018).
- (9) This represents stock options in respect of 736 shares in Auchan Holding S.A. granted pursuant to the Auchan Holding S.A. Stock Option Plan (2019).
- (10) Oney Bank S.A. (formerly "Banque Accord S.A.") is a company incorporated in France and a subsidiary of Auchan Holding S.A.. The major business of Oney Bank S.A. includes financial products and services as well as electronic banking provided to clients; and tailor-made solutions on payment and customer portfolio management provided to business partners. The issued share capital of Oney Bank S.A. as at 31 December 2017 is 1,449,749 shares.
- (11) This represents 1,173 free shares in Oney Bank S.A. to be granted on 25 August 2018.
- (12) This represents 953 free shares in Auchan Holding S.A. to be granted on 25 August 2018.
- (13) This represents 3,653 free shares in Auchan Holding S.A. to be granted on 25 August 2020.

Save as disclosed above, so far as known to any Directors, as at 31 December 2017, none of the Directors or chief executives of the Company or any of their associates had or was deemed to have any interest or short position in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company and its associated corporations as defined in Part XV of the SFO, which were required to be recorded in the register required to be kept under section 352 of the SFO, or otherwise required to be notified by the Directors or chief executives to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code.

Directors' Rights to Acquire Shares or Debt Securities

At no time during the year was the Company or any of its holding companies or its subsidiaries a party to any arrangements to enable the Directors to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any other body corporate.

Directors' Interest in Competing Business

During the year, none of the Directors of the Group had any interests in a business which competes, either directly, or indirectly, with the business of the Company or the Group.

Share Option Scheme

There is no share option scheme operated by the Company.

Employee Trust Benefit Schemes ("ETBS")

The Group has in place an ETBS for the employees of the Group, including the Directors and senior management, under each of the "Auchan" and "RT-Mart" banners of the Group. The Auchan Scheme and the RT-Mart Scheme are each implemented by way of a trust arrangement. The Auchan Scheme allows the employees of the Auchan banner to share the success of ACI, a key operating subsidiary under the Auchan banner while the RT-Mart Scheme allows the employees of the RT-Mart banner to share the success of CIC, a key operating subsidiary under the RT-Mart banner.

Details of the ETBS are set out in the note 4(b)(ii) to the consolidated financial statements.

Calculated based on the actual paid-in capital, as at 31 December 2017, 0.897% of ACI and 7.17091% of CIC were held by the respective trusts under the Auchan Scheme and the RT-Mart Scheme.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

Substantial Shareholders' Interests and Short Position in Shares and Underlying Shares of the Company

So far as is known to any Director or chief executive of the Company, as at 31 December 2017, the persons or corporations (other than Directors or chief executives of the Company) who had interests or short positions in the shares and underlying shares of the Company or its associated corporation(s) which were recorded in the register required to be kept under section 336 of the SFO were as follows:

Name of substantial shareholder	Nature of interest	Number and class of shares ⁽¹⁾	Approximate percentage of shareholding
A-RT ⁽²⁾	Beneficial owner	4,865,338,686(L) ⁽¹⁰⁾	51.0009%
Auchan Retail ⁽³⁾	Interest in a controlled corporation and beneficial owner	4,865,338,686(L) ⁽¹⁰⁾	51.0009%
Auchan Holding S.A. ⁽⁴⁾	Interest in a controlled corporation	4,865,338,686(L) ⁽¹⁰⁾	51.0009%
Au Marche S.A.S ⁽⁵⁾	Interest in a controlled corporation	4,865,338,686(L) ⁽¹⁰⁾	51.0009%
Mulliez Family ⁽⁶⁾	Interest in a controlled corporation	4,865,338,686(L) ⁽¹⁰⁾	51.0009%
Taobao China ⁽⁷⁾	Beneficial owner	2,481,819,314(L) ⁽¹¹⁾	26.0157%
Taobao Holding ⁽⁸⁾	Interest in a controlled corporation	2,481,819,314(L) ⁽¹¹⁾	26.0157%
Alibaba Group ⁽⁹⁾	Interest in a controlled corporation	2,481,819,314(L) ⁽¹¹⁾	26.0157%

Notes:

- (1) The letter "L" denotes long position in the shares.
- (2) A-RT is directly owned by Auchan Retail (formerly "Auchan Hyper S.A.") as to 55.74% interest, therefore Auchan Retail is deemed to be interested in all the shares in which A-RT is interested in by virtue of Part XV of the SFO.

The rest of shares of A-RT is owned by Taobao China as to 19.90%, Concord Greater China Limited ("CGC") as to 4.75%, Kofu International Limited ("Kofu") as to 4.41% and Monicole Exploitation Maatschappij BV ("Monicole BV") as to 15.20%.

Monicole BV is a company incorporated in the Netherlands, which is indirectly wholly-owned by Auchan Retail.

Kofu is a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, which is indirectly wholly-owned by Mr. YIN Chung Yao, and had an interest of 2.4228% in the Company as of 31 December 2017, which Taobao China or a co-investor as Taobao China may designate has conditionally agreed to purchase pursuant to a share purchase agreement dated 20 November 2017 between Kofu and Taobao China.

CGC is a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands and a company under Ruentex (Ruentex Development Co., Ltd., Ruentex Industries Limited, CGC and Kofu collectively) and had an interest of 2.6127% in the Company as of 31 December 2017, which Taobao China or a co-investor as Taobao China may designate has conditionally agreed to purchase pursuant to a share purchase agreement dated 20 November 2017 between CGC and Taobao China.

Taobao China is a company incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability, and is directly wholly-owned by Taobao Holding Limited ("**Taobao Holding**"), which is in turn owned by Alibaba Group.

- (3) Auchan Retail is a company incorporated in France which is wholly-owned by Auchan Holding S.A. A-RT is 55.74% directly owned by Auchan Retail, therefore Auchan Retail is deemed to be interested in all the shares in which A-RT is interested in by virtue of Part XV of the SFO.
- (4) Auchan Retail is wholly-owned by Auchan Holding S.A., therefore Auchan Holding S.A. is deemed to be interested in all the shares in which Auchan Retail is interested in by virtue of Part XV of the SFO.
- (5) Auchan Holding S.A. is 61.88% owned by Au Marche S.A.S, therefore Au Marche S.A.S is deemed to be interested in all the shares in which Auchan Holding S.A. is interested in by virtue of Part XV of the SFO.
- (6) Mulliez Family comprises the founder of Auchan Holding S.A., Gerard Mulliez, and other members of the Mulliez family in France, who hold interests in various companies under Auchan Holding S.A. Au Marche S.A.S is wholly-owned by the Mulliez Family through certain intermediate holding companies. No one member of the Mulliez Family is able to exert a dominant influence over other members in their voting rights in Au Marche S.A.S. The Mulliez Family is collectively represented by a member of the family, who plays an administrative role and is similarly unable to exert a dominant influence over other members of the Mulliez Family and does not control Au Marche S.A.S.
- (7) Taobao China is a company incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability, and is directly wholly-owned by Taobao Holding, which is in turn owned by Alibaba Group, and as at 31 December 2017 had a long interest of 26.0157% in the Company. Taobao China subsequently designated New Retail Strategic Opportunities Investment 1 Limited to acquire 5.04% of the shares of the Company on 29 January 2018. Taobao China remains having a direct beneficial interest of 20.98% in the Company as at the date of this report.
- (8) Taobao Holding is a company incorporated in Cayman Islands, which is wholly owned by Alibaba Group. Taobao China is wholly owned by Taobao Holding, therefore Taobao Holding is deemed to be interested in all the shares in which Taobao China is interested in by virtue of Part XV of the SFO.
- (9) Alibaba Group is a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands and its American depositary shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Taobao China is wholly owned by Alibaba Group, therefore Alibaba Group is deemed to be interested in all the shares in which Taobao China is interested in by virtue of Part XV of the SFO.
- (10) Such 4,865,338,686 shares belong to the same batch of shares.
- (11) Such 2,481,819,314 shares belong to the same batch of shares.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

Save as disclosed above, as at 31 December 2017, the Directors of the Company are not aware of any other person or corporation having an interest or short position in shares and underlying shares of the Company or its associated corporation(s) which would require to be recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company pursuant to section 336 of Part XV of the SFO.

As at 31 December 2017, the shareholding interests of eight of the operating subsidiaries in the PRC are partially held by independent third parties. Those operating subsidiaries are Fields HK, RT-Mart Limited Shanghai, Jinan RT-Mart, Changshu Bairuenfa Hypermarket Co., Ltd., Shanghai Auchan Hypermarket Co., Ltd., Hangzhou Auchan Hypermarket Co., Ltd., Changzhou Immochan Real Estate Co., Ltd., and Wuxi Immochan Real Estate Co, Ltd. And the shareholding interest of Oney Accord is partially held by Oney Bank S.A., which is a connected person of the Company.

Highest Paid Individuals and the Remuneration of the Directors and Senior Management

Details of the Directors' remuneration and the five individuals with highest emoluments are set out in notes 6 and 7 respectively of the consolidated financial statements in this annual report.

For the year ended 31 December 2017, the remuneration of the senior management whose profiles are included in the "Profiles of Directors and Senior Management" section of this annual report, except the Company Secretary who is an external service provider, fell within the following bands:

Remuneration Bands	Number of Individuals
HKD3,000,001 – HKD3,500,000	2
HKD4,000,001 – HKD4,500,000	1
HKD7,000,001 – HKD7,500,000	1
HKD13,500,001 – HKD14,000,000	2

Remuneration Policy

As at 31 December 2017, the Group employed a total of 147,693 employees. The Group recruits and promotes individuals based on merit and their development potentials. Remuneration package offered to all employees including Directors is determined with reference to their performance, time commitment, responsibilities and the prevailing salary levels in the market.

Retirement/Pension Schemes

Details of the retirement benefit schemes of the Group are set out in note 4(b) to the consolidated financial statements.

Connected Transactions

During the year ended 31 December 2017, the Group had the following non-exempt continuing connected transactions.

Agency Agreement and Subcontracting Agreement with Patinvest

According to the agreement entered into between the Company and Patinvest on 23 December 2016 in relation to negotiation services with selected international suppliers in Asia to be provided by the Company on behalf of Patinvest (the “**Agency Agreement**”), Patinvest agreed to grant to the Company exclusive right to provide negotiation services in relation to certain international cooperation agreements to be entered into between the Company (on behalf of Patinvest) and selected international suppliers in Asia. The services provided by the Company included negotiating with selected international suppliers in Asia for the provision of joint and specific services, comprising, amongst others, exchange of market knowledge, facilitation of new product introductions and entry into new regions/markets, coordination of product promotional activities and product performance data sharing.

According to the agreement entered into between the Company and Patinvest on 23 December 2016 in relation to the subcontracting of Patinvest’s performance obligations in Asia under the international cooperation agreements entered into by Patinvest with third party suppliers (the “**Subcontracting Agreement**”, and together with the Agency Agreement, the “**Agreements**”), Patinvest agreed to exclusively subcontract to the Company Patinvest’s performance obligations in Asia under the international cooperation agreements entered into by Patinvest with third party suppliers. The services subcontracted included, amongst others, the exchange of market knowledge, facilitation of new product introductions and entry into new regions/markets, coordination of product promotional activities and sharing of product performance data with suppliers.

Each of the Agreements had a term commencing from 1 January 2017 and ending on 31 December 2017. The fees to which the Company was entitled under the Agency Agreement was the full amount of all sums payable by selected international suppliers in Asia for the provision of services by the Company. The consideration payable to the Company for the Subcontracting Agreement was the full amount of all sums payable by the international suppliers for the services performed in Asia under the international cooperation agreements entered into between Patinvest and such suppliers. By entering into the Agreements, Patinvest could leverage on the expertise and resources of the Company to strengthen the negotiations and bargaining power with selected international suppliers in Asia, and the Company could leverage on Patinvest’s relationship with such international suppliers to expand its suppliers’ network, and both parties could be in a better position to bargain for more favourable conditions during negotiation.

As Patinvest is a subsidiary of Auchan Holding and Auchan Holding is one of the controlling shareholders of the Company, Patinvest is a connected person of the Company. Accordingly, the Agency Agreement and Subcontracting Agreement constituted a continuing connected transaction of the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

The Company has made an announcement on 23 December 2016 to disclose this continuing connected transaction. The Board have had proposed an aggregated cap of EUR20 million for the transactions under the two Agreements.). During the year 2017, the total fees paid by Patinvest to the Group was EUR14.5 million (equivalent to RMB111 million).

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

Membership Agreement with SNC OIA

Pursuant to the Membership Agreement and the membership with SNC OIA, the Company and its subsidiaries (the “**Group**”) will be able to, through the electronic platform operated by SNC OIA, purchase, on a non-exclusive basis, various products, including food, hygiene and perfumery products offered by the corporate entities of Auchan Holding (the “**Auchan Countries Entities**”) on the electronic platform of SNC OIA. SNC OIA will be responsible for the management and operation of the electronic platform, including the design of interactive and intuitive search tool as well as menus. Also, SNC OIA will regularly update the platform with new products according to the feedback of its members. As a member of SNC OIA, the Group will also be able to instruct SNC OIA to purchase the products on its behalf (the “**Ancillary Services**”).

The Membership Agreement had a term commencing from 1 January 2017 and ending on 31 December 2017. The fees payable by the Group under the Membership Agreement consisted of three parts, namely:

- (i) the membership fee payable to SNC OIA, being 0.5% of the amount payable by the Group for the Group’s purchases of the products offered by the Auchan Countries Entities through the electronic platform operated by SNC OIA. Such fee were payable to SNC OIA on a quarterly basis;
- (ii) the price of the products of the Auchan Countries Entities purchased by the Group through the electronic platform of SNC OIA. The Group should settle the payment within 60 days from the date of the invoice; and
- (iii) a service fee was payable to SNC OIA in respect of the Ancillary Services, being 1.5% of the amount payable by the Group for the goods purchased by SNC OIA on the Group’s behalf.

The price of the products of the Auchan Countries Entities purchased by the Group through the electronic platform operated by SNC OIA should not be higher than the average price paid by the Group to other independent third parties on an arm’s length basis and normal commercial terms for the same type of products during the relevant period. The Group might, before it placed any purchase order through the electronic platform operated by SNC OIA, obtain price quotations from or transaction information from other suppliers who were independent third parties for the supply of the same or similar type of products required by the Group. If the Group proceeded to place a purchase order for the products offered by the Auchan Countries Entities through the electronic platform of SNC OIA, the price and other conditions at which such products were to be offered should be no less favorable than those offered by the independent third parties to the Group.

The Company has made an announcement on 24 January 2017 to disclose this continuing connected transaction. The Board have had proposed an aggregated cap of RMB100 million for the transactions under the Agreement (“**the Proposed Cap**”). During the year 2017, the total fee paid by the Group to SNC OIA was NIL.

Supply Agreement with Zhejiang Tmall Supply Management Co., Ltd

On 29 December 2017, CIC, an indirect non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, and Tmall Supply, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Taobao China, entered into the Supply Agreement, pursuant to which CIC agreed to purchase and Tmall Supply agreed to supply certain products to CIC. The Supply Agreement has a term commencing from 31 December 2017 and ending on 31 December 2018.

The products supplied by Tmall Supply mainly represent packaged food, poultry products, processed meat, edible oil, grain, vegetable, fresh and preserved fruits, groceries and any other merchandise customarily sold in hypermarkets which may be required by CIC and which Tmall Supply may be able to supply in circumstances which are of commercial benefit to CIC.

The purchase price for the products (value-added tax, customs duties, other relevant taxes payable by Tmall Supply and package costs included) will be determined at the time of the particular purchase with reference to (i) the price of products of the same category offered by independent suppliers at the time of a particular transaction; (ii) the gross profit margin expected by CIC of products of the same categories; and (iii) the prices of the same products generally offered on Tmall online platform.

Taobao China holds approximately 20.98% of the total issued Shares of the Company and is therefore a substantial shareholder and a connected person of the Company under the Listing Rules. Accordingly, Tmall Supply, as an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Taobao China, is a connected person of the Company under the Listing Rules. The Supply Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder therefore constitute continuing connected transactions of the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

The Company has made an announcement on 29 December 2017 to disclose this continuing connected transaction. The Board have had proposed an aggregated cap, for the period commencing from 31 December 2017 and ending 31 December 2018, of RMB200 million for the transactions under the Supply Agreement (“**the Proposed Cap**”). During the year 2017, the purchases paid by the Group to Tmall Supply was RMB4 million.

Business Cooperation Agreement with Alibaba Zetai Information Technology Company Limited

On 7 December 2017, Hangzhou Alibaba Zetai Information Technology Company Limited (“**Alibaba Zetai**”) (being an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Taobao China), the Company, ACI and CIC entered into a business cooperation agreement (the “**Business Cooperation Agreement**”), pursuant to which Alibaba Zetai has agreed to provide services including, among others, (a) granting access by the stores operated by ACI and CIC to its business model and online platform; (b) data sharing; (c) integration of systems and POS hardware; and (d) last-mile delivery services. The Business Cooperation Agreement has a term commencing from 7 December 2017 for a fixed term of three years. For details of the Business Cooperation Agreement, please refer to an announcement dated 8 December 2017 published by the Company.

On 19 March 2018, Taobao (China) Software Co., Ltd. (“**Taobao Software**”) (being an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Taobao China) entered into two implementation agreements (the “**Implementation Agreements**”) with ACI and CIC, respectively, for the implementation of the cooperation contemplated in the Business Cooperation Agreement. The Implementation Agreements have a term commencing from 19 March 2018 and ending on 18 March 2021.

Pursuant to the Implementation Agreements, ACI and CIC agreed to cooperate with Taobao Software to adopt the “Taobao Daojia” (“淘寶到家”) model across the Auchan Stores and the RT Stores, including, amongst others: (a) the Auchan Stores and the RT Stores accessing the business model and the online Platform; (b) completing the integration of the corresponding software systems in the Auchan Stores and the RT Stores; (c) Taobao Software supplying to the Auchan Stores and the RT Stores necessary hardware including POS hardware and providing maintenance support; (d) delivery services provided by delivery agent(s) designated by Taobao Software to deliver products sold on the Platform; and (e) other areas of cooperation such as assistance in procurement or sourcing, participation in marketing and promotional activities and the usage of Alipay.

The Company believes that the new alliance with Alibaba Group will enable the Group’s activities to benefit from Alibaba Group’s digital ecosystem. In particular, the Implementation Agreements will allow the Group to digitalise and introduce new retail solutions at the Auchan and RT Stores. Under the Implementation Agreements, the Auchan and RT Stores will be able to operate as part of the “Taobao Daojia” (“淘寶到家”) business model. This will allow the Group to utilise internet technologies and the Taobao traffic offered through Alibaba Group’s “Taobao Daojia” (“淘寶到家”) business model to increase the efficiency of the traditional hypermarkets and supermarkets operated by it.

The proposed annual caps (the “**Proposed Annual Caps**”) for the Implementation Agreements as well as the transactions contemplated thereunder, being the amounts payable by ACI and CIC to Taobao Software for it and its associates (as defined under the Listing Rules) as principal under the Implementation Agreements on an aggregate basis,

Period	Proposed Annual Cap for the corresponding period
From 19 March 2018 and ending 18 March 2019	RMB450,000,000
From 19 March 2019 and ending 18 March 2020	RMB1,600,000,000
From 19 March 2020 and ending 18 March 2021	RMB1,800,000,000

Taobao China directly holds approximately 20.98% of the total issued Shares of the Company and is therefore a substantial shareholder and a connected person of the Company under the Listing Rules. Accordingly, each of Taobao Software and Alibaba Zetai, as a subsidiary of Taobao China, is a connected person of the Company under the Listing Rules. The Business Cooperation Agreement, the Implementation Agreements and the transactions contemplated thereunder therefore constitute continuing connected transactions of the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

Since the applicable percentage ratios under the Listing Rules for the Proposed Annual Caps exceed 0.1% but not 5%, the Business Cooperation Agreement, the Implementation Agreements and the transactions contemplated thereunder are subject to the reporting and announcement requirements but exempt from the independent shareholders’ approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

Licence for use of the “Auchan” trademarks

Pursuant to the master trademark licence agreement dated 13 December 2001 (the “**Old Trademark Licence Agreement**”) entered into between Auchan Holding S.A. (formerly known as “**Groupe Auchan S.A.**”) and ACHK, Auchan Holding S.A. granted to ACHK a non-exclusive and non-transferable licence of its Auchan trademarks for use in connection with the “Auchan” banner businesses in the PRC. To streamline internal administration and operation procedures, ACHK and Auchan Holding S.A. agreed to terminate the Old Trademark Licence Agreement, and Auchan Holding S.A. and ACI entered into a new trademark licence agreement on 13 December 2013 (the “**Previous Trademark Licence Agreement**”).

