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CHINA PIONEER PHARMA HOLDINGS LIMITED

中国先锋医药控股有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 1345)

INTERIM RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

INTERIM RESULTS

The board (the “**Board**”) of directors (the “**Directors**”) of China Pioneer Pharma Holdings Limited (the “**Company**”) is pleased to announce the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the “**Group**”) for the six months ended 30 June 2018 (the “**Reporting Period**”) together with comparative figures for the corresponding period in 2017, as follows:

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Revenue of the Group for the six months ended 30 June 2018 was RMB951.6 million, which represents a 7.4% decrease compared to RMB1,028.2 million for the same period last year.
- Gross profit of the Group for the six months ended 30 June 2018 was RMB331.7 million, which represents a 1.5% increase compared to RMB326.8 million for the same period last year.
- Net profit of the Group for the six months ended 30 June 2018 was RMB120.9 million, which represents a 15.2% decrease compared to RMB142.7 million for the same period last year.
- Basic earnings per share of the Company was RMB0.096 for the six months ended 30 June 2018, which represents a 11.9% decrease compared to RMB0.109 for the same period last year.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the six months ended 30 June 2018

| | <i>Notes</i> | For the six months ended 30 June | |
|--|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | 2018 <i>RMB'000</i> (Unaudited) | 2017 <i>RMB'000</i> (Unaudited) |
| Revenue | 3 | 951,622 | 1,028,182 |
| Cost of sales | | <u>(619,919)</u> | <u>(701,359)</u> |
| Gross profit | | 331,703 | 326,823 |
| Other income | 4 | 12,570 | 30,664 |
| Other gains and losses | 5 | 7,547 | (4,364) |
| Distribution and selling expenses | | (175,338) | (152,872) |
| Administrative expenses | | (34,030) | (31,444) |
| Finance costs | | (678) | (1,255) |
| Share of loss of an associate | | <u>(7,952)</u> | <u>(10,522)</u> |
| Profit before tax | | 133,822 | 157,030 |
| Income tax expense | 6 | <u>(12,879)</u> | <u>(14,356)</u> |
| Profit for the period | 7 | 120,943 | 142,674 |
| Other comprehensive income (expense): | | | |
| Item that will not be reclassified to profit or loss: | | | |
| – Fair value gain on investment in an equity instrument at fair value through other comprehensive income | | 980 | – |
| Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss: | | | |
| – Exchange differences on translation of financial statements of foreign operations | | 1,754 | 6,184 |
| – Share of exchange difference of an associate | | <u>1,430</u> | <u>(1,970)</u> |
| Other comprehensive income for the period | | 4,164 | 4,214 |
| Total comprehensive income for the period | | <u>125,107</u> | <u>146,888</u> |
| Profit for the period attributable to: | | | |
| Owners of the Company | | 120,682 | 141,348 |
| Non-controlling interests | | 261 | 1,326 |
| | | <u>120,943</u> | <u>142,674</u> |
| Total comprehensive income for the period attributable to: | | | |
| Owners of the Company | | 124,846 | 145,570 |
| Non-controlling interests | | 261 | 1,318 |
| | | <u>125,107</u> | <u>146,888</u> |
| | | <i>RMB yuan</i> | <i>RMB yuan</i> |
| Earnings per share | | | |
| Basic and diluted | 9 | <u>0.10</u> | <u>0.11</u> |

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 30 June 2018

| | | As at 30 June 2018 | As at 31 December 2017 |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | <i>Notes</i> | <i>RMB'000</i> (Unaudited) | <i>RMB'000</i> (Audited) |
| Non-current Assets | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | | 49,091 | 52,336 |
| Prepaid lease payments | | 2,089 | 2,115 |
| Intangible assets | | 14,708 | 15,187 |
| Interest in an associate | 10 | 79,119 | 72,053 |
| Other investment | 11 | – | 20,000 |
| Equity instrument at fair value through other comprehensive income | 11 | 22,500 | – |
| Finance lease receivables | | 10,334 | 21,589 |
| Deferred tax assets | | 7,431 | 5,373 |
| Amount due from a related party | | 117,518 | 115,554 |
| | | 302,790 | 304,207 |
| Current Assets | | | |
| Inventories | | 502,885 | 623,388 |
| Finance lease receivables | | 49,756 | 46,197 |
| Trade and other receivables | 12 | 448,366 | 509,165 |
| Tax recoverable | | 185 | 16 |
| Prepaid lease payments | | 52 | 52 |
| Pledged bank deposits | | 143,830 | 74,867 |
| Certificate of deposits | | 20,000 | 50,000 |
| Bank balances and cash | | 155,791 | 226,154 |
| | | 1,320,865 | 1,529,839 |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 13 | 336,825 | 626,439 |
| Tax liabilities | | 23,206 | 16,446 |
| Bank borrowing | 14 | – | 29,000 |
| Provision | | 1,886 | 1,886 |
| Contract liabilities | | 26,762 | – |
| Obligations under finance leases | | 6,653 | 5,336 |
| | | 395,332 | 679,107 |
| Net Current Assets | | 925,533 | 850,732 |
| Total Assets less Current Liabilities | | 1,228,323 | 1,154,939 |

| | | As at 30 June 2018 | As at 31 December 2017 |
|--|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | <i>Notes</i> | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| | | (Unaudited) | (Audited) |
| Capital and Reserves | | | |
| Share capital | | 79,791 | 81,391 |
| Reserves | | 1,137,960 | 1,058,732 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Equity attributable to owners of the Company | | 1,217,751 | 1,140,123 |
| Non-controlling interests | | 1,203 | 942 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total Equity | | 1,218,954 | 1,141,065 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Non-current liabilities | | | |
| Long-term liabilities | <i>13</i> | 6,483 | 9,060 |
| Liabilities for Share Award Scheme | | 24 | 20 |
| Obligations under finance leases | | 2,862 | 4,794 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | | 1,228,323 | 1,154,939 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the six months ended 30 June 2018

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The Company is incorporated as an exempted company with limited liability in the Cayman Islands on 5 February 2013. The shares of the Company are listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (“**the Stock Exchange**”) since 5 November 2013. The registered office of the Company is at 190 Elgin Avenue, George Town, Grand Cayman KY1-9005, Cayman Islands and the principal place of business of the Company is at No. 15, Lane 88 Wuwei Road, Putuo District, Shanghai, the People’s Republic of China (“**PRC**”). The Company’s immediate and ultimate holding company is Pioneer Pharma (BVI) Limited and Tian Tian Limited, respectively. Both companies are incorporated in the British Virgin Islands and are controlled by Mr. Li Xinzhou (“**Mr. Li**”) and Ms. Wu Qian, the spouse of Mr. Li.

The Company is an investment holding company. The principal activities of the Group are the marketing, promotion and sale of pharmaceutical products and medical devices.

