

Half-Year Financial Statements And Dividend Announcement

Condensed interim consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2024. These figures have not been audited.

A. Condensed interim consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

Group

			-	
		6 months ended	6 months ended	
		30 Jun	30 Jun	+/(-)
	Note	2024	2023	+/ (-)
		\$'000	\$'000	%
Interest on loans		230,689	217,234	6.2
Hiring charges		26,352	23,489	12.2
Other interest income		46,733	32,572	43.5
Interest income/hiring charges		303,774	273,295	11.2
Less: Interest expense	E9	191,098	171,834	11.2
Net interest income/hiring charges		112,676	101,461	11.1
Fee and commission income		3,998	4,404	(9.2)
Other operating income	E6	59	68	(13.2)
Income before operating expenses		116,733	105,933	10.2
Less: Staff costs		43,497	40,685	6.9
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment		3,898	3,804	2.5
Other operating expenses		8,348	8,311	0.4
Total operating expenses		55,743	52,800	5.6
Profit from operations before allowances		60,990	53,133	14.8
Add: Reversal or recovery of allowances for doubtful debts				
and other financial assets		2,123	2,731	(22.3)
Profit before tax		63,113	55,864	13.0
Less: Income tax expense	E7	10,529	9,288	13.4
Profit for the period/Comprehensive income				
attributable to owners of the Company		52,584	46,576	12.9
Annualised earnings per share (cents)				
- Basic		23.45	20.78	
- Diluted		23.43	20.77	
Director		=31.10	==;;;	

B. Condensed interim statements of financial position

		Grou	р	Comp	any
	Note	30 Jun 2024	31 Dec 2023	30 Jun 2024	31 Dec 2023
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Assets					
Cash at banks and in hand Statutory deposit with the		745,828	1,156,773	744,763	1,155,367
Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS") Singapore Government debt securities, MAS		343,992	342,362	343,992	342,362
Bills and MAS Floating Rate Note ("FRN")	_	1,825,269	1,710,012	1,825,269	1,710,012
Hire purchase receivables		1,834,950	1,757,249	1,834,950	1,757,249
Loans, advances and factoring receivables		9,720,928	9,922,233	9,720,928	9,922,233
		11,555,878	11,679,482	11,555,878	11,679,482
Allowances for doubtful debts		(18,106)	(20,100)	(18,106)	(20,100)
	_	11,537,772	11,659,382	11,537,772	11,659,382
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments		21,285	28,091	21,285	28,090
Subsidiaries and long-term investments		-	-	535	535
Property, plant and equipment	E10	59,143	60,996	59,143	60,996
Total assets	=	14,533,289	14,957,616	14,532,759	14,956,744
Liabilities Deposits and balances of customers	[12,152,978	12,647,934	12,157,444	12,652,388
Borrowings	E9	10,068	17,922	10,068	17,922
Trade and other payables		276,266	211,884	275,022	210,232
Current tax payable		18,442	17,584	18,434	17,573
Deferred tax liabilities	<u>_</u>	2,879	2,012	2,879	2,012
Total liabilities		12,460,633	12,897,336	12,463,847	12,900,127
Equity	-				
Share capital		891,625	891,578	891,625	891,578
Reserves		844,470	841,547	844,470	841,547
Accumulated profits		336,561	327,155	332,817	323,492
Equity attributable to owners of the Company	<u>-</u>	2,072,656	2,060,280	2,068,912	2,056,617
Total equity and liabilities	-	14,533,289	14,957,616	14,532,759	14,956,744
Acceptances, guarantees and other					
obligations on behalf of customers	=	249	249	249	249
Number of shares in issue	=	448,562,433	448,543,933	448,562,433	448,543,933
Net asset value per share (\$)	-	4.62	4.59	4.61	4.59

