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# **KINGDOM HOLDINGS LIMITED**

金達控股有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability and carrying on business in Hong Kong as "Kingdom (Cayman) Limited")

(Stock Code: 528)

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Revenue of the Group increased by approximately 5.2% to approximately RMB2,571,606,000 for the year ended 31 December 2024 from approximately RMB2,445,428,000 for the year ended 31 December 2023 due to higher average selling price during the Year.
- Gross profit margin for the year ended 31 December 2024 dropped by 10.8 percentage points to approximately 6.0% as a result of high average raw material costs during the Year. However, with the abundant flax harvest in 2024, the supply of flax fiber has increased substantially. Both the raw material prices and the flax yarn prices experienced significant drops in the last quarter of 2024, resulting in a whopping provision of impairment of approximately RMB199,431,000 for the inventories as at 31 December 2024.
- Loss for the Year of approximately RMB43,338,000 as compared to a profit of approximately RMB162,790,000 for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- Loss attributable to owners of the parent of approximately RMB45,380,000, as compared to a profit attributable to owners of the parent approximately RMB163,611,000 for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- Loss per share for the year ended 31 December 2024 at approximately RMB0.07 (2023: earnings per share of approximately RMB0.27).
- The Board proposed a payment of final dividend of HK\$0.05 per ordinary share for the year ended 31 December 2024 (2023: HK\$0.09).

The board (the "**Board**") of directors (the "**Directors**") of Kingdom Holdings Limited (the "**Company**" or "**Kingdom**") is pleased to announce the audited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively, the "**Group**") for the year ended 31 December 2024 together with the comparative figures for the corresponding year as follows:

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS**

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 <i>RMB'000</i>	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
REVENUE	5	2,571,606	2,445,428
Cost of sales		(2,418,332)	(2,033,940)
Gross profit		153,274	411,488
Other income and gains Selling and distribution expenses Administrative expenses Reversal of impairment losses/(Impairment	5	11,384 (34,476) (115,207)	18,927 (42,229) (116,078)
losses) on financial assets Other expenses Finance costs Share of losses of associates	6	2,837 (19,671) (41,077) (918)	(4,568) (9,549) (36,800)
(LOSS)/PROFIT BEFORE TAX	7	(43,854)	221,191
Income tax credit/(expense)	8	516	(58,401)
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		(43,338)	162,790
Attributable to: Owners of the parent Non-controlling interests		(45,380) 2,042	163,611 (821)
(LOSS)/EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT Basic	10		RMB0.27
Diluted	10	RMB(0.07)	RMB0.27

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 <i>RMB'000</i>	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	(43,338)	162,790
Other comprehensive (loss)/income that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
Exchange differences on translation of		
foreign operations	(17,284)	250
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS)/INCOME		
FOR THE YEAR	(60,622)	163,040
Attributable to:		
Owners of the parent	(62,664)	163,861
Non-controlling interests	2,042	(821)
	(60,622)	163,040

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 <i>RMB'000</i>	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment		914,341	971,977
Investment properties		_	3,933
Right-of-use assets	11	61,818	65,378
Other intangible assets		4,164	5,316
Investments in associates	12	29,623	25,000
Prepayments for equipment		1,143	1,715
Deferred tax assets		22,182	3,303
Other non-current assets		8,132	17,338
Total non-current assets		1,041,403	1,093,960
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories	13	1,195,126	1,019,545
Trade and notes receivables	14	536,765	558,356
Prepayments, deposits and other receivables		64,065	90,059
Pledged deposits		46,779	66,444
Cash and cash equivalents		230,871	454,812
Total current assets		2,073,606	2,189,216
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and notes payables	15	454,696	587,651
Other payables and accruals		140,342	183,019
Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings	16	989,556	833,806
Dividends payable		607	476
Tax payable		10,918	21,400
Total current liabilities		1,596,119	1,626,352
NET CURRENT ASSETS		477,487	562,864
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT			
LIABILITIES		1,518,890	1,656,824

		2024	2023
	Notes	RMB'000	RMB'000
NON CURRENT LIADU THES			
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Deferred tax liabilities		9,625	33,892
Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings		34,436	35,892
increst-bearing bank and other borrowings			55,720
Total non-current liabilities		44,061	69,612
			09,012
Net assets		1,474,829	1,587,212
			_,
EQUITY			
Equity attributable to owners of the parent			
Share capital		6,329	6,329
Treasury shares		(13,305)	(13,305)
Reserves		1,408,556	1,522,981
		1,401,580	1,516,005
Non-controlling interests		73,249	71,207
Total equity		1,474,829	1,587,212

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

*31 December 2024* 

### 1. CORPORATE AND GROUP INFORMATION

Kingdom Holdings Limited was incorporated in the Cayman Islands as an exempted company with limited liability on 21 July 2006. The Company's shares were listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "**Stock Exchange**") on 12 December 2006.

The Group is principally engaged in the manufacture and sale of linen yarn.

The Company's registered address is Cricket Square, Hutchins Drive, P.O. Box 2681 GT, Grand Cayman KY1-1111, Cayman Islands; and the principal place of business was located at 5/F, Manulife Place, 348 Kwun Tong Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong up to 9 January 2025, and changed to Room 1912, 19/F, Lee Garden One, 33 Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong effective from 10 January 2025.

### Information about subsidiaries

Particulars of the Company's subsidiaries are as follows:

		Nominal value			
Name of company	Place and date of establishment and nature of legal entity	of issued ordinary/ registered share capital	Percentage of attributable to th Direct		Principal activities
Overseas Kingdom Limited	British Virgin Islands (" <b>BVI</b> ") 26 July 2006 Limited liability company	HK\$0.01/HK\$500	100%	_	Investment holding
Kingdom Group Holdings Limited (" <b>Hong Kong</b> <b>Kingdom</b> ")	Hong Kong, China 10 September 2004 Limited liability company	HK\$1,250,000	-	100%	Investment holding and trading
Zhejiang Jinyuan Flax Co., Ltd.	PRC 18 March 2003 Wholly-foreign owned enterprise	US\$70,000,000	-	100%	Manufacture and sale of linen yarn
Jiangsu Jinyuan Flax Co., Ltd.	PRC 17 October 2003 Limited liability company	US\$18,500,000	-	100%	Manufacture and sale of linen yarn

Name of company	Place and date of establishment and nature of legal entity	Nominal value of issued ordinary/ registered share capital	Percentage o attributable to tl Direct		Principal activities
Zhejiang Kingdom Linen Co., Ltd.	PRC 28 May 2012 Limited liability company	RMB100,000,000	-	100%	Manufacture and sale of linen yarn
Kingdom Europe S.R.L.	Italy 7 September 2007 Limited liability company	EUR30,000	_	100%	Trading
Kingdom (Ethiopia) Linen PLC	Ethiopia 16 July 2014 Limited liability company	ETB1,859,676,000	_	100%	Manufacture and sale of linen yarn
Heilongjiang Kingdom Enterprise Co., Ltd.	PRC 11 March 2016 Limited liability company	RMB300,000,000	_	78.67%	Manufacture and sale of linen yarn
Kingdom Textile (Shanghai) Ltd.	PRC 11 October 2019 Limited liability company	RMB15,000,000	-	80%	Trading
Zhejiang Kingdom REEL Textile Co., Ltd.	PRC 15 June 2020 Limited liability company	RMB20,000,000	-	100%	Trading
Heilongjiang Kingdom Hemp Co., Ltd.	PRC 12 June 2020 Limited liability company	RMB65,000,000	-	83.59%	Sale of industrial hemp
Heilongjiang Kangyuan Seeds Industry Co., Ltd.	PRC 8 August 2017 Limited liability company	RMB10,000,000	_	62.94%	R&D and sale of hemp seeds
Renho Holding PTE. Ltd.	Singapore 9 November 2023 Limited liability company	SGD10,000	-	100%	Investment holding

	Place and date of establishment and nature of	Nominal value of issued ordinary/ registered	Percentage o attributable to t	1 0	Principal
Name of company	legal entity	share capital	Direct	Indirect	activities
Renho Group PTE. Ltd.	Singapore 21 November 2023 Limited liability company	SGD10,000	_	100%	Investment holding
Kingdom Linen	Egypt 25 December 2024 Limited liability company	US\$10,000,000	1%	99%	Manufacture and sale of linen yarn

### 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 2.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards (which include all International Financial Reporting Standards, International Accounting Standards ("IASs") and Interpretations) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for derivative financial instruments and notes receivable which have been measured at fair value. These financial statements are presented in Renminbi ("RMB") and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand (RMB'000), except when otherwise indicated.