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 (IAS 34) *Interim Financial Reporting* issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“**IASB**”) as well as with the applicable disclosure requirements of Appendix 16 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

2. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for certain financial instruments, which are measured at fair values, as appropriate.

Other than changes in accounting policies resulting from application of new International Financial Reporting Standards (“**IFRSs**”), the accounting policies and methods of computation used in the condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2018 are the same as those followed in the preparation of the Group’s annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Application of new and amendments to IFRSs

In the current interim period, the Group has applied, for the first time, the following new and amendments to IFRSs issued by the IASB which are mandatory effective for the annual period beginning on or after 1 January 2018 for the preparation of the Group’s condensed consolidated financial statements:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| IFRS 9 | Financial Instruments |
| IFRS 15 | Revenue from Contracts with Customers and the related Amendments |
| IFRIC-Int 22 | Foreign Currency Transactions and Advance Consideration Transactions |
| Amendments to IFRS 2 | Classification and Measurement of Share-based Payment Transactions |
| Amendments to IFRS 4 | Applying IFRS 9 Financial Instruments with IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts |
| Amendments to IAS 28 | As part of the Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2014-2016 Cycle |
| Amendments to IAS 40 | Transfers of Investment Property |

The new and amendments to IFRSs have been applied in accordance with the relevant transition provisions in the respective standards and amendments which results in changes in accounting policies, amounts reported and/or disclosures as described below.

2.1 Impacts and changes in accounting policies of application on IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

The Group has applied IFRS 15 for the first time in the current interim period. IFRS 15 superseded IAS 18 *Revenue*, IAS 11 *Construction Contracts* and the related interpretations.

The Group recognises revenue from the following major source:

- Sales of pharmaceutical products and medical devices

Revenue from sales of pharmaceutical products and medical devices is recognised at a point in time when the customer obtains control of the distinct goods (customer's acceptance has been obtained).

The Group has applied IFRS 15 retrospectively with the cumulative effect of initially applying this Standard recognised at the date of initial application, 1 January 2018. Any difference at the date of initial application is recognised in the opening accumulated profits and comparative information has not been restated. Furthermore, in accordance with the transition provisions in IFRS 15, the Group has elected to apply the Standard retrospectively only to contracts that are not completed at 1 January 2018. Accordingly certain comparative information may not be comparable as comparative information was prepared under IAS 18 *Revenue* and the related interpretations.

2.1.1 Key changes in accounting policies resulting from application of IFRS 15

IFRS 15 introduces a 5-step approach when recognising revenue:

- Step 1: Identify the contract(s) with a customer
- Step 2: Identify the performance obligations in the contract
- Step 3: Determine the transaction price
- Step 4: Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract
- Step 5: Recognise revenue when (or as) the Group satisfies a performance obligation.

Under IFRS 15, the Group recognises revenue when (or as) a performance obligation is satisfied, i.e. when “**control**” of the goods or services underlying the particular performance obligation is transferred to the customer.

A performance obligation represents a good or service (or a bundle of goods or services) that is distinct or a series of distinct goods or services that are substantially the same.

Control is transferred over time and revenue is recognised over time by reference to the progress towards complete satisfaction of the relevant performance obligation if one of the following criteria is met:

- the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits provided by the Group's performance as the Group performs;
- the Group's performance creates and enhances an asset that the customer controls as the Group performs; or
- the Group's performance does not create an asset with an alternative use to the Group and the Group has an enforceable right to payment for performance completed to date.

Otherwise, revenue is recognised at a point in time when the customer obtains control of the distinct goods.

A contract liability represents the Group's obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the Group has received consideration (or an amount of consideration is due) from the customer.

Incremental costs of obtaining a contract

Incremental costs of obtaining a contract are those costs that the Group incurs to obtain a contract with a customer that it would not have incurred if the contract had not been obtained.

The Group recognises such costs (sales commissions) as an asset if it expects to recover these costs. The asset so recognised is subsequently amortised to profit or loss on a systematic basis that is consistent with the transfer to the customer of the goods to which the assets relate. The asset is subject to impairment review.

The Group applies the practical expedient of expensing all incremental costs to obtain a contract if these costs would otherwise have been fully amortised to profit or loss within one year.

Existence of significant financing component

In determining the transaction price, the Group adjusts the promised amount of consideration for the effects of the time value of money if the timing of payments agreed (either explicitly or implicitly) provides the customer or the Group with a significant benefit of financing the transfer of goods or services to the customer. In those circumstances, the contract contains a significant financing component. A significant financing component may exist regardless of whether the promise of financing is explicitly stated in the contract or implied by the payment terms agreed to by the parties to the contract.

For contracts where the period between payment and transfer of the associated goods or services is less than one year, the Group applies the practical expedient of not adjusting the transaction price for any significant financing component.

2.2 Impacts and changes in accounting policies of application on IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments and the related amendments*

In the current period, the Group has applied IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments* and related consequential amendments to other IFRSs. IFRS 9 introduces new requirements for 1) the classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities, 2) expected credit losses ("ECL") for financial assets and other items and 3) general hedge accounting.

The Group has applied IFRS 9 in accordance with the transition provisions set out in IFRS 9, i.e. applied the classification and measurement requirements (including impairment) retrospectively to instruments that have not been derecognised as at 1 January 2018 (date of initial application) and has not applied the requirements to instruments that have already been derecognised as at 1 January 2018. The difference between carrying amounts as at 31 December 2017 and the carrying amounts as at 1 January 2018 are recognised in the opening accumulated profits and other component of equity, without restating comparative information.

Accordingly, certain comparative information may not be comparable as comparative information was prepared under IAS 39 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*.

2.2.1 Key changes in accounting policies resulting from application of IFRS 9

Classification and measurement of financial assets

Trade receivables arising from contracts with customers are initially measured in accordance with IFRS 15.

All recognised financial assets that are within the scope of IFRS 9 are subsequently measured at amortised cost or fair value, including unquoted equity investments measured at cost less impairment under IAS 39.

Debt instruments that meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost:

- the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contract terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Equity instruments designated as at fair value through other comprehensive income (“FVTOCI”)

At the date of initial application/initial recognition, the Group may make an irrevocable election (on an instrument-by-instrument basis) to designate investment in equity instrument as at FVTOCI.

Investment in equity instruments at FVTOCI are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with gains and losses arising from changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income (“OCI”) and accumulated in the investment revaluation reserve; and are not subject to impairment assessment. The cumulative gain or loss will not be reclassified to profit or loss on disposal of the equity investment, and will be transferred to accumulated profits.

Dividends on these investments in equity instrument are recognised in profit or loss when the Group’s right to receive the dividends is established in accordance with IFRS 9, unless the dividends clearly represent a recovery of part of the cost of the investment. Dividends are included in the “**other income**” line item in profit or loss.

The directors of the Company reviewed and assessed the Group’s financial assets as at 1 January 2018 based on the facts and circumstances that existed at that date.

