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MEDIA CHINESE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

世界華文媒體有限公司

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

(Malaysia Company No. 995098-A)

(Hong Kong Stock Code: 685)

(Malaysia Stock Code: 5090)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

The directors of Media Chinese International Limited (the “Company”) hereby announce that the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the “Group”) for the year ended 31 March 2018, together with comparative figures for the year ended 31 March 2017 are as follows:

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

	Note	Year ended 31 March	
		2018 US\$'000	2017 US\$'000
Turnover	4	284,963	302,586
Cost of goods sold		(185,638)	(189,764)
Gross profit		99,325	112,822
Other income	5	7,850	8,704
Other gains/(losses), net	6	2,912	(336)
Selling and distribution expenses		(52,264)	(56,034)
Administrative expenses		(30,363)	(30,939)
Other operating expenses		(10,911)	(5,462)
Operating profit before provision for impairment of goodwill		16,549	28,755
Provision for impairment of goodwill		(20,709)	(3,603)
Operating (loss)/profit		(4,160)	25,152
Finance costs	8	(2,793)	(4,812)
Share of post-tax results of joint ventures and associates		79	435
(Loss)/profit before income tax		(6,874)	20,775
Income tax expense	9	(5,331)	(7,584)
(Loss)/profit for the year		(12,205)	13,191
(Loss)/profit attributable to:			
Owners of the Company		(11,485)	15,156
Non-controlling interests		(720)	(1,965)
		(12,205)	13,191
(Loss)/earnings per share attributable to owners of the Company			
Basic (US cents)	10	(0.68)	0.90
Diluted (US cents)	10	(0.68)	0.90

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018	2017
	<i>US\$'000</i>	<i>US\$'000</i>
(Loss)/profit for the year	(12,205)	13,191
Other comprehensive income/(loss)		
Item that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:		
Currency translation differences	21,645	(18,338)
Fair value change on available-for-sale financial assets	5,883	–
Item that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:		
Remeasurements of post-employment benefit obligations	(304)	(23)
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year, net of tax	27,224	(18,361)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	15,019	(5,170)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year attributable to:		
Owners of the Company	14,108	(3,133)
Non-controlling interests	911	(2,037)
	15,019	(5,170)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

		As at 31 March 2018 US\$'000	As at 31 March 2017 US\$'000
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment		94,253	96,266
Investment properties		16,437	14,587
Intangible assets		26,863	43,231
Deferred income tax assets		243	226
Investments accounted for using the equity method	12	143	731
Available-for-sale financial assets	13	8,979	–
Other non-current financial assets		129	–
		147,047	155,041
Current assets			
Inventories		17,648	19,918
Available-for-sale financial assets		96	97
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		361	346
Trade and other receivables	14	44,820	41,239
Income tax recoverable		1,550	2,133
Short-term bank deposits		18,312	10,086
Cash and cash equivalents		101,923	79,946
		184,710	153,765
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	15	51,753	46,634
Income tax liabilities		773	1,644
Bank and other borrowings	16	68,447	2,506
Current portion of other non-current liabilities		78	26
		121,051	50,810
Net current assets		63,659	102,955
Total assets less current liabilities		210,706	257,996

		As at 31 March 2018 <i>US\$'000</i>	As at 31 March 2017 <i>US\$'000</i>
EQUITY			
Equity attributable to owners of the Company			
Share capital		21,715	21,715
Share premium		54,664	54,664
Other reserves		(100,380)	(126,266)
Retained earnings		<u>221,670</u>	<u>243,581</u>
		197,669	193,694
Non-controlling interests		<u>4,099</u>	<u>3,621</u>
Total equity		<u>201,768</u>	<u>197,315</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Bank and other borrowings	16	–	50,870
Deferred income tax liabilities		7,405	8,622
Other non-current liabilities		<u>1,533</u>	<u>1,189</u>
		<u>8,938</u>	<u>60,681</u>
		<u>210,706</u>	<u>257,996</u>

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For the year ended 31 March 2018

1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The consolidated financial information of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the “Group”) for the year ended 31 March 2018 (this “consolidated financial information”) has been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRSs”) and under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investment properties, available-for-sale financial assets, and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, which are carried at fair value. This consolidated financial information also included applicable disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance and the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (“HK Listing Rules”).

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(i) New and amended standards and interpretations to existing standards adopted by the Group

The following amendments to standards, which became effective for the first time for the financial year beginning on or after 1 April 2017, have been adopted by the Group:

- (a) Amendments to IAS 7, “Disclosure initiative”;
- (b) Amendments to IAS 12, “Recognition of deferred tax assets for unrealised losses”;
- (c) Amendments to IAS 12, “Income taxes”; and
- (d) Annual improvement, “Annual improvements to IFRSs 2014–2016 cycle”.

The adoption of these amendments did not have any material impact on the current period or any prior period and is not likely to affect future periods.

(ii) New accounting standards and amendments to standards that are not yet effective and have not been early adopted by the Group

The following new and amendments to standards and interpretations have been issued but not yet effective and have not been early adopted by the Group:

		Effective for annual periods beginning on or after
Annual improvement	Annual improvements to IFRSs 2014–2016 cycle (amendments)	1 January 2018
Amendments to IAS 28	Investment in associates and joint ventures	1 January 2018
Amendments to IAS 40	Transfers of investment property	1 January 2018
Amendments to IFRS 1	Deletion of short-term exemptions for first-time adopters	1 January 2018
Amendments to IFRS 2	Classification and measurement of share-based payment transactions	1 January 2018
Amendments to IFRS 4	Applying IFRS 9 financial instruments with IFRS 4 Insurance contracts	1 January 2018
Amendments to IFRS 9	Prepayment features with negative compensation	1 January 2019
Amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28	Sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture	Effective date to be determined
Amendments to IFRS 15	Clarifications to IFRS 15	1 January 2018
IFRS 9	Financial instruments	1 January 2018
IFRS 15	Revenue from contracts with customers	1 January 2018
IFRS 16	Leases	1 January 2019
IFRS 17	Insurance contracts	1 January 2021
IFRIC 22	Foreign currency transactions and advance consideration	1 January 2018
IFRIC 23	Uncertainty over income tax treatments	1 January 2019

(a) *IFRS 9 Financial Instruments*

IFRS 9 “Financial Instruments” replaces the whole of IAS 39. IFRS 9 has three financial asset classification categories for investments in debt instruments: amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income (“OCI”) and fair value through profit or loss. Classification is driven by the Group’s business model for managing the debt instruments and their contractual cash flow characteristics. Investments in equity instruments are always measured at fair value. However, management can make an irrevocable election to present changes in fair value in OCI, provided the instrument is not held for trading. If the equity instrument is held for trading, changes in fair value are presented in profit or loss.