### **Basis of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the "**Group**") for the year ended 31 December 2024. A subsidiary is an entity (including a structured entity), directly or indirectly, controlled by the Company. Control is achieved when the Group is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the investee (i.e., existing rights that give the Group the current ability to direct the relevant activities of the investee).

Generally, there is a presumption that a majority of voting rights results in control. When the Company has, directly or indirectly, less than a majority of the voting or similar rights of an investee, the Group considers all relevant facts and circumstances in assessing whether it has power over an investee, including:

- (a) the contractual arrangement with the other vote holders of the investee;
- (b) rights arising from other contractual arrangements; and
- (c) the Group's voting rights and potential voting rights.

The financial statements of the subsidiaries are prepared for the same reporting period as the Company, using consistent accounting policies. The results of subsidiaries are consolidated from the date on which the Group obtains control, and continue to be consolidated until the date that such control ceases.

All intra-group assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.

The Group reassesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control described above. A change in the ownership interest of a subsidiary, without a loss of control, is accounted for as an equity transaction.

If the Group loses control over a subsidiary, it derecognises the related assets (including goodwill), liabilities, any non-controlling interest and the exchange fluctuation reserve; and recognises the fair value of any investment retained and any resulting surplus or deficit in profit or loss. The Group's share of components previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified to profit or loss or retained profits, as appropriate, on the same basis as would be required if the Group had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities.

### 2.2 CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DISCLOSURES

The Group has adopted the following revised IFRS Accounting Standards for the first time for the current year's financial statements.

Amendments to IFRS 16	Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback
Amendments to IAS 1	Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current
	(the "2020 Amendments")
Amendments to IAS 1	Non-current Liabilities with Covenants
	(the "2022 Amendments")
Amendments to IAS 7	Supplier Finance Arrangements
and IFRS 7	

The nature and the impact of the revised IFRS Accounting Standards are described below:

- (a) Amendments to IFRS 16 specify the requirements that a seller-lessee uses in measuring the lease liability arising in a sale and leaseback transaction to ensure the seller-lessee does not recognise any amount of the gain or loss that relates to the right of use it retains. Since the Group has no sale and leaseback transactions with variable lease payments that do not depend on an index or a rate occurring from the date of initial application of IFRS 16, the amendments did not have any impact on the financial position or performance of the Group.
- (b) The 2020 Amendments clarify the requirements for classifying liabilities as current or non-current, including what is meant by a right to defer settlement and that a right to defer must exist at the end of the reporting period. Classification of a liability is unaffected by the likelihood that the entity will exercise its right to defer settlement. The amendments also clarify that a liability can be settled in its own equity instruments, and that only if a conversion option in a convertible liability is itself accounted for as an equity instrument would the terms of a liability not impact its classification. The 2022 Amendments further clarify that, among covenants of a liability arising from a loan arrangement, only those with which an entity must comply on or before the reporting date affect the classification of that liability as current or non-current. Additional disclosures are required for non-current liabilities that are subject to the entity complying with future covenants within 12 months after the reporting period.

The Group has reassessed the terms and conditions of its liabilities as at 1 January 2023 and 2024 and concluded that the classification of its liabilities as current or non-current remained unchanged upon initial application of the amendments. Accordingly, the amendments did not have any impact on the financial position or performance of the Group.

(c) Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7 clarify the characteristics of supplier finance arrangements and require additional disclosure of such arrangements. The disclosure requirements in the amendments are intended to assist users of financial statements in understanding the effects of supplier finance arrangements on an entity's liabilities, cash flows and exposure to liquidity risk. As the Group does not have supplier finance arrangements, the amendments did not have any impact on the Group's financial statements.

### 3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATES

The preparation of the Group's consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and their accompanying disclosures, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. Uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that could require a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of the assets or liabilities affected in the future.

#### Judgements

There is no significant effect on the amounts recognised in the consolidated financial statements arising from the judgements, apart from those involving estimations, made by management in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies.

#### **Estimation uncertainty**

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below.

#### (a) Impairment of non-current assets

The Group assesses whether there are any indicators of impairment for all non-current assets at the end of each reporting period. Non-current assets are tested for impairment when there are indicators that the carrying amounts may not be recoverable. An impairment exists when the carrying value of an asset or a cash-generating unit exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. The Group identifies that there is only one cash-generating unit comprising of all property, plant and equipment, right-of-use assets and other intangible assets as the operation of the Group is managed on a centralised basis with production allocated across all factories based on their available capacity. The calculation of the fair value less costs of disposal is based on available data from binding sales transactions in an arm's length transaction of similar assets or observable market prices less incremental costs for disposing of the asset. When value in use calculations are undertaken, management must estimate the expected future cash flows from the asset or cash-generating unit and choose a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows.

The recoverable amount of the non-current assets of the Group has been determined based on a value in use calculation using cash flow projections based on financial budgets covering a five-year period approved by management. The assumption that has the most significant impact on the determination of the recoverable amount of the Group's assets is the discount rate and growth rate. The pre-tax discount rate applied to the cash flow projections as at 31 December 2024 was 21%. The growth rate is estimated based on historical growth rate and future economic environment. The carrying amount of non-current assets under impairment testing is RMB980 million (2023: RMB1,043 million).

### (b) Write-down of inventories

The Group's inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The Group writes down its inventories based on estimates of the realisable value with reference to the age and conditions of the inventories, together with the economic circumstances on the marketability of such inventories. Inventories will be reviewed annually for write-down, if appropriate. The carrying amount of inventories at 31 December 2024 was RMB1,195,126,000 (2023: RMB1,019,545,000). Further details are contained in note 13 to the financial statements.

#### (c) Provision for expected credit losses on trade receivables

The Group uses a provision matrix to calculate ECLs for trade receivables. The provision rates are based on days past due for groupings of various customer segments that have similar loss patterns (i.e., by forms of credit insurance).

The provision matrix is initially based on the Group's historical observed default rates. The Group will calibrate the matrix to adjust the historical credit loss experience with forward-looking information. For instance, if forecast economic conditions (i.e., gross domestic product) are expected to deteriorate over the next year which can lead to an increased number of defaults in the manufacturing sector, the historical default rates are adjusted. At each reporting date, the historical observed default rates are updated and changes in the forward-looking estimates are analysed.

The assessment of the correlation among historical observed default rates, forecast economic conditions and ECLs is a significant estimate. The amount of ECLs is sensitive to changes in circumstances and forecast economic conditions. The Group's historical credit loss experience and forecast of economic conditions may also not be representative of a customer's actual default in the future. The information about the ECLs on the Group's trade receivables is disclosed in note 14 to the financial statements.

### 4. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION

For management purposes, the Group is organised into one single business unit that is primarily the manufacture and sale of linen yarn. Management reviews the consolidated results when making decisions about allocating resources and assessing the performance of the Group. Accordingly, no segment analysis is presented.

### **Geographical information**

**(b)** 

### (a) Revenue from external customers

An analysis of the Group's geographical information on revenue attributed to the regions on the basis of customer locations for the year ended 31 December 2024 is set out in the following table:

	<b>Revenue from</b>		
	external customers		
	2024	2023	
	RMB'000	RMB'000	
Mainland China	1,079,472	1,194,237	
European Union	516,543	468,957	
Other countries/regions	975,591	782,234	
Total revenue	2,571,606	2,445,428	
Non-current assets			

2024	2023
RMB'000	RMB'000
677,472	733,987
338,749	344,870
1,016,221	1,078,857
	<i>RMB'000</i> 677,472 <u>338,749</u>

The non-current asset information above is based on the locations of the assets and excludes deferred tax assets and financial assets.

### Information about a major customer

Revenue from continuing operations of approximately RMB324,706,000 (2023: Nil) was derived from sales to a single customer, including sales to a group of entities which are known to be under common control with that customer.

### 5. REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND GAINS

Revenue from contracts with customers, which is also the Group's turnover, represents the sales value of linen yarn, hemp yarn and scraps and other products, net of sales tax and deduction of any sales discounts and returns. The performance obligation is satisfied upon delivery of linen yarn, hemp yarn and scraps and other products and payment is generally due within 30 to 150 days from delivery, except for new customers, where payment in advance is normally required.

An analysis of revenue from contracts with customers is as follows:

	2024 <i>RMB'000</i>	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
Type of goods or services		
Sale of linen yarn, hemp yarn and scraps	2,344,251	2,339,400
Sales of other products	191,453	75,636
Other services	35,902	30,392
Total revenue from contracts with customers	2,571,606	2,445,428
Timing of revenue recognition		
Goods transferred at a point in time	2,535,704	2,415,036
Services provided over time	35,902	30,392
Total revenue from contracts with customers	2,571,606	2,445,428

Revenue recognised that was included in contract liabilities at the beginning of the reporting period was RMB51,662,000 (2023: RMB49,377,000).