C. Condensed interim statements of changes in equity

	Share capital \$'000	Statutory reserve \$'000	Capital reserve \$'000	Share option reserve \$'000	Regulatory loss allowance reserve \$'000	Accumulated profits \$'000	Total \$'000
Group							
At 1 January 2024	891,578	822,015	2,307	2,090	15,135	327,155	2,060,280
Issue of shares under share option scheme	44						44
Value of employee services received for issue of share options				119			119
Value of employee services transferred for share options exercised or lapsed	3			(61)		58	
Final dividend of 9 cents per share (tax exempt one-tier) paid in respect of year 2023						(40,371)	(40,371)
Adjustment under MAS 811					2,865	(2,865)	-
Comprehensive income for the period						52,584	52,584
At 30 June 2024	891,625	822,015	2,307	2,148	18,000	336,561	2,072,656
At 1 January 2023	890,553	798,671	2,307	2,203	8,543	338,419	2,040,696
Issue of shares under share option scheme	825						825
Value of employee services received for issue of share options				149			149
Value of employee services transferred for share options exercised or lapsed	57			(122)		65	-
Final dividend of 13.25 cents per share (tax exempt one-tier) paid in respect of year 2022						(59,424)	(59,424)
Adjustment under MAS 811					3,710	(3,710)	-
Comprehensive income for the period						46,576	46,576
At 30 June 2023	891,435	798,671	2,307	2,230	12,253	321,926	2,028,822

C. Condensed interim statements of changes in equity (continued)

	Share capital \$'000	Statutory reserve \$'000	Capital reserve \$'000	Share option reserve \$'000	Regulatory loss allowance reserve \$'000	Accumulated profits \$'000	Total \$'000
Company							
At 1 January 2024	891,578	822,015	2,307	2,090	15,135	323,492	2,056,617
Issue of shares under share option scheme	44						44
Value of employee services received for issue of share options				119			119
Value of employee services transferred for share options exercised or lapsed	3			(61)		58	-
Final dividend of 9 cents per share (tax exempt one-tier) paid in respect of year 2023						(40,371)	(40,371)
Adjustment under MAS 811					2,865	(2,865)	-
Comprehensive income for the period						52,503	52,503
At 30 June 2024	891,625	822,015	2,307	2,148	18,000	332,817	2,068,912
At 1 January 2023	890,553	798,671	2,307	2,203	8,543	334,904	2,037,181
Issue of shares under share option scheme	825						825
Value of employee services received for issue of share options				149			149
Value of employee services transferred for share options exercised or lapsed	57			(122)		65	-
Final dividend of 13.25 cents per share (tax exempt one-tier) paid in respect of year 2022						(59,424)	(59,424)
Adjustment under MAS 811					3,710	(3,710)	-
Comprehensive income for the period						46,504	46,504
At 30 June 2023	891,435	798,671	2,307	2,230	12,253	318,339	2,025,235

D. Condensed interim consolidated statement of cash flows

	Group		
	6 months ended 30 Jun 2024 \$'000	6 months ended 30 Jun 2023 \$'000	
Operating activities	\$ 000	ψ 000	
Profit for the period	52,584	46,576	
Adjustments for:	3 <u>-</u> ,33 .	10,070	
Impact of accrual of interest income	(1,850)	(882)	
Impact of accrual of interest expense	35,598	127,471	
Reversal of impairment loss on loans, advances and receivables	(1,774)	(2,623)	
Interest expense on lease liabilities	614	498	
Interest expense on borrowings	51	96	
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	3,898	3,804	
Value of employee services received for issue of share options	119	149	
Income tax expense	10,529	9,288	
	99,769	184,377	
Changes in working capital:			
Loans, advances and receivables	123,384	(11,829)	
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments	8,656	3,888	
Singapore Government debt securities, MAS Bills and MAS FRN	(115,257)	(71,240)	
Deposits and balances of customers	(494,956)	134,123	
Trade and other payables	31,077	5,261	
Cash generated from/(used in) operations	(347,327)	244,580	
Income taxes paid	(8,804)	(13,104)	
Cash flows from/(used in) operating activities	(356,131)	231,476	
Investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(1,260)	(1,994)	
Cash flows used in investing activities	(1,260)	(1,994)	
Financing activities			
Payment for lease liabilities	(3,078)	(3,102)	
Proceeds from exercise of share options	44	825	
Proceeds from borrowings	-	300	
Repayment of borrowings	(7,854)	(9,272)	
Interest paid	(665)	(594)	
Dividends paid	(40,371)	(59,424)	
Cash flows used in financing activities	(51,924)	(71,267)	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(409,315)	158,215	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	1,499,135	924,107	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	1,089,820	1,082,322	

Cash and cash equivalents included in the condensed interim consolidated statement of cash flows comprise the following:

	30 Jun 2024	30 Jun 2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash at banks and in hand	745,828	740,640
Statutory deposit with the Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS")	343,992	341,682
Cash and cash equivalents	1,089,820	1,082,322

In addition to the cash and cash equivalents above, marketable Singapore Government debt securities, MAS Bills and MAS FRN amounted to \$1,825,269,000 (30 June 2023: \$1,696,589,000) for the Group.