By way of update, according to a master agreement dated 1 December 2017 with retroactive effect from 1 January 2017, Auchan Holding S.A. granted Auchan Retail: (a) a non-exclusive licence for global use of its Auchan trademarks and domain names, and (b) the right to grant sub-licences in respect of Auchan trademarks and domain names. In light of such master agreement, ACI, Auchan Retail and Auchan Holding S.A. agreed to terminate the Previous Trademark Licence Agreement, and entered into a new trademark sub-licence agreement on 2 March 2018 (the “**New Sub-licence Agreement**”), pursuant to which Auchan Retail granted to ACI a non-exclusive 3-year licence of its Auchan trademarks and domain names for use in connection with the Auchan banner business of the Company in the PRC, with retrospective effect from 1 January 2017.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

As Auchan Retail is a controlling shareholder of the Company, Auchan Retail is a connected person of the Company. Accordingly, the New Sub-licence Agreement constitutes a continuing connected transaction of the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

The New Sub-licence Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder are fully exempted from the reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders' approval under Rule 14A.76(1) of the Listing Rules.

The independent non-executive Directors have reviewed the above transactions and confirmed that the continuing connected transactions have been entered into:

- a) in the ordinary and usual course of business of the Group;
- b) on normal commercial terms or better; and
- c) according to the agreement governing them, on terms that are fair and reasonable and in the interests of the shareholders of the Company as a whole.

The Company's auditor was engaged to report on the Group's continuing connected transactions in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Assurance Engagements HKSAE 3000 "Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information" and with reference to Practice Note 740 "Auditor's Letter on Continuing Connected Transactions under the Hong Kong Listing Rules" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The auditor has issued their unqualified letter containing the findings and conclusions in respect of the continuing connected transactions disclosed by the Group on pages 37 to 42 of this annual report in accordance with the Rule 14A.56 of the Listing Rules. A copy of the auditor's letter has been provided by the Company to the Stock Exchange.

The Company has complied with the disclosure requirements in accordance with Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

Deed of Non-competition

Pursuant to a deed of non-competition dated 29 June 2011 (the "**Deed of Non-competition**") entered into between A-RT, Auchan Retail, Monicole BV, CGC, Kofu (collectively, the "**Covenantors**") and the Company, each of the Covenantors has undertaken to the Company that it will not and will use its best endeavour to procure that none of its affiliates will, among other things, carry on or engage in any business, which directly or indirectly, competes or is likely to compete with the operation of hypermarket complexes under the banners of "Auchan" and "RT-Mart" in the PRC, which comprise hypermarkets and retail galleries of individual retail stores.

To the best knowledge of the Directors, there is no breach of the Deed of Non-competition by the Covenantors during the year ended 31 December 2017.

Securities Transactions by Directors

The Company has devised its own code of conduct regarding Directors' dealing in the Company's securities (the "**Company Code**") on terms no less exacting than the Model Code. Specific enquiry has been made of all the Directors and the Directors have confirmed that they have complied with the Company Code and the Model Code throughout the year ended 31 December 2017.

Corporate Governance

The Company is committed to maintaining a high standard of corporate governance standards to safeguard the interests of shareholders and to enhance corporate value and accountability.

Information on the corporate governance practices adopted by the Company is set out in the Corporate Governance Report in this annual report.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee has reviewed the accounting principles and policies adopted by the Group and also discussed auditing, internal controls and financial reporting matters, including the review of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 with the external auditors, KPMG, and with management.

Major Customers and Suppliers

The nature of the Group's activities are such that the percentage of sales or purchases attributable to the Group's five largest customers or suppliers is significantly less than 10% of the total and the Directors do not consider any one customer or supplier to be influential to the Group.

Auditors

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 have been audited by KPMG, who will retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-appointment at the forthcoming 2018 AGM.

A resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG as auditors of the Company will be proposed at the forthcoming 2018 AGM of the Company.

Compliance with the Relevant Laws and Regulations

As far as the Board is aware, the Company has complied in material respects with the relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the business and operation of the Company.

Environmental and Social Responsibilities

Environment, Social and Governance factors are three key benchmarks to evaluate an enterprise. As a responsible corporate citizen, the Group believes that ESG initiatives are very important to bring success of our business and to create a long-term value for the Group. The ESG practices build a transparent, accountable and trusted enterprise to the society and to our consumers. We also believe that sustainability is a fundamental to our future.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

Detail information on the environmental, social and governance practices adopted by the Company is set out in the Environment, Social and Governance Report which will be presented in a separate report and published on the websites of the Company and the HKEX no later than three months after the publication of this annual report.

Events after the Reporting Period

Details of significant events occurring after the balance sheet date are set out in note 30 to the consolidated financial statements.

By order of the Board

Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER

Executive Director

and

Chief Executive Officer

2 March 2018

The Group's businesses, financial condition, results of operations or growth prospects may be affected by risks and uncertainties pertaining to the Group's businesses. The factors set out below are those that the Group believes could result in the Group's businesses, financial condition, results of operations or growth prospects differing materially from expected or historical results. These factors are by no means exhaustive or comprehensive, and there may be other risks in addition to those shown below which are not known to the Group or which may not be material now but could turn out to be material in the future.

RISK ASSOCIATED WITH THE GROUP BUSINESS

Our growth prospects may be limited if we encounter difficulties executing our expansion strategy.

As part of our business strategy, we plan to expand the network of our stores through organic growth. Our ability to expand depends on, among other things:

- our ability to identify suitable sites for new stores and successfully negotiate purchase or lease agreements for these sites on terms acceptable to us;
- the availability of financing for our expansion, investments or other strategic transactions;
- our ability to attract, train and retain management talents in sufficient numbers for our expanded operations;
- our ability to obtain all the requisite governmental approvals, licences and permits in a timely manner;
- our ability to adapt and expand our operational and management systems, including our information technology systems, to support an expanded store network;
- our ability to effectively control and manage our costs in our expanded network, in particular, purchase costs, and expenses related to rent, logistics, human resources and marketing; and
- the timely completion of our new stores under development.

If we fail to achieve any of the above, we may not be able to achieve our planned expansion objectives. Our ability to manage our future growth will also depend on our ability to continue to successfully implement and improve our operational, financial and management systems in the evolving competitive markets. Our business growth could strain our managerial, operational and financial resources. Failure to effectively execute our expansion strategy may result in limited growth and reduced profitability.

RISK FACTORS

We may not be able to find suitable locations for new stores on commercially acceptable terms, if at all.

Our performance depends, to a significant extent, on the location of our stores. When selecting a site, we take into account various factors, including:

- population density, customer traffic and vehicle traffic;
- customer accessibility;
- potential growth of local population;
- development potential and future development trends;
- estimated spending power of the population and local economy;
- profitability and payback period, estimated on the basis of the expected sales potential;
- marketing or strategic benefits;
- proximity and performance of competitors in the surrounding area; and
- site characteristics and suitability with the specifications of our building plans.

We secure locations either through ownership or through long-term leases, as determined on a case-by-case basis. Going forward, we will need to secure more locations to open more stores. The supply of locations for new stores is scarce and, as a result, competition to secure these locations is intense. Our ability to purchase or lease suitable properties on terms acceptable to us is critical to the success of our expansion strategy. In the event that we encounter difficulties in securing suitable locations in regions that we plan to expand into, our growth prospects will be adversely affected.

Our new stores may not achieve our expected level of profitability within our desired time frame, or at all.

As part of our growth strategy, we plan to further enhance our leading position in China by increasing our market penetration and expanding our retail network. Opening new stores requires significant capital outlay up front, including the price of acquisition or rental of the premises, the cost of building, renovating and decorating the premises, and the cost of hiring and training employees. However, the new stores that we open may not achieve our expected level of profitability for a prolonged period of time, or at all. Whether or not the operation of our new stores will be successful depends on a number of factors, including:

- our ability to properly position our new stores to successfully establish a foothold in new markets and to execute our business strategy in the local market;
- our ability to successfully integrate the new stores with our existing operations and achieve related synergies;
- our ability to introduce an optimal mix of merchandise which successfully meets local consumer preferences at attractive prices;
- our ability to negotiate and obtain favourable terms from our suppliers;
- the effectiveness of our marketing campaigns;
- our ability to hire, train and retain skilled personnel;
- the competition that we face from incumbent and new players in the region; and
- any government development plans around our planned sites, such as construction, which could have an impact on the external traffic flow to our hypermarkets and the timely implementation of such changes.

Some of these factors are not entirely within our control. If our new stores do not break even or achieve our expected level of profitability within our expected timeframe, or at all, our expansion plans and our results of operations, financial condition and profitability may be materially and adversely affected.

RISK FACTORS

Our new business may not achieve our expected level of profitability within our desired time frame, or at all.

As part of our transformation strategy, we have entered into new business since 2017. Entering new business requires investments and a different business model. However, the new business may not achieve our expected level of profitability within our desired time frame, or at all.

Whether or not the new business will be successful depends on a number of factors, including:

- our ability to implement our strategies and business models in a very competitive environment;
- our ability to integrate the online operation with our mortar store business and achieve related synergies;
- our ability to introduce an optimal mix of merchandise which meets on-line and off-line customer performance and at attractive prices;
- our ability to expand the multi-format and omni-channel business by increasing numbers of mortar stores and on-line sales;
- the effectiveness of our marketing campaigns; and
- the competition that we face from existing and new players in the on-line and off-line business.

Some of the factors are not entirely within our control. If our new business do not break even or achieve our expected level of profitability within our expected time frame, or at all, our results, financial condition and profitability may be materially and adversely affected.

We may fail to anticipate and provide the appropriate mix of merchandise to satisfy customer tastes and demands.

We maintain a comprehensive selection of merchandise targeting a broad range of customers. The success of our business depends on our ability to maintain a comprehensive product selection and, at the same time, anticipate and respond in a timely manner to changing customer demands and preferences. Some of the products we offer, such as home electronics and electrical appliances, may be characterised by frequent introductions of new models and technology. Consumer demands and fashion trends in the PRC are changing at a rapid pace and customer acceptance of new products is affected by a number of factors, including prevailing economic conditions, disposable income, global lifestyle trends, price, functionality, technology, appearance and many other factors. The success of our operations depends on our continued ability to select products from suppliers that satisfy customer demand. If we fail to accurately foresee or quickly adjust to general trends in consumer demands and preferences, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially and adversely affected.

Real or perceived quality or health issues with the products offered at our stores could have a material and adverse effect on our results of operations.

Concerns regarding the safety of products offered at our stores or the safety and quality of our supply chain could cause shoppers to avoid purchasing certain products from us, or to seek alternative sources, even if the basis for the concern is outside of our control. Adverse publicity about these concerns, whether or not ultimately based on fact, and whether or not involving products sold at our stores, could discourage consumers from buying our products and have a material and adverse effect on our turnover and results of operations.

RISKS RELATING TO THE INDUSTRY IN THE PRC**The outbreak of any severe infectious disease in the PRC may materially and adversely affect our results of operations.**

The outbreak of any severe infectious disease in the PRC could have a material adverse effect on the overall business sentiment and environment in the PRC. This in turn may have a material and adverse impact on domestic consumption and, possibly, the overall GDP growth of the PRC. As all of our revenue is derived from our PRC operations, any contraction or slowdown in the growth of domestic consumption or slowdown in the GDP growth of the PRC as a result of the outbreak of any severe communicable disease may materially and adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations and future growth. In addition, if the outbreak of any severe communicable disease occurs in the future and any of our employees or our customers in our hypermarkets are suspected of having contracted any severe communicable disease or any of our hypermarkets are identified as a possible source of spreading any severe communicable disease, we may be required to quarantine the employees that have been suspected of becoming infected, as well as others that had come into contact with those employees or customers. We may also be required to disinfect our affected stores and therefore suffer a temporary suspension of our retail operations. Any quarantine or suspension of our retail operations will affect our results of operations. Furthermore, the outbreak of any severe communicable disease may result in food safety concerns, which could have an adverse impact on our turnover. Such an outbreak would likely restrict the level of economic activity in affected areas, which would also materially and adversely affect our business operations.

RISK FACTORS

Consumer spending patterns in China can be influenced by China's economy.

Consumer spending patterns in China are influenced by the state of China's economy, which in turn affects our sales volume, revenue, profitability and our growth. We believe that Chinese consumers tend to increase their expenditures when the Chinese economy is experiencing strong growth and when they have more disposable income available for personal consumption. Conversely, a recession in the Chinese economy, or uncertainties regarding future economic prospects may result in a reduction in consumer spending at our hypermarkets. As a result, the state of the economy in China has had a significant impact on our historical, and will continue to have a significant impact on our future, performance, results of operations and profitability. Although in recent years, the PRC's economy has maintained rapid growth, and increases in GDP and per capita disposable income have strengthened consumers' purchasing power, we cannot assure you that such growth will not slow down or will continue in the future. In addition, the impact on the PRC economy of inflation and the unequal impact of inflation on different categories of products, such as food products, may affect consumer spending patterns and materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. A slowdown or downturn in the economies of the United States, the countries comprising the European Union and certain Asian nations, with which China has important trade relationships, could materially and adversely affect the economic growth of China. Any economic downturn in the PRC and its effect on consumer spending patterns may materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations and our future prospects.

Future fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and government control in currency conversion may materially and adversely affect the ability of the Company to remit dividends.

A substantial proportion of our turnover and expenditure are denominated in Renminbi, which is currently not a freely convertible currency. We will require foreign currencies for dividend payment (if any) to our Shareholders. In addition, the price at which we purchase merchandise and products from our suppliers may be affected to the extent our suppliers' merchandise and products are imported or otherwise subject to foreign currency fluctuations. We will therefore be exposed to foreign currency fluctuations. Should there be significant changes in the exchange rates of US dollars, EUROS or Hong Kong dollars against Renminbi, our Company's ability to make dividend payments in foreign currencies may be materially and adversely affected. In addition, any significant change in the exchange rates of the Renminbi against the US dollar or the Hong Kong dollar could materially and adversely affect the value of our Company's dividends, which would be funded by Renminbi but paid in Hong Kong dollars.

The board (the “Board”) of directors (the “Directors”) of the Company is pleased to present this Corporate Governance Report in the Group’s Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2017.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Board is committed to maintaining high corporate governance standards. The Board believes that high corporate governance standards are essential in providing a framework for the Company to safeguard the interests of shareholders, enhance corporate value, formulate its business strategies and policies, and enhance its transparency and accountability.

The Company has devised its own Corporate Governance and Compliance Manual which incorporates all the principles and practices as set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the “**CG Code**”) contained in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules.

The Company reviews regularly its organizational structure to ensure operations are in line with the good corporate governance practices as set out in the CG Code and aligned with the latest developments.

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company has complied with all the code provisions as set out in the CG Code for the year ended 31 December 2017, save and except for the deviation of code provision C.3.7(a) of the CG Code.

Code provision C.3.7(a) provides that under the terms of reference of the audit committee (the “**Audit Committee**”), the Audit Committee should review arrangements that can be used by the employees in confidence, to raise concerns about possible improprieties in financial reporting, internal control or other matters. The Audit Committee should ensure that proper arrangements are in place for fair and independent investigation of these matters and for appropriate follow-up action.

The Company had not established any formal arrangement for employees to raise concern about possible improprieties in financial reporting, internal control or other matters. In practice, employees have direct access to the internal audit department via either a telephone line or a mailbox. In addition, they have direct access by email to the Executive Directors and the senior management. The Directors regularly receive and review monthly financial reports. The Directors, through the Audit Committee, meet quarterly with the Group’s internal audit function, whose main responsibility is to review the internal control system of the Group. The Directors consider that the lack of such arrangements will not have a material effect on the functions of financial reporting, internal control or other related matters. The internal audit department, the Audit Committee and the Board will discuss the proper actions to deal with any issue reported by any employee about improprieties in financial reporting, internal control and other matters.

SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS

The Company has adopted its own code of conduct regarding Directors' and relevant employees' dealings in the Company's securities (the "**Company Code**") on terms no less exacting than the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "**Model Code**") as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules.

Specific enquiry has been made of all the Directors and the relevant employees and they have confirmed that they have complied with the Model Code and the Company Code throughout the year ended 31 December 2017.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board oversees the Group's businesses, strategic decisions and performance and should take decisions objectively in the best interests of the Company.

The Board should regularly review the contribution required from a Director to perform his responsibilities to the Company, and whether the Director is spending sufficient time performing them.

Board Composition

The Board currently comprises nine Directors, consisting of one Executive Director, five Non-executive Directors and three Independent Non-executive Directors.

The composition of the Board is set out below:

Executive Director

Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER⁽¹⁾, *Chief Executive Officer*

Non-executive Directors

ZHANG Yong⁽²⁾, *Chairman*
Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ
Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER
CHEN Jun⁽³⁾

Independent Non-executive Directors

Karen Yifen CHANG
Desmond MURRAY
HE Yi

Notes:

- (1) Mr. Bruno, Robert MERCIER resigned while Mr. Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER was appointed as an Executive Director and the Chief Executive Officer by the Board on 11 July 2017.
- (2) Mr. CHENG Chuan-Tai resigned while Mr. ZHANG Yong was appointed as a Non-executive Director and the Chairman of the Board by the Board on 30 January 2018.
- (3) Mr. HUANG Ming-Tuan resigned as Executive Director while Mr. CHEN Jun was appointed as a Non-executive Director by the Board on 30 January 2018.

The biographical information of the Directors are set out in the section headed "Profiles of Directors and Senior Management" on pages 18 to 24 of the Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2017.

None of the members of the Board is related to one another.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

The positions of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer are held by Mr. ZHANG Yong and Mr. Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER respectively. The Chairman provides leadership and is responsible for the effective functioning and leadership of the Board. The Chief Executive Officer focuses on the Company's business development and daily management and operations generally. Their respective responsibilities are clearly defined and set out in writing.

Independent Non-executive Directors

During the year ended 31 December 2017, the Board had at all times met the requirements of the Listing Rules relating to the appointment of at least three Independent Non-executive Directors representing one-third of the Board with two of whom possessing appropriate professional qualifications or accounting or related financial management expertise.

The Company has received written annual confirmation from each of the Independent Non-executive Directors in respect of his/her independence in accordance with the independence guidelines set out in Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules. The Company is of the view that all Independent Non-executive Directors are independent.

Non-executive Directors and Re-election of Directors

Code provision A.4.1 of the CG Code stipulates that non-executive directors shall be appointed for a specific term, subject to re-election, whereas code provision A.4.2 states that all directors appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall be subject to election by shareholders at the first general meeting after appointment and that every director, including those appointed for a specific term, shall be subject to retirement by rotation at least once every three years.

Each of the Non-executive Directors of the Company is appointed for a specific terms of three years and is subject to retirement provisions stipulated in the Company's Articles of Association.

Responsibilities of the Directors

The Board should assume responsibility for leadership and control of the Company, and is collectively responsible for directing and supervising the Company's affairs.

The Board directly, and indirectly through its committees, leads and provides direction to management by laying down strategies and overseeing their implementation, monitors the Group's operational and financial performance, and ensures that sound internal control and risk management systems are in place.

All Directors, including Non-executive Directors and Independent Non-executive Directors, have brought a wide spectrum of valuable business experience, knowledge and professionalism to the Board for its efficient and effective functioning.

The Independent Non-executive Directors are responsible for ensuring a high standard of regulatory reporting of the Company and providing a balance in the Board for bringing effective independent judgement on corporate actions and operations.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

All Directors have full and timely access to all the information of the Company and may, upon request, seek independent professional advice in appropriate circumstances, at the Company's expenses for discharging their duties to the Company.

The Board reserves for its decision all major matters relating to policy matters, strategies and budgets, internal control and risk management, material transactions (in particular those that may involve conflict of interests), financial information, appointment of directors and other significant operational matters of the Company. Responsibilities relating to implementing decisions of the Board, directing and coordinating the daily operation and management of the Company are delegated to the management.

Continuous Professional Development of Directors

Directors shall keep abreast of regulatory developments and changes in order to effectively perform their responsibilities and to ensure that their contribution to the Board remains informed and relevant.

Every newly appointed Director will receive formal, comprehensive and tailored induction on the first occasion of his/her appointment to ensure appropriate understanding of the business and operations of the Company and full awareness of Director's responsibilities and obligations under the Listing Rules and relevant statutory requirements.