The Group does not expect the new guidance to have a significant impact on the classification and measurement of its financial assets for the following reasons:

- The financial instruments that are currently classified as available-for-sale financial assets would appear to satisfy the conditions for classification as at fair value through other comprehensive income (“FVOCI”) and hence there will be no change to the accounting for these assets.
- The equity investments currently measured at fair value through profit or loss would likely continue to be measured on the same basis under IFRS 9.

For financial liabilities there are two classification categories: amortised cost and fair value through profit or loss. Where non-derivative financial liabilities are designated at fair value through profit or loss, the changes in the fair value due to changes in the liability’s own credit risk are recognised in OCI, unless such changes in fair value would create an accounting mismatch in profit or loss, in which case, all fair value movements are recognised in profit or loss. There is no subsequent recycling of the amounts in OCI to profit or loss. For financial liabilities held for trading (including derivative financial liabilities), all changes in fair value are presented in profit or loss.

There will be no impact on the Group’s accounting for financial liabilities, as the new requirements only affect the accounting for financial liabilities that are designated at fair value through profit or loss and the Group does not have any such liabilities.

The derecognition rules have been transferred from IAS 39 “Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement” and have not been changed.

IFRS 9 also introduces a new model for the recognition of impairment losses — the expected credit losses (“ECL”) model, which constitutes a change from the incurred loss model in IAS 39. IFRS 9 contains a “three stage” approach, which is based on the changes in credit quality of financial assets since initial recognition. Assets move through the three stages as credit quality changes and the stages dictate how an entity measures impairment losses and applies the effective interest rate method. The new rules mean that on initial recognition of a non-credit impaired financial asset carried at amortised cost a day-1 loss equal to the 12-month ECL is recognised in profit or loss. In the case of accounts receivables this day-1 loss will be equal to their lifetime ECL. Where there is a significant increase in credit risk, impairment is measured using lifetime ECL rather than 12-month ECL.

The new impairment model requires the recognition of impairment provisions based on ECL rather than only incurred credit losses as is the case under IAS 39. It applies to financial assets classified at amortised cost, debt instruments measured at FVOCI, contract assets under IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, lease receivables, loan commitments and certain financial guarantee contracts.

Based on the assessments undertaken to date, the Group considers that there will be no material adverse change in the credit risks in respect of the Group's future financial assets and the adoption of the new ECL model under IFRS 9 will not have significant impact on its financial performance and position.

(b) *IFRS 15 Revenue from contracts with customers*

IFRS 15 replaces the previous revenue standards: IAS 18 Revenue and IAS 11 Construction Contracts, and the related Interpretations on revenue recognition. IFRS 15 establishes a comprehensive framework for determining when to recognise revenue and how much revenue to recognise through a 5-step approach: (1) Identify the contract(s) with customer; (2) Identify separate performance obligations in a contract; (3) Determine the transaction price; (4) Allocate transaction price to performance obligations; and (5) Recognise revenue when performance obligation is satisfied. The core principle is that a company should recognise revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to the customer in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services.

It moves away from a revenue recognition model based on an "earnings process" to an "asset-liability" approach based on transfer of control. IFRS 15 provides specific guidance on capitalisation of contract costs and licence arrangements. It also includes a cohesive set of disclosure requirements about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenues and cash flows arising from the entity's contracts with customers.

The Group has performed preliminary assessment on the adoption of IFRS 15 and the initial result indicated that the impact on the Group's financial statements are not expected to be significant other than changes in disclosures.

(c) *IFRS 16 Leases*

IFRS 16 "Leases" addresses the definition of a lease, recognition and measurement of leases and establishes principles for reporting useful information to users of financial statements about the leasing activities of both lessees and lessors. A key change arising from IFRS 16 is that most operating leases will be accounted for in the lessee's statement of financial position. The standard replaces IAS 17 "Leases" and related interpretations.

The Group is a lessee of office, residential premises and coaches which are currently classified as operating leases. The Group's current accounting policy is to account for such operating lease payments in the consolidated statement of profit or loss when incurred and the Group's future operating lease commitments are not reflected in the consolidated statement of financial position. As at 31 March 2018, the Group's total non-cancellable operating leases amounted to US\$3,209,000.

However, the Group has not yet assessed what other adjustments, if any, are necessary, for example, because of the change in the definition of the lease term and the different treatment of variable lease payments of extension and termination options. It is therefore not yet possible to estimate the amount of an asset (for the right to use) and a financial liability (for the payment obligation) that will have to be recognised on adoption of the new standard and how this may affect the Group's profit or loss and classification of cash flows going forward.

The adoption of this standard is mandatory for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. The Group has decided not to adopt the IFRS16 until it becomes effective for the Group's financial year beginning 1 April 2019. The Group intends to apply the simplified transition approach and will not restate comparative amounts for the year prior to first adoption.

There are no other new, amended or revised standards and interpretations that are not yet effective and that would be expected to have a material impact on the Group in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.

3 FUNCTIONAL CURRENCY AND TRANSLATION TO PRESENTATION CURRENCY

Items included in the financial statements of each of the Group's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates, i.e. the functional currency. The functional currency of the Company is Malaysian Ringgit ("RM"). However, each entity within the Group can present its financial statements in any currency, which can be the same or different from the entity's functional currency. As the Group operates internationally, management considers that it is more appropriate to use United States Dollar ("US\$"), a globally recognised currency, as the presentation currency for the Group's consolidated financial statements. For the entity whose functional currency is not US\$, its results and financial position have been translated into US\$.

The assets and liabilities of each entity within the Group are mostly denominated in its own functional currency and do not have material impact on the consolidated statement of profit or loss for the year.

During the year ended 31 March 2018, the Group was particularly exposed to movements in the US\$ to RM exchange rate as a major part of the Group's operations is located in Malaysia, and an increase in the exchange fluctuation reserve of US\$21,591,000 was recognised largely due to the changes in the exchange rate of US\$ to RM.

4 TURNOVER AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Group Executive Committee is the Group's chief operating decision-maker. Management has determined the operating segments based on the reports that are reviewed and used by the Group Executive Committee for strategic decisions making.

The Group is organised operationally on a worldwide basis in four major operating segments:

Publishing and printing: Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries

Publishing and printing: Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China

Publishing and printing: North America

Travel and travel related services

Publishing and printing segments are engaged in the publication, printing and distribution of newspapers, magazines, books and digital contents primarily in the Chinese language. The segments derive revenue mainly from the provision of advertising services and sales of newspapers and magazines. Travel and travel related services segment derives revenue from the sales of travel packages and provision of tour services.

The Group Executive Committee assesses the performance of the operating segments based on a measure of segment profit before income tax as presented in the internal financial report. Other information provided is measured in a manner consistent with that in the internal financial report.

