

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

I am pleased to present my report to the shareholders.

### RESULTS

The Group's profit after taxation and minority interests for the year ended 30th June 2002 was HK\$8,519 million, an increase of two per cent compared with last year's profit of HK\$8,330 million. Earnings per share for the year were HK\$3.55, representing a two per cent increase compared with HK\$3.47 for the previous year.

### DIVIDENDS

The Directors have recommended the payment of a final dividend of HK\$1.00 per share for the year ended 30th June 2002. Together with the interim dividend of HK\$0.55 per share, the dividend for the year will be HK\$1.55 per share, the same as in the previous year. To celebrate the Group's 30th anniversary, the Directors have also recommended the payment of a special cash dividend of HK\$0.60 per share, making the total dividend for the year HK\$2.15 per share.

### REVIEW

#### Sales

During the year ended 30th June 2002, the Group sold and pre-sold properties amounting to HK\$15,151 million in attributable terms. The corresponding figure for the previous year was HK\$19,641 million, which included proceeds from the sale of The Leighton Hill in Happy Valley. Major residential projects sold during the year include Villa by the Park in Yuen Long, Park Central in Tseung Kwan O and Liberté in Cheung Sha Wan. Property sales since July this year have exceeded HK\$6,300 million. This encouraging figure is due mainly to the overwhelming success of Park Island on Ma Wan.



*Flats in Park Island, Ma Wan, emphasize good design, spacious layouts and top-quality materials.*



*The unique lifestyle in Park Island appeals to a new generation of flat owners. The more than 2,500 units offered virtually sold out in a two-week period.*

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT



*The design of The Leighton Hill in Happy Valley blends luxury and quality. The project was handed over in September 2002.*

During the year under review, the Group completed the following 11 projects containing 4.6 million square feet of attributable gross floor area:

Project	Location	Usage	Group's Interest (%)	Attributable Gross Floor Area (square feet)
Oscar by the Sea Phase 2	8 Pung Loi Road, Tseung Kwan O	Residential	Joint venture	1,004,000
The Leighton Hill	Inland Lot 8882, Happy Valley	Residential	100	898,000
The Parcville	33 Yuen Long Kau Hui Road, Yuen Long	Residential	66.7	664,000
Ocean Shores Phase 2	88 O King Road, Tseung Kwan O	Residential	49	574,000
Prima Villa	8 Chui Yan Street, Shatin	Residential	100	511,000
The Belcher's Phase 2	89 Pok Fu Lam Road, western Mid-Levels	Residential	29	386,000
Les Saisons	28 Tai On Street, Shaukeiwan	Residential	30	222,000
Seaview Crescent	Tung Chung Town Lot 3	Residential/Shops	20	243,000
1 Lion Rock Road	1 Lion Rock Road, Kowloon	Residential/Shops	100	26,000
Millennium Trade Centre	56 Kwai Cheong Road, Kwai Chung	Office	100	80,000
7 Minden Avenue	7 Minden Avenue, Kowloon	Office	100	29,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>4,637,000</b>

About 90 per cent of the residential units completed during the year have been sold, while the Millennium Trade Centre in Kwai Chung is being kept for rental.

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

**Land Bank**

During the year, the Group added a residential site in Tin Ping Shan, Sheung Shui, to its land bank through land use conversion, with a total gross floor area of 537,000 square feet.

The Group's land bank in Hong Kong amounts to 50.4 million square feet, consisting of 19.3 million square feet of completed investment properties and 31.1 million square feet of properties under development.

The Group adds to its land bank when appropriate opportunities arise. In November 2001, the Group agreed with the government on land premiums of HK\$2,100 million for seven sites. The Group also owns over 21 million square feet of agricultural land in the New Territories, mainly located along existing or planned railway lines. The majority of this is in the process of land use conversion, primarily for residential use.

**Property Development**

So far in 2002, activity in the primary residential market is greater than in the corresponding period last year, notwithstanding sluggish macro-economic conditions in Hong Kong and recent stock market volatility. Homebuyers now are genuine end-users, and the majority are first-time buyers.

