# THIS CIRCULAR IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

If you are in any doubt about this circular or as to the action to be taken, you should consult your stockbroker or other registered dealer in securities, bank manager, solicitor, professional accountant or other professional adviser.

If you have sold or transferred all your Shares in Symphony Holdings Limited, you should at once hand this circular with the enclosed proxy form to the purchaser or transferee or to the bank, stockbroker or other agent through whom the sale or transfer was effected for transmission to the purchaser or the transferee.

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(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 01223)

PROPOSALS FOR RE-ELECTION OF RETIRING DIRECTORS,
GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND
REPURCHASE SHARES, ADOPTION OF NEW SHARE OPTION SCHEME
AND TERMINATION OF EXISTING SHARE OPTION SCHEME,
PROPOSED ADOPTION OF THE NEW BYE-LAWS AND
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A notice convening the annual general meeting (the "AGM") of Symphony Holdings Limited to be held at the Boardroom, 10/F., Island Place Tower, 510 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong on Friday, 23 June 2023 at 11:00 a.m. is set out on pages 47 to 53 of this circular. Whether or not you are able to attend the AGM, you are advised to read the notice and complete and return the enclosed form of proxy in accordance with the instructions printed thereon to the branch share registrar and transfer office of the Company in Hong Kong, Tricor Tengis Limited, at 17/F., Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong as soon as possible but in any event not less than 48 hours before the scheduled time (i.e. Wednesday, 21 June 2023 at 11:00 a.m.) for holding the AGM. Completion and return of the proxy form will not preclude you from attending and voting in person at the AGM or any adjournment thereof should you so wish and in such event, the proxy form shall be deemed to be revoked.

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In this circular, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings:

"Acceptance Date" in relation to any Option, the day on which the offer to

grant such Option is accepted by the relevant Eligible Participant in accordance with the provisions of the New

Scheme

"Adoption Date" the date of approval and adoption of the New Scheme by

the Shareholders

"AGM" the annual general meeting of the Company to be held at

11:00 a.m. on Friday, 23 June 2023 at the Boardroom, 10/F., Island Place Tower, 510 King's Road, North Point,

Hong Kong, or any adjournment thereof

"AGM Notice" the notice convening the AGM as set out on pages 47 to

53 of this circular

"Board" the board of Directors

"Bye-Laws" or the bye-laws of the Company for the time being in force

"Existing Bye-Laws"

"Company" Symphony Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in

Bermuda with limited liability and the Shares of which are listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange (stock

code: 01223)

"Date of Grant" in relation to any Option, the day (which must be a

trading day) on which the Directors resolve to make an offer of that Option to an Eligible Participant subject to

the provisions of the New Scheme

"Director(s)" the director(s) of the Company

"Effective Date" the effective date of the New Scheme, the day on which

the conditions referred to in paragraph 22 of Appendix III

of this circular are fulfilled

"Eligible Participant(s)" the Employee Participants, the Service Providers and the

Related Entity Participants

DEFINITIONS		
"Employee Participant(s)"	the directors, chief executive and employees of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (including persons who are granted options under the New Scheme as an inducement to enter into employment contracts with the Company or any of its subsidiaries), provided that the Board shall have absolute discretion to determine whether or not one falls within such category	
"Existing Scheme"	the share option scheme adopted by the Company at its special general meeting held on 25 June 2021	
"General Mandates"	the Issue Mandate and the Repurchase Mandate	
"Group"	the Company together with its subsidiaries	
"HK\$"	Hong Kong dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong	
"Hong Kong"	the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China	
"Individual Limit"	has the same meaning as defined in paragraph 4 of Appendix III of this circular	
"INED(s)"	the independent non-executive director(s) of the Company	
"Issue Mandate"	a general mandate proposed to be granted to the Directors to exercise all the powers of the Company to allot, issue or deal with Shares in the manner as set out in the ordinary resolution numbered 6 of the AGM Notice	
"Latest Practicable Date"	17 April 2023, being the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this circular for ascertaining certain information contained herein	

"Listing Rules" the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock

Exchange

the memorandum of association of the Company "Memorandum of Association"

"New Bye-Laws" the amended and restated bye-laws of the Company

> incorporating and consolidating all the Proposed Amendments, proposed to be adopted by the Shareholders

at the AGM

"New Scheme" the new share option scheme proposed to be adopted by the Company at the AGM, a summary of the principal terms of which is set out in Appendix III to this circular "Nomination Committee" the nomination committee of the Company "Option(s)" an option to subscribe for Shares pursuant to the New Scheme "Option Holder(s)" the holder of any outstanding Option or (where the context so permits) any person who is entitled to such Option in consequence of the death or disability of the original holder, or the legal personal representative of such holder "Option Period" in respect of any Option, the period commencing on the Acceptance Date of an Option and expiring at the close of business on a day as determined by the Directors (both days inclusive), which period may, if the Directors so determine, be set at different length for different Eligible Participants provided always that such period shall not be longer than ten (10) years from the date upon which any Option is granted in accordance with the New Scheme "Option Price" the price per Share payable on the exercise of an Option (in whole or in part) as determined by the Directors (which price may, if the Directors so determine, be set at different levels for different periods during the Option Period) provided always that it shall comply with the provisions of the New Scheme "PRC" the People's Republic of China excluding Hong Kong, Macau Special Administrative Region and Taiwan "Principal Subsidiary" has the meaning as defined under Rule 17.14 of the Listing Rules

companies of the Company

out in Appendix IV to this circular

the proposed amendments to the Existing Bye-Laws as set

the holding companies, fellow subsidiaries or associated

"Proposed Amendments"

"Related Entity(ies)"

"Related Entity Participant(s)"

the directors, chief executive and employees of the holding companies, fellow subsidiaries or associated companies of the Company, provided that the Board shall have absolute discretion to determine whether or not one falls within such category

"Remuneration Committee"

the remuneration committee of the Company

"Repurchase Mandate"

a general mandate proposed to be granted to the Directors to exercise all the powers of the Company to repurchase Shares in the manner as set out in the ordinary resolution numbered 7 of the AGM Notice

"Service Provider(s)"

means any person(s) (whether a natural person, a corporate entity or otherwise) who provide services to the Group on a continuing and recurring basis in its ordinary and usual course of business which are in the interest of the long-term growth of the Group, including (a) suppliers of services to any member of the Group; and (b) advisors (professional or otherwise) or consultants to any area of business or business development of any member of the Group, but for the avoidance of doubt excludes placing agents or financial advisers providing advisory services for fundraising, mergers or acquisition, professional service providers such as auditors or valuers who provide assurance, or are required to perform their services with impartiality and objectivity, and provided that the Board shall have absolute discretion to determine whether or not one falls within such category

"Service Provider Sublimit"

has the same meaning as defined in paragraph 3.2 of Appendix III of this Circular

"SFC"

Securities and Futures Commission

"SFO"

the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571 of the

Laws of Hong Kong)

"Share(s)"

ordinary share(s) of the Company

"Shareholder(s)"

holder(s) of the Share(s)

"Stock Exchange"

The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

"Subscription Price" in relation to an Option, an amount equal to the Option

Price multiplied by the relevant number of Shares in

respect of which such Option is exercised

"substantial shareholders" as defined in the SFO

"Takeovers Code" the Hong Kong Code on Takeovers and Mergers

"%" per cent.



# **SYMPHONY HOLDINGS LIMITED**

# 新豐集團有限公司\*

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 01223)

Executive Directors:

Mr. Cheng Tun Nei (Chairman & Chief Executive Officer)

Mr. Chan Kar Lee Gary

Mr. Lee Cheung Ming

Independent Non-executive Directors:

Mr. Shum Pui Kay

Mr. Wah Wang Kei Jackie

Mr. Chow Yu Chun Alexander

Registered Office:

Clarendon House

2 Church Street

Hamilton HM11

Bermuda

Principal Place of Business

in Hong Kong:

10/F., Island Place Tower

510 King's Road

North Point

Hong Kong

28 April 2023

To the Shareholders

Dear Sirs,

PROPOSALS FOR RE-ELECTION OF RETIRING DIRECTORS,
GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND
REPURCHASE SHARES, ADOPTION OF NEW SHARE OPTION SCHEME
AND TERMINATION OF EXISTING SHARE OPTION SCHEME,
PROPOSED ADOPTION OF THE NEW BYE-LAWS AND
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this circular is to provide you with notice of the AGM and information regarding resolutions to be proposed at the AGM, relating to (i) the re-election of the retiring Directors, (ii) the granting of the General Mandates; (iii) the adoption of the New Scheme and termination of Existing Scheme; and (iv) the adoption of the New Bye-Laws.

#### RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Pursuant to bye-laws 87 and 88 of the Bye-Laws, one-third of the Directors for the time being (or if their number is not a multiple of three (3), the number nearest to but not less than one-third) shall retire from office by rotation at every annual general meeting of the Company and that, pursuant to the code provision B.2.2 of the Corporate Governance Code as set out in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules, every Director (including those appointed for a specific term) should be subject to retirement by rotation at least once every three years. Accordingly, each of Mr. Cheng Tun Nei ("Mr. Cheng") and Mr. Chow Yu Chun Alexander ("Mr. Chow") will retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the AGM.

The Company continuously seeks to enhance the effectiveness of its Board and recognises and embraces the benefits of having a diverse Board as an essential element in maintaining competitiveness. The Nomination Committee has reviewed the diversity of the Board and considered the Directors for re-election may contribute to the Board a range of diversity perspectives, including, but not limited to, age, cultural and educational background as well as professional experience, skills and knowledge.

The Board accepted the recommendation of the Nomination Committee that the re-election of each of Mr. Cheng as an executive Director and Mr. Chow as an independent non-executive Director could bring valuable management experience to the Group.

Besides, Mr. Chow has confirmed that he fulfills all the requirements under Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules. Hence, the Board considers him to be independent. None of the independent non-executive Director to be re-elected is holding seven or more listed company directorships.

As such, the Board recommends each of Mr. Cheng and Mr. Chow to stand for re-election as Directors at the AGM.

Biographical details of the Directors proposed for re-election are set out in Appendix I of this circular. The re-election of each of retiring Directors will be individually voted by Shareholders at the AGM by separate ordinary resolutions.

#### GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND REPURCHASE SHARES

Ordinary resolutions will be proposed at the AGM to consider and if thought fit, to approve the grant of the general and unconditional mandates to the Board to exercise all powers of the Company to (i) allot and issue new Shares not exceeding 20% of the total number of Shares of the Company in issue as at the date of passing such resolution; and (ii) repurchase Shares on the Stock Exchange not exceeding 10% of the total number of Shares of the Company in issue as at the date of passing such resolution. Subject to the passing of the aforesaid ordinary resolutions in relation to the Issue Mandate and the Repurchase Mandate, an ordinary resolution will also be proposed to authorize the Directors to extend the Issue Mandate to issue additional Shares in such number equal to the total number of Shares bought back under the Repurchase Mandate.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, the total number of Shares in issue was 2,974,225,233. Assuming that no further Shares will be issued or repurchased prior to the AGM, subject to the approval of the Issue Mandate by the Shareholders, the Company will be allowed to issue a maximum of 594,845,046 Shares under the Issue Mandate. Assuming that no further Shares will be issued or repurchased prior to the AGM, subject to the approval of the Repurchase Mandate by the Shareholders, the Company will be allowed to repurchase a maximum of 297,422,523 Shares under the Repurchase Mandate.

An explanatory statement containing information relating to the Repurchase Mandate as required pursuant to the Listing Rules, is set out in the Appendix II of this circular.

# ADOPTION OF THE NEW SHARE OPTION SCHEME AND TERMINATION OF THE EXISTING SHARE OPTION SCHEME

The Existing Scheme was adopted by the Company at its special general meeting held on 25 June 2021. The Existing Scheme is valid and effective for a period of 10 years from the date of adoption. Pursuant to the amendments to Chapter 17 of the Listing Rules which became effective from 1 January 2023, the Company proposes to terminate the Existing Scheme and adopt the New Scheme to replace the Existing Scheme.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, the Company has no outstanding options, convertible securities or warrants which confer the right to subscribe for Shares. The Board has no intention of granting any further options under the Existing Scheme during the period from the Latest Practicable Date and the date of the AGM.