The information about the remaining performance obligations for contracts with original expected duration of one year or less is not disclosed as a practical expedient under IFRS 15.

	2024 RMB'000	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
Other income and gains		
Government grants*	6,853	11,833
Bank interest income	2,672	4,526
Others	1,859	2,568
Total other income and gains	11,384	18,927

\* Various government grants have been received from the local governments. There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies relating to these grants.

### 6. FINANCE COSTS

	2024	2023
	<i>RMB'000</i>	RMB'000
Interest on bank loans	40,811	37,708
Interest on lease liabilities	266	355
Total interest expense on financial liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss	41,077	38,063
Less: Interest capitalised	_	(1,263)
Total	41,077	36,800

# 7. (LOSS)/PROFIT BEFORE TAX

The Group's (loss)/profit before tax is arrived at after charging/(crediting):

Notes	2024 <i>RMB'000</i>	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
Cost of inventories sold	2,418,332	2,033,940
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment		
and investment properties	100,523	101,853
Depreciation of right-of-use assets 11(a)	3,746	3,949
Amortisation of other intangible assets	1,152	857
Research and development ("R&D") expenses	21,419	35,808
Lease payment not included in the		
measurement of lease liabilities 11(c)	476	225
Auditors' remuneration	2,250	2,250
Employee benefit expense (including directors'		
and chief executive's remuneration):		
Wages, salaries and other benefits	212,656	223,462
Pension scheme contributions*	37,446	39,034
Total	250,102	262,496
Foreign exchange differences, net	12,528	5,432
Loss on disposal of items of property,	12,020	5,152
plant and equipment	4,934	2,757
Provision for impairment of inventories	175,133	14,983
(Reversal of)/impairment of trade receivables 14	(2,837)	4,568
Bank interest income	(2,672)	(4,526)

\* There is no forfeited contribution for the Group to offset future contribution.

### 8. INCOME TAX (CREDIT)/EXPENSE

Major components of the Group's income tax (credit)/expense for the year are as follows:

	2024 <i>RMB'000</i>	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
Current – Mainland China		
– Charge for the year	43,954	56,243
– (Over provision)/Under provision in respect of	,	
prior years	(1,324)	2,657
Current – Hong Kong		
– Charge for the year	-	_
- Under provision in respect of prior years	-	668
Current – Italy		
– Charge for the year	-	437
Deferred	(43,146)	(1,604)
Total tax (credit)/charge for the year	(516)	58,401

- Pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Cayman Islands and the British Virgin Islands, the Group is not subject to any income tax in the Cayman Islands or the British Virgin Islands.
- (ii) In accordance with the PRC Corporate Income Tax Law which was approved and became effective on 1 January 2008, the provision for current income tax of subsidiaries in Mainland China has been based on a statutory rate of 25% of the assessable profits of these companies for the year, except for Zhejiang Kingdom Linen Co., Ltd. ("Zhejiang Kingdom"), an indirectly wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group. Zhejiang Kingdom obtained the High-new Technology Certificate for the years from 2022 to 2024 and is entitled to a tax rate of 15%.
- (iii) Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 8.25% on the estimated assessable profits arising in Hong Kong up to HK\$2 million. Assessable profits over HK\$2 million are subject to a tax rate of 16.5%.
- (iv) Pursuant to the rules and regulations of Italy, the Group is subject to tax at an income tax rate of 28.82%, which comprises the Italy Corporate Income Tax at 24% and the Italy Regional Income Tax at 4.82%.
- (v) Pursuant to the rules and regulations of Ethiopia, the Group is subject to tax at an income tax rate of 30%. The Group enjoys a tax holiday of profit tax exemption of 5 years since 2020.
- (vi) Pursuant to the rules and regulations of Egypt, projects within the Free Zones and the dividends from such projects are not subject to the provisions of the tax and fee laws in effect in Egypt. Therefore, the Group's subsidiary operating in the Free Zones is exempt from income tax at an income tax rate of 22.5%.

A reconciliation of the tax expense applicable to profit before tax at the statutory rate for the jurisdiction in which the Company and the majority of its subsidiaries are domiciled to the tax expense at the effective tax rate is as follows:

	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
(Loss)/Profit before tax	(43,854)	221,191
	(10,001)	
Tax at an applicable tax rate of 25%	(10,964)	55,298
Effect of different/beneficial tax rates	4,795	(1,323)
(Overprovision)/Under provision in respect of prior years	(1,324)	3,325
Income not subject to tax	(117)	(1,576)
Tax losses utilised from prior years	(3,096)	(946)
Expenses not deductible for tax	1,928	1,070
Tax credit arising from additional deduction of R&D		
expenditures of subsidiaries in Mainland China	(2,590)	(2,765)
Reversal of a withholding tax liability	(1,288)	(4,412)
Losses attributable to associates	230	_
Tax effect of deductible temporary differences and		
tax losses not recognised	11,910	9,730
Total tax (credit)/charge for the year	(516)	58,401
DIVIDEND		
	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Proposed final – HK5.0 cents (2023: HK9.0 cents)		
per ordinary share	29,155	51,356

9.

At the meeting of the board of directors of the Company held on 26 March 2025, the payment of a final dividend of HK5.0 cents per ordinary share totalling approximately RMB29,155,000 was recommended for the year ended 31 December 2024, which is subject to the approval of the shareholders of the Company at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

## 10. (LOSS)/EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT

The calculation of the basic (loss)/earnings per share amount is based on the (loss)/profit for the year attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent and the weighted average number of ordinary shares of 616,447,000 (2023: 616,447,000) in issue during the year, as adjusted to reflect the treasury shares held during the year.

The Group had no potentially dilutive ordinary shares in issue during the years ended 31 December 2024 and 2023.

The calculations of basic and diluted (loss)/earnings per share amounts are based on:

	2024	2023
	<i>RMB'000</i>	RMB'000
(Loss)/earnings attributable to ordinary equity holders of		
the parent used in the basic (loss)/earnings per share		
calculation	(45,380)	163,611
=		
	Number of	shares
	2024	2023
	'000	'000
Shares		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during		
the year used in the basic earnings per share calculation	616,447	616,447

### 11. LEASES

#### The Group as a lessee

The Group has lease contracts for various items of plant and buildings, motor vehicles and leasehold land. Lump sum payments were made upfront to acquire the leased land from the owners with lease periods of 50 years to 70 years, and no ongoing payments will be made under the terms of these land leases. Leases of plant and buildings generally have lease terms between 2 and 12 years, while motor vehicles generally have lease terms of 10 years. Generally, the Group is restricted from assigning and subleasing the leased assets outside the Group.

#### (a) Right-of-use assets

The carrying amounts of the Group's right-of-use assets and the movements during the year are as follows:

		Plant and		
	Leasehold land	machinery	Motor vehicles	Total
	RMB'000	RMB'000	RMB'000	RMB'000
As at 1 January 2023	60,450	7,688	677	68,815
Additions	_	700	_	700
Depreciation charge	(1,692)	(2,068)	(189)	(3,949)
Exchange realignment		(188)		(188)
As at 31 December 2023 and				
1 January 2024	58,758	6,132	488	65,378
Additions	_	489	_	489
Depreciation charge	(1,517)	(1,741)	(488)	(3,746)
Exchange realignment		(303)		(303)
As at 31 December 2024	57,241	4,577		61,818

As at 31 December 2024, the Group's right-of-use assets with a net carrying amount of approximately RMB53,080,000 (2023: RMB25,083,000) were pledged to secure bank loans granted to the Group as set out in note 16 to the financial statements.

### (b) Lease liabilities

The carrying amount of lease liabilities (included under interest-bearing bank and other borrowings) and the movements during the year are as follows:

	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Carrying amount at 1 January	7,046	8,719
New leases	489	700
Accretion of interest recognised during the year	266	355
Payments	(2,199)	(2,540)
Exchange realignment	(303)	(188)
Carrying amount at 31 December	5,299	7,046
Analysed into:		
Current portion	863	1,326
Non-current portion	4,436	5,720

(c) The amounts recognised in profit or loss in relation to leases are as follows:

	2024 <i>RMB'000</i>	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
Interest on lease liabilities	266	355
Depreciation charge of right-of-use assets	3,746	3,949
Expense relating to short-term leases		
(included in administrative expenses)	476	225
Total amount recognised in profit or loss	4,488	4,529

### The Group as a lessor

The Group leases its investment properties consisting of two commercial properties in Shanghai and part of the commercial property in Jiaxing under operating lease arrangements in 2023. The terms of the leases generally require the tenants to pay security deposits and provide for periodic rent adjustments according to the then prevailing market conditions. Rental income recognised by the Group during the year was Nil (2023: RMB166,000).