The affordability of apartments for the average local family is the strongest ever, and property prices are now back to the level of 1991. This fact, coupled with abundant mortgage financing and record low mortgage interest rates, means that people find it more economical to buy flats than to rent.

The government's housing policy is now more market-driven, allowing greater room for the private sector to meet the demand. The government's recent message concerning housing is clear and positive. These factors are not only conducive to healthy development in the housing market, but also boost homebuyers' confidence in property ownership over the long term. The Group will continue to produce a high volume of residential developments for sale.

Customer satisfaction has always been one of the Group's primary aims, and it enhances its premium-quality, large-scale residential developments with comprehensive clubhouse facilities. The Group offers customers a wider range of flat sizes to choose from in order to suit changing preferences, although the emphasis is on small and medium units.



*The Group enhances its premium-quality, large-scale residential developments with comprehensive clubhouse facilities.*

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

In spite of a difficult operating environment, the Group's property sales were encouraging. The sale of Park Island Phase 1 saw an overwhelming response in August 2002, and virtually all of Phase 1, comprising over 2,500 units, sold in a two-week period. This remarkable showing reflects the Group's strong branding and commitment to premium-quality developments.

The Group offers products and customer service of the highest quality and a comprehensive lifestyle to satisfy residents. It is dedicated to building properties with better designs, more efficient layouts and premium quality in construction and finishes, all the while maintaining strict cost controls. The Group recently launched a corporate branding campaign aimed at the younger generation of new homebuyers, on the theme 'Building Homes with Our Heart'. The response to date has been positive.

In the coming financial year, the Group expects to complete 6.2 million square feet of gross floor area in attributable terms, compared to 4.6 million square feet in the 2001/02 financial year, as follows:

<i>Attributable Gross Floor Area (million square feet)</i>				
	<b>Residential</b>	<b>Shopping Centre</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Total</b>
For sale	4.7	–	0.1	4.8
For investment	–	0.5	0.9	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>6.2</b>



*The Group's properties feature beautiful landscaping.*

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

## Property Investment

Gross rental income during the year, including the Group's share of joint-venture projects, was HK\$5,844 million, compared to HK\$5,877 million last year. Net rental income grew to HK\$4,432 million from HK\$4,401 million, and the slight rise in operating margin was due mainly to better efficiency and cost controls. Despite a slowdown in leasing, occupancy of the Group's investment properties remains satisfactory at 92 per cent.

Although consumer spending remains slow, the Group's retail property portfolio performed satisfactorily, since the malls are located primarily in new towns, supplying daily necessities to their customers. Closer links between Hong Kong and the Mainland will encourage two-way traffic across the border, and the Group's retail portfolio is likely to benefit from this since the majority of the shopping centres are located along the railway network.

The Group upgrades its shopping centres regularly with renovations and adjustments to tenant mix, to increase the flow of shoppers and create value for tenants. It also organizes regular marketing and promotional activities in its malls to improve business and attract shoppers. Renovations to Metroplaza in Kwai Fong finished recently, in line with the Group's shopping mall strategy. The mall now has a better layout and utilization of space, and is virtually fully let at higher rents. Renovations to New Town Plaza in Shatin are being planned to strengthen its branding and enhance rental value.

Two International Finance Centre (Two IFC) is being built above Hong Kong Station on the Airport Railway. It consists of an 88-storey office tower, retail space, two hotel blocks and ample car parking spaces. Construction is proceeding in phases and going well. Completion of the office tower is scheduled for mid-2003. With interactive technology, superb office facilities and a world-renowned, six-star Four Seasons hotel, Two IFC will be a new Central landmark on the Victoria Harbour shoreline. The Group has a 47.5 per cent interest in the entire development, which is scheduled for completion towards the end of 2004.



*Two IFC will be a new Central landmark on the Victoria Harbour shoreline.*

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Kowloon Station Development Packages 3, 5, 6 and 7 are situated in a future commercial and cultural centre of Hong Kong, and will include residential units, an office building of over 100 storeys, retail space and hotel complexes. Incorporating the latest technology and ultra-modern design and facilities, the development will be a new landmark for the territory. Foundation work has already begun. The development includes two million square feet of residential space, which is scheduled for presale in the second half of 2003. The whole development will be completed in phases over the next five years.