Directors should participate in appropriate continuous professional development to develop and refresh their knowledge and skills to ensure that their contribution to the Board remains informed and relevant. Internally-facilitated briefings for Directors would be arranged and reading material on relevant topics would be issued to the Directors where appropriate. All the Directors are encouraged to attend relevant training courses at the Company's expenses.

During the year ended 31 December 2017, the Company organized training sessions for all Directors. Such training sessions covered a wide range of relevant topics including disclosure obligation in relation to inside information under the Securities and Futures Ordinance and directors' duties and role and functions of board committees. In addition, relevant reading materials including legal and regulatory update have been provided to the Directors for their reference and study.

BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board has established six committees, namely, the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee, Nomination Committee, Disclosure Committee, Investment Committee and Operations Committee, for overseeing particular aspects of the Company's affairs. All Board committees of the Company are established with specific written terms of reference which deal clearly with their authority and duties. The terms of reference of the Board Committees are posted on the websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange and are available to shareholders upon request, except those for the Disclosure Committee, Investment Committee and Operations Committee.

The majority of the members of the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee are Independent Non-executive Directors and the list of the chairman and members of each of the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee is set out under "Corporate Information" on page 2.

Audit Committee

The roles and functions of the Audit Committee are set out in its terms of reference. The terms of reference of the Audit Committee are of no less exacting terms than those set out in the CG Code. The primary duties of the Audit Committee are to assist the Board in overseeing and reviewing (i) the effectiveness of the Company's risk management and internal control systems and regulatory compliance of the Group; (ii) the balance, transparency and integrity of the Company's financial statements and application of financial reporting principle; (iii) the relationship with the external auditors by reference to the work performed by the auditors, their fees and terms of engagement, and make recommendation to the Board on the appointment, re-appointment and removal of external auditors; and (iv) agree with internal auditors for their annual plan of work and the results of this work.

During the year ended 31 December 2017, the Audit Committee held seven meetings to review the annual, quarterly and interim financial results and reports for the year ended 31 December 2016 and for the six months ended 30 June 2017 and significant issues on the financial reporting, operational and compliance controls, the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems and internal audit function, appointment of external auditors and relevant scope of works, and connected transactions and arrangements for employees to raise concerns about possible improprieties.

The Audit Committee also met the external auditors two times without the presence of the Executive Directors.

Remuneration Committee

The terms of reference of the Remuneration Committee are of no less exacting terms than those set out in the CG Code. The primary functions of the Remuneration Committee include reviewing and making recommendations to the Board on the remuneration packages of individual Executive Directors and senior management, the remuneration policy and structure for all Directors and senior management; and establishing transparent procedures for developing such remuneration policy and structure to ensure that no Director or any of his/her associates will participate in deciding his/her own remuneration.

During the year ended 31 December 2017, the Remuneration Committee met once to review and make recommendation to the Board on the remuneration policy and structure of the Company, and the remuneration packages of the Executive Directors and other related matters.

Nomination Committee

The terms of reference of the Nomination Committee are of no less exacting terms than those set out in the CG Code. The principal duties of the Nomination Committee include reviewing the Board composition, developing and formulating relevant procedures for the nomination and appointment of Directors, making recommendations to the Board on the appointment and succession planning of Directors, and assessing the independence of the Independent Non-executive Directors.

In assessing the Board composition, the Nomination Committee would take into account various aspects as well as factors concerning Board diversity as set out in the Company's Board diversity policy, including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and educational background, professional qualifications, skills, knowledge and industry and regional experience, etc. The Nomination Committee would discuss and agree on measurable objectives for achieving diversity on the Board, where necessary, and recommend them to the Board for adoption.

During the year ended 31 December 2017, the Nomination Committee held three meetings to review the structure, size and composition of the Board and the independence of the Independent Non-executive Directors, to consider the qualifications of the retiring directors standing for election at the Annual General Meeting. The Nomination Committee considered an appropriate balance of diversity perspectives of the Board is maintained.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

Corporate Governance Functions

The Board is responsible for performing the functions set out in the code provision D.3.1 of the CG Code.

During the year ended 31 December 2017, the Board reviewed the Company's corporate governance policies and practices, training and continuous professional development of the Directors and senior management, the Company's policies and practices on compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the compliance of the Model Code, the Company Code, and the Company's compliance with the CG Code and disclosure in this Corporate Governance Report.

ATTENDANCE RECORD OF DIRECTORS

The attendance records of each Director at the meetings of the Board and Board Committees and the general meeting of the Company held during the year ended 31 December 2017 are set out below:

Name of Director	Attendance/Number of Meetings				Annual General Meeting
	Board	Audit Committee	Nomination Committee	Remuneration Committee	
Bruno, Robert MERCIER ⁽¹⁾ <i>(resigned on 11 July 2017)</i>	3/3	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/1
Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER ⁽²⁾ <i>(appointed on 11 July 2017)</i>	5/5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HUANG Ming-Tuan <i>(resigned on 30 January 2018)</i>	8/8	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/1
CHENG Chuan-Tai <i>(resigned on 30 January 2018)</i>	8/8	7/7	3/3	1/1	1/1
Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ	7/8	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/1
Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC	8/8	7/7	N/A	N/A	1/1
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER	7/8	N/A	2/3	1/1	1/1
Karen Yifen CHANG	8/8	7/7	3/3	1/1	1/1
Desmond MURRAY	8/8	7/7	3/3	1/1	1/1
HE Yi	7/8	7/7	3/3	1/1	0/1

Apart from regular Board meetings, the Chairman also held a meeting with the Non-executive Directors (including Independent Non-executive Directors) without the presence of Executive Directors during the year.

Notes:

- 1: Three board meetings were held prior to his resignation as Executive Director.
- 2: Five board meetings were held subsequent to his appointment as Executive Director.

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY IN RESPECT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for preparing the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2017.

The Directors are not aware of any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The statement of the independent auditors of the Company about their reporting responsibilities on the financial statements is set out in the Independent Auditors' Report on pages 60 to 69.

AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

An analysis of the remuneration paid to the external auditors of the Company, KPMG, in respect of audit services and non-audit services for the year ended 31 December 2017 is shown on note 4(c) of the "Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements" on page 102.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROLS

The Board acknowledge its responsibility for the risk management and internal control systems of the Company and reviewing their effectiveness. Such systems are designed to manage, rather than eliminate, the risk associated in failing to achieve certain business objectives, and can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Board has overall responsibility for evaluating and determining the nature and extent of the risks it is willing to take in achieving the Company's strategic objectives, and establishing and maintaining appropriate and effective risk management and internal control systems.

The Audit Committee assists the Board in leading the management as well as overseeing the formation, implementation and monitoring of the risk management and internal control systems.

The Board, through the Audit Committee, has reviewed and confirmed the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems of the Company and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2017, including the adequacy of resources, staff qualification and experience, training programmes and budget of the Company's accounting and reporting function.

The management of the Company monitors the assessment of the risk management and internal controls and has reported and confirmed to the Board and the Audit Committee on the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems for the year ended 31 December 2017.

The internal audit department is responsible for performing independent review of the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems. The internal audit department examined key issues in relation to the accounting practices and all material controls and provided its findings and recommendations for improvement to the Audit Committee.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

The Board, as supported by the Audit Committee, assessed the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems by reviewing the management report and the internal audit findings and considered that, for the year ended 31 December 2017, the risk management and internal control systems of the Company are effective and adequate.

COMPANY SECRETARY

The Company has engaged Tricor Services Limited, external service provider, and Ms. CHAN Wai Ling, was appointed as the Company's company secretary with effect from 10 August 2016. Her primary contact persons at the Company are Mr. Jean Chausse, the Chief Financial Controller, and Ms. Ariel Lu, the Legal Manager, of the Company.

The biographical details of Ms. Chan is set out in the section of "Profiles of Directors and Senior Management" on page 24 of this annual report. During the year ended 31 December 2017, Ms. Chan undertook not less than 15 hours of relevant professional trainings.

SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS

To safeguard shareholder interests and rights, separate resolution should be proposed for each substantially separate issue at general meetings, including the election of individual directors. All resolutions put forward at general meetings will be voted on by poll pursuant to the Listing Rules and poll results will be posted on the websites of the Company and of the Stock Exchange after each general meeting.

Convening General Meeting

General meetings may be convened by the Directors on requisition of shareholder(s) of the Company representing at least 5% of the total voting rights of all the shareholders having a right to vote at general meetings or by such shareholder(s) who made the requisition (as the case may be) pursuant to Sections 566 and 568 respectively of the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 622 of the laws of Hong Kong) (the "**Companies Ordinance**").

Shareholders should follow the requirements and procedures as set out in the Companies Ordinance for convening a general meeting.

Putting Forward Proposals at General Meetings

Pursuant to Section 615 of the Companies Ordinance, shareholders representing at least 2.5% of the total voting rights of all shareholders; or at least 50 shareholders (as the case may be) who have a right to vote at the relevant annual general meeting, may request to circulate a resolution to be moved at an annual general meeting.

Shareholders should follow the requirements and procedures as set out in the Companies Ordinance for circulating a resolution for annual general meeting.

Putting Forward Enquiries to the Board

For putting forward any enquiries to the Board of the Company, shareholders may send written enquiries to the Company. The Company will not normally deal with verbal or anonymous enquiries.

Contact Details

Shareholders may send their enquiries or requests as mentioned above to the following:

Address: 6th Floor, 165 Longkou Road, Yangpu District, Shanghai, China 200090
(For the attention of Ms. Gu Xiaobei, Investor Relations Manager)

Email: gu.xiaobei@auchan.com

For the avoidance of doubt, shareholder(s) must deposit and send the original duly signed written requisition, notice or statement, or enquiry (as the case may be) to the above address, other than the registered office address in Hong Kong, and provide their full name, contact details and identification in order to give effect thereto. Shareholders' information may be disclosed as required by law.

COMMUNICATION WITH SHAREHOLDERS AND INVESTORS/INVESTOR RELATIONS

The Company considers that effective communication with the shareholders is essential for enhancing investor relations and investor understanding of the Group's business performance and strategies. The Company endeavours to maintain an on-going dialogue with the shareholders and in particular, through annual general meetings and other general meetings.

The Chairman of the Board, the chairmen of Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee, or, in their absence, other members of the respective committees, will make themselves available at the annual general meeting to meet the shareholders and answer their enquiries.

To promote effective communication, the Company maintains a website at <http://www.sunartretail.com>, which contains corporate information, updates on the Company's financial information, interim and annual reports, announcements and circulars issued by the Company, corporate governance practices as well as the recent developments of the Company.

During the year under review, the Company has not made any changes to its Articles of Association.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Independent auditor's report to the shareholders of Sun Art Retail Group Limited

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

OPINION

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Sun Art Retail Group Limited ("the **Company**") and its subsidiaries ("the **Group**") set out on pages 70 to 147, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017, the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated cash flow statement for the year then ended and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2017 and of its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("**HKFRSs**") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("**HKICPA**") and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing ("**HKSAs**") issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the HKICPA's *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* ("**the Code**") and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

KEY AUDIT MATTERS

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

KEY AUDIT MATTERS (CONTINUED)

Recognition of supplier income	
<i>Refer to the accounting policies set out in note 1(p) to the consolidated financial statements.</i>	
The Key Audit Matter	How the matter was addressed in our audit
<p>The Group earns supplier income under several types of arrangements with its suppliers.</p> <p>The arrangements vary in nature and size and include volume based discounts, rebates and fees earned from assisting suppliers with their marketing campaigns.</p> <p>Volume based discounts and rebates are recognised as a deduction from the cost of purchase of merchandise when the performance conditions associated with them are met. These performance conditions generally require the Group to meet certain volume thresholds.</p> <p>Fees earned from assisting suppliers with their marketing campaigns are earned over the period of the contractual agreements with individual suppliers. The total income recognised is, therefore, based on the expected entitlement earned up to the financial reporting date under each agreement.</p> <p>We identified the recognition of supplier income as a key audit matter because the number and complexity of the arrangements with suppliers increases the risk that the consolidated financial statements may not completely or accurately reflect the Group's entitlements under the contracts agreed with suppliers.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures to assess the recognition of supplier income included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understanding and evaluating the design, implementation and operating effectiveness of management's key internal controls over the recognition of supplier income; • assessing the accounting treatment in respect of the recognition of supplier income by inspecting the terms and conditions set out in each type of agreement used with suppliers with reference to the requirements of the prevailing accounting standards; • evaluating, on a sample basis, the inputs to the information technology applications which calculate volume based discounts and rebates by comparing the inputs with underlying documentation, including sales and purchase volume data and discounts and rebate rates in the respective agreements, and performing recalculations of the volume based discounts and rebates to which the Group is entitled; • evaluating, on a sample basis, the recognition of fees earned from assisting suppliers with their marketing campaigns by inspecting underlying documentation, including supplier income agreements or confirmations from suppliers in respect of the fulfilment of performance conditions; • comparing, on a sample basis, the amount of volume based discounts and rebates and fees earned from assisting suppliers with their marketing campaigns for the year with that confirmed by the respective supplier through the "invoice-tracking system", which is an on-line platform accessible by both the suppliers and the Group.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

KEY AUDIT MATTERS (CONTINUED)

Valuation of inventories	
<i>Refer to note 13 and the accounting policies set out in note 1(p) to the consolidated financial statements.</i>	
The Key Audit Matter	How the matter was addressed in our audit
<p>Inventories are carried at the lower of cost and net realisable value.</p> <p>Management reviews the status of inventories on hand on a store-by-store basis to identify slow moving items by comparing the volume on hand with actual movements over the past year before the end of the reporting period and may determine either to provide markdowns or to return certain items to suppliers at their original cost after deduction of unearned supplier income at the end of each reporting period.</p> <p>The provision for inventories is calculated based on an inventory ageing analysis, actual sales and purchase data and the current inventory profile. Significant management judgement is required in determining the markdowns and the provision for inventories at the end of each reporting period.</p> <p>No provision is provided for inventories returnable to suppliers at their original cost based on the terms set out in purchase agreements.</p> <p>In addition, as inventories are counted by the Group on a cyclical basis, rather than in full at the end of the reporting period, a provision for shrinkage of inventories is assessed and recognised by management in the consolidated financial statements based on management's estimation.</p> <p>We identified the valuation of inventories as a key audit matter because determining an appropriate provision for inventories involves significant management judgement in assessing the markdowns necessary to sell slow moving inventories which cannot be returned to suppliers and the shrinkage rate for inventories.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures to assess the valuation of inventories included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understanding and evaluating the design, implementation and operating effectiveness of management's key internal controls over inventory management, including the purchase of inventories, cycle counts of inventories and review of the status of inventories; • assessing whether the provision for inventories at the reporting date was consistent with the Group's inventory provision policy by recalculating the provision for inventories based on the percentages and other parameters in the Group's inventory provision policy and considering the Group's inventory provision policy with reference to the requirements of the prevailing accounting standards; • assessing, on a sample basis, whether items in the inventory ageing report prepared by the management were classified within the appropriate ageing bracket by comparing items in the report with the underlying purchase records; • evaluating the Group's inventory provision policy for slow moving inventories by comparing management's forecasts of markdowns for a sample of inventories in the prior year to the historical sales amounts and markdown data for the current year and the period subsequent to the end of the reporting period; • assessing the enforceability of inventory return arrangements agreed with suppliers, on a sample basis, by inspecting the terms set in the respective purchase agreements; • performing a retrospective review on the Group's inventory provision policy by comparing the actual sales or return of inventories during the year with management's estimations at the end of the prior year; and • attending cycle counts at the Group's stores and distribution centres throughout the year, on a sample basis, performing sample counts and evaluating the results of the cycle counts performed by management throughout the year to assess management's estimation of the shrinkage rate.

KEY AUDIT MATTERS (CONTINUED)

Impairment of property, plant and equipment of certain of the Group's stores	
<i>Refer to notes 4(c) and 10 and the accounting policies as set out in note 1(o)(ii) to the consolidated financial statements.</i>	
The Key Audit Matter	How the matter was addressed in our audit
<p>Hypermarket stores in Mainland China are facing increasing competition, particularly from the rapid growth of online retail, which has negatively impacted the sales in certain of the Group's stores.</p> <p>There is a risk that the carrying value of property, plant and equipment of certain of the Group's stores may not be recoverable in full through the future cash flows to be generated from the trading operations of these stores or from disposal of the related assets.</p> <p>Management reviews the performance of individual stores at the end of each reporting period to identify if any store meets certain negative performance criteria ("indicators") which could indicate impairment. Such indicators include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - decrease in turnover per square metre or in gross cash flows from operations, for three consecutive years; or - turnover being significantly lower than the projected forecast. <p>Where indicators of impairment are identified, the recoverable amount of the property, plant and equipment of these stores is determined by management on a store-by-store basis at the greater of the value in use and the fair value less cost of disposal of these assets.</p> <p>In determining the value in use of leased stores, a discounted cash flow forecast was prepared by management for each store where indicators of impairment were identified.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures to assess potential impairment of property, plant and equipment of certain of the Group's stores included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • challenging the Group's impairment assessment model by assessing the impairment indicators identified by management and by considering whether the discounted cash flow forecasts on a store-by-store basis supported the carrying value of the relevant assets; • using our internal valuation specialists to assist in evaluating the methodology used by management in the preparation of its discounted cash flow forecasts and the valuations performed by independent professional valuers with reference to the requirements of the prevailing accounting standards; • comparing the most significant inputs used in the discounted cash flow forecasts, including future revenue growth rates, future margins and future costs, with the historical performance of these stores, budgets approved by management, industry reports and agreements signed subsequent to the reporting date; • comparing the most significant inputs used in the discounted cash flow forecasts prepared in the prior year with the current year's performance of the relevant stores to assess the accuracy of management's forecasting process and enquiring of management for any significant variations identified; • assessing the discount rate used in the discounted cash flow forecasts by benchmarking against other similar retailers;

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

KEY AUDIT MATTERS (CONTINUED)

Impairment of property, plant and equipment of certain of the Group's stores (continued)	
The Key Audit Matter	How the matter was addressed in our audit
<p>For owned stores, where an indicator of impairment was identified, a valuation of the related property was carried out by independent professional valuers to determine the fair value of the property, plant and equipment.</p> <p>In preparing the discounted cash flow forecasts, key inputs, including future revenue growth rates, future margins and future costs of each store are determined by management taking into consideration factors which include plans for the stores, changes in product mix and changes in expected customers numbers all of which involve the exercise of significant management judgement.</p> <p>We identified impairment of property, plant and equipment of certain of the Group's stores as a key audit matter because identifying impairment indicators and determining the amount of impairment, if any, involves a significant degree of management judgement, particularly in forecasting future cash flows and estimating the recoverable amounts of these assets, both of which are inherently uncertain and could be subject to management bias.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • obtaining sensitivity analyses of the significant inputs, including future revenue growth rates, future margins and the discount rate used in the cash flow forecasts prepared by management and considering the resulting impact on the impairment charge for the year and whether there were any indicators of management bias; • meeting the independent professional valuers engaged by management to carry out the valuations of owned properties to evaluate their experience, competence, capabilities and objectivity and to understand the methodologies adopted and key inputs used in the valuation of properties; • comparing the most significant inputs used in the valuation of owned properties, including market rents and yields, with the rental agreements for these stores and industry reports; and • considering the disclosures in the consolidated financial statements in respect of impairment testing of property, plant and equipment relating to the stores, including the key assumptions and sensitivities to changes in such assumptions, with reference to the requirements of the prevailing accounting standards.

