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China Modern Dairy Holdings Ltd. 中國現代牧業控股有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability) (Stock Code: 1117)

# CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTION FARM SUPPLIES FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT WITH AIYANGNIU TECHNOLOGY

The Board announces that on August 24, 2021 (after trading hours), Modern Farming, an indirect non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement with Aiyangniu Technology, a connected person of the Company, in relation to the supply of Farm Supplies by the Aiyangniu Technology Group to the Modern Farming Group.

In addition, Modern Farming and Aiyangniu Technology had previously entered into purchase and supply agreements dated October 10, 2020 and March 22, 2021, respectively, in relation to the supply of imported alfalfa by Aiyangniu Technology to Modern Farming.

As at the date of this announcement, approximately 73.66% of the equity interests in Aiyangniu Technology is held by Inner Mongolia Mengniu, which in turn is a subsidiary of Mengniu, a substantial shareholder and connected person of the Company. Therefore, Aiyangniu Technology is an associate of Mengniu and a connected person of the Company. Modern Farming is an indirect non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Accordingly, the Previous Transactions contemplated under the Previous Agreements constitute connected transactions of the Company and the transactions contemplated under the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement constitute continuing connected transactions of the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

As all the applicable percentage ratios calculated in accordance with the Listing Rules in respect of the Previous Transactions (whether individually or in aggregate) are less than 0.1%, the Previous Transactions were fully exempt from all connected transaction requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

As the transactions contemplated under the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement and the Previous Transactions are entered into by the Group with the same party, of similar nature and within a 12-month period, they shall be aggregated pursuant to Rule 14A.81 of the Listing Rules.

As all the applicable percentage ratios calculated in accordance with the Listing Rules in respect of the transactions contemplated under the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement, when aggregated with the Previous Transactions, exceed 0.1% but are less than 5%, the entering into of the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder are subject to the reporting, annual review and announcement requirements but are exempt from the circular (including independent financial advice) and independent shareholders' approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

# INTRODUCTION

The Board announces that on August 24, 2021 (after trading hours), Modern Farming, an indirect non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement with Aiyangniu Technology, a connected person of the Company, in relation to the supply of Farm Supplies by the Aiyangniu Technology Group to the Modern Farming Group.

# FARM SUPPLIES FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

The principal terms of the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement are as follows:

Date:	August 24, 2021
Parties:	(1) Modern Farming (as the purchaser); and
	(2) Aiyangniu Technology (as the supplier).
Duration:	For a term commencing from August 24, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

Subject matter:	The Modern Farming Group agrees to purchase, and the Aiyangniu Technology Group agrees to supply and deliver to designated farms of the Modern Farming Group, the Farm Supplies which shall meet the quality requirements as set out below.
Quality requirements:	The Farm Supplies supplied by the Aiyangniu Technology Group shall (i) satisfy the quality standards of the Modern Farming Group as specified in the purchase orders; (ii) comply with national and local laws and regulations of the PRC; and (iii) be free from mildew, adulteration and contamination.
Price:	The price payable by the Modern Farming Group to the Aiyangniu Technology Group shall be determined by reference to the lowest quoted price at which the Modern Farming Group could obtain from independent third parties (whether local or overseas) for the same types of Farm Supplies. For this purpose, the Modern Farming Group will seek quotations from at least two independent third parties offering the same types of Farm Supplies each time.

#### ANNUAL CAP AND BASIS OF DETERMINATION

The annual cap in respect of the transactions contemplated under the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement commencing from August 24, 2021 to December 31, 2021 is RMB100,000,000.

The annual cap was determined with reference to (i) the historical value of transactions between the Modern Farming Group and other suppliers in relation to the same types of Farm Supplies; (ii) the average market prices of the Farm Supplies; and (iii) the anticipated growth of the Modern Farming Group's demands for the Farm Supplies taking into account the expected growth of herd size from existing dairy farms and subsequent to the completion of acquisition of 100% equity interests in Zhongyuan Muye and Fuyuan. As there is neither any government-prescribed price nor government guidance price in respect of the Farm Supplies, the average market price is determined with reference to the publicly available information in the market.

# REASONS FOR AND BENEFITS OF ENTERING INTO THE FARM SUPPLIES FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

Aiyangniu Technology operates the Aiyangniu Platform which integrates resources from more than 1,000 suppliers for the leading market players in the dairy farming industry in the PRC and is able to lower the purchase price of certain farm supplies through centralized procurement. The Aiyangniu Platform has a transparent purchase price quotation system for the dairy farms to make their procurement decision. The Aiyangniu Platform also consolidates market information in relation to the farm supplies commonly used by the dairy farms and shares such information with its business partners.