The Group's Millennium City development in Kwun Tong has transformed Kowloon East into one of the territory's major commercial hubs. Following the success of the first two phases, pre-leasing of the Phase 3 office space has just begun. Phase 5 is the single largest component of Millennium City, comprising office premises and a regional shopping centre of about 600,000 square feet. Foundation work has already started, and the project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2004. The Group sold 407,000 square feet, part of the Phase 5 office space, to a major local bank recently, and this prestigious occupant will help to increase the development's attractiveness in terms of leasing value. The Group intends to keep the remaining space in Phase 5 as a long-term investment.



*Millennium City, a key office/commercial development by the Group in eastern Kowloon, has transformed the area into a commercial hub.*



*Kowloon Station Development Packages 5, 6 and 7 incorporate the latest technology and ultra-modern design and facilities.*

Low demand for office space exerted pressure on rents during the year. However, a revival in office demand is likely as global financial markets recover. The opening up of the Mainland market will bring more business and opportunities to Hong Kong. With Hong Kong's role as an international centre for finance, commerce, trade and tourism, demand for high-quality office buildings, as well as residential and retail properties, is expected to rise over the medium to long term.

The Group recently sold its 25 per cent interest in two commercial complexes in the New Territories, and it will consider selling other non-core rental properties to enhance asset turnover and returns. The Group maintains an optimal tenant mix in its portfolio and strives to raise customer and tenant service, aiming to become the landlord of first choice. The Group is confident that its well-diversified, superior rental portfolio will continue to generate solid recurrent income.

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

## Information Technology and Telecommunications

*SUNeVision*

During the period under review, SUNeVision turned a significant corner, shrinking losses through a decisive company-wide restructuring to reduce costs further and improve efficiency. The restructuring included the closure of unprofitable business units, making sufficient provisions on venture capital investments and reducing operating costs, while at the same time, reallocating resources and streamlining management structures. iAdvantage's data centres have performed satisfactorily, and further improvements are expected from new leasing commitments.

SUNeVision remains financially strong, with approximately HK\$1,800 million in cash and interest-bearing securities. SUNeVision's restored fundamentals, revenue-centred strategy and financial strength equip it well for future growth. The company's existing operations will continue to drive business expansion, and tight cost controls will remain in place. SUNeVision will also pursue new technology-related businesses at the appropriate time, to complement its current core operations.



*SmarTone returned to profitability in FY2001/02 due to a revitalized focus on its core mobile business.*

*SmarTone*

The year under review marked SmarTone's return to profitability despite a difficult operating environment. Net profit for the year amounted to HK\$115 million, recovering sharply from a net loss of HK\$284 million in the previous year. This improved performance is a result of the company's revitalized focus on its core mobile business and the reorganization of its activities in line with three key business principles: customer orientation, effectiveness and efficiency.

SmarTone has made significant investments to upgrade all areas of its core mobile business. The company will continue to introduce compelling data-centric services, which will be the key drivers for its future growth. SmarTone is ready for the commercial rollout of its 3G network, which will become critical when capacity demand from wide take-up of data-centric services occurs. The Group is confident in SmarTone's future prospects and committed to holding its stake as a long-term strategic investment.

## Transportation and Infrastructure

*Kowloon Motor Bus*

The Kowloon Motor Bus (KMB) recorded strong earnings growth for 2001, reflecting the company's ability to re-deploy resources efficiently under weakened economic conditions. The company will continue to upgrade its bus fleet and introduce environmental-protection measures, as well as provide value-added information facilities, to increase productivity and further improve the quality and reliability of service to its customers. KMB extended its

integrated bus network through bus-to-bus interchange schemes, providing more convenient service to passengers and enabling better utilization of resources. The company also relocated its bus depot from Lai Chi Kok to a newly-completed facility on the West Kowloon reclamation in May 2002. Redevelopment of the former site into a residential complex is planned for completion in 2005. KMB will continue to explore business opportunities in public transport, both in Hong Kong and on the Mainland. RoadShow Holdings, the listed subsidiary of KMB, continues to focus on outdoor media sales and is striving to enrich the information and programming in its multi-media on-board service.



