

# ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

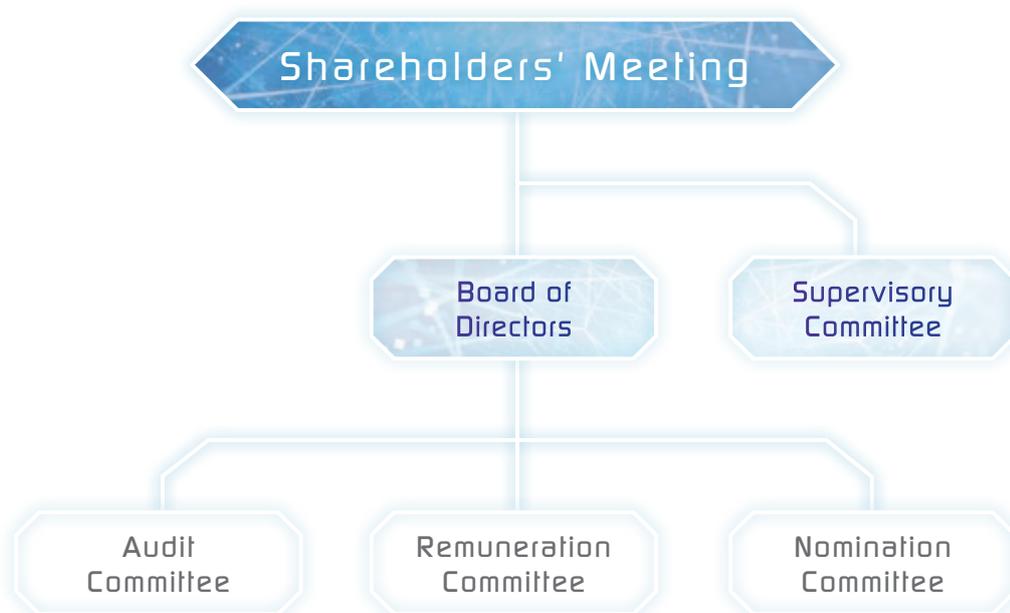
## Corporate Governance Report

### An Overview of Corporate Governance

The Company strives to maintain high level of corporate governance and has always adhered to excellent, prudent and efficient corporate governance principles and continuously improves its corporate governance methodology, regulates its operations, improves its internal control mechanism, implements sound corporate governance and disclosure measures, and ensures that the Company's operations are in line with the long-term interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole. In 2019, the shareholders' meeting, the Board and the Supervisory Committee operated soundly and efficiently. The Company was dedicated to lean management while ensuring stable and healthy operation, and elevated its high-quality development to a new level, while continuously optimising its internal

control system and comprehensive risk management in order to effectively ensure steady operation of the corporate. The standard of the Company's corporate governance continued to improve and is aligned with the long-term best interest of the shareholders, ensuring that the interests of the shareholders were effectively assured.

The Company persists in refining the basic system of its corporate governance. As a company incorporated in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"), the Company adopts the *Company Law of the People's Republic of China* and other relevant laws and regulations as the basic guidelines for the Company's corporate governance. As a company dual-listed in Hong Kong and the United States, the Company strives to ensure compliance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules") and the regulatory requirements for non-US companies listed in the United States.



In addition, the Company has regularly published statements relating to its internal control in accordance with the US Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the regulatory requirements of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the New York Stock Exchange to confirm its compliance with related financial reporting, information disclosure, corporate internal control requirements and other regulatory requirements.

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019, the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company were performed by the same individual. In the Company's opinion, through supervision by the Board of Directors (the "Board") and the Independent Non-Executive Directors of the Company, with effective control of the Company's internal check and balance mechanism, the same individual performing the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer can enhance the Company's efficiency in decision-making and execution and effectively capture business

opportunities. Many leading international corporations around the world also have similar arrangements. Save as stated above, the Company was in compliance with all the code provisions under the Corporate Governance Code as set out in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules (the "Corporate Governance Code") in the year 2019.

In 2019, the Company's continuous efforts in corporate governance gained wide recognition from the capital market and the Company was accredited with a number of awards. The Company was voted as the "Most Honoured Company in Asia" in the 2019 All-Asia-Executive-Team poll organised by *Institutional Investor*, a prestigious international financial magazine, for nine consecutive years. The Company was accredited with "Platinum Award – Excellence in Environmental, Social and Governance" in the poll of Corporate Awards 2019 by *The Asset*, and was the only telecommunications company in the region which had received the Platinum recognition for 11 years in a row. Meanwhile, the Company was

## THE ASSET

Platinum Award  
– Excellence in  
Environmental, Social  
and Governance

CORPORATE  
GOVERNANCE ASIA

Icon on  
Corporate  
Governance

FINANCEASIA

No. 1 Best  
Managed Company  
in China

INSTITUTIONAL  
INVESTOR

Most Honoured  
Company in Asia

awarded “Highly Commended Initiative in Innovation” for its “Cloudification in 5G” strategy, which refers to the comprehensive upgrade of services and network to cloud in terms of infrastructure, products service capabilities and sales mode, with a focus on cloud computing. In addition, the Company was awarded, for the 12th time, “The Best of Asia – Icon on Corporate Governance” by *Corporate Governance Asia*, a renowned regional journal on corporate governance. Mr. Ke Ruiwen, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, was honoured with “Asia’s Best CEO” award. The Company was also accredited the awards including “No. 1 Best Managed Company”, “No. 1 Best Investor Relations” and “No. 1 Best ESG” in China region in Asia’s Best Managed Companies Poll 2019 by *FinanceAsia*.

## Overall Structure of the Corporate Governance

A two-tier structure is adopted as the overall structure for corporate governance: the Board and the Supervisory Committee are established under the shareholders’ meeting; the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination

Committee are established under the Board. The Board is authorised by the Articles of Association to make major operational decisions of the Company and to oversee the daily management and operations of the senior management. The Supervisory Committee is mainly responsible for the supervision of the performance of duties of the Board and the senior management. Each of the Board and the Supervisory Committee is independently accountable to the shareholders’ meeting.

## Shareholders’ Meeting

In 2019, the Company convened 3 shareholders’ meetings including an annual general meeting for the year 2018 (the “2018 Annual General Meeting”) and 2 extraordinary general meetings.

On 18 April 2019, the Company held the first extraordinary general meeting in Beijing to approve the deposit services and the annual caps applicable thereto and related matters contemplated under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement between the Company and China Telecom Finance Co., Ltd (“China Telecom Finance”) entered into on 1 February 2019. The relevant resolution was duly passed and approved by the independent shareholders.



On 29 May 2019, the Company held the 2018 Annual General Meeting in Hong Kong to approve the following resolutions, all of which were duly passed and approved by the shareholders of the Company.

1. To approve the consolidated financial statements of the Company, the report of the Directors, the report of the Supervisory Committee and the report of the international auditor for the year ended 31 December 2018 and to authorise the Board to prepare the budget of the Company for the year 2019;
2. To approve the profit distribution proposal and the declaration and payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2018;
3. To approve the re-appointment of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Certified Public Accountants LLP as the international auditor and domestic auditor of the Company respectively for the year ending on 31 December 2019 and to authorise the Board to fix the remuneration of the auditors;
4. To approve the amendments to the Articles of Association and to authorise any Director of the Company to complete registration or filing of the amendments to the Articles of Association;
5. To approve the issue of debentures by the Company, to authorise the Board to issue debentures and determine the specific terms, conditions and other matters of the debentures and to approve the centralised registration of debentures by the Company;
6. To approve the issue of company bonds in the PRC and to authorise the Board to issue company bonds and determine the specific terms conditions and other matters of the company bonds in the PRC;
7. To grant a general mandate to the Board to issue, allot and deal with additional shares in the Company not exceeding 20% of each of the existing domestic shares and H shares in issue; and
8. To authorise the Board to increase the registered capital of the Company and to amend the Articles of Association of the Company to reflect such increase in the registered capital of the Company under the general mandate.

On 19 August 2019, the Company held the second extraordinary general meeting in Beijing to approve (i) the election of Mr. Liu Guiqing and Mr. Wang Guoquan as Directors of the Company, to authorise any Director of the Company to sign the Director's service contracts on behalf of the Company with them and to authorise the Board to determine their remuneration; and (ii) the amendments to the Articles of Association and to authorise any Director of the Company to complete registration or filing of the amendments to the Articles of Association. All resolutions were duly passed and approved by the shareholders of the Company.

Since the Company's listing in 2002, at each of the shareholders' meetings, a separate shareholders' resolution was proposed by the Company in respect of each independent item. The circulars to shareholders also provided details of the resolutions. All votes on resolutions tabled at the shareholders' meetings of

the Company were conducted by poll and all voting results were published on the websites of the Company and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. The Company attaches great importance to the shareholders' meetings and the communication between Directors and shareholders. The Directors provided detailed and sufficient answers to the questions raised by shareholders at the shareholders' meetings. The Board implemented the Shareholders Communication Policy to ensure that the shareholders are provided with comprehensive, equal, understandable and public information of the Company on a timely basis and to facilitate the communication amongst the Company, the shareholders and investors.

## Board of Directors and Board Diversity Policy

As at 31 December 2019, the Board consisted of 11 Directors with 6 Executive Directors, 1 Non-Executive Director and 4 Independent Non-Executive Directors. There is no relationship (including financial, business, family or other material or relevant relationship) among the Board members. The Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee under the Board consist solely of Independent Non-Executive Directors, which ensures that the Committees are able to provide sufficient checks and balances and make independent judgements to protect the interests of the shareholders and the Company as a whole. The number of Independent Non-Executive Directors exceeds one-third of the members of the Board. Mr. Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius, the

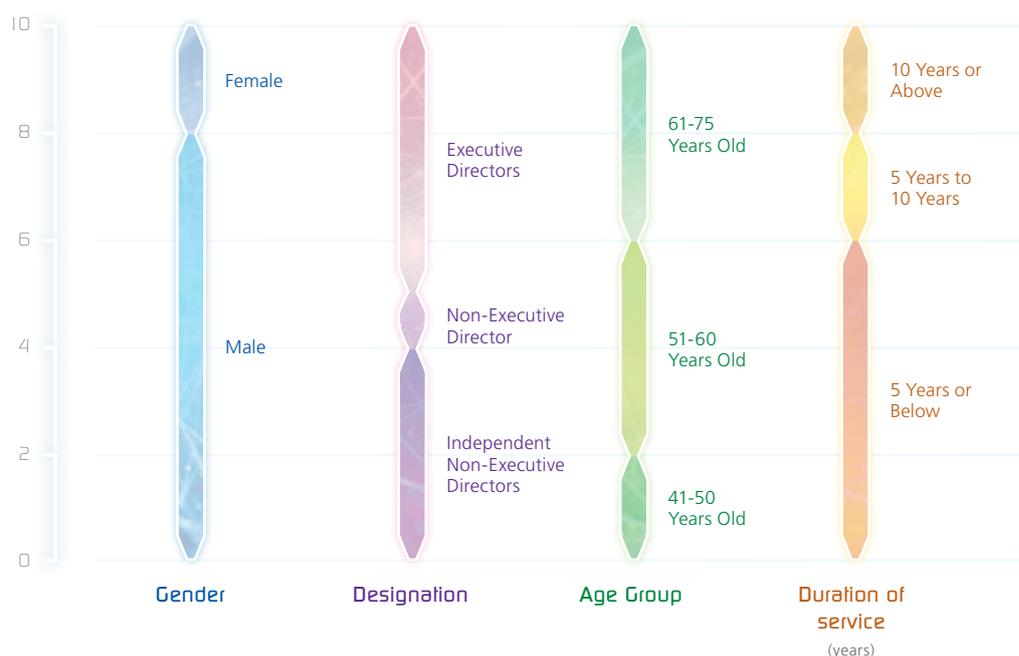
Chairman of the Audit Committee, is an internationally renowned financial expert with extensive expertise in accounting and financial management. As at the date of this report, the Board comprised 10 Directors, including 5 Executive Directors, 1 Non-Executive Director and 4 Independent Non-Executive Directors. The term of office for the current 6th session of the Board (including the Non-Executive Directors) lasts for 3 years, starting from May 2017 until the day of the Company's 2019 Annual General Meeting to be held in 2020, upon which the 7th session of the Board will be elected.

In August 2013, the Company implemented the Board Diversity Policy. The Company strongly believes that board diversity will contribute significantly to the enhancement of the overall performance of the Company. The Company views board diversity as the key element for accomplishing its strategic goals and sustainable development. In determining the composition of the Board, the Company takes into account diversity of the Board from a number of perspectives, including but not limited to gender, age, educational background, professional experience, skills, knowledge, duration of service and time commitment, etc. All appointments made or to be made by the Board are merit-based, and candidates are selected based on objective criteria taking full consideration of board diversity. Final decisions are comprehensively made based on each candidate's attributes and the consideration for his/her value contributions to be made to the Board. The Nomination Committee oversees the implementation of Board Diversity Policy, reviews the existing policy as and when appropriate, and recommends proposals for revisions for the Board's approval.

Biographical details of existing Directors are set out in the “Biographical details of Directors, Senior Management and Supervisors” section of this annual report. There are currently two female Directors on the Board. The Board currently comprises experts from diversified professions such as telecommunications, accounting, finance, law, banking, regulatory, compliance and management with diversification in terms of gender, age, duration of service, etc., advancing the enhancement of management standard and the further standardisation of corporate governance practices, which results in a more comprehensive and balanced Board structure and decision-making process. Each Director brings to the Board different views and perspectives. Both the Nomination Committee and the Board believe that the gender, age, educational background, professional experience, skills, knowledge and the duration of service of the Board members are in alignment with the Board Diversity Policy.

The Company strictly complies with the Corporate Governance Code to rigorously regulate the operating procedures of the Board and its Committees, and to ensure that the procedures of the Board meetings are in compliance with related rules in terms of organisation, regulations and personnel. The Board responsibly and earnestly supervises the preparation of financial statements for each financial period, so that such financial statements truly and fairly reflect the financial condition, the operating results and cash flows of the Company for such period. In preparing the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019, the Directors adopted appropriate accounting policies and made prudent, fair and reasonable judgements and estimates, and prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

The below chart sets out the analysis of the Board composition as at the date of this report:



The Articles of Association of the Company clearly defines the respective duties of the Board and the management. The Board is accountable to the shareholders' meetings, and its duties mainly include the execution of resolutions, formulation of major operational decisions, financial proposals and policies, formulation of the Company's basic management system and the appointment of senior management personnel of the Company. The management is responsible for leading the operation and management of the Company, the implementation of Board resolutions and the annual operation plans and investment proposals of the Company, formulating the proposal of the Company's internal administrative organisations and sub-organisations, and performing other duties as authorised by the Articles of Association and the Board. In order to maintain highly efficient operations, as well as flexibility and swiftness in operational decision-making, the Board may delegate its management and administrative powers to the management when necessary, and shall provide clear guidance regarding such delegation so as to avoid impeding or undermining the capabilities of the Board when exercising its powers as a whole.

All members of the Board and Committees are informed of the meeting schedule for the Board and Committees for the year at the beginning of each year. In addition, all Directors will receive meeting notice at least 14 days prior to the meeting under normal circumstances. The Company Secretary is responsible for ensuring that the Board meetings comply with all procedures, related rules and regulations while all Directors can make enquiries to the Company Secretary for details to ensure that they have received sufficient information on various matters set out in the meeting agendas.

The Board holds at least 4 meetings in each year. Additional Board meetings will be held in accordance with practical needs. In 2019, the Company convened 4 Board meetings in total and completed various written resolutions; the Chairman held a meeting to independently communicate with the Independent Non-Executive Directors without the presence of any other Directors to ensure their opinions can be fully expressed, which further facilitated the exchange of different views within the Board. In 2019, the Board played a pivotal role in the Company's operation, supervision, internal control, risk management and other significant decisions and corporate governance. Specifically, the Board reviewed matters including, but not limited to, certain financial services framework agreements entered into between China Telecom Finance and the Company, China Telecommunications Corporation ("China Telecommunications") and China Communications Services Corporation Limited ("CCS"), respectively, the continuing connected transactions contemplated thereunder and the applicable annual caps thereto, the Company's annual and interim financial statements, quarterly financial results, risk management and internal control implementation and assessment report, annual proposal for profit distribution, review of the structure and operations of the Board, two rounds of amendments to the Articles of Association, approval of authorisation granted to the Company to issue debentures, proposal for directors and senior management liabilities insurance, change of the principal place of business in Hong Kong, the implementation of continuing connected transactions, changes of Board members and senior management, remuneration proposal for the newly appointed Directors, re-appointment and remuneration of auditors, 5G network

co-build and co-share framework cooperation agreement with China United Network Communications Corporation Limited, and the progress report on the preparation of the Environmental, Social and Governance Report.

The Company determines the Directors' remuneration with reference to factors such as their respective duties and responsibilities in the Company, as well as their experience and market conditions at the relevant time.

The Board formulates and reviews the Company's policies and practices on corporate governance; reviews and monitors the training and continuous professional development of Directors and senior management; reviews and monitors the Company's policies and practices on compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; formulates, reviews and monitors the code of conduct for employees; and reviews the Company's compliance with the Corporate Governance Code and disclosure in the Corporate Governance Report.