Upon termination of the Existing Scheme, no further options may be granted but in all other respects, the provisions of the Existing Scheme shall remain in full force and effect. Therefore, the termination of the Existing Scheme will not in any event affect the terms of the grant of such outstanding options that have already been granted under the Existing Scheme and the outstanding options granted under the Existing Scheme shall continue to be subject to the provisions of the Existing Scheme.

At the AGM, ordinary resolution under agenda item 9 will be proposed for the Shareholders to consider, and if thought fit, to approve the termination of the Existing Scheme and adoption of the New Scheme. The New Scheme complies with the latest requirements under Chapter 17 of the Listing Rules.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, to the best knowledge of the Directors and having made all reasonable enquiries, no Shareholder has any material interest in the proposed adoption of the New Scheme. As such, no Shareholder is required to abstain from voting on the resolution in relation thereto.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, the issued share capital of the Company comprised 2,974,225,233 Shares. Assuming that there is no change in the issued share capital between the period from the Latest Practicable Date and the Adoption Date, the maximum number of Shares which may be issued upon exercise of all options to be granted under the New Scheme and any other share option scheme(s) of the Company and the awards to be granted under any share

award scheme(s) of the Company that involve(s) the issuance of new Shares (if any), in aggregate will be 297,422,523 Shares, representing 10% of the Shares in issue as at the Adoption Date.

The Service Provider Sublimit of the New Scheme will be 29,742,252 Shares, being 1% of the total number of Shares in issue on the Adoption Date. The basis for determining the Service Provider Sublimit includes the potential dilution effect arising from grants to the Service Providers, and the importance of striking a balance between achieving the purpose of the New Scheme and protecting Shareholders from the dilution effect from granting a substantial amount of Options to the Service Providers, the actual or expected increase in the Group's revenue or profits which is attributable to the Service Providers, the extent of use of Service Provider in the Group's business, the current payment and/or settlement arrangement with the Service Providers, and the fact that the Company expects that a majority of Options will be granted to Employee Participants and as such there is a need to reserve a larger portion of the Scheme Mandate Limit for grants to the Employee Participants. Given the above, the Directors have made reference to the 1% Individual Limit and considered that a sublimit of 1% would not lead to an excessive dilution of existing Shareholders' holdings. Considering that there are no other share schemes involving grant of options over new Shares, the Group's hiring practice and organisational structures and that the Service Providers have contributed to the long-term growth of the Company's businesses, the Board is of the view that the Service Provider Sublimit is appropriate and reasonable as it provides flexibility to grant Options to the Service Providers to achieve the purpose of the New Scheme and the relatively low threshold of 1% can provide adequate safeguard against excessive dilution. The Service Provider Sublimit is subject to separate approval by the Shareholders at the AGM.

None of the Directors is a trustee of the New Scheme or has any direct or indirect interest in the trustees of the New Scheme. No trustee arrangement would be applied under the New Scheme. As at the Latest Practicable Date, the Company has no other share option schemes or share award schemes other than the Existing Scheme.

#### Conditions precedent of the New Scheme

The New Scheme will take effect upon satisfaction of the following conditions:

- (i) the passing of an ordinary resolution by the Shareholders in the AGM to approve the adoption of the New Scheme and to authorise the Board to grant Options to subscribe for Shares thereunder and to allot, issue and deal with Shares pursuant to the exercise of any Options granted under the New Scheme; and
- (ii) the Listing Committee of the Stock Exchange granting approval for the listing of, and permission to deal in, any Shares to be issued pursuant to the exercise of Options granted under the New Scheme. An application will be made to the Stock Exchange for the approval of the listing for, and permission to deal in, the Shares to be issued pursuant to the exercise of the Options granted under the New Scheme.

#### Explanation of the terms of the New Scheme

A summary of the principal terms of the New Scheme is set out in Appendix III hereto.

The purpose of the New Scheme is to recognise the contribution or future contribution of the Eligible Participants for their contribution to the Group by granting Options to them as incentives or rewards and to attract, retain and motivate high-calibre Eligible Participants in line with the performance goals of the Group and the Related Entities. The New Scheme shall strengthen the many long-term relationships that the Eligible Participants may have with the Group.

#### **Eligible Participants**

Eligible Participants include the Employee Participants, the Service Providers and the Related Entity Participants.

In determining the basis of eligibility of each Eligible Participant, the Board would mainly take into account of the experience of the Eligible Participant on the Group's businesses, the length of service of the Eligible Participant with the Group (if the Eligible Participant is an employee or a director of any member of the Group), the actual degree of involvement in and/or cooperation with the Group and length of collaborative relationship the Eligible Participant has established with the Group (if the Eligible Participant is a Service Provider of any member of the Group), and the amount of support, assistance, guidance, advice, efforts and contributions the Eligible Participant has exerted and given towards the success of the Group and/or the amount of potential support, assistance, guidance, advice, efforts and contributions the Eligible Participant is likely to be able to give or make towards the success of the Group in the future.

Considering the Company's hiring practices and organisational structures and that Service Providers and Related Entity Participants have contributed to the long-term growth of the Company's businesses, the Board is of the view that it would be in the Company's interest to also have the flexibility to grant Options to the Service Providers and the Related Entity Participants in recognition of their contribution to the Company. The Directors (including the INEDs) also consider that it is beneficial to include the Related Entity Participants and the Service Providers since a sustainable and stable relationship with them is essential to the business development of the Group, and that the grant of Options to these non-employee participants will align their interests with the Group's, incentivising them to provide better services to, create more opportunities for and/or contribute to the success of the Group in the long run. More specifically, the Board (including the INEDs) is of the view that:

(i) The Company and the Related Entity Participants have always had a close working relationship. Despite that Related Entity Participants may not be directly appointed and employed by the members of the Group, such Related Entity Participants are nonetheless valuable human resources to the Group given their close corporate and collaborative relationships, they may be involved in projects or other business engagements relating to or having connections with the Group's business. As such, certain Related Entity Participants have joint involvement in work projects from time to time. Given the mix of workload, the Company feels that it is important to

recognise the contribution or future contribution of such Related Entity Participants by giving them incentive through their participation in the New Scheme. In particular, for those Related Entities in which the Group has significant interest, their growth and development would contribute to the financial performance of the Group, thereby allowing the Group to share and benefit from the positive results of these companies. It is therefore in the interest of the Company and the Shareholders, and is in line with the objectives of the New Scheme to include the Related Entity Participants, who the Company can incentivise with the grant of Options in order to strengthen their loyalty with the Group even though they may not be directly employed by the Group, and to in turn facilitate a higher degree of collaboration and closer business relationships and ties between the Related Entities and the Group; while the Related Entities may consider granting Options to those employees, given that the same employees may be utilised by the Company to assist with its projects, they would also provide service to the Company despite not being directly employed by the Group, and hence the Board is of the view that it would be in the Company's interest to also grant Options to those employees in recognition of such contribution to the Company.

(ii) The Group has always relied on its vendors and suppliers to provide design and manufacturing, distribution services, production services, advisory services, consultancy services, sales and marketing services, technology services, administrative services, and/or other professional services to the Group to support the Group's projects and business activities in branding and retailing, as well as provision of financial services. The Board believes that the Group's success is attributable to high quality of services provided by such vendors and suppliers. In addition, the Group has collaborated with independent contractors, consultants and advisors who have provided advisory services, consultancy services, and/or other professional services to the Group (but for the avoidance of doubt exclude placing agents or financial advisers providing advisory services for fundraising, mergers or acquisition, professional service providers such as auditors or valuers who provide assurance, or are required to perform their services with impartiality and objectivity) and they have played significant roles in the Group's business development by contributing their specialised skills in fields such as research and development, product commercialisation, marketing, innovation upgrading, strategic/commercial planning on corporate image, investor relations in investment environment of the Company and other areas in relation to the Group's business operation, financial and management advisory and consulting. Furthermore, as the Group is operating in the ever-changing industries of branding and retailing, the Group may require new types of professional services to be provided by the Service Providers on a continuing or recurring basis to cope with its demand for new initiatives, projects and focuses and to support its expansion plan(s) from time to time, such as development of new brands. In such case, the Board will determine whether the Service Providers providing such professional services are eligible to participate in the New Scheme based on whether such professional services provided are in line with the Company's business need and the industry norm, desirable and necessary from a commercial perspective and help maintain or enhance the competitiveness of the Group, having regard to the Group's key business segments and focuses from time to time.

Service Providers are including but not limited to: vendors providing services in sourcing, engaging and managing manufacturers to manufacture products of the Group, suppliers supplying branded products to the Group, consultants providing advices to the Group on research and development, marketing of the Group's products.

Such suppliers, vendors, independent contractor, consultants and advisors may not be able to serve as full-time or part-time employees, directors or officers of the Group due to a variety of reasons. For example, these Service Providers may have stepped down from employment position with the Group, or they may be seasoned people in their own fields and professionals with many business connections which the Group may not be able to recruit them as employees, or they may prefer to be employed on self-employed basis which is in line with industry norm, and the Company may need to outsource such functions and procure services from external vendors or suppliers, or is unable to turn to internal resources for these kind of specialised support due to various restraints.

Hence, the Board is of the view that apart from the invaluable contributions from employees and directors of the Group, the success of the Group also requires the co-operation and contribution from these kind of suppliers, vendors, independent contractor, consultants and advisors who provide or will provide services to the Group on a continuing and recurring basis in its ordinary and usual course of business. The grant of Options to the Service Providers will incentivise such Service Providers to provide quality services and/or products to the Group on a long-term basis, strengthen their loyalty to the Group, such that its performance efficiency may be maximised. Although the Company has not granted any options to such Service Providers under the Existing Scheme, the Board also considers that it is still appropriate to have the flexibility in granting Options instead of cash reward or other settlement to the Service Providers since the grant of Options will offer incentives that are more long-lasting and promising than one-off payments and allow the Group to more efficiently allocate its financial resources by retaining more cash.

- (iii) As mentioned above, the Board will take into account of numerous factors when assessing the eligibility of and contribution (or potential contribution) made or to be made by the different categories of non-employee Eligible Participants. As further explained below, the Board also has the discretion to impose different terms and conditions (including but not limited to performance targets and vesting conditions) on Options to be granted to these Eligible Participants, which allows the Board having great flexibility to impose appropriate conditions in light of the particular circumstances of each grant, which would then be a more meaningful reward for these non-employee Eligible Participants' contribution or potential contribution.
- (iv) It has always been the intention of the Company to include employee, director, officer or consultant of a Related Entity and any other group or classes of participants which the Directors consider to have contributed or will contribute, whether by way of business alliance or other business arrangement, to the development and growth of the

Group as these classes of person were all eligible under the Existing Scheme. The Company has always opted a flexible approach when it comes to devising its own talent recruitment and retention strategies.

Having their contribution recognised and their interests aligned with the Group's, the Related Entity Participants and the Service Providers will be better motivated to support the development of the Group in a sustainable manner.

Based on the above, the INEDs are of the view that:

- Apart from the contributions of employees and directors of the Group, the success of the Group may also come from the efforts and co-operation of non-employees (including Service Providers and Related Entity Participants) who play a part in the development and continued success of the Group's business and operations, and have contributed or may contribute to the Group in the future;
- The inclusion of the Related Entity Participants and the Service Providers as non-employee Eligible Participants are in line with the Company's business needs and the industry norm of providing equity-based payment to stakeholders in order to align interests and incentivise performance and contribution, as it is desirable and necessary to sustain and foster these business relationships on a long-term basis; and
- The criteria for selection of Related Entity Participants and Service Providers as set out above and in paragraph 2 of Appendix III to this circular and the discretion afforded to the Board to impose different terms and conditions (including performance targets and vesting conditions) on Options granted to such selected non-employee Eligible Participants, is appropriate and in the interest of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole, and would enable the purpose of the New Scheme to be achieved.