At 31 December 2024, the undiscounted lease payments receivable by the Group in future periods under non-cancellable operating leases with its tenants are as follows:

	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Within one year	-	174
Within second to fifth year		449
Total		623

### 12. INVESTMENTS IN ASSOCIATES

	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Share of net assets	29,623	25,000

The following table illustrates the aggregate financial information of the Group's associates that are not individually material:

	2024 <i>RMB'000</i>	2023 <i>RMB</i> '000
Share of the associates' loss for the year Share of the associates' total comprehensive loss	(918) (918)	
Aggregate carrying amount of the Group's investments in the associates	29,623	25,000

The Group's shareholdings in the associates all comprise equity shares held by the Company.

### **13. INVENTORIES**

	<b>31 December</b>	31 December
	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Raw materials	502,095	691,039
Work in progress	97,473	121,635
Finished goods	595,558	206,871
Total	1,195,126	1,019,545

As at 31 December 2024, no inventories (2023: with a carrying amount of RMB40,000,000) were pledged to secure loans granted to the Group as set out in note 16 to the financial statements.

### 14. TRADE AND NOTES RECEIVABLES

	<b>31 December</b>	
	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Trade receivables	500,657	373,476
Notes receivable	38,051	189,671
Impairment	(1,943)	(4,791)
Net carrying amount	536,765	558,356

Customers are normally granted credit terms ranging from 30 days to 150 days depending on the creditworthiness of the individual customers. The Group seeks to maintain strict control over its outstanding receivables and has a credit control department to minimise credit risk. Overdue balances are reviewed regularly by senior management. Trade receivables are non-interest-bearing.

Included in the Group's trade receivables are amounts due from the Group's associates of RMB13,715,000 (2023:Nil), which are repayable on credit terms similar to those offered to the major customers of the Group.

The Group's notes receivable all aged within six months and were neither past due nor impaired. The expected credit losses for notes receivable are assessed to be minimal. An ageing analysis of the Group's trade receivables as at the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date and net of loss allowance, is as follows:

	31 December	31 December
	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Within 1 month	188,641	217,334
1 to 2 months	152,549	91,535
2 to 3 months	82,736	49,666
Over 3 months	74,788	10,150
Total	498,714	368,685

The movements in the loss allowance for impairment of trade receivables are as follows:

	<b>31 December</b>	31 December	
	2024	2023	
	RMB'000	RMB '000	
At beginning of year	4,791	326	
Impairment losses, net (note 7)	(2,837)	4,568	
Amount written off as uncollectible	(11)	(103)	
At end of year	1,943	4,791	

An impairment analysis is performed at each reporting date using a provision matrix to measure expected credit losses for trade receivables. The provision rates are based on days past due for groupings of various customer segments with similar loss patterns. The calculation reflects the probability-weighted outcome, the time value of money and reasonable and supportable information that is available at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions. Generally, trade receivables are written off if past due for more than one year and are not subject to enforcement activity.

Set out below is the information about the credit risk exposure on the Group's trade receivables using a provision matrix:

#### As at 31 December 2024

	Past due					
	Current	Less than 1 month	1 to 3 months	Over 3 months	Total	
Expected credit loss rate	0.00%	0.31%	3.15%	21.45%	0.39%	
Gross carrying amount (RMB'000)	481,005	8,557	2,534	8,561	500,657	
Expected credit losses (RMB'000)		27	80	1,836	1,943	

As at 31 December 2023

	_				
	Current	Less than 1 month	1 to 3 months	Over 3 months	Total
Expected credit loss rate	0.00%	0.95%	3.13%	43.92%	1.28%
Gross carrying amount (RMB'000)	358,534	2,636	1,543	10,763	373,476
Expected credit losses (RMB'000)		15	49	4,727	4,791

#### Notes receivable that are not derecognised in their entirety

As at 31 December 2024, the Group endorsed certain notes receivable accepted by banks in the PRC (the "**Endorsed Notes**") with a carrying amount of RMB15,797,000 (2023: RMB33,183,000) to certain of its suppliers in order to settle the trade payables due to such suppliers (the "**Endorsement**"). In the opinion of the directors of the Company, the Group has retained the substantial risks and rewards, which include default risks relating to these Endorsed Notes, and accordingly, it continued to recognise the full carrying amounts of the Endorsed Notes and the associated trade payables settled. Subsequent to the endorsement, the Group does not retain any rights on the use of the Endorsed Notes, including sale, transfer or pledge of the Endorsed Notes to any other third parties. The aggregate carrying amount of the trade payables settled by the Endorsed Notes to which the suppliers have recourse was RMB15,797,000 as at 31 December 2024 (2023: RMB33,183,000).

#### Notes receivable that are derecognised in their entirety

As at 31 December 2024, the Group endorsed certain notes receivable accepted by banks in the PRC (the "**Derecognised Notes**") to certain of its suppliers in order to settle the trade payables due to such suppliers with a carrying amount in aggregate of RMB13,654,000 (2023: RMB21,479,000). The Derecognised Notes had a maturity of one to six months at the end of the reporting period. In accordance with the Law of Negotiable Instruments in the PRC, the holders of the Derecognised Notes have a right of recourse against the Group if the PRC banks default (the "**Continuing Involvement**"). In the opinion of the directors of the Company, the Group has transferred substantially all risks and rewards relating to the Derecognised Notes. Accordingly, it has derecognised the full carrying amounts of the Derecognised Notes and the associated trade payables. The maximum exposure to loss from the Group's Continuing Involvement in the Derecognised Notes and the undiscounted cash flows to repurchase these Derecognised Notes is equal to their carrying amounts. In the opinion of the directors of the Company, the fair values of the Group's Continuing Involvement in the Derecognised Notes and the undiscounted cash flows to repurchase these Derecognised Notes is equal to their carrying amounts. In the Opinion of the directors of the Company, the fair values of the Group's Continuing Involvement in the Derecognised Notes are not significant.

The Group has not recognised any gain or loss on the date of transfer of the Derecognised Notes in 2024 (2023: Nil). No gains or losses were recognised from the Continuing Involvement, both during the year or cumulatively. The Endorsement has been made evenly throughout the year.

### 15. TRADE AND NOTES PAYABLES

An ageing analysis of the trade and notes payables as at 31 December 2024, based on the invoice date, is as follows:

	<b>31 December</b>	31 December
	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Within 1 month	147,390	149,146
1 to 3 months	287,056	403,504
Over 3 months	20,250	35,001
Total	454,696	587,651

The above balances are unsecured and non-interest-bearing with credit terms of 90 days. The carrying amount of trade and notes payables at the end of each reporting period approximates to their fair value due to their short-term maturity.

# 16. INTEREST-BEARING BANK AND OTHER BORROWINGS

		31 December 2024			31 December 2023	
	Effective Interest rate (%)	Maturity	RMB'000	Effective Interest rate (%)	Maturity	RMB'000
Current						
Secured bank loans	3.10-4.35	2025	380,000	3.10-6.10	2024	339,817
Unsecured bank loans	1.05-5.00	2025	558,693	1.80-5.00	2024	442,663
Other loans - unsecured	4.91	On demand	50,000	4.91	2024	50,000
Lease liabilities (note 11)	4.20	2025	863	4.20	2024	1,326
Subtotal – current			989,556			833,806
Non-current						
Secured bank loan	4.35	2026	30,000	4.35	2026	30,000
Other loans - unsecured	-	-	-	-	_	-
Lease liabilities (note 11)	4.20	2026-2031	4,436	4.20	2025-2031	5,720
Subtotal – non-current			34,436			35,720
Total			1,023,992			869,526

	31 December	31 December
	2024	2023
	RMB'000	RMB'000
Analysed into:		
Bank loans repayable:		
Within one year	938,693	782,480
In the third to fifth years, inclusive	30,000	30,000
Subtotal	968,693	812,480
Other borrowings repayable:		
On demand	50,000	_
Within one year	863	51,326
In the second year	553	713
In the third to fifth years, inclusive	1,663	2,145
Over five years	2,220	2,862
Subtotal	55,299	57,046
Total	1,023,992	869,526

Note:

As at 31 December 2024, the current interest-bearing bank borrowings with a carrying amount of RMB380,000,000 (2023: RMB339,817,000) were secured by certain property, plant and equipment, right-of-use assets and inventories with carrying amounts of RMB160,759,000 (2023: RMB219,609,000), RMB38,366,000 (2023: RMB9,991,000) and nil (2023: RMB40,000,000), respectively.

As at 31 December 2024, the non-current interest-bearing bank borrowings with a carrying amount of RMB30,000,000 (2023: RMB30,000,000) were secured by certain right-of-use assets with carrying amounts of RMB14,714,000 (2023: RMB15,092,000).