## Directors' training and continuous professional development

The Company provides guidelines including on directors' duties, continuing obligations, relevant laws and regulations, operation and business of the Company to newly appointed Directors so that they are provided with tailored induction relating to their appointment. To ensure that the Directors are familiar with the Company's latest operations for decision-making, the Company arranges for key financial data and operational data to be provided to the Directors on a monthly basis. Meanwhile, through regular Board meetings and reports from management, the Directors are able to have clearer understanding of the operations, business strategy, and the latest development of the Company and the industry. In addition, the Company reminds the Directors of their functions and duties by continuously providing them with information regarding the latest development of the Listing Rules and other applicable regulations, and arranging internal training on topics related to the latest development of the industry and operational focus of the Company for mutual exchange of ideas and discussion. The Directors actively participate in training and continuous professional development to develop and refresh their knowledge and skills in order to contribute to the Company.

# ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

## | Corporate Governance Report

During the year, the Directors have participated in training and continuous professional development activities, and the summary is as follows:

Directors	Types of training
<b>Executive Directors</b>	
Ke Ruiwen	A, B
Chen Zhongyue	A, B
Liu Guiqing	A, B
Zhu Min	A, B
Wang Guoquan	A, B
Yang Jie*	A, B
Gao Tongqing*	A, B
<b>Non-Executive Director</b>	
Chen Shengguang	A, B
<b>Independent Non-Executive Directors</b>	
Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius	A, B
Xu Erming	A, B
Wang Hsuehming	A, B
Yeung Chi Wai, Jason	A, B

A: attending relevant seminars and/or conferences and/or forums; or delivering speeches at relevant seminars and/or conferences and/or forums

B: reading or writing relevant newspapers, journals and articles relating to economy, general business, telecommunications, corporate governance or directors' duties

\* On 4 March 2019, Mr. Yang Jie resigned from his positions as an Executive Director, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company due to change in work arrangement. On 17 January 2020, Mr. Gao Tongqing resigned from his positions as an Executive Director and Executive Vice President of the Company due to change in work arrangement.

## Compliance with the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors and Supervisors and Confirmation of Independence by the Independent Non-Executive Directors

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers as set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules to govern securities transactions by the Directors and Supervisors. Based on the written confirmation from the Directors and Supervisors, the Company's Directors and Supervisors have strictly complied with the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules regarding the requirements in conducting securities transactions for the year 2019. Meanwhile, the Company has received annual independence confirmation from each of the Independent Non-Executive Directors and considered them to be independent.

## Audit Committee

As at 31 December 2019, the Audit Committee comprised 4 Independent Non-Executive Directors, Mr. Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius as the Chairman and Mr. Xu Erming, Madam Wang Hsuehming and Mr. Yeung Chi Wai, Jason as the members. The Audit Committee is responsible to the Board. The Charter of the Audit Committee clearly defines the status, structure and qualifications, work procedures, duties and responsibilities, funding and remuneration, etc. of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee's principal duties include the supervision of the truthfulness and completeness of the Company's financial statements, the effectiveness and completeness of the Company's internal control and risk management systems as well as the work of the Company's Internal Audit Department. It is also responsible for the supervision and review of the qualifications, selection and appointment, independence and services of external independent auditors. The Audit Committee ensures that the management has discharged its duty to establish and maintain an effective risk management and internal control system including the adequacy of resources, qualifications and experience of staff fulfilling the accounting, internal control and financial reporting functions of the Company together with the adequacy of the staff's training programmes and the related budget. The Audit Committee also has the authority to set up a reporting system on whistleblowing to receive and handle cases of complaints or complaints made on an anonymous basis regarding the Company's accounting, internal control and audit matters.

In 2019, pursuant to the requirements of the governing laws and regulations of the places of listing and the Charter of the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee fully assumed its responsibilities within the scope of the clear mandate from the Board. The Audit Committee proposed a number of practical and professional recommendations for improvement based on the Company's actual circumstances in order to promote the continuous improvement and perfection of corporate management. The Audit Committee has provided important support to the Board and played a significant role in protecting the interests of the independent shareholders.

In 2019, the Audit Committee convened 5 meetings and passed 2 written resolutions, in which it reviewed matters including but not limited to, certain financial services framework agreements entered into between China Telecom Finance and the Company, China Telecommunications and CCS, respectively, the continuing connected transactions contemplated thereunder and the applicable annual caps thereto, the Company's annual and interim financial statements and quarterly financial results, assessment of the qualifications, independence, performance, appointments

and remuneration of the external auditors, effectiveness of risk management and internal control systems, internal audit, implementation of continuing connected transactions, review of the operations in 2018 and the Charter of the Audit Committee, and the progress report on the preparation of the Environmental, Social and Governance Report. The Audit Committee reviewed the annual auditor's report, interim review report and quarterly agreed-upon procedures reports prepared by the external auditors, communicated with the management and the external auditors in regard to the regular financial reports and proposed them for the Board's approval after review and approval. The Audit Committee regularly received quarterly reports in relation to the internal audit and continuing connected transactions and provided guidance to the Internal Audit Department. Additionally, the Audit Committee reviewed the internal control assessment and the attestation report, followed up with the implementation procedures of the recommendations proposed by the external auditors, reviewed the U.S. annual report, and communicated independently with the external auditors twice a year.

## Remuneration Committee

As at 31 December 2019, the Remuneration Committee comprised 3 Independent Non-Executive Directors, Mr. Xu Erming as the Chairman and Mr. Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius and Madam Wang Hsuehming as the members. The Remuneration Committee is responsible to the Board. The Charter of the Remuneration Committee clearly defines the status, structure and qualifications, work procedures, duties and responsibilities, funding and remuneration, etc. of the Remuneration Committee. The Remuneration Committee assists the Board to formulate overall remuneration policy and structure for the Company's Directors and senior management personnel, and to establish related procedures that are standardised and transparent. The Remuneration Committee's principal duties include giving recommendations to the Board in respect of the overall remuneration policy and structure for the Company's Directors and senior management personnel and the establishment of a formal and transparent procedure for developing remuneration policy, and determining, with delegated responsibility by the Board, the remuneration packages of individual Executive Directors and senior management personnel including benefits in kind, pension rights and compensation payments (including any compensation payable for loss or termination of their office or appointment). Its responsibilities comply with the requirements of the Corporate Governance Code. The Remuneration Committee convened 1 meeting in 2019, during which it reviewed and discussed the remuneration proposals for the newly appointed Directors.

## Nomination Committee

As at 31 December 2019, the Nomination Committee comprised 3 Independent Non-Executive Directors, Madam Wang Hsuehming as the Chairlady and Mr. Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius and Mr. Xu Erming as the members. The Nomination Committee is responsible to the Board. The Charter of the Nomination Committee clearly defines the status, structure and qualifications, work procedures, duties and responsibilities, funding and remuneration, etc. of the Nomination Committee, and it specifically requires that the Nomination Committee members shall have no significant connection with the Company, and comply with the regulatory requirements related to "independence". The Nomination Committee assists the Board to formulate standardised, prudent and transparent procedures for the appointment and succession plans of Directors, and to further optimise the composition of the Board. The principal duties of the Nomination Committee include regularly reviewing the structure, number of members, composition and diversity of the Board; identifying candidates and advising the Board with the appropriate qualifications for the position of Directors; reviewing the Board Diversity Policy as appropriate to ensure its effectiveness; evaluating the independence of Independent Non-Executive Directors; advising the Board on matters regarding the appointment or re-appointment of Directors and succession plans for the Directors (especially Chairman and Chief Executive Officer). The Nomination Committee convened 1 meeting and passed 3 written resolutions in 2019, in which it performed a review of the structure and operations of the Board and the proposed candidates for Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, Directors and other related matters.

## Independent Board Committee

Pursuant to the requirement under the Listing Rules, the Company convened 1 Independent Board Committee meeting in 2019, which all 4 Independent Non-Executive Directors attended and

where it reviewed matters related to the deposit services and the proposed annual caps applicable thereto contemplated under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement and gave the relevant confirmation as well as submitted voting recommendations on these matters to the independent shareholders.

### Number of Board and Committee Meetings Attended/Held in 2019

	Board Meeting	Audit Committee Meeting	Nomination Committee Meeting	Remuneration Committee Meeting	Independent Board Committee Meeting	Shareholders' Meeting
<b>Executive Directors</b>						
Ke Ruiwen	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3/3
Chen Zhongyue	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3/3
Liu Guiqing*	2/2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Zhu Min	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3/3
Wang Guoquan*	2/2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yang Jie*	1/1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gao Tongqing*	3/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2/3
<b>Non-Executive Director</b>						
Chen Shengguang	3/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2/3
<b>Independent Non-Executive Directors</b>						
Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius	4/4	5/5	1/1	1/1	1/1	2/3
Xu Erming	4/4	5/5	1/1	1/1	1/1	3/3
Wang Hsuehming	4/4	5/5	1/1	1/1	1/1	3/3
Yeung Chi Wai, Jason	4/4	5/5	N/A	N/A	1/1	3/3

Note: Certain Directors (including Non-Executive Director and Independent Non-Executive Directors) could not attend some of the shareholders' meetings and Board meetings due to other important business commitments. Such Directors have reviewed the relevant Board meeting agendas and papers before the meetings and authorised other Directors in writing to vote on their behalf so as to ensure their views were fully reflected in the meetings.

\* On 4 March 2019, Mr. Yang Jie resigned from his positions as an Executive Director, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company due to change in work arrangement. On 19 August 2019, Mr. Liu Guiqing and Mr. Wang Guoquan were appointed as Executive Directors of the Company at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company. On 17 January 2020, Mr. Gao Tongqing resigned from his positions as an Executive Director and Executive Vice President of the Company due to change in work arrangement.

The Company will identify suitable Director candidates through multiple channels such as internal recruitment and recruiting from the labour market. The criteria of identifying candidates include but not limited to their gender, age, educational background, professional experience, skills, knowledge and length of service and capability to commit to the affairs of the Company and, in the case of Independent Non-Executive Director, the candidates should fulfill the independence requirements set out in the Listing Rules from time to time. After the Nomination Committee and the Board have reviewed and resolved to appoint the appropriate candidate, the relevant proposal will be put forward in writing to the shareholders' meeting for approval.

Directors shall be elected at the shareholders' meeting for a term of 3 years. At the expiry of a Director's term, the Director may stand for re-election and re-appointment. According to the Articles of Association, before the convening of the annual general meeting, shareholders holding 5% or more of the total voting shares of the Company shall have the right to propose new motions (such as election of Directors) in writing, and the Company shall place such proposed motions on the agenda for such annual general meeting if there are matters falling within the functions and powers of shareholders in general meetings. According to the Articles of Association, shareholders can also request for the convening of extraordinary general meeting provided that 2 or more shareholders holding in aggregate 10% or more of the shares carrying the right to vote at the meeting sought to be held and they shall sign one or more written requisitions in the same format and with the same content, requiring the Board to convene an extraordinary general meeting and stating the resolutions of meeting (such as election of Directors). The Board shall convene an extraordinary general meeting within 2 months. The minimum period during which written notice given to the

Company of the intention to propose a person for election as a Director, and during which written notice to the Company by such person of his/her willingness to be elected may be given, will be at least 7 days. Such period will commence no earlier than the day after the despatch of the notice of the meeting for the purpose of considering such election and shall end no later than 7 days prior to the date of such meeting. The ordinary resolutions to approve the appointment of Directors shall be passed by votes representing more than one-half of the voting rights represented by the shareholders (including proxies) present at the meeting. The Company will propose the shareholders of the Company to consider and approve the amendments to the Articles of Association in respect of the shareholders' proposal rights at the 2019 Annual General Meeting. Please refer to the announcement published by the Company on 24 March 2020 for details.

## Supervisory Committee

As at 31 December 2019, the Company's Supervisory Committee comprised 5 Supervisors, including 2 Employee Representative Supervisors. The principal duties of the Supervisory Committee include supervising, in accordance with the law, the Company's financials and performance of its Directors, managers and other senior management so as to prevent them from abusing their powers. The Supervisory Committee is a standing supervisory organisation within the Company, which is accountable to and reports to all shareholders. The Supervisory Committee usually holds meetings at least twice a year. The Supervisory Committee convened 2 meetings in 2019. The term of office for the 6th session of the Supervisory Committee lasts for 3 years, starting from May 2017 until the day of the 2019 Annual General Meeting to be held in year 2020, upon which the 7th session of the Supervisory Committee will be elected.

### Number of Supervisory Committee Meetings Attended/Held in 2019

Supervisors	Number of Meetings Attended/Held
Sui Yixun (Chairman of the Supervisory Committee)	2/2
Zhang Jianbin (Employee Representative Supervisor)	2/2
Yang Jianqing (Employee Representative Supervisor)	2/2
Xu Shiguang	1/2
Ye Zhong	1/2

*Note: Certain Supervisors could not attend some of the meetings of the Supervisory Committee due to other important business commitments.*

### External Auditors

The international and domestic auditors of the Company are Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Certified Public Accountants LLP, respectively. The non-audit services provided by the external auditors did not contravene the requirements of the US Sarbanes-Oxley Act and therefore enabling them to maintain the independence.

A breakdown of the remuneration received by the external auditors for audit and non-audit services provided to the Company for the year ended 31 December 2019 is as follows:

Service item	Fee (including value-added tax) (RMB millions)
Audit services	81.46
Non-audit services (mainly include internal control advisory and other advisory services)	3.22
Total	84.68

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board and the disclosure requirements of 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. The Directors were not aware of any material uncertainties relating to any events or conditions which may cast a serious impact upon the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. The statements by the external auditors of the Company, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, regarding their reporting responsibilities on the consolidated financial statements of the Company is set out in the Independent Auditor's Report on pages 176 to 180 of this annual report.

Since the approval at the annual general meeting of the Company for the financial year 2012, the external auditors, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Certified Public Accountants LLP have provided audit services for the Company for seven consecutive years. The Audit Committee and the Board of the Company have resolved to re-appoint Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Certified Public Accountants LLP as the international and domestic auditors respectively for the financial year 2020, subject to the approval at the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

## Risk Management and Internal Control Systems

The Board attaches great importance to the establishment and perfection of the risk management and internal control systems. The Board is responsible for evaluating and determining the nature and extent of the risks it is willing to take in achieving the Company's strategic objectives, and ensuring that the Company establishes and maintains appropriate and effective risk management and internal control systems, and the Board acknowledges that it is responsible for the risk management and internal control systems and for reviewing their effectiveness. Such systems are designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against material misstatements or losses. The Board oversees management in the design, implementation and monitoring of the risk management and internal control systems. The Board takes effective approaches to supervise the implementation of related control measures, whilst enhancing operation efficiency and effectiveness, and optimising corporate governance, risk assessment, risk management and internal control so that the Company can achieve long-term development goals.

The risk management and internal control systems of the Company is built on clear organisational structure and management duties, an effective delegation and accountability system, definite targets, policies and procedures, comprehensive risk assessment and management, a sound financial accounting system, and continuing analysis and supervision of operational performance, etc. which plays a pivotal role in the Company's overall operation. The Company has formulated a code of conduct for the senior management personnel and employees which ensures their ethical value and competency. The Company attaches great importance to the prevention of fraud and has formulated its internal reporting system, which encourages anonymous reporting of situations where employees, especially Directors and senior management personnel, breach the rules.

The Company views comprehensive risk management as an important task within the Company's daily operation. Pursuant to regulatory requirements in capital markets of the United States and Hong Kong, the Company has formulated a featured 5-step risk management approach based on risk management theory and practice

to achieve closed-loop management of risk identification, risk assessment, key risk analysis, risk reaction and risk management assessment. In continuously strengthening the risk process control and management and focusing on significant risk which may be encountered, the Company established a risk monitoring team, to follow and report the status of risk management and control regularly, improve the collection mechanism of risk-related information and identify the potential flaws of risk in a timely manner. Following the efforts made over the years, the Company has established a structured and highly effective comprehensive risk management system and has gradually perfected its comprehensive risk monitoring and prevention mechanism.

In 2019, pursuant to the requirement of code provision C2 of the Corporate Governance Code promulgated by the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, the Company concentrated resources on the prevention of significant potential risks, and strived to reduce negative effect from significant risks. The Company was not confronted by any major risk event throughout the whole year.

The Company has identified, assessed and analysed potential major risks faced by the Company in 2020, including economic and policy environment adaptation risks, business development risks and network and information security risks etc., and has put forward detailed response plans. Through strict and appropriate risk management procedures, the Company will ensure the potential impact from the above risks on the Company is limited and within an expected range.

In 2020, the potential significant risks and the major risk-prevention and countering measures are as follows:

**Economic and policy environment adaptation risks:** Facing the risks and challenges, such as the increasing downward pressure on the economy, the global outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic since the beginning of 2020, the gradual impacts of regulatory policies' adjustments in the industry, the official commencement of the 5G era, and the apparent increase in the sources of global unrest and risks, the Company will actively respond to the change in environment, implement the requirements of regulatory policies, innovate 5G applications and business models, deepening reform and innovation, expand ecological cooperation, improve overseas compliance management system and pragmatically promote the high-quality development of the Company.