#### **Vesting period**

The vesting period for Options under the New Scheme shall not be less than twelve (12) months. To ensure the practicability in fully attaining the purpose of the New Scheme, the Board and the Remuneration Committee are of the view that (a) there are certain instances where a strict twelve (12)-month vesting requirement would not work or would not be fair to the Option Holder, such as those set out in paragraphs 7.2(i) to (iii) of Appendix III to this circular; (b) there is a need for the Company to retain flexibility to reward exceptional performers with accelerated vesting or in exceptional circumstances where justified; and (c) the Company should be allowed discretions to formulate its own talent recruitment and retention strategies in response to changing market conditions and industry competition, and thus should have flexibility to impose vesting conditions such as performance-based vesting conditions instead of time-based vesting criteria depending on individual circumstances.

Hence, the Board and the Remuneration Committee are of the view that the shorter vesting period prescribed in sub-paragraph 7.2 of Appendix III to this circular is in line with the market practice and is appropriate and aligns with the purpose of the New Scheme.

#### Performance targets and clawback mechanism

Unless otherwise imposed by the Directors and stated in the relevant offer letter, there is neither any performance targets required to be achieved by any Option Holder before an Option is capable of being exercised by the Option Holder nor any clawback mechanism under the New Scheme for the Company to recover or withhold any remuneration (which may include Options granted to any Option Holder) to any Eligible Participants in the event of serious misconduct, a material misstatement in the Company's financial statements or other circumstances.

If performance targets are imposed on an Option Holder, the Board may assess such performance targets against common corporate-wide or subsidiary, division, operating unit, line of business, project, geographic or individual key performance indicators, which may include cash flow; earnings; earnings per share; market value added or economic value added; profits; return on assets; return on equity; return on investment; sales; revenue; Share price; total Shareholder return; customer satisfaction metrics; and such other goals as the Board may determine from time to time.

If a clawback mechanism is imposed on an Option Holder, the Board will take into account individual circumstances when devising such mechanism such as the role of the Option Holder, the purpose of the grant (for example whether as recognition of past contribution or as incentive to motivate such Option Holder to contribute to the Group in the future on an ongoing basis), whether it would be particularly burdensome and complicated to implement the clawback mechanism, whether there are any tax implications etc.

The Board believes that it is in the best interests of the Company to retain the flexibility to impose appropriate conditions in light of the particular circumstances of each grant, which would then be a more meaningful reward for the Eligible Participants' contribution or potential contribution. Further, by allowing the Company to grant Options under the New Scheme at a Subscription Price which will be determined on a fair basis according to market value of the Shares and to impose such clawback mechanism and/or require the Eligible Participant to achieve such performance targets as may be stipulated in the offer letter on a case by case basis, the Company may be in a better position to retain such Eligible Participants to continue serving the Company whilst at the same time providing these Eligible Participants further incentive in achieving the goals of the Group, and therefore aligns with the purpose of the New Scheme.

## Basis of Determination of the Option Price

Eligible Participants to whom Options shall be granted, are entitled to subscribe for the number of Shares at the Option Price as determined on the Date of Grant. The basis for determining the Option Price is also specified precisely in the rules of the New Scheme. The Directors consider that such basis will serve to preserve the value of the Company and encourage the Eligible Participants to acquire proprietary interests in the Company.

# Value of the Options

The Directors consider that it is not appropriate to state the value of all the Options that can be granted under the New Scheme as if they had been granted at the Latest Practicable Date, given that various factors (such as the Option Price and other terms and conditions to which an Option may be subject) crucial for valuation cannot be predicted or ascertained and may vary from case to case. The Directors believe that any calculation of the value of the Options as at the Latest Practicable Date based on assumptions would be speculative and not meaningful, and indeed might be misleading to the Shareholders.

#### PROPOSED ADOPTION OF THE NEW BYE-LAWS

Reference is made to the announcement of the Company dated 31 March 2023 in relation to the proposed adoption of the New Bye-laws. The Board proposed to amend the Existing Bye-Laws and to adopt the New Bye-Laws as the bye-laws of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of the Existing Bye-laws in order to, amongst others, (i) conform to the current requirements in the Core Shareholder Protection Standards as set out in Appendix 3 to the Listing Rules; and (ii) incorporate certain housekeeping amendments.

Details of the Proposed Amendments (marked-up against the Existing Bye-Laws) are set out in Appendix IV to this circular. The Chinese translation of the Proposed Amendments is for reference only. In case of any discrepancy or inconsistency between the English version and its Chinese translation, the English version shall prevail. Prior to the passing of the special resolution at the AGM, the Existing Bye-Laws shall remain valid.

The legal adviser to the Company as to Hong Kong laws has confirmed that the Proposed Amendments conform with the requirements of the Listing Rules. The legal adviser to the Company as to Bermuda laws has confirmed that the Proposed Amendments do not violate the applicable laws of Bermuda. The Company also confirms that there is nothing unusual about the Proposed Amendments for a company listed on the Stock Exchange.

The Proposed Amendments and the proposed adoption of the New Bye-Laws are subject to, and will become effective upon, the approval of the Shareholders by way of passing a special resolution at the AGM.

#### NOTICE OF AGM

The notice of the AGM is set out on pages 47 to 53 of this circular. At the AGM, resolutions will be proposed to approve the re-election of the Directors, the granting of the General Mandates and the extension of the General Mandates, the adoption of the New Scheme and termination of Existing Scheme and the adoption of the New Bye-Laws. All resolutions will be put to vote by way of poll at the AGM and no Shareholder will be required to abstain from voting at the AGM in respect of these resolutions. An announcement on the poll vote results will be made by the Company after the AGM in the manner prescribed under Rule 13.39(5) of the Listing Rules.

A proxy form for the AGM is enclosed. Whether or not you are able to attend the AGM, you are requested to complete and return the enclosed proxy form in accordance with the instructions printed thereon to the office of the branch share registrar and transfer office of the Company in Hong Kong, Tricor Tengis Limited, at 17/F., Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong not less than 48 hours before the time scheduled (i.e. Wednesday, 21 June 2023 at 11:00 a.m.) for holding the AGM or any adjournment thereof. Completion and return of the proxy form will not preclude you from attending and voting in person at the AGM or any adjourned meeting should you so wish and in such event, the proxy form shall be deemed to be revoked.

#### **BAD WEATHER ARRANGEMENT**

In the event if Typhoon Signal No. 8 (or above) or "extreme conditions" caused by super typhoons or a Black Rainstorm Warning Signal is hoisted:

- (a) but lowered at or before 9:00 a.m., the AGM will be held at 11:00 a.m. on the same day at the same venue; or
- (b) but lowered at or before 2:00 p.m., the AGM will be adjourned to 5:00 p.m. on the same day at the same venue; or
- (c) but lowered after 2:00 p.m., the AGM will be adjourned to 11:00 a.m. on Monday, 26 June 2023 at the same venue.

If the AGM is so adjourned, all resolutions set out in this circular and the AGM Notice to be proposed at the AGM will remain unchanged, and all such resolutions will be proposed at the adjourned AGM.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Board is of the opinion that the (i) the proposed re-election of the retiring Directors; (ii) the grant of the proposed General Mandates; (iii) the proposed adoption of New Scheme and termination of Existing Scheme; and (iv) the proposed adoption of the New Bye-Laws in the manner set out in the AGM Notice are in the interests of the Company and Shareholders as a whole, and accordingly, the Board recommends all Shareholders to vote in favour of the relevant resolutions to be proposed at the AGM.

#### RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

This circular, for which the Directors collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the Listing Rules for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company. The Directors, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirm that to the best of their knowledge and belief, the information contained in this circular is accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading or deceptive, and there are no other matters the omission of which would make any statement herein or this circular misleading.

Yours faithfully,
By order of the Board

Symphony Holdings Limited

Cheng Tun Nei

Chairman

<sup>\*</sup> For identification purposes only

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

#### Mr. Cheng Tun Nei ("Mr. Cheng")

Mr. Cheng Tun Nei, aged 59, has been appointed as an Executive Director since 15 December 2014 and was further appointed as the chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer on 23 December 2014 and 30 September 2015 respectively. He is the chairman of the Nomination Committee. Mr. Cheng is mainly responsible for the formulation of development strategies of the Group, as well as giving guidance to the Group's project investment, financing and investment. He is also a director of certain subsidiaries of the Company.

He is an experienced investor in securities and also a seasoned businessman engaging in securities and financing, consultancy, hotel investment, real estate investment and development, import and export of cigarettes, perfume and cosmetic products business for many years. He is also a director of Goldsilk Capital Limited, a substantial shareholder of the Company under the Securities and Futures Ordinance.

Mr. Cheng was appointed as the executive director and chairman of the investment and management committee of Lamtex Holdings Limited (HKSE: 1041) on 19 March 2020 and resigned from the positions on 30 July 2020.

Mr. Cheng is the father of Mr. Cheng Chun Lung, the vice president for Business Development of the Company, and the brother-in-law of Mr. Lee Cheung Ming, an executive Director.

As at the Latest Practicable Date and save as disclosed above, Mr. Cheng did not hold any directorship in other listed companies during the past three years nor has he held any other positions with the Group, and does not have any other major appointments and professional qualifications.

Mr. Cheng has a service contract with Tak Jin Management Services Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company for a fixed term of two years which will expire on 31 December 2024 and shall be subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at annual general meetings in accordance with the Bye-Laws. Pursuant to the service contract, Mr. Cheng is entitled to a remuneration of HK\$2,400,000 per annum plus discretionary bonus in respect of his appointment which has been determined by reference to his background, qualifications, experience, level of responsibilities undertaken with the Company and prevailing market conditions.

As at the Latest Practicable Date and as notified to the Company for the purposes of Part XV of the SFO, Mr. Cheng has a personal interest in 167,040,000 Shares and is deemed by the SFO to be interested in the 1,071,190,000 Shares held by Goldsilk Capital Limited, which is 100% beneficially owned by Mr. Cheng. As such, Mr. Cheng has an aggregate interest of 1,238,230,000 Shares, representing approximately 41.63% of the total issued Shares.

# APPENDIX I DETAILS OF DIRECTORS PROPOSED FOR RE-ELECTION

As at the Latest Practicable Date and save as disclosed above, Mr. Cheng has no relationship with any other Directors, senior management or substantial shareholders of the Company (as defined in the Listing Rules) and there is no information relating to Mr. Cheng which is required to be disclosed pursuant to Rule 13.51(2) of the Listing Rules and there is no other matter that needs to be brought to the attention of the Shareholders.

#### INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### Mr. Chow Yu Chun Alexander ("Mr. Chow")

**Mr. Chow Yu Chun Alexander**, aged 76, has been appointed as an Independent Non-executive Director since 15 December 2014 and is the chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Remuneration Committee.

Mr. Chow possesses over 40 years of experience in commercial, financial and investment management in Hong Kong and mainland China. He is currently also an independent non-executive director of Playmates Toys Limited (HKSE: 869) and CSC Holdings Limited (formerly known as China Strategic Holdings Limited) (HKSE: 235). Furthermore, he was also an independent non-executive director of Aquis Entertainment Limited (ASX: AQS), a company listed on Australian Securities Exchange, since 2015 and retired from the position in April 2022.

As at the Latest Practicable Date and save as disclosed above, Mr. Chow did not hold any directorship in other listed companies during the past three years nor has he held any other positions with the Group, and does not have any other major appointments and professional qualifications.

There is neither a service contract nor proposed length of service between Mr. Chow and the Company. His appointment with the Company is subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at annual general meetings in accordance with the Bye-Laws. Mr. Chow will receive a total of HK\$170,000 serving as an independent non-executive Director per annum. His remuneration is reviewed annually by the Remuneration Committee and approved by the Board with reference to his duties and responsibilities, the prevailing market conditions and the performance of the Company.