KEY AUDIT MATTERS (CONTINUED)

Other income arising from recognition of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards	
<i>Refer to notes 3 and 17 and the accounting policies in note 1 (x) (iii) to the consolidated financial statements.</i>	
The Key Audit Matter	How the matter was addressed in our audit
<p>As at 31 December 2017, the Group had approximately RMB 9.5 billion of “advance receipts from customers” classified within “trade and other payables”, which were primarily attributable to unutilised balances of prepaid cards issued by the Group.</p> <p>The Group’s accounting policy is to recognise revenue from prepaid cards as and when the cards are used by customers to purchase goods or services. Most prepaid cards are used by customers within the Group’s stores shortly after they have been purchased. The remaining balance of the prepaid cards may be used in a later period or remain unused indefinitely.</p> <p>The Group recognises revenue from prepaid cards which have been inactive for an extended period according to the “remote recognition” method. Under this policy, the unutilised balance on the card will be recognised as revenue once it is possible to determine with a sufficiently high degree of probability that the likelihood of future utilisation is remote.</p> <p>In previous reporting periods, management estimated that the amount of aged prepaid card balances for which it was possible to determine with a sufficiently high degree of probability that future utilisation was remote was immaterial in the context of the Group’s consolidated financial statements.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures to assess the recognition of other income arising from the recognition of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessing whether the Group’s revenue recognition accounting policies were consistent with the requirements of the prevailing accounting standards; • assessing whether other income recognised up to the end of the reporting period was determined in a manner consistent with the Group’s revenue recognition accounting policies by recalculating the other income recognised based on the Group’s revenue recognition accounting policies; • assessing the reasonableness of management’s estimation of the amount of balances of aged prepaid cards which is unlikely to ever be utilised by comparing, on a sample basis, management’s estimation of utilisation at the end of the prior year with the actual utilisation in the current year; • assessing, on a sample basis, whether the data in the prepaid card systems’ issuance and utilisation records was consistent with the corresponding cash receipts and store sales recorded in the Group’s financial systems by testing the Group’s reconciliations between the respective systems; • using our internal actuarial specialists to assist in evaluating and assessing the experience, competence, capabilities and objectivity of the independent actuary engaged by management and the methodology used in the preparation of the estimates of future utilisation of prepaid cards;

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

KEY AUDIT MATTERS (CONTINUED)

Other income arising from recognition of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards (continued)	
The Key Audit Matter	How the matter was addressed in our audit
<p>In 2017, the Group engaged an independent actuarial firm to assist in employing statistical methods to analyse the patterns of usage of prepaid cards. Using this additional information about the utilisation patterns and trends of prepaid cards, management has adjusted its estimate of the amount of the outstanding balances on aged prepaid cards which are unlikely ever to be utilised. As a result, the Group has recognised an amount of RMB460 million as other income in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2017.</p> <p>We identified the recognition of other income arising from the recognition of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards as a key audit matter because of the inherent risk in estimating amounts which are unlikely to ever be utilised in the future and the exercise of significant judgement by management in determining the length of time that needs to elapse before the risk of reversal of other income for each group of aged cards where income has been recognised can be considered remote.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• testing that the issuance and utilisation data used by the actuary was consistent with the records in the Group's systems; and• assessing the relevant disclosures in the consolidated financial statements in relation to the other income arising from the recognition of unutilised balances on prepaid cards with reference to the requirements of the prevailing accounting standards.

INFORMATION OTHER THAN THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITOR'S REPORT THEREON

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all the information included in the annual report, other than the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are assisted by the Audit Committee in discharging their responsibilities for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. This report is made solely to you, as a body, in accordance with section 405 of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with HKSA's will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

As part of an audit in accordance with HKSAAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Audit Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Audit Committee with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and, where applicable, related safeguards.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

From the matters communicated with the Audit Committee, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is John Paul Chattock.

KPMG

Certified Public Accountants

8th Floor, Prince's Building

10 Chater Road

Central, Hong Kong

2 March 2018

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Note	Year ended 31 December	
		2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Revenue	2	102,320	100,441
Cost of sales		(77,646)	(76,460)
Gross profit		24,674	23,981
Other income	3	1,630	873
Operating costs		(18,922)	(18,042)
Administrative expenses		(2,895)	(2,876)
Profit from operations		4,487	3,936
Finance costs	4(a)	(13)	(23)
Share of results of an associate and joint ventures		(5)	(4)
Profit before taxation	4	4,469	3,909
Income tax	5(a)	(1,449)	(1,280)
Profit for the year		3,020	2,629
Other comprehensive income for the year			
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Changes in fair value of long-term other financial liabilities		–	58
Total comprehensive income for the year		3,020	2,687
Profit attributable to:			
Equity shareholders of the Company		2,793	2,571
Non-controlling interests		227	58
Profit for the year		3,020	2,629
Total comprehensive income attributable to:			
Equity shareholders of the Company		2,793	2,629
Non-controlling interests		227	58
Total comprehensive income for the year		3,020	2,687
Earnings per share			
Basic and diluted	9	RMB0.29	RMB0.27

The accompanying notes set out on pages 77 to 147 form part of these financial statements. Details of dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the profit for the year are set out in note 20(b).

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31 December 2017

	Note	At 31 December	
		2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Non-current assets			
Investment properties	10	3,503	3,615
Other property, plant and equipment	10	21,556	22,820
Land use rights	10	5,759	5,740
		30,818	32,175
Intangible assets	11	51	77
Goodwill	12	126	181
Equity-accounted investees		25	15
Unquoted available-for-sale equity security		–	4
Trade and other receivables	14	240	397
Deferred tax assets	19	455	395
		31,715	33,244
Current assets			
Inventories	13	14,201	15,409
Trade and other receivables	14	3,326	3,552
Investments and time deposits	15	133	36
Cash and cash equivalents	16	10,362	8,100
		28,022	27,097
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	17	35,446	36,807
Bank loans	18	2	23
Income tax payables	5(c)	565	638
		36,013	37,468
Net current liabilities		(7,991)	(10,371)
Total assets less current liabilities		23,724	22,873

The accompanying notes set out on pages 77 to 147 form part of these financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31 December 2017

	Note	At 31 December	
		2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Non-current liabilities			
Bank loans	18	1	3
Other financial liabilities		50	50
Deferred tax liabilities	19	124	11
		175	64
Net assets			
		23,549	22,809
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	20	10,020	10,020
Reserves	20	12,295	11,765
Total equity attributable to equity shareholders of the Company			
		22,315	21,785
Non-controlling interests			
		1,234	1,024
Total equity			
		23,549	22,809

Approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 2 March 2018.

Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER
Chief Executive Officer
& Executive Director

Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC
Non-executive Director

The accompanying notes set out on pages 77 to 147 form part of these financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Attributable to equity shareholders of the Company						Non-controlling interests	Total equity
	Share capital	Capital reserve	Exchange reserve	Statutory reserve	Retained profits	Total		
Note	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million
Balance at 1 January 2016	10,020	2,182	45	1,046	7,453	20,746	881	21,627
Changes in equity for 2016:								
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	2,571	2,571	58	2,629
Other comprehensive income	-	58	-	-	-	58	-	58
Total comprehensive income	-	58	-	-	2,571	2,629	58	2,687
Dividend declared in respect of previous years	20(b)(ii)	-	-	-	(1,521)	(1,521)	-	(1,521)
Dividends declared and payable to non-controlling shareholders		-	-	-	-	-	(124)	(124)
Profit appropriation to statutory reserve	20(d)(iii)	-	-	-	166	(166)	-	-
Acquisition of non-controlling interests	20(d)(i)	-	(157)	-	-	(157)	52	(105)
Cash injection from non-controlling interests		-	-	-	-	-	90	90
Cash injection from Employee Trust Benefit Schemes	4(b)	-	92	-	-	92	67	159
Share-based payment		-	(4)	-	-	(4)	-	(4)
Balance at 31 December 2016	10,020	2,171	45	1,212	8,337	21,785	1,024	22,809

The accompanying notes set out on pages 77 to 147 form part of these financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Note	Attributable to equity shareholders of the Company						Non-controlling interests	Total equity
		Share capital	Capital reserve	Exchange reserve	Statutory reserve	Retained profits	Total		
		RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	RMB million	
Balance at 1 January 2017		10,020	2,171	45	1,212	8,337	21,785	1,024	22,809
Changes in equity for 2017:		-	-	-	-	2,793	2,793	227	3,020
Profit for the year		-	-	-	-	2,793	2,793	227	3,020
Other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	-	-	-	2,793	2,793	227	3,020
Dividend declared and paid in respect of previous years	20(b)(ii)	-	-	-	-	(1,948)	(1,948)	-	(1,948)
Dividends declared and payable to non-controlling shareholders		-	-	-	-	-	-	(111)	(111)
Profit appropriation to statutory reserve	20(d)(iii)	-	-	-	66	(66)	-	-	-
Acquisition of non-controlling interests	20(d)(i)	-	(336)	-	-	-	(336)	88	(248)
Cash injection from Employee Trust Benefit Schemes	4(b)	-	23	-	-	-	23	6	29
Share-based payment		-	(2)	-	-	-	(2)	-	(2)
Balance at 31 December 2017		10,020	1,856	45	1,278	9,116	22,315	1,234	23,549

The accompanying notes set out on pages 77 to 147 form part of these financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Note	Year ended 31 December	
		2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Operating activities			
Profit before taxation		4,469	3,909
Adjustments for:			
Income from aged unutilised prepaid cards		(460)	–
Depreciation		3,017	2,964
Amortisation		246	202
Impairment losses on property, plant and equipment		167	91
Impairment losses on goodwill		55	–
Finance costs		13	23
Interest income		(392)	(255)
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment		124	34
Share-based payments		(2)	(4)
Share of results of an associate and a joint venture		5	4
Net foreign exchange loss/(gain)		45	(15)
		7,287	6,953
Changes in working capital:			
Decrease/(increase) in inventories		1,208	(2,763)
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables		446	(298)
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other payables		(482)	4,214
Cash generated from operations		8,459	8,106
Income tax paid	5(c)	(1,469)	(1,154)
Net cash generated from operating activities		6,990	6,952

The accompanying notes set out on pages 77 to 147 form part of these financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Note	Year ended 31 December	
		2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Investing activities			
Payment for purchase of investment properties, other property, plant and equipment and land use rights		(2,509)	(3,579)
Payment for investment in a joint venture		(15)	–
Net changes in time deposits with maturity over three months		3	–
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		2	5
Payment for purchase of intangible assets		(32)	(44)
Interest received		392	255
Payment of purchase of investments		(200)	(155)
Proceeds from maturity of investments		100	155
Proceeds from sale of available-for-sale securities		4	–
Net cash used in investing activities		(2,255)	(3,363)
Financing activities			
Cash injection from non-controlling interests		–	249
Payment for acquisition of non-controlling interests		(353)	–
Proceeds from bank loans and other borrowings		–	1,017
Repayment of bank loans and other borrowings		(23)	(1,631)
Interest paid	18	(13)	(23)
Dividends paid to shareholders of the Company	20(b)	(1,965)	(1,521)
Dividends paid to non-controlling shareholders		(119)	(181)
Net cash used in financing activities		(2,473)	(2,090)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		2,262	1,499
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		8,100	6,582
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes		–	19
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	16	10,362	8,100

The accompanying notes set out on pages 77 to 147 form part of these financial statements.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Statement of compliance

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“**HKFRSs**”), which collective term includes all applicable individual Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, Hong Kong Accounting Standards (“**HKASs**”) and Interpretations issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (the “**HKICPA**”), accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong and the requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance. *These consolidated financial statements also comply with the applicable disclosure provisions of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “**Stock Exchange**”).* A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Company and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the “**Group**”) is set out below.

The HKICPA has issued certain new and revised HKFRSs that are first effective or available for early adoption for the current accounting period of the Group. Note 1(c) provides information on any changes in accounting policies resulting from initial application of these developments to the extent that they are relevant to the Group for the current and prior accounting periods reflected in these financial statements.

(b) Basis of preparation of the consolidated financial statements

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 comprise the Group and the Group’s interest in an associate and joint ventures.

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Renminbi (“**RMB**”), rounded to the nearest million (unless otherwise stated). RMB is also the functional currency of the Company and the Company’s operating subsidiaries, as the Group’s hypermarkets and E-commerce platforms are all operated in the People’s Republic of China (“**PRC**”). The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for derivative financial instruments that are measured at fair value.

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with HKFRSs requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements made by management in the application of HKFRSs that have significant effect on the financial statements and major sources of estimation uncertainty are discussed in note 27.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(c) Change in accounting policies and estimates

Change in accounting policies

The HKICPA has issued several amendments to HKFRSs that are first effective for the current accounting period of the Group. None of these impact on the accounting policies of the Group.

The Group has not applied any new standard or interpretation that is not yet effective for the current accounting period.

Changes in accounting estimates – Income arising from aged unutilised prepaid cards

As set out in note 17, the Group has significant balances of “advance receipts from customers” under “trade and other payables”, which are primarily attributable to the balances of unutilised prepaid cards issued by the Group.

The Group has observed that a proportion of prepaid cards have been inactive for several years. As set out in note 1 (x) (iii), the Group recognises revenue according to a “remote recognition” method. Under this policy, revenue is only recognised when it is possible to determine with a sufficiently high degree of confidence the amount of card balances for which the likelihood of future utilisation is remote.

In previous reporting periods the Group’s estimate in this respect was that there was an immaterial amount of aged prepaid cards for which the probability of being utilised in the future is remote. However, as a result of more years of experience of the trend of prepaid cards usage, the Group believes it is now in a position to determine with a high degree of confidence the ultimate unredeemed amounts for certain groups of aged prepaid cards which will not be utilised. In this regard, the Group has engaged an independent actuarial firm in 2017 to assist in employing statistical methods to analyse the patterns of usage of cards. Using statistical models based on the card redemption statistics for the previous 12 years, the Group has adjusted its estimate of the forecast unredeemed amounts from aged prepaid cards which will not be utilised. As a result, the Group has recognised an amount of RMB460 million as “Other Income” for the year ended 31 December 2017 in this respect. This, after deducting 25% income tax, contributed an amount of approximately RMB345 million to the Group’s consolidated net profit for the year ended 31 December 2017. Other income recognised in future periods in respect of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards will depend on the usage trends of customers of the cards issued by the Group.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(d) Business combinations

The Group accounts for business combinations using the acquisition method when control is transferred to the Group (note 1(e)), except for business combinations under common control. The consideration transferred in the acquisition is measured at fair value, as are the identifiable net assets acquired. Any goodwill that arises is tested annually for impairment (note 1(o)(ii)). Any gain on bargain purchase is recognised in profit or loss immediately. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

Any contingent consideration is measured at fair value at the date of acquisition. If an obligation to pay contingent consideration that meets the definition of a financial instrument is classified as equity, then it is not remeasured and settlement is accounted for within equity. Otherwise, other contingent consideration is remeasured at fair value at each reporting date and subsequent changes in the fair value of the contingent consideration are recognised in profit or loss.

Merger accounting for business combination involving entities under common control

Business combinations arising from transfer of interests in entities that are under the control of the controlling shareholder that controls the Group are accounted for as if the acquisition had occurred at the beginning of the year. The assets and liabilities acquired are recognised at the carrying amounts recognised previously in the Group's controlling shareholder's consolidated financial statements.

The consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income includes the results of each of the combining entities from the earliest date presented or since the date when the combining entities first came under the common control, where this is a shorter period, regardless of the date of the common control combination.

Any difference between the consideration measured at fair value and the net carrying amount of the entities under common control transferred is recognised directly in equity. Expenditure incurred in relation to a common control combination that is to be accounted for by using merger accounting is recognised as an expense in the period in which it is incurred.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(e) Subsidiaries and non-controlling interests

Subsidiaries are entities controlled by the Group. The Group controls an entity when it is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity. When assessing whether the Group has power, only substantive rights (held by the Group and other parties) are considered.

An investment in a subsidiary is consolidated into the consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases. Intra-group balances and transactions and cash flows and any unrealised profits arising from intra-group transactions are eliminated in full in preparing the consolidated financial statements. Unrealised losses resulting from intra-group transactions are eliminated in the same way as unrealised gains but only to the extent that there is no evidence of impairment.

Non-controlling interests represent the equity in a subsidiary not attributable directly or indirectly to the Company, and in respect of which the Group has not agreed any additional terms with the holders of those interests which would result in the Group as a whole having a contractual obligation in respect of those interests that meets the definition of a financial liability. For each business combination, the Group can elect to measure any non-controlling interests either at fair value or at the non-controlling interests' proportionate share of the subsidiary's net identifiable assets.

Non-controlling interests are presented in the consolidated statement of financial position within equity, separately from equity attributable to the equity shareholders of the Company. Non-controlling interests in the results of the Group are presented on the face of the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as an allocation of the total profit or loss and total comprehensive income for the year between non-controlling interests and the equity shareholders of the Company.

Changes in the Group's interests in a subsidiary that do not result in a loss of control are accounted for as equity transactions, whereby adjustments are made to the amounts of controlling and non-controlling interests within consolidated equity to reflect the change in relative interests, but no adjustments are made to goodwill and no gain or loss is recognised.

When the Group loses control of a subsidiary, it is accounted for as a disposal of the entire interest in that subsidiary, with a resulting gain or loss being recognised in profit or loss. Any interest retained in that former subsidiary at the date when control is lost is recognised at fair value and this amount is regarded as the fair value on initial recognition of a financial asset or, when appropriate, the cost on initial recognition of an investment in an associate or joint venture (see note 1(f)).

In the Company's statement of financial position, an investment in a subsidiary is stated at cost less impairment losses (see note 1(o)), unless the investment is classified as held for sale (or included in a disposal group that is classified as held for sale).

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(f) Associates and joint ventures

An associate is an entity in which the Group or Company has significant influence, but not control or joint control, over its management including participation in the financial and operating policy decision.

A joint venture is an arrangement whereby the Group or Company and other parties contractually agree to share control of the arrangement, and have rights to the net assets of the arrangement.

An investment in an associate or a joint venture is accounted for in the consolidated financial statements under the equity method, unless it is classified as held for sale (or included in a disposal group that is classified as held for sale). Under the equity method, the investment is initially recorded at cost, adjusted for any excess of the Group's share of the acquisition-date fair values of the investee's identifiable net assets over the cost of the investment (if any). Thereafter, the investment is adjusted for the post acquisition change in the Group's share of the investee's net assets and any impairment loss relating to the investment (see note 1(o)). Any acquisition-date excess over cost, the Group's share of the post-acquisition, post-tax results of the investees and any impairment losses for the year and the Group's share of the post-acquisition post-tax items of the investees' other comprehensive income are recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

When the Group's share of losses exceeds its interest in the associate or the joint venture, the Group's interest is reduced to nil and recognition of further losses is discontinued except to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the investee. For this purpose, the Group's interest is the carrying amount of the investment under the equity method together with the Group's long-term interests that in substance form part of the Group's net investment in the associate or the joint venture.

Unrealised profits and losses resulting from transactions between the Group and its associates and joint venture are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the investee, except where unrealised losses provide evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred, in which case they are recognised immediately in profit or loss.

If an investment in an associate becomes an investment in a joint venture or vice versa, retained interest is not remeasured. Instead, the investment continues to be accounted for under the equity method.

In all other cases, when the Group ceases to have significant influence over an associate or joint control over a joint venture, it is accounted for as a disposal of the entire interest in that investee, with a resulting gain or loss being recognised in profit or loss. Any interest retained in that former investee at the date when significant influence or joint control is lost is recognised at fair value and this amount is regarded as the fair value on initial recognition of a financial asset (see note 1(m)).

In the Company's statement of financial position, investments in associates and joint venture are stated at cost less impairment losses (see note 1(o)), unless classified as held for sale (or included in a disposal group that is classified as held for sale).

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(g) Hypermarkets operated under Contracted Store arrangements

The Group operates certain hypermarkets through Contracted Store arrangements (“**Contracted Stores**”) under which the hypermarket owner (“**Contracted Store Owner**”) provides the store, equipment and facilities for use by the Group to carry out the Group’s hypermarket business and in return is entitled to an annual fee, calculated as either a fixed amount or a fixed percentage of the store’s sales revenue, and any remaining profit or loss relating to the operation of the store is attributable to the Group. As the Group bears the risks and rewards of the store’s operation, the revenue, operating expenses and results relating to the operation of the Contracted Stores are included in the Group’s consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income on a line-by-line basis and the net profit or loss relating to the operation of the stores attributable to the Group is recorded as an amount due from or to the Contracted Store Owner, as applicable. Sales of inventories by the Group to the Contracted Stores are eliminated and the Contracted Stores’ inventories as of the reporting period end are incorporated in the Group’s consolidated statement of financial position. Prepaid cards bought by customers which may be used to purchase goods in other stores of the Group are recorded as “advance receipts from customers” within “trade and other payables” in the Group’s consolidated statement of financial position, and a corresponding receivable from the Contracted Store is recognised.

(h) Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of

- (i) the aggregate of the fair value of the consideration transferred, the amount of any non-controlling interest in the acquiree and the fair value of the Group’s previously held equity interest in the acquiree; over
- (ii) the net fair value of the acquiree’s identifiable assets and liabilities measured as at the acquisition date.

When (ii) is greater than (i), then this excess is recognised immediately in profit or loss as a gain on a bargain purchase.