**Business development risks:** Facing continuously increasing downward pressure on the development of the industry and the persistent upgrade of customers' needs, the Company will focus on customers' needs, improve the quality of service, expand the user scale, promote the corporate high-quality development and the in-depth cloud network integration, comprehensively apply new technologies, such as the 5G, cloud, Big Data, the Internet of Things and AI, to vigorously develop and promote new applications for government, enterprises and the public, and march steadily towards becoming a leading integrated intelligent information services provider.

**Network and information security risks:** Facing the risks and challenges of network and information security, the Company will speed up the construction of network information security integrated system and capabilities development, strengthen the protection of key information infrastructure and expand the network information security products and services, building a network information security ecology to provide users with reliable network information security protection.

The Company highly values the compliance with the laws and regulations of the PRC as well as the places of listing of the Company and where the Company's business operations are located, strictly complies with all laws and regulations and timely and proactively incorporates the laws and regulations into the Company's rules and regulations to protect the Company's legitimate business management, maintain the Company's legitimate rights and interests and support the corporate to achieve long-term healthy development target.

In August 2018, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (the "NPCSC") approved the E-Commerce Law of the People's Republic of China, which was formally implemented on 1 January 2019. The E-Commerce Law consists of seven chapters and eighty nine articles which further regulate e-commerce activities conducted by relevant parties including e-commerce platform operators ("e-commerce platforms"). The E-Commerce Law defines and confirms, for the first time, the obligation of e-commerce platforms to protect the consumers' security, and requires them to bear the corresponding responsibility when the obligation is breached. It further refines the regulation for the responsibility of intellectual property infringement on the e-commerce platforms, regulates the industrial and commercial registration and tax collection and management of e-commerce operators, requires e-commerce operators to publish information when terminating transactions at their own discretion, prohibits fabricating transactions and user comments to defraud and mislead consumers, prohibits the e-commerce platforms from abusing the dominant market position to exclude and restrict competition, regulates the rules of deposits collection and refund, requests the products participating in bidding ranking with the results marked therein.

On 23 August 2018, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology promulgated the Notice of Ministry of Industry and Information Technology on Further Regulating Marketing Activities for Telecommunications Tariff Schemes (the "Notice") which became effective from 23 August 2018. The Notice encourages fundamental telecommunications enterprises to provide a tiered discount pricing formula for tariff plans according to the usage amount of the users and simplify the structure of tariff packages. In formulating and implementing the tariff plans of bundled packages, the tariff plans for each respective service should also be provided, and the tariff rates disclosure policy should be improved. When promoting the tariff plans, the telecommunications enterprises shall fulfil its obligation to remind the users with respect to matters they shall pay attention to, including the restrictive conditions, the validity period and the charging principles. The same type of users with the same transaction conditions should be guaranteed with equal rights to select the tariff plans.

On 23 April 2019, the NPCSC promulgated the amended Anti-Unfair Competition Law of the People's Republic of China (the "Anti-Unfair Competition Law"), which was formally implemented on the same day. The amendments to the Anti-Unfair Competition Law mainly involve the provisions regarding the trade secrets of intellectual property rights. First, the scope of trade secrets has been expanded through the incorporation of a catch-all description, which is no longer limited to "technical" or "business operation" information. Second, the scope of the trade secret infringer has been expanded. Apart from business operators, other natural persons, legal persons and non-legal entities have been included in the scope of the subject of liability for trade secret infringement. Third, given the practical situation of evolving infringement means and conducts, it has been clarified that misappropriation of trade secrets through electronic intrusion or indirect means, such as instigating, inducing and aiding others to acquire the right holder's trade secrets, will constitute trade secret infringement. Fourth, the penalty on trade secret infringement has been increased. Fifth, in relation to the allocation of burden of proof for trade secret infringement in the civil trial procedure, it stipulates that the right holder may only need to provide preliminary evidences which can prove that the right holder has taken confidentiality measures and can

reasonably indicate that the trade secret has been infringed. The amendments to the Anti-Unfair Competition Law strengthened the protection of intellectual property rights in China and had a positive impact on the establishment of a fair market order and protection of the legitimate interests of the right holders.

On 11 November 2019, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology promulgated the Notice of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology on Printing and Publishing the Regulations on the Management of Mobile Number Portability Service. The Regulations on the Management of Mobile Number Portability Service (the "Regulations") became effective on 1 December 2019. The Regulations expressly allow the cellular mobile telecommunication users (excluding the users of Internet of Things) to apply for a change of the contracted fundamental business operator within the same local network area whilst retaining their phone numbers unchanged. Telecommunications business operators should strictly implement the relevant provisions on the real-name registration of users of mobile number portability service and ensure that the users whose mobile numbers have been transferred from other networks should be entitled to the same rights under the same conditions. Providing an important

basis for the supervision and inspection of the telecommunications regulators, the Regulations explicitly require that in the course of providing the mobile number portability service telecommunications business operators should not engage in 9 types of prohibited conducts including to refuse, prevent or delay the provision of mobile number portability service to users without justifiable reasons, to restrict the users from switching to another network by means of expanding the scope of the agreement in relation the terms of service, to affect the quality of telecommunications service provided to the mobile number portability service users through technical measures such as interception and restriction, to conduct a comparative promotion, fabricate or disseminate false or misleading information or discredit other telecommunication business operators when promoting the mobile number portability service and the relevant tariff plans, to design special tariff plans and marketing schemes for mobile number portability service users, continue to occupy the mobile numbers transferred-in while the users have exited the network and to hinder or disrupt the normal operation of mobile number portability service by means of handling the mobile number transfer maliciously on behalf of the users, making complaints maliciously on behalf of the users, etc..

On 28 November 2019, the State Internet Information Office, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the Ministry of Public Security and the State Administration for Market Regulation of the PRC jointly formulated the Method for Identifying the Illegal Collection and Use of Personal Information by Apps. It explicitly sets out the specific methods of identifying 6 types of illegal behaviours, i.e. failure to publish the rules for collection and use; failure to expressly specify the purpose, method and scope of collection and use of personal information; collection and use of personal information without the user's consent; violation of the essential rules to unnecessarily collect personal information which is not related to the service provided; provision of personal information to others without prior consent; and failure to provide the function of deleting or correcting personal information as required by law or failure to publish information in relation to complaint or whistleblowing methods. It serves as a reference for the regulatory authorities to identify the illegal collection and use of personal information by apps and provides guidance for the self-inspection and self-correction of app operators and the social supervision.

Apart from implementing the latest and newly-amended laws and regulations in a timely manner, the Company also actively and closely monitors forthcoming changes in the relevant laws and regulations in order to strengthen the management of the relevant business operation behaviour, safeguards the effective adherence to relevant laws and regulations so as to ensure that the Company's operations are in full compliance with the laws.

Since 2003, based on the requirements of the U.S. securities regulatory authorities and the COSO Internal Control Framework, and with the assistance of other advisory institutions including external auditors, the Company has formulated manuals, implementation rules and related rules in relation to internal control, and has developed the Policies on Internal Control Management and Internal Control Accountability Management to ensure the effective implementation of the above systems. The Company has all along continuously revises and improves the manuals and implementation rules in view of the ever changing internal and external operation environment as well as the requirements of business development over the years. While continuing to improve the internal control related policies, the Company has also been strengthening its IT internal control capabilities, which has improved the efficiency and effectiveness of internal control, enhancing the safety of the Company's information system so that the integrity, timeliness and reliability of

data and information are maintained. At the same time, the Company attaches great importance to the control and monitoring of network information safety. The Company persistently optimises the relevant rules and guidances, further defines the responsible entities and regularly commences the inspection of network safety and information safety in order to promote the enhancement of the awareness of network information safety and relevant skills and knowledge.

In 2019, based on external regulatory supervision, changes in policy environment, and requirements for prevention and control of the Company's key risks, the Company also took into account various measures for deepening reform and innovation and change of business development. In order to focus on responding quickly to market demands and supporting business innovation and operational innovation for enterprises, the Company conducted annual revision of internal control manuals and implementation guidance. Branches at all levels further optimised and improved the list of internal audit authority, strengthened the Company's internal supervision and stringent control on problem ratification, continuously improved internal control procedures and policies for capital utilisation, amended the protection for users' information and customer service related procedures, perfected taxation and e-channel partner management; supplemented the contents of outsourcing

management of sales outlets and property leasing management, IDC and Internet services management, capital and accounts management, guarantee and legal issues management.

The Internal Audit Department plays a vital role in supporting the Board, the management and the risk management and internal control systems. The functions of the Internal Audit Department, which are independent of the Company's business operations, are complementary with the functions of the external auditors while the Internal Audit Department plays an important role in the monitoring of the Company's internal management. The Internal Audit Department is responsible for internal control assessment of the Company, and provides an objective assurance to the Audit Committee and the Board that the risk management and internal control systems are maintained and operated by the management in compliance with agreed processes and standards. The Internal Audit Department regularly reports the internal audit results to the Audit Committee on a quarterly basis, and reports the internal audit results to the Board through the Audit Committee.

## Annual Evaluation of Risk Management and Internal Control Systems

The Company has been continuously improving its risk management and internal control systems so as to meet the regulatory requirements of its places of listing, including the United States and Hong Kong, and strengthen its internal control while guarding against operational risk.

The Company has adopted the COSO Internal Control Framework (2013) as the standard for the internal control assessment. With the management's internal control testing guidelines and the Auditing Standard No. 2201 that were issued by The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) as its directives, the Company's internal control assessment system is composed of the self-assessment conducted by the persons responsible for internal control together with the independent assessment conducted by the Internal Audit Department. In order to evaluate the nature of internal control

deficiencies and reach a conclusion as to the effectiveness of the internal control system, the Company adopts the following 4 major steps of assessment: (1) analyse and identify areas which require assessment, (2) assess the effectiveness of the design of internal control, (3) assess the operating effectiveness of internal control, (4) analyse the impact of deficiencies in internal control, judge the nature of deficiencies in internal control and conclude on the effectiveness of the internal control system. At the same time, the Company rectifies any deficiencies found during the assessment. By formulating the amended “Measures for the Internal Control Assessment”, the “Manual for the Self-Assessment of Internal Control”, the “Manual for the Independent Assessment of Internal Control” and other regulations, the Company has ensured the assessment procedures are in compliance. In 2019, the Company’s Internal Audit Department initiated and coordinated the assessment of internal control all over the Company, and reported the results to the Audit Committee and the Board.

Self-assessment of internal control adopts a top-down approach. The Company continued to insist on 100% coverage of all units and also included the newly incorporated professional companies in the self-assessment system. Taking into account changes in internal and external environment and risk prevention focuses and focusing on key risk control areas in

relation to the integrity and reliability of financial reports, compliance of operation and management and security of fund and assets, the Company insisted on risk-oriented principles and assessed the effectiveness of the design and implementation of internal control. The Company focused on the new situations and new risks identified in the process of new business development, new system implementation and organisational structure adjustment, the cross-level, cross-department and cross-system problems identified in the implementation of internal control and the rectification of problems identified in internal and external inspections and repeating problems. Taking full advantage of the leading role of business departments in the internal control self-assessment, the Company deepened the development of self-assessment and promoted the effective integration of self-assessment and daily operation and management through the professional lines of self-identification of risks, self-inspection of implementation and self-perfection of systems. In response to the internal control deficiencies identified during the self-assessment, the Company identified the responsibilities one by one, timely rectified the deficiencies, and effectively controlled and eliminated any potential risks. The Company also worked towards perfecting the systems and procedures, while

continuously improving the effectiveness of the design and implementation of internal control.

The independent assessment of internal control targeted at extending to the full coverage of all the relevant units for a period of three years. On this basis, the scope of assessment was further expanded in 2019 and independent assessment was conducted on 6 provincial branches, 3 professional companies, 2 local networks and 2 departments in the headquarters office. To highlight the assessment focus, on the one hand, the Company focused on the establishment of internal control system and control environment and the quality and effects of internal control self-assessment and rectification work; while on the other hand, the Company enhanced the assessment on key areas and crucial aspects such as the authenticity of operating performance, fund management, procurement, business cooperation, business control and management, network information security and major economic decision-making procedures. The assessment on the departments in the headquarters office mainly focused on the effectiveness of the design of mechanism and system and the effectiveness of internal control for the vertical professional lines. The

assessment on the professional companies mainly focused on corporate governance and control environment and specific risks relevant to their business characteristics in order to identify the deficiencies in the internal control management and rectification methods. The assessment on local networks served as the targeted independent assessment on and offered assistance to prefecture-level branches with imperfect self-assessed quality, which aimed to propel their management to enhance its awareness of internal control, identify the responsibility of internal control and strengthen fundamental management. During the year, risk prevention measures have been effectively implemented through different levels of independent assessments of internal control, which effectively enhanced the quality of assessment and the effectiveness of rectification, further enhanced the corporate self-healing abilities and safeguarded healthy corporate development.

Furthermore, the Company organised the risk management and internal control assessment team and other relevant departments to closely coordinate with the external auditors' audit of internal control over financial reporting. The internal control audit covered the Company and all its subsidiaries as well as the key processes

and control points in relation to material financial statements items. The external auditors regularly communicated with the management in respect of the audit results.

The Company attaches great importance to rectifying internal control deficiencies. Focusing on deficiencies identified through self-assessment, independent assessment and internal control audit at all levels, the Company required all units to carry out rectification measures and established a collaborative risk prevention mechanism to promote different professional reporting lines of various departments in the headquarters office to execute vertical supervision for the rectification work. The rectification work has been conducted in accordance with the measures to rectify the audit problem identified in order to achieve rectification results, perfect the systems and solidify the procedures. All subordinates entities proactively rectified deficiencies identified from the internal and external assessments on the request from the Company and increased the accountability for inadequate rectification in order to ensure the effectiveness of rectification work.

Through self-assessments and independent assessments conducted at different levels, the Company carried out multi-layered and full-dimensional reviews of its internal control system, and put its utmost efforts into rectifying the problems which were identified. Through this method, the Company was able to ensure the effectiveness of its internal control and successfully passed the year-end attestation undertaken by the external auditors.

The Board oversees the Company's risk management and internal control systems on an on-going basis and the Board, through the Audit Committee, conducted an annual review of the risk management and internal control systems of the Company and its subsidiaries for the financial year ended 31 December 2019, which covered all material areas including financial controls, operational controls and compliance controls, as well as its risk management functions. After receiving the reports from the Internal Audit Department and the confirmation from the management to the Board on the effectiveness of the Company's risk management and internal control systems (including Environmental, Social and Governance risk management and internal control systems), the Board is of the view that these systems are solid, well established, effective and sufficient. The annual review also confirms the adequacy of resources relating to the Company's accounting, internal control and financial reporting functions, the sufficiency of the qualifications and experience of staff, together with the adequacy of the staff's training programmes and the relevant budget.

## Investor Relations and Transparent Information Disclosure Mechanism

The Company established an Investor Relations Department which is responsible for providing shareholders and investors with the necessary information, data and services in a timely manner. It also maintains proactive communications with shareholders, investors and other capital market participants so as to allow them to fully and timely understand the operation and development of the Company. The Company's senior management presents the annual results and interim results every year. Through various activities such as analyst meetings, press conferences, global investor telephone conferences and investors road shows, senior management provides the capital market and media with important information and responds to key questions which are of prime concerns to the investors. This has helped reinforce the understanding of the Company's business and the overall development of the telecommunications industry in



China. Since 2004, the Company has been holding the Annual General Meetings in Hong Kong to provide convenience and encourage its shareholders, especially the public shareholders, to actively participate in the Company's Annual General Meetings and to promote direct and two-way communications between the Board and shareholders. Meanwhile, the Company set up a dedicated investor relations enquiry line, for the purpose of providing a direct channel to address enquiries from the investment community. This allows the Company to better serve its shareholders and investors.



With an aim of strengthening communications with the capital market and enhancing transparency of information disclosure, the Company has provided quarterly disclosure of revenue, operating expenses, EBITDA, net profit figures and other key operational data, and monthly announcements of the number of access lines in service, mobile and wireline broadband subscribers. The Company attaches great importance to maintaining daily communication with shareholders, investors and analysts. In 2019, the Company participated in a number of investor conferences held by a number of major international investment banks in order to maintain active communication with institutional investors.

# ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

## | Corporate Governance Report

In 2019, the Company attended the following investor conferences held by major international investment banks:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of Conference</b>	<b>Location</b>
January 2019	DBS Pulse of Asia Conference 2019	Singapore
January 2019	Morgan Stanley China New Economy Summit 2019	Beijing
January 2019	UBS Greater China Conference 2019	Shanghai
January 2019	Deutsche Bank Access China Conference 2019	Shenzhen
January 2019	Crosby Peacock Series Corporate Day 2019	Hong Kong
March 2019	22nd Credit Suisse Asian Investment Conference	Hong Kong
March 2019	Morgan Stanley Ninth Annual Hong Kong Investor Summit	Hong Kong
March 2019	Bernstein's 5th Annual China Telecommunications Symposium	Hong Kong
April 2019	Nomura Greater China TMT Corporate Day 2019	Hong Kong
April 2019	China Merchants Securities 5G Investor Seminar 2019	Hong Kong
May 2019	Deutsche Bank Access Asia Conference 2019	Singapore
May 2019	The 15th BOCI Investors Conference	Beijing
May 2019	J.P. Morgan Global China Summit 2019	Beijing
May 2019	Morgan Stanley China Summit 2019	Beijing
May 2019	CLSA 24th China Forum	Qingdao
May 2019	HSBC China Conference 2019	Shenzhen
May 2019	Macquarie Greater China Conference 2019	Hong Kong
May 2019	Goldman Sachs TechNet Conference – Asia Pacific 2019	Hong Kong
June 2019	HSBC GEMs Investor Forum 2019	New York
June 2019	CICC Investment Strategy Conference 2H2019	Shanghai
June 2019	UBS Asia TMT Conference 2019	Hong Kong
June 2019	ICBCI 2019 New Technology Corporate Day	Hong Kong

# ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

## | Corporate Governance Report

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of Conference</b>	<b>Location</b>
August 2019	Morgan Stanley China TMT Conference 2019	Beijing
September 2019	Nomura China Investor Forum 2019	Shanghai
September 2019	CLSA 26th Investors' Forum	Hong Kong
November 2019	HSBC Global Investment Forum 2019	New York
November 2019	Morgan Stanley European Technology, Media & Telecom Conference 2019	Barcelona
November 2019	Morgan Stanley 18th Annual Asia Pacific Summit	Singapore
November 2019	Bank of America Merrill Lynch 2019 China Conference	Beijing
November 2019	CICC Investment Forum 2019	Beijing
November 2019	Goldman Sachs China Conference 2019	Shenzhen
November 2019	Credit Suisse China Investment Conference 2019	Shenzhen
November 2019	CITIC Securities Capital Market Annual Conference 2020	Shenzhen
November 2019	Daiwa Investment Conference 2019	Hong Kong
November 2019	Citi China Investor Conference 2019	Macau
November 2019	President Securities Investment Forum for the Emerging Trends 2020	Taipei
December 2019	Huatai Securities Investment Summit 2020	Beijing
December 2019	China Securities TMT Investment Summit 2020	Beijing
December 2019	Nomura 5G/Tech Corporate Day 2019	Hong Kong

The Company's investor relations website ([www.chinatelecom-h.com](http://www.chinatelecom-h.com)) not only serves as an important channel for the Company to disseminate press releases and corporate information to investors, media and the capital market, but also plays a significant role in the Company's valuation and our compliance with regulatory requirements for information disclosure. The Company launched a responsive website with the latest technology, which allows automatic adjustment to fit for different screen resolution and user interface, assuring the best browsing experience of website content with desktop computers, laptops or mobile devices. This allows investors, shareholders, reporters and the general public to browse the latest information on the Company's website with any device more easily and promptly anytime anywhere. The Company's website is equipped with a number of useful functions including interactive stock quote, interactive KPI, interactive FAQs, auto email alerts of investors activities, downloading to excel, RSS Feeds, self-selected items in investors briefcase, html version annual report, financial highlights, investor toolbar, historical stock quote, adding investor events to calendars, content sharing to social media, etc.. In addition to setting up a dedicated investor relations enquiry line, a specialised appointment function to schedule a meeting with investor relations professionals was also launched on the Company's website, to promote direct and close communication between the Company and investors, as well as to increase transparency.

The Company also strives to enhance the disclosure quality and format of annual report. The Company further enhanced the transparency of disclosure in environmental, social and governance areas, by following *Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide*, Appendix 27 of Listing Rules, to report the Company's achievements and key performance indicators on environmental protection, while also took initiative to add quantitative disclosures on social responsibility. The data disclosed was analysed and assessed by independent third party to ensure compliance with relevant requirements. The Company also actively seeks recommendations on how to improve the Company's annual report from shareholders through survey, and prepared and distributed the annual report in a more environmentally-friendly and cost-saving manner according to the recommendations received. Shareholders can ascertain their choice of receiving the annual reports and communications by electronic means, or receiving printed version in English and/or Chinese. The Company clearly and precisely delivered the messages about its strategies and goals in its 2018 Annual Report "*Intelligent Transformation to Co-share Value of Innovation*", so that shareholders and investors can easily understand the Company's development directions and focus. The print and online versions of 2018 Annual Report won a number of top accolades in international competitions, including being awarded in total six platinum awards and five gold awards, and ranked No. 3 of

“Top 100 Reports Worldwide” (No. 1 in Asia Pacific) in “LACP 2018 Vision Awards”. In addition, the Company’s print Annual Report has earned 3 gold awards in “2019 International ARC Awards”. These prestigious honours reflect the unanimous worldwide recognition towards China Telecom’s tireless pursuit of excellence and globally leading performance on corporate governance and disclosure, on both conventional and digital channels.

The Company has always maintained a sound and effective information disclosure mechanism while keeping highly transparent communications with media, analysts and investors. Meanwhile, we attach great importance to the handling of inside information and have formulated rules on information disclosures and guidelines on inside information which encompass (including but not limited

to) disclosure of sensitive information and rules on confidential information, identifying the scope of inside information, procedure and management guidelines on handling inside information. In general, the authorised speakers only clarify and explain on information that is available on the market, and avoid providing or divulging any unpublished inside information either as an individual or as a team. Before conducting any external interview, if the authorised speaker has any doubt about the information to be disclosed, he/she would seek verification from the relevant person or the person-in-charge of the relevant department, so as to determine if such information is accurate. In addition, discussions on the Company’s key financial data or other financial indicators are avoided during the blackout periods.



## Shareholders

Details of shareholders by type and public float capitalisation can be referred to the Report of the Directors on pages 52 to 85 of this annual report.

## Shareholders' Rights

### Procedures for convening of an extraordinary general meeting or a class meeting

According to the Articles of Association, shareholders who request for the convening of an extraordinary general meeting or a class meeting shall comply with the following procedures:

2 or more shareholders holding in aggregate 10% or more of the shares carrying the right to vote at the meeting sought to be held shall sign one or more written requisitions in the same format and with the same content, stating the proposed matters to be discussed at the meeting, and requiring the Board to convene an extraordinary general meeting or a class meeting thereof. The Board shall convene an extraordinary general meeting within 2 months. If the Board fails to issue a notice of such a meeting within 30 days from the date of receipt of the requisitions, the shareholders who make the requisitions may themselves convene such a meeting (in a manner as similar as possible to the manner in which shareholders' meetings are convened by the Board) within 4 months from the date of receipt of the requisitions by the Board.

### Procedures for proposing resolutions at the annual general meeting

When the Company convenes an annual general meeting, shareholders holding 5% or more of the total voting shares of the Company shall have the right to propose new motions in writing, and the Company shall place such proposed motions on the agenda for such annual general meeting if they are matters falling within the functions and powers of shareholders' meetings.

Pursuant to the "Reply of the State Council on the Adjustment of the Notice Period of the General Meeting and Other Matters Applicable to the Overseas Listed Companies (Guo Han [2019] No. 97)" published in October 2019 to amend the requirements with respect to notice period, shareholders' proposal right and convening procedures for general meetings applicable to joint stock companies incorporated in the PRC and listed overseas, the Company will propose to amend the Articles of Association of the Company regarding the requirements on the notice period of the general meeting, shareholders' proposal right and convening procedures at the 2019 Annual General Meeting. Please refer to the announcement published by the Company on 24 March 2020 and the circular of the Company for the 2019 Annual General Meeting for the details of the amendments.

**Process of forwarding shareholders' enquiries to the Board or requesting for convening of an extraordinary general meeting or a class meeting or proposing new motions:**

Shareholders may at any time send their enquiries, requests, proposals and concerns to the Board in writing through the Company Secretary and the Investor Relations Department.

The contact details of the Company Secretary are as follows:

The Company Secretary  
China Telecom Corporation Limited  
28th Floor, Everbright Centre,  
108 Gloucester Road, Wanchai,  
Hong Kong  
Email: [ir@chinatelecom-h.com](mailto:ir@chinatelecom-h.com)  
Tel No.: (852) 2877 9777  
IR Enquiry: (852) 2582 0388  
Fax No.: (852) 2877 0988

A dedicated "Investor" section is available on the Company's website ([www.chinatelecom-h.com](http://www.chinatelecom-h.com)). There is a FAQ function in the "Investor" section designated to enable timely, effective and interactive communication between the Company, shareholders and investors. Company Secretary and the Investor Relations Department of the Company handle both telephone and written enquiries from shareholders of the Company from time to time. Shareholders' enquiries and concerns will be forwarded to the Board and/or the relevant Board Committees of the Company, where appropriate, which will answer the shareholders' questions. Information on the Company's website is updated regularly.

## Amendments to Articles of Association

In 2019, the Company amended the Articles of Association twice in total:

At the 2018 Annual General Meeting held on 29 May 2019, the shareholders approved the first amendment to the Articles of Association regarding change of the names of the promoter and a domestic shareholder of the Company as well as the scope of business of the Company. Please refer to the circular of the Company dated 10 April 2019 for the details of the amendments.

At the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on 19 August 2019, the shareholders approved the second amendment to the Articles of Association of the Company regarding change of business scope of the Company and the amendment of the relevant provisions of the Articles of Association regarding shares repurchase by the Company due to the amendments to the Company Law of the People's Republic of China. Please refer to the circular of the Company dated 4 July 2019 for the details of the amendments.

## Significant Differences Between the Corporate Governance Practices followed by the Company and those followed by NYSE-Listed U.S. Companies

The Company was established in the PRC and is currently listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”). As a foreign private issuer in respect of its listing on the NYSE, the Company is not required to comply with all corporate governance rules of Section 303A of the NYSE Listed Company Manual. However, the Company is required to disclose the significant differences between the corporate governance practices of the Company and the listing standards followed by NYSE-listed U.S. companies.

Pursuant to the requirements of the NYSE Listed Company Manual, the Board of all NYSE-listed U.S. companies must be made up by a majority of Independent Directors. Under currently applicable PRC and Hong Kong laws and regulations, the Board is not required to be formed with a majority of Independent Directors. As a listed company on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, the Company needs to comply with the Listing Rules. The Listing Rules require that at least one-third of the Board of a listed company in Hong Kong be Independent Non-Executive Directors. As at the date of this report, the Board currently comprises 10 Directors, of which 4 are Independent Directors, making the number of Independent Directors exceeds one-third of the total number of Directors on the Board, in compliance with the requirements of the Listing Rules. These Independent Directors also satisfy the requirements on “independence” under the Listing Rules. However, the related standard set out in the Listing Rules is different from the requirements in Section 303A.02 of the NYSE Listed Company Manual.

Pursuant to the requirements of the NYSE Listed Company Manual, companies shall formulate separate corporate governance guidelines. Under the currently applicable PRC and Hong Kong laws and regulations, the Company is not required to formulate any guidelines for corporate governance; therefore, the Company has not formulated any separate corporate governance guidelines. However, the Company has implemented the code provisions under the Corporate Governance Code and Corporate Governance Report as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules for the financial year ended 31 December 2019.

## Continuous Evolution of Corporate Governance

The Company continuously analyses the corporate governance development of international advanced enterprises and the investors’ desires, constantly examines and strengthens the corporate governance measures and practice, and improves the current practices at the appropriate time; we strongly believe that by adhering to good corporate governance principles, and improving the transparency of operations, as well as the establishment of the effective accountability system, we can ensure the long-term stable development of the Company and seek sustainable returns for the shareholders and investors.

**For further information, please browse our website at**

[www.chinatelecom-h.com](http://www.chinatelecom-h.com)

# BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORS

## Mr. Ke Ruiwen

Age 56, is an Executive Director, the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in May 2012. Mr. Ke obtained a doctorate degree in business administration (DBA) from the ESC Rennes School of Business. Mr. Ke served as Deputy Director General of Jiangxi Posts and Telecommunications Administration, Deputy General Manager of Jiangxi Telecom, Managing Director of the Marketing Department of the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation\*, General Manager of Jiangxi Telecom, Managing Director of the Human Resources Department of the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation, Executive Vice President, President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company, Vice President and President of China Telecommunications Corporation and the Chairman of Supervisory Committee of China Tower Corporation Limited. He is also the Chairman of China Telecommunications Corporation. Mr. Ke has extensive experience in management and the telecommunications industry.



## Mr. Li Zhengmao

Age 57, is the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company, graduated from Sichuan University with a major in radio electronics and received a master degree in radio technology from Chengdu Telecommunications Engineering Institute and a doctorate degree in communication and electronic system of radio engineering from Southeast University. Mr. Li served as an Executive Director and Vice President of China Unicom Limited, a Director and Vice President of China United Telecommunications Corporation, a Vice President of China Mobile Limited which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE, a Vice President and General Counsel of China Mobile Communications Group Co., Ltd. and a Director and Vice President of China Mobile Communication Co., Ltd., a Non-Executive Director of China Communications Services Corporation Limited which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE and a Vice Chairman of True Corporation Public Company Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand. Mr. Li is also a Director and the President of China Telecommunications Corporation. Mr. Li has extensive experience in management and the telecommunications industry.



\* Now known as “中國電信集團有限公司”, the controlling shareholder (within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance of Hong Kong) of the Company, holds approximately 70.89% of the issued share capital of the Company.

## BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORS

### Mr. Chen Zhongyue



Age 48, is an Executive Director and Executive Vice President of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in May 2017. Mr. Chen received a bachelor degree from Shanghai International Studies University, a master degree in economics from Zhejiang University and an executive master of business administration (EMBA) from Xiamen University. Mr. Chen served as Deputy General Manager of China Telecom Zhejiang branch, Managing Director of the Public Customers Department of the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation and General Manager of China Telecom Shanxi branch. He is also a Vice President of China Telecommunications Corporation. Mr. Chen has extensive experience in management and the telecommunications industry.

### Mr. Zhang Zhiyong



Age 54, was appointed as an Executive Vice President of the Company on 10 July 2018. Mr. Zhang is a senior engineer. He graduated from the Changchun Institute of Posts and Telecommunications with a bachelor degree in radio engineering. He also received a master degree in control engineering from Yanshan University and a master of management degree from BI Norwegian School of Management. Mr. Zhang served as Managing Director of the Sideline Industrial Management Department of China Telecommunications Corporation, President and Executive Director of China Communications Services Corporation Limited which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE, General Manager of Xinjiang branch and Beijing branch of China Telecom Corporation Limited. He is also a Vice President of China Telecommunications Corporation, the Chairman of the board of directors and an Executive Director of China Communications Services Corporation Limited and a Non-Executive Director of China Tower Corporation Limited, both are listed on the Main Board of the HKSE. Mr. Zhang has extensive experience in management and the telecommunications industry.

## BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORS

### Mr. Liu Guiqing

Age 53, is an Executive Director and Executive Vice President of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in August 2019. Mr. Liu is a professor-level senior engineer. He received a doctorate degree in engineering science from National University of Defense Technology. Mr. Liu served as Deputy General Manager and General Manager of China Unicom Hunan branch and General Manager of China Unicom Jiangsu provincial branch. He is also a Vice President of China Telecommunications Corporation. Mr. Liu has extensive experience in management and the telecommunications industry.



### Madam Zhu Min

Age 55, is an Executive Director, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of the Board of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in October 2018. Madam Zhu is a senior accountant. She received a master degree in system engineering from the Faculty of Management Engineering at the Beijing Institute of Posts and Telecommunications and a doctorate degree in business administration from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Madam Zhu served as Managing Director of Finance Department of China Telecom (Hong Kong) Limited, Managing Director of Finance Department of China Mobile (Hong Kong) Group Limited, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Managing Director of Finance Department of China Mobile Limited which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE, Director General of Finance Department of China Mobile Communications Corporation, Deputy Chief Accountant and Director General of Finance Department of China Mobile Communications Group Co., Ltd. and a Director of Shanghai Pudong Development Bank Co., Ltd. which is listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange. She is currently the Chief Accountant of China Telecommunications Corporation. Madam Zhu has extensive experience in finance, management and the telecommunications industry.



### Mr. Wang Guoquan

Age 47, is an Executive Director and Executive Vice President of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in August 2019. Mr. Wang received an executive master degree of business administration (EMBA) from Business School, Renmin University of China. Mr. Wang served as Deputy General Manager and General Manager of the China Telecom Hebei branch and General Manager of the Marketing Department of China Telecommunications Corporation. He is also a Vice President of China Telecommunications Corporation and a director of Besttone Holding Co., Ltd., which is listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange. Mr. Wang has extensive experience in management and the telecommunications industry.



## BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORS

### Mr. Chen Shengguang

Age 56, is a Non-Executive Director of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in May 2017. Mr. Chen graduated from Zhongnan University of Economics with a major in finance and accounting, and obtained a postgraduate degree in economics from Guangdong Academy of Social Sciences and a master degree in business administration (MBA) from Lingnan College of Sun Yat-sen University. Mr. Chen is currently the Director and General Manager of Guangdong Rising Assets Management Co., Ltd.\* (one of the domestic shareholders of the Company). Mr. Chen served as the Manager of Finance Department and Deputy General Manager of Guangdong Foreign Trade Import & Export Corporation, Head of Finance Department, Assistant to General Manager and Chief Accountant of Guangdong Guangxin Foreign Trade Group Co., Limited, a Director of FSPG Hi-Tech Co., Ltd. which is listed on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange, a Non-Executive Director of Xingfa Aluminium Holdings Limited which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE, a Director of Guangdong Silk-Tex Group Co., Ltd., the Chief Accountant and Deputy General Manager of Guangdong Guangxin Holdings Group Ltd.. Mr. Chen has extensive experience in finance and corporate management.



\* A substantial shareholder of the Company within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance.