*KMB continues to increase productivity and improve the quality and reliability of service to its customers.*

### *Other Infrastructure*

The Wilson Group performed well, expanding its car park and transport infrastructure management businesses, while streamlining operating costs. Route 3 (Country Park Section) recorded steady traffic flow during the year.

The River Trade Terminal in Tuen Mun and Airport Freight Forwarding Centre are operating smoothly. Construction of two berths for Asia Container Terminals at Container Terminal 9 is progressing in phases, and completion is expected by mid-2004.

All the Group's infrastructure projects are in Hong Kong and will provide solid returns over the long term.

### **Hotels**

With increasing visitor arrivals, the Group's three hotels recorded satisfactory results during the year. Average occupancy remained high: at 86 per cent for the Royal Garden, 87 per cent for the Royal Park and 85 per cent for the Royal Plaza, all above average industry performance.

The government's efforts to promote Hong Kong as a regional tourism hub and expedite procedures for visitors from the Mainland will continue to boost arrivals. Business travellers to Hong Kong are expected to grow in number over time, because of the increased commercial activity anticipated with China's membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO), and in the longer term, the Beijing Olympics. The Group plans to develop six-star hotels, strategically located above the Hong Kong and Kowloon stations on the Airport Railway, to exploit these new business opportunities.

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT



*Sun Dong An Plaza in Beijing is a Wangfujing landmark, attracting 200,000 shoppers each weekend.*

### Mainland Business

China's economy has performed well so far in 2002, and the inflow of foreign direct investment has remained steady. Entry to the WTO has opened China further to foreign investment. This, together with accelerated economic reform, will help drive economic development to a new level.

The Group's property investment portfolio on the Mainland also performed satisfactorily during the year. Sun Dong An Plaza in Beijing was over 96 per cent let, and Shanghai Central Plaza was 94 per cent occupied. With China's promising economic prospects, particularly since its entry to the WTO, the Group has been more active in exploring investment opportunities there.

### Corporate Finance

The Group will maintain its conservative financial policy, with high liquidity and low financial leverage. Its net debt to shareholders' funds ratio was 15.6 per cent as at 30th June 2002, and all of its credit facilities are unsecured. The Group has substantial committed undrawn facilities on standby for future business expansion, and its exposure to foreign currency risk is negligible, given that almost all of its borrowings are denominated in Hong Kong dollars. The Group has not taken any speculative positions in derivatives, and it has no off-balance-sheet or contingent liabilities, other than borrowings of joint-venture companies.

In addition, the Group continues to lengthen its debt maturity profile in line with long-term investment needs, and is exploring opportunities to diversify its funding base. During the year, the Group arranged two seven-year, HK\$7,500 million syndicated loan facilities to refinance short-term debt. It also issued fixed-rate notes with maturities up to ten years under its Euro Medium-Term Note programme, to extend its debt maturity further and diversify sources of funding. In the current low interest rate environment, the Group will source long-term financing at competitive rates, as and when appropriate.

### Corporate Governance

The Group is committed to the highest standard of corporate governance and determined to ensure that its shareholders benefit from scrupulous adherence to the principles of governance in every aspect of its business. The Group continually strives to maintain a high level of transparency, has established accountability mechanisms and makes improvements wherever possible, all with the full support of the board and management. It also views well-developed reporting systems and internal controls as essential to ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the financial information that it uses internally and releases to the public. As part of this dedication to good corporate governance, the Group discloses information promptly and practises transparent reporting, to build confidence among investors and facilitate their understanding of the Group's affairs.

### Customer Service, Human Resources and Environmental Protection

High-quality customer service is paramount for the Group, and it devotes considerable effort to achieving this goal. Various new initiatives have been put in place to streamline new property handover procedures and ensure high standards of quality. The Group's property management companies regularly win awards for their levels of service, estate cleanliness and environmental awareness. They also run recycling programmes for a cleaner, greener Hong Kong and provide a wide range of after-sales service.

The Group believes that people are one of its greatest assets, and it places significant emphasis on recruiting high-calibre staff and offering them ongoing training and development. Staff members are encouraged to practise life-long learning, and the Group strives to instil its staff with a positive attitude towards personal and professional growth. The Group also fosters a strong sense of teamwork as part of its corporate culture.