Mr. Chow has confirmed he meets the independence criteria as set out in Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules.

As at the Latest Practicable Date and as notified to the Company for the purposes of Part XV of the SFO, Mr. Chow does not have any interest in the total issued Shares.

As at the Latest Practicable Date and saved as disclosed above, Mr. Chow has no relationship with any other Directors, senior management or substantial shareholders of the Company (as defined in the Listing Rules) and there is no information relating to Mr. Chow which is required to be disclosed pursuant to Rule 13.51(2) of the Listing Rules and there is no other matter that needs to be brought to the attention of the Shareholders.

# EXPLANATORY STATEMENT ON THE REPURCHASE MANDATE

This Appendix serves as an explanatory statement, as required by the Listing Rules, to provide all the information in relation to the Repurchase Mandate for your consideration.

#### **SHARES IN ISSUE**

As at the Latest Practicable Date, there were 2,974,225,233 Shares in issue. Subject to the passing of the relevant ordinary resolution at the AGM and on the basis that no further Shares will be issued or repurchased from the Latest Practicable Date to the date of the AGM, the Company will be authorized under the Repurchase Mandate to repurchase on the Stock Exchange a maximum of 297,422,523 Shares, representing 10% of the total number of Shares in issue as at the date of the AGM.

#### REASONS FOR THE REPURCHASE

Although Directors have no present intention to repurchase any Shares, they believe that it is in the best interests of the Company and the Shareholders for Directors to seek a general authority from Shareholders to enable the Company to repurchase Shares in the market. At any time in future when Shares are trading at a discount to their underlying value, the ability of the Company to repurchase Shares will be beneficial to Shareholders who retain investments in the Company. Shareholders' percentage interests in the assets of the Company would increase in proportion to the number of Shares repurchased by the Company, thereby resulting in an increase in net assets and/or earnings per Share. Such repurchases will only be made when Directors believe that such repurchases will benefit the Company and the Shareholders as a whole.

#### FUNDING OF THE REPURCHASE

Directors propose that repurchases of Shares under the Repurchase Mandate would be financed from internal resources of the Company. In repurchasing Shares, the Company may only apply funds legally available for such purpose in accordance with Memorandum of Association, Bye-Laws and all applicable laws of Bermuda.

The Company is empowered by its Memorandum of Association and Bye-Laws to repurchase its Shares. The Bermuda laws provide that the consideration paid in connection with a share repurchase may only be paid out of the capital paid-up on the relevant shares, or the funds of the company that would otherwise be available for dividend or distribution or the proceeds of a fresh issue of shares made for such purpose. The amount of premium payable on repurchase may only be paid out of funds of the Company that would otherwise be available for dividend or distribution or out of the share premium account of the Company before the Shares are repurchased.

# EXPLANATORY STATEMENT ON THE REPURCHASE MANDATE

Furthermore, the Companies Act provides that a company may not repurchase its own shares if on the date on which the repurchase is to be effected, there are reasonable grounds for believing that the company is, or after the repurchase would be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due.

#### IMPACT OF THE REPURCHASE

The Directors anticipate that there might be a material adverse impact on the working capital or gearing position of the Company (as compared with the position disclosed in the audited consolidated financial statements contained in the annual report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022) in the event that the Repurchase Mandate was to be carried out in full at any time during the proposed repurchase period. Directors do not propose to exercise the power granted pursuant to the Repurchase Mandate to such an extent that would, in the circumstances, have a material adverse effect on the working capital requirements of the Company or the gearing levels which in the opinion of Directors are from time to time appropriate for the Company. The number of Shares to be repurchased on any occasions and the price and other terms upon which Shares are repurchased will be decided by Directors at the relevant time having regard to the circumstances then pertaining.

#### SHARE BUY-BACK MADE BY THE COMPANY

The Company did not repurchase any Shares (whether on the Stock Exchange or otherwise) in the six months preceding the Latest Practicable Date.

#### **SHARE PRICES**

The highest and lowest prices at which the Shares have been traded on the Stock Exchange during each of the previous twelve months preceding the Latest Practicable Date were as follows:

	Shares	
	Highest	Lowest
	HK\$	HK\$
2022		
April	1.12	0.95
May	1.01	0.94
June	1.08	0.98
July	1.08	0.97
August	1.06	0.98
September	1.10	0.93
October	1.05	0.87
November	0.95	0.84
December	0.94	0.80
2023		
January	0.89	0.80
February	0.88	0.82
March	0.93	0.81
April (until and including the Latest Practicable Date)	0.98	0.85

#### DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

None of the Directors nor, to the best of their knowledge and belief having made all reasonable enquiries, any of their close associates (as defined in the Listing Rules) have any present intention, in the event that the Repurchase Mandate is approved by the Shareholders, to sell any of the Shares to the Company.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, no core connected person (as defined in the Listing Rules) has notified the Company that he/she/it has a present intention to sell Shares to the Company, nor has undertaken not to do so, in the event that the Repurchase Mandate is approved and granted by the Shareholders.

#### UNDERTAKING OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors have undertaken to the Stock Exchange that, so far as the same may be applicable, they will exercise the power of the Company to repurchase Shares pursuant to the Repurchase Mandate in accordance with the Listing Rules, the Memorandum of Association, the Bye-Laws and all applicable laws of Bermuda.

#### EFFECT OF THE TAKEOVERS CODE

If on exercise of the power to repurchase Shares pursuant to the Repurchase Mandate, the proportionate interest of a Shareholder or group of Shareholders acting in concert (as defined in the Takeovers Code) in the voting rights of the Company increases, such increase will be treated as an acquisition for the purposes of Rules 26 and 32 of the Takeovers Code. As a result, a Shareholder or group of Shareholders acting in concert could obtain or consolidate control of the Company and become obliged to make a mandatory offer in accordance with Rules 26 and 32 of the Takeovers Code.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, Goldsilk Capital Limited, the largest substantial Shareholder, held approximately 36.02% of the issued shares of the Company. In the event that the Directors exercise in full the power to repurchase Shares in accordance with the Repurchase Mandate (if granted), then the total interests of Goldsilk Capital Limited in the issued Shares would be increased to approximately 40.02% of the total issued shares of the Company (on the basis that no Share is issued or repurchased by the Company prior to the AGM). In the opinion of the Directors, such increase may give rise to an obligation to make a mandatory offer under Rules 26 and 32 of the Takeovers Code. The Directors have no present intention to exercise the Repurchase Mandate to such an extent as would result in takeover obligations.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, approximately 38.80% of the Company's issued Share capital is held by the public. After the Directors exercise in full the power to repurchase Shares under the Repurchase Mandate, approximately 32.00% of the Company's issued share capital will be held by the public.

The Directors have no present intention to exercise the power to repurchase Shares pursuant to the Repurchase Mandate to such an extent as would, in the circumstances, give rise to an obligation to make a mandatory offer under Rule 26 of the Takeovers Code and/or result in the number of Shares being held by the public falling below the relevant minimum prescribed percentage pursuant to Rules 8.08 of the Listing Rules, which is currently 25% of the total number of Shares of the Company in issue.

The following is a summary of the principal terms of the New Scheme. It does not form part of, nor is it intended to be part of the rules of the New Scheme and it should not be taken as affecting the interpretation of the rules of the New Scheme. The Directors reserve the right at any time prior to the AGM to make such amendments to the New Scheme as they may consider necessary or appropriate provided that such amendments do not conflict in any material aspects with the summary in this Appendix III.

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE NEW SCHEME

The purpose of the New Scheme is to recognise the contribution or future contribution of the Eligible Participants for their contribution to the Group by granting Options to them as incentives or rewards and to attract, retain and motivate high-calibre Eligible Participants in line with the performance goals of the Group and the Related Entities. The New Scheme shall strengthen the many long-term relationships that the Eligible Participants may have with the Group.

# 2. ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS OF NEW SCHEME AND THE BASIS OF DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY OF ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Eligible Participants include the Employee Participants, the Service Providers and the Related Entity Participants.

In determining the basis of eligibility of each Eligible Participant, the Board would mainly take into account of the experience of the Eligible Participant on the Group's businesses, the length of service of the Eligible Participant with the Group (if the Eligible Participant is an employee or a director of any member of the Group), the actual degree of involvement in and/or cooperation with the Group and length of collaborative relationship the Eligible Participant has established with the Group (if the Eligible Participant is a Service Provider of any member of the Group), and the amount of support, assistance, guidance, advice, efforts and contributions the Eligible Participant has exerted and given towards the success of the Group and/or the amount of potential support, assistance, guidance, advice, efforts and contributions the Eligible Participant is likely to be able to give or make towards the success of the Group in the future.

For Employee Participants, assessing factors include: the individual performance, time commitment, responsibilities or employment conditions according to the prevailing market practice and industry standard, the length of engagement with the Group and the individual contribution or potential contribution to the development and growth of the Group.

For each category of the Service Providers, assessing factors include: whether the nature of professional services provided by the Service Provider is in line with the Company's business need and the industry norm, desirable and necessary from a commercial perspective and help maintain or enhance the competitiveness of the Group, having regard to the Group's business segments and focuses from time to time, the individual performance of relevant Service Providers, the length of business relationship with the Group, the materiality and nature of the

business relationship with the Group (such as whether they relate to the core business of the Group and whether such business dealings could be readily replaced by third parties), track record in the quality of services provided to and/or cooperation with the Group and the scale of business dealings with the Group with regard to factors such as the actual or expected change in the Group's revenue or profits which is or may be attributable to the Service Providers. In assessing whether the Service Provider provides services to the Group on a continuing and recurring basis and in its ordinary and usual course of business, the Board shall take into consideration the length and type of services provided and the recurrences and regularity of such services, the nature of the services provided to the Group by the Service Provider, and whether such services form part of or are directly ancillary to the businesses conducted by the Group, as disclosed in the Company's announcements, circulars, interim and annual reports.

For Related Entity Participants, assessing factors include: the degree of involvement in and/or cooperation with the Group, the length of collaborative relationship the Related Entity Participant has established with the Group, the extent of positive impact provided by or expected from business development activities in terms of the actual or expected change in the Group's revenue or profits attributable to the Related Entity Participant, whether the Related Entity Participant has assisted the Group to tap into new markets or increase its existing market share, whether the Related Entity Participant has provided measurable assistance to improve any aspect of the Group's operations, the amount of actual or potential support, assistance, guidance, advice, effort or contribution the Related Entity Participant give or is likely to be able to give or make towards the success of the Group.

#### 3. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SHARES AVAILABLE FOR SUBSCRIPTION

3.1 The total number of Shares which may be issued upon the exercise of all Options to be granted under the New Scheme and all options and awards to be granted under any other share option scheme(s) and share award scheme(s) of the Company ("Other Schemes") shall not in aggregate exceed 297,422,523, representing 10% of the total issued Shares on the Adoption Date ("Scheme Mandate Limit") unless the Company obtains an approval from the Shareholders pursuant to sub-paragraph 3.3 below. Options or awards cancelled or lapsed in accordance with the terms of the New Scheme or Other Schemes shall not be counted for the purposes of calculating whether the Scheme Mandate Limit and the Service Provider Sublimit (as defined below) have been exceeded. If the Company conducts a share consolidation or subdivision after the Scheme Mandate Limit has been approved in general meeting, the maximum number of Shares that may be issued in respect of all Options to be granted under the New Scheme and options and awards to be granted under all Other Schemes under the Scheme Mandate Limit or the Service Provider Sublimit as a percentage of the total issued Shares at the date immediately before and after such consolidation or subdivision shall be the same, rounded to the nearest whole Share.