Impairment under ECL model

The Group recognises a loss allowance for ECL on financial assets which are subject to impairment under IFRS 9 (including finance lease receivables, amount due from a related party, trade receivables, interest receivables, other receivables, pledged bank deposits, certificate of deposits and bank balances and cash). The amount of ECL is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition.

Lifetime ECL represents the ECL that will result from all possible default events over the expected life of the relevant instrument. In contrast, 12-month ECL (“**12m ECL**”) represents the portion of lifetime ECL that is expected to result from default events that are possible within 12 months after the reporting date. Assessment are done based on the Group’s historical credit loss experience, adjusted for factors that are specific to the debtors, general economic conditions and an assessment of both the current conditions at the reporting date as well as the forecast of future conditions.

The Group always recognises lifetime ECL for trade receivables and finance lease receivables. The ECL on these assets are assessed individually for debtors with significant balances and collectively using a provision matrix with appropriate groupings.

For all other instruments, the Group measures the loss allowance equal to 12m ECL, unless when there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the Group recognises lifetime ECL. The assessment of whether lifetime ECL should be recognised is based on significant increases in the likelihood or risk of a default occurring since initial recognition.

Significant increase in credit risk

In assessing whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Group compares the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument as at the reporting date with the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument as at the date of initial recognition. In making this assessment, the Group considers both quantitative and qualitative information that is reasonable and supportable, including historical experience and forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort.

In particular, the following information is taken into account when assessing whether credit risk has increased significantly:

- an actual or expected significant deterioration in the financial instrument's external (if available) or internal credit rating;
- significant deterioration in external market indicators of credit risk, e.g. a significant increase in the credit spread, the credit default swap prices for the debtor;
- existing or forecast adverse changes in business, financial or economic conditions that are expected to cause a significant decrease in the debtor's ability to meet its debt obligations;
- an actual or expected significant deterioration in the operating results of the debtor;
- an actual or expected significant adverse change in the regulatory, economic, or technological environment of the debtor that results in a significant decrease in the debtor's ability to meet its debt obligations.

Irrespective of the outcome of the above assessment, the Group presumes that the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition when contractual payments are more than 30 days past due, unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information that demonstrates otherwise.

Despite the foregoing, the Group assumes that the credit risk on a debt instrument has not increased significantly since initial recognition if the debt instrument is determined to have low credit risk at the reporting date. A debt instrument is determined to have low credit risk if i) it has a low risk of default, ii) the borrower has a strong capacity to meet its contractual cash flow obligations in the near term and iii) adverse changes in economic and business conditions in the longer term may, but will not necessarily, reduce the ability of the borrower to fulfil its contractual cash flow obligations. The Group considers a debt instrument to have low credit risk when it has an internal or external credit rating of 'investment grade' as per globally understood definitions.

The Group considers that default has occurred when the instrument is more than 90 days past due unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information to demonstrate that a more lagging default criterion is more appropriate.

Measurement and recognition of ECL

The measurement of ECL is a function of the probability of default, loss given default (i.e. the magnitude of the loss if there is a default) and the exposure at default. The assessment of the probability of default and loss given default is based on historical data adjusted by forward-looking information.

Generally, the ECL is estimated as the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due to the Group in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Group expects to receive, discounted at the effective interest rate determined at initial recognition. For a finance lease receivable, the cash flows used for determining the ECL is consistent with the cash flows used in measuring the finance lease receivable in accordance with IAS 17 *Leases*.

Interest income is calculated based on the gross carrying amount of the financial asset unless the financial asset is credit impaired, in which case interest income is calculated based on amortised cost of the financial asset.

The Group recognises an impairment gain or loss in profit or loss for all financial instruments by adjusting their carrying amount, with the exception of trade receivables and finance lease receivables where the corresponding adjustment is recognised through a loss allowance account.

As at 1 January 2018, the directors of the Company reviewed and assessed the Group's existing financial assets for impairment using reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort in accordance with the requirements of IFRS 9. No additional impairment allowance was recognised at 1 January 2018.

For finance lease receivables, the Group applies the IFRS 9 simplified approach to measure ECL which uses a lifetime ECL, finance lease receivables have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the historical observed default rates adjusted by forward-looking estimates. The lifetime ECL of finance lease receivable is calculated based on the net exposure of the finance lease. The directors of the Company considered that the additional lifetime ECL allowance of finance lease receivables is insignificant as at 1 January 2018.

3. SEGMENT INFORMATION

Revenue represents revenue arising from sales of pharmaceutical products and medical devices in the PRC. An analysis of the Group's revenue is as follows:

| | For the six months ended 30 June | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 |
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| | (Unaudited) | (Unaudited) |
| Sales of pharmaceutical products | 902,865 | 964,566 |
| Sales of medical devices | 48,757 | 63,616 |
| | 951,622 | 1,028,182 |

Information reported to the executive directors, being the chief operating decision maker ("CODM") for the purpose of resource allocation and assessment of segment performance focuses on types of goods delivered. Segment profit represents the gross profit earned by each segment.

Specifically, the Group’s reportable and operating segments under IFRS 8 are as follows:

- (a) Ophthalmic pharmaceutical products – sales of the Group’s ophthalmic pharmaceutical products to the customers under the co-promotion and channel management arrangement (“**Products sold via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services**”); and
- (b) Sales of all of the Group’s pharmaceutical products and medical devices except for ophthalmic pharmaceutical products to the customers under the comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management arrangement (“**Products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services**”).

No analysis of the Group’s assets and liabilities by operating segments is disclosed as it is not regularly provided to the CODM for review.

Segment revenues and results

The following is an analysis of the Group’s revenue and results by operating and reportable segment.

For the six months ended 30 June 2018 (Unaudited)

| | Products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services RMB’000 | Products sold via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services RMB’000 | Consolidated RMB’000 |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Segment revenue | 453,445 | 498,177 | 951,622 |
| Cost of sales | <u>(164,837)</u> | <u>(455,082)</u> | <u>(619,919)</u> |
| Gross profit & segment result | <u>288,608</u> | <u>43,095</u> | <u>331,703</u> |
| Other income | | | 12,570 |
| Other gains and losses | | | 7,547 |
| Distribution and selling expenses | | | (175,338) |
| Administrative expenses | | | (34,030) |
| Finance costs | | | (678) |
| Share of loss of an associate | | | <u>(7,952)</u> |
| Profit before tax | | | <u>133,822</u> |

For the six months ended 30 June 2017 (Unaudited)

| | Products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services <i>RMB'000</i> | Products sold via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services <i>RMB'000</i> | Consolidated <i>RMB'000</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Segment revenue | 425,442 | 602,740 | 1,028,182 |
| Cost of sales | (160,187) | (541,172) | (701,359) |
| Gross profit & segment result | 265,255 | 61,568 | 326,823 |
| Other income | | | 30,664 |
| Other gains and losses | | | (4,364) |
| Distribution and selling expenses | | | (152,872) |
| Administrative expenses | | | (31,444) |
| Finance costs | | | (1,255) |
| Share of loss of an associate | | | (10,522) |
| Profit before tax | | | 157,030 |