As at 31 December 2024, the current interest-bearing bank borrowings with a carrying amount of RMB16,169,000 (2023: RMB11,495,000) were guaranteed by the directors of the Company.

The carrying amount of the current interest-bearing bank and other loans of the Group approximates to their fair value due to their short-term maturity.

The fair values of the non-current interest-bearing bank and other loans have been calculated by discounting the expected future cash flows using rates currently available for instruments with similar terms, credit risk and remaining maturities. The Group's own non-performance risk for interest-bearing bank and other loans as at 31 December 2024 was assessed to be insignificant. Management has assessed that the carrying amount of the non-current interest-bearing bank and other loans of the Group approximates to their fair values because the fixed interest rate is close to the currently available rate.

### **17. TREASURY SHARES**

	31	<b>31 December 2024</b>			31 December 2023		
	Number	Amo	Amount		Amo	ount	
	of shares	<i>HK\$'000</i>	RMB'000 equivalent	of shares	HK\$'000	RMB'000 equivalent	
At the beginning and end of the year	13,230,750	14,632	13,305	13,230,750	14,632	13,305	

On 26 August 2016, the Company adopted a share award plan (the "Share Award Plan"), which is now subject to the provisions of Chapter 17 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules") after the amendments of the Listing Rules with effect from 1 January 2023. The board of directors may, at their discretion, grant shares of the Company to eligible participants. The Company has appointed a trustee for administration of the Share Award Plan (the "Trustee"). The principal activity of the Trustee is administrating and holding the Company's shares for the Share Award Plan for the benefit of the Company's award holders. The Company's shares will be purchased by the Trustee in the market with cash paid by the Company and held in the trust for relevant award holders until such shares are vested in accordance with the provisions of the Share Award Plan. Upon vesting, the Trustee shall either transfer the vested awarded shares at no cost to such award holders or sell the vested awarded shares at the then prevailing market price by way of market order and remit the net proceeds to the award holders in accordance with the direction given by such award holders. In January, April and September 2017, the Trustee purchased in aggregate 19,400,000 shares of the Company at a total consideration of approximately RMB19,508,000 and on 25 May 2018, 19,370,000 shares were granted to eligible persons under the Share Award Plan, of which a total of 1,010,000 awarded shares were vested in 2019 and 5,159,250 awarded shares were vested in 2020 and transferred to award holders. During the year ended 31 December 2024, no share award was granted under the Share Award Plan. As of 31 December 2024, all of the remaining 13,230,750 shares held by the Trustee had not been granted to any eligible persons under the Share Award Plan.

# MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

# **BUSINESS REVIEW**

China has focused on economic growth in 2024. According to the National Bureau of Statistics of China, the gross domestic product (GDP) growth in China amounted to 5.4% for the year ended 31 December 2024 (the "**Year**"). The total export of textile yarns, fabrics and related products from China recorded an increase of 5.7% in value in U.S. dollars during the Year, according to the statistics of the General Administration of Customs of the PRC. The market price of cotton dropped by 10.9% in 2024 while the selling price of linen yarn has recorded an over 20% increase during the same period.

According to the statistics of the General Administration of Customs of the PRC, the total volume of pure linen yarn exports from China in 2024 was 15,177 tonnes, which recorded a year-on-year decrease of approximately 11.7%. Kingdom exported 7,651 tonnes of pure linen in 2024, accounting for 50.4% of the total export volume of pure linen yarn from China in 2024. For years, the Group has been focusing on upholding excellent product quality and offering tailored customer services. As such, the Group has always been a key partner of major overseas linen fabric and garment manufacturers.

There was a significant increase in global flax cultivation areas across various regions suitable for flax growth, driven by the sharp rise in raw material prices over the past few years. Farmers expanded their planting areas in anticipation of profiting from the price surge. However, with the abundant flax harvest in 2024, the supply of flax fiber has increased substantially. Due to changes in supply and demand dynamics, both raw material prices and flax yarn prices experienced significant volatility in the last quarter of 2024. Specifically, during the final quarter of 2024, the market price of raw materials dropped by more than 50%, while the market price of flax yarn declined by over 30%.

During the Year, the Group's pure linen yarn exports amounted to 7,651 tonnes (2023: 7,955 tonnes). The Group's pure linen yarn export continued to account for more than 40% of the total pure linen yarn export from China, signifying the Group's continuous leading position as the largest pure linen yarn exporter in China for 22 consecutive years.

Revenue of the Group for the Year recorded a year-on-year increase of approximately 5.2% to RMB2,571,606,000 (2023: RMB2,445,428,000). Gross profit decreased by approximately 62.8% year-on-year to RMB153,274,000 (2023: RMB411,488,000) and overall gross profit margin dropped by 10.8 percentage points to 6.0% in 2024 (2023: 16.8%). Due to the significant drop in raw materials price and flax yarn price in the final quarter of 2024, a provision of impairment for inventories in the amount of approximately RMB199,431,000 as at 31 December 2024 was made. The impairment was based on the difference between the cost of the inventories and their net realizable values at 31 December 2024. Loss for the Year was RMB43,338,000, as compared to a profit of RMB162,790,000 for the year ended 31 December 2023. Loss per Share amounted to RMB0.07 for the Year as compared to basic earnings per Share amounted to RMB0.27 in 2023.

To reciprocate the Shareholders for their continuous support of the Group and to express our confidence in the sustainable development of the linen industry, while reserving resources for further expansions, the Board has recommended the payment of a final dividend of HK\$0.05 per Share for the Year (2023: HK\$0.09).

### **Major Markets and Customers**

Being the largest pure linen yarn exporter in China, the Group has a sales network covering over 20 countries and regions around the world. In order to timely seize market opportunities, keep abreast of market trends and deliver comprehensive and efficient services, the Group has established presence in major overseas linen textile and consumer markets. The Group currently has one subsidiary in Italy and agents in Turkey, Portugal, Italy, Lithuania and Korea. The Group's subsidiary in Italy keeps its own inventories so that it can serve the immediate needs of and tighten its co-operation with high-end customers in Europe. During the Year, revenue derived from overseas sales amounted to RMB1,492,134,000, representing approximately 58.0% of the Group's total revenue. In particular, revenue from the European Union ("EU") countries amounted to approximately RMB516,543,000, representing approximately 20.1% of the Group's total revenue, while revenue from non-EU countries amounted to approximately RMB975,591,000, representing approximately 37.9% of the Group's total revenue.

During the Year, the Group's top five exporting countries are Italy, India, Turkey, Portugal and Korea, which accounted for 83.4% of the Group's total export revenue during the Year (2023: 79.1%).

Domestic sales in China dropped by approximately 9.6% during the Year to RMB1,079,472,000 representing approximately 42.0% of the Group's total revenue.

Despite a sales decline during the Year, there have been fundamental changes in the consumption patterns of the general public in China. Consumers' concerns have shifted from purely satisfying practical needs to product quality and the ability of the product to reflect their personal taste. Linen textiles are not only anti-bacterial and comfortable, but also highly environmentally friendly in their production process. Therefore, linen textiles perfectly suit the taste of new generation consumers who may have a stronger preference for environmentally friendly and sustainable products. Many leading domestic and overseas trend-setting brands and fast-moving fashion brands have now embarked on their own linen selection. For example, a famous Japanese brand has not only launched a linen garment line, but has also introduced a tracking system for the use of its raw materials to allow it and its consumers to monitor the quality and environmental-friendliness of its products. We are therefore optimistic about the long term prospect of the linen industry.

	Sales Analysis by Domestic and Overseas Markets						
					Year-on-year	Year-on-year	
	For the year	r ended	For the year	ended	change in	change in	
	31 December 2024		31 Decembe	er 2023	revenue	revenue	
	RMB '000	%	RMB '000	%	RMB '000	%	
China	1,079,472	42.0%	1,194,237	48.8%	(114,765)	-9.6%	
European Union	516,543	20.1%	468,957	19.2%	47,586	+10.1%	
Non-European Union	975,591	37.9%	782,234	32.0%	193,357	+24.7%	
Total Revenue	2,571,606	100.0%	2,445,428	100.0%	126,178	+5.2%	

Sales Analysis by Domestic and Overseas Markets

## **Raw Material Procurement and Related Strategies**

During the Year, market prices of fibre flax, the major raw material in producing linen yarn surged and reached a historical high level at the end of the third quarter of 2024. The Group mainly sources its fibre flax from well-established origins such as France and Belgium. Being one of the largest buyers in these regions, the Group enjoys strong bargaining power when dealing with suppliers. Farmers expanded their planting areas in anticipation of profiting from the price surge. However, with the abundant flax harvest in 2024, the supply of flax fiber has increased substantially. The market price of raw materials dropped by more than 50% which is beneficial for the healthy development of the whole linen industry as a whole.