E. Notes to the condensed interim consolidated financial statements

1. Corporate information

Hong Leong Finance Limited (the "Company") is incorporated and domiciled in Singapore and whose shares are publicly traded on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange. These condensed interim consolidated financial statements as at and for the half year ended 30 June 2024 comprise the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively, the "Group"). The principal activities of the Company are those relating to financing business and provision of corporate advisory services. The principal activities of the subsidiaries are the provision of nominee services.

2. Basis of preparation

The condensed interim financial statements as at and for the half year ended 30 June 2024 have been prepared in accordance with Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (International) SFRS(I) 1-34 *Interim Financial Reporting* issued by the Accounting Standards Council Singapore. The condensed interim financial statements do not include all the information required for a complete set of financial statements. However, selected explanatory notes are included to explain events and transactions that are significant to an understanding of the changes in the Group's financial position and performance of the Group since the last annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The adoption of the new/revised/amendments to SFRS(I)s which came into effect from 1 January 2024 does not have a material impact on the financial statements of the Group and the Company for the period under review.

Other than the above, the accounting policies and methods of computation used in the condensed interim financial statements as at and for the half year ended 30 June 2024 are consistent with those applied in the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The condensed interim financial statements are presented in Singapore dollar which is the Company's functional currency.

3. Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of the condensed interim financial statements in conformity with SFRS(I) requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The significant judgements made by management in applying the Group's accounting policies and the key sources of estimation uncertainty were the same as those that applied to the consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

E. Notes to the condensed interim consolidated financial statements (continued)

4. Seasonal operations

The Group's businesses are not affected significantly by seasonal or cyclical factors during the financial period.

5. Segment information

The majority of the revenue for the Group is from the same business segment. Its principal activities relate to financing business augmented by secondary non-lending activities such as provision of corporate advisory services and provision of nominee services. All activities are carried out in the Republic of Singapore.

6. Other operating income includes loss on disposal of plant and equipment amounting to less than \$1,000 (30 June 2023: \$Nil) for the half year ended 30 June 2024.

7. Taxation

The Group calculates the period income tax expense using the tax rate that would be applicable to the expected total annual earnings. The major components of income tax expense are:

	Gre	oup
	6 months ended 6 months end 30 Jun 2024 30 Jun 2023	
	\$'000	\$'000
Current year	9,662	8,635
Adjustment for prior years	-	58
Current tax expense	9,662	8,693
Deferred tax expense relating to origination and reversal of temporary differences	867	595
Total income tax expense	10,529	9,288

The effective tax rate for the period ended 30 June 2024 is 16.7% (30 June 2023: 16.5%).

8. Financial instruments

Accounting classifications and fair values

(i) Loans, advances and receivables and deposits and balances of customers

The fair value of fixed rate loans, advances and receivables and deposits and balances of customers, which will mature and reprice more than six months after the reporting date, has been determined by discounting the relevant cash flows using current interest rates for similar instruments at the reporting date. The carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities with a maturity of six months or less (including other loans, advances and receivables, and other deposits/savings accounts) approximate their fair values.

(ii) Singapore Government debt securities, MAS bills and MAS FRN

Fair value is based on quoted market bid prices at the reporting date.

- E. Notes to the condensed interim consolidated financial statements (continued)
- 8. Financial instruments (continued)

Accounting classifications and fair values (continued)

(iii) Investments (long-term), other financial assets and financial liabilities

Investments (long-term) in unquoted securities amounted to \$12,000, are classified as fair value through other comprehensive income and fully impaired as at 30 June 2024 (31 December 2023: \$12,000, fully impaired).

The carrying amounts of other financial assets and financial liabilities with a maturity of less than one year (including other receivables, other deposits, cash, trade payables and other payables) are estimated to approximate their fair values in view of the short period to maturity.