### Mr. Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius

Age 72, is an Independent Non-Executive Director of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in September 2005. Mr. Tse is currently an Independent Non-Executive Director of CNOOC Limited, Sinofert Holdings Limited, SJM Holdings Limited and China Huarong Asset Management Co., Ltd., all of which are listed on the Main Board of the HKSE. Mr. Tse is also an Independent Non-Executive Director of OCBC Wing Hang Bank Limited (formerly known as “Wing Hang Bank Limited”, which was listed on the Main Board of the HKSE until October 2014). From 2004 to 2010, he was an Independent Non-Executive Director of China Construction Bank Corporation, which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE. From 2005 to 2016, Mr. Tse was also an Independent Non-Executive Director of Daohe Global Group Limited (formerly known as “Linmark Group Limited”), which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE. Mr. Tse was appointed as an Independent Non-Executive Director of CCB International (Holdings) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of China Construction Bank Corporation in March 2013. He is also a member of the International Advisory Council of the People’s Municipal Government of Wuhan. Mr. Tse is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, and the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“HKICPA”). Mr. Tse is a past President and a former member of the Audit Committee of the HKICPA. He joined KPMG in 1976, became a partner in 1984 and retired in March 2003. Mr. Tse was a Non-Executive Chairman of KPMG’s operations in China and a member of the KPMG China advisory board from 1997 to 2000. Mr. Tse is a graduate of the University of Hong Kong.



## BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORS

### Professor Xu Erming

Age 70, is an Independent Non-Executive Director of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in September 2005. Professor Xu is a professor and Dean of Business School of Shantou University and Vice Chairman of the Chinese Enterprise Management Research Association. He is entitled to the State Council's special government allowances and is an Independent Non-Executive Director of Comtec Solar Systems Group Limited, which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE. Professor Xu served as a professor, Ph.D supervisor of the Graduate School and Dean of Business School at the Renmin University of China, and was an Independent Supervisor of Harbin Electric Company Limited, which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE. Over the years, Professor Xu has conducted research in areas related to strategic management, innovation and entrepreneurship management, and has been responsible for research on many subjects put forward by the National Natural Science Foundation, the National Social Science Foundation, and other authorities at provincial and ministry level. He has received many awards such as the Ministry of Education's Class One Excellent Higher Education Textbook Award, the State-Level Class Two Teaching Award and the National Excellent Course Award. Professor Xu has been awarded the Fulbright Scholar of U.S.A. twice and the visiting scholar of McGill University, Canada. Professor Xu was previously a lecturer at the New York State University at Buffalo, U.S.A., the University of Scranton, U.S.A., the University of Technology, Sydney, the Kyushu University, Japan, Panyapiwat Institute of Management, Thailand and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.



### Madam Wang Hsuehming



Age 70, is an Independent Non-Executive Director of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in May 2014. Madam Wang received a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Massachusetts and attended Columbia University. She was a Senior Advisor and former Chairman of BlackRock China. She was also the former Chairman of China at Goldman Sachs Asset Management. She joined Goldman Sachs in 1994, became a Partner in 2000 and an Advisory Director from 2010 to 2011. With nearly 30 years of experience in financial services, she participated in pioneering efforts in China's economic reform and development. She was instrumental in advising Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and Ministry of Information Industry (now known as Ministry of Industry and Information Technology) in the privatisations and listings of its mobile and fixed line businesses. She also participated in advising appropriate operators in strategic investments by international telecom companies. The early cross-border financings of aircraft and other capital equipment in China's aviation sector, as well as the separate listings of national airlines, and important provincial and municipal credit restructurings also formed part of Madam Wang's understanding of China's economic growth in the past three decades.

## BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORS

### Mr. Yeung Chi Wai, Jason

Age 65, is an Independent Non-Executive Director of the Company, joined the Board of Directors of the Company in October 2018. Mr. Yeung is currently the Group Chief Compliance and Risk Management Officer of Fung Holdings (1937) Limited and its listed companies in Hong Kong, an Independent Non-Executive Director of Bank of Communications Co., Ltd, which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE and the Shanghai Stock Exchange and a member of Hospital Authority Board of Hong Kong. He served as an Independent Non-Executive Director of AviChina Industry & Technology Company Limited, which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE. Mr. Yeung has extensive experience in handling legal, compliance and regulatory matters and previously worked in the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong, law firms and enterprises practising corporate, commercial and securities laws. Mr. Yeung served as a Director and the General Counsel of China Everbright Limited, which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE and was also a partner of Woo, Kwan, Lee, & Lo.. He acted as the Board Secretary of BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE, from 2001 to 2011 and concurrently acted as the Board Secretary of Bank of China Limited which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE and the Shanghai Stock Exchange, from 2005 to 2008. He also served as the Deputy Chief Executive (Personal Banking) of Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited from April 2011 to February 2015. Mr. Yeung received a bachelor degree in social sciences from the University of Hong Kong. He then graduated from The College of Law, United Kingdom and received a bachelor degree in law and a master degree in business administration from the University of Western Ontario, Canada.



## Supervisors

### Mr. Sui Yixun

Age 56, is the Chairman of the Supervisory Committee of the Company, joined the Supervisory Committee of the Company in May 2015. Mr. Sui is currently a Supervisor of Tianyi Telecom Terminals Company Limited and a Supervisor of China Tower Corporation Limited which is listed on the Main Board of the HKSE. Mr. Sui received a bachelor degree from Beijing Institute of Posts and Telecommunications and a master degree in business administration from Tsinghua University. Mr. Sui served as Deputy General Manager of China Telecom Shandong branch, Deputy General Manager of the Northern Telecom of China Telecommunications Corporation, General Manager of China Telecom Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region branch and the Managing Director of audit department of the Company. Mr. Sui is a senior economist and has extensive experience in operational and financial management in the telecommunications industry.

## Mr. Zhang Jianbin

Age 54, is an Employee Representative Supervisor of the Company, joined the Supervisory Committee of the Company in October 2012. Mr. Zhang is currently the Deputy Managing Director of the Corporate Strategy Department (Legal Department) and the Deputy General Counsel of China Telecommunications Corporation. Mr. Zhang graduated from the Law School of Peking University in 1989 and received a LLM degree. He also had an EMBA degree from the Guanghua School of Management at Peking University in 2006. He previously worked at the Department of Policy and Regulation of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (“MPT”) and the Directorate General of Telecommunications of the MPT. Mr. Zhang has extensive experience in corporate legal affairs.

## Mr. Yang Jianqing

Age 60, is an Employee Representative Supervisor of the Company, joined the Supervisory Committee of the Company in May 2017. Mr. Yang graduated from the Beijing Institute of Posts and Telecommunications with a bachelor degree in 1982 and obtained a master degree in business administration from the University of Hong Kong. Mr. Yang served as Director General of Xining Telecommunications Bureau in Qinghai province, Deputy General Manager and General Manager of China Telecom Qinghai branch, General Manager of China Telecom Gansu branch, financial controller of the Company, General Manager and Senior Consultant of Corporate Culture Department of the Company. Mr. Yang is a senior engineer and has extensive experience in operational and financial management in the telecommunications industry.

## Mr. Xu Shiguang

Aged 40, is a Supervisor of the Company, joined the Supervisor Committee of the Company in October 2018. Mr. Xu is currently the Director of general office of audit department of the Company. Mr. Xu received a bachelor degree in auditing and a master degree in accounting from the Nankai University. Mr. Xu served at various positions in internal control and auditing at China Telecommunications Corporation for many years. Mr. Xu is a member of the Chinese Institute of Certified Public Accountants and a Certified Internal Auditor with extensive experience in internal control and auditing.

## Mr. Ye Zhong

Age 60, is a Supervisor of the Company, joined the Supervisory Committee of the Company in May 2015. Mr. Ye is a senior accountant. He holds a bachelor degree. Mr. Ye is the Director of Zhejiang Provincial Financial Holdings Co., Ltd., Chairman and General Manager of Zhejiang Provincial Innovation and Development Investment Co. Ltd., and Chairman of Zhejiang Financial Market Investment Co. Ltd.. Chairman and General Manager of Zhejiang Agricultural Investment and Development Fund Co. Ltd. Mr. Ye served as Deputy General Manager of Zhejiang Financial Development Company (one of the domestic shareholders of the Company), Chairman of Zhejiang Venture Capital Fund of Funds Management Co. Ltd., Chairman and General Manager of Zhejiang Infrastructure Investment (including PPP) Fund Co. Ltd., Director of Zhejiang Provincial Industry Fund Co., Ltd., Deputy Director of the Social Security Division of the Department of Finance of Zhejiang Province, Deputy Director of the Discipline Inspection Division and Director of Supervisory Office of the Department of Finance of Zhejiang Province delegated by the Discipline Inspection Commission and Department of Supervision of Zhejiang Province. Mr. Ye has extensive experience in government’s work and state-owned enterprise management.

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of China Telecom Corporation Limited (the “Company”) hereby presents its report together with the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “Group”) prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards for the year ended 31 December 2019.

## Principal Business

The principal business of the Company and the Group is the provision of fundamental telecommunications businesses including comprehensive wireline telecommunications services, mobile telecommunications services, value-added telecommunications businesses such as Internet access services, information services and other related services within the service area of the Group.

## Results

Results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2019 and the financial position of the Group as at that date are set out in the audited consolidated financial statements on pages 181 to 272 of this annual report.

## Dividend Policy

The Company attaches great importance to the investment returns of shareholders, strives to maintain the continuity and stability of the dividend policy taking into the consideration the long-term interest and sustainable development of the Company. The following factors will be considered by the Company when formulating the dividend distribution plan:

1. the operating results and cash flow level of the Company;
2. the Company’s future business development position and the capital expenditure requirements;
3. capital needs and gearing ratio;
4. the expectation from shareholders and investors; and
5. other factors that the Board deems appropriate.

The Board is responsible for formulating the dividend distribution plan and will execute the relevant approval procedures in accordance with relevant laws, rules, regulations and articles of association of the Company (the “Articles of Association”) before proceeding with the distribution. In the future, the Company will strive for improvement on profitability and at the same time continue to deliver favourable dividend return for the shareholders.

## Dividend

The Board proposes a final dividend in the amount equivalent to HK\$0.125 per share (pre-tax), totalling approximately RMB9,126 million for the year ended 31 December 2019. The dividend proposal will be submitted for consideration at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 26 May 2020 (the "2019 Annual General Meeting"). Dividends will be denominated and declared in Renminbi.

Dividends for holders of domestic shares and the investors of the Shanghai Stock Exchange and Shenzhen Stock Exchange (including enterprises and individuals) investing in the H shares of the Company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (the "Southbound Trading Link") (the "Southbound Investors") will be paid in Renminbi, whereas dividends for H share shareholders other than Southbound Investors will be paid in Hong Kong dollars. The relevant exchange rate will be the average median rate of Renminbi to Hong Kong dollars as announced by the People's Bank of China for the week prior to the date of declaration of dividends at the 2019 Annual General Meeting. The proposed final dividends are expected to be paid on Friday, 31 July 2020 upon approval at the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

Pursuant to the "Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China", the "Implementation Rules of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China" in 2008 and Guo Shui Han [2008] No. 897, the Company shall be obliged to withhold and pay 10% enterprise income tax when it distributes the proposed 2019 final dividends to non-resident enterprise shareholders of overseas H shares (including HKSCC Nominees Limited, other corporate nominees or trustees, and other entities or organisations) whose names appear on the Company's H share register of members on Tuesday, 9 June 2020.

According to regulations by the State Taxation Administration (Guo Shui Han [2011] No. 348) and relevant laws and regulations, if the individual H share shareholders who are Hong Kong or Macau residents and those whose country of domicile is a country which has entered into a tax treaty with PRC stipulating a dividend tax rate of 10%, the Company will finally withhold and pay individual income tax at the rate of 10% on behalf of the individual H share shareholders. If the individual H share shareholders whose country of domicile is a country which has entered into a tax treaty with PRC stipulating a dividend tax rate of less than 10%, the Company will finally withhold and pay individual income tax at the rate of 10% on behalf

of the individual H share shareholders. If the individual H share shareholders whose country of domicile is a country which has entered into a tax treaty with PRC stipulating a dividend tax rate of more than 10% but less than 20%, the Company will withhold and pay individual income tax at the actual tax rate stipulated in the relevant tax treaty. If the individual H share shareholders whose country of domicile is a country which has entered into a tax treaty with PRC stipulating a dividend tax rate of 20%, or a country which has not entered into any tax treaties with PRC, or under any other circumstances, the Company will withhold and pay individual income tax at the rate of 20% on behalf of the individual H share shareholders. If those shareholders need to request a refund of tax overpaid from the PRC tax authorities through the Company in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Announcement [2019] No. 35 of the State Taxation Administration, they shall submit reports and information as stipulated in the Announcement [2019] No. 35 of the State Taxation Administration, and provide supplemental information on their entitlements under the relevant treaties.

The Company will determine the country of domicile of the individual H share shareholders based on the registered address as recorded in the H share register of members of the Company on Tuesday, 9 June 2020 (the "Registered Address"). If the country of domicile of an individual H share shareholder is not the same as the Registered Address or if the individual H share shareholder would like to apply for a refund of the additional amount of tax finally withheld and paid, the individual H share shareholder shall notify and provide relevant supporting documents to the Company on or before Tuesday, 2 June 2020. Upon examination of the supporting documents by the relevant tax authorities, the Company will follow the guidance given by the tax authorities to implement relevant tax withholding and payment provisions and arrangements. Individual H share shareholders may either personally attend or appoint a representative to attend to the procedures in accordance with the requirements under the tax treaties notice if they do not provide the relevant supporting documents to the Company within the time period stated above.

For Southbound Investors (including enterprises and individuals), the Shanghai branch of China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited and the Shenzhen branch of China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited, as the nominees of the investors of the Southbound Trading Link, will receive all dividends distributed by the Company and will distribute the dividends to the relevant investors under the Southbound Trading Link through its depository and clearing system. According to the relevant provisions under the “Notice on Taxation Policies for Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect Pilot Programme (Cai Shui [2014] No. 81)” and “Notice on Taxation Policies for Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect Pilot Programme (Cai Shui [2016] No. 127)”, the Company shall withhold and pay individual income tax at the rate of 20% with respect to dividends received by the Mainland individual investors for investing in the H shares of the Company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange through the Southbound Trading Link. In respect of the dividends received by Mainland securities investment funds investing in the H shares

of the Company listed on Hong Kong Stock Exchange through the Southbound Trading Link, the tax levied shall be ascertained by reference to the rules applicable to individual investors. The Company is not required to withhold and pay income tax on dividends derived by the Mainland enterprise investors under the Southbound Trading Link, and such enterprises shall report the income and make tax payment by themselves. The record date for entitlement to the shareholders’ rights and the relevant arrangements of dividend distribution for the Southbound Investors are the same as those for the Company’s H share shareholders.

The Company assumes no responsibility and disclaims all liabilities whatsoever in relation to the tax status or tax treatment of the individual H share shareholders and for any claims arising from any delay in or inaccurate determination of the tax status or tax treatment of the individual H share shareholders or any disputes relating to the tax withholding and payment mechanism or arrangements.

## Directors and Senior Management of the Company

The following table sets out certain information of the Directors and senior management of the Company as at the date of this report:

Name	Age	Position in the Company	Date of Appointment
Ke Ruiwen	56	Executive Director, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	30 May 2012*
Li Zhengmao	57	President and Chief Operating Officer	23 March 2020**
Chen Zhongyue	48	Executive Director and Executive Vice President	23 May 2017*
Zhang Zhiyong	54	Executive Vice President	10 July 2018**
Liu Guiqing	53	Executive Director and Executive Vice President	19 August 2019*
Zhu Min	55	Executive Director, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of the Board	26 October 2018*
Wang Guoquan	47	Executive Director and Executive Vice President	19 August 2019*
Chen Shengguang	56	Non-Executive Director	23 May 2017*
Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius	72	Independent Non-Executive Director	9 September 2005*
Xu Erming	70	Independent Non-Executive Director	9 September 2005*
Wang Hsuehming	70	Independent Non-Executive Director	29 May 2014*
Yeung Chi Wai, Jason	65	Independent Non-Executive Director	26 October 2018*

\* Date of appointment as Director

\*\* Date of appointment as Senior Management

References are made to the announcements in relation to the changes of Directors and senior management published by the Company on the following dates: On 4 March 2019, Mr. Yang Jie resigned from his positions as an Executive Director, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company due to change in work arrangement. On 8 March 2019, the Board resolved to approve Mr. Ke Ruiwen, an Executive Director, the then President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company to exercise the powers of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. On 11 March 2019, Mr. Wang Guoquan was appointed as an Executive Vice President of the Company. On 22 May 2019, Mr. Ke Ruiwen, an Executive Director, the then President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company was appointed as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. On 19 August 2019, Mr. Liu Guiqing and Mr. Wang Guoquan, Executive Vice Presidents of the Company, were appointed as Executive Directors of the Company at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company. On 17 January 2020, Mr. Gao Tongqing resigned from his positions as an Executive Director and Executive Vice President of the Company due to change in work arrangement. On 23 March 2020, Mr. Li Zhengmao was

appointed as the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company and on the same date, Mr. Ke Ruiwen, an Executive Director, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company ceased to act as the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company.