Furthermore, the Group has formulated systematic procurement strategies based on which the Group will procure raw materials according to the level of fibre flax harvest, the Group's inventory and the market prices of fibre flax so as to stabilise its raw material costs, taking into consideration the overall market demand and supply and to minimize the impact of the price fluctuations of raw materials.

The Group also procures industrial hemp fibre for production of hemp yarn in its factory in Heilongjiang, China. Kingdom collaborates with local farmers to secure a stable supply of hemp fibre in China with the aim to further stabilise the price and supply of raw materials. The Group is also building a warehouse in Heilongjiang to manage the storage, logistics and supply chain of hemp materials with a vision to transform Heilongjiang into a national trading hub of hemp materials in China.

The Group is also collaborating with CottonConnect, a UK non-profit and social-oriented enterprise with a clear mission to transform the linen industry for good, to develop the REEL Linen Code of Conduct. REEL Linen is a sustainability-driven initiative for brands which are committed to sourcing more sustainable linen, and contents of the initiative include improving the environment, product quality and traceability conditions in their supply chain factories and farms worldwide. REEL stands for the idea of "Responsible Environment, Enhanced Livelihood", it implements sustainable development into production practices.

### **Production Bases and Productivity**

As at 31 December 2024, the Group had four production bases in China and one production base in Ethiopia. The Group's production bases are continuously under improvement. New production bases are equipped with the latest management systems, technologies and equipment, a combination of which has resulted in smooth operation and reduced unnecessary procedures and wastage of raw materials, improving the Group's overall production efficiency. These systems have not only made the production processes more environmentally friendly, but have also reduced the production costs of the Group and laid a solid foundation of profit growth for the Group in the long run. For further details of the measures taken by the Group in relation to environmental protection, please refer to the separate Environmental, Social and Governance Report of the Group for the Year, which is expected to be despatched together with the annual report of the Company for the Year before the end of April 2025.

### China

The Group's production base in Rugao City, Jiangsu Province, the PRC has an annual production capacity of 6,000 tonnes. Two other production bases are located in Haiyan County, Zhejiang Province, the PRC. The first Haiyan plant has an annual production capacity of 7,000 tonnes and the second Haiyan plant has an annual production capacity of 5,000 tonnes. The Group has established a fourth production facility in Heilongjiang Province in China with an annual capacity of 5,000 tonnes for flax and industrial hemp yarn. Currently, the designated annual linen and industrial hemp yarn production capacity of the Group amounts to 23,000 tonnes based on standardized 24Nm specification. During the Year, the utilization of the four production bases in China was high and the four production bases operated at near full capacity.

The Group owns 78.67% equity interest in the flax and industrial hemp yarn manufacturing facility in Heilongjiang and it is the Group's maiden attempt to explore the industrial hemp yarn market, as the Company believes industrial hemp yarn market will continue to grow in the next few years due to the national policy in China to promote the planting of industrial hemp in the Heilongjiang region and the use of the industrial hemp textile products.

## Ethiopia

The Group is also committed to investing in Ethiopia for new production facilities and has acquired a parcel of land with a site area of 300,000 square meters located in Adama Industrial Park, Adama, Ethiopia. The phase one development of this land parcel has further boosted the annual production capacity of the Group by 5,000 tonnes. The Board believes that the federal government of Ethiopia is keen to develop the Kingdom Linen Yarn Factory constructed on this land parcel and develop it into one of the model projects of the "Belt & Road" initiative in Ethiopia. The Chinese government also encouraged manufacturers to expand overseas by expanding the scope of political risk insurance coverage of insurances offered by state-owned insurance companies. The Ethiopia project will generate savings on land lease, labour, energy, tax and custom duty for exports of linen yarn manufactured in Ethiopia to a vast number of countries in the world. Despite there being on and off ethnopolitical conflicts since October 2016, which has led to the resignation of the former Prime Minister of Ethiopia in February 2018, the Government of Ethiopia has reaffirmed their commitment in maintaining the industrialization agenda that has already been initiated. With the new Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali being awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019, the Board believes that the strategic investment in Ethiopia will have a long-term benefit to the Group. The factory in Ethiopia commenced production in the second half of 2021 and has been gradually ramping up its scale of production to its designed capacity.

### Existing and planned production bases

				Annual capacity	
No.	Factory	Location	Country	(Tonnes)	Utilisation/Status
1	Haiyan 1st Factory	Zhejiang	China	7.000	Close to 100%
2	Rugao Factory	Jiangsu	China	6,000	Close to 100%
3	Haiyan 2nd Factory	Zhejiang	China	5,000	Close to 100%
4	Qinggang Factory	Heilongjiang	China	5,000	Close to 100%
5	Ethiopia	Adama	Ethiopia	5,000	Ramping up, about 70%

## Egypt

The Group has conducted feasibility studies of setting up a new factory in Egypt. It is anticipated that the construction in Egypt will commence in 2025 and trial operation will commence in 2026, to further expand the production capacity of the Group to meet different customers' needs in the coming years.

#### Patents, Awards and Recognition

The Group has continued to invest in technology and innovation. As at 31 December 2024, the Group owned 73 registered patents and there were another 27 patent applications pending formal approval by relevant authorities.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### Revenue

For the Year, the Group's revenue grew by approximately 5.2% to approximately RMB2,571,606,000 (2023: RMB2,445,428,000). The growth of revenue was mainly attributable to the higher average selling price of pure linen yarn during the Year. During the Year, sales to China dropped by 9.6% while sales to EU and non-EU markets grew by 10.1% and 24.7% respectively.

### **Gross Profit and Gross Profit Margin**

The Group's gross profit dropped by 62.8% to RMB153,274,000 during the Year (2023: RMB411,488,000). Gross profit margin for the Year decreased by 10.8 percentage points to 6.0% (2023: 16.8%) as a result of high average raw material costs during the Year. However, with the abundant flax harvest in 2024, the supply of flax fiber has increased substantially. Both the raw material prices and the flax yarn prices experienced significant drops in the last quarter of 2024, resulting in a whopping provision of impairment of approximately RMB199,431,000 for the inventories as at 31 December 2024. The impairment was based on the difference between the cost of the inventories and their net realizable values at 31 December 2024.

## **Other Income and Gains**

The Group recorded other income and gains of approximately RMB11,384,000 for the Year (2023: RMB18,927,000), which mainly comprised of interest income of approximately RMB2,672,000 (2023: RMB4,526,000), various government grants of approximately RMB6,853,000 (2023: RMB11,833,000) and an insurance income of approximately RMB380,000 (2023: RMB2,019,000).

### **Selling and Distribution Expenses**

For the Year, the Group's selling and distribution expenses amounted to approximately RMB34,476,000 (2023: RMB42,229,000), which accounted for approximately 1.3% of the Group's revenue (2023: 1.7%). The decrease in the selling and distribution expenses as a percentage of the Group's revenue for the Year was due to fewer sales commission incurred during the Year.

## Administrative Expenses

For the Year, the Group's administrative expenses amounted to approximately RMB115,207,000 which was roughly at the same level as in the previous year (2023: RMB116,078,000).

### **Reversal of Impairment Loss on Financial Assets**

During the Year, the Group recorded a reversal of impairment loss on financial assets which was provision of bad debts for trade receivable of RMB2,837,000 (2023: provision of impairment of RMB4,568,000).

### **Other Expenses**

Other expenses of the Group for the Year amounted to approximately RMB19,671,000 (2023: RMB9,549,000), mainly comprised asset disposal loss of RMB4,934,000 (2023: RMB2,757,000) and an exchange loss of RMB12,528,000 (2023: RMB5,432,000).

#### **Finance Costs**

For the Year, finance costs amounted to approximately RMB41,077,000 (2023: RMB36,800,000), which comprised net finance cost of approximately RMB40,811,000 (2023: RMB36,445,000) and interest on lease liabilities of approximately RMB266,000 (2023: RMB355,000). Net finance costs represented the total interest expense on bank loans of approximately RMB40,811,000 (2023: RMB37,708,000) less amount capitalized attributable to capital assets. There was no interest expense capitalized during the Year (2023: RMB1,263,000).

#### **Income Tax Credit/(Expense)**

Income tax credit for the Year was approximately RMB516,000 (2023: expense of RMB58,401,000).

#### Loss for the Year

As a result, the Group recorded a net loss of approximately RMB43,338,000 for the Year, as compared to a profit of approximately RMB162,790,000 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### **Minority Interests**

The Group's total comprehensive income attributable to non-controlling interests for the Year amounted to RMB2,042,000, which mainly represented the share of the profits of those non-wholly owned subsidiaries attributable to the minority shareholdings during the Year (2023: share of losses of RMB821,000).