Goodwill is stated at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill arising on a business combination is allocated to each cash-generating unit, or groups of cash-generating units, that is expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination and is tested annually for impairment (see note 1(o)).

On disposal of a cash generating unit during the year, any attributable amount of purchased goodwill is included in the calculation of the profit or loss on disposal.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(i) Investment properties

Areas within hypermarket buildings owned by the Group which are held to earn rental income and/or for capital appreciation are classified as investment properties.

Investment properties are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses (see note 1(o)). Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of investment properties, less their estimated realisable value, if any, using the straight line method over the estimated useful life of 10-30 years. Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at the end of each reporting period and adjusted if appropriate.

Areas within hypermarket buildings leased by the Group which are sublet to earn rental income are classified as other property, plant and equipment (see note 1(j)).

(j) Other property, plant and equipment

(i) Owned assets

Buildings held for own use which are situated on land held under land use rights and other property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses (see note 1(o)).

The cost of self-constructed items of property, plant and equipment includes the cost of materials, direct labour, the initial estimate, where relevant, of the costs of dismantling and removing the items and restoring the site on which they are located, and capitalised borrowing costs (see note 1(z)). Construction in progress is transferred to investment properties or the relevant categories of other property, plant and equipment when substantially all of the activities necessary to prepare the assets for their intended use are complete, notwithstanding any delays in the issue of the relevant completion certificates by the relevant PRC authorities. Purchased software that is integral to the functionality of related equipment is capitalised as part of that equipment.

The cost of replacing a part of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied within the part will flow to the Group, and its cost can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. The costs of the day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in profit or loss as incurred.

Gains or losses arising from the retirement or disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment are determined as the differences between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the item, and are recognised in profit or loss on the date of retirement or disposal.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(j) Other property, plant and equipment (continued)

(ii) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment, less their estimated residual value, if any, using the straight line method over their estimated useful lives as follows:

• Buildings	10 – 30 years
• Leasehold improvements	5 – 20 years
• Store and other equipment	4 – 10 years
• Office equipment	3 – 5 years
• Motor vehicles	5 – 8 years

Leased assets are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives unless it is reasonably certain that the Group will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term. No depreciation is provided on construction in progress.

Where parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, the cost of the item is allocated on a reasonable basis between the parts and each part is depreciated separately. Both the useful life of an asset and its residual value, if any, are reviewed annually.

(k) Intangible assets (other than goodwill)

Intangible assets that are acquired by the Group are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses (see note 1(o)).

Amortisation is charged to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of intangible assets, from the date that they are available for use, as follows:

• Software	2 – 5 years
------------	-------------

Both the period and method of amortisation are reviewed annually.

(l) Leased assets

An arrangement, comprising a transaction or a series of transactions, is or contains a lease if the Group determines that the arrangement conveys a right to use a specific asset or assets for an agreed period of time in return for a payment or a series of payments. Such a determination is made based on an evaluation of the substance of the arrangement and is regardless of whether the arrangement takes the legal form of a lease.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(l) Leased assets (continued)

(i) *Classification of assets leased to the Group*

Assets that are held by the Group under leases which transfer to the Group substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as being held under finance leases. Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the Group are classified as operating leases.

(ii) *Operating lease charges*

Where the Group has the use of assets held under operating leases, payments made under the leases are charged to profit or loss in equal instalments over the accounting periods covered by the lease term, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased asset. Lease incentives received are recognised in profit or loss as an integral part of the aggregate net lease payments made. Contingent rentals are charged to profit or loss in the accounting period in which they are incurred.

The cost of acquiring land use rights is amortised on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease term.

(m) Other investments in debt and equity securities

The Group's policies for investments in debt and equity securities, other than investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures, are as follows:

Investments in debt and equity securities are initially stated at fair value, which is their transaction price unless it is determined that the fair value at initial recognition differs from the transaction price and that fair value is evidenced by a quoted price in an active market for an identical asset or liability or based on a valuation technique that uses only data from observable markets. Cost includes attributable transaction costs, except where indicated otherwise below. These investments are subsequently accounted for as follows, depending on their classification:

Investments in securities held for trading are classified as current assets. Any attributable transaction costs are recognised in profit or loss as incurred. At the end of each reporting period the fair value is remeasured, with any resultant gain or loss being recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss does not include any dividends or interest earned on these investments as these are recognised in accordance with the policies set out in notes 1(x)(v) and 1(x)(vii).

Dated debt securities that the Group has the positive ability and intention to hold to maturity are classified as held-to-maturity securities. Held-to-maturity securities are stated at amortised cost less impairment losses (see note 1(o)).

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(m) Other investments in debt and equity securities (continued)

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments are classified as loans and receivables. Loans and receivables are stated at amortised cost less impairment losses (see note 1(o)).

Investments in securities which do not fall into any of the above categories are classified as available-for-sale securities. At the end of each reporting period, the fair value is remeasured, with any resultant gain or loss being recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated separately in equity in the fair value reserve. As an exception to this, investments in equity securities that do not have a quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument and whose fair value cannot otherwise be reliably measured are recognised in the statement of financial position at cost less impairment losses (see note 1(o)). Dividend income from equity securities and interest income from debt securities calculated using the effective interest method are recognised in profit or loss in accordance with the policies set out in note 1(x). Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from changes in the amortised cost of debt securities are also recognised in profit or loss.

When the investments are derecognised or impaired (see note 1(o)), the cumulative gain or loss recognised in equity is reclassified to profit or loss. Investments are recognised/derecognised on the date the Group commits to purchase/sell the investments or they expire.

(n) Derivative financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value. At the end of each reporting period the fair value is remeasured. The gain or loss on remeasurement to fair value is recognised immediately in profit or loss, except where the derivatives qualify for cash flow hedge accounting or hedge the net investment in a foreign operation, in which case recognition of any resultant gain or loss depends on the nature of the item being hedged.

(o) Impairment of assets

(i) *Impairment of investments in debt and equity securities and other receivables*

Investments in debt and equity securities and other current and non-current receivables that are stated at cost or amortised cost or are classified as available-for-sale securities are reviewed at the end of each reporting period to determine whether there is objective evidence of impairment. Objective evidence of impairment includes observable data that comes to the attention of the Group about one or more of the following loss events:

- significant financial difficulty of the debtor;
- a breach of contract, such as a default or delinquency in interest or principal payments;

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(o) Impairment of assets (continued)

(i) *Impairment of investments in debt and equity securities and other receivables (continued)*

- it becoming probable that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation;
- significant changes in the technological, market, economic or legal environment that have an adverse effect on the debtor; and
- a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of an investment in an equity instrument below its cost.

If any such evidence exists, any impairment loss is determined and recognised as follows:

- For investments in associates and joint ventures accounted for under the equity method in the consolidated financial statements (see note 1(f)), the impairment loss is measured by comparing the recoverable amount of the investment with its carrying amount in accordance with note 1(o)(ii). The impairment loss is reversed if there has been a favourable change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount in accordance with note 1(o)(ii).
- For unquoted equity securities carried at cost, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount of the financial asset and the estimated future cash flows, discounted at the current market rate of return for a similar financial asset where the effect of discounting is material. Impairment losses for equity securities carried at cost are not reversed.
- For trade and other receivables carried at amortised cost, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate (i.e. the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition of these assets), where the effect of discounting is material. This assessment is made collectively where financial assets share similar risk characteristics, such as similar past due status, and have not been individually assessed as impaired. Future cash flows for financial assets which are assessed for impairment collectively are based on historical loss experience for assets with credit risk characteristics similar to the collective group.

If in a subsequent period the amount of an impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be linked objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, the impairment loss is reversed through profit or loss. A reversal of an impairment loss shall not result in the asset's carrying amount exceeding that which would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised in prior years.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(o) Impairment of assets (continued)

(i) *Impairment of investments in debt and equity securities and other receivables (continued)*

- For available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss that has been recognised in the fair value reserve is reclassified to profit or loss. The amount of the cumulative loss that is recognised in profit or loss is the difference between the acquisition cost (net of any principal repayment and amortisation) and current fair value, less any impairment loss on the assets previously recognised in profit or loss.

Impairment losses recognised in profit or loss in respect of available-for-sale equity securities are not reversed through profit or loss. Any subsequent increase in the fair value of such assets is recognised in other comprehensive income.

Impairment losses in respect of available-for-sale financial assets are reversed if the subsequent increase in fair value can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised. Reversals of impairment losses in such circumstances are recognised in profit or loss.

Impairment losses are written off against the corresponding assets directly, except for impairment losses recognised in respect of trade receivables included within trade and other receivables, whose recovery is considered doubtful but not remote. In this case, the impairment losses for doubtful debts are recorded using an allowance account. When the Group is satisfied that recovery is remote, the amount considered irrecoverable is written off against trade receivables directly and any amounts held in the allowance account relating to that debt are reversed. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously charged to the allowance account are reversed against the allowance account. Other changes in the allowance account and subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off directly are recognised in profit or loss.

(ii) *Impairment of other assets*

Internal and external sources of information are reviewed at the end of each reporting period to identify indications that the following assets may be impaired or, except in the case of goodwill, an impairment loss previously recognised no longer exists or may have decreased:

- investment properties;
- other property, plant and equipment;
- land use rights;

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(o) Impairment of assets (continued)

(ii) Impairment of other assets (continued)

- investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures in the company's statement of financial position;
- intangible assets;
- goodwill; and
- other financial assets.

If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. In addition, for goodwill, the recoverable amount is estimated annually whether or not there is any indication of impairment.

- Calculation of recoverable amount

The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. Where an asset does not generate cash inflows largely independent of those from other assets, the recoverable amount is determined for the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows independently (i.e. a cash-generating unit).

- Recognition of impairment losses

An impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss if the carrying amount of an asset, or the cash-generating unit to which it belongs, exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses recognised in respect of cash-generating units are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the cash-generating unit (or group of units) and then, to reduce the carrying amount of the other assets in the unit (or group of units) on a pro rata basis, except that the carrying value of an asset will not be reduced below its individual fair value less costs of disposal (if measurable), or value in use (if determinable).

- Reversals of impairment losses

In respect of assets other than goodwill, an impairment loss is reversed if there has been a favourable change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss in respect of goodwill is not reversed.

A reversal of an impairment loss is limited to the asset's carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised in prior years. Reversals of impairment losses are credited to profit or loss in the year in which the reversals are recognised.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(o) Impairment of assets (continued)

(iii) *Interim financial reporting and impairment*

Under the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, the Group is required to prepare an interim financial report in compliance with HKAS 34, *Interim financial reporting*, in respect of the first six months of the financial year. At the end of the interim period, the Group applies the same impairment testing, recognition, and reversal criteria as it would at the end of the financial year (see notes 1(o)(i) and (ii)).

Impairment losses recognised in an interim period in respect of goodwill, available-for-sale equity securities and unquoted equity securities carried at cost are not reversed in a subsequent period. This is the case even if no loss, or a smaller loss, would have been recognised had the impairment been assessed only at the end of the financial year to which the interim period relates. Consequently, if the fair value of an available-for-sale equity security increases in the remainder of the annual period, or in any other period subsequently, the increase is recognised in other comprehensive income and not profit or loss.

(p) Inventories

Inventories are carried at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Cost is calculated using the weighted average cost formula and comprises the purchase cost of goods after deducting discounts and payments from suppliers, except where such payments represent a reimbursement of identifiable expenditure incurred by the Group or relate to services provided by the Group which provide identifiable benefits to the suppliers separate from the Group's purchase of the supplier's goods. Supplier payments include cash or its equivalent in form (e.g. credits applied to future purchases).

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

When inventories are sold, the carrying amount of those inventories is recognised as an expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised. The amount of any write-down of inventories to net realisable value and all losses of inventories are recognised as an expense in the period the write-down or loss occurs. The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories is recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(q) Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less allowance for impairment of doubtful debts (see note 1(o)), except where the receivables are interest-free loans made to related parties without any fixed repayment terms or the effect of discounting would be immaterial. In such cases, the receivables are stated at cost less allowance for impairment of doubtful debts.

(r) Interest-bearing borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, interest-bearing borrowings are stated at amortised cost with any difference between the amount initially recognised and redemption value being recognised in profit or loss over the period of the borrowings, together with any interest and fees payable, using the effective interest method.

(s) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value. Trade and other payables are subsequently stated at amortised cost unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost.

(t) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other financial institutions, and short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, having been within three months of maturity at acquisition. Bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management are also included as a component of cash and cash equivalents for the purpose of the consolidated cash flow statement.

(u) Employee benefits

(i) Short term employee benefits and contributions to defined contribution retirement plans

Salaries, annual bonuses, paid annual leave, contributions to defined contribution plans, contributions to the Group's Employee Trust Benefit Schemes, and the cost of non-monetary benefits are accrued in the year in which the associated services are rendered by employees. Where payment or settlement is deferred and the effect would be material, these amounts are stated at their present values.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(u) Employee benefits (continued)

(ii) Share-based payments

(a) Cash-settled share-based payments

The fair value of share appreciation rights granted to employees, which are to be settled in cash and based on the price of the equity instruments of entities within the Group, is recognised as an employee cost and liability. Where the employees have to meet vesting conditions before becoming unconditionally entitled to the payments, the total estimated fair value of the rights is spread over the vesting period, taking into account the probability that the rights will vest. The liability is remeasured at each reporting date and at settlement date. Any changes in the fair value of the liability are recognised as employee costs in profit or loss.

(b) Share-based payments among group entities

The fair value of stock options and shares granted by the Group's controlling shareholder to certain employees of the Group in respect of their services to the Group, which are to be settled in cash by the controlling shareholder, is recognised as an employee cost, with a corresponding increase in capital reserve within equity of the Group, over the period that the employees become unconditionally entitled to the stock options and shares. The amount recognised as an expense is adjusted to reflect the number of stock options and shares for which the related service and non-market performance conditions are expected to be met at the vesting date.

(c) Equity-settled share-based payments

The fair value of shares granted by the Group's certain subsidiary to its employees in respect of their services to the Group, is recognised as an employee cost, with a corresponding increase in capital reserve within equity of the Group, over the period that the employees become unconditionally entitled to the shares. The amount recognised as an expense is adjusted to reflect the number of shares for which the related service are expected to be met at the vesting date.

(iii) Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised at the earlier of when the Group can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits and when it recognises restructuring costs involving the payment of termination benefits.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(v) Income tax

Income tax for the year comprises current tax and movements in deferred tax assets and liabilities. Current tax and movements in deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognised in profit or loss except to the extent that they relate to a business combination, or to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, in which case the relevant amounts of tax are recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities arise from deductible and taxable temporary differences respectively, being the differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and their tax bases. Deferred tax assets also arise from unused tax losses and unused tax credits.

Apart from certain limited exceptions, all deferred tax liabilities, and all deferred tax assets to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised, are recognised. Future taxable profits that may support the recognition of deferred tax assets arising from deductible temporary differences include those that will arise from the reversal of existing taxable temporary differences, provided those differences relate to the same taxation authority and the same taxable entity, and are expected to reverse either in the same period as the expected reversal of the deductible temporary difference or in periods into which a tax loss arising from the deferred tax asset can be carried back or forward. The same criteria are adopted when determining whether existing taxable temporary differences support the recognition of deferred tax assets arising from unused tax losses and credits, that is, those differences are taken into account if they relate to the same taxation authority and the same taxable entity, and are expected to reverse in a period, or periods, in which the tax loss or credit can be utilised.

The limited exceptions to recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities are those temporary differences arising from goodwill not deductible for tax purposes, the initial recognition of assets or liabilities that affect neither accounting nor taxable profit (provided they are not part of a business combination), and temporary differences relating to investments in subsidiaries to the extent that, in the case of taxable differences, the Group controls the timing of the reversal and it is probable that the differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future, or in the case of deductible differences, unless it is probable that they will reverse in the future.

The amount of deferred tax recognised is measured based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(v) Income tax (continued)

The carrying amount of a deferred tax asset is reviewed at the end of each reporting period and is reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow the related tax benefit to be utilised. Any such reduction is reversed to the extent that it becomes probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available.

Current tax balances and deferred tax balances, and movements therein, are presented separately from each other and are not offset. Current tax assets are offset against current tax liabilities, and deferred tax assets against deferred tax liabilities, if the Company or the Group has the legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and the following additional conditions are met:

- in the case of current tax assets and liabilities, the Company or the Group intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously; or
- in the case of deferred tax assets and liabilities, if they relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either:
 - the same taxable entity; or
 - different taxable entities, which, in each future period in which significant amounts of deferred tax liabilities or assets are expected to be settled or recovered, intend to realise the current tax assets and settle the current tax liabilities on a net basis or realise and settle simultaneously.

(w) Provisions and contingent liabilities

Provisions are recognised for other liabilities of uncertain timing or amount when the Group or the Company has a legal or constructive obligation arising as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made. Where the time value of money is material, provisions are stated at the present value of the expenditure expected to settle the obligation.

Where it is not probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required, or the amount cannot be estimated reliably, the obligation is disclosed as a contingent liability, unless the probability of outflow of economic benefits is remote. Possible obligations, whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more future events are also disclosed as contingent liabilities unless the probability of outflow of economic benefits is remote.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(x) Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Provided it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Group and the revenue and costs, if applicable, can be measured reliably, revenue is recognised in profit or loss as follows:

(i) Sales of goods

Revenue is recognised when persuasive evidence exists that the significant risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer, recovery of the consideration is probable, the associated costs and possible return of goods can be estimated reliably, and there is no continuing management involvement with the goods. Revenue excludes value added tax or other sales taxes and is after deduction of any trade discounts. If it is probable that discounts will be granted, then the discount is recognised as a reduction of revenue as the sales are recognised.

(ii) Rental income from operating leases

Rental income receivable under operating leases is recognised in profit or loss in equal instalments over the periods covered by the lease term, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the use of the leased asset. Lease incentives granted are recognised in profit or loss as an integral part of the aggregate net lease payments receivable. Contingent rentals are recognised as income in the accounting period in which they are earned.

(iii) Other income arising from recognition of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards

Other income arising from recognition of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards is recognised according to the "remote recognition" method. Under this policy, the unutilised balance on the card will be recognised as revenue once it is possible to determine with a sufficiently high degree of probability that the likelihood of future utilisation is remote.

(iv) Service income

Service income is recognised in profit or loss when the services are delivered.

(v) Interest income

Interest income is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest method.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(x) Revenue recognition (continued)

(vi) Government grants

Government grants are recognised in the statement of financial position initially when there is reasonable assurance that they will be received and that the Group will comply with the conditions attaching to them. Grants that compensate the Group for expenses incurred are recognised as income in profit or loss on a systematic basis in the same periods in which the expenses are incurred. Grants that compensate the Group for the cost of an asset are deducted from the carrying amount of the asset and consequently are effectively recognised in profit or loss over the useful life of the asset by way of reduced depreciation expense.

(vii) Dividend income

Dividend income is recognised when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established.

(y) Translation of foreign currencies

Foreign currency transactions during the year are translated at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the end of the reporting period. Exchange gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the foreign exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are translated using the foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was measured.

The results of foreign operations are translated into RMB at the exchange rates approximating the foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates of the transactions. Statement of financial position items are translated into RMB at the closing foreign exchange rates at the end of the reporting period. The resulting exchange differences are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated separately in equity in the exchange reserve.

On disposal of a foreign operation, the cumulative amount of the exchange differences relating to that foreign operation is reclassified from equity to profit or loss when the profit or loss on disposal is recognised.

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(z) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of an asset which necessarily takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale are capitalised as part of the cost of that asset. Other borrowing costs are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

The capitalisation of borrowing costs as part of the cost of a qualifying asset commences when expenditure for the asset is being incurred, borrowing costs are being incurred and activities that are necessary to prepare the asset for its intended use or sale are in progress. Capitalisation of borrowing costs is suspended or ceases when substantially all the activities necessary to prepare the qualifying asset for its intended use or sale are interrupted or complete.