In addition to the day-to-day interaction between front-line staff and customers, the Group's senior management also makes periodic home visits to strengthen two-way communication with homeowners.

Membership in the SHKP Club is growing, currently standing at over 160,000. Members enjoy a wide range of special privileges related to the Group's shopping centres and residential properties for sale.



*High-quality customer service is paramount for the Group and staff are trained to deliver the best.*

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

## PROSPECTS

Mainland China is expected to grow impressively, and with Hong Kong's strategic location, the territory should be able to take full advantage of this expansion. China's membership in the WTO will open its domestic markets further and speed up economic development, offering enormous business and investment opportunities.

Hong Kong is facing significant economic hurdles and restructuring itself as a knowledge-based economy. Nonetheless, with the unique strengths and advantages it has built and greater economic integration with the fast-growing Pearl River Delta, Hong Kong should be able to overcome the challenges ahead and achieve sustainable future growth.

Over the short term, Hong Kong faces a difficult economic environment because of slower growth worldwide and the fact that the US and European economies have weakened. But while unemployment and deflation still weigh on local investor and consumer confidence, the remarkable upswing in Mainland tourists and improved merchandise exports should offer a ray of optimism.



*1 Ho Man Tin Hill sets a new standard for luxury property in Kowloon.*

The current low interest rate environment, strong apartment affordability and a pro-market government housing policy should continue to underpin the demand for private developments. Supply is expected to conform better to demand, pointing to a relatively healthier market ahead. The Hong Kong government's population policy, to be released within the next few months, should offer positive news for the territory's economy and private housing market.

Given that Hong Kong people generally have a desire to better their living environments, there is a solid long-term demand. This, coupled with a pro-market government policy, means the Group remains cautiously optimistic about prospects for local residential property, and it believes that the market is likely to remain active in the coming year. The Group will keep producing a high volume of residential units for sale and strengthen its rental income base with new landmark investment properties. To bolster property sales and values, it will continue efforts to ensure that its products meet the finest quality standards and reinforce its brand name. With its strong financial position and long-term growth strategy, the Group will add to its development land bank when appropriate. To optimize its rental portfolio and enhance returns, the Group will also continue to dispose of some non-core rental properties in the future.

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Although the Group will still focus on its core business in Hong Kong, it will also look for opportunities in Mainland property, mainly in four major cities: Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen. Building on its brand name and Hong Kong expertise, the Group will be able to exploit new business opportunities in China over time.

In July this year, Sun Hung Kai Properties celebrated the 30th anniversary of its founding by the first Chairman, my father Kwok Tak Seng. The late Mr. Kwok always kept his faith in Hong Kong, and over the past 30 years, the Group has grown and prospered with the territory, weathering many storms along the way. Throughout the years, the Group maintained its investment focus on Hong Kong, helping to build the remarkable city that it is today. Experience has shown that with determination and conviction, the Group can overcome adversity and emerge even stronger than before. This faith has served the Group well, and enabled it to grow into one of the territory's foremost property companies. The Group will use its strengths – a powerful brand name, experienced and capable management team and high-calibre staff – to maintain its advantages in today's highly competitive market. Looking to the future, the Group is ready to tackle the challenges ahead with confidence.

Forthcoming pre-sales and steady rental income will reinforce the Group's financial position further. Major residential projects slated for pre-sale in the next six months include Sham Wan Towers in Ap Lei Chau, 1 Po Shan Road in Mid-Levels, 1 Ho Man Tin Hill and 18 Farm Road in Kowloon and Yuen Long Town Lot 503.

About 70 per cent of the residential properties to be completed in the coming financial year have been pre-sold, and barring unforeseen circumstances, the Group's results for the coming year should be satisfactory.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to my fellow directors for their guidance, and to all the staff for their dedication and hard work.



*Celebrating the Group's 30th anniversary, Chairman and Chief Executive Walter Kwok affirms the Group's confidence in Hong Kong.*

### **Kwok Ping-sheung, Walter**

*Chairman & Chief Executive*

Hong Kong, 26th September 2002