#### Loss Attributable to Owners of the Parent

During the Year, the Group recorded a loss attributable to owners of the parent of approximately RMB45,380,000, as compared to a profit attributable to owners of the parent approximately RMB163,611,000 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

#### **Other Intangible Assets**

As at 31 December 2024, the Group's intangible assets mainly comprise patents and licences which amounted to RMB1,400,000 (2023: RMB1,600,000) and certified emission rights obtained in 2012 for a term of 20 years, which amounted to RMB2,764,000 (2023: RMB3,716,000). Intangible assets are subject to amortisation based on their useful lives. For the Year, the amortisation of intangible assets was approximately RMB1,152,000 (2023: RMB857,000).

#### Inventories

As at 31 December 2024, inventories of the Group increased by approximately 17.2% to RMB1,195,126,000 (2023: RMB1,019,545,000), the average inventory turnover days increased from 153 days as at 31 December 2023 to 167 days as at 31 December 2024. The increase in number of inventory turnover days was mainly attributable to higher inventory balance as at 31 December 2024.

#### **Trade and Notes Receivables**

As at 31 December 2024, trade and notes receivables of the Group decreased by approximately 3.9% to RMB536,765,000 (2023: RMB558,356,000), and the average trade receivable turnover days increased from 73 days as at 31 December 2023 to 78 days as at 31 December 2024.

#### **Trade and Notes Payables**

As at 31 December 2024, trade and notes payables of the Group decreased by approximately 22.6% to approximately RMB454,696,000 (2023: RMB587,651,000). The average trade payable turnover days decreased from 86 days as at 31 December 2023 to 79 days as at 31 December 2024.

### **Interest-bearing Bank and Other Borrowings**

As at 31 December 2024, the Group's interest-bearing bank and other borrowings increased by 17.8% to approximately RMB1,023,992,000 (2023: RMB869,526,000), of which RMB989,556,000 (2023: RMB833,806,000) were classified as current liabilities and RMB34,436,000 (2023: RMB35,720,000) were classified as non-current liabilities. The Group's borrowings were denominated in Renminbi, United States Dollars and Euros, of which approximately RMB888,650,000 (2023: RMB715,500,000) were at fixed interest rates.

## Liquidity and Financial Resources

As at 31 December 2024, the Group had net current assets of approximately RMB477,487,000 (2023: RMB562,864,000). The Group financed its operations with internally generated resources and bank loans during the Year. As at 31 December 2024, the Group had total cash and deposits of approximately RMB277,650,000 (2023: RMB521,256,000) which consisted of cash and cash equivalents of approximately RMB230,871,000 (2023: RMB454,812,000) and pledged deposits of approximately RMB46,779,000 (2023: RMB66,444,000). The Group's cash and cash equivalents were denominated in Renminbi, United States Dollars, Hong Kong Dollars, Euros and Ethiopian Birrs.

The liquidity ratio of the Group as at 31 December 2024 was approximately 129.9% (2023: 134.6%). Total equity of the Group as at 31 December 2024 was approximately RMB1,474,829,000 (2023: RMB1,587,212,000).

As at 31 December 2024, the Group had interest-bearing bank and other borrowings repayable within 12 months therefrom of approximately RMB989,556,000 (2023: RMB833,806,000) and long-term interest-bearing other borrowings of approximately RMB34,436,000 (2023: RMB35,720,000). Together these interest-bearing bank and other borrowings represented a gross debt gearing ratio (i.e. total borrowings divided by total equity) of approximately 69.4% (2023: 54.8%).

# **CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

As at 31 December 2024, outstanding contractual capital commitments of the Group in respect of purchase of property, plant and equipment not provided for in the annual financial statements amounted to approximately RMB13,115,000 (2023: RMB24,422,000).

## MATERIAL ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL

As disclosed in the Company's announcement dated 29 July 2024, Heilongjiang Kingdom Hemp Co., Ltd ("**Heilongjiang Kingdom Hemp**") (an indirectly non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company) entered into an agreement with Heilongjiang Kangyuan Bio-Technology Co, Ltd ("**Heilongjiang Kangyuan**"), pursuant to which Heilongjiang Kingdom Hemp purchased from Heilongjiang Kangyuan a parcel of land in Heilongjiang Province, the PRC with a total area of approximately 26,209 sq.m. together with the buildings erected thereon with an aggregate gross floor area of approximately 3,701 sq.m. at a consideration of RMB6,510,100 (equivalent to approximately HK\$6,916,000). The acquired property would be used as warehouse for storage of hemp raw materials to facilitate the Group's business development in Heilongjiang.

Save as disclosed above, the Group did not have any material acquisitions or disposals of subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures during the Year.

## SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS

The Group did not hold any significant investments during the Year.

## **CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

As at 31 December 2024, the Group did not have any material contingent liabilities (2023: Nil).

# CHARGE ON ASSETS

As at 31 December 2024, the current interest-bearing bank borrowings with a carrying amount of RMB380,000,000 (2023: RMB339,817,000) were secured by certain property, plant and equipment, right-of-use assets and inventories with carrying amounts of RMB160,759,000 (2023: RMB219,609,000), RMB38,366,000 (2023: RMB9,991,000) and nil (2023: RMB40,000,000) respectively.

As at 31 December 2024, the non-current interest-bearing bank borrowings with a carrying amount of RMB30,000,000 (2023: RMB30,000,000) were secured by certain right-of-use assets with carrying amounts of RMB14,714,000 (2023: RMB15,092,000).

As at 31 December 2024, the current interest-bearing bank borrowings with a carrying amount of RMB16,169,000 (2023: RMB11,495,000) were guaranteed by the directors of the Company.

# FUTURE PLANS FOR MATERIAL INVESTMENT OR CAPITAL ASSETS

In order to diversify the supply chain of the Group and to cater for the demand of different customers, the Group has conducted a feasibility study of setting up a new factory in Egypt in 2023 and registered a company in Egypt for the factory in 2024. The Group intends to finance such investment by the Group's internal resources and/or external financing. Save as disclosed above and the various up-keeping and maintenance of existing factory projects, the Directors confirmed that as at the date of this announcement, there is no current plan to acquire any material investment or capital assets.

# FOREIGN CURRENCY RISK

The Group's transactions were mainly denominated in Renminbi, United States Dollars, Euro and Hong Kong Dollars. The exchange rate changes of such currencies were monitored regularly and managed appropriately. The Group had entered into certain foreign currency forward contracts during the Year and there was no material derivative financial asset or liability recorded as at 31 December 2024 (2023: Nil).

## **REMUNERATION POLICY AND SHARE OPTION SCHEME**

As at 31 December 2024, the Group had a total of 3,703 employees (2023: 3,700 employees). Total staff costs incurred for the Year dropped by approximately 4.7% to RMB250,102,000 (2023: RMB262,496,000).

The Group offers comprehensive and competitive remuneration, retirement scheme and benefit packages to its employees. The Group is required to make contributions (retirement insurance and unemployment insurance) to a social security scheme in China. The remuneration policy for the employees of the Group is formulated by the Board with reference to the employee's respective qualification, experience, responsibilities and contributions to the Group, as well as the prevailing market rate of remuneration for a similar position. The remuneration of the Directors is determined by the Board based on the recommendation of the remuneration committee of the Company (the "**Remuneration Committee**") and with the mandate given by the Shareholders at the annual general meeting having regard to the Group's operating results, individual performance and comparable market statistics. The Group also provides both internal and external training programmes for its employees from time to time.

The Group has also adopted a share option scheme and a share award plan for the purpose of providing incentives and rewards to the Directors, including independent non-executive Directors, and other employees of the Group who have contributed to the success of the Group's operations.

# **OUTLOOK AND PLANS**

The Trump Administration of United States government will continue to impose tariffs on goods from different countries and the political divergence of superpowers of the world will continue, the year of 2025 and beyond are full of challenges.

With the aging population in China and surging operating costs in Asia, and in order to meet the demand of various customers, the diversification of supply chain is imminent.

In addition to the Ethiopia factory which commenced operation in 2021, the Group has conducted feasibility studies and will proceed with the setting up of a new factory in Egypt, which could benefit from reduced or zero import duties to EU member states.

Kingdom collaborated with a UK non-profit and social-oriented enterprise with a clear mission to transform the linen industry for good, to develop the REEL Linen Code of Conduct. REEL Linen is a sustainability-driven initiative for brands which are committed to sourcing more sustainable linen, and the contents of the initiative include improving environment, product quality and traceability conditions in the supply chain factories and farms worldwide. REEL stands for the idea of "Responsible Environment, Enhanced Livelihood" and it implements sustainable development into production practices. Kingdom will continue to promote the REEL Linen Code to move towards a sustainable operation and ensure its long-term success.