- 3.2 Subject to paragraph 3.1 above, within the Scheme Mandate Limit, the total number of Shares which may be issued upon exercise of all options to be granted to Service Providers shall not exceed 29,742,252 Shares, representing 1% of the total issued Shares on the Adoption Date ("Service Provider Sublimit").
- 3.3 The Company may seek approval of its Shareholders in the general meeting for refreshing the Scheme Mandate Limit and the Service Provider Sublimit set out in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 above under the New Scheme after three (3) years from the date of approval by the Shareholders for the adoption of the New Scheme or the last refreshment.
- 3.4 Any refreshment within any three (3)-year period must be approved by Shareholders subject to that:
  - (i) any controlling shareholders and their associates (or if there is no controlling shareholder, Directors (excluding Independent Non-executive Directors) and the chief executive of the Company and their respective associates) must abstain from voting in favour of the relevant resolution at the general meeting; and
  - (ii) the Company must comply with the requirements under Rules 13.39(6), 13.39(7), 13.40, 13.41 and 13.42 of the Listing Rules.
- 3.5 The requirements under paragraphs 3.4(i) and 3.4(ii) above do not apply if the refreshment is made immediately after an issue of securities by the Company to the Shareholders on a pro-rata basis as set out in Rule 13.36(2)(a) of the Listing Rules such that the unused part of the Scheme Mandate Limit (as a percentage of the total issued Shares) upon refreshment is the same as the unused part of the Scheme Mandate Limit immediately before the issue of securities, rounded to the nearest whole Share.
- 3.6 The total number of Shares which may be issued in respect of all Options to be granted under the New Scheme (in aggregate with any other options and awards to be granted under any Other Schemes that involve(s) the issuance of new Shares) under the Scheme Mandate Limit as refreshed shall not exceed 10% of the total issued Shares as at the date of approval of the refreshed Scheme Mandate Limit. The Company shall send to the Shareholders a circular containing all such information as may be required under the Listing Rules.
- 3.7 The Company may seek separate approval by the Shareholders in its general meeting for granting Options beyond the Scheme Mandate Limit provided the Options in excess of the Scheme Mandate Limit are granted only to the Eligible Participants specifically identified by the Company before such approval is sought. In such a case, the Company shall send to the Shareholders a circular containing the name of each specified Eligible Participant who may be granted such Options, the number and terms

of the Options to be granted to each Eligible Participant, and the purpose of granting Options to the specified Eligible Participants with an explanation as to how the terms of the Options serve such purpose and all such information as may be required under the Listing Rules. The number and terms of Options to be granted to such Eligible Participants must be fixed before approval by the Shareholders. In respect of any Options to be granted, the date of Board meeting for proposing such grant should be taken as the Date of Grant for the purpose of calculating the Subscription Price.

#### 4. MAXIMUM ENTITLEMENT OF SHARES OF EACH ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT

Subject to paragraph 21 below, the total number of Shares issued and to be issued upon exercise of the options and awards granted to each Eligible Participant or grantee (including exercised and outstanding options but excluding any options and awards lapsed in accordance with the terms of such schemes) in any twelve (12)-month period up to the Date of Grant shall not exceed 1% of the total issued Shares at the Date of Grant ("Individual Limit"). Where it is proposed that any offer is to be made to an Eligible Participant (or where approximate, an existing grantee) which would result in the Shares issued and to be issued upon exercise of all options and awards granted and to be granted to such person (including exercised, cancelled and outstanding options and awards) in the twelve (12)-month period up to and including the relevant Date of Grant to exceed his, her or its Individual Limit, such offer and any acceptance thereof must be conditional upon approval by the Shareholders in the general meeting with such Eligible Participant (or where appropriate, an existing grantee) and his, her or its associates abstaining from voting. The Company must send a circular to the Shareholders disclosing the identity of the Eligible Participant or grantee, the number and terms of options to be granted (and options previously granted) to such Eligible Participant and the information required under the Listing Rules. The number and terms (including the Subscription Price) of options to be granted to such Eligible Participant must be fixed before the date on which approval of the Shareholders is sought and the date of the Board meeting for proposing such further grant should be taken as the Date of Grant for the purpose of calculating the Subscription Price.

#### 5. ACCEPTANCE OF OPTION

Offers to grant an Option shall be open for acceptance in writing. Such acceptance must be received by the company secretary of the Company ("Company Secretary") within a period of thirty (30) days inclusive of, and from, the Date of Grant provided that no such offer shall be open for acceptance after the expiry of the period of the New Scheme or after the New Scheme has been terminated; or by a person who ceases to be an Eligible Participant after such offer has been made. An offer shall be deemed to have been accepted on the date when the duplicate comprising acceptance of the offer is duly signed by the Eligible Participant with the number of Shares in respect of which the offer is accepted clearly stated therein together with a remittance in favour of the Company of HK\$1.00 per Option by way of consideration for the grant thereof. Such consideration shall not be refundable.

Upon an offer of the grant of Options being accepted or deemed to have been accepted, each Option Holder gives the Company an unfettered right to publish an announcement relating to the terms of the offer in accordance with the Listing Rules.

#### 6. PERIOD WITHIN WHICH THE OPTION MAY BE EXERCISED

Save as provided in paragraphs 7, 9 to 12 below, Options for the time being outstanding may be exercised in whole or in part at any time during the Option Period. In order for the exercise of an Option to be effective, the Company Secretary must, prior to the expiry of the Option Period, have received: (i) a written notice from the Option Holder exercising the Option, signed by or on behalf of the Option Holder and specifying the number of Shares in respect of which the Option is being exercised; and (ii) payment in full of the Subscription Price. Notwithstanding anything in provisions under the New Scheme to the contrary, the Option Period shall not be extended and, on the expiry of the Option Period, all rights in respect of an Option for the time being outstanding shall terminate, except in so far as there has been an effective exercise of that Option prior thereto and the Company has not discharged all its obligations under the New Scheme in relation to such exercise.

#### 7. VESTING PERIOD OF OPTION

- 7.1 Save for the circumstances prescribed in paragraph 7.2 below, an Option must be held by the Option Holder for at least twelve (12) months before the Option can be exercised.
- 7.2 A shorter vesting period may be granted to Employee Participants at the discretion of the Board or a committee or any other authorised agent(s) as deemed appropriate at the sole discretion of the Board in any of the following circumstances:
  - (i) grants of "make-whole" Options to new joiners to replace the share awards or options they forfeited when leaving the previous employer;
  - (ii) grants to an Employee Participant whose employment is terminated due to death or disability or occurrence of any out of control event;
  - (iii) grants that are made in batches during a year for administrative and compliance reasons, which include Options that should have been granted earlier if not for such administrative or compliance reasons but had to wait for subsequent batch. In such case, the vesting period may be shorter to reflect the time from which the Option would have been granted;
  - (iv) grants with a mixed or accelerated vesting schedule such as where the Option may vest evenly over a period of twelve (12) months; and

(v) grants with performance-based vesting conditions in lieu of time-based vesting criteria;

each of which are considered appropriate to provide flexibility to grant Options (a) as part of competitive terms and conditions to induce valuable talent to join the Group (sub-paragraphs (i) and (iv)); (b) reward past contribution which may otherwise be neglected due to administrative or technical reasons (sub-paragraphs (ii) and (iii)); (c) reward exceptional performers with accelerated vesting (sub-paragraph (iv)); (d) to motivate exceptional performers based on performance metrics rather than time (sub-paragraph (v)); and (e) in exceptional circumstances where justified (sub-paragraph (i) to (v)), which is consistent with the purpose of the New Scheme.

#### 8. OPTION PRICE

The Option Price (subject to adjustments in accordance with paragraph 15 below) shall be determined on the Date of Grant at the absolute discretion of the Directors as an amount per Share which shall be at least the highest of (a) the closing price of the Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotation sheet on the Date of Grant, which must be a trading day; and (b) the average of the closing prices of the Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotation sheets for the five (5) trading days immediately preceding the Date of Grant, provided that the Option Price shall be subject to adjustment in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 15 below.

#### 9. RIGHTS ON WINDING-UP

If notice is given of a general meeting of the Company at which a resolution will be proposed for the members' voluntary winding-up of the Company, each Option Holder shall be entitled, at any time not later than two (2) business days prior to the proposed resolution being duly passed, to exercise his outstanding Options in whole or in part, but only so far as such Options shall be subsisting immediately prior to the passing of such a resolution. Subject thereto, all Options then outstanding shall lapse and determine on the commencement of the winding-up.

#### 10. RIGHTS ON A GENERAL OFFER

If, in consequence of any general offer made to all Shareholders (other than the offeror and/or any person controlled by the offeror and/or any person acting in association or connection with the offeror), any person shall have obtained control of the Company, each Option Holder shall be entitled to exercise at any time within a period of fourteen (14) days after such control has been obtained the Option in whole or in part, unless the Directors (excluding the relevant Option Holder who is a Director) in their discretion notwithstanding the terms of the relevant Option, vary the option exercise period of such Options granted.

#### 11. RIGHTS ON A COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT

If a compromise or an arrangement between the Company and its members or creditors is proposed for the purposes of or in connection with a scheme of reconstruction of the Company or its amalgamation with any other company or companies, the Company shall give notice thereof to all Option Holders on the same date as it despatches the notice to each member or creditor of the Company to consider such a compromise or an arrangement, and thereupon any Option Holder (or where permitted his personal representatives) may forthwith and until the expiry of the period commencing with such date and ending with the earlier of the date falling two (2) calendar months thereafter and the date on which such compromise or arrangement is sanctioned by the Court be entitled to exercise his Option but the exercise of the Option shall be conditional upon such compromise or arrangement being sanctioned by the Court and becoming effective. The Company may thereafter require each Option Holder to transfer or otherwise deal with the Shares issued as a result of such exercise of his Option so as to place the Option Holders in the same position as nearly as would have been the case had such Shares been subject to such compromise or arrangement.

#### 12. RIGHTS ON CEASING EMPLOYMENT, DEATH/DISABILITY OR DISMISSAL

- (i) In the event of the Option Holder ceases to be an Eligible Participant because the Related Entity (to which the Eligible Participant is employed, holds directorship in or is a consultant therewith) ceases to be a Related Entity, then he may exercise all his outstanding Options within twelve (12) months after he so ceases and any such Options not so exercised shall lapse and determine at the end of the said period of twelve (12) months;
- (ii) in the event the Option Holder ceases to be an Eligible Participant by reason of death before exercising the Option in full and none of the events which would be a ground for termination of the Option Holder's employment, directorship, office, appointment or engagement under sub-paragraph (iii) below arises prior to his or her death, the legal personal representative(s) of the Option Holder shall be entitled within a period of twelve (12) months from the date of death, to exercise the Option up to the entitlement of such Option Holder as at the date of death in whole or in part (to the extent which has become exercisable and not already exercised);
- (iii) in the event that the date on which the Option Holder ceases to be an Eligible Participant by reason of the termination of his employment, directorship, office, appointment or engagement on the grounds that he has been guilty of misconduct, or has been in breach of material term of the relevant employment contract, service contract, agency contract or engagement contract (as the case may be), or appears either to be unable to pay or have no reasonable prospect to be able to pay debts within the meaning of any applicable legislation in relation to bankruptcy or insolvency, or has become bankrupt or insolvent, or has been served a petition for bankruptcy or winding up, or has made any arrangements or composition with his or

her creditors generally, or has been convicted of any criminal offence involving his or her integrity or honesty or (if so determined by the Board or the board of directors of the relevant company, as the case may be) on any other ground on which an employer, or an engaging party would be entitled to terminate his or her employment, directorship, office, appointment or engagement at common law or pursuant to any applicable laws or under the Option Holder's employment, service, agency or engagement contract (as the case may be) with the relevant company (as the case may be) or the employment, directorship, office, appointment or engagement of the Option Holder is terminated by the relevant company pursuant to the contract thereof without notice, and a resolution of the board of directors of the relevant member of the Group (as the case may be) to the effect that the employment, directorship, office, appointment or engagement of an Option Holder has or has not been terminated on one or more of the grounds specified in this sub-paragraph shall be conclusive and binding, then all his outstanding Options shall lapse and determine on the date he or she so ceases;

- (iv) in the event that the Option Holder ceases to be an Eligible Participant by reason of his or her retirement in accordance with his or her contract of employment or service, any outstanding Option(s) may be exercised during the Option Period subject to the criteria and conditions set out in the option letter; and
- (v) for any reason other than as described in sub-paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, then all Options of his or her which are exerciseable at the date he or she ceases to be an Eligible Participant may be exercised to the extent then exerciseable within three (3) months of the date he or she so ceases and unless so exercised shall then lapse and determine;

provided always that in each case the Directors in their absolute discretion may decide that such Options or any part thereof shall not so lapse or determine subject to such conditions or limitations as they may decide.