(aa) Related parties

- (a) A person, or a close member of that person's family, is related to the Group if that person:
- (i) has control or joint control over the Group;
 - (ii) has significant influence over the Group; or
 - (iii) is a member of the key management personnel of the Group or the Group's parent or ultimate controlling shareholders.
- (b) An entity is related to the Group if any of the following conditions applies:
- (i) The entity and the Group are members of the same group (which means that each parent, subsidiary and fellow subsidiary is related to the others);
 - (ii) One entity is an associate or joint venture of the other entity (or an associate or joint venture of a member of a group of which the other entity is a member);
 - (iii) Both entities are joint ventures of the same third party;

1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(aa) Related parties (continued)

- (iv) One entity is a joint venture of a third entity and the other entity is an associate of the third entity;
- (v) The entity is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of either the Group or an entity related to the Group;
- (vi) The entity is controlled or jointly controlled by a person identified in (a);
- (vii) A person identified in (a)(i) has significant influence over the entity or is a member of the key management personnel of the entity (or of a parent of the entity);
- (viii) The entity, or any member of a group of which it is a part, provides key management personnel services to the Group or to the Group's parent.

Close members of the family of a person are those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that person in their dealings with the entity.

(bb) Segment reporting

Operating segments, and the amounts of each segment item reported in the financial statements, are identified from the financial information provided regularly to the Group's most senior executive management for the purposes of allocating resources to, and assessing the performance of, the Group's various lines of business and geographical locations.

Individually material operating segments are not aggregated for financial reporting purposes unless the segments have similar economic characteristics and are similar in respect of the nature of products and services, the nature of production processes, the type or class of customers, the methods used to distribute the products or provide the services, and the nature of the regulatory environment. Operating segments which are not individually material may be aggregated if they share a majority of these criteria.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2 REVENUE AND SEGMENT REPORTING

The principal activity of the Group is the operation of hypermarkets and E-commerce platforms in the PRC.

The Group is organised, for management purpose, into business units based on the banner under which the hypermarkets and E-commerce platforms are operated. As all of the Group's hypermarkets and E-commerce platforms are operated in the PRC, have similar economic characteristics, and are similar in respect of products and services provided and customer type, the Group has one reportable operating segment which is the operation of hypermarkets and E-commerce platforms in the PRC.

Revenue represents the sales value of goods supplied to customers and rental income from leasing areas in the hypermarket buildings. The amount of each significant category of revenue is as follows:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Sales of goods	98,775	97,096
Rental income	3,545	3,345
	102,320	100,441

The Group's customer base is diversified and there is no customer with whom transactions have exceeded 10% of the Group's revenues.

3 OTHER INCOME

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Income from aged unutilised prepaid cards	460	–
Service income	391	329
Disposal of packaging materials	204	122
Interest income	392	255
Government grants	165	167
Compensation received	18	–
	1,630	873

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4 PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

Profit before taxation is arrived at after charging/(crediting):

(a) Finance costs

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017	2016
	RMB million	RMB million
Interest expense on bank loans and other borrowings	13	23

(b) Staff costs

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017	2016
	RMB million	RMB million
Salaries, wages and other benefits	8,298	7,884
Contributions to defined contribution retirement plans (i)	1,039	965
Contributions to Employee Trust Benefit Schemes (ii)	379	431
Share-based payments (iii)	1	(8)
	9,717	9,272

(i) Contributions to defined contribution retirement plans

The Group participates in pension schemes organised by the PRC government whereby the Group is required to pay annual contributions based on the statutory percentage of the average salary level in the cities where the Group's employees are employed. The Group remits all the pension fund contributions to the respective social security offices, which are responsible for the payments and liabilities relating to the pension funds. The Group has no obligation for payment of retirement and other post-retirement benefits of employees other than the contributions described above.

4 PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION (CONTINUED)

(b) Staff costs (continued)

(ii) Contributions to Employee Trust Benefit Schemes

The Group has established an Employee Trust Benefit Scheme for employees of its subsidiary, Concord Investment (China) Co., Ltd. (“**CIC**”) and its subsidiaries (“**the RT-Mart Scheme**”) and an Employee Trust Benefit Scheme for employees of its subsidiary, Auchan (China) Hong Kong Limited (“**ACHK**”) and its subsidiaries (“**the Auchan Scheme**”). Under each scheme, an annual profit sharing contribution, calculated based on the consolidated results of CIC for the RT-Mart Scheme, and on the consolidated results of ACHK for the Auchan Scheme, and the number of eligible employees, is payable to a trust, the beneficial interests in which are allocated to participating eligible employees in accordance with the relevant Employee Trust Benefit Scheme rules. The trusts are administered by independent trustees and invest the amounts received in either cash and cash equivalents (“**cash-like assets**”) or equity of CIC in the case of the RT-Mart Scheme, or cash-like assets or equity of ACHK’s subsidiary, Auchan (China) Investment Co., Ltd. (“**ACI**”) in the case of the Auchan Scheme, respectively. The annual profit sharing contributions are accrued in the year in which the associated services are rendered by the eligible employees.

In addition to the annual profit sharing contributions made by the Group, subject to certain conditions, eligible employees are entitled to acquire additional beneficial interests in the relevant Employee Trust Benefit Schemes using their own funds.

Any excess of the capital injected by the trusts to CIC or ACI over the attributable share of their consolidated net assets acquired is credited to capital reserve within equity of the Group.

(iii) Share-based payments

ACHK granted certain rights to a number of senior management of ACHK whereby, provided they meet certain vesting criteria, the individuals will be entitled to a future cash payment, calculated based on the increase in the fair value of ACHK. Based on the fair value of ACHK, RMB3 million has been recognised as a staff cost expense in the Group’s consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2017 (RMB4 million deduction of staff cost expenses for the year ended 31 December 2016).

In addition to the above, share-based payments includes RMB2 million credit (2016: RMB4 million) in respect of stock options and shares in the Group’s controlling shareholder, Auchan Holding S.A. (“**Auchan Holding**”), granted by Auchan Holding to certain employees of the Group in respect of their service to the Group. Details of share options and shares are set out in the Report of Directors.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4 PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION (CONTINUED)

(c) Other items

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Cost of inventories	77,598	76,360
Depreciation		
– assets leased out under operating leases		
– investment properties	226	210
– other property, plant and equipment	424	491
– assets held for own use	2,367	2,263
	3,017	2,964
Amortisation		
– land use rights	183	171
– intangible assets	63	31
	246	202
Impairment losses		
– other property, plant and equipment	167	91
– goodwill	55	–
	222	91
Operating lease charges		
(i) contingent rents		
– assets leased for own use	621	590
– assets sublet to others	216	186
(ii) minimum lease payments		
– assets leased for own use	1,815	1,703
– assets sublet to others	262	253
(iii) fees to Contracted Store Owners	13	14
Total	2,927	2,746
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	124	34
Net foreign exchange loss/(gain)	45	(15)
Auditors' remuneration		
– audit services	32	32
– non-audit services	1	1
Donations	4	1
Rental income from investment properties		
– gross (including property management fee)	(1,291)	(1,213)
– direct operating expenses	31	43
Net rental income from investment properties	(1,260)	(1,170)

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5 INCOME TAX

- (a) Income tax in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income represents:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Current tax – Hong Kong Profits Tax		
Provision for the year	–	–
Under/(over)-provision in respect of prior year	4	(1)
Current tax – PRC income tax		
Provision for the year	1,383	1,302
Under-provision in respect of prior year	9	–
	1,396	1,301
Deferred tax		
Reversal/(origination) of temporary differences <i>(note 19(a))</i>	53	(21)
	1,449	1,280

- (i) The provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax is calculated at 16.5% of the estimated assessable profits of the Company and its subsidiaries incorporated in Hong Kong (2016: 16.5%). The payments of dividends by Hong Kong companies are not subject to any Hong Kong withholding tax.
- (ii) Most of the PRC subsidiaries are subject to income tax at 25% for the year ended 31 December 2017 (2016: 25%) under the Enterprise Income Tax law (“**EIT law**”).

Pursuant to the related regulations in respect of the Notice of Certain Tax Policies for Implementation of Exploration and Development of Western Region (Cai Shui [2011] No.58) jointly issued by the Ministry of Finance, the General Administration of Customs and the State Administration of Taxation in the PRC, five PRC subsidiaries of the Group are entitled to a preferential income tax rate of 15% for the years ended 31 December 2017 and 2016.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5 INCOME TAX (CONTINUED)

(a) (continued)

- (iii) The EIT law and its relevant regulations also impose a withholding tax at 10%, unless reduced by a tax treaty/arrangement, on dividend distributions made out of the PRC from earnings accumulated from 1 January 2008. Undistributed earnings generated prior to 1 January 2008 are exempted from such withholding tax.

Under the Arrangement between the Mainland of China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, a qualified Hong Kong tax resident which is the “beneficial owner” and holds 25% or more of the equity interest in a PRC-resident enterprise is entitled to a reduced withholding tax rate of 5% on dividends received.

The Group has provided RMB71 million in relation to the expected funds transfer to finance the 2017 final dividend distribution. RMB16 million additional withholding tax in relation to the 2016 and 2015 final dividend distribution was also recognised during 2017 due to a recent interpretation of the Hong Kong Inland Revenue Department regarding the issuance of Certificate of Resident Status for companies in Hong Kong.

Since the Group can control the quantum and timing of distribution of profits of the Group’s PRC subsidiaries, deferred tax liabilities are only provided to the extent that such profits are expected to be distributed in the foreseeable future (note 19(d)).

(b) Reconciliation between income tax expense and accounting profit at applicable tax rates:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Profit before taxation	4,469	3,909
Notional tax on profit before taxation, calculated at PRC income tax rate of 25%	1,117	977
Statutory tax concession	(8)	(8)
Under/(over)-provision in respect of prior years	13	(1)
Non-deductible expenses, less non-assessable income	48	(8)
Current year losses for which no deferred tax asset was recognised	176	257
Temporary differences for which no deferred tax asset was recognised	61	35
Utilisation of previously unrecognised tax losses	(49)	(61)
Recognition of previously unrecognised temporary differences	–	(35)
Reversal of previously recognised deferred tax assets	4	33
PRC dividend withholding tax	87	91
Actual tax expenses	1,449	1,280

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5 INCOME TAX (CONTINUED)

(c) Income tax payables in the consolidated statement of financial position represent:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Balance at beginning of the year	638	491
Under/(over)-provision in respect of prior years	13	(1)
Provision for current income tax for the year	1,383	1,302
Payment during the year	(1,469)	(1,154)
Income tax payables at the end of the year	565	638

6 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

Directors' emoluments disclosed pursuant to section 383(1) of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance and part 2 of the Companies (Disclosure of information about Benefits of Directors) Regulation are as follows:

	For the year ended 31 December 2017					2017 Total <i>RMB'000</i>
	Directors' fees <i>RMB'000</i>	Salaries, allowances and benefits in kind <i>RMB'000</i>	Contributions to retirement schemes <i>RMB'000</i>	Discretionary bonus <i>RMB'000</i>	Share-based payments (note 7) <i>RMB'000</i>	
Executive directors						
Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER (effective from July 11, 2017)	-	878	162	-	-	1,040
HUANG Ming-Tuan ⁽¹⁾	-	12,093	-	-	-	12,093
Bruno, Robert MERCIER (effective until July 11, 2017)	-	2,282	624	477	-	3,383
Non-executive directors						
CHENG Chuan-Tai ⁽¹⁾	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ	-	-	-	-	-	-
Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER	-	-	-	-	-	-
Independent non-executive directors						
Karen Yifen CHANG	289	-	-	-	-	289
HE Yi	289	-	-	-	-	289
Desmond MURRAY	354	-	-	-	-	354
Total	932	15,253	786	477	-	17,448

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

6 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS (CONTINUED)

For the year ended 31 December 2016

	Directors' fees	Salaries, allowances and benefits in kind	Contributions to retirement schemes	Discretionary bonus	Share-based payments (note 7)	2016 Total
	<i>RMB'000</i>	<i>RMB'000</i>	<i>RMB'000</i>	<i>RMB'000</i>	<i>RMB'000</i>	<i>RMB'000</i>
Executive directors						
Bruno, Robert MERCIER	–	2,743	292	196	–	3,231
HUANG Ming-Tuan ⁽¹⁾	–	13,365	–	–	–	13,365
Non-executive directors						
CHENG Chuan-Tai ⁽¹⁾	–	–	–	–	–	–
Benoit, Claude, Francois, Marie, Joseph LECLERCQ	–	–	–	–	–	–
Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC	–	–	–	–	–	–
Wilhelm, Louis HUBNER	–	–	–	–	–	–
Independent non-executive directors						
Karen Yifen CHANG	257	–	–	–	–	257
HE Yi	257	–	–	–	–	257
Desmond MURRAY	309	–	–	–	–	309
Total	823	16,108	292	196	–	17,419

Note:

(1) Resigned on 30 January 2018.

No director of the Company agreed to waive any remuneration during the year.

During the year, there were no amounts paid or payable by the Group to the directors or any of the five highest paid individuals set out in note 7 below as an inducement to join or upon joining the Group or as compensation for loss of office.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7 INDIVIDUALS WITH HIGHEST EMOLUMENTS

The aggregate of the emoluments in respect of the five highest paid individuals of the Group during the year, one (2016: one) of whom was the director of the Company, are as follows:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 <i>RMB'000</i>	2016 <i>RMB'000</i>
Salaries, allowances and benefits in kind	41,435	44,935
Contributions to retirement schemes	–	–
Discretionary bonus	–	–
Share-based payments	–	–
	41,435	44,935

Share-based payments represent the estimated value of share appreciation rights granted (note 4(b)(iii)) and the estimated value of stock options and shares in Auchan Holding granted, details of which are disclosed under the section “Directors’ Interest and Short Positions in Shares, Underlying Shares and Debentures” in the Report of Directors.

The emoluments of the 5 individuals with the highest emoluments are within the following bands:

	2017 Number of individuals	2016 Number of individuals
HKD6,000,001 – HKD6,500,000	1	1
HKD7,000,001 – HKD7,500,000	2	–
HKD7,500,001 – HKD8,000,000	–	2
HKD13,500,001 – HKD14,000,000	2	–
HKD15,000,001 – HKD15,500,000	–	1
HKD15,500,001 – HKD16,000,000	–	1
	5	5

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

8 PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

The consolidated profit attributable to equity shareholders of the Company includes a profit of RMB1,217 million for the year ended 31 December 2017 (2016: a profit of RMB2,045 million), which has been dealt with in the financial statements of the Company.

Details of dividends paid and payable to equity shareholders of the Company are set out in note 20(b).

9 EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic earnings per share is based on the profit attributable to equity shareholders of the Company of RMB2,793 million (2016: RMB2,571 million) and the weighted average of 9,539,704,700 ordinary shares (2016: 9,539,704,700) in issue during the year.

There were no dilutive potential ordinary shares throughout the years and therefore diluted earnings per share is equivalent to basic earnings per share.

10 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES, OTHER PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT AND LAND USE RIGHTS

	Buildings RMB million	Leasehold improvements RMB million	Store and other equipment RMB million	Office equipment RMB million	Motor vehicles RMB million	Construction in progress RMB million	Sub-total RMB million	Investment properties RMB million	Land use rights RMB million	Total RMB million
Cost:										
At 1 January 2016	10,510	4,196	16,000	2,058	293	1,806	34,863	4,573	6,251	45,687
Additions	484	62	1,085	150	7	1,053	2,841	270	633	3,744
Transfer from construction in progress	492	306	755	163	26	(1,781)	(39)	39	-	-
Disposals	(1)	(17)	(111)	(59)	(28)	-	(216)	-	-	(216)
At 31 December 2016	11,485	4,547	17,729	2,312	298	1,078	37,449	4,882	6,884	49,215
At 1 January 2017	11,485	4,547	17,729	2,312	298	1,078	37,449	4,882	6,884	49,215
Additions	228	42	525	131	8	931	1,865	74	202	2,141
Transfer from construction in progress	8	94	285	129	19	(580)	(45)	40	-	(5)
Disposals	(3)	(123)	(300)	(70)	(19)	-	(515)	-	-	(515)
At 31 December 2017	11,718	4,560	18,239	2,502	306	1,429	38,754	4,996	7,086	50,836

10 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES, OTHER PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT AND LAND USE RIGHTS (CONTINUED)

	Buildings RMB million	Leasehold improvements RMB million	Store and other equipment RMB million	Office equipment RMB million	Motor vehicles RMB million	Construction in progress RMB million	Sub-total RMB million	Investment properties RMB million	Land use rights RMB million	Total RMB million
Accumulated depreciation and impairment:										
At 1 January 2016	(2,592)	(1,767)	(6,124)	(1,280)	(198)	-	(11,961)	(1,057)	(973)	(13,991)
Charge for the year	(408)	(422)	(1,593)	(290)	(41)	-	(2,754)	(210)	(171)	(3,135)
Written back on disposals	-	15	83	53	26	-	177	-	-	177
Impairment losses	-	(91)	-	-	-	-	(91)	-	-	(91)
At 31 December 2016	(3,000)	(2,265)	(7,634)	(1,517)	(213)	-	(14,629)	(1,267)	(1,144)	(17,040)
At 1 January 2017	(3,000)	(2,265)	(7,634)	(1,517)	(213)	-	(14,629)	(1,267)	(1,144)	(17,040)
Charge for the year	(439)	(421)	(1,605)	(290)	(36)	-	(2,791)	(226)	(183)	(3,200)
Written back on disposals	2	52	253	66	16	-	389	-	-	389
Impairment losses	-	(125)	(39)	(3)	-	-	(167)	-	-	(167)
At 31 December 2017	(3,437)	(2,759)	(9,025)	(1,744)	(233)	-	(17,198)	(1,493)	(1,327)	(20,018)
Net book value:										
At 31 December 2017	8,281	1,801	9,214	758	73	1,429	21,556	3,503	5,759	30,818
At 31 December 2016	8,485	2,282	10,095	795	85	1,078	22,820	3,615	5,740	32,175

10 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES, OTHER PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT AND LAND USE RIGHTS (CONTINUED)

- (i) All the Group's investment properties, other property, plant and equipment are located in the PRC.
- (ii) Land use rights represent the fees and related expenses in obtaining land use rights for periods ranging from 40 to 70 years. As at 31 December 2017, the Group had not obtained land use rights certificates for certain land use rights with an aggregate carrying amount of RMB561 million (2016: RMB705 million). Notwithstanding this, the directors are of the opinion that the Group owned the beneficial title to these land use rights as at 31 December 2017 and 2016.
- (iii) As at 31 December 2017, the Group was in the process of obtaining property ownership certificates for certain buildings with an aggregate carrying amount of RMB2,653 million (2016: RMB2,696 million). Notwithstanding this, the directors are of the opinion that the Group owned the beneficial title to these buildings as at 31 December 2017 and 2016.
- (iv) As set out in note 1(i), the Group has applied the cost model for its investment properties.

An independent professional valuer has been engaged to measure the fair value of the retail galleries located in the hypermarket buildings owned by the Group. The valuation included the fair value of the buildings of the retail galleries which were classified as investment properties and the associated land use rights. As at 31 December 2017, the total fair value of the investment properties were RMB4,609 million (2016: RMB4,562 million).

The valuation technique and significant unobservable inputs used to estimate the fair value of the retail galleries including the investment properties and associated land use rights are set forth in the table of note 10(v). The fair value measurement for investment properties has been categorised as Level 3 fair value based on the inputs to the valuation technique used. There have been no changes in valuation technique compared to that used in the prior year.

(v) Valuation technique	Significant unobservable inputs
<p>Income approach by capitalising the net rental incomes derived from the existing tenancies with due allowance for any reversionary income potential of the properties.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market rent: The market rent is estimated according to the comparable properties in close proximity. The higher the market rent, the higher the fair value of the properties. • Yield: The yield is estimated according to the market evidence, valuer's experience and knowledge of market conditions. The range of adopted yield is from 5.25% to 7.50% (2016: 4.75% to 7.50%) according to different cities. The higher the yield, the lower the fair value of the properties.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

10 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES, OTHER PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT AND LAND USE RIGHTS (CONTINUED)

- (vi) The Group leases out investment properties and certain other property, plant and equipment within the hypermarket buildings under operating leases which typically run for an initial period of 1 to 3 years. The Group's total future minimum lease receipts under non-cancellable operating leases are receivable as follows:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Within 1 year	3,018	2,565
After 1 year but within 5 years	1,426	1,265
After 5 years	612	507
	5,056	4,337

In addition to the minimum amounts disclosed above, certain lessees have commitments to pay additional rent to the Group if their sales revenue exceeds predetermined levels. Contingent rental receivables are not included in the above.

- (vii) As at 31 December 2017, the carrying amount of leasehold improvements and equipment in certain stores of the Group were written down to their estimated recoverable amount of RMB76 million. The impairment losses of RMB167 million (2016: RMB91 million) were recognised in "Operating costs" during the year ended 31 December 2017.