Revenue from major products

The following is an analysis of the Group's revenue from its major products:

| | For the six months ended 30 June | |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| | 2018 <i>RMB'000</i> | 2017 <i>RMB'000</i> |
| Alcon | 498,177 | 602,740 |
| Difene | 81,869 | 69,640 |
| Fluxum | 158,100 | 96,514 |
| Polimod | 53,600 | 95,703 |
| Macmiror complex and Macmiror | 29,683 | 27,620 |
| Vinpocetine API | 18,935 | 19,003 |
| Neoton | 52,922 | 43,724 |
| Budesonide Easyhaler and Salbutamol Easyhaler | 16 | 2,222 |
| FLEET Phospho-Soda | 6,626 | 7,217 |
| Medical equipments and supplies | 48,757 | 63,616 |
| Others | 2,937 | 183 |
| | 951,622 | 1,028,182 |

Note: The Alcon products represent the segment of Products sold via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services and the remaining products represent the segment of Products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services.

4. OTHER INCOME

| | For the six months ended 30 June | |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | 2018 RMB'000 (Unaudited) | 2017 RMB'000 (Unaudited) |
| Government grants (<i>Note</i>) | – | 19,583 |
| Interest on bank deposits | 694 | 1,560 |
| Interest income on finance leases | 4,661 | 3,556 |
| Interest on amount due from a related party | 2,714 | 3,158 |
| Service income | 4,501 | 2,807 |
| | <u>12,570</u> | <u>30,664</u> |

Note: It represented cash received from unconditional grants from the local government to encourage the business operations in the PRC. Government grants are recognised in profit or loss when received.

5. OTHER GAINS AND LOSSES

| | For the six months ended 30 June | |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | 2018 RMB'000 (Unaudited) | 2017 RMB'000 (Unaudited) |
| Net foreign exchange gains (losses) | 493 | (14,566) |
| Net (impairment loss) reversal of impairment loss on trade receivables | (637) | 6,884 |
| Net (impairment loss) reversal of impairment loss on finance lease receivables | (79) | 3,025 |
| Gain on dilution on interest in an associate | 7,770 | 293 |
| | <u>7,547</u> | <u>(4,364)</u> |

6. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

| | For the six months ended 30 June | |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | 2018 RMB'000 (Unaudited) | 2017 RMB'000 (Unaudited) |
| Current tax | | |
| PRC Enterprise Income Tax | 15,035 | 13,881 |
| Hong Kong Profits Tax | 1,117 | – |
| (Overprovision) underprovision in prior period | | |
| PRC Enterprise Income Tax | (1,215) | 1,601 |
| | <u>14,937</u> | <u>15,482</u> |
| Deferred tax | | |
| Current period | (2,058) | (1,126) |
| | <u>12,879</u> | <u>14,356</u> |

7. PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD

| | For the six months ended 30 June | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 |
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| | (Unaudited) | (Unaudited) |
| Profit for the period has been arrived at after charging: | | |
| Directors' remuneration | 2,887 | 2,876 |
| Other staff's retirement benefits scheme contributions | 4,676 | 4,420 |
| Other staff costs | 18,678 | 21,050 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total staff costs | 26,241 | 28,346 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Auditors' remuneration | 1,795 | 2,611 |
| Write-down of inventories | 12,400 | 1,014 |
| Release of prepaid lease payments | 26 | 26 |
| Depreciation for property, plant and equipment | 3,353 | 2,322 |
| Amortisation of intangible assets | 778 | 778 |
| Cost of inventories recognised as an expense | 619,919 | 701,359 |
| Minimum lease payment under operating lease in respect of premises | 49 | 97 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

8. DIVIDENDS

No dividends were paid, declared or proposed during the interim period. The directors of the Company have determined that no dividend will be paid in respect of the interim period.

9. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of the basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to the owners of the Company is based on the following data:

| | For the six months ended 30 June | |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 |
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| | (Unaudited) | (Unaudited) |
| Earnings | | |
| Earnings for the purposes of basic earnings per share | 120,682 | 141,348 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Numbers of shares | | |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating basic earnings per share | 1,258,216,481 | 1,294,221,000 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

For the six months ended 30 June 2018 and 2017, the weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating basic earnings per share has been taken into account the ordinary shares purchased by Bank of Communications Trustee Limited from the market pursuant to the Share Award Scheme and the ordinary shares repurchased and cancelled by the Company.

No diluted earnings per share for both periods were presented as there were no potential ordinary shares in issue for both periods.

10. INTEREST IN AN ASSOCIATE

| Name of associate | Form of entity | Classes of shares held | Principal activity | Place of incorporation and operation | Proportion of ownership interest (ordinary share) and voting power held by the Group | |
|---|----------------|------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| | | | | | 30 June 2018 | 31 December 2017 |
| NovaBay Pharmaceutical Inc. (“NovaBay”) <i>(Note)</i> | Incorporated | Ordinary shares | Development and commercialisation of its non-antibiotic anti-infective products | United States | 30.50% | 33.88% |

Note:

During the six months ended 30 June 2018, NovaBay issued an aggregate of 1,704,000 shares to various investors. A gain on dilution of approximately RMB7,770,000 was recognised in profit or loss. As of 30 June 2018, the Group held a total of 5,212,747 ordinary shares representing approximately 30.50% (31 December 2017: 5,212,747 ordinary shares representing approximately 33.88%) of issued shares of NovaBay.

Indicated by the financial performance of NovaBay for the six months ended 30 June 2018, the Group takes into consideration to perform impairment assessment for its carrying amount in accordance with IAS 36 Impairment of Assets as single assets.

The Group takes into consideration the estimation of the recoverable amount of the associate which is the higher of value in use and fair value less costs of disposal. As the shares of NovaBay are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (“**NYSE**”) in the United States, its fair value less costs of disposal can be determined based on the quoted market price of the shares as management of the Group considers that the cost of disposal are insignificant.

The recoverable amount of the investment in NovaBay as at 30 June 2018 has been determined based on the quoted market price less cost of disposal. As the recoverable amount of the investment is greater than the corresponding carrying amount, nil impairment loss is recognised (31 December 2017: nil) for the six months ended 30 June 2018 in relation to the interest in an associate.