The Aiyangniu Platform has a stringent selection and quality control mechanism of suppliers. The Aiyangniu Platform supervises the whole delivery process of farm supplies from suppliers to dairy farms to ensure that the farm supplies can meet the quality standard set by the dairy farms. The Aiyangniu Platform also regularly adjusts its list of suppliers based on the quality control performance of the suppliers. The Modern Farming Group believes that the cooperation with Aiyangniu Technology can ensure the quality and safety of farm supplies supplied to the Modern Farming Group which are essential to the production of high quality raw milk.

Through the cooperation with Aiyangniu Technology, the Modern Farming Group will be able to (i) closely follow the market trend of farm supplies that it frequently uses; (ii) reduce its procurement costs and optimize operational capabilities, given that the price of the Farm Supplies provided by the Aiyangniu Technology Group will be determined with reference to the lowest quoted price received by the Modern Farm Group from other third party suppliers (whether local or overseas) for the same type of Farm Supplies; and (iii) ensure the stable pricing and timely supply of farm supplies to its dairy farms, with the aim of facilitating the normal operations of the Modern Farming Group's business.

The Directors (including the independent non-executive Directors) consider that the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement was entered into in the ordinary and usual course of business of the Group and on normal commercial terms, and the terms thereof are fair and reasonable and in the interests of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole.

As at the date of this announcement, (i) Mr. LU Minfang, a non-executive Director and the chairman of the Board, is also an executive director and the chief executive officer of Mengniu; (ii) Mr. ZHAO Jiejun, a non-executive Director, is also a vice president and the head of milk sourcing and supply chain business unit of Mengniu and the chairman of the board of directors of Aiyangniu Technology; (iii) Mr. ZHANG Ping, a non-executive Director, is also the chief financial officer of Mengniu. Accordingly, each of Mr. LU Minfang, Mr. ZHAO Jiejun and Mr. ZHANG Ping is considered to have a material interest in the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement and has abstained from voting on the relevant resolutions of the Board approving the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement.

# THE PREVIOUS TRANSACTIONS

On October 10, 2020, Modern Farming and Aiyangniu Technology entered into a purchase and supply agreement, pursuant to which Modern Farming agreed to purchase, and Aiyangniu Technology agreed to supply, certain agreed amount of imported alfalfa for a total consideration of RMB3,600,012. The transaction was completed on December 11, 2020.

Further, on March 22, 2021, Modern Farming and Aiyangniu Technology entered into a purchase and supply agreement, pursuant to which Modern Farming agreed to purchase, and Aiyangniu Technology agreed to supply, certain agreed amount of imported alfalfa for a total consideration of RMB1,001,000. The transaction was completed on April 3, 2021.

# **INFORMATION ON THE PARTIES**

#### (1) The Group

The Group is a leading dairy farm operator and fresh raw milk producer in the PRC. As of December 31, 2020, the Group operated 26 dairy farms in the PRC with over 247,000 dairy cows and annual milk yield of approximately 1.49 million tons.

#### (2) Modern Farming

Modern Farming is an indirect non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company and is principally engaged in operating dairy farms, production and sale of raw milk in the PRC. As at the date of this announcement, the Company indirectly owns approximately 98.18% of equity interest in Modern Farming.

#### (3) Aiyangniu Technology

Aiyangniu Technology was established in the PRC in 2015 and is principally engaged in the operation of the Aiyangniu Platform, sale of feedstuffs, additives, organic fertilizers and veterinary medicine, and trade consulting of agricultural and livestock products in the PRC. As at the date of this announcement, Mengniu indirectly owns 73.66% of the equity interests in Aiyangniu Technology.

# IMPLICATIONS UNDER THE LISTING RULES

As at the date of this announcement, approximately 73.66% of the equity interests in Aiyangniu Technology is held by Inner Mongolia Mengniu, which in turn is a subsidiary of Mengniu, a substantial shareholder and connected person of the Company. Therefore, Aiyangniu Technology is an associate of Mengniu and a connected person of the Company. Modern Farming is an indirect non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Accordingly, the Previous Transactions contemplated under the Previous Agreements constitute connected transactions of the Company and the transactions contemplated under the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement constitute continuing connected transactions of the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

As all the applicable percentage ratios calculated in accordance with the Listing Rules in respect of the Previous Transactions (whether individually or in aggregate) are less than 0.1%, the Previous Transactions were fully exempt from all connected transaction requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

As the transactions contemplated under the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement and the Previous Transactions are entered into by the Group with the same party, of similar nature and within a 12-month period, they shall be aggregated pursuant to Rule 14A.81 of the Listing Rules.

