# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2005.

#### PRINCIPAL **ACTIVITIES**

The Company acts as an investment holding company. The principal activities of its subsidiaries are sales of pharmaceutical products, property holding, provision of agency services for the trading of cigarette and other related products, provision of management and consultancy services and investment holding.

#### SEGMENTAL INFORMATION

An analysis of the Group's turnover and contribution to results by principal activity and geographical area of operations for the year ended 31 March 2005 is set out in note 4 to the financial statements.

#### MAJOR **CUSTOMERS AND** SUPPLIERS

For the year ended 31 March 2005, the five largest customers of the Group accounted for approximately 89% of the Group's total turnover while the largest customer of the Group accounted for approximately 34% of the Group's turnover. In addition, for the year ended 31 March 2005, the five largest suppliers of the Group accounted for approximately 35% of the Group's total purchases while the largest supplier of the Group accounted for approximately 8% of the Group's total purchases.

None of the directors, any of their associates or any shareholders of the Company (which, to the best knowledge of the directors, owned more than 5% of the Company's issued share capital) had a beneficial interest in the Group's five largest customers or suppliers during the year.

#### RESULTS

The results of the Group for the year ended 31 March 2005 are set out in the consolidated income statement on page 21.

# SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A summary of the results and of the assets and liabilities of the Group for the last five financial years is set out on pages 60 to 61 of this annual report.

# INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Details of movements in the investment property of the Group during the year are set out in note 11 to the financial statements.

# PROPERTY. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Details of movements in the property, plant and equipment of the Group and the Company during the year are set out in note 12 to the financial statements.

#### SHARE CAPITAL

Details of the Company's share capital are set out in note 28 to the financial statements.

#### DIRECTORS

The directors of the Company during the year and up to the date of this report were:

#### **Executive directors:**

Li Suiming (Chairman) Liu Wandong (Chairman) Ma Pizhi (Managing Director) Cheng Hau Yan Dong Jianhua Fang Wen Quan Li Guanglin Li Hong

(appointed on 15 December 2004) (resigned on 15 December 2004)

#### Independent non-executive directors:

Ho Wing Fun Lam Yat Fai (appointed on 22 September 2004) Wu Wen Jing, Benjamin (appointed on 22 September 2004) Lee Ka Sze, Carmelo (resigned on 22 September 2004)

In accordance with Articles 91 and 99 of the Company's Articles of Association, Messrs. Li Suiming, Dong Jianhua, Li Guanglin, Lam Yat Fai and Wu Wen Jing, Benjamin will retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

The Company has received annual confirmation from each of the independent non-executive directors as regards their independence to the Company and considers that each of the independent non-executive directors is independent to the Company.

#### **DIRECTORS**' SERVICE CONTRACTS

The Company has entered into letters of appointment with the independent non-executive directors, pursuant to which the independent non-executive directors are appointed for a term of 2 years until 31 December 2006 and are subject to retirement in accordance with the Company's articles of association.

None of the directors being proposed for re-election at the forthcoming annual general meeting has a service contract which is not determinable by the Group within one year without payment of compensation (other than statutory compensation).

# DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN SHARES AND UNDERLYING SHARES

At 31 March 2005, save for the corporate interest of a director as disclosed under the section "Substantial Shareholders", no other directors nor their associates had any interests or short positions in any shares and underlying shares of the Company or any of its associated corporations (as defined in Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "SFO")) which were recorded in the register as required to be kept by the Company under Section 352 of the SFO.

# DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN CONTRACTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

No contract of significance to which the Company, its holding company or any of its subsidiaries was a party and in which a director of the Company had a material interest, whether directly or indirectly, subsisted at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

# CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the Group received management fee income of HK\$240,000 from a substantial shareholder of the Company.

The independent non-executive directors have confirmed the transactions in relation to the management fee income were entered into in accordance with the terms of the agreement of the underlying transactions, or arose in the ordinary and usual course of the Group's business and on terms no less favourable than terms available to or from independent third parties and were fair and reasonable so far as the shareholders of the Company are concerned.