11. OTHER INVESTMENT/EQUITY INSTRUMENT AT FVTOCI

The balances as of 30 June 2018 and 31 December 2017 represent the investment in Shanghai Yuhan fund (上海譽瀚股權投資基金合夥企業(有限合夥), the “**Fund**”), which is incorporated in the PRC. The Fund specialises in making equity investment in various targets within the pharmaceutical industry. As at 30 June 2018 and 31 December 2017, the Fund received contributions from shareholders of RMB250 million, among which the Company injected RMB20 million and accounted for 8% of the equity interest of the Fund. The Fund represents an investment in unlisted private entities and structured deposits. It was accounted for as available-for-sale investment under IAS 39 as at 31 December 2017 and measured at cost less impairment. At the date of initial application of IFRS 9, it was reclassified from available-for-sale investment to equity instrument at FVTOCI.

12. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

| | As at 30 June 2018 <i>RMB'000</i> (Unaudited) | As at 31 December 2017 <i>RMB'000</i> (Audited) |
|---|---|---|
| THE GROUP | | |
| Trade receivables | 444,694 | 492,246 |
| Less: Allowance for doubtful debts | <u>(12,514)</u> | <u>(11,877)</u> |
| | 432,180 | 480,369 |
| Other receivables, prepayments and deposits | 13,635 | 16,796 |
| Less: Allowance for doubtful debts | <u>(129)</u> | <u>(129)</u> |
| | 445,686 | 497,036 |
| Interest receivables | 304 | 440 |
| Advance payment to suppliers | 2,272 | 1,572 |
| Other tax recoverable | <u>104</u> | <u>10,117</u> |
| Total trade and other receivables | <u>448,366</u> | <u>509,165</u> |

In relation to the sales of pharmaceutical products, the Group allows a credit period from 30 days to 180 days to its trade customers.

For sales of medical devices, except for sales of medical devices under finance lease pursuant to which the legal ownership is transferred upon full payment of the contract sum that is recognised under finance lease income and finance lease receivables, the remaining sales of medical devices involved immediate transfer of legal ownership with contract sums to be settled by instalments over a general period of 12 to 36 months as stated in contracts are included in trade receivables.

The following is an aging analysis of trade receivables net of allowance for doubtful debts, which included trade receivables backed by bills provided by trade customers amounting to RMB60,449,000 (31 December 2017: RMB76,040,000), presented based on invoice date at respective reporting dates, which approximated the respective revenue recognition dates:

| | As at 30 June 2018 <i>RMB'000</i> (Unaudited) | As at 31 December 2017 <i>RMB'000</i> (Audited) |
|---------------------|---|---|
| THE GROUP | | |
| 0 to 60 days | 259,841 | 276,955 |
| 61 days to 180 days | 99,337 | 122,079 |
| 181 days to 1 year | 54,743 | 64,385 |
| 1 year to 2 years | 7,095 | 10,750 |
| Over 2 years | <u>11,164</u> | <u>6,200</u> |
| | <u>432,180</u> | <u>480,369</u> |

The Group applies the IFRS 9 simplified approach to measure lifetime ECL for trade receivables. Trade receivables have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the historical observed default rates adjusted by forward-looking estimates and allowance of RMB12,514,000 has been recognised as at 30 June 2018.

The Group rebuts the presumption of default under ECL for trade receivables over 90 days past due based on the strong financial position with good repayment records of those customers and continuous business relationship with the Group.

13. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES AND LONG TERM LIABILITIES

| | As at 30 June 2018 RMB'000 (Unaudited) | As at 31 December 2017 RMB'000 (Audited) |
|--|--|--|
| THE GROUP | | |
| Trade payables | 287,669 | 568,944 |
| Payroll and welfare payables | 3,811 | 6,790 |
| Advance from customers | – | 8,637 |
| Other tax payables | 5,940 | 1,564 |
| Marketing service fee payables | 14,171 | 15,998 |
| Interest payables | – | 466 |
| Deposits received from distributors | 20,684 | 19,527 |
| Accrued purchase | 6,483 | 9,060 |
| Other payables and accrued charges | 4,550 | 4,513 |
| | <u>343,308</u> | <u>635,499</u> |
| Less: Amounts due after one year shown under long-term liabilities (<i>Note</i>) | <u>(6,483)</u> | <u>(9,060)</u> |
| | <u>336,825</u> | <u>626,439</u> |

Note: The amount represents the accounts for the cost of medical devices which are sold under the finance lease contracts and is not payable within one year.

The Group typically receives credit periods on its purchases of goods from 30 days to 180 days.

The following is an aging analysis of trade payables presented based on the delivery date at the end of the reporting dates:

| | As at 30 June 2018 RMB'000 (Unaudited) | As at 31 December 2017 RMB'000 (Audited) |
|---------------------|--|--|
| THE GROUP | | |
| 0 to 90 days | 287,203 | 559,340 |
| 91 days to 180 days | – | 6,157 |
| 181 days to 1 year | 195 | 2,872 |
| Over 1 year | 271 | 575 |
| | <u>287,669</u> | <u>568,944</u> |

14. BANK BORROWING

During the current interim period, the Group had not obtained any new bank loans. The bank borrowing as at 31 December 2017 has been fully repaid during the current interim period.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

Since 2018, China's medical reform has entered into a critical stage, and the pharmaceutical industry is undergoing profound changes driven by the policy. Looking back on the overall situation of the industry, although existing pressures from medical insurance cost controls, reduction in drug price in tender processes has continued, the demand for the industry is still huge and growing steadily under the background of the consumption upgrades and the acceleration of the aging of the population. A number of reform measures related to the pharmaceutical sector have been steadily pushed forward, including the acceleration of the review and approval of high quality products, the successive issue of the new provincial drug reimbursement catalogue in several provinces, the introduction of several detailed regulations relating to the "Consistent Evaluation of Generic Drugs", the full implementation of the "Two-Invoice System", which continuously promote the structural adjustments of the industry. Meanwhile, as a result of the institutional reform carried out by the State, three new institutions namely the National Medical Security Administration, the National Health Commission and China Drug Administration were established, which have a great impact on the direction of medical reform, the future development of the pharmaceutical industry and the competitive environment of the pharmaceutical market. The new institutions will enhance the overall and executive ability of medical insurance management, and also play a greater role in guiding the underlying value of medical consumption behavior.

Specifically for the Group, the government's support and preferential policies on innovative drugs and medical devices, such as optimization of the approval process and accreditation of international clinical trial data, will help to expand the range of products for the Group's selection. Along with the more refined and structured measures of medical insurance cost control, drugs and medical devices conforming to the values of medical insurance, and increasing the efficiency of medical insurance funds application, will compete favourably in the market. The Group will leverage on its advantages in product quality and brand image, and strengthen its academic promotion, so as to seize opportunities to further develop its business amidst a changing and challenging market environment.

For the Reporting Period, through the Group's active efforts on organizing the market potential and promotion strategies of products, as well as increasing the frequency and depth of academic promotion activities, most of the products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services still achieved pleasing results. As disclosed in the Company's announcement dated 28 December 2017, transitional arrangements relating to the sale of Alcon's pharmaceutical products, which were sold by the Group via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services, have been under implementation for the year ending 31 December 2018, which has had a great impact on the overall performance of the Group.