# IMPORTANT EVENTS AFFECTING THE COMPANY THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR

There was no important event affecting the Company that have occurred since the end of the Year and up to the date of this announcement.

# PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED SHARES

The Company or any of its subsidiaries did not purchase, sell or redeem any of the Company's listed securities during the Year.

## SUFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC FLOAT

The Company has maintained a sufficient public float as required under Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules") throughout the Year.

### DIVIDEND

The Board proposed a payment of final dividend of HK\$0.05 per ordinary share for the year ended 31 December 2024 (2023: HK\$0.09).

## **CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

In order to determine shareholders' entitlement to attend and vote at the forthcoming annual general meeting of the Company, the register of members of the Company will be closed from Friday, 6 June 2025 to Friday, 13 June 2025, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of Shares will be effected. In order to be eligible to attend and vote at the forthcoming annual general meeting of the Company, unregistered holders of Shares of the Company shall ensure that all transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's Hong Kong branch share registrar, Tricor Investor Services Limited, at 17/F, Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, 5 June 2025.

In order to determine shareholders' entitlement to the proposed final dividend (subject to approval by the Shareholders at the forthcoming annual general meeting), the register of members of the Company will be closed from Tuesday, 24 June 2025 to Wednesday, 25 June 2025, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of Shares will be effected. In order to be eligible to the proposed final dividend (subject to approval by the Shareholders at the annual general meeting), unregistered holders of Shares of the Company shall ensure that, all transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's Hong Kong branch share registrar, Tricor Investor Services Limited, at above address for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, 23 June 2025. The proposed final dividend, subject to Shareholders' approval at the forthcoming annual general meeting, will be paid to Shareholders on or before Wednesday, 23 July 2025 whose names appear on the register of members of the Company at the close of business on Wednesday, 25 June 2025.

### **PUBLICATION OF ANNUAL REPORT**

This annual results announcement is published on the websites of the Stock Exchange at www.hkexnews.hk and the Company at www.kingdom-china.com. The annual report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024 containing all the information required by the Listing Rules is to be despatched to the Company's Shareholders and made available for review on the same websites in due course.

# COMPLIANCE WITH THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE OF THE LISTING RULES

The Company is committed to the establishment of good corporate governance practices and procedures with a view to being a transparent and responsible organisation which is open and accountable to the Company's Shareholders. The Directors believe that good corporate governance practices are increasingly important for maintaining and promoting investor confidence. The Company's corporate governance practices are based on the principles and code provisions as set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the "CG Code") contained in Appendix C1 of the Listing Rules.

In the opinion of the Directors, save for the deviations to code provisions C.2.1 as disclosed below, the Company has complied with the applicable code provisions as set out in the CG Code throughout the Year.

#### **Code Provision C.2.1**

Under code provision C.2.1 of the CG Code, the roles of the chairman and chief executive officer of the Company should be separate and should not be performed by the same individual. The Company does not have any officer with the title of "chief executive officer". However, Mr. Ren Weiming ("Mr. Ren"), who acts as the chairman of the Company, is also responsible for overseeing the general operations of the Group. The Board meets regularly to consider major matters affecting the operations of the Company. Given the nature and extent of the Group's operation and Mr. Ren's extensive experience in the industry, the Board considers that this arrangement will not impair the balance of power and authority between the Board and the management of the Company and is conducive to strong and consistent leadership, enabling the Company to operate efficiently. The Board will continuously review this arrangement from time to time to ensure appropriate and timely action to meet changing circumstances, if necessary.

## MODEL CODE FOR DIRECTORS' SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "**Model Code**") set out in Appendix C3 to the Listing Rules regarding securities transactions by Directors and devised its own code of conduct regarding Directors' dealings in the Company's securities on terms no less exacting than the required standard set out in the Model Code. Having made specific enquiries with all Directors, all the Directors have confirmed that they have complied with the provisions of the Model Code and the Company's code of conduct regarding Directors' securities transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024 and up to the date of this announcement.

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The audit committee of the Company (the "Audit Committee") was established in compliance with Rules 3.21 and 3.22 of the Listing Rules and with written terms of reference in compliance with the CG Code. The primary duties of the Audit Committee are to review and supervise the financial reporting process, risk management and internal control systems of the Group and to provide advice and comments to the Board.

The Audit Committee is responsible for determining the policy for the corporate governance of the Company and performing the corporate governance duties as below:

- to develop and review the Group's policies and practices on corporate governance and make recommendations;
- to review and monitor the training and continuous professional development of the Directors and senior management;
- to review and monitor the Group's policies and practices on compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements (where applicable);
- to develop, review and monitor the code of conduct and compliance manual (if any) applicable to employees and directors of the Group; and

• to review the Group's compliance with the CG Code and disclosure requirements in the Corporate Governance Report.

The Audit Committee comprises three members who are all independent non-executive Directors, namely, Mr. Lau Ying Kit, Mr. Yan Jianmiao and Mr. Fan Lei. Mr. Lau Ying Kit, who has appropriate professional qualifications and experience in accounting matters, was appointed as the chairman of the Audit Committee. The annual results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2024 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee.

## **REMUNERATION COMMITTEE**

The remuneration committee of the Company (the "**Remuneration Committee**") has adopted written terms of reference prepared by reference to the requirements under the code provision E.1.2 of the CG Code. The primary functions of the Remuneration Committee are to consider and recommend to the Board the remuneration and other benefits paid by the Company to the Directors and senior management. The remuneration of all Directors and senior management is subject to regular monitoring by the Remuneration Committee to ensure that the levels of their remuneration and compensation are appropriate.

The Remuneration Committee shall meet at least once every year to review the remuneration policy and structure and determine the annual remuneration packages of the executive Directors and the senior executives and other related matters. The Remuneration Committee shall make recommendations to the Board on the Company's policy and structure for all Directors' and senior management's remuneration.

One Remuneration Committee meeting was held during the Year. At the meeting, the Remuneration Committee reviewed and approved the remuneration of the Directors, after comparing with that of the directors of similar textile companies listed on the Stock Exchange.

As at the date of this announcement, the Remuneration Committee comprises one executive Director and three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Zhang Hongwen, Mr. Yan Jianmiao, Ms. Zhang Chan and Mr. Fan Lei. Mr. Yan Jianmiao is the chairman of the Remuneration Committee.

## NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The nomination committee of the Company (the "Nomination Committee") has adopted written terms of reference prepared by reference to the requirements under the code provision B.3.1 of the CG Code which are available on the websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange. The primary functions of the Nomination Committee are to review the structure, size and composition (including the skills, knowledge and experience) of the Board at least annually; assess the independence of independent non-executive Directors and review the Board's diversity policy and to make recommendations to the Board on the appointment or reappointment of Directors and succession planning for Directors, based on skills, knowledge and experience, to complement the Company's corporate strategy. The Nomination Committee also determined the policy for the nomination of Directors and the nomination procedures and the process and criteria adopted by the Nomination Committee to select and recommend candidates for directorship.

One meeting was held during the Year. At the meeting, the Nomination Committee reviewed the structure, size and composition of the Board and the Board's diversity policy.

As at the date of this announcement, the Nomination Committee comprises one executive Director and two independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Ren Weiming, Mr. Lau Ying Kit and Ms. Zhang Chan. Mr. Ren Weiming is the chairman of the Nomination Committee.

# SCOPE OF WORK OF THE COMPANY'S AUDITOR IN RESPECT OF THIS ANNUAL RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT

The figures in respect of the Group's consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, consolidated statement of profit or loss and consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended and the related notes thereto as set out in this annual results announcement have been agreed by the Company's auditor to the amounts set out in the Group's consolidated financial statements for the year. The work performed by the Company's auditor, Ernst & Young in this respect did not constitute an assurance engagement in accordance with Hong Kong Standards in 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 Ernst & Young on this annual results announcement.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It is proposed that the forthcoming annual general meeting will be held on Friday, 13 June 2025 and notice of the annual general meeting will be published and despatched in the manner as required by the Listing Rules.

## APPRECIATION

The chairman of the Group would like to take this opportunity to thank his fellow Directors for their invaluable advice and guidance, and to each and everyone of the staff of the Group for their hard work and loyalty to the Group.

> By Order of the Board Kingdom Holdings Limited Ren Weiming Chairman

Hong Kong, 26 March 2025

As at the date of this announcement, the executive Directors are Mr. Ren Weiming, Mr. Shen Yueming, Mr. Zhang Hongwen and Mr. Ren Zhong; the non-executive Director is Mr. Ngan Martin; and the independent non-executive Directors are Mr. Lau Ying Kit, Mr. Yan Jianmiao, Ms. Zhang Chan and Mr. Fan Lei.