# SHAREHOLDERS

SUBSTANTIAL At 31 March 2005, the register of substantial shareholders maintained by the Company pursuant to Section 336 of the SFO shows that the following shareholders had notified the Company of the relevant interests in 5% or more of the issued share capital of the Company:

Name of shareholder	Capacity	Number of shares held	%
Courte Hanne Invantor and Line to a	Deneficial access	000 440 000 (Nata 1)	C4 70
South Hong Investment Limited	Beneficial owner	262,442,930 (Note 1)	51.78
China National Tobacco	Held by controlled		
Corporation Yunnan Branch	corporation	262,442,930 (Note 1)	51.78
Yuxi Hongta Tobacco (Group)	Held by controlled		
Limited	corporation	262,442,930 (Note 1)	51.78
Yunnan International Trust	Held by controlled		
and Investment Corporation	corporation	262,442,930 (Note 1)	51.78
Tianda Group Limited	Beneficial owner	47,380,952 (Note 2)	9.35

#### Notes:

- These 262,442,930 shares are beneficially owned by South Hong Investment (1) Limited ("South Hong") which is owned as to 29.4% by China National Tobacco Corporation Yuanna Branch; 47.1% by Yuxi Hongta Tobacco (Group) Limited and 17.6% by Yunnan International Trust and Investment Corporation. China National Tobacco Corporation Yunnan Branch, Yuxi Hongta Tobacco (Group) Limited and Yunnan International Trust and Investment Corporation, all being substantial shareholders of South Hong, are deemed to be interested in the 262,442,930 shares owned by South Hong.
- (2)These 47,380,952 shares are beneficially owned by Tianda Group Limited. Mr. Fang Wen Quan, a director of the Company, has 100% share interests in Tianda Group Limited and, accordingly, is deemed to have a corporate interest in the said 47,380,952 shares owned by Tianda Group Limited.

All the interests stated above represent long positions. As at 31 March 2005, no short positions were recorded in the register kept by the Company under section 336 of the SFO.

Save as disclosed above, the Company has not been notified of any other interest representing 5% or more in the Company's issued share capital as at 31 March 2005.

# **DIRECTORS**' RIGHTS TO **ACQUIRE SHARES** OR DEBENTURES

At no time during the year was the Company, its holding company or any of its subsidiaries a party to any arrangements to enable the directors of the Company to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any other body corporate and none of the directors nor any of their spouses or children under the age of 18 had any rights to subscribe for the securities of the Company, or had exercised any such rights during the year.

# PURCHASE. SALE AND REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED **SECURITIES**

During the year, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Company has complied throughout the year ended 31 March 2005 with the Code of Best Practice as set out in Appendix 14 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules"), which has been replaced by the Code on Corporate Governance Practices ("New Code") with effect on 1 January 2005. Pursuant to the New Code, listed issuers are expected to comply with the New Code provisions starting from 1 January 2005.

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules (the "Model Code"), as the code of conduct regarding directors' securities transactions. The Company has made specific enquiry of all directors that they have complied with the Model Code throughout the year ended 31 March 2005.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Company has an audit committee which was established in accordance with the requirement of the Code for the purposes of reviewing and providing supervision over the Group's financial reporting process and internal controls.

The audit committee comprises Messrs. Ho Wing Fun, Lam Yat Fai and Wu Wen Jing, Benjamin, three independent non-executive directors of the Company. During the year, the audit committee has reviewed with the management and the external auditors the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed auditing and financial reporting matters, including the review of the interim and annual reports of the Group.

#### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

#### PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHTS

There are no provisions for pre-emptive rights under the Company's Articles of Association or the laws of the Cayman Islands, which would oblige the Company to offer new shares on a pro-rata basis to existing shareholders.

# SUFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC FLOAT

Based on the information that is publicly available to the Company and within the knowledge of its Directors, the Company has maintained the prescribed public float under the Listing Rules throughout the year ended 31 March 2005.

#### **AUDITORS**

A resolution will be submitted to the forthcoming annual general meeting to re-appoint Messrs. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu as auditors of the Company.

On behalf of the Board

#### Li Suiming

Chairman

Hong Kong, 22 July 2005