The Group's turnover and results for the year ended 31 March 2018, analysed by operating segment, are as follows:

	Publishing and printing					Total US\$'000
	Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries US\$'000	Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China US\$'000	North America US\$'000	Sub-total US\$'000	Travel and travel related services US\$'000	
Turnover	142,848	51,583	15,662	210,093	74,870	284,963
Segment (loss)/profit before income tax	(2,959)	(585)	(2,533)	(6,077)	2,361	(3,716)
Unallocated finance costs						(2,594)
Other net unallocated expenses						(564)
Loss before income tax						(6,874)
Income tax expense						(5,331)
Loss for the year						(12,205)
Other segmental information:						
Interest income	2,356	31	21	2,408	35	2,443
Finance costs	(131)	(68)	-	(199)	-	(199)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	(6,497)	(1,283)	(302)	(8,082)	(72)	(8,154)
Amortisation of intangible assets	(720)	(194)	(13)	(927)	(35)	(962)
Provision for impairment of property, plant and equipment	(5,146)	-	-	(5,146)	-	(5,146)
Provision for impairment of intangible assets	(949)	-	-	(949)	-	(949)
Provision for impairment of goodwill	(20,709)	-	-	(20,709)	-	(20,709)
Share of post-tax results of joint ventures and associates	-	79	-	79	-	79

The Group's turnover and results for the year ended 31 March 2017, analysed by operating segment, are as follows:

	Publishing and printing					Total US\$'000
	Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries US\$'000	Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China US\$'000	North America US\$'000	Sub-total US\$'000	Travel and travel related services US\$'000	
Turnover	<u>162,080</u>	<u>53,498</u>	<u>17,599</u>	<u>233,177</u>	<u>69,409</u>	<u>302,586</u>
Segment profit/(loss) before income tax	<u>28,301</u>	<u>(3,363)</u>	<u>(1,057)</u>	<u>23,881</u>	<u>2,464</u>	26,345
Unallocated finance costs						(4,790)
Other net unallocated expenses						<u>(780)</u>
Profit before income tax						20,775
Income tax expense						<u>(7,584)</u>
Profit for the year						<u>13,191</u>
Other segmental information:						
Interest income	3,064	95	11	3,170	19	3,189
Finance costs	(13)	(9)	–	(22)	–	(22)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	(6,781)	(1,435)	(337)	(8,553)	(128)	(8,681)
Amortisation of intangible assets	(769)	(218)	(15)	(1,002)	(38)	(1,040)
Provision for impairment of property, plant and equipment	–	(35)	–	(35)	–	(35)
Provision for impairment of goodwill	(3,603)	–	–	(3,603)	–	(3,603)
Share of post-tax results of joint ventures and associates	–	435	–	435	–	435

Turnover is derived from publishing, printing and distribution of newspapers, magazines, books and digital contents primarily in the Chinese language, and provision of travel and travel related services. Turnover recognised during the year is as follows:

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018 US\$'000	2017 US\$'000
Advertising income, net of trade discounts	146,002	165,179
Sales of newspapers, magazines, books and digital contents, net of trade discounts and returns	64,091	67,998
Travel and travel related services income	74,870	69,409
	<u>284,963</u>	<u>302,586</u>

The segment assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2018 are as follows:

	Publishing and printing						Total US\$'000
	Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries US\$'000	Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China US\$'000	North America US\$'000	Sub-total US\$'000	Travel and travel related services US\$'000	Elimination US\$'000	
Segment assets	<u>244,775</u>	<u>49,690</u>	<u>11,705</u>	<u>306,170</u>	<u>23,321</u>	<u>(96)</u>	<u>329,395</u>
Unallocated assets							<u>2,362</u>
Total assets							<u><u>331,757</u></u>
Total assets include:							
Investments accounted for using the equity method	-	143	-	143	-	-	143
Additions to non-current assets (other than deferred income tax assets)	<u>678</u>	<u>9,240</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>9,959</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,987</u>
Segment liabilities	<u>(23,626)</u>	<u>(16,536)</u>	<u>(7,100)</u>	<u>(47,262)</u>	<u>(14,711)</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>(61,877)</u>
Unallocated liabilities							<u>(68,112)</u>
Total liabilities							<u><u>(129,989)</u></u>

The segment assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2017 are as follows:

	Publishing and printing						Total US\$'000
	Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries US\$'000	Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China US\$'000	North America US\$'000	Sub-total US\$'000	Travel and travel related services US\$'000	Elimination US\$'000	
Segment assets	<u>231,116</u>	<u>44,068</u>	<u>13,256</u>	<u>288,440</u>	<u>17,586</u>	<u>(150)</u>	<u>305,876</u>
Unallocated assets							<u>2,930</u>
Total assets							<u><u>308,806</u></u>
Total assets include:							
Investments accounted for using the equity method	-	731	-	731	-	-	731
Additions to non-current assets (other than deferred income tax assets)	<u>825</u>	<u>901</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>1,818</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,870</u>
Segment liabilities	<u>(16,363)</u>	<u>(14,480)</u>	<u>(6,678)</u>	<u>(37,521)</u>	<u>(11,054)</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>(48,425)</u>
Unallocated liabilities							<u>(63,066)</u>
Total liabilities							<u><u>(111,491)</u></u>

The elimination between segments represents intercompany receivables and payables between segments.

Segment assets consist primarily of property, plant and equipment, investment properties, intangible assets, available-for-sale financial assets — listed equity shares, investments accounted for using the equity method, other non-current financial assets, inventories, trade and other receivables, short-term bank deposits, and cash and cash equivalents. They mainly exclude deferred income tax assets, available-for-sale financial asset — unlisted club debenture, financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and income tax recoverable of the Group.

Segment liabilities consist primarily of trade and other payables, retirement benefit obligations, defined benefit plan liabilities, bank and other borrowings and other non-current liabilities. They mainly exclude deferred income tax liabilities and income tax liabilities of the Group.

The Group operates its publishing and printing businesses mainly in Malaysia, other Southeast Asian countries, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China (“Main operating countries”).

