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## SHANXI CENTRAL PHARMACEUTICAL INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

正中藥業國際有限公司\*

*(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)*

### FURTHER DELAY IN DISPATCH OF CIRCULAR

Reference is made to the announcements of the Company dated 4 November and 9 December, 2002 in relation to the Hospital Investments.

The date of dispatch of the Circular giving full details of the Company's investments in 94 hospitals in the PRC has been further delayed to a date which is on or before 30 January, 2003.

**The delay in dispatch of the Circular constitutes a breach of Rule 14.13(2) of the Listing Rules which requires the Company to dispatch circulars to their shareholders within 21 days after the publication of the First Announcement in relation to the major transaction. The Stock Exchange reserves its right to take appropriate action against the Company and/or the Directors in respect of the breach of the Listing Rules.**

Reference is made to the announcements of the Company dated 4 November, 2002 (the “**First Announcement**”) and 9 December, 2002 (the “**Second Announcement**”) relating to the Company's investments in 94 hospitals in the PRC.

Unless otherwise stated, the terms used in this announcement shall have the same meanings as those defined in the First Announcement and the Second Announcement.

The Directors of the Company have announced certain details of the Hospital Investments in the First Announcement.

Under Rule 14.13(2) of the Listing Rules, a circular (the “**Circular**”) giving full details of the Hospital Investments and other relevant information is required to be posted by the Company to its shareholders within 21 days after publication of the First Announcement. The Company had announced in the Second Announcement the delay of the dispatch of the Circular to a date on or before 31 December, 2002.

Mr. David Y.M. Shi, the deputy chairman and managing director of the Company, who is also in charge of the Hospital Investments and preparation of the Circular and the Hong Kong operations of the Company, is ill and cannot perform his duty for the time being. The other two executive Directors, Ms. Hou Li Ping and Mr. Luo Jian Xiang, who are usually stationed in the PRC and mainly responsible for the management and supervision of the Company's PRC operations, are now in the process of taking actions to address such matter including seeking appropriate persons to act as the additional new executive Directors and take charge of the preparation of the Circular and the Hong Kong operations of the Company. As more time is required in this regard, it is expected that the time limit proposed in the Second Announcement cannot be complied with. The Company therefore proposes to delay the dispatch of the Circular to a date which is on or before 30 January, 2003.

**The delay in dispatch of the Circular constitutes a breach of Rule 14.13(2) of the Listing Rules which requires the Company to dispatch circulars to their shareholders within 21 days after the publication of the First Announcement in relation to the major transaction. The Stock Exchange reserves its right to take appropriate action against the Company and/or the Directors in respect of the breach of the Listing Rules.**

By Order of the Board  
**Shanxi Central Pharmaceutical International Limited**  
**Hou Li Ping**  
*Chairman*

Hong Kong, 31 December, 2002

\* *for identification only*

“Please also refer to the published version of this announcement in The Standard”.