In accordance with the accounting policy on Financial Instruments, certain financial assets and financial liabilities are not carried at fair value in the statements of financial position as at the reporting dates. The aggregate net fair values of these financial assets and financial liabilities are disclosed in the following table:-

		Grou	ıp	
	Carrying	Fair	Carrying	Fair
	amount	value	amount	value
	30 Jun 2024	30 Jun 2024	30 Jun 2023	30 Jun 2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets				
Loans, advances and receivables Singapore Government debt securities,	11,537,772	11,514,763	11,665,481	11,600,824
MAS bills and MAS FRN	1,825,269	1,819,685	1,696,589	1,684,676
	13,363,041	13,334,448	13,362,070	13,285,500
Financial liabilities				
Deposits and balances of customers	(12,152,978)	(12,257,505)	(12,164,306)	(12,305,021)
	1,210,063	1,076,943	1,197,764	980,479
		Comp	any	
	Carrying	Fair	Carrying	Fair
	amount	value	amount	value
	30 Jun 2024	30 Jun 2024	30 Jun 2023	30 Jun 2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets				
Loans, advances and receivables	11,537,772	11,514,763	11,665,481	11,600,824
Singapore Government debt securities,				
MAS bills and MAS FRN	1,825,269	1,819,685	1,696,589	1,684,676
	13,363,041	13,334,448	13,362,070	13,285,500
Financial liabilities				
Deposits and balances of customers	(10 157 444)	(10 001 001)	(10 100 CEO)	(10 200 276)
Deposits and balances of customers	(12,157,444)	(12,261,981)	(12,168,658)	(12,309,376)
Deposits and balances of customers	1,205,597	1,072,467	1,193,412	976,124

E. Notes to the condensed interim consolidated financial statements (continued)

8. Financial instruments (continued)

Fair value hierarchy

Fair value measurements for financial assets and financial liabilities by the levels in the fair value hierarchy are based on the inputs to valuation techniques. The different levels are defined as follows:-

- Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Group can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2: inputs, other than quoted prices included within Level 1, that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e., as prices) or indirectly (i.e., derived from prices).
- Level 3: unobservable inputs for the asset or liability including prices of an item that is not identical.

Group/Company financial assets and financial liabilities not carried at fair value but for which fair values are disclosed*

The fair value of the portion of loans, advances and receivables being Level 3 instruments amounts to \$2.65 billion (31 December 2023: \$2.74 billion) against a carrying value of \$2.67 billion (31 December 2023: \$2.782 billion). Singapore Government debt securities, MAS bills and MAS FRN are Level 1 instruments with fair value of \$1.82 billion (31 December 2023: \$1.71 billion). The portion of deposits and balances of customers being Level 2 instruments have a fair value of \$9.33 billion (31 December 2023: \$10.54 billion) against a carrying value of \$9.23 billion (31 December 2023: \$10.37 billion).

*Excludes financial assets and financial liabilities whose carrying amounts measured on the amortised cost basis approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature or frequent repricing and where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

9. Borrowings

Included in borrowings are borrowings from MAS SGD Facility and borrowings from Enterprise Singapore as follows:

30 Jun 2024 \$'000	31 Dec 2023
\$'000	4
Ψ 000	\$'000
8,041	15,389
927	1,003
1,100	1,530
2,027	2,533
10,068	17,922
	927 1,100 2,027

Borrowings from MAS SGD Facility are secured by assignment of eligible loan agreements as collaterals under Enterprise Singapore's Enhanced Enterprise Financing Scheme. Interest expense on MAS SGD Facility amounting to \$26,000 for the period ended 30 June 2024 (30 June 2023: \$59,000).

- E. Notes to the condensed interim consolidated financial statements (continued)
- 9. Borrowings (continued)

Borrowings from Enterprise Singapore represents unsecured advances from Enterprise Singapore under the Local Enterprise Finance Scheme ("LEFS") and Extended Local Enterprise Finance Scheme ("ELEFS") to finance LEFS and ELEFS borrowers. Interest expense on Enterprise Singapore amounting to \$25,000 for the period ended 30 June 2024 (30 June 2023: \$37,000).

There are no bank borrowings as at 30 June 2024 (31 December 2023: \$Nil). Interest expense on bank borrowings amounting to \$Nil for the period ended 30 June 2024 (30 June 2023: \$Nil).

- 10. During the six months ended 30 June 2024, the Group acquired property, plant and equipment amounting to \$2,044,000 (30 June 2023: \$17,685,000) and disposed of property, plant and equipment amounting to \$427,000 (30 June 2023: \$273,000).
- 11. There are no outstanding debt securities issuance as at 30 June 2024 (31 December 2023: \$Nil) for the Group and the Company.