As at 31 March 2018 and 2017, the Group’s total non-current assets, other than deferred income tax assets, analysed by operating countries, are as follows:

	As at 31 March	
	2018	2017
	<i>US\$'000</i>	<i>US\$'000</i>
Main operating countries		
Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries	116,256	131,126
Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China	23,676	16,737
Other countries	6,872	6,952
	146,804	154,815

5 OTHER INCOME

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018	2017
	<i>US\$'000</i>	<i>US\$'000</i>
Dividend income	16	15
Interest income	2,443	3,189
Licence fee and royalty income	159	201
Other media-related income	1,759	1,920
Rental and management fee income	814	773
Scrap sales of old newspapers and magazines	2,556	2,459
Others	103	147
	7,850	8,704

6 OTHER GAINS/(LOSSES), NET

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018	2017
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Fair value gains on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss — net	18	7
Fair value gains on investment properties — net	239	558
Deemed disposal gain on interest in an associate	2,716	—
Net exchange losses	(61)	(211)
Realised losses on derivatives	—	(690)
	<u>2,912</u>	<u>(336)</u>

7 EXPENSES BY NATURE

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018	2017
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Amortisation of intangible assets	962	1,040
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	8,154	8,681
Direct costs of travel and travel related services	63,728	58,319
Employee benefit expense (including directors' emoluments)	91,171	93,565
Gains on disposal of property, plant and equipment — net	(19)	(3)
Losses on disposal of intangible assets	—	16
Provision for impairment and write-off of trade and other receivables	75	800
Provision for impairment and write-off of inventories	268	162
Provision for impairment of intangible assets	949	—
Provision for impairment of property, plant and equipment	5,146	35
Raw materials and consumables used	44,493	51,376
	<u>44,493</u>	<u>51,376</u>

8 FINANCE COSTS

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018	2017
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Interest expense on medium-term notes	2,594	4,790
Interest expense on short-term bank borrowings	199	22
	<u>2,793</u>	<u>4,812</u>

9 INCOME TAX EXPENSE

Income tax for the Group's Hong Kong operations has been provided at the rate of 16.5% (2017: 16.5%) on the estimated assessable profit derived from Hong Kong for the year. Income tax for the Group's Malaysian operations is calculated at the rate of 24% (2017: 24%) on the estimated assessable profit derived from Malaysia for the year. Taxation on other countries' profits has been calculated on the estimated assessable profits for the year at the rates of taxation prevailing in the countries in which the Group operates.

Income tax expense in the consolidated statement of profit or loss represents:

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018	2017
	<i>US\$'000</i>	<i>US\$'000</i>
Hong Kong taxation		
Current year	536	747
(Over)/under provision in prior years	(19)	79
Malaysian taxation		
Current year	6,695	8,574
Under/(over) provision in prior years	115	(74)
Other countries' taxation		
Current year	284	179
Over provision in prior years	(244)	(1,462)
Deferred income tax credit	(2,036)	(459)
	5,331	7,584

10 (LOSS)/EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO OWNERS OF THE COMPANY

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018	2017
(Loss)/profit attributable to owners of the Company (<i>US\$'000</i>)	(11,485)	15,156
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue	1,687,236,241	1,687,236,241
Basic (loss)/earnings per share (<i>US cents</i>)	(0.68)	0.90
Diluted (loss)/earnings per share (<i>US cents</i>)	(0.68)	0.90

The diluted (loss)/earnings per share is the same as the basic (loss)/earnings per share as there were no dilutive potential shares in issue during the year ended 31 March 2018 and 2017.

11 DIVIDENDS

	Year ended 31 March	
	2018 US\$'000	2017 US\$'000
Dividends attributable to the year:		
First interim, paid, US0.25 cents (2016/2017: US0.36 cents) per ordinary share	4,218	6,074
Second interim, declared after the end of the reporting period of US0.18 cents (2016/2017: US0.36 cents) per ordinary share	3,037	6,074
	<u>7,255</u>	<u>12,148</u>
Dividends paid during the year:		
Second interim, 2016/2017, US0.36 cents (2015/2016: US0.60 cents) per ordinary share (<i>note a</i>)	6,074	10,123
First interim, 2017/2018, US0.25 cents (2016/2017: US0.36 cents) per ordinary share (<i>note b</i>)	4,218	6,074
	<u>10,292</u>	<u>16,197</u>

The Board of Directors has declared a second interim dividend of US0.18 cents (2016/2017: US0.36 cents) per ordinary share in respect of the year ended 31 March 2018. The dividend will be payable on Friday, 13 July 2018 to shareholders whose names appear on the register of members of the Company at the close of business on Wednesday, 20 June 2018 in cash in RM or in Hong Kong Dollar (“HK\$”) at the average exchange rates used during the year ended 31 March 2018 for the translation of the results of the subsidiaries whose functional currencies are not US\$. No tax is payable on the dividend declared by the Company to be received by shareholders in Malaysia as it is income from foreign source in accordance with paragraph 28 of Schedule 6 of Malaysian Income Tax Act 1967. This interim dividend has not been recognised as a dividend payable in this consolidated financial information.

The average exchange rates used during the year ended 31 March 2018 of US\$ to RM and US\$ to HK\$, and the amount of the second interim dividend payable are as follows:

	Exchange rates	Dividend per ordinary share
US\$ to RM	4.1333	0.744 sen
US\$ to HK\$	7.8425	HK1.412 cents

Notes:

- (a) The second interim dividend of US0.36 cents per ordinary share, totaling US\$6,074,000 in respect of the year ended 31 March 2017, was paid on 10 July 2017.
- (b) The first interim dividend of US0.25 cents per ordinary share, totaling US\$4,218,000 in respect of the year ended 31 March 2018, was paid on 29 December 2017.

12 INVESTMENTS ACCOUNTED FOR USING THE EQUITY METHOD

Movements in the interests in joint ventures and associates are as follows:

	2018 <i>US\$'000</i>	2017 <i>US\$'000</i>
As at 1 April	731	749
Share of post-tax results	79	435
Dividends received from an associate	(282)	(451)
Derecognition of investment in an associate (<i>note</i>)	(380)	–
Currency translation differences	(5)	(2)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March	143	731
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Note: Blackpaper Limited (“Blackpaper”) is engaged in providing creative multimedia services and advertising campaigns. The Group’s investment in Blackpaper was classified as an associate due to the Group’s right of board representation.

Most Kwai Chung Limited (“Most Kwai Chung”) is an investment holding company and the principal activities of its subsidiaries include the provision of creative multimedia services, advertising service and sales of periodicals and books.

On 13 July 2017, Blackpaper completed a reorganisation and became an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Most Kwai Chung in return for the Group to hold 10% interest in Most Kwai Chung, which was classified as an associate for the period from 13 July 2017 to 27 March 2018. On 28 March 2018, Most Kwai Chung became a listed company on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (“the Listing”).

Upon the Listing, the Group’s equity interest in Most Kwai Chung was diluted to 7.5% and the Group has no right to appoint a board representative in Most Kwai Chung. Hence, Most Kwai Chung ceased to be an associate of the Group on 28 March 2018. The Group accounted for the investment in Most Kwai Chung as available-for-sale financial asset. Upon initial recognition, the available-for-sale financial asset was measured at its fair value amounting to US\$3,096,000, which was determined based on the share offer price of Most Kwai Chung upon the Listing, and the Group recognised a deemed disposal gain of US\$2,716,000 in the consolidated income statement in accordance with IAS28 “Investments in associates and joint ventures”. Subsequent measurement on the Group’s interest in Most Kwai Chung as available-for-sale financial asset is set out in the Group’s accounting policies.