The term of office of the current sixth session of the members of the Board of the Company will expire on the date of the 2019 Annual General Meeting. The Board has proposed to re-elect the current Directors, Mr. Ke Ruiwen, Mr. Chen Zhongyue, Mr. Liu Guiqing, Madam Zhu Min, Mr. Wang Guoquan and Mr. Chen Shengguang as Directors of the seventh session of the Board; and to re-elect Mr. Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius, Mr. Xu Erming, Madam Wang Hsuehming and Mr. Yeung Chi Wai, Jason as Independent Directors of the seventh session of the Board. Meanwhile, the Board will also propose to seek the approval of the shareholders of the Company to elect Mr. Li Zhengmao, the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company and Mr. Shao Guanglu, respectively as Executive Directors of the seventh session of the Board at the 2019 Annual General Meeting. Please refer to the announcement published by the Company on 24 March 2020 for further details.

### Supervisors of the Company

The following table sets out certain information of the Supervisors of the Company as at the date of this report:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position in the Company</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>
Sui Yixun	56	Chairman of the Supervisory Committee (Shareholder Representative)	27 May 2015
Zhang Jianbin	54	Supervisor (Employee Representative)	16 October 2012
Yang Jianqing	60	Supervisor (Employee Representative)	23 May 2017
Xu Shiguang	40	Supervisor (Shareholder Representative)	26 October 2018
Ye Zhong	60	Supervisor (Shareholder Representative)	27 May 2015

The term of office of the current sixth session of the members of the Supervisory Committee of the Company will expire on the date of the 2019 Annual General Meeting. The Supervisory Committee has proposed to re-elect Mr. Sui Yixun and Mr. Xu Shiguang, the current Shareholder Representative Supervisors of the sixth session of the Supervisory Committee, as members of the seventh session of the Supervisory Committee. Due to his age, Mr. Ye Zhong, a Shareholder Representative Supervisor of the sixth session of the Supervisory Committee, will retire from his position as a Supervisor of the Company upon the expiry of his term of service. Please refer to the announcement published by the Company on 24 March 2020 for further details. The Employee Representative Supervisors of the seventh session of the Supervisory Committee shall be elected democratically by the employees of the Company. The results of such election will be announced separately.

## Share Capital

The share capital of the Company as at 31 December 2019 was RMB80,932,368,321, divided into 80,932,368,321 shares of RMB1.00 each. As at 31 December 2019, the share capital of the Company comprised:

<b>Class of Shares</b>	<b>Number of shares as at 31 December 2019</b>	<b>Percentage (%) of the total number of shares in issue as at 31 December 2019</b>
Total number of Domestic shares (held by the companies as follows):	67,054,958,321	82.85
China Telecommunications Corporation	57,377,053,317	70.89
Guangdong Rising Assets Management Co., Ltd.	5,614,082,653	6.94
Zhejiang Financial Development Company	2,137,473,626	2.64
Fujian Investment & Development Group Co., Ltd.	969,317,182	1.20
Jiangsu Guoxin Group Limited	957,031,543	1.18
Total number of H shares (including ADSs)	13,877,410,000	17.15
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,932,368,321</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## Material Interests and Short Positions in Shares and Underlying Shares of the Company

As at 31 December 2019, the interests or short position of persons who are entitled to exercise or control the exercise of 5% or more of the voting power at the shareholders' class meetings of the Company (excluding the Directors and Supervisors) in the shares and underlying shares of the Company as recorded in the register required to be maintained under Section 336 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "SFO") are as follows:

Name of shareholders	Number of shares	Class of shares	Approximate percentage of the respective class of shares in issue	Approximate percentage of the total number of shares in issue	Capacity
China Telecommunications Corporation	57,377,053,317 (Long Position)	Domestic shares	85.57%	70.89%	Beneficial owner
Guangdong Rising Assets Management Co., Ltd.	5,614,082,653 (Long Position)	Domestic shares	8.37%	6.94%	Beneficial owner
Citigroup Inc.	1,437,045,756 (Long Position)	H shares	10.35%	1.77%	1,652,200 shares as person having a security interest in shares; 34,318,810 shares as interest of controlled corporation; and 1,401,074,746 shares as approved lending agent
	3,954,000 (Short Position)	H shares	0.02%	0.00%	Interest of controlled corporation
	1,401,074,746 (Shares available for lending)	H shares	10.09%	1.73%	Approved lending agent
BlackRock, Inc.	1,266,251,025 (Long Position)	H shares	9.12%	1.56%	Interest of controlled corporation
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	1,248,678,064 (Long Position)	H shares	8.99%	1.54%	203,732,692 shares as interest of controlled corporation; 81,673,300 shares as investment manager; 26,242,500 shares as person having a security interest in shares; and 937,029,572 shares as approved lending agent
	72,237,399 (Short Position)	H shares	0.52%	0.08%	Interest of controlled corporation
	937,029,572 (Shares available for lending)	H shares	6.75%	1.15%	Approved lending agent
The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation	1,037,754,265 (Long Position)	H shares	7.48%	1.28%	Interest of controlled corporation
	496,031,000 (Short Position)	H shares	3.57%	0.61%	Interest of controlled corporation
	511,240,181 (Shares available for lending)	H shares	3.68%	0.63%	Interest of controlled corporation
GIC Private Limited	971,432,320 (Long Position)	H shares	7.00%	1.20%	Investment manager
Templeton Global Advisors Limited	965,225,382 (Long Position)	H shares	6.96%	1.19%	Investment manager

Save as disclosed above, as at 31 December 2019, in the register required to be maintained under Section 336 of the SFO, no other persons were recorded to hold any interests or short positions in the shares and underlying shares of the Company.

### Directors' and Supervisors' Interests and Short Positions in Shares, Underlying Shares and Debentures

As at 31 December 2019, none of the Directors and Supervisors of the Company had any interests or short positions in the shares, underlying shares or debentures of the Company or its associated corporations (as defined in Part XV of the SFO) as recorded in the register required to be maintained under Section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers as set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules.

During the year in 2019, the Company has not granted its Directors or Supervisors, or their respective spouses or any of their respective minor child (natural or adopted) or on their behalf any rights to subscribe for the shares or debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations and none of them has ever exercised any such right.

### Directors' and Supervisors' Interests in Transactions, Arrangements or Contracts

Reference is made to the announcement published by the Company on 22 June 2018 in relation to the Capital Contribution Agreement entered into by the Company, China Telecommunications Corporation ("China Telecommunications") and China Communications Services Corporation Limited ("CCS") to jointly establish China Telecom Group Finance Co., Ltd. ("China Telecom Finance"). The Company, China Telecommunications and CCS respectively contributed RMB3,500 million, RMB750 million and RMB750 million, which respectively represented 70%, 15% and 15% of the total registered capital of China Telecom Finance. On 1 February 2019 (the "Financial Services Agreements Date"), (i) the Company entered into the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement with China Telecom Finance; (ii) China Telecom Finance entered into the China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement with China Telecommunications; and (iii) China Telecom Finance entered into the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement with CCS. As at the Financial Services Agreements Date, Mr. Ke Ruiwen, an Executive Director of the Company, and Mr. Yang Jie, the then Chairman of the Company, also served as a Director and the then Chairman of China Telecommunications respectively; Madam Zhu Min, an Executive Director of the Company, also served as the Chief Accountant of China Telecommunications and the Chairlady of China Telecom Finance. They all abstained from voting on the relevant board resolutions. Please refer to the section headed "Continuing Connected Transaction" on page 65 of this annual report for further details.

Save as disclosed above, for the year ended 31 December 2019, the Directors and Supervisors of the Company or their connected entities did not have any material interest, whether directly or indirectly, in any transactions, arrangements or contracts which was significant to the Company's business and which was entered into by the Company, its parent company or any of its subsidiaries or fellow subsidiaries.

### Service Contracts

None of the Directors or Supervisors of the Company has entered into any service contract which is not determinable by the Company within one year without payment of compensation (other than statutory compensation).

### Emoluments of the Directors and Supervisors

Please refer to note 34 of the audited consolidated financial statements for details of the emoluments of all Directors and Supervisors of the Company in 2019.

### Purchase, Sale and Redemption of Securities

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any securities of the Company during the reporting period.

### Issue of Debentures

In 2019, the Company successfully issued (i) 16 tranches of super short-term commercial papers with an aggregate principal amount of RMB62 billion; and (ii) 2 tranches of medium-term notes with an aggregate principal amount of RMB5 billion. The proceeds were used to repay debt financing instruments due and replenish the Company's working capital in the course of business operations. Please refer to note 19 of the audited consolidated financial statements for details.

### Change of Principal Place of Business in Hong Kong

With effect from 6 May 2019, the principal place of business of the Company in Hong Kong has been changed to 28/F, Everbright Centre, 108 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

### Material Acquisitions and Disposals

For the year ended 31 December 2019, the Company had no material acquisitions and disposals.

### Public Float

As at the date of this report, based on the information that is publicly available to the Company and within the knowledge of the Directors, the Company has maintained the prescribed public float under the Listing Rules and as agreed with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

## Summary of Financial Information

Please refer to pages 273 to 274 of this annual report for a summary of the operating results, assets and liabilities of the Group for each of the years in the five-year period ended 31 December 2019.

## Bank Loans and Other Borrowings

Please refer to note 19 of the audited consolidated financial statements for details of bank loans and other borrowings of the Group.

## Capitalised Interest

Please refer to note 32 of the audited consolidated financial statements for details of the Group's capitalised interest for the year ended 31 December 2019.

## Fixed Assets

Please refer to note 4 of the audited consolidated financial statements for movements in the fixed assets of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2019.

## Reserves

Pursuant to Article 149 of the Articles of Association, where the financial statements prepared in accordance with the China Accounting Standards for Business Enterprises and regulations, materially differ from those prepared in accordance with either the International Financial Reporting Standards, or accounting standards at a place outside the PRC where the Company's shares are listed, the distributable profit for the relevant fiscal year shall be deemed to be the lesser of the amounts shown in those respective financial statements. Distributable reserves of the Company as at 31 December 2019, calculated on the above basis and before deducting the proposed final dividends for 2019, amounted to RMB138,312 million.

Please refer to note 26 of the audited consolidated financial statements for details of the movements in the reserves of the Company and the Group for the year ended 31 December 2019.

## Equity-linked Agreements

The Company did not enter into any equity-linked agreement, nor did any equity-linked agreement exist during the year ended 31 December 2019.

## Donations

For the year ended 31 December 2019, the Group made charitable and other donations with a total amount of RMB1 million.

### Subsidiaries and Associated Companies

Please refer to note 9 and note 10 of the audited consolidated financial statements for details of the Company's subsidiaries and the Group's interests in associated companies as at 31 December 2019.

### Permitted Indemnity

For the year ended 31 December 2019 and as at the date of approval of this report, the Company has arranged appropriate insurance cover in respect of legal actions against the directors of the Group.

### Changes in Equity

Please refer to the consolidated statement of changes in equity as contained in the audited consolidated financial statements of the year (page 184 of this annual report).

### Retirement Benefits

Please refer to note 45 of the audited consolidated financial statements for details of the retirement benefits provided by the Group.

### Pre-Emptive Rights

There are no provisions for pre-emptive rights in the Articles of Association requiring the Company to offer new shares to the existing shareholders in proportion to their shareholdings.

### Major Customers and Suppliers

For the year ended 31 December 2019, revenue generated from the five largest customers of the Group accounted for an amount of less than 30% of the total operating revenues of the Group.

For the year ended 31 December 2019, purchases from the five largest suppliers of the Group accounted for an amount of less than 30% of the total annual purchases of the Group.

### Share Appreciation Rights

Please refer to note 46 of the audited consolidated financial statements for details of the share appreciation rights scheme of the Company.

### Competing Business

None of the Directors of the Company had any interest in any business which competes or may compete, either directly or indirectly, with the business of the Group.

### Management Contracts

During the reporting period, the Company had not entered into any management contracts with respect to the entire or principal business of the Company.

## Continuing Connected Transactions

The following table sets out the amounts of the Group's continuing connected transactions for the year ended 31 December 2019:

Transactions	Transaction amounts (RMB millions)	Annual monetary cap for continuing connected transactions (RMB millions)
<b>(1) CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE GROUP AND CHINA TELECOMMUNICATIONS' AND/OR ITS ASSOCIATES (EXCLUDING THE GROUP)</b>		
Net transaction amount of centralised services	133	1,300
Net expenses for interconnection settlement	86	400
Mutual leasing of properties	929	1,300
Provision of IT services by China Telecommunications and/or its associates	2,175	3,200
Provision of IT services by the Group	464	1,300
Provision of community services by China Telecommunications and/or its associates	3,464	4,200
Provision of supplies procurement services by China Telecommunications and/or its associates	3,538	6,000
Provision of supplies procurement services by the Group	1,444	6,300
Provision of engineering services by China Telecommunications and/or its associates	14,014	23,000
Provision of ancillary telecommunications services by China Telecommunications and/or its associates	18,571	22,000
Provision of Internet applications channel services by the Group	108	2,000
<b>(2) CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS ENTERED INTO BETWEEN CHINA TELECOM FINANCE AND THE GROUP, THE PARENT GROUP<sup>2</sup> AND THE CCS GROUP<sup>3</sup> RESPECTIVELY</b>		
Provision of deposit services by China Telecom Finance to the Group (maximum daily balance of deposits, including accrued interest)	8,458	50,000
Provision of loan services by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group (maximum daily loan balance, including accrued interest)	–	1,000
Provision of loan services by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group (maximum daily loan balance, including accrued interest)	–	1,000

*Notes:*

- China Telecommunications refers to China Telecommunications Corporation, the Company's controlling shareholder which holds approximately 70.89% of the issued share capital of the Company.*
- The Parent Group refers to China Telecommunications Corporation, its associates and its commonly held entity held with the Group, excluding the Group and the CCS Group.*
- The CCS Group refers to China Communications Services Corporation Limited and its subsidiaries.*

### **(1) CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS ENTERED INTO AMONG THE GROUP AND CHINA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND/OR ITS ASSOCIATES (EXCLUDING THE GROUP)**

On 20 August 2018, the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation (“China Telecommunications”) entered into supplemental agreements and renewed the Engineering Framework Agreement, the Ancillary Telecommunications Services Framework Agreement, the Interconnection Settlement Agreement, the Community Services Framework Agreement, the Centralised Services Agreement, the Property Leasing Framework Agreement, the IT Services Framework Agreement, the Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement and the Internet Applications Channel Services Framework Agreement for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. China Telecommunications is the controlling shareholder of the Company. Accordingly, pursuant to Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules, China Telecommunications is a connected person of the Company and the transactions contemplated under each of the agreements constitute continuing connected transactions of the Company.

As certain applicable percentage ratios (excluding the profits ratio) of the renewed annual caps for the transactions contemplated under the Engineering Framework Agreement and the Ancillary Telecommunications Services Framework Agreement for each of the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021 exceeds 5%, such continuing connected transactions are subject to the reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders’ approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules. The independent shareholders of the Company considered and approved the renewal of the Engineering Framework Agreement and the Ancillary Telecommunications Services Framework Agreement and the renewed annual caps applicable thereto at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on 26 October 2018. As each of the applicable percentage ratios (excluding the profits ratio) of the renewed annual caps for the transactions contemplated under other continuing connected transactions agreements for each of the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021 exceeds 0.1% but is less than 5%, such continuing connected transactions are only subject to the reporting, announcement and annual review requirements and are exempt from the independent shareholders’ approval requirement under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules. Details of the respective agreements are shown below:

### Centralised Services Agreement

Pursuant to the centralised services agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 10 September 2002 and the related supplemental agreements subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the “Centralised Services Agreement”), centralised services include centralised business management and operational services provided by the Group to China Telecommunications in relation to key corporate customers, its network management centre and business support centre. Centralised services also include the provision of certain premises by China Telecommunications to the Group and the common use of international telecommunications facilities by both parties. The aggregate costs incurred by the Group and China Telecommunications for the provision of management and operation services will be apportioned between the Group and China Telecommunications on a pro rata basis according to the revenues generated by each party. Where the Group uses the premises provided by China Telecommunications, the Group will pay premises usage fees to China Telecommunications on a pro rata basis according to the apportioned actual area allocated to the Group. The premises usage fees shall be determined through negotiation between the two parties based on comparable market rates. When both parties use international telecommunications facilities provided by third parties and accept services by such third parties (for example, restoration

maintenance costs, the annual utilisation fee and related service costs) and when both parties use the international telecommunications facilities of China Telecommunications, the associated costs shall be shared on a pro rata basis according to volume of the inbound and outbound voice calls to and from international regions, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan originating from each party divided by the proportion of the aggregate volume of the inbound and outbound voice calls to and from international regions, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan originating from both parties. When the two parties use international telecommunications facilities provided by a third party and accept restoration maintenance costs, such fees shall be determined according to the actual utilisation fee each year. The utilisation fee associated with the shared use of the international telecommunications facilities provided by China Telecommunications shall be determined through negotiation between the two parties based on market rates. Market rates shall mean the rates at which the same or similar type of products or services are provided by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business and under normal commercial terms. When determining whether the transaction price for any transaction under the agreement represents market rates, to the extent practicable, management of the Company shall take into account the rates of at least two similar and comparable transactions entered into with or carried out by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business in the corresponding period for reference.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the Centralised Services Agreement in accordance with its provisions for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Centralised Services Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the Centralised Services Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