F. Other information

1. Review of the performance of the Group

The Group reported a net attributable profit of \$52.6 million for first half-year ended 30 June 2024, grew 12.9% or \$6 million from the same period last year, driven by higher net interest income at an expanded net interest margin of 1.6%.

Net interest income rose 11.1% to \$112.7 million on the back of improved assets yields, outpacing the elevated funding cost year-on-year.

Fee and commission income declined by 9.2% to \$4.0 million for first half-year 2024 on subdued large mortgage lending activities in financial markets.

Total operating expenses increased slightly by 5.6% to \$55.7 million for first half-year 2024 mainly due to higher staff cost from annual salaries increment and resources to enhance regulatory compliance and risk management with our focus in business transformation. It was partially offset by the broad-based decline in the operating expenses with tightened cost control.

Net allowances for loans and other financial assets were a net write-back of \$2.1 million for first half-year 2024 as compared to \$2.7 million in the corresponding period. This included a reversal of \$1.6 million in allowances for non credit-impaired loans with improved risk parameters and a reversal of \$0.2 million in allowances for credit-impaired loans with loan repayment. Asset quality remained resilient as the Group continued to exercise prudence in its credit risk management and underwriting parameters with adequate loss allowances to cover the loan portfolio. The non-performing loan ratio remained stable at 0.7%.

Net loan assets totalling \$11,538 million as at 30 June 2024, down by 1.0% or \$121 million over the previous year's base of \$11,659 million as at 31 December 2023 and 1.1% or \$127 million over corresponding period as at 30 June 2023. The loan portfolio remained largely secured.

In tandem with the reduced loan assets, deposits and balances of customers decreased to \$12,153 million as at 30 June 2024, representing a decrease of 3.9% or \$495 million over the previous year's base of \$12,648 million as at 31 December 2023 and 0.1% or \$11 million over corresponding period as at 30 June 2023. Cash and cash equivalents including statutory deposit with the Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS") together with Singapore Government debt securities, MAS Bills and MAS FRN held as liquid assets amounted to \$2,915 million as at 30 June 2024 (31 December 2023: \$3,209 million). The Group maintained liquidity above regulatory Minimum Liquid Asset ("MLA") and remained highly liquid to maneuver the market uncertainties.

Group shareholders' funds as at 30 June 2024 totalled \$2,073 million (31 December 2023: \$2,060 million) with net asset value at \$4.62 per share (31 December 2023: \$4.59 per share). The Group's Capital Adequacy Ratio stood at 16.9% as at 30 June 2024, well capitalized above regulatory requirement to support lending activities.

There has been no forecast or prospect statement previously disclosed to shareholders in respect of the period under review.

- F. Other information (continued)
- 2. Commentary on significant trends and competitive conditions in the industry

According to advance estimates from the Ministry of Trade and Industry ("MTI"), in the second quarter of 2024, the construction sector grew by 4.3%, services sector by 3.3% and manufacturing sector by 0.5% on a year-on-year basis. Singapore's economy grew by 2.9% year-on-year in the second quarter of 2024, slightly slower than the 3.0% recorded in the previous quarter. On a quarter-on-quarter seasonally-adjusted basis, the economy expanded by 0.4%, slightly faster than the 0.3% expansion in the first quarter of 2024.

Singapore's central bank maintained its stringent exchange rate policy and left its monetary policy settings unchanged amid inflation risk. It expects gross domestic product growth ("GDP") to come in at the higher end of 2% to 3% for the full year 2024. It is anticipated that SGD benchmark rates will track closely the shift in Federal Reserve's ("Fed") interest rate trajectory.

During the most recent Federal Open Market Committee ("FOMC") meeting held in July 2024, interest rates were kept unchanged at 5.25% - 5.50%. The Fed was anticipated to lead the rate cut cycle but signalled that it was willing to keep rates steady until it sees inflation moderating toward the 2% target.

Amidst global economic uncertainties, geopolitical tensions, and technology advancements, Hong Leong Finance Limited ("HLF") has remained agile to the changing market conditions and leveraged on the opportunities in the financial services industry. As a key strategy for maintaining competitiveness and meeting evolving customer needs, HLF has successfully roll-out the HLF Digital App, marking a significant milestone in our digital transformation journey. With the HLF Digital App, customers can now enjoy seamless and 24/7 access to our banking services. We will be implementing various strategic digital initiatives and payment solutions to meet the needs of our customers and enhance the mitigation measures on the cybersecurity and technology risks.