13 AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE FINANCIAL ASSETS

	Unlisted club debenture <i>US\$'000</i>	Listed equity shares <i>US\$'000</i>	Total <i>US\$'000</i>
As at 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017	97	–	97
As at 1 April 2017	97	–	97
Additions	–	3,096	3,096
Fair value gain credited to other comprehensive income	–	5,883	5,883
Currency translation differences	(1)	–	(1)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2018	96	8,979	9,075
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Set out below are securities which, in the opinion of the directors, are material to the Group as at 31 March 2018.

Name of the security	Nature of the security	Total	
		2018 US\$'000	2017 US\$'000
Most Kwai Chung Limited	Listed ordinary shares	<u>8,979</u>	<u>–</u>

Note: The balance represents the fair value of the ordinary shares of Most Kwai Chung Limited listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

Gain or loss arising from changes in the fair value is recognised in “other comprehensive income” in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income. Details of the accounting treatment on the available-for-sale financial asset are set out in the Group’s accounting policies.

There were no impairment provisions on available-for-sale financial assets made during the year ended 31 March 2018.

As at 31 March 2018 and 2017, the available-for-sale financial assets were denominated in HK\$ and the fair values approximated the carrying amounts.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying amounts of the available-for-sale financial assets.

14 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	As at 31 March	
	2018 US\$'000	2017 US\$'000
Trade receivables (<i>note</i>)	36,796	35,199
Less: provision for impairment of trade receivables	<u>(2,290)</u>	<u>(2,294)</u>
Trade receivables, net	34,506	32,905
Deposits and prepayments	7,599	6,139
Other receivables	<u>2,715</u>	<u>2,195</u>
	<u><u>44,820</u></u>	<u><u>41,239</u></u>

As at 31 March 2018 and 2017, the fair values of trade and other receivables approximated the carrying amounts.

Note: The Group allows in general a credit period ranging from 7 to 120 days to its trade customers.

As at 31 March 2018 and 2017, the ageing analysis of the trade receivables (including amounts due from related parties of trading in nature) based on invoice date is as follows:

	As at 31 March	
	2018 US\$'000	2017 US\$'000
1 to 60 days	24,134	22,320
61 to 120 days	7,358	7,934
121 to 180 days	2,019	1,260
Over 180 days	<u>3,285</u>	<u>3,685</u>
	<u><u>36,796</u></u>	<u><u>35,199</u></u>

15 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	As at 31 March	
	2018	2017
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Trade payables (<i>note</i>)	12,750	11,474
Accrued charges and other payables	20,560	19,954
Receipts in advance	18,443	15,206
	<u>51,753</u>	<u>46,634</u>

As at 31 March 2018 and 2017, the fair values of trade and other payables approximated the carrying amounts.

Note: As at 31 March 2018 and 2017, the ageing analysis of the trade payables (including amounts due to related parties of trading in nature) based on invoice date is as follows:

	As at 31 March	
	2018	2017
	US\$'000	US\$'000
1 to 60 days	9,051	8,820
61 to 120 days	3,184	2,434
121 to 180 days	49	91
Over 180 days	466	129
	<u>12,750</u>	<u>11,474</u>

16 BANK AND OTHER BORROWINGS

	As at 31 March	
	2018	2017
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Current		
Short-term bank borrowings (secured)	4,346	1,636
Short-term bank borrowings (unsecured)	5,856	870
Medium-term notes (unsecured)	58,245	–
	<u>68,447</u>	<u>2,506</u>
Non-current		
Medium-term notes (unsecured)	–	50,870
	<u>–</u>	<u>50,870</u>
Total bank and other borrowings	<u>68,447</u>	<u>53,376</u>

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(US\$'000)

	Year ended 31 March		% Change
	2018	2017	
Turnover	284,963	302,586	-5.8%
Operating profit before provision for impairment of goodwill	16,549	28,755	-42.4%
Provision for impairment of goodwill	(20,709)	(3,603)	-474.8%
(Loss)/profit before income tax	(6,874)	20,775	-133.1%
(Loss)/profit for the year	(12,205)	13,191	-192.5%
(Loss)/profit attribute to owners of the Company	(11,485)	15,156	-175.8%
EBITDA	8,687	32,154	-73.0%
Basic (loss)/earnings per share (US cents)	(0.68)	0.90	-175.6%

OVERALL REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

Financial year 2017/2018 was a challenging year for the Group. The total turnover of the Group for the year ended 31 March 2018 fell by 5.8% to US\$284,963,000 from US\$302,586,000 reported in the last financial year. The Group reported a loss before income tax of US\$6,874,000 for the year under review, as against last year's profit before income tax of US\$20,775,000. The current year's results included a provision for impairment of goodwill of US\$20,709,000 (2016/2017: US\$3,603,000). The Group's operating profit before the aforesaid impairment was US\$16,549,000 as against last year's US\$28,755,000, reflecting a year-on-year decrease of 42.4%.

The Group's performance during the year was adversely affected by the subdued consumer demands and weak advertising expenditure in all the markets it operates in. The changing trend of shopping from brick and mortar outlets to online shopping has also hastened the continuing migration of advertising spending from print to digital platforms. The intense competition from airlines and the increasing popularity of vacation rental booking websites such as Airbnb as well as a large number of user-friendly travel apps have also affected the performance of the Group's travel segment.

Turnover of the Group's publishing and printing segment dropped by 9.9% to US\$210,093,000 in 2017/2018 from US\$233,177,000 in the last year. Due to the provision for impairment of goodwill of US\$20,709,000, the segment reported a loss before income tax of US\$6,077,000 as against a profit before income tax of US\$23,881,000 in 2016/2017.

The travel segment's turnover for the year increased by 7.9% to US\$74,870,000. Nevertheless, the segment's profit before income tax fell by 4.2% to US\$2,361,000 from US\$2,464,000 in the previous year.

During the year ended 31 March 2018, both Malaysian Ringgit (“RM”) and the Canadian dollar (“CAD”) strengthened mildly against the US\$ which resulted in a positive currency impact of about US\$1.8 million on the Group’s turnover and a negative currency impact of about US\$0.4 million on the Group’s profit before income tax and provision for impairment of goodwill.

Basic loss per share for the year ended 31 March 2018 was US0.68 cents, compared with a basic earnings per share of US0.90 cents in the previous year. As at 31 March 2018, the Group’s cash and cash equivalents and short-term bank deposits totaled US\$120,235,000 and the Group’s net assets per share attributable to owners of the Company was US11.72 cents.