The estimates of recoverable amount were determined based on the higher of the stores' value in use and its fair value less costs of disposal. In determining the value in use, the post-tax discount rate of 8.63% (2016: 10.34%) was used, reflecting the current market assessment of the time of money and the risk specific to the stores. In determining the fair value of the relevant assets, the level of fair value hierarchy, the valuation techniques and each key assumption on which management based were disclosed in note 10(v).

11 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Software cost:		
At 1 January	147	103
Additions	32	44
Transfer from construction in progress	5	–
	184	147
Accumulated amortisation:		
At 1 January	(70)	(39)
Charge for the year	(63)	(31)
	(133)	(70)
Net book value:		
At 1 January	77	64
At 31 December	51	77

The amortisation charge is recognised in administrative expenses in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

12 GOODWILL

Goodwill arose on the acquisition of subsidiaries and there is no individual cash-generating unit to which the goodwill allocated is significant to the consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

13 INVENTORIES

(a) Inventories in the consolidated statement of financial position comprise:

	At 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Trading merchandise	14,201	15,409

(b) The analysis of the amount of inventories recognised as an expense and included in profit or loss is as follows:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Carrying amount of inventories sold	77,554	76,417
Write down/(reversal of write down) of inventories	44	(57)
	77,598	76,360

All inventories are expected to be sold within one year.

14 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	At 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Non-current		
Rental prepayments	240	397
Current		
Trade receivables	543	450
Amounts due from related parties (note 24(d))	78	88
Other debtors	775	781
Value-added tax recoverable	915	1,019
Prepayments:		
– rentals	889	1,103
– property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	126	111
Sub-total	3,326	3,552
Trade and other receivables	3,566	3,949

14 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (CONTINUED)

The Group's trade receivables relate to credit card sales, the aging of which is within one month, and credit sales to corporate customers, the aging of which is within three months. The aging of trade receivables is determined based on invoice date.

Rental prepayments may be offset against future rentals due to landlords of hypermarket premises leased by the Group in accordance with the relevant lease agreements.

Except for prepayments made for property, plant and equipment and intangible assets which will be transferred to the relevant asset category upon receipt or occupation of the assets, all of the trade and other receivables classified as current assets are expected to be recovered within one year. Details of the Group's credit policy are set out in note 21(a).

15 INVESTMENTS AND TIME DEPOSITS

	At 31 December	
	2017	2016
	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
Loans and receivables	100	–
Time deposits	33	36
	133	36

Loans and receivables represent investments in short-term financial products issued by banks with guaranteed repayment of principals, fixed or determinable returns and having maturity periods over three months from date of issue.

Time deposits have original maturity over three months.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

16 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	At 31 December	
	2017	2016
	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
Deposits with banks within three months of maturity	126	106
Cash at bank and on hand	5,061	5,405
Other financial assets	5,175	2,589
Cash and cash equivalents in the consolidated statement of financial position and the consolidated statement of cash flows	10,362	8,100

Other financial assets represent investments in short-term financial products issued by PRC commercial banks, with principals guaranteed, fixed or determinable returns and with periods to maturity less than three months from date of issue.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

17 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	At 31 December	
	2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Current		
Trade payables	19,468	20,817
Advance receipts from customers	9,513	9,702
Amounts due to related parties (<i>note 24(d)</i>)	191	226
Construction costs payable	1,446	1,799
Dividends payable to non-controlling interests	116	124
Accruals and other payables	4,712	4,139
Trade and other payables	35,446	36,807

All trade and other payables are expected to be settled within one year.

Advance receipts from customers primarily represent the unutilised balance of prepaid cards sold by the Group.

An ageing analysis of trade payables determined based on invoice date is as follows:

	At 31 December	
	2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Due within six months	18,874	20,413
Due after six months but within 12 months	594	404
	19,468	20,817

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

18 BANK LOANS

	At 31 December	
	2017	2016
	RMB million	RMB million
Current		
Bank loans repayable within one year guaranteed by a related party	2	3
Unsecured bank loans repayable within one year	–	20
Sub-total	2	23
Non-current		
Bank loans guaranteed by a related party	1	3
Bank loans	3	26

Bank loans guaranteed by a related party, Oney Bank S.A. (“**Oney Bank**”, formerly known as “**Banque Accord S.A.**”), carried interest at 5.80%~6.05% per annum as at 31 December 2017 (2016: 6.05% per annum).

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

19 DEFERRED TAX ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

- (a) The components of deferred tax assets/(liabilities) recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position and the movements are as follows:

	Fair value adjustment in relation to business combinations	Depreciation charges in excess of depreciation allowances	Income recognised from aged unutilised prepaid cards	PRC dividend withholding tax	Accruals and other timing differences	Total
	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
At 1 January 2016	48	(10)	190	-	(1)	136
(Charged)/credited to profit or loss	(28)	-	42	-	-*	7
At 31 December 2016	20	(10)	232	-	(1)	143
At 1 January 2017	20	(10)	232	-	(1)	143
(Charged)/credited to profit or loss	(4)	1	29	(115)	1*	35
At 31 December 2017	16	(9)	261	(115)	-	178

* The amount includes the provision of withholding tax on profits of the PRC subsidiaries for the year amounting to RMB87 million (2016: RMB91 million) less the reversal of deferred tax liabilities on withholding tax in respect of dividends paid during the year amounting to RMB88 million (2016: RMB91 million).

- (b) Reconciliation to the consolidated statement of financial position:

	At 31 December	
	2017	2016
	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
Net deferred tax assets	455	395
Net deferred tax liabilities	(124)	(11)
	331	384

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

19 DEFERRED TAX ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)

(c) Deferred tax assets not recognised

In accordance with the accounting policy set out in note 1(v), the Group has not recognised deferred tax assets in respect of unused tax losses of RMB3,155 million as at 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB2,743 million), as it is not probable that future taxable profits against which these losses can be utilised will be available in the subsidiaries concerned.

The unused tax losses from PRC entities can be carried forward up to five years from the year in which the losses originated, and will expire in the following years:

	At 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
2017	–	83
2018	181	198
2019	482	562
2020	813	871
2021	972	1,020
2022	707	–
	3,155	2,734

(d) Deferred tax liabilities not recognised

No deferred tax liabilities were provided on post-2007 undistributed profits of the Group's PRC subsidiaries for which the Group has no plan to distribute them outside the PRC in the foreseeable future. As at 31 December 2017, such undistributed profits amounted to RMB5,865 million (2016: RMB4,809 million).

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

20 CAPITAL, RESERVES AND DIVIDENDS

(a) Movements in components of equity

The reconciliation between the opening and closing balances of each component of the Group's consolidated equity is set out in the consolidated statement of changes in equity. Details of the changes in the Company's individual components of equity between the beginning and the end of the years are set out as follows:

The Company:

	Share capital	Capital reserve	Exchange reserve	Retained profits	Total
	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
Balance at 1 January 2016	10,020	13,322	(425)	1,627	24,544
Changes in equity for 2016:					
Profit for the year	-	-	-	2,045	2,045
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	2,045	2,045
Dividends declared in respect of the current year	-	-	-	(1,521)	(1,521)
Balance at 31 December 2016	10,020	13,322	(425)	2,151	25,068
Balance at 1 January 2017	10,020	13,322	(425)	2,151	25,068
Changes in equity for 2017:					
Profit for the year	-	-	-	1,217	1,217
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	1,217	1,217
Dividends declared in respect of the current year	-	-	-	(1,948)	(1,948)
Balance at 31 December 2017	10,020	13,322	(425)	1,420	24,337

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

20 CAPITAL, RESERVES AND DIVIDENDS (CONTINUED)

(b) Dividends

- (i) Dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the year:

	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Final dividend proposed after the end of the reporting period of HKD0.16 (equivalent to RMB0.13) per ordinary share (2016: HKD0.23 (equivalent to RMB0.20) per ordinary share)	1,235	1,908

The final dividend proposed after the end of the reporting period has not been recognised as a liability at the end of the reporting period.

- (ii) Dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the previous financial years, approved during the year:

A final dividend of HKD0.23 (equivalent to RMB0.20) per ordinary share in respect of the year ended 31 December 2016 was approved on 10 May 2017, and the payment was made in June 2017 for an amount equivalent to RMB1,948 million.

A final dividend of HKD0.19 (equivalent to RMB0.16) per ordinary share in respect of the year ended 31 December 2015 was approved on 13 May 2016, and the payment was made in June 2016 for an amount equivalent to RMB1,521 million.

(c) Share capital

	2017			2016		
	No. of shares	HKD million	RMB million	No. of shares	HKD million	RMB million
Ordinary shares, issued and fully paid:						
At 1 January and 31 December	9,539,704,700	11,697	10,020	9,539,704,700	11,697	10,020

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company. All ordinary shares rank equally with regard to the Company's residual assets.

20 CAPITAL, RESERVES AND DIVIDENDS (CONTINUED)**(d) Nature and purpose of reserves****(i) Capital reserve**

The capital reserve mainly arises from

- the issuance of ordinary shares to acquire the non-controlling interests in ACHK and CCIL;
- the excess of the cash injected by the trusts to CIC or ACI over the attributable share of their consolidated net assets acquired (see note 4(b)(ii));
- accumulated share-based payments in relation to stock options and shares granted by Auchan Holding to certain employees of the Group (see note 4(b)(iii)); and
- acquisition of additional non-controlling interests.

(ii) Exchange reserve

The exchange reserve comprises all foreign exchange differences arising from the translation of the financial statements of foreign operations. The reserve is dealt with in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1(y).

(iii) Statutory reserve

The statutory reserve represents statutory reserves which are appropriated by the Group's PRC subsidiaries ("**PRC Companies**"). According to the relevant laws and regulations for foreign investment enterprises and the articles of association for these said PRC Companies, profits of the PRC Companies, as determined in accordance with the accounting rules and regulations in the PRC, are available for distribution in the form of cash dividends to investors after the PRC Companies have (1) satisfied all tax liabilities; (2) offset losses in previous years; and (3) made appropriation to the statutory reserve funds, including general reserve fund and enterprise expansion fund.

(e) Distributability of reserves

As at 31 December 2017, the aggregate amount of reserves available for distribution to equity shareholders of the Company, as calculated under the provisions of section Part 6 of the CO was RMB1,420 million (2016: RMB2,151 million). After the end of the reporting period the directors proposed a final dividend of HKD0.16 (equivalent to RMB0.13) per ordinary share, amounting to RMB1,235 million (see note 20(b)). This dividend has not been recognised as a liability at the end of the reporting period.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

20 CAPITAL, RESERVES AND DIVIDENDS (CONTINUED)

(f) Capital management

The Group defines capital as its total equity. The Group's primary objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can continue to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders, by pricing products and services commensurate with the level of risk and by securing access to finance at a reasonable cost.

The Group actively and regularly reviews and manages its capital structure to maintain a balance between the higher shareholder returns that might be possible with higher levels of borrowings and the advantages and security afforded by a sound capital position, and makes adjustments to the capital structure in light of changes in economic conditions.

The Group monitors its capital structure on the basis of a net debt-to-equity ratio. This ratio is calculated as net debt divided by total equity. The Group defines debt as loans, borrowings, less cash and cash equivalents, investments and time deposits.

There were no changes in the Group's approach to capital management during the year.

Net debt-to-equity ratios were as follows:

	At 31 December	
	2017	2016
	RMB million	RMB million
Bank loans (<i>note 18</i>)	3	26
Less: Investments and time deposits	(133)	(36)
Cash and cash equivalents	(10,362)	(8,100)
Net debt	(10,492)	(8,110)
Total equity	23,549	22,809
Net debt-to-equity ratio*	(45%)	(36%)

* Net debt-to-equity ratio of the Group for the years ended 31 December 2017 and 2016 is negative as the aggregation of cash and cash equivalents and investments and time deposits exceed loans and borrowings of the Group.

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries are subject to externally imposed capital requirements.

21 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial assets of the Group include cash and cash equivalents, investments and time deposits, unquoted available-for-sale equity security and trade and other receivables. Financial liabilities of the Group include loans and borrowings and trade and other payables.

The Company's board of directors (the "**Board**") has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Group's risk management framework, and developing and monitoring the Group's risk management policies.

The Group's risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Group, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits. Risk management policies and systems are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions and the Group's activities. The Group, through its training and management standards and procedures, aims to develop a disciplined and constructive control environment in which all employees understand their roles and obligations. The risks are mitigated by various measures as disclosed below.

(a) Credit risk

The Group's cash and bank deposits and time deposits are held with banks located in the PRC and Hong Kong which management believes are of high credit quality. Accordingly, the Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to trade and other receivables. Management monitors the exposures to credit risk on an ongoing basis.

Credit risk in respect of trade receivables is limited as the balances mainly arise from credit card sales. Credit terms are offered in rare cases to corporate customers with whom the Group has an established and ongoing relationship.

Investments in short-term financial products are arranged with financial institutions, which management believes are of high credit quality. Pursuant to the agreements with the financial institutions, there is limited credit risk on the principal amounts, as these are guaranteed by the financial institutions.

Rental prepayments are placed with various landlords in the PRC and may be offset against future rental charges during the lease periods.

The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each financial asset in the consolidated statement of financial position. The Group or the Company does not provide any other guarantees which would expose the Group or the Company to credit risk.

21 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

(b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Group's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Group's reputation.

The Group's policy is to regularly monitor current and expected liquidity requirements, and to ensure that it maintains sufficient reserves of cash and adequate committed lines of funding from major financial institutions to meet its liquidity requirements in the short and longer term.

The Group had net current liabilities of RMB7,991 million as at 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB10,371 million). The Group generated net cash from operating activities amounting to RMB6,990 million for the year ended 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB6,952 million), and had RMB4,600 million of unutilised loan facilities available as at 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB4,264 million). In view of the profitability, operating cash flows and availability of loan facilities of the Group, the directors consider the Group will have adequate liquid funds for its working capital and capital expenditure requirements for the foreseeable future.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

21 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

(b) Liquidity risk(continued)

The following are the contractual maturities of the Group's financial liabilities at each reporting date, which are based on contractual undiscounted cash flows and the earliest date the Group can be required to pay.

	At 31 December 2017				
	Contractual undiscounted cash flow				
	Within 1 year or on demand	More than 1 year but less than 5 years	More than 5 years	Total	Financial statement carrying amount
	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
Bank loans	2	1	–	3	3
Trade and other payables	35,446	–	–	35,446	35,446
Other financial liabilities	–	–	50	50	50
At 31 December 2017	35,448	1	50	35,499	35,499

	At 31 December 2016				
	Contractual undiscounted cash flow				
	Within 1 year or on demand	More than 1 year but less than 5 years	More than 5 years	Total	Financial statement carrying amount
	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
Bank loans	24	3	–	27	26
Trade and other payables	36,807	–	–	36,807	36,807
Other financial liabilities	–	–	50	50	50
At 31 December 2016	36,831	3	50	36,884	36,883

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

21 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

(c) Interest rate risk

(i) Interest rate profile

Cash at bank, investments and time deposits, and interest-bearing borrowings are the major types of the Group's financial instruments subject to interest rate risk.

The Group's cash at bank, investments and time deposits, interest-bearing borrowings and interest rates as at 31 December 2017 and 2016 are set out as follows:

	2017		2016	
	Effective interest rate	Carrying Amount RMB million	Effective interest rate	Carrying Amount RMB million
Variable rate instruments:				
Cash at bank and time deposits within three months of maturity	0%~1.50%	4,705	0%~4.00%	4,944
Other financial assets	1.00%~4.80%	5,109	1.35%~3.65%	2,589
Bank loans	–	–	3.92%	(20)
		9,814		7,513
Fixed rate instruments:				
Loans and receivables, time deposits over three months of maturity	0.50%~4.35%	133	0.50%~5.50%	36
Other financial assets	3.65%~4.50%	66	–	–
Bank loans	5.80%~6.05%	(3)	6.05%	(6)
		196		30

21 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

(c) Interest rate risk (continued)

(ii) Sensitivity analysis

A general increase/decrease of 100 basis points in interest rates prevailing at the reporting dates, with all other variables held constant, would increase/decrease the Group's profit after tax and retained earnings by approximately RMB74 million for the year ended 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB56 million).

The sensitivity analysis above has been determined assuming that the change in interest rates had occurred at each reporting date and had been applied to the exposure to interest rate risk for financial instruments in existence at that date. The 100 basis point increase or decrease represents management's assessment of a reasonably possible change in interest rates over the period until the next annual reporting date. The analysis is performed on the same basis for the years ended 31 December 2017 and 2016.

(d) Currency risk

The Group's businesses are principally conducted in RMB and most of the Group's monetary assets and liabilities are denominated in RMB. Accordingly, the directors consider the Group's exposure to foreign currency risk is not significant. The Group does not employ any financial instruments for hedging purposes.

On the other hand, RMB is not a freely convertible currency and the PRC government may at its discretion restrict access to foreign currencies for current account transactions in the future. Changes in the foreign exchange control system may prevent the Group from satisfying sufficient foreign currency demand and the Group may not be able to pay dividends in foreign currencies to its shareholders.

21 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

(e) Fair value measurement

A number of the Group's accounting policies and disclosures require the measurement of fair values, for both financial and non-financial assets and liabilities.

The fair values of the Group's financial instruments are measured at the end of the reporting period on a recurring basis, categorised into the three-level fair value hierarchy as defined in HKFRS 13, Fair value measurement. The level into which a fair value measurement is classified is determined with reference to the observability and significance of the inputs used in the valuation technique as follows:

- Level 1 valuation: Fair value measured using only Level 1 inputs i.e. unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities at the measurement date.
- Level 2 valuation: Fair value measured using Level 2 inputs i.e. observable inputs which fail to meet Level 1, and not using significant unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs are inputs for which market data are not available.
- Level 3 valuation: Fair value measured using significant unobservable inputs.

If the inputs used to measure the fair value of an asset or a liability might be categorised in different levels of the fair value hierarchy, then the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety in the same level of the fair value hierarchy as the lowest level input that is significant to the entire measurement.

The Group recognises transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred.

Further information about the assumptions made in measuring fair values is included in note 10(v) – investment properties.

During the years ended 31 December 2016 and 2017, there were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2, or transfers into or out of Level 3.

All financial assets and liabilities are carried at amounts not materially different from their fair values as at 31 December 2017 and 2016, except for the amounts due from/to related parties which have no fixed repayment terms. Given these terms, it is not meaningful to disclose the fair value of such balances.

22 COMMITMENTS

(a) Capital commitments

Capital commitments outstanding and not provided for in the financial statements were as follows:

	At 31 December	
	2017	2016
	RMB million	<i>RMB million</i>
Contracted for	2,423	2,173
Authorised but not contracted for	2,040	2,597
	4,463	4,770

(b) Operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:

	At 31 December	
	2017	2016
	RMB million	<i>RMB million</i>
Within 1 year	1,786	1,855
After 1 year but within 5 years	7,333	5,911
After 5 years	10,072	11,256
	19,191	19,022

The Group leases certain land and buildings under operating leases. The leases typically run for an initial period of fifteen to twenty years, with an option to renew the lease after that date. The Group has the option to cancel the leases on payment of a penalty at various stages of the initial lease periods depending on the terms of the specific leases concerned.

In addition to the minimum rental payments disclosed above, for some of the hypermarkets leased, the Group has commitments to pay additional rent of a proportion of turnover if the turnover generated exceeds the predetermined levels. Contingent rental payables are not included in the above as it is not possible to estimate the amounts which may be payable.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

23 CONTINGENCIES

Legal claims

As at 31 December 2017, legal actions have commenced against the Group by certain customers and certain suppliers in respect of disputes on purchase agreements. The total amount claimed is RMB352 million (2016: RMB137 million). As at 31 December 2017, the legal actions were ongoing, with most of the actions not yet set for trial dates. Provision of RMB29 million (2016: RMB32 million) has been made within trade and other payables as at 31 December 2017, which the directors believe is adequate to cover the amounts, if any, payable in respect of these claims.

24 MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

(a) Key management personnel remuneration

Remuneration for key management personnel of the Group, including amounts paid to the Company's directors as disclosed in note 6 and certain of the highest paid employees as disclosed in note 7, is as follows:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Short-term employee benefits	65	67
Post-employment benefits	–	–
Share-based payments	–	–
	65	67

Total remuneration is included in "staff costs" (see note 4(b)).