#### 13. DURATION OF THE NEW SCHEME

The New Scheme will remain in force for a period of ten (10) years commencing on the Effective Date ("Scheme Period").

#### 14. LAPSE OF OPTION

An Option shall lapse automatically and not be exercisable (to the extent not already exercised) on the earliest of:

- 14.1 the expiry of the Option Period;
- 14.2 the expiry of any of the periods referred to in paragraphs 9, 10 (unless otherwise determined by the Directors), 11 and 12 above;
- 14.3 the date on which the Option Holder commits a breach of paragraph 18 below, if the Directors shall exercise the Company's right to cancel any outstanding Option or part thereof granted; or
- 14.4 the date on which the Option is cancelled by the Directors as provided in paragraph 16 below.

The Company shall owe no liability to an Option Holder for the lapse of any Option under this paragraph 14.

#### 15. ADJUSTMENT

In the event of any alteration in the capital structure of the Company which arises or may arise immediately following the commencement of the Scheme Period from any issue of shares in or other securities of the Company by way of reduction, subdivision or consolidation of the share capital of the Company or any capitalisation issue or rights issue which the Board considers an adjustment necessary under this paragraph 15, the number or nominal amount of Shares comprised in each Option for the time being outstanding, the Option Price, the Individual Limit in relation to any Option Holder and/or the amounts of multiples of Shares capable of being exercised pursuant to the New Scheme, may be adjusted in such manner as the Directors (having received a statement in writing from the independent auditors or independent financial adviser of the Company, that in their opinion the adjustments proposed are fair and reasonable and at the same time satisfy the requirements of the Listing Rules) may deem appropriate, provided always that no such adjustment shall have the effect of rendering:

- (a) the Option Price payable upon the exercise of any Option becoming less than the nominal amount of the Share:
- (b) the aggregate Subscription Price relating to any Option being increased;
- (c) the proportion of equity capital, rounded to the nearest whole share of the Company to which the Option Holder is entitled after the adjustment(s) becoming effective not being the same as that to which he was entitled before;

- (d) the aggregate percentage of the issued share capital of the Company available for the grant of Options shall not be greater than the Scheme Mandate Limit (subject to adjustments); and
- (e) the intrinsic value of any Option to have increased to the advantage of the Option Holder.

In addition, in respect of any adjustments under this paragraph 15, other than any made on a capitalisation issue, the independent auditors or independent financial adviser of the Company must confirm to the Directors in writing that the adjustments satisfy the requirements of the relevant provision of the Listing Rules.

#### 16. CANCELLATION OF OPTIONS GRANTED

Options granted and accepted but not exercised may not be cancelled without the consent of the relevant Option Holder thereof and any new Options (or any other options) issued in replacement of Options cancelled may only be issued under the New Scheme (or the Other Schemes) with available Scheme Mandate Limit and Service Provider Sublimit approved by the Shareholders as mentioned in paragraph 3 above. The Options cancelled will be regarded as utilised for the purpose of calculating the Scheme Mandate Limit and Service Provider Sublimit.

#### 17. TERMINATION OF THE NEW SCHEME

The Company by resolution in the general meeting may at any time terminate the operation of the New Scheme before the expiry of the Scheme Period and in such event, no further offer to grant an Option shall be made but in all other respects the provisions of the New Scheme shall remain in force. Upon such termination, details of the Options granted (including options exercised or outstanding) and (if applicable) Options that become void or non-exercisable as a result of the termination under the New Scheme are required under the Listing Rules to be disclosed in the circular to the Shareholders seeking their approval of the first new scheme established thereunder or refreshment of any scheme mandate limit under any existing Other Scheme after such termination. All Options granted and accepted prior to such termination shall continue to be valid and exercisable in accordance with their terms and the terms of the New Scheme, and accordingly no relevant disclosure in relation to Options that become void or non-exercisable as a result of the termination will be included in the circular to the Shareholders as such disclosure is not applicable.

#### 18. TRANSFERABILITY OF OPTIONS

An Option shall be personal to the Option Holder and shall not be transferable and no Option Holder shall in any way sell, transfer, charge, mortgage, encumber or create any interest in favour of any third party over or in relation to any Option, unless a waiver is granted by the Stock Exchange. Any breach of the foregoing shall entitle the Company to cancel any outstanding Option or part thereof granted to such Option Holder.

#### 19. ALTERATION OF THE NEW SCHEME

- 19.1 The Directors may from time to time in their absolute discretion waive or amend such of the provisions of the New Scheme as they deem desirable, provided that, except with the prior sanction of the Shareholders in the general meeting, no alteration shall be made to the New Scheme altering to the advantage of Option Holders (present or future) any of the provisions of the New Scheme as to the definitions of "Eligible Participants", "Option Period" and "Scheme Period" in sub-paragraph 1.1 of the New Scheme, the terms and conditions of the New Scheme which are of a material nature and all such other matters set out in Rule 17.03 of the Listing Rules.
- 19.2 No amendments to the New Scheme shall be made which would have the effect of abrogating or altering adversely any of the subsisting rights of Option Holders except with such consent on their part as would be required under the provisions of the Bye-laws of the Company as if the Options constituted a separate class of share capital and as if such provisions applied *mutatis mutandis* thereto.
- 19.3 Change to the terms of the Options granted to an Eligible Participant must be approved by the Board, the Remuneration Committee, the independent non-executive Directors and/or Shareholders (as the case may be) if the initial grant of the Options was approved by the Board, the Remuneration Committee, the independent non-executive Directors and/or the Shareholders (as the case may be). This requirement does not apply where the alterations take effect automatically under the existing terms of the New Scheme.
- 19.4 Save as otherwise provided in the terms of the New Scheme, an amendment of a material nature to the New Scheme may not be made by the Directors, without the prior approval of Shareholders in the general meeting.
- 19.5 The amended terms of the New Scheme or the Options must still comply with the relevant requirements of the Listing Rules.
- 19.6 Any change to the authority of the Directors or scheme administrators in relation to alter the terms of the New Scheme must be approved by the Shareholders in the general meeting.

#### 20. PERFORMANCE TARGETS AND CLAWBACK MECHANISM

Unless otherwise imposed by the Directors and stated in the relevant offer letter, there is neither any performance targets required to be achieved by any Option Holder before an Option is capable of being exercised by the Option Holder nor any clawback mechanism under the New Scheme for the Company to recover or withhold any remuneration (which may include Options granted to any Option Holder) to any Eligible Participants in the event of serious misconduct, a material misstatement in the Company's financial statements or other circumstances.

#### 21. GRANT OF OPTIONS TO CONNECTED PERSONS

- 21.1 In addition to paragraph 4 above, any grant of Options to an Eligible Participant who is a Director, chief executive or substantial shareholder of the Company or their respective associates must be approved by the Independent Non-executive Directors (excluding any Independent Non-executive Director who is a proposed grantee of the relevant Options) and shall comply with the requirements of Rule 17.04 of the Listing Rules.
- 21.2 Where Options are proposed to be granted to an Independent Non-executive Director or a substantial Shareholder, or any of their respective associates and if such grant would result in the total number of Shares issued and to be issued in respect of all options and awards (excluding any options and awards lapsed in accordance with the terms of the New Scheme) granted to such person in the twelve (12)-month period up to and including the Date of Grant to such person representing in aggregate over 0.1% of the relevant class of Shares, then the proposed grant must be subject to the approval of Shareholders taken on a poll in a general meeting.
- 21.3 In the circumstances described in paragraph 21.2 above, the Company must send a circular to the Shareholders setting out the details as required under Rule 17.04(5) of the Listing Rules. The relevant Option Holder, his or her associates and all core connected persons of the Company must abstain from voting in favour at such general meeting. The Company must comply with the requirements set out in Rules 13.40, 13.41 and 13.42 of the Listing Rules.

### 22. CONDITIONS OF THE NEW SCHEME

The New Scheme shall take effect upon satisfaction of the following conditions:

- 22.1 the passing of the necessary resolutions by the Shareholders in a general meeting to adopt the New Scheme and to authorise the Directors to grant Options to subscribe for Shares hereunder and to allot, issue and deal with Shares pursuant to the exercise of any Options granted under the New Scheme; and
- 22.2 the approval for the listing of, and permission to deal in, any Shares to be issued and allotted pursuant to the exercise of Options under the New Scheme, being granted by the Listing Committee. If such approval, listing or permission is not granted, then the New Scheme shall forthwith determine and any Option granted or agreed to be granted pursuant to provisions of the New Scheme and any offer of Options shall be of no effect after which, no person shall be entitled to any rights or benefits or be under any obligation under or in respect of the New Scheme or any Option.

# SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL TERMS OF NEW SHARE OPTION SCHEME

### 23. RANKING OF SHARES

The Shares to be allotted upon the exercise of an Option will be subject to all the provisions of the Bye-laws for the time being in force and will rank *pari passu* with the fully paid Shares in issue on the date of allotment and accordingly will entitle the holders thereof to participate in all dividends or other distributions paid or made on or after the date of allotment other than any dividend or other distribution previously declared or recommended or resolved to be paid or made. The Shares to be allotted upon the exercise of an option will not carry voting rights until completion of the registration of the Option Holder (or any other person) as the holder of those Shares.

### 24. RESTRICTION ON THE TIME OF GRANT OF OPTIONS

No offer of an Option shall be made and no Option shall be granted to any Eligible Participant after a price sensitive event has occurred or a price sensitive matter has been the subject of a decision or inside information has come to the Company's knowledge until such price sensitive information or inside information has been publicly disseminated in accordance with the Listing Rules or during any period of time which is prohibited from any such offer and/or grant under the Listing Rules or any applicable law.

# APPENDIX IV PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE EXISTING BYE-LAWS

The following are the Proposed Amendments brought about by the adoption of the New Bye-laws. Unless otherwise specified, clauses, paragraphs, clause numbers and bye-law numbers referred to herein are clauses, paragraphs, clause numbers and bye-law numbers of the Existing Bye-laws. The New Bye-Laws are prepared and written in English. As such, any Chinese translation shall be for reference only. In the event of any inconsistency, the English version shall prevail.

## Bye-law No. Proposed Amendments (showing changes to Existing Bye-Laws)

Throughout To renumber the bye-laws and paragraphs as appropriate.

Cover Page

# AMENDED AND RESTATED BYE-LAWS

OF

### SYMPHONY HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Adopted at an Annual General Meeting held on 12th May 2004)
(Amended & approved at an Annual General Meeting held on 24th May 2006)
(Amended & approved at an Annual General Meeting held on 10th June 2009)
(Amended & approved at a Special General Meeting held on 25th July 2011 by special resolution passed at a general meeting on 23 June 2023)

1

In these Bye laws, unless the context otherwise requires, the words standing in the first column of the following table shall bear the meaning set opposite them respectively in the second column.

"Business Day(s)"

any day on which the Designated Stock Exchange is open for the business of dealing in securities. For the avoidance of doubt, where the Designated Stock Exchange is closed for the business of dealing in securities for the reason of adverse weather warning or other similar event be in force, such day shall for the purposes of these Bye-laws, be counted as a Business Day.