SEGMENTAL REVIEW

Publishing and printing

Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries

The Malaysian operation achieved a total turnover of US\$142,848,000 in the current financial year, 11.9% down from US\$162,080,000 reported in the last year. The decline was in line with the 12.0% drop in Malaysia’s total adex (excluding pay-TV adex) from RM7.12 billion in FY2016/2017 to RM6.27 billion in FY2017/2018. The segment reported a loss before income tax of US\$2,959,000 for the year under review, mainly attributed to a provision for impairment of goodwill of US\$20,709,000 and an impairment of plant and machinery of US\$5,146,000. The segment’s profit before income tax and the aforesaid impairment losses was US\$22,896,000, a decrease of 28.2% on a comparable basis, from US\$31,904,000 in the last year.

The Group has been constantly reviewing its cost base and is always looking for ways to increase efficiency and effectiveness in its operations. In the coming financial year, the Malaysian operation will commence using 27-inch web-width newsprint and revamp its advertisement layout for better yield while continue its stringent controls on print order, pagination and wastage. In addition, the Group will be continuing its efforts in streamlining and consolidating the printing and production processes as well as rationalising its branch offices.

The segment’s digital business continued to attain decent double digits growth, an affirmation that the digital efforts put in by the Malaysian operation are in sync with market demands. The Group’s efforts in generating original content have led it to produce advertisements in the form of story-based videos for its advertisers. The Group has been working hard at aligning the marketing efforts across its print and digital platforms.

According to the Audit Bureau of Circulation Malaysia report, as at 30 June 2017, the Group continued to lead the Chinese newspaper industry in Malaysia with 80% of the market’s total average daily print and digital replica circulation sales copies. Effective from early March 2018, the Group’s 4 daily newspapers have increased their respective cover price by RM0.20. A series of subscriptions drives was in place to cushion the impact on newspaper circulation sales brought about by the cover price increase.

Sin Chew Daily continues to command the leading position as the Chinese daily publication with the largest circulation in Malaysia. Its average daily print and digital circulation was 436,471 copies for the period of January to June 2017, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulation report (“ABC report”). *Sin Chew Daily* continuously allocates resources to improve its digital platforms such as mobile site, apps and its web-portal, sinchew.com.my, in order to attract more readers. The healthy growth of unique visitors to *Sin Chew Daily’s* web-portal has also made it a platform favoured by the advertisers for targeted and effective advertisements.

Sin Chew Daily enriches and enhances its editorial content by introducing special daily editions, namely *Warm Power*, *Sin Chew Healthcare*, and *Seeking Truth* as well as a weekly edition *We*. *Warm Power* reports on the real happenings and stories of people from all walks of life which bring great encouragement and motivation in shaping a caring and helpful society filled with positive energy and promoting national integration. *Sin Chew Healthcare* shares medical advices and knowledge besides enable readers to interact with panel professional doctors to create a more health awareness society. *Seeking Truth* follows up on fake news, stories and photographs circulated on social media, to verify and rectify incorrect reports or news in order to restore the truth. The weekly edition *We* strives to promote the beauty of moderation, to champion integration, mutual respect and unity among people from all racial and religious background. These new editions have successfully brought *Sin Chew Daily* closer to readers, improved stickiness and attracted advertisers to collaborate and partnership with *Sin Chew Daily*.

To stay relevant and maintain engagement with its readers, *Sin Chew Daily* organises talks that range from health, financial to investment topics such as breast cancer awareness, Budget 2017 and e-commerce marketing. These talks are sometimes organised together with its advertisers hence creating an opportunity for the advertisers to reach out to potential customers.

As part of its effort to increase revenue, *Sin Chew Daily* organises various trade shows, exhibitions and awards such as “Sin Chew Education Fair” and “Sin Chew Trade Fair”. During the financial year under review, *Sin Chew Daily* successfully launched its “Malaysia Health and Wellness Brand Awards” in collaboration with Life Magazines. The award seeks to recognise brands in the health and wellness sector that is widely accepted by customers. It also held its annual “Sin Chew Business Excellence Awards” in November 2017.

The above events are clear examples of how *Sin Chew Daily* leverages on both print and non-print platforms to drive revenue and reach out to both readers and advertisers.

Ranking as the second widely read Chinese language newspapers in Malaysia, the average daily print and digital circulation of *China Press* was 177,825 copies during January to June 2017 (source: ABC report). *China Press* is well known for its interesting news, vibrant entertainment and sports news. Furthermore, known for its speedy delivery of news via its digital platforms, the increasing popularity of its app is not a surprise.

Guang Ming Daily, renowned for its entertainment and lifestyle features and quality northern regional news, recorded an average daily print and digital circulation of 80,665 copies during the period of January to June 2017 (source: ABC report). Its digital edition launched in February 2014 is growing steadily. In collaboration with its 30th anniversary celebration, *Guang Ming Daily* organised the “Guang Ming Excellent Achievement Enterprise Award”, besides holding appreciation dinners in the northern region of Peninsula Malaysia in December 2017. Overwhelming response and support were received from many leaders, advertisement clients, entrepreneurs and corporations.

Nanyang Siang Pau, a business focused newspaper, is constantly developing its readership base of highly educated Chinese entrepreneurs, executives, management and businessmen. It provides quality, informative and in-depth business news. It also engages in book publishing to build an additional revenue stream. In the year under review, *Nanyang Siang Pau* published a special book *Legend of Glory 2.0* in July 2017 on prominent business personalities in Malaysia.

Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China

The Group’s Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mainland China publishing and printing operations recorded a total turnover of US\$51,583,000 for the year ended 31 March 2018, reflecting a decrease of 3.6% from US\$53,498,000 in the previous year. The segment’s loss before income tax was US\$585,000, narrowed by 82.6% from last year’s loss before income tax of US\$3,363,000.

For the year 2017, the Hong Kong economy grew by 3.8% as compared to 2.1% in 2016 whilst total advertising spending in 2017 was HK\$41.9 billion, 4% more than in 2016. The marginal improvement in the economy has helped stabilize the decline in this segment’s revenue. Driven by Hong Kong’s booming property market and very low unemployment rate, the segment reported growth in advertising revenue from these two sectors during the financial year under review. However, the migration of advertising spending from traditional to digital media has continued to adversely affect the segment’s performance.

Ming Pao Daily News (“*Ming Pao*”), well known for its independent reporting and high journalistic standards, remains an influential newspaper in Hong Kong. In the “Hong Kong News Awards 2017” organised by The Newspaper Society of Hong Kong, *Ming Pao* won a total of 14 awards including 5 Winner awards in Best Scoop, Best News Reporting, Best News Writing (Chinese), Best Photograph (News) and Best Photograph (Features) categories.