In our commitment to environmental stewardship, we endorse eco-friendly initiatives by financing green building and vehicles. With the strategic partnership with automotive dealers and digitalization efforts, we have continued to grow HLF's Green Loan portfolio. We will leverage on our resources to contribute positively to the environment, society, and the financial well-being of our customers.

In 2024, HLF received several prestigious awards, including recognition for "Top 100 Singaporean Brands 2024" by Brand Finance, "ASEAN Finance Company 2024" by Asian Banking & Finance, and a place among the "Top 1000 World Banks 2024" according to The Banker. These accolades from global and regional ranking underscore HLF's unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional services to its valued customers.

Looking ahead, HLF remains steadfast to navigate the evolving landscape of interest rate trends, domestic and global economic conditions, market dynamics and business environments. Our strategic focus on sustainable growth, operational efficiency, and robust risk management will enable us to capitalize on opportunities and mitigate challenges, as we strive to create enduring value for our stakeholders.

F. Other information (continued)

3. Dividends

The directors are pleased to declare an interim dividend of 3.75 cents per share (tax exempt one-tier) (2023: 3.5 cents per share, tax exempt one-tier) in respect of the financial year 2024. The interim dividend will be paid on 5 September 2024.

	Latest Period	Previous Period
Name of Dividend	Interim	Interim (paid on 31 August 2023)
Dividend Type	Cash	Cash
Dividend Rate	3.75 cents per share	3.5 cents per share
Total Dividend	\$16,821,000*	\$15,699,000
Tax Rate	Tax exempt one-tier	Tax exempt one-tier

^{*} The amount of dividend is computed on the shares in issue as at 30 June 2024. This amount is subject to change arising from the issue of shares upon exercise of options, if any, under the Hong Leong Finance Share Option Scheme 2001 ("Share Option Scheme") between 30 June 2024 and the last day for exercise of options to determine shareholders' entitlement to the interim dividend.

4. Shares issued and outstanding convertibles

Since the end of the previous financial year,

(i) the Company issued the following 18,500 shares upon exercise of options under the Share Option Scheme

Share price	Number of shares issued
\$2.31	2,000
\$2.38	16,500
Total	18,500

(ii) options to 510,100 shares under the Share Option Scheme lapsed upon cessation of employment of participants.

As at the end of the period, unissued shares of the Company under options amounted to 15,641,425 shares (30 June 2023: 14,074,900 shares).

Pursuant to the Finance Companies Act 1967, the Company does not hold treasury shares and accordingly, there were no treasury shares held as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023. There were also no shares held as subsidiary holdings as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

F. Other information (continued)

5. Closure of books

Notice is hereby given that the Share Transfer Books and Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 5.00 pm on 22 August 2024 up to (and including) 23 August 2024. Duly completed registrable transfers received by the Company's Registrar, Boardroom Corporate & Advisory Services Pte. Ltd. of 1 Harbourfront Avenue, Keppel Bay Tower #14-07, Singapore 098632 up to 5.00 pm on 22 August 2024 will be registered to determine shareholders' entitlement to the interim dividend. In respect of shares in the securities accounts with The Central Depository (Pte) Limited ("CDP"), the interim dividend will be paid by the Company to CDP which will distribute the interim dividend to holders of the securities accounts.

6. Shareholders' mandate for interested person transactions

The Company has not sought any shareholders' mandate for interested person transactions pursuant to Rule 920 of the Listing Manual of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited.

7. Confirmation pursuant to Rule 720(1) of the Listing Manual

The Company confirms that it has procured undertakings from all its directors and executive officers in the format set out in Appendix 7.7 in accordance with Rule 720(1) of the Listing Manual.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD YEO SWEE GIM, JOANNE NG SIEW PING, JASLIN COMPANY SECRETARIES

Dated this 8th day of August 2024

Directors' Confirmation

The Directors hereby confirm that, to the best of their knowledge, nothing has come to the attention of the Board of Directors which may render the Group's unaudited condensed interim financial statements for the half year ended 30 June 2024 to be false or misleading in any material aspect.

On behalf of the Board of Directors

Kwek Leng Beng

Director

Peter Chay Fook Yuen

Director

Singapore

8 August 2024