### **Interconnection Settlement Agreement**

Pursuant to the interconnection settlement agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 10 September 2002 and the related supplemental agreements subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the “Interconnection Settlement Agreement”), the telephone operator connecting a telephone call made to its local access network shall be entitled to receive from the operator from which the telephone call originated a fee prescribed by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the PRC (the “Ministry of Industry and Information Technology”) from time to time. Interconnection charges are currently RMB0.06 per minute for local calls originated from the Group to China Telecommunications. The interconnection settlement charges will be calculated according to the “Notice Concerning the Issue of the Measures on Interconnection Settlement between

Public Telecommunications Networks and Sharing of Relaying Fees (Xin Bu Dian [2003] No. 454)” promulgated by the Ministry of Information Industry. The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology may, from time to time, take into account the relevant regulatory rules and market conditions, amend or promulgate new rules or regulations in respect of interconnection settlement which will be announced on its official website at [www.miit.gov.cn](http://www.miit.gov.cn). If the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology amends the existing, or promulgates new rules or regulations in respect of interconnection settlement, the parties shall apply such amended or new rules and regulations as acknowledged by both parties. The settlement regions include Beijing Municipality, Tianjin Municipality, Hebei Province, Heilongjiang Province, Jilin Province, Liaoning Province, Shanxi Province, Henan Province, Shandong Province, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and Xizang Autonomous Region.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the Interconnection Settlement Agreement in accordance with its provisions for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Interconnection Settlement Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the Interconnection Settlement Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

### **Property Leasing Framework Agreement**

Pursuant to the property leasing framework agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 30 August 2006 and the related supplemental agreement subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the "Property Leasing Framework Agreement"), the Group and China Telecommunications and/or its associates can lease properties from the other party for use as business premises, offices, equipment storage facilities and sites for network equipment installation. The rental charges under the Property Leasing Framework Agreement shall be determined according to comparable market rates. Market rates shall mean the rental charges at which the same or similar type of properties or adjacent properties are leased by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business and on normal commercial terms. When determining the rental charges for any

property under the agreement represents market rates, to the extent practicable, management of the Company shall take into account the rental charges of at least two similar and comparable transactions entered into with or carried out by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business in the corresponding period for reference. The rental charges are subject to review every 3 years.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the Property Leasing Framework Agreement in accordance with its provisions for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Property Leasing Framework Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the Property Leasing Framework Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

### **IT Services Framework Agreement**

Pursuant to the IT services framework agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 30 August 2006 and the related supplemental agreements subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the “IT Services Framework Agreement”), the Group and China Telecommunications and/or its associates can provide the other party with information technology services, including office automation and software testing. Each of the Group and China Telecommunications and/or its associates is entitled to participate in bidding for the right to provide information technology services to the other party in accordance with the IT Services Framework Agreement. The charges payable for such services shall be determined by reference to the market rates. Market rates shall mean the rates at which the same or similar type of products or services are provided by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business and on normal commercial terms. When determining whether the transaction price for any transaction under the agreement represents market rates, to the extent practicable, management of the Company shall take into account the rates of at least two similar and comparable transactions entered into with or carried out by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business in the corresponding period for reference.

In the circumstances where the relevant laws or regulations in the PRC specify that the prices and/or the fee standards for particular services to be provided pursuant to such agreement are to be determined by a tender process, the charges payable for such services shall be finally determined in accordance with the “Bidding Law of the PRC” and the “Regulations on the Implementation of the Bidding Law of the PRC” or the relevant tender procedures. The Group shall solicit at least three tenderers for the tender process. If the terms offered by the Group or China Telecommunications and/or its associates are no less favourable than those offered by an independent third party provider, the Group or China Telecommunications and/or its associates may award the tender to the other party.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the IT Services Framework Agreement in accordance with its provisions for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the IT Services Framework Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the IT Services Framework Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

### Community Services Framework Agreement

Pursuant to the community services framework agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 30 August 2006 and the related supplemental agreements subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the "Community Services Framework Agreement"), China Telecommunications and/or its associates provide the Group with community services such as culture, education, property management, vehicle service, health and medical care, hotel and conference service, community and sanitary service. The community services under the Community Services Framework Agreement are provided in accordance with the following pricing terms:

- (1) market prices, which shall mean the prices at which the same or similar type of products or services are provided by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business and on normal commercial terms. When determining whether the transaction price for any transaction under the agreement represents market prices, to the extent practicable, management of the Company shall take into account the prices of at least two similar and comparable transactions entered into with or carried out by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business over the corresponding period for reference;

- (2) where there is no or it is not possible to determine the market prices, the prices are to be agreed between the parties based on the reasonable costs incurred in providing the services plus the amount of the relevant taxes and reasonable profit margin. For this purpose, "reasonable profit margin" is to be fairly determined by negotiations between the parties in accordance with the internal policies of the Group. When determining the "reasonable profit margin" for any transaction under the agreement, to the extent practicable, management of the Company shall take into account the profit margin of at least two similar and comparable transactions entered into with independent third parties in the corresponding period or the relevant industry profit margin for reference.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the Community Services Framework Agreement in accordance with its provisions for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Community Services Framework Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the Community Services Framework Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

### **Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement**

Pursuant to the supplies procurement services framework agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 30 August 2006 and the related supplemental agreements subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the "Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement"), China Telecommunications and/or its associates and the Group provide each other with supplies procurement services, including comprehensive procurement services, the sale of proprietary telecommunications equipment, resale of third-party equipment, management of tenders, verification of technical specifications, storage, transportation and installation services.

Where the procurement services are provided on an agency basis, the maximum commission for such procurement services shall be calculated at:

- (1) not more than 1% of the contract value for procurement of imported telecommunications supplies; or
- (2) not more than 3% of the contract value for the procurement of domestic telecommunications supplies and domestic non-telecommunications supplies.

The pricing basis of the services for the provision of supplies procurement other than on an agency basis under the Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement is the same as those set out in the Community Services Framework Agreement.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement on the same terms in accordance with its provisions for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

### Engineering Framework Agreement

Pursuant to the engineering framework agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 30 August 2006 and the related supplemental agreements subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the “Engineering Framework Agreement”), China Telecommunications and/or its associates through bids provides to the Group services such as construction, design, equipment installation and testing and/or engineering project supervision services. The charges payable for such engineering services shall be determined by reference to market rates. Market rates shall mean the rates at which the same or similar type of products or services are provided by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business and on normal commercial terms. When determining whether the transaction price for any transaction under the agreement represents market rates, to the extent practicable, management of the Company shall take into account the rates of at least two similar and comparable transactions entered into with or carried out by independent third parties in the ordinary course of business in the corresponding period for reference. The charges payable for the design or supervision of engineering projects with a value of over RMB1 million or engineering construction projects with a value of over RMB4 million shall be determined by the tender award price, which is determined in accordance with the “Bidding Law of the PRC” and the “Regulations on the Implementation of the Bidding Law of the

PRC” or the final confirmed price in the relevant tender process. The Group shall solicit at least three tenderers for the tender process. In the circumstances there are amended rules or regulations in respect of tender scope and scale of the engineering construction projects promulgated by PRC laws and regulations during the term of the agreement, both parties agreed to apply such amended rules and regulations and no amendment to the supplemental agreement is required.

The Group does not accord any priority to China Telecommunications and/or its associates to provide such services, and the tender may be awarded to an independent third party. However, if the terms of an offer from China Telecommunications and/or its associates are at least as favourable as those offered by other tenderers, the Group may award the tender to China Telecommunications and/or its associates.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the Engineering Framework Agreement on the same terms (except the pricing terms) for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Engineering Framework Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the Engineering Framework Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

### **Ancillary Telecommunications Services Framework Agreement**

Pursuant to the ancillary telecommunications services framework agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 30 August 2006 and the related supplemental agreements subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the "Ancillary Telecommunications Services Framework Agreement"), China Telecommunications and/or its associates provide the Group with certain repair and maintenance services, including repair of telecommunications equipment, maintenance of fire equipment and telephone booths, as well as other customer services. The pricing terms for such services are the same as those set out in the Community Services Framework Agreement.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the Ancillary Telecommunications Services Framework Agreement in accordance with its provisions for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Ancillary Telecommunications Services Framework Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the Ancillary Telecommunications Services Framework Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

### **Internet Applications Channel Services Framework Agreement**

Pursuant to the Internet applications channel services framework agreement signed between the Company and China Telecommunications on 16 December 2013 and the related supplemental agreement subsequently entered into between the two parties (collectively, the "Internet Applications Channel Services Framework Agreement"), the Company provides Internet applications channel services to China Telecommunications and/or its associates. The channel services mainly include the provision of telecommunications channel and applications support platform, provision of billing and deduction services, coordination of sales promotion and development of customers services, etc. The pricing terms for such services are the same as those set out in the Community Services Framework Agreement.

The Company and China Telecommunications have entered into a supplemental agreement on 20 August 2018 and renewed the Internet Applications Channel Services Framework Agreement in accordance with its provisions for a further term of 3 years expiring on 31 December 2021. No later than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Internet Applications Channel Services Framework Agreement, the Company is entitled to serve a written notice to China Telecommunications to renew the Internet Applications Channel Services Framework Agreement, and the parties shall consult and decide on matters relating to such renewal.

**(2) CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS ENTERED INTO BETWEEN CHINA TELECOM FINANCE AND THE GROUP, THE PARENT GROUP AND THE CCS GROUP RESPECTIVELY**

On 1 February 2019, China Telecom Finance entered into the financial services framework agreement with each of the Company, China Telecommunications (together with its associates and its commonly held entity held with the Group, excluding the Group and the CCS Group, the "Parent Group") and CCS (together with its subsidiaries, "CCS Group"). China Telecommunications, the controlling shareholder of the Company, holds approximately 51.39% of the issued share capital of CCS and CCS is a subsidiary of China Telecommunications. Pursuant to Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules, China Telecommunications and CCS and their associates are connected persons of the Company. As the Company holds 70% of the issued share capital of China Telecom Finance, China Telecom Finance is a subsidiary of the Company. Meanwhile, China Telecommunications and CCS each respectively holds 15% of the issued share capital of China Telecom Finance. Pursuant to Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules, China Telecom Finance is a connected subsidiary of the Company and an associate of the China Telecommunications and CCS, which is also a connected person of the Company. Accordingly, the transactions under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement entered into between the Company and China Telecom Finance, the China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement entered into between China Telecom Finance and China Telecommunications and the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement entered into between China Telecom Finance and CCS constitute continuing connected transactions of the Company pursuant to Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

**China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement entered into between the Company and China Telecom Finance**

Pursuant to the financial services framework agreement entered into between the Company and China Telecom Finance on 1 February 2019 ("China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement"), China Telecom Finance agreed to provide financial services, including deposit services, loan services and other financial services to the Group. As each of the applicable percentage ratios of the annual caps for the deposit services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Group under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement for each of the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021 exceeds 5% but is less than 25%, such continuing connected transaction is subject to the reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders' approval requirements under Chapters 14A of the Listing Rules. The independent shareholders of the Company considered and approved the deposit services and the applicable annual caps under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on 18 April 2019.

As the loan services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Group under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement are conducted on normal commercial terms or better and the relevant loan services will not be secured by the assets of the Group, such loan services are exempt from all reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders' approval requirements pursuant to Rule 14A.90 of the Listing Rules.

As each of the applicable percentage ratios of the annual caps for the service fees of other financial services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Group under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement for each of the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021 is less than 0.1%, such other financial services are exempt from all reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders' approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

Pricing Policy:

(i) Deposit Services

The deposit interest rates offered by China Telecom Finance to the Group shall comply with the relevant requirements of the People's Bank of China and be with reference to the deposit benchmark interest rates promulgated by the People's Bank of China from time to time (if any) and the deposit interest rates of the same type of deposit services for the same period offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The deposit interest rates offered shall be equivalent to or higher than those offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Group. Under the same conditions, the interest rates and terms for the deposit services offered by China Telecom Finance to the Group shall be the same as those interest rates

and terms of the same type of deposit services for the same period offered by China Telecom Finance to other member units.

(ii) Loan Services

The loan interest rates offered by China Telecom Finance to the Group shall comply with the relevant requirements of the People's Bank of China and be with reference to the loan benchmark interest rates promulgated by the People's Bank of China from time to time (if any) and the loan interest rates of the same type of loan services for the same period offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The loan interest rates offered shall be equivalent to or lower than those offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Group. Under the same conditions, the interest rates and terms for the loan services offered by China Telecom Finance to the Group shall be the same as those interest rates and terms of the same type of loan services for the same period offered by China Telecom Finance to other member units. The above loan services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Group do not require the Group to pledge any security over its assets or make other arrangements for the loan services as guarantee.

(iii) Other Financial Services

China Telecom Finance provides other financial services (other than deposit and loan services) including financial and financing advice, credit authentication, guarantees, acceptance of bills and discounted bills, internal fund transfer and settlement and designs of relevant settlement and clearance arrangement proposals to the Group under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement. The fees charged for other financial services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Group mentioned above shall comply with the fees standard promulgated by regulatory departments including the People's Bank of China or China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (including its designated institution) ("CBIRC") (if applicable), and be with reference to the handling fees standard for the same type of other financial services charged by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The handling fees standard shall be equivalent to or lower than those charged by the major cooperative

commercial banks of the Group.

Under the same conditions, the fees standard charged to the Group by China Telecom Finance shall be the same as those fees standard for the same type of other financial services charged by China Telecom Finance to other member units.

For the respective specific transactions under the China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement, under the same conditions, the Group should, in principle, choose the services provided by China Telecom Finance. If the Group considers it is appropriate and beneficial to the Group, the Group has the discretion to engage one or more major cooperative commercial banks of the Group as its financial services providers.

The China Telecom Financial Services Framework Agreement became effective from 1 February 2019 and will expire on 31 December 2021. Subject to the compliance of relevant laws and regulations and relevant regulatory requirements, both parties will negotiate and agree on the renewal arrangement.

### **China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement entered into between China Telecom Finance and China Telecommunications**

Pursuant to the financial services framework agreement entered into between China Telecom Finance and China Telecommunications on 1 February 2019 (“China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement”), China Telecom Finance agreed to provide financial services, including deposit services, loan services and other financial services to the Parent Group. As the deposit services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group under the China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement are conducted on normal commercial terms or better and the relevant deposit services will not be secured by the assets of the Group, such deposit services are exempt from all reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders’ approval requirements pursuant to Rule 14A.90 of the Listing Rules.

As each of the applicable percentage ratios of the annual caps for the loan services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group under the China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement for each of the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021 exceeds 0.1% but is less than 5%, such loan services are only subject to the reporting, announcement and annual review requirements but are exempt from the independent shareholders’ approval requirement under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

As each of the applicable percentage ratios of the annual caps for the service fees of other financial services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group under the China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement for each of the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021 is less than 0.1%, such other financial services are exempt from all reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders’ approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

Pricing Policy:

(i) Deposit Services

The deposit interest rates offered by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group shall comply with the relevant requirements of the People’s Bank of China and be with reference to the deposit benchmark interest rates promulgated by the People’s Bank of China from time to time (if any) and the deposit interest rates of the same type of deposit services for the same period offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Parent Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The deposit interest rates offered shall be equivalent to or higher than those offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Parent Group. Under the same conditions, the interest rates and terms for the deposit services offered by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group shall be the same as those interest rates and terms of the same type of deposit services for the same period offered by China Telecom Finance to other member units.

(ii) Loan Services

The loan interest rates offered by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group shall comply with the relevant requirements of the People's Bank of China and be with reference to the loan benchmark interest rates promulgated by the People's Bank of China from time to time (if any) and the loan interest rates of the same type of loan services for the same period offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Parent Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The loan interest rates offered shall be equivalent to or lower than those offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Parent Group. Under the same conditions, the interest rates and terms for the loan services offered by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group shall be the same as those interest rates and terms of the same type of loan services for the same period offered by China Telecom Finance to other member units.

The above loan services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group do not require the Parent Group to pledge any security over its assets or make other arrangements for the loan services as guarantee.

(iii) Other Financial Services

China Telecom Finance provides other financial services (other than deposit and loan services) including financial and financing advice, credit authentication, guarantees, acceptance of bills and discounted bills, internal fund transfer and settlement and designs of relevant settlement and clearance arrangement proposals to the Parent Group under the China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement.

The fees charged for other financial services provided by China Telecom Finance to the Parent Group mentioned above shall comply with the fees standard promulgated by regulatory departments including the People's Bank of China or the CBIRC (if applicable), and be with reference to the handling fees standard for the same type of other financial services charged by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Parent Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The handling fees standard shall be equivalent to or lower than those charged by the major cooperative commercial banks of the Parent Group. Under the same conditions, the fees standard charged to the Parent Group by China Telecom Finance shall be the same as those fees standard for the same type of other financial services charged by China Telecom Finance to other member units.

For the respective specific transactions under the China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement, under the same conditions, the Parent Group should, in principle, choose the services provided by China Telecom Finance. If the Parent Group considers it is appropriate and beneficial to the Parent Group, the Parent Group has the discretion to engage one or more major cooperative commercial banks of the Parent Group as its financial services providers.