For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue decreased by 7.4% compared to the same period last year to RMB951.6 million. Net profit decreased by 15.2% compared to the same period last year to RMB120.9 million. Revenue generated from Alcon's pharmaceutical products sold via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services decreased by 17.3% compared to the same period last year to RMB498.2 million, representing 52.4% of the Group's revenue for the Reporting Period. Gross profit decreased by 30.0% compared to the same period last year to RMB43.1 million, representing 13.0% of the Group's gross profit for the Reporting Period.

For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue generated from pharmaceutical products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services increased by 11.8% compared to the same period last year to RMB404.7 million, representing 42.5% of the Group's revenue for the Reporting Period. Gross profit increased by 12.2% compared to the same period last year to RMB260.1 million, representing 78.4% of the Group's gross profit for the Reporting Period.

For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue generated from medical devices sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services decreased by 23.4% compared to the same period last year to RMB48.8 million, representing 5.1% of the Group's revenue for the Reporting Period. Gross profit decreased by 14.7% compared to the same period last year to RMB28.5 million, representing 8.6% of the Group's gross profit for the Reporting Period.

1 Product Development

As of 30 June 2018, the Group had a product portfolio of pharmaceutical products (mostly being prescription products) covering ophthalmology, pain management, cardiovascular, immunology, gynecology, gastroenterology and other therapeutic areas; and medical devices covering several medical specialties including ophthalmology, orthopedics, odontology and wound care products.

1.1 Products Sold via the Provision of Comprehensive Marketing, Promotion and Channel Management Services:

| Category | For the six months ended 30 June | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| | 2018 RMB'000 (unaudited) | Percentage of the Group's Total Revenue/ Gross Profit (%) | 2017 RMB'000 (unaudited) | Percentage of the Group's Total Revenue/ Gross Profit (%) |
| Revenue: | | | | |
| Pharmaceutical Products | 404,688 | 42.5 | 361,826 | 35.2 |
| Medical Devices | 48,757 | 5.1 | 63,616 | 6.2 |
| Gross Profit: | | | | |
| Pharmaceutical Products | 260,146 | 78.4 | 231,902 | 71.0 |
| Medical Devices | 28,462 | 8.6 | 33,353 | 10.2 |

During the Reporting Period, as a result of many factors such as the trend towards refined medical insurance cost control, the increasingly stringent management of drug's clinical pathway and the control of the proportion of drugs in public medical institutions, although drug price reduction in tender processes and drug consumption limitations in medical institutions have continued, the trend of structural differentiation for clinical use of drugs was more obvious. The Group adopted a sensible promotion strategy, highlighting the products' superior quality and clear clinical effectiveness, resulting in the Group securing a stable market position for its products. The Group's business segment of provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services for pharmaceutical products maintained a steady development. During the Reporting Period, revenue generated from this segment increased by 11.8% compared to the same period last year to RMB404.7 million, representing 42.5% of the Group's revenue for the Reporting Period. Gross profit increased by 12.2% compared to the same period last year to RMB260.1 million, representing 78.4% of the Group's gross profit for the Reporting Period.

For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue generated from the sales of Difene was RMB81.9 million, representing an increase of 17.6% compared to the same period last year. Through proactively organizing and participating in various academic conferences, the Group seized the opportunities for increasing brand publicity, and refined its strategy of academic promotion, so as to expand market coverage through accelerating its penetration into more hospitals and small-sized medical institutions, as well as increasing the sales of Difene at each target hospital. With the constant expansion of the coverage of medical institutions, the superior quality of Difene has gained recognition from more doctors and patients, and the brand recognition of the product has also been further strengthened. Difene is the sole dosage product of its type in the market and comes in 10-pack and 20-pack packaging specifications. In the past, revenue from Difene mainly originated from sales of the 10-pack specification. Benefiting from the Group's overall layout in the past year, as well as the official execution of new tender results in more provinces, 20-pack specification has become a significant supplement to the market, achieving an increasing contribution to the Group's revenue. Through increased marketing activities, such as education programmes for doctors and patients on the product, the Group will strategically further expand the market coverage of 20-pack specification, so as to increase its sales volume. Furthermore, the two specifications of Difene successively won favourably priced bids in more provinces, laying a solid foundation for the future development of the product.

For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue generated from sales of Fluxum was RMB158.1 million, representing an increase of 63.8% compared to the same period last year. As one of the Group's best-selling products, leveraging the advantages in the product's quality, sound market layout and sensible promotion strategy, Fluxum has maintained rapid growth over the past few years. During the Reporting Period, the Group constantly expanded Fluxum's brand recognition through in-depth exploration on the characteristics of product differentiation, strict implementation of the strategy of professional academic promotion, as well

as actively expanding and deepening the network of clinical experts. Fluxum was listed as an imported low molecular weight heparin product in the new national drug reimbursement catalogue. Accordingly, to fully capture this opportunity for market expansion, the Group has entered into a number of new markets through sensible bidding strategies, and increased its market share by closely following and effectively participating in clinical promotions. Furthermore, with more doctors from the relevant departments paying attention to the prevention of venous thrombosis, Fluxum not only continued to maintain its brand advantage in the field of traditional surgery, but also extended the scope of its application to other hospital departments, such as internal medicine. Due to its leading market position among similar products and more improved market layout, as well as the increasing recognition of anticoagulation in more hospitals and departments, the Group believes that Fluxum has a solid foundation for long-term growth.

For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue generated from sales of Polimod was RMB53.6 million, representing a decrease of 44.0% compared to the same period last year. Polimod is the originator of pidotimod. It is a synthetic oral immune stimulant that works by stimulating and regulating cell-mediated immune response, and is applied to patients with immune dysfunction, such as respiratory tract infections, otolaryngology infections, urinary tract infections and gynaecological infections. The Group's rights to market, promote and sell Polimod were extended from eight provinces to the whole territory of China in March 2016, thereby improving the market potential of the product significantly. At the beginning of 2018, as the trial data on their safety and effectiveness were out-dated, all the pidotimod products sold in China were challenged by certain we-media, causing confusion to the physicians and patients. Thereafter, the China Food and Drug Administration ("CFDA") required for the revision of drug instructions of all the pidotimod products, which identified that it could be used for chronic or recurrent respiratory tract infections and urinary tract infections of children over three years old. CFDA also required that the clinical trial of effectiveness for the Pidotimod products should be completed within three years. The sales of Polimod in certain areas, especially in markets where physicians and patients are not very familiar with the product, decreased significantly due to the impact of this event. In response, the Group has taken a number of measures, such as inviting medical experts from the product's supplier to explain to them, in detail, the mechanism and proof of evidence-based medicine of Polimod in China, as well as cooperating with marketing partners in delivering product information to physicians in a professional manner. Through a series of measures, the sales of Polimod appears to have stabilized and its performance is now trending upwards. Moreover, the supplier of the product has reported the plan of clinical trial of its effectiveness to CFDA, and will commence the trial immediately once approved. Based on thousands of clinical research data of Polimod before and after it was launched in the market, the Group firmly believes that with the advancement of clinical effectiveness trial, Polimod will eliminate the concerns of physicians and patients with scientific data and return to the track of rapid development.