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In these Bye laws, unless there be something within the subject or context inconsistent with such construction:

 (j) a special resolution or extraordinary resolution shall be effective for any purpose for which an ordinary resolution is expressed to be required under any provision of these Bye-laws or the Statutes; (k) a resolution shall be an extraordinary resolution when it has been passed by a majority of not less than two thirds of votes cast by such Members as, being entitled so to do, vote in person or, in the case of such Members as are corporations, by their respective duly authorised representative or, where proxies are allowed, by proxy at a general meeting of which Notice has been duly given in accordance with Bye-law 59;

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Subject to the Act and without prejudice to Bye-law 8, all or any of the special rights for the time being attached to the shares or any class of shares may, unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class, from time to time (whether or not the Company is being wound up) be varied, modified or abrogated either with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-fourths of the voting rights of the issued shares of that class or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of the shares of that class. To every such separate general meeting all the provisions of these Bye-laws relating to general meetings of the Company shall, mutatis mutandis, apply, but so that:

- (a) the necessary quorum (other thanincluding at an adjourned meeting) shall be two persons (or in the case of a Member being a corporation, its duly authorised representative) holding or representing by proxy not less than one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of that class and at any adjourned meeting of such holders, two holders present in person (or in the case of a Member being a corporation, its duly authorised representative) or by proxy (whatever the number of shares held by them) shall be a quorum; and
- (b) every holder of shares of the class shall be entitled on a poll to one vote for every such share held by him.; and
- (e) any holder of shares of the class present in person or by proxy may demand a poll.

The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all moneys (whether presently payable or not) called or payable at a fixed time in respect of that share. The Company shall also have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) registered in the name of a Member (whether or not jointly with other Members) for all amounts of money presently payable by such Member or his estate to the Company whether the same shall have been incurred before or after notice to the Company of any equitable or other interest of any person other than such Mmember, and whether the period for the payment or discharge of the same shall have actually arrived or not, and notwithstanding that the same are joint debts or liabilities of such Member or his estate and any other person, whether a Member or not. The Company's lien on a share shall extend to all dividends or other moneys payable thereon or in respect thereof. The Board may at any time, generally or in any particular case, waive any lien that has arisen or declare any share exempt in whole or in part, from the provisions of this Bye law.

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The Register and branch register of Members, as the case may be, shall be open to inspection between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on every during business day hours by mMembers of the public without charge or by any other person, upon a maximum payment of five Bermuda dollars, at the Office or such other place in Bermuda at which the Register and branch register of Members, as the case maybe, is kept in accordance with the Act-or, if appropriate, upon a maximum payment of ten dollars at the Registration Office. The Register including any overseas or local or other branch register of Members may, after notice has been given by advertisement in an appointed newspaper and where applicable, any other newspapers in accordance with the requirements of any Designated Stock Exchange or by any means (electronic or otherwise) in such manner as may be accepted by the Designated Stock Exchange to that effect, be closed at such times or for such periods not exceeding in the whole thirty (30) days in each year as the Board may determine and either generally or in respect of any class of shares.

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The registration of transfers of shares or of any class of shares may, after notice has been given by advertisement in an appointed newspaper and, where applicable, any other in any newspapers in accordance with the requirements of any Designated Stock Exchange or by any means (electronic or otherwise) in such manner as may be accepted by the Designated Stock Exchange to that effect be suspended at such times and for such periods (not exceeding in the whole thirty (30) days in any year) as the Board may determine.

Subject to the Act, aAn annual general meeting of the Company shall be held in each financial year other than the financial year in which its statutory meeting is convened at and such annual general meeting must be held within six time (within a period of not more than fifteen (156) months after the holding end of the last preceding annual general meeting Company's financial year (unless a longer period would not infringe the rules of the Designated Stock Exchange, if any) at such time and place as may be determined by the Board. A meeting of Members or any class thereof may be held by means of such telephone, electronic or other communication facilities as to permit all persons participating in the meeting to communicate with each other simultaneously and instantaneously, and participation in such a meeting shall constitute presence at such meeting.

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The Board may whenever it thinks fit call special general meetings, and Members holding at the date of deposit of the requisition not less than one-tenth of voting rights, on a one vote per share basis, in the sharepaid up capital of the Company earrying the right of voting at general meetings of the Company shall at all times have the right, by written requisition to the Board or the Secretary of the Company, to require a special general meeting to be called by the Board for the transaction of any business or resolution specified in such requisition; and such meeting to be convened pursuant to the requisition by the Members shall be held within two (2) months after the deposit of such requisition. If within twenty-one (21) days of such deposit of such requisition the Board fails to proceed to convene such meeting the requisitionists themselves may do so in accordance with the provisions of Section 74(3) of the Act.

- (1) An annual general meeting shall be called by Notice of not less than twenty-one (21) clear days-and not less than twenty (20) clear Business Days and any special general meeting at which the passing of a special resolution is to be considered shall be called by Notice of not less than twenty-one (21) clear days and not less than ten (10) clear Business Days. All other special general meetings may (including a special general meeting) must be called by Notice of not less than fourteen (14) clear days and not less than ten (10) clear Business Days-but if permitted by the rules of the Designated Stock Exchange, a general meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed:
  - (b) in the case of any other meeting, by a majority in number of the Members having the right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together holding representing not less than ninety-five per cent. (95%) in nominal value of the total voting rights at the meeting of all the issued shares giving that rightMembers.
- (2) The Notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and particulars of resolutions to be considered at the meeting and, in case of special business, the general nature of the business. The Notice convening an annual general meeting shall specify the meeting as such. Notice of every general meeting shall be given to all Members other than to such Members as, under the provisions of these Bye-laws or the terms of issue of the shares they hold, are not entitled to receive such notices from the Company, to all persons entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy or winding-up of a Member and to each of the Directors and the Auditors.

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The president of the Company or the chairman shall preside as chairman at every general meeting. If at any meeting the president or the chairman, as the case may be, is not present within fifteen (15) minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or if neither of them is willing to act as chairman, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to act, or if one Director only is present he shall preside as chairman if willing to act. If no Director is present, or if each of the Directors present declines to take the chair, or if the chairman chosen shall retire from the chair, the Members present in person or (in the case of a Member being a corporation) by its duly authorised representative or by proxy and entitled to vote shall elect one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

- (1) Subject to any special rights or restrictions as to voting for the time being attached to any shares by or in accordance with these Bye-laws, at any general meeting on a show of hands every Member present in person (or being a corporation, is present by a representative duly authorised under Section 78 of the Act), or by proxy shall have one vote and on a poll every Member present in person or by proxy or, in the case of a Member being a corporation, by its duly authorised representative shall have one vote for every fully paid share of which he is the holder but so that no amount paid up or credited as paid up on a share in advance of calls or instalments is treated for the foregoing purposes as paid up on the share. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided by way of a poll save that the chairman of the meeting may in good faith, allow a resolution which relates purely to a procedural or administrative matter to be voted on by a show of hands in which case every Member present in person (or being a corporation, is present by a duly authorised representative), or by proxy(ies) shall have one vote provided that Notwithstanding anything contained in these Bye-laws, where more than one proxy is appointed by a Member which is a clearing house (or its nominee(s)), each such proxy shall have one vote on a show of hands. For purposes of this Bye-law, procedural and administrative matters are those that (i) are not on the agenda of the general meeting or in any supplementary circular that may be issued by the Company to its Members; and (ii) relate to the chairman's duties to maintain the orderly conduct of the meeting and/or allow the business of the meeting to be properly and effectively dealt with, whilst allowing all Members a reasonable opportunity to express their views. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on
- (2) Where a show of hands unless voting by way of a poll is required by the rules of the Designated Stock Exchange or (is allowed before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands, or on the withdrawal of any other demand for a poll may be) a poll is demanded:

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(2) Subject to Bye-law 76(1), all Members shall have the right to (a) speak at a general meeting; and (b) vote at a general meeting except where a Member is required, by the rules of the Designated Stock Exchange, to abstain from voting to approve the matter under consideration.

- (1) Any corporation which is a Member may by resolution of its directors or other <u>duly authorised</u> governing body authorise such person as it thinks fit to act as its representative at any meeting of the Company or at any meeting of any class of Members. The person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of such corporation as the corporation could exercise <u>as</u> if it were an individual Member and such corporation shall for the purposes of these Bye-laws be deemed to be present in person at any such meeting if a person so authorised is present thereat.
- (2) Where a Member is a clearing house (or its nominee(s) and, in each case, being a corporation), it may authorise such persons as it thinks fit to act as its representatives at any meeting of the Company or at any meeting of any class of Members provided that the authorisation shall specify the number and class of shares in respect of which each such representative is so authorised. Each person so authorised under the provisions of this Bye-law shall be deemed to have been duly authorised without further evidence of the facts and be entitled to exercise the same rights and powers on behalf of the clearing house (or its nominee(s)) as if such person was the registered holder of the shares of the Company held by the clearing house (or its nominee(s)) in respect of the number and class of shares specified in the relevant authorisation including the right to speak and vote, and where a show of hands is allowed, the right to vote individually on a show of hands.

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(1) Subject to the Act, a resolution in writing signed (in such manner as to indicate, expressly or impliedly, unconditional approval) by or on behalf of all persons for the time being entitled to receive notice of and to attend and vote at general meetings of the Company shall, for the purposes of these Bye-laws, be treated as a resolution duly passed at a general meeting of the Company and, where relevant, as a special resolution or extraordinary resolution so passed. Any such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed at a meeting held on the date on which it was signed by the last Member to sign, and where the resolution states a date as being the date of his signature thereof by any Member the statement shall be prima facie evidence that it was signed by him on that date. Such a resolution may consist of several documents in the like form, each signed by one or more relevant Members.

- (2) The Directors shall have the power from time to time and at any time to appoint any person as a Director either to fill a casual vacancy on the Board or, subject to authorisation by the Members in general meeting, as an addition to the existing Board but so that the number of Directors so appointed shall not exceed any maximum number determined from time to time by the Members in general meeting. Any Director so appointed shall hold office only only until the next following general meeting of the Company (in the case of filing a easual vacancy) or until the first next following annual general meeting of the Company after his appointment (in the case of an addition to the Board), and shall then be eligible for re-election—at the meeting.
- (4) The Members may, at any general meeting convened and held in accordance with these Bye-laws, by ordinary resolution remove a Director at any time before the expiration of his termperiod of office notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Bye-laws or in any agreement between the Company and such Director (but without prejudice to any claim for damages under any such agreement) provided that the Notice of any such meeting convened for the purpose of removing a Director shall contain a statement of the intention so to do and be served on such Director fourteen (14) days before the meeting and at such meeting such Director shall be entitled to be heard on the motion for his removal.

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- (3) Without prejudice to the general powers conferred by these Bye laws it is hereby expressly declared that the Board shall have the following powers:
  - (b) to give to any Directors, officers or servants of the Company an interest in any particular business or transaction or participation in the profits thereof or in the general profits of the Company either in addition to or in substitution for a salary or other remuneration; and-

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(3) The Register of Directors and Officers shall be open to inspection by members of the public without charge at the Office between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon during on every business hoursday.

- (1) Subject to Section 88 of the Act, at the annual general meeting or at a subsequent special general meeting in each year, the Members shall by ordinary resolution appoint an auditor to audit the accounts of the Company and such auditor shall hold office until the Members appoint another auditor. Such auditor may be a Member but no Director or officer or employee of the Company shall, during his continuance in office, be eligible to act as an auditor of the Company.
- (3) The Members may, at any general meeting convened and held in accordance with these Bye-laws, by special extraordinary resolution remove the Auditor at any time before the expiration of his term of office and shall by ordinary resolution at that meeting appoint another Auditor in his stead for the remainder of his term.

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The remuneration of the Auditor shall be fixed by the Company by ordinary resolution in general meeting or in such manner as the Members may determine (including delegating the fixing of such remuneration to the Board).