As all the applicable percentage ratios calculated in accordance with the Listing Rules in respect of the transactions contemplated under the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement, when aggregated with the Previous Transactions, exceed 0.1% but are less than 5%, the entering into of the Farm Supplies Framework Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder are subject to the reporting, annual review and announcement requirements but are exempt from the circular (including independent financial advice) and independent shareholders' approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

# DEFINITIONS

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

"Aiyangniu Platform"	the Aiyangniu online procurement platform of farm supplies for the dairy farming industry operated by Aiyangniu Technology
"Aiyangniu Technology"	Inner Mongolia Aiyangniu Technology Co., Ltd.* (內蒙古愛 養牛科技有限公司), a company incorporated in the PRC with limited liability and an indirect non-wholly owned subsidiary of Mengniu

"Aiyangniu Technology Group"	Aiyangniu Technology and its subsidiaries
"associate(s)", "connected person(s)", "percentage ratio(s)", "subsidiary(ies)", "substantial shareholder(s)"	each has the meaning ascribed to it under the Listing Rules
"Board"	the board of Directors
"Company"	China Modern Dairy Holdings Ltd., a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability, the issued shares of which are listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange (stock code: 1117)
"Directors"	the directors of the Company
"Farm Supplies"	farm supplies for the dairy farming industry, including but not limited to feedstuffs, additives, bulk raw materials, veterinary medicine, machineries and other agricultural and livestock products
"Farm Supplies Framework Agreement"	the framework agreement dated August 24, 2021, entered into between Modern Farming and Aiyangniu Technology in relation to the supply of Farm Supplies by the Aiyangniu Technology Group to the Modern Farming Group, as more particularly described in the section headed "Farm Supplies Framework Agreement" in this announcement
"Fuyuan"	Inner Mongolia Fuyuan International Industrial (Group) Co. Ltd.* (內蒙古富源國際實業(集團)有限公司), a limited liability company established in the PRC in February 2012
"Group"	the Company and its subsidiaries
"Hong Kong"	the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC

"Inner Mongolia Mengniu"	Inner Mongolia Mengniu Dairy (Group) Co., Ltd.* (內蒙古 蒙牛乳業(集團)股份有限公司), a company established in the PRC with limited liabilities, a 99.99% owned subsidiary of Mengniu as of the date of this announcement
"Listing Rules"	the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange
"Mengniu"	China Mengniu Dairy Company Limited (中國蒙牛乳業有限 公司*), a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability, the issued shares of which are listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange (stock code: 2319), and a substantial shareholder of the Company
"Modern Farming"	Modern Farming (Group) Co., Ltd.* (現代牧業(集團)有限 公司), a sino-foreign investment enterprise established in the PRC and an indirect non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company
"Modern Farming Group"	Modern Farming and its subsidiaries
"PRC"	the People's Republic of China which, for the purposes of this announcement only, excludes Hong Kong, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the PRC and Taiwan
"PRC" "Previous Agreements"	the People's Republic of China which, for the purposes of this announcement only, excludes Hong Kong, the Macau Special
	the People's Republic of China which, for the purposes of this announcement only, excludes Hong Kong, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the PRC and Taiwan the purchase and supply agreements dated October 10, 2020 and March 22, 2021, respectively, entered into between Modern Farming and Aiyangniu Technology in relation to the supply of imported alfalfa by Aiyangniu Technology to
"Previous Agreements"	<ul> <li>the People's Republic of China which, for the purposes of this announcement only, excludes Hong Kong, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the PRC and Taiwan</li> <li>the purchase and supply agreements dated October 10, 2020 and March 22, 2021, respectively, entered into between Modern Farming and Aiyangniu Technology in relation to the supply of imported alfalfa by Aiyangniu Technology to Modern Farming</li> <li>the purchase and supply of imported alfalfa contemplated</li> </ul>

"Stock Exchange"	The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
"Zhongyuan Muye"	Zhongyuan Muye Company Limited* (中元牧業有限公司), a company incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the PRC
"%"	per cent.

For and on behalf of the Board China Modern Dairy Holdings Ltd. LU Minfang Chairman

\* For identification purpose only

Hong Kong, August 24, 2021

As of the date of this announcement, the executive Director is Mr. SUN Yugang, the non-executive Directors are Mr. LU Minfang (Chairman), Mr. ZHAO Jiejun, Mr. ZHANG Ping, Mr. ZHU Xiaohui and Ms. GAN Lu, and the independent non-executive Directors are Mr. LI Shengli, Mr. LEE Kong Wai, Conway and Mr. CHOW Ming Sang.