The Group’s education publication business continued to grow steadily during the year under review. Revenue from this business registered a double-digit growth over the last year. In response to Hong Kong government’s promotion of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Education, *Ming Pao* pioneered in publishing the *STEM Education Special Supplement* introducing this new education methodology to schools in Hong Kong. STEM is a curriculum aimed to strengthen students’ ability to integrate and apply knowledge and skills, as well as nurturing their creativity, collaboration and problem-solving skills. *Ming Pao* continues to leverage on its pioneering efforts by introducing more publications on the same.

One Media Group Limited (“One Media Group”), the Company’s subsidiary listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, publishes Chinese language lifestyle magazines and provides outdoor media services in the Greater China region. It has also expanded its digital platforms by generating more original content in the form of videos. In the year under review, One Media Group has focused on providing creative advertising services which includes developing a storyboard, video production and cross selling the same with its other print publications such as *Ming Pao Weekly*, *MING’S* and *Top Gear*.

A gain of US\$2,716,000 was recognised by One Media Group in respect of its interest in Most Kwai Chung Limited as a result of the latter’s listing on the Main Board of The Hong Kong Stock Exchange Limited on 28 March 2018.

North America

Turnover of the Group’s publishing and printing operations in North America dropped by 11.0% to US\$15,662,000 from last year’s US\$17,599,000. In addition to the region’s slow economy, the cooling of the property market in Canada as a result of the country’s restrictive policies also caused advertisers to shrink their spending which in turn affected the Group’s performance in this segment. Driven by the decline in revenue, the segment’s loss widened to US\$2,533,000 from US\$1,057,000 a year ago. The Group has taken measures to further streamline its Canadian operation, including outsourcing part of its production process and downsizing the workforce.

Travel and travel related services

For the financial year 2017/2018, the Group’s travel segment reported a total turnover of US\$74,870,000, representing an increase of 7.9% when compared with the previous year. However, segment profit before income tax fell 4.2% to US\$2,361,000 from last year’s US\$2,464,000.

Travel to Europe continued its steady recovery and there was a rise in demand for the segment’s incentive tours during the year under review. Moreover, tour packages to view the Aurora Borealis and the Rockies remained lead revenue drivers for the Group’s operations in North America. Despite the growth in revenue, the segment experienced lower profit margins due to the increasing competition from airlines and industry players as well as currency impact. The growth of FIT (Free Independent Travellers), driven by the increasing popularity of vacation rental booking websites and user-friendly travel apps, also negatively affected the Group’s tour operations. In addition, the new restriction imposed by airlines on block booking for travel peak periods has also reduced the inventory of seats that the Group is able to take on and hence its profitability.

Digital business

The Group has intensified its measures to counter the rapid shift of readers and advertisers to the digital platforms. Through the years it has been working tirelessly to converge its print and digital platforms from all aspects such as operations, manpower usage, marketing and products. The efforts have been rewarded by the double digit growth in digital revenue in 2017/2018. Original content generation and creative story boards for its customised marketing videos are in demand from both the Group's readers and advertisers. Besides, the Group's digital arm MCIL Multimedia has also diversified into organising related events and seminars such as "Asian Digital Marketing Forum" to draw closer collaboration between potential business partners and share related know-how with the community.

The demand for *Sin Chew Daily* e-paper continues to trend up as internet usage and broadband facilities increase in Malaysia. In addition, *Sin Chew Daily* has found a way to leverage on its print and digital platforms to increase its advertising revenue by promoting holistic marketing packages that combine the printed publication, customised videos by its digital team and ground events to help advertisers promote their products. In the recent Chinese New Year festival, the demand for such packages was encouraging.

Sin Chew Daily's website, sinchew.com.my, charted a historical height of monthly unique visitors in 2017.

Pocketimes has attained the highest monthly video views in March 2018 subsequent to the expansion of content marketing business besides extending its business model by creating different offerings across platforms, such as content collaboration which enables direct interaction between clients. Pocketimes is heading towards offering holistic digital marketing solution via its expertise in storytelling.

The usage of the *China Press* app by its readers has been very encouraging. *China Press* is now working on how to monetize the high usage of its app by introducing advertisement packages that leverage on the ability to drive stickiness to its app. The combined pageview of *China Press's* website and mobile app has soared significantly.

In Hong Kong, *Ming Pao's* main website, mingpao.com, went through extensive revamp and content enhancement during the current financial year. *Ming Pao* also launched other websites and apps featuring diversified themes in order to reach out to the extensive network of online readers. From the Google Analytics, the number of pageviews of mingpao.com has increased from 1.9m in April 2017 to hit the highest point of 3.8m in June and July 2017 during the Chief Executive election and the HKSAR's 20th Anniversary Event. It also recorded year-on-year growth of 57% for pageview and 80% for page per session. In addition, according to Socialbakers' statistics in April 2018, the facebook page of mingpao.com ranked 27 out of the top 100 media pages in Hong Kong and was in the 3rd place among all Chinese language newspapers.

OUTLOOK

We expect the operating environment for our businesses, both publishing and travel, to remain challenging amid weak consumer sentiment and rising costs of doing business as well as new technologies that continue to reshape the media industry. Despite the improvement in the general economy of the countries we operate in, such improvement has not benefitted our businesses as the sectors in which our advertisers operate in remain subdued. Furthermore, newsprint prices are escalating due to a supply shortage and this will hit the Group with more challenges in the year ahead.

Nevertheless, we will continue our efforts in converging our print with our digital businesses and intensify our cost cutting efforts, particularly in streamlining our printing process in Malaysia. The Group is committed to further developing its digital media business in order to ensure long term sustainable competitiveness while continuing to strengthen its core publishing and travel businesses.

PLEDGE OF ASSETS

As at 31 March 2018 and 2017, none of the Group's assets were pledged to secure any banking facilities.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 31 March 2018, there were several libel suits which involved claims against some companies in the Group. The Group has been strongly contesting those claims. Even though the final outcome of the proceedings is still uncertain as of the date this consolidated financial information is authorised for issue, the directors of the Company are of the opinion that the respective ultimate liability, if any, will not have a material adverse impact on the Group's financial position.

CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

As at 31 March 2018, the Group's authorised capital expenditure for property, plant and equipment contracted but not provided for in this consolidated financial information amounted to US\$123,000 whereas authorised capital expenditure for property, plant and equipment not contracted and not provided for in this consolidated financial information amounted to US\$98,000.

LIQUIDITY, FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND NET GEARING RATIO

As at 31 March 2018, the Group's cash and cash equivalents and short-term bank deposits amounted to US\$120,235,000 (2017: US\$90,032,000) and total bank and other borrowings were US\$68,447,000 (2017: US\$53,376,000). The net cash position was US\$51,788,000 (2017: US\$36,656,000). Owners' equity was US\$197,669,000 (2017: US\$193,694,000).