The business segment of other drugs of the Group has continued last year's healthy trend and achieved further development. For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue generated from sales of these products was RMB111.1 million, representing an increase of 11.2% compared to the same period last year. Specifically, the Group's cardiovascular product Neoton, as the sole imported originator of creatine phosphate sodium for injection, following the new round of tender processes in different provinces and sensible bidding strategies, successfully entered a number of important new markets and made significant contribution to the Group's business development. Meanwhile, through the international academic conference platform, the Group endeavors to promote physicians' awareness of its therapeutic status in the field of myocardial protection, particularly in the field of myocardial damage. Leveraging the international academic status of Neoton, the Group organizes promotional activities, strengthening the recognition of the product among doctors and patients and increasing its market share. The Group's gynecological product Macmiror Complex is the only nifuratel product in suppository dosage in the market, which lays a solid ground for the academic promotion of the product. During the Reporting Period, with the inclusion of the product in the new, national drug reimbursement catalogue, the Group strengthened its marketing and promotion activities targeted at hospitals and departments covered by its network, and endeavoured to grow its share in the gynecology therapeutic market. Given the competitive pharmaceutical market and constant changes of policies, the Group will take full advantage of the competitive edge and development opportunities of these products, so as to continuously increase their contribution to the Group's revenue.

For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue generated from medical devices sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services decreased by 23.4% compared to the same period last year to RMB48.8 million, representing 5.1% of the Group's revenue for the Reporting Period. Gross profit decreased by 14.7% compared to the same period last year to RMB28.5 million, representing 8.6% of the Group's gross profit for the Reporting Period. The Group's overall performance of the medical devices segment was still affected by the factors such as the decrease in bidding prices of some medical device consumables and market competition. However, based on the features of its products, the Group reviewed its promotion strategy, and accelerated the marketing campaigns of products launched for a short time, so as to lay the foundation for the future business development of medical device sector. Specifically, during the Reporting Period, the sales of ophthalmic surgical equipment and consumables and dental equipment and consumables still achieved solid growth. The Group has completed its work on market access in some regions for the Balanced Knee System Products (products in the therapeutic field of knee-joint), through which the Group has obtained exclusive distribution rights in China last year, and endeavor to implement the details of product's promotion and sales. Moreover, the sales of NeutroPhase (a wound cleanser) has also appeared a rapid growth trend following the adjustment of promotion direction and strategies. The Group will gradually enhance the market position of medical devices products, strengthen its promotion activities, and improve the contribution of this business segment to the Group's revenue.

1.2 *Products Sold via the Provision of Co-Promotion and Channel Management Services:*

| Category | For the six months ended 30 June | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| | 2018 RMB'000 (unaudited) | Percentage of the Group's Total Revenue/ Gross Profit (%) | 2017 RMB'000 (unaudited) | Percentage of the Group's Total Revenue/ Gross Profit (%) |
| Revenue: | | | | |
| Alcon series ophthalmic pharmaceutical products | 498,177 | 52.4 | 602,740 | 58.6 |
| Gross Profit: | | | | |
| Alcon series ophthalmic pharmaceutical products | 43,095 | 13.0 | 61,568 | 18.8 |

The Group has been providing co-promotion and channel management services for all of Alcon's ophthalmic pharmaceutical products in China for over 20 years, and the current cooperation agreement entered into between the two parties is due to expire on 31 December 2018. As disclosed in the Company's announcement dated 28 December 2017, the Group entered into a transitional agreement with Alcon and Beijing Novartis Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. ("**Beijing Novartis**") in December 2017, pursuant to which Alcon Pharmaceuticals Ltd. ("**Alcon**") and Beijing Novartis agreed to continue to supply an agreed minimum value of Alcon's ophthalmic pharmaceutical products ("**Alcon Products**") to the Group in 2018, and the total value (i.e. the total cost) of the Alcon Products which the Group may sell in 2018 will be no less than RMB617 million (net of tax). Subject to terms of the transitional agreement, if the gross profit margin of the Group for the sale of the Alcon Products in 2018 is less than 8%, Alcon and/or Beijing Novartis will compensate the Group with the effect of making up the shortfall so that the Group's gross profit margin for the Alcon Products will reach 8%. In addition to the arrangements under the transitional agreement, the Group continues to be in talks with Alcon regarding other possible future cooperation arrangements.

Since 2018, in accordance with the relevant arrangement of the transitional agreement, the Group and Beijing Novartis have gradually carried out the market transition in respect to Alcon's ophthalmic pharmaceutical products. For the Reporting Period, the Group's revenue generated from this segment decreased by 17.3% compared to the same period last year to RMB498.2 million, representing 52.4% of the Group's revenue for the Reporting Period. Gross profit decreased by 30.0% compared to the same period last year to RMB43.1 million, representing 13.0% of the Group's gross profit for the Reporting Period.

1.3 Product Pipeline

The Group is dedicated to exploring opportunities for distributing, promoting and selling prospective products of overseas pharmaceutical and medical device companies. In addition to existing products referred to above, product pipeline development is also at the core of the Group's strategy of expanding and optimizing its product portfolio. The Group's aim is to build up a product pipeline that will sustain the Group's long-term growth. When selecting prospective product candidates, the Group takes into consideration factors such as clinical effectiveness, competitive environment, product registration and regulatory regime and reputation of suppliers.

The Group has several products in respect of which it is applying or ready to apply for registration with China Drug Administration. Specifically, Bioequivalence study has been finished smoothly for Mirtazapine Orodispersible Tablets (produced by Ethypharm of France, mainly used for the treatment of depressive episodes). Imported Drug License (IDL) filing is under preparation and it is expected to be submitted to China Drug Administration in the second half of 2018. The Group is also currently preparing the application documents for Intacs® Corneal Implants (produced by AJL of Spain, used for reduction or elimination of myopia caused by keratoconus) and such documents are expected to be submitted to China Drug Administration in the second half of 2018.

In 2018, in accordance with the requirement of "Reform Opinions on Deepening the Review and Approval System and Encouraging the Innovation of Medical Products" issued by General Office of the State Council, several reform measures in respect of Chinese pharmaceuticals and medical devices approval policies were pushed forward. In particular, the optimization of clinical trial review and approval procedures, as well as the acceptance of overseas clinical trial data, will result in accelerating the launched process in China for overseas high-quality pharmaceuticals and medical devices. The Group proactively maintains close liaison with a number of overseas pharmaceutical and medical device companies in order to timely introduce their products with potentials or market foundations for marketing, promotion and sales.