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The Directors may fill any casual vacancy in If—the office of Auditor but while any such vacancy continues the surviving or continuing auditor becomes vacant by the resignation or death of the Auditor, or Auditors, if any, may act. The remuneration of any Auditor appointed by the Directors under this Bye-law may be fixed by the Board. Subject to Bye-law 156(3), an Auditor appointed under this Bye-law shall hold office until the next following annual general meeting of the Company by his becoming incapable of acting by reason of illness or other disability at a time when his services are required, the Directors shall fill the vacancy and, shall then be subject to appointment by the Members 'approval in accordance withunder Bye-law 158156(1) at such, fix the remuneration to be determined by the Members under Bye-law 1580f the Auditor so appointed.

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(1) <u>Subject to Bye-laws 166(2)</u>, <u>t</u>The Board shall have power in the name and on behalf of the Company to present a petition to the court for the Company to be wound up.

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No Bye-law shall be rescinded, altered or amended and no new Bye-law shall be made until the same has been approved by a resolution of the Directors and confirmed by a special resolution of the Members. A special resolution shall be required to alter the provisions of the memorandum of association of the Company or to change the name of the Company.

## APPENDIX IV PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE EXISTING BYE-LAWS

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No Member shall be entitled to require discovery of or any information in respect of any detail of the Company's trading or any matter which is or may be in the nature of a trade secret or secret process which may relate to the conduct of the business of the Company and which in the opinion of the Directors it will be inexpedient in the interests of the Members of the Company—to communicate to the public.



(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 01223)

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Annual General Meeting (the "AGM") of Symphony Holdings Limited (the "Company") will be held at Boardroom, 10/F., Island Place Tower, 510 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong on Friday, 23 June 2023 at 11:00 a.m. for the purpose of transacting the following purposes:

#### ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

- 1. To receive, consider and adopt the audited consolidated financial statements and the reports of the directors and auditor of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022.
- 2. To declare a final dividend of HK\$0.005 per ordinary share of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022.
- 3. To re-elect the following retiring directors of the Company:
  - (A) Mr. Cheng Tun Nei as an executive director of the Company; and
  - (B) Mr. Chow Yu Chun Alexander as an independent non-executive director of the Company.
- 4. To authorize the board of directors (the "Board") to fix the remuneration of the directors of the Company.
- 5. To re-appoint BDO Limited as the auditor of the Company and to authorize the Board to fix their remuneration.

6. To consider as special business and, if thought fit, pass with or without amendments, the following resolution as an ordinary resolution of the Company:

### "THAT:

- (A) subject to paragraph (C) below, the exercise by the directors of the Company (the "Directors") during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) of all the powers of the Company to allot, issue or deal with additional shares in the share capital of the Company and to make or grant offers, agreements and options (including warrants, bonds and debentures convertible into shares of the Company) which might require the exercise of such powers be and is hereby generally and unconditionally approved;
- (B) the approval in paragraph (A) of this resolution shall be in addition to any other authorisation given to the Directors and the Directors be and are authorized during the Relevant Period to make or grant offers, agreements and options (including warrants, bonds and debentures convertible into shares of the Company) which might require the exercise of such powers during or after the end of the Relevant Period:
- (C) the aggregate number of additional shares of the Company allotted or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be allotted (whether pursuant to an option or otherwise) by the Directors pursuant to the approval in paragraphs (A) and (B), otherwise than (i) a Rights Issue (as hereafter defined) or (ii) the exercise of rights of subscription or conversion under the terms of any existing warrants, bonds, debentures, notes or other securities issued by the Company which carry rights to subscribe for or are convertible into shares of the Company or (iii) an issue of shares under any option scheme or similar arrangement for the time being adopted for the grant or issue to the employees of the Company and/or any of its subsidiaries or any other eligible person(s) of shares or right to acquire shares of the Company or (iv) an issue of shares as scrip dividend pursuant to the articles of association of the Company, from time to time, shall not exceed 20% of the total number of shares of the Company in issue as at the date of passing this resolution and the said approval shall be limited accordingly; and
- (D) for the purpose of this resolution:
  - "Relevant Period" means the period from the time of the passing of this resolution until whichever is the earliest of:
  - (i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company;
  - (ii) the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by the Bye-Laws or any applicable laws to be held; and

(iii) the revocation or variation of the authority given under this resolution by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting.

"Rights Issue" means an offer of shares open for a period fixed by the Directors to holders of shares on the register of members on a fixed record date in proportion to their then holdings of such shares (subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Directors may deem necessary or expedient in relation to fractional entitlements or having regard to any restrictions or obligations under the laws of any relevant jurisdiction, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or any stock exchange)."

7. To consider as special business and, if thought fit, pass with or without amendments, the following resolution as an ordinary resolution of the Company:

### "THAT:

- (A) subject to paragraph (C) below, the exercise by the Directors during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) of all powers of the Company to repurchase shares in the capital of the Company on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") or any other stock exchange on which the shares of the Company may be listed and recognised by the Securities and Futures Commission and the Stock Exchange for this purpose, and that the exercise by the Directors of all powers of the Company to repurchase such shares are subject to and in accordance with all applicable laws, be and is hereby generally and unconditionally approved;
- (B) the approval in paragraph (A) shall be in addition to any other authorisation given to the Directors and shall authorise the Directors on behalf of the Company during the Relevant Period to procure the Company to repurchase its shares at a price determined by the Directors;
- (C) the aggregate number of shares of the Company repurchased or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be repurchased by the Company pursuant to the approval in paragraph (A) during the Relevant Period shall not exceed 10% of the total number of shares of the Company in issue as at the date of passing this resolution and the said approval shall be limited accordingly; and
- (D) for the purpose of this resolution:
  - "Relevant Period" means the period from the time of the passing of this resolution until whichever is the earliest of:
  - (i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company;

- (ii) the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by the Bye-Laws or any applicable laws to be held; and
- (iii) the revocation or variation of the authority given under this resolution by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting."
- 8. To consider as special business and, if thought fit, pass with or without amendments, the following resolution as an ordinary resolution of the Company:
  - "THAT conditional upon the passing of the ordinary resolutions numbered 6 and 7 above, the aggregate number of shares of the Company which are repurchased by the Company pursuant to and in accordance with the said resolution numbered 7 shall be added to the aggregate number of shares of the Company that may be allotted or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be allotted by the Directors pursuant to and in accordance with the ordinary resolution numbered 6 above, provided that such extended amount shall not exceed 10% of the total number of shares of the Company in issue at the date of passing of this resolution."
- 9. To consider as special business and, if thought fit, pass with or without amendments, the following resolutions as ordinary resolutions of the Company:

#### "THAT:

- (A) (a) subject to and conditional upon the Listing Committee of the Stock Exchange granting the approval for the listing of, and permission to deal in, the shares in the capital of the Company ("Shares") which may fall to be issued and allotted pursuant to the exercise of any options that may be granted under the share option scheme of the Company (the rules of which are contained in the document marked "A" produced to the AGM and signed by the chairman of the AGM for the purpose of identification) ("New Scheme"), the New Scheme be and is hereby approved and adopted and the directors of the Company be and are hereby authorised to do all such acts and to enter into all such transactions, arrangements and agreements as may be necessary or expedient in order to give full effect to the New Scheme including without limitation:
  - (i) to administer the New Scheme under which options will be granted to eligible participants under the New Scheme to subscribe for Shares;
  - (ii) to modify and/or amend the New Scheme from time to time provided that such modification and/or amendment is effected in accordance with the provisions of the New Scheme relating to modification and/or amendment;

- (iii) to issue and allot from time to time such number of Shares as may be required to be issued pursuant to the exercise of the options under the New Scheme and subject to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange;
- (iv) to make application at the appropriate time or times to the Stock Exchange; and any stock exchanges upon which the issued Shares may for the time being, be listed, for listing of, and permission to deal in any Shares which may thereafter from time to time be issued and allotted pursuant to the exercise of the options under the New Scheme;
- (v) to consent, if they deem fit and expedient, to such conditions, modifications and/or variations as may be required or imposed by the relevant authorities in relation to the New Scheme; and
- (b) subject to paragraph (a) hereinabove, the share option scheme adopted by the Company at its special general meeting held on 25 June 2021 be and is hereby terminated (save with respect to any outstanding, issued and unexercised options thereof) with effect from the adoption of the New Scheme.
- (B) the Service Provider Sublimit (as defined in the New Scheme) on the total number of Shares that may be issued in respect of all options and awards to be granted to service providers under all the share schemes of the Company be and is hereby approved and adopted and the directors of the Company be and are hereby authorised to take all such steps and attend all such matters, approve and execute (whether under hand or under seal) such documents and do such other things, for and on behalf of the Company, as the directors of the Company may consider necessary, desirable or expedient to effect and implement the Service Provider Sublimit."

## SPECIAL RESOLUTION

10. To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following resolution (with or without modification) as special resolution of the Company:

### "THAT:

(A) the proposed amendments to the existing bye-laws of the Company (the "**Proposed Amendments**"), the details of which are set out in Appendix IV to the circular of the Company dated 28 April 2023, be and are hereby approved;

- (B) the amended and restated bye-laws of the Company (the "New Bye-Laws"), which incorporates all the Proposed Amendments (substantially in the form of which has been marked "B" and produced to the AGM and signed by the chairman of the AGM for the purpose of identification), be and is hereby approved and adopted as the bye-laws of the Company in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the existing bye-laws of the Company with immediate effect; and
- (C) any Director or officer of the Company be and is hereby generally and unconditionally authorised to do all such acts and things, to sign and execute (including the affixation of the common seal of the Company when required) all such documents for and on behalf of the Company as they may in their absolute discretion consider necessary, appropriate, desirable or expedient for the purpose of, or in connection with, the implementation of and giving effect to the Proposed Amendments and the adoption of the New Bye-Laws, including without limitation, attending to the necessary registration and/or filings for and on behalf of the Company."

By order of the Board

Symphony Holdings Limited

Cheng Tun Nei

Chairman

Hong Kong, 28 April 2023

#### Notes:

- 1. Any member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint another person as his proxy to attend and vote instead of him. On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. A member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion.
- 2. To be valid, the proxy form must be in writing under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing, or if the appointor is a corporation, either under seal or under the hand of an officer or attorney duly authorised.
- 3. The proxy form and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which it is signed or a certified copy of that power or authority shall be deposited at the branch share registrar and transfer office of the Company in Hong Kong, Tricor Tengis Limited at 17/F., Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong (the "Share Registrar") not less than 48 hours before the time (i.e. Wednesday, 21 June 2023 at 11:00 a.m.) for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting or poll (as the case may be) at which the person named in such proxy form proposes to vote, and in default the proxy form shall not be treated as valid.
- 4. Where there are joint registered holders of any share, any one of such persons may vote at the meeting, either personally or by proxy, in respect of such share as if he were solely entitled thereto but if more than one of such joint holders be present at any meeting personally or by proxy, that one of the said persons so present whose name stands first on the register in respect of such share shall alone be entitled to vote in respect thereof.

- 5. For determining the entitlement to attend and vote at the above meeting, the register of members of the Company will be closed from Monday, 19 June 2023 to Friday, 23 June 2023 (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares of the Company will be registered. In order for a shareholder of the Company to be eligible to attend and vote at the above meeting, all transfer forms accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Share Registrar for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 16 June 2023.
- 6. For determining the entitlement to the final dividend for the year, the register of members of the Company will be closed from Thursday, 29 June 2023 to Monday, 3 July 2023 (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares of the Company will be registered. In order for a shareholder of the Company to qualify for the final dividend, all transfer forms accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Share Registrar for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 28 June 2023.
- 7. Pursuant to Rule 13.39(4) of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange, all resolutions set out in this notice will be voted by poll at the meeting.

As at the date of this notice, the Board comprises:

Executive Directors:

Mr. Cheng Tun Nei (Chairman and Chief Executive Officer)

Mr. Chan Kar Lee Gary

Mr. Lee Cheung Ming

Independent Non-executive Directors:

Mr. Shum Pui Kay

Mr. Wah Wang Kei Jackie

Mr. Chow Yu Chun Alexander

<sup>\*</sup> For identification purposes only