The China Telecommunications Corporation Financial Services Framework Agreement became effective from 1 February 2019 and will expire on 31 December 2021. Subject to the compliance of relevant laws and regulations and relevant regulatory requirements, both parties will negotiate and agree on the renewal arrangement.

### **CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement entered into between China Telecom Finance and CCS**

Pursuant to the financial services framework agreement entered into between China Telecom Finance and CCS on 1 February 2019 (“CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement”), China Telecom Finance agreed to provide financial services, including deposit services, loan services and other financial services to the CCS Group. As the deposit services provided by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group under the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement are conducted on normal commercial terms or better and the relevant deposit services will not be secured by the assets of the Group, such deposit services are exempt from all reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders’ approval requirements pursuant to Rule 14A.90 of the Listing Rules.

As each of the applicable percentage ratios of the annual caps for loan services provided by China Telecom Finance to CCS Group under the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement for each of the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021 exceeds 0.1% but is less than 5%, such loan services are only subject to the reporting, announcement and annual review requirements but are exempt from the independent shareholders’ approval requirement under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

As each of the applicable percentage ratios of the annual caps for the service fees of other financial services provided by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group under the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement for each of the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021 is less than 0.1%, such other financial services are exempt from all reporting, announcement, annual review and independent shareholders’ approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

Pricing Policy:

#### (i) Deposit Services

The deposit interest rates offered by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group shall comply with the relevant requirements of the People’s Bank of China and be with reference to the deposit benchmark interest rates promulgated by the People’s Bank of China from time to time (if any) and the deposit interest rates of the same type of deposit services for the same period offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the CCS Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The deposit interest rates offered shall be equivalent to or higher than those offered by the major cooperative

commercial banks of the CCS Group. Under the same conditions, the interest rates and terms for the deposit services offered by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group shall be the same as those interest rates and terms of the same type of deposit services for the same period offered by China Telecom Finance to other member units.

(ii) Loan Services

The loan interest rates offered by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group shall comply with the relevant requirements of the People's Bank of China and be with reference to the loan benchmark interest rates promulgated by the People's Bank of China from time to time (if any) and the loan interest rates of the same type of loan services for the same period offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the CCS Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The loan interest rates offered shall be equivalent to or lower than those offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the CCS Group. Under the same conditions, the interest rates and terms for the loan services offered by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group shall be the same as those interest rates and terms of the same type of loan services for the same period offered by China Telecom Finance to other member units. The above loan services provided by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group do not require the CCS Group to pledge any security over its assets or make other arrangements for the loan services as guarantee.

(iii) Other Financial Services

China Telecom Finance provides other financial services (other than deposit and loan services) including financial and financing advice, credit authentication, guarantees, acceptance of bills and discounted bills, internal fund transfer and settlement and designs of relevant settlement and clearance arrangement proposals to the CCS Group under the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement.

The fees charged for other financial services provided by China Telecom Finance to the CCS Group mentioned above shall comply with the fees standard promulgated by regulatory departments including the People's Bank of China or the CBIRC (if applicable), and be with reference to the handling fees standard for the same type of other financial services charged by the major cooperative commercial banks of the CCS Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better. The handling fees standard shall be equivalent to or lower than those charged by the major cooperative commercial banks of the CCS Group. Under the same conditions, the fees standard charged to the CCS Group by China Telecom Finance shall be the same as those fees standard for the same type of other financial services charged by China Telecom Finance to other member units.

For the respective specific transactions under the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement, provided that it is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement, China Telecom Finance was appointed as one of the financial institutions providing financial services to the CCS Group. Prior to the signing of any specific agreement with China Telecom Finance in respect of respective transactions under the CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement, the CCS Group will compare the interest rates and terms or fees charged and other relevant transactions terms offered by China Telecom Finance with those interest rates and terms of the same type of deposit or loan services for the same period or fees charged and other relevant transaction terms for the same type of financial services offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the CCS Group. Only when the interest rates and terms or fees charged or other relevant transactions terms offered by China Telecom Finance are equivalent to or better than those interest rates and terms offered or fees charged or other relevant transactions terms (e.g. transaction approval terms, procedures or time limit, etc.) offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of the CCS Group, the CCS Group has the discretion to enter into the transactions with China Telecom Finance. Under the circumstances which the CCS Group considers appropriate, the CCS Group may engage additional or other financial institutions other than China Telecom Finance to provide financial services.

The CCS Financial Services Framework Agreement became effective from 1 February 2019 and will expire on 31 December 2021. Subject to the compliance of relevant laws and regulations and relevant regulatory requirements, both parties will negotiate and agree on the renewal arrangement.

### Review of Continuing Connected Transactions

The Company confirms that it has complied with the disclosure requirements in accordance with Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules in respect of the connected transactions the Company conducted in the year 2019.

The Company's external auditor was engaged to report on the Group's continuing connected transactions for the year ended 31 December 2019 in accordance with the Hong Kong Standard on Assurance Engagements 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 auditors of the Group have reviewed the continuing connected transactions of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2019 and have confirmed to the Board that nothing has come to their attention that causes them to believe that the relevant continuing connected transactions:

- (1) have not been approved by the Board of the Company;
- (2) (for transactions involving the provision of goods or services by the Group) were not entered into, in all material respects, in accordance with the pricing policies of the Group;
- (3) were not entered into, in all material respects, in accordance with the terms of the agreements governing such transactions; and
- (4) have exceeded the annual caps as set by the Company.

A copy of the auditors' letter in relation to the continuing connected transactions has been provided by the Company to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

The Independent Non-Executive Directors of the Company have confirmed that all continuing connected transactions for the year ended 31 December 2019 to which the Group was a party:

- (1) had been entered into, and the agreements governing those transactions were entered into, by the Group in the ordinary and usual course of business;
- (2) had been entered into either:
  - (i) on normal commercial terms or better; or
  - (ii) if there are not sufficient comparable transactions to judge whether they are on normal commercial terms, on terms no less favourable to the Company than those available to or (if applicable) from independent third parties; and
- (3) had been entered into in accordance with the relevant agreements governing those transactions on terms that are fair and reasonable and in the interests of the shareholders of the Company as a whole.

The Independent Non-Executive Directors have further confirmed that:

The continuing connected transactions for the year ended 31 December 2019 entered into between the Group and its connected persons which are subject to annual caps have not exceeded their respective annual caps.

### Related Party Transactions

Details of the related party transactions of the Group ("Related Party Transactions") are set out in note 43 of the consolidated financial statements. Only the Related Party Transactions set out in note 43(a) of the consolidated financial statements constitute continuing connected transactions under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules, the details of which (except for fully exempt continuing connected transactions) have been disclosed in the above section "Continuing Connected Transactions". Other Related Party Transactions do not constitute connected transactions or continuing connected transactions under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

### 5G Network Co-Build and Co-Share Cooperation with China Unicom

On 9 September 2019, the Company entered into a 5G network co-build and co-share framework cooperation agreement (the "Cooperation Agreement") with China Unicom. Pursuant to the Cooperation Agreement, the Company will cooperate with China Unicom to jointly co-build one 5G access network nationwide and co-share 5G spectrum resources while the 5G core network shall be respectively constructed by each party. The Company is cooperating with China Unicom on 5G network co-build and co-share. The Company believes that the cooperation is beneficial to the efficient construction of 5G network and the reduction of network construction and maintenance costs while enhancing efficiency in network and assets operation, which enables the Company to rapidly create 5G service capability and strengthen network quality and business experience so as to achieve a win-win situation for both parties. Please refer to the announcement published by the Company on 9 September 2019 for further details.

### Business Review

Relating to the details of the material development of the Group in 2019, a fair review of the business and a discussion and analysis of the Group's performance during the year and the material factors underlying its results and financial position are provided in the Chairman's Statement on pages 8 to 19, Business Review on pages 32 to 40 and Financial Review on pages 41 to 49 of this annual report. Description of the principal risks and uncertainties faced the Group can be found throughout this annual report, particularly in the Environmental, Social and Governance Report on pages 92 to 173 of this annual report. Particulars of important events affecting the Group that have occurred after 31 December 2019, if any, can also be found in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The outlook of the Group's business is discussed throughout this annual report including in the Chairman's Statement and Business Review.

Description of the Group's key relationships with its employees, customers, suppliers and others that have a significant impact on the Company and on which the Company's success depends can be found throughout this annual report, particularly in the Environmental, Social and Governance Report on pages 92 to 173 of this annual report. In addition, more details regarding the Group's performance by reference to financial key performance indicators and environmental policies, as well as compliance with relevant laws and regulations which have a significant impact on the Group, are provided in the Chairman's Statement, Business Review, Financial Review, Environmental, Social and Governance Report of this annual report. Each of the above-mentioned relevant contents form an integral part of this Report of the Directors.

### Compliance with the Corporate Governance Code

Please refer to the Environmental, Social and Governance Report set out on pages 92 to 173 of this 2019 annual report of the Company for details of our compliance with the Corporate Governance Code.

### Material Legal Proceedings

As at 31 December 2019, the Company was not involved in any material litigation or arbitration, and as far as the Company is aware, no material litigation or claims were pending or threatened or made against the Company.

### Auditors

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Certified Public Accountants LLP were appointed as the international and domestic auditors of

the Company, respectively for the year ended 31 December 2019. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu has audited the consolidated financial statements set out in this report, which have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards. The Company has appointed Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Certified Public Accountants LLP since 29 May 2013. The relevant re-appointment of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Certified Public Accountants LLP as the Company's international and domestic auditors, respectively for the year ending 31 December 2020 will be proposed to the 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held on 26 May 2020.

By Order of the Board

**Ke Ruiwen**

*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*

Beijing, China  
24 March 2020

# REPORT OF THE SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

During the reporting period, all members of the Supervisory Committee acted in accordance with the Company Law of the People's Republic of China and the Articles of Association of the Company, followed the principles of integrity and diligently carried out their supervisory function to safeguard the interests of the shareholders, the Company and the employees.

## I. The work status of the Supervisory Committee of the Company

During the reporting period, the Supervisory Committee held two meetings. At the fourth meeting of the Sixth Session of the Supervisory Committee held on 15 March 2019, the Supervisory Committee reviewed and approved five agenda items, including the financial statements for the year 2018, the auditor's report issued by the external auditors, the profit distribution and dividend proposal, the Supervisory Committee's report for the year 2018, the work plan of the Supervisory Committee for the year 2019, and passed the relevant resolutions. Regarding operating results, application of the new revenue standard, internal control formulation and connected transactions, the Supervisory Committee communicated with the Finance Department, Internal Audit Department and external auditors and raised certain recommendations. At the fifth meeting of the Sixth Session of the Supervisory Committee held on 15 August 2019, the Supervisory Committee reviewed and approved the interim financial statements of the Company for the six-month period ended 30 June 2019 and the review report of the external auditors, and passed the relevant resolutions. Regarding the Company's operating results, investment in research and development and the review of the interim financial statements, the

Supervisory Committee communicated with the Finance Department, Internal Audit Department and external auditors and raised certain recommendations. During the reporting period, members of the Supervisory Committee supervised the major decision-making process of the Company and the performance of duties of the members of the Board and the senior management through their attendance at the relevant Board meetings and Audit Committee meetings.

## II. The overall assessment of the operation management and performance during the reporting period

The Supervisory Committee believed that during the reporting period, all members of the Board and the senior management have complied with rules and regulations, upheld the principles of diligence and integrity, safeguarded the interests of shareholders, fully fulfilled their responsibilities in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Company, diligently implemented the resolutions of shareholders' meetings and the Board meetings, and strictly complied with the relevant regulations governing listed companies. The Supervisory Committee has not observed any behaviours that breached the laws, rules and Articles of Association of the Company, or damaged the interests of shareholders.

During the reporting period, the Company firmly capitalised on the invaluable opportunities arising from the digital transformation of the economy and society, as well as 5G commercialisation, and adhered to the new development principles. Abiding by customer-oriented principles, the Company sharpened its overall strengths, pushed forward value operation, and significantly enhanced its market position. The Company expanded proprietary innovation and open cooperation, while promoting co-building and co-sharing on all fronts and attaining a promising start in 5G commercialisation. Insisting on innovation and coordination, as well as deepening reform, vitality of the Company and employees were concurrently stimulated and high-quality development was elevated to a new level. In 2019, operating revenues of the Company amounted to RMB375.7 billion. Service revenues<sup>1</sup> amounted to RMB357.6 billion, representing an increase of 2.0% compared to last year and continuing to maintain at a level exceeding industry average. Revenues from emerging businesses<sup>2</sup> accounted for 55.3% of total service revenues and contributed 4.5 percentage points to the total service revenues growth, resulting in continual optimisation of revenue structure and persistent expansion of development

impetus. EBITDA<sup>3</sup> amounted to RMB117.2 billion, representing an increase of 12.5% compared to last year. Net profit<sup>4</sup> amounted to RMB20.5 billion, representing a decrease of 3.3% over last year and an increase of 2.0% as compared to the net profit for year 2018 excluding the one-off after-tax gain from the listing of China Tower Corporation Limited<sup>5</sup>. Basic earnings per share were RMB0.25. Capital expenditure was approximately RMB77.6 billion, of which investment other than 5G declined for the fourth consecutive year. Free cash flow<sup>6</sup> was RMB21.7 billion.

In summary, by fully capitalising on accumulated deployment and preparation for 5G in the preceding period, the Company strives to open up a new 'blue ocean' for integrated information services. The Company consolidated its capabilities in network, service and operation, while continuing to deepen its reform and innovation, with its market competitiveness strengthening on all fronts. Meanwhile, while conscientiously fulfilling its responsibility to shareholders, the Company insisted on integrating corporate social responsibility into corporate development and persisted in as well as excelled in fulfilling its social responsibilities.

<sup>1</sup> Service revenues are calculated based on operating revenues minus sales of mobile terminals, sales of wireline equipment and other non-service revenues.

<sup>2</sup> Revenues from emerging businesses include revenues from data traffic, Internet applications and DICT services.

<sup>3</sup> EBITDA is calculated based on operating revenues minus operating expenses plus depreciation and amortisation.

<sup>4</sup> Net profit represents profit attributable to equity holders of the Company.

<sup>5</sup> The one-off after-tax gain from the listing of China Tower Corporation Limited recognised in 2018 was approximately RMB1.1 billion.

<sup>6</sup> In order to more objectively reflect the Company's free cash flow, enable a comparable basis to free cash flow of prior years and avoid incomparability of free cash flow resulting from the application of IFRS 16, the original free cash flow calculation "free cash flow = EBITDA minus capital expenditure and income tax" has been changed to "free cash flow = EBITDA minus capital expenditure, income tax and depreciation charge for right-of-use assets other than land-use-rights".

### III. The independent opinion on the relevant matters during the reporting period

#### 1. The opinion concluded by the Supervisory Committee on the compliance of the operation of the Company with laws and regulations

Pursuant to the relevant laws and regulations of PRC, the Supervisory Committee monitored the convening procedures and resolutions resolved at the meetings of the Board, the implementation by the Board of the resolutions approved by the shareholders' meetings, the performance of duties by the Company's senior management, and the Company's management policies. The Supervisory Committee is of the view that the Directors and the senior management, in performing their duties, strictly complied with the relevant rules and regulations, safeguarded the legitimate rights and interests of the Company and the shareholders as a whole, especially those of the minority shareholders, actively promoted the regulated operation of the Company, enhanced the level of corporate governance of the Company, followed lawful procedures in their decision-making, and implemented resolutions approved at the shareholders' meetings. The Supervisory Committee was not aware of any behaviours of the Directors or the senior management which violated the laws, regulations, the Articles of Association of the Company or were detrimental to the interests of the Company.

#### 2. The opinion concluded by the Supervisory Committee on the financial implementations of the Company

Through the supervision and inspection of the Company's financial policies and financial condition, the Supervisory Committee is of the view that the Company is able to strictly comply with the regulatory requirements such as section 404 of the US Sarbanes-Oxley Act and to continue to enhance its internal controls over financial reporting, while effectively controlling and managing the Company in accordance with rules and regulations. The Supervisory Committee suggested the Company to strengthen risk control as well as investment efficiency assessment in the area of emerging businesses. Upon reviewing the financial statements for the year 2019 with unqualified audit opinion and other relevant information to be tabled by the Board at the shareholders' meetings, which were prepared in accordance with the China Accounting Standards for Business Enterprises and the International Financial Reporting Standards as audited by PRC certified accountants and international auditors of the Company respectively, the Supervisory Committee is of the opinion that the financial statements truly and fairly reflect the Company's financial condition, operating results and cash flows.

In 2020, the Supervisory Committee will continue to strictly adhere to the Articles of Association of the Company and relevant regulations, assume its responsibility to protect the interests of the shareholders and the Company, and lay emphasis on monitoring the Company to fulfill its commitment to its shareholders. The Supervisory Committee will supervise the Company's implementation of important measures committed to shareholders and focus on the Company's implementation of important measures in the process of pushing forward network construction, safeguarding network and information security, enhancing the service quality, expanding the subscriber base and promoting corporate high-quality development, and will further broaden the work plan of the Supervisory Committee and strengthen its efforts in monitoring so as to protect the interests of all investors.

By Order of the Supervisory Committee

**Sui Yixun**

*Chairman of the Supervisory Committee*

Beijing, China  
24 March 2020