The net gearing ratio of the Group, calculated as net debt over owners' equity, was nil as at 31 March 2018 and 2017.

EMPLOYEES AND EMOLUMENT POLICY

As at 31 March 2018, the Group had 3,944 employees (2017: 4,208 employees), the majority of whom were employed in Malaysia and Hong Kong. The Group remunerates its employees based on industry practice and performance of individual employees. The emoluments of the directors and senior management are reviewed by the Remuneration Committee regularly, having regard to the Group's operating results, individual performance and comparable market statistics. No director or any of his/her associates is involved in dealing with his/her own remuneration.

PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S SHARES

During the year ended 31 March 2018, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries had purchased, sold or the Company had redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

CLOSURE OF THE REGISTER OF MEMBERS FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Company is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 14 August 2018. The register of members in Hong Kong will be closed on Tuesday, 7 August 2018 to Tuesday, 14 August 2018, both days inclusive, during which no transfer of shares will be registered. In order to qualify for attending the forthcoming annual general meeting, all completed transfer forms accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's Hong Kong share registrar and transfer office, Tricor Tengis Limited, at Level 22, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong for registration no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, 6 August 2018. In respect of the shareholders in Malaysia, a depositor in Malaysia shall qualify for the entitlement to attend the annual general meeting only in respect of shares transferred into the depositor's securities account before 4:00 p.m. on Monday, 6 August 2018.

Shareholders who wish to request for transmission of their shares between the Malaysia Register and Hong Kong Register are advised to take note that request for transmission will be suspended from Tuesday, 7 August 2018 to Tuesday, 14 August 2018, both days inclusive.

CLOSURE OF THE REGISTER OF MEMBERS FOR SECOND INTERIM DIVIDEND

The register of members in Hong Kong will be closed on Wednesday, 20 June 2018 whereby no transfer of shares will be registered on that date. In order to qualify for the second interim dividend of US0.18 cents per ordinary share, all completed transfer forms accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's Hong Kong share registrar and transfer office, Tricor Tengis Limited, at Level 22, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong for registration no later than 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 19 June 2018. In respect of the shareholders in Malaysia, a depositor in Malaysia shall qualify for the entitlement to the dividend only in respect of: (i) shares transferred into the depositor's securities account before 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 20 June 2018 in respect of transfers; and (ii) shares bought on Bursa Securities on a cum entitlement basis according to the rules of Bursa Securities. The second interim dividend will be payable to shareholders on Friday, 13 July 2018.

Shareholders who wish to request for transmission of their shares between the Malaysia Register and Hong Kong Register are advised to take note that request for transmission will be suspended from Tuesday, 12 June 2018 to Wednesday, 20 June 2018, both days inclusive.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) is committed to practising the highest standards of corporate governance and operating within a governance framework that is formulated based on the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2017 (the “Malaysian Code”) and the Corporate Governance Code (the “Hong Kong Code”) contained in Appendix 14 of the HK Listing Rules. The Company has adopted the principles and recommendations of the Malaysian Code and all the code provisions in the Hong Kong Code as its own code on corporate governance practices. During the year under review, the Company has met the code provisions as set out in the Hong Kong Code, except for the deviation from code provisions E.1.2 and A.2.7 of the Hong Kong Code.

Code provision E.1.2 of the Hong Kong Code stipulates that the chairman of the board should attend the annual general meeting. Code provision A.2.7 of the Hong Kong Code stipulates that the chairman should at least annually hold meetings with the non-executive directors (“NEDs”) (including independent non-executive directors (“INEDs”)) without the executive directors present. Tan Sri Datuk Sir TIONG Hiew King, who was the Chairman of the Board until 31 March 2018 and was re-designated as a NED from 1 April 2018, is currently on medical leave upon doctor’s advice, he was unable to attend the annual general meeting of the Company held on 11 August 2017 and had not held meeting with the NEDs of the Company during the year ended 31 March 2018. In his absence, Mr. TIONG Kiew Chiong, the Executive Director and Group Chief Executive Officer of the Company attended and took the chair of the said annual general meeting and ensured that proceedings of the meeting were conducted in order. In place of Tan Sri Datuk Sir TIONG Hiew King, Dato’ Sri Dr. TIONG Ik King, a NED of the Company, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Board with effect from 1 April 2018. The Company considers that sufficient measures have been taken to ensure that the Company’s corporate governance practices are no less exacting than those in the Hong Kong Code.

In respect of the Malaysian Code, the Company has complied with the principles and recommendations set out in the Malaysian Code wherever possible save for (i) at least half of the Board should comprise independent directors; (ii) the Board must have at least 30% women directors; and (iii) the Company is encouraged to adopt integrated reporting based on a globally recognised framework. The Board will continue to review and evaluate such recommendations under the Malaysian Code and is committed to achieving and sustaining high standards of corporate governance.

A detailed Corporate Governance Overview Statement setting out the Group’s framework of governance and explanations about how the recommendations of the Malaysian Code and the code provisions in the Hong Kong Code have been applied will be included in the Company’s Annual Report 2017/18.

DIRECTORS' SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted the requirements and code as set out in (i) Chapter 14 (Dealings in Listed Securities) of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad ("Chapter 14 of the Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities") and (ii) Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "HK Model Code") contained in Appendix 10 of the HK Listing Rules. All directors of the Company have confirmed, following specific enquiry by the Company, their compliance with the required standards as set out in (i) Chapter 14 of the Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities and (ii) the HK Model Code during the year under review.

SCOPE OF WORK OF MESSRS. PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

The figures in respect of the Group's consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated statement of profit or loss, consolidated statement of comprehensive income and the related notes thereto for the year ended 31 March 2018 as set out in this preliminary announcement have been agreed by the Group's auditor, Messrs. PricewaterhouseCoopers, to the amounts set out in the Group's consolidated financial statements for the year. The work performed by Messrs. PricewaterhouseCoopers in this respect did not constitute an assurance engagement in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing, Hong Kong Standards on Review Engagements or Hong Kong Standards on Assurance Engagements issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and consequently no assurance has been expressed by Messrs. PricewaterhouseCoopers on this preliminary announcement.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Audit Committee of the Company has reviewed with management the Group's consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018, including accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed risk management and internal control systems and financial reporting matters.

By Order of the Board
MEDIA CHINESE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
TIONG Kiew Chiong
Director

30 May 2018

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises Ms. TIONG Choon, Mr. TIONG Kiew Chiong and Mr. LEONG Chew Meng, being executive directors; Dato' Sri Dr. TIONG Ik King and Tan Sri Datuk Sir TIONG Hiew King being non-executive directors; and Mr. YU Hon To, David, Datuk CHONG Kee Yuon and Mr. KHOO Kar Khoon, being independent non-executive directors.