24 MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

(b) Identity of related parties

During the years ended 31 December 2017 and 2016, the directors are of the view that the following companies are related parties of the Group:

Name of party	Relationship
Auchan Holding	Ultimate controlling shareholder
Auchan Retail International S.A. (" Auchan Retail ")	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
Auchan International Luxembourg	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
Auchan France Croix	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
Auchan Global Service	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
Auchan International Technology	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
RT-Mart International Limited	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
Auchan International (Shanghai) International Trading Company Limited	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
Oney Bank	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
Patinvest	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
SNC OIA	Subsidiary of Auchan Holding
Zhejiang Tmall Supply Management Co., Ltd. (" Tmall Supply ")	Subsidiary of Taobao China
Hwabao Trust Co., Ltd.	Trustee of RT-Mart and Auchan Scheme trusts

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

24 MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

(c) Related party transactions

In addition to the related party information disclosed elsewhere in the notes to the financial statements, the Group entered into the following material related party transactions during the year.

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017 RMB million	2016 RMB million
Agency fees receivable (i)	116	52
Trademark fee payable (ii)	25	33
IT services fee payable (iii)	14	7
Expenses payable (iv)	103	101
Contributions to Employee Trust Benefit Schemes trusts (note 4(b))	379	431
Purchase of goods (v)	8	2
Bank loans repayment	—	(7)

- (i) Agency fees receivable relate to amounts accrued from international suppliers by Patinvest, net of fees payable to Patinvest.
- (ii) Trademark fee payable represents the fee charged by Auchan Retail for the grant of licenses to the Group to use the Auchan trademarks and domain names.
- (iii) IT services fee payable represents the fee charged by Auchan International Technology for IT support and services provided.
- (iv) Expenses payable primarily relate to personnel and administrative costs paid by subsidiaries of Auchan Retail on behalf of the Group, which are reimbursed and expensed by the Group.
- (v) Purchase of goods represents purchase of merchandise from Auchan International (Shanghai) International Trading Company Limited, and Tmall Supply.

24 MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

The directors of the Company are of the opinion that the above related party transactions were conducted on normal commercial terms and in the ordinary and usual course of the Group's business.

The related party transactions in respect of purchase of goods, agency fee receivable and trademark fee payable above constitute non-exempt continuing connected transactions as defined in Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules. The disclosures required by Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules are provided under the section "Connected Transactions" in the Report of Directors.

(d) Related party balances

	At 31 December	
	2017	2016
	<i>RMB million</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
Amounts due from subsidiaries of Auchan Holding	16	88
Amounts due from Hwabao Trust Co., Ltd.	62	–
Amounts due to Auchan Holding and its subsidiaries	154	121
Amounts due to Hwabao Trust Co., Ltd.	33	105
Amounts due to Tmall Supply	4	–

The above balances with Auchan Holding and its subsidiaries and Tmall Supply are all trade in nature.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

25 COMPANY LEVEL STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2017 <i>RMB million</i>	2016 <i>RMB million</i>
Non-current assets		
Investments in subsidiaries	16,512	16,096
Trade and other receivables	6,398	6,823
Unquoted available-for-sale equity security	–	4
Investment in a joint venture	9	–
	22,919	22,923
Current assets		
Trade and other receivables	1,363	2,162
Cash and cash equivalents	88	32
	1,451	2,194
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	33	49
Net current assets	1,418	2,145
Net assets	24,337	25,068
Capital and reserves		
Share capital	10,020	10,020
Reserves	14,317	15,048
Total equity	24,337	25,068

Approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 2 March 2018.

Ludovic, Frédéric, Pierre HOLINIER
*Chief Executive Officer
 & Executive Director*

Xavier, Marie, Alain DELOM de MEZERAC
Non-executive Director

26 IMMEDIATE AND ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The directors consider the immediate parent of the Group is A-RT Retail Holdings Limited, which is incorporated in Hong Kong. The ultimate controlling party of the Group is Auchan Holding, which is incorporated in France.

27 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The selection of critical accounting policies, the judgements and other uncertainties affecting application of those policies and the sensitivity of reported results to changes in conditions and assumptions are factors to be considered when reviewing the financial statements. The principal accounting policies are set forth in note 1. The Group believes the following critical accounting policies involve the most significant judgements and estimates used in the preparation of the financial statements.

(a) Depreciation

Investment properties and other property, plant and equipment are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives, after taking into account their estimated residual value. The Group reviews annually the useful life of an asset and its residual value, if any, in order to determine the amount of depreciation expense to be recorded during any reporting period. The useful lives are based on the Group's historical experience with similar assets and taking into account anticipated technology changes.

(b) Provision for inventories

The Group reviews the carrying amounts of the inventories at each reporting period end date to determine whether the inventories are carried at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Management estimates the net realisable value based on the current market situation and historical experience on similar inventories. Any change in the assumptions would increase or decrease the amount of inventories write-down or the related reversals of write-downs and affect the Group's net asset value.

27 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(c) Impairment losses on trade and other receivables

Impairment losses on trade and other receivables are assessed and provided based on management's regular review of ageing analysis and evaluation of collectability. Any increase or decrease in the impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts would affect the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income in future years.

(d) Income tax

Determining income tax provisions and the recognition of deferred tax assets involves judgement regarding the future tax treatment of certain transactions and future recoverability. The Group carefully evaluates tax implications of transactions and tax provisions are set up accordingly. The tax treatment of such transactions is reconsidered periodically to take into account all changes in tax legislation.

(e) Impairment of other assets (mainly investment properties and other property, plant and equipment, intangible assets and goodwill)

As set out note 1(o)(ii), an impairment loss is recognised in profit and loss if the carrying amount of an asset, or the cash-generating unit to which it belongs, exceeds its recoverable amount. At the end of each reporting period, the Group reviews the recoverable amount of investment properties and other property, plant and equipment, intangible assets and goodwill which involves judgement on the determination of their fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. The fair value less costs of disposal is determined based on market comparison approach by reference to recent market rents of comparable assets and the value in use is determined by discounting projected cash flow series associated with the assets using risk-adjusted discount rates. Any change in the assumptions would increase or decrease the recoverable amount of fixed assets, intangible assets and goodwill.

(f) Other income arising from recognition of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards

As set out in note 17, the Group has "advance receipts from customers" which are classified within "trade and other payables". These are primarily attributable to unutilised balances of prepaid cards issued by the Group. As stated in note 1(x)(iii), other income arising from recognition of unutilised balances on aged prepaid cards is recognised according to the "remote recognition" method. Under this policy, the unutilised balance on the card will be recognised as revenue once it is possible to determine with a sufficiently high degree of probability that the likelihood of future utilisation is remote.

Estimating amounts which are unlikely to ever be utilised in the future involves the exercise of significant judgement in determining the length of time that needs to elapse before the risk of future utilisation for each group of aged cards can be considered remote. Any change in these judgements would increase or decrease the amount of other revenue recognised and affect the Group's net asset value.

28 POSSIBLE IMPACT OF AMENDMENTS, NEW STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE

Up to the date of issue of these financial statements, the HKICPA has issued a number of amendments, new standards and interpretations which are not yet effective for the year ended 31 December 2017 and have not been adopted in these financial statements. These include the following which may be relevant to the Group.

HKFRS 9, <i>Financial instruments</i>	1 January 2018
HKFRS 15, <i>Revenue from contracts with customers</i>	1 January 2018
Amendments to HKFRS 2, <i>Share-based payment: Classification and measurement of share-based payment transactions</i>	1 January 2018
Amendments to HKAS 40, <i>Investment property: Transfers of investment property</i>	1 January 2018
HK(IFRIC) 22, <i>Foreign currency transactions and advance consideration</i>	1 January 2018
HKFRS 16, <i>Leases</i>	1 January 2019
HK(IFRIC) 23, <i>Uncertainty over income tax treatments</i>	1 January 2019

The Group is in the process of making an assessment of what the impact of these amendments, new standards and interpretations is expected to be in the period of initial application. So far the Group has identified some aspects of the new standards which may have a significant impact on the consolidated financial statements. Further details of the expected impacts are discussed below. While the assessment has been substantially completed for HKFRS 9 and HKFRS 15, the actual impacts upon the initial adoption of the standards may differ as the assessment completed to date is based on the information currently available to the Group, and further impacts may be identified before the standards are initially applied in the Group's interim financial report for the six months ended 30 June 2018. The Group may also change its accounting policy elections, including the transition options, until the standards are initially applied in that financial report.

28 POSSIBLE IMPACT OF AMENDMENTS, NEW STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE (CONTINUED)

HKFRS 15, *Revenue from contracts with customers*

HKFRS 15 establishes a comprehensive framework for recognising revenue from contracts with customers. HKFRS 15 will replace the existing revenue standards, HKAS 18, *Revenue*, which covers revenue arising from sale of goods and rendering of services, and HKAS 11, *Construction contracts*, which specifies the accounting for revenue from construction contracts.

The Group plans to adopt HKFRS 15 initially on 1 January, 2018 by using the cumulative effect transition method. Based on the assessment completed to date, the Group has identified the following areas which could potentially be affected:

- i. revenue from services – the application of HKFRS 15 may result in the identification of separate performance obligations which could affect the timing of the recognition of revenue;
- ii. accounting for certain costs incurred in fulfilling a contract – certain costs which are currently expensed may need to be recognised as an asset under HKFRS 15;
- iii. customer rights of return – HKFRS 15 requires separate presentation on the statement of financial position of an estimate of the amount of revenue that the entity expects to refund (the refund liability) and an asset that represents the right to recover the goods from the customer on settling the refund liability; and
- iv. revenue from goods – HKFRS 15 requires the Group to determine whether it is a principal or an agent based on whether it controls the specific goods before transferring them to the end customer, rather than whether it has exposure to significant risks and rewards associated with the sale of goods. This may require revenue earned under certain arrangements in cooperation with suppliers to be recognised on a net basis but will have no impact on the net profit of the respective reporting periods or the statement of financial position.

Based on the transactions entered by the Group to date, the Group does not expect the application of HKFRS 15 to result in any significant impact on the statement of financial position of the Group, and except for the impact of the definition of principal or agent described above, does not expect it to have any impact on the Group's statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

28 POSSIBLE IMPACT OF AMENDMENTS, NEW STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE (CONTINUED)

HKFRS 16, Leases

As disclosed in note 1(l), currently the Group classifies leases into finance leases and operating leases and accounts for the lease arrangements differently, depending on the classification of the lease. The Group enters into some leases as the lessor and others as the lessee.

HKFRS 16 is not expected to impact significantly on the way that lessors account for their rights and obligations under a lease. However, once HKFRS 16 is adopted, lessees will no longer distinguish between finance leases and operating leases. Instead, subject to practical expedients, lessees will account for all leases in a similar way to current finance lease accounting, i.e. at the commencement date of the lease the lessee will recognise and measure a lease liability at the present value of the minimum future lease payments and will recognise a corresponding "right-of-use" asset. After initial recognition of this asset and liability, the lessee will recognise interest expense accrued on the outstanding balance of the lease liability, and the depreciation of the right-of-use asset, instead of the current policy of recognising rental expenses incurred under operating leases on a systematic basis over the lease term. As a practical expedient, the lessee can elect not to apply this accounting model to short-term leases (i.e. where the lease term is 12 months or less) and to leases of low-value assets, in which case the rental expenses would continue to be recognised on a systematic basis over the lease term.

HKFRS 16 will primarily affect the Group's accounting as a lessee of leases for properties, plant and equipment which are currently classified as operating leases. The application of the new accounting model is expected to lead to an increase in both assets and liabilities and to impact on the timing of the expense recognition in the statement of profit or loss over the period of the lease. As disclosed in note 22(b), at 31 December 2017 the Group's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases amount to RMB19,191 million for properties and other assets, the majority of which is payable either between 1 and 5 years after the reporting date or in more than 5 years. Some of these amounts may therefore need to be recognised as lease liabilities, with corresponding right-of-use assets, once HKFRS 16 is adopted. The Group will need to perform a more detailed analysis to determine the amounts of new assets and liabilities arising from operating lease commitments on adoption of HKFRS 16, after taking into account applicability of the practical expedients and transition options and adjusting for any leases entered into or terminated between now and the adoption of HKFRS 16 and the effects of discounting.

HKFRS 16 is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019, and the Group does not intend to adopt the standard before this effective date.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

29 INTEREST IN SUBSIDIARIES

The principal activity of the Company is investment holding.

Particulars of the Group's principal subsidiaries are as follows:

Held directly by the Company:

Name of companies	Note	Effective interest of ownership attributable to the Group		Principal activities	Registered capital/issued and fully paid up capital	
		2017	2016		<i>(million)</i>	
CCIL	(ii)	100%	100%	Investment holding	USD	112
ACHK	(ii)	100%	100%	Investment holding	USD	216
Shanghai Art Management and Service Co., Ltd.		100%	100%	Consulting Service	USD	0.1
Feiniu E-Commerce Hong Kong Limited.	(ii)	100%	74.18%	E-commerce	RMB	900
Fields Hong Kong Limited	(ii)	90.02%	57.25%	E-commerce	HKD	125

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

29 INTEREST IN SUBSIDIARIES (CONTINUED)

Held directly or indirectly by CCIL:

Name of companies	Note	Effective interest of ownership attributable to the Group		Principal activities	Registered capital/issued and fully paid up capital	
		2017	2016		(million)	
RT-MART Holdings Limited	(ii)	100.00%	100.00%	Investment holding	USD	112
Concord Investment (China) Co., Ltd.	(v)	92.83%	92.99%	Investment holding and retailing	USD	248
Beihai RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	3
Changshu RT-MART Hypermarket Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	7
Changzhou Guanhe RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Cixi RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	7
Dafeng Ruentex Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	16
Foshan Shunde RT-Mart Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	7
Fuyang RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Guangzhou Concord Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Guangzhou Ruenping Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Guangzhou Tianmei Ruenfu Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	3
Haikou Guoxing RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Hainan RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Hainan Longkun RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Hangzhou Xiaoshan Ruenhua RT-MART Hypermarket Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Hefei Feicui RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Huaibei RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Ji'nan Lixia RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	0.5
People's RT-MART Limited Jinan	(iii)	88.86%	89.01%	Retailing	USD	21
Jinan Tianqiao RT-MART Commercial Co. Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	5
Jiaxing Xiuzhou Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	15
Jianhu RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	10
Jiangsu Bairuen Logistics Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	1
Jinjiang Ruende Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	8
Kunshan Qiandeng Ruenping Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	17
Kunshan Ruenhua Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	165
Lanzhou RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Liyang RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Lianyungang Ruenliang Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Liuzhou Ruenping Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Nanjing Zhongshang Jinruenfa Longjiang Hypermarket Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	5
Nantong Tongruenfa Hypermarket Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	5
Nantong Tongzhou Ruentex Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	7
Pinghu RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	12
Wuhu RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

29 INTEREST IN SUBSIDIARIES (CONTINUED)

Held directly or indirectly by CCIL: (continued)

Name of companies	Note	Effective interest of ownership attributable to the Group		Principal activities	Registered capital/issued and fully paid up capital	
		2017	2016		(million)	
Qingdao Chunyang RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Qingdao Ruentex Enterprises Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	200
Rugao RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Xiamen Ruenrui Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
RT-MART Limited Shanghai	(iii)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	30
Shanghai Fengxian RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	3
Shanghai Jiading Anting RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Shanghai Minhang Huacao RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	12
Shanghai Sanlin RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Shanghai Sijing RT-MART Commercial and Trading Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Shaoguan RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Shenzhen RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Shenyang Sujiatun RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	128
Shuyang Ruentex Commercial Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	15
Suzhou Baodai Ruentex Commercial Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	15
Suzhou Xuguan Ruenhua Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Suzhou Ruende Commercial Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	3
Suzhou Ruenrui Commercial Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	9
Taixing Ruentex Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Tonglu RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	6
Wuxi Tianruenfa Hypermarket Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	10
Wujiang Ruenliang Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Wujiang Ruentex Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Wuhan RT-MART Jiangnan Hypermarket Development Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	8
Suqian Ruenliang Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Xuzhou Ruenping Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	4
Yangzhou Ruenliang Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Yixing RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Yongkang Ruentex Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	7
Zhaoqing RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Zhenjiang RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Zibo RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.		92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	USD	2
Jinan Shizhong RT-MART Commercial Co., Ltd.	(iv)	92.83%	92.99%	Retailing	RMB	5

29 INTEREST IN SUBSIDIARIES (CONTINUED)

Held directly or indirectly by ACHK:

Name of companies	Note	Effective interest of ownership attributable to the Group		Principal activities	Registered capital/issued and fully paid up capital	
		2017	2016		(million)	
Shanghai Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.	(iii)	99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	USD	18
Suzhou Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	RMB	220
Hangzhou Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.	(iii)	99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	USD	23
Auchan (China) Investment Co., Ltd.	(v)	99.10%	98.56%	Consulting service, investment and wholesale	USD	367/353
Chengdu Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	RMB	110
Beijing Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	RMB	50
Shanghai New Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	RMB	128
Nanjing Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	RMB	50
Ningbo Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	RMB	72
Taizhou Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	USD	10
Changzhou Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	RMB	122
Anhui Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	USD	12
Zhejiang Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	USD	12
Wuxi Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	USD	10/8
Nantong Auchan Hypermarkets Co., Ltd.		99.10%	98.56%	Retailing	USD	14

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

29 INTEREST IN SUBSIDIARIES (CONTINUED)

Held directly or indirectly by Feiniu E-Commerce Hong Kong Limited:

Name of companies	Effective interest of ownership attributable to the Group		Principal activities	Registered capital/issued and fully paid up capital (million)
	2017	2016		
Feiniu E-Commerce (Shanghai) Co., Ltd	100.00%	74.18%	E-commerce	RMB 1,550/1,092
Ruenguo Information Technology (Shanghai) Co., Ltd (iv)	100.00%	74.18%	E-commerce	RMB 10

Held directly by Fields Hong Kong Limited:

Name of companies	Effective interest of ownership attributable to the Group		Principal activities	Registered capital/issued and fully paid up capital (million)
	2017	2016		
Fields (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.	90.02%	57.25%	E-commerce	USD 10

29 INTEREST IN SUBSIDIARIES (CONTINUED)

Held directly and jointly by CIC and ACI:

Name of companies		Effective interest of ownership attributable to the Group		Principal activities	Registered capital/issued and fully paid up capital	
		2017	2016		(million)	
Oney Accord	(v)	48.66%	48.59%	Financial service	EUR	13

Note:

- (i) The above list contains only the particulars of the subsidiaries which materially affect the results or financial position of the Group.
- (ii) RT-Mart Holdings Limited, ACHK, Feiniu Hong Kong and Fields Hong Kong are incorporated in Hong Kong. CCIL is incorporated in the Cayman Islands. All other subsidiaries are established and operated in the PRC.
- (iii) These subsidiaries are co-operative joint ventures. With the exception of People's RT-MART Limited Jinan, the joint venture partners are only entitled to fixed returns and do not otherwise participate in the profit or loss of these subsidiaries pursuant to the joint venture agreements.
- (iv) These subsidiaries are domestic enterprises.
- (v) CIC, ACI and Oney Accord are sino-foreign equity joint ventures.

Except for (iii), (iv) and (v), all other subsidiaries of the Group which are established in the PRC are wholly foreign owned enterprises.

* The English translation of the names is for reference only. The official names of these entities are in Chinese.

30 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

After the end of the reporting period, the directors proposed a final dividend. Further details are disclosed in note 20(b).

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A summary of the published consolidated results and assets, liabilities, equity and non-controlling interests of the Group for the last five financial years is set out below:

	2017	Year Ended 31 December			
		2016	2015	2014	2013
		<i>RMB million</i>			
Revenue	102,320	100,441	96,414	91,885	86,195
Gross Profit	24,674	23,981	22,463	20,988	18,613
Profit from Operations	4,487	3,936	3,575	4,214	4,152
Profit for the Year	3,020	2,629	2,464	3,023	2,947
Profit attributable to:					
Equity shareholders of the Company	2,793	2,571	2,443	2,899	2,777
Non-controlling Interests	227	58	21	124	170

	2017	Year Ended 31 December			
		2016	2015	2014	2013
		<i>RMB million</i>			
Total assets	59,737	60,341	55,509	52,492	49,979
Total liabilities	36,188	37,532	33,882	31,942	30,563
Equity attributable to:					
Equity shareholders of the Company	22,315	21,785	20,746	19,681	18,765
Non-controlling Interests	1,234	1,024	881	869	651

The consolidated financial statements of the Group have been prepared in accordance with HKFRSs.

The above summary does not form a part of the consolidated financial statements.

SUN ART

Retail Group Ltd.

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

Stock Code: 6808