2 Marketing Network Development

In 2018, the "Two-Invoice System" policy has been fully implemented in all provinces of the country, as the sole importer of overseas medical products in China, the Group is considered as the manufacturer of these imported medical products under the "Two-Invoice System". Since last year, the Group's business system has also been optimized and improved. During the Reporting Period, the Group has continually refined the network of distributors, and consolidated product distribution channels to meet the requirements of "Two-Invoice System". Meanwhile, it also helps to enhance the Group's operational efficiency and prevent operational risk.

The Group's marketing and promotion model comprises both in-house and third-party marketing teams. During the Reporting Period, the Group continued to implement the operational mechanism of product business unit divided by products or product series, and conduct products' promotion and sales work. The Group has established a sales and product manager team for each product business unit, to manage and support their third-party promotion partners. In the environment of ever-changing policies and violent market competition of pharmaceutical industry, the Group constantly adjusted and optimized all components within the marketing network, with the aim of strengthening rapid market responsiveness, as well as effective and professional product promotion activities. During the Reporting Period, with the more attention paid by the Group to the academic training of the in-house marketing team, the Group strengthened the frequency and depth of the academic promotion activities involved by the internal marketing team, so as to raise the core driving force for the product promotion. According to the market situation, the Group has also increased its efforts in optimizing the network structure of the third-party promotion partners, and improved the understanding and knowledge for the products of the third-party promotion partners, including providing further large-scale and normalized training, and assisting them in providing doctors with clinical solutions related to the products. Through the close collaboration between in-house marketing team and third-party promotion partners, the Group shares the pharmaceutical policy and market information all over the country, and improved the communication mechanism and platform with third-party promotion partners so as to improve the operation efficiency and continuously drive the Group's products development. During the Reporting Period, the development of the Group's marketing network led to significant improvement to its market coverage. For instance, number of hospitals and medical institutions using Difene has increased by 2,154, the number of hospitals using Fluxum has increased by 251. In the constantly changing pharmaceutical sector, having a well-developed and robust marketing network is fundamental to the Group's development.

3 Future and Outlook

With the deepening of China's medical reform, the pharmaceutical industry is gradually forming a new ecosystem. As a result of profound changes occurred in different areas such as traditional research and development, review and approval, as well as pricing systems, the pharmaceutical market is facing a significant structural adjustment. In general, the internal polarizing development of the pharmaceutical industry in the PRC appears to be a long-term trend. There will be increasing development opportunities for products satisfying therapeutic needs and with clear clinical value. The Group will continuously focus on the introducing and developing new products, enhancing marketing and promotion capabilities, expanding market coverage through win-win cooperation, enriching the industrial chain through mergers and acquisitions, responding proactively amidst the environment full of challenges and changes in the PRC, and forging vigorously ahead, so as to achieve the new blueprint of the Group's future development.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue

The Group's revenue in the Reporting Period was RMB951.6 million, representing a 7.4% decrease from RMB1,028.2 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017. Revenue generated from pharmaceutical products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services in the Reporting Period was RMB404.7 million, representing a 11.8% increase from RMB361.8 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to the Group's continual efforts to promote and expand the coverage of these products through its marketing network. Revenue generated from medical devices sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services in the Reporting Period was RMB48.8 million, representing a 23.4% decrease from RMB63.6 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to a decrease in sales volume and price of certain medical device consumables resulted from market competition. Revenue generated from products sold via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services in the Reporting Period was RMB498.2 million, representing a 17.3% decrease from RMB602.7 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to the gradual implementation of the transitional arrangements entered into between the Group, Alcon and Beijing Novartis in respect of the Alcon Products during the Reporting Period.

Cost of sales

The Group's cost of sales in the Reporting Period was RMB619.9 million, representing a 11.6% decrease from RMB701.4 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to a decrease in sales of the Alcon Products. Cost of sales for pharmaceutical products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services in the Reporting Period was RMB144.5 million, representing a 11.3% increase from RMB129.9 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017. Cost of sales for medical devices sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services in the Reporting Period was RMB20.3 million, representing a 32.9% decrease from RMB30.3 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017. Cost of sales for products sold via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services in the Reporting Period was RMB455.1 million, representing a 15.9% decrease from RMB541.2 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017.

Gross profit and gross profit margin

The Group's gross profit in the Reporting Period was RMB331.7 million, representing a 1.5% increase from RMB326.8 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017. The Group's average gross profit margin in the Reporting Period was 34.9%, representing an increase from 31.8% for the six months ended 30 June 2017. The Group's gross profit margin for pharmaceutical products sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and channel management services in the Reporting Period was 64.3%, representing an increase from 64.1% for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily because a higher proportion of the Group's revenue during the Reporting Period were derived from the sales of certain products which generally generate higher gross profit margins. The Group's gross profit margin for medical devices sold via the provision of comprehensive marketing, promotion and

channel management services in the Reporting Period was 58.4%, representing an increase from 52.4% for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily because a higher proportion of the Group's revenue during the Reporting Period were derived from the sales of medical devices products which generally generate higher gross profit margins. The Group's gross profit margin for products sold via the provision of co-promotion and channel management services in the Reporting Period was 8.7%, representing a decrease from 10.2% for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to a decrease in the bid price of certain Alcon's ophthalmic pharmaceutical products.

Other income

The Group's other income in the Reporting Period was RMB12.6 million, representing a 59.0% decrease from RMB30.7 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to a decrease in the amount of government grants received by the Group.

Distribution and selling expenses

The Group's distribution and selling expenses in the Reporting Period were RMB175.3 million, representing a 14.7% increase from RMB152.9 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to an increase in the Group's marketing and promotion activities for expanding the market share of certain products, as well as an increase in its marketing and promotion expenses as a result of an increase in sales price of some products in certain regions. Distribution and sale expenses in the Reporting Period were 18.4% of the revenue, representing an increase from 14.9% for the six months ended 30 June 2017.

Administrative expenses

The Group's administrative expenses in the Reporting Period were RMB34.0 million, representing an 8.2% increase from RMB31.4 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to the increased amortisation of fixed assets and increased expenses on employee training. Administrative expenses in the Reporting Period were 3.6% of the revenue, representing an increase from 3.1% for the six months ended 30 June 2017.

Finance costs

The Group's finance costs in the Reporting Period were RMB0.7 million, representing a 46.0% decrease from RMB1.3 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017, primarily due to a decrease in the amount of bank loans which resulted in a lower overall interest expense.

Income tax expense

The Group's income tax expense in the Reporting Period was RMB12.9 million, representing a 10.3% decrease from RMB14.4 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017. The Group's effective income tax rate for the six months ended 30 June 2017 and the Reporting Period was 9.1% and 9.6%, respectively. Since the beginning of 2012, the Group has been conducting business primarily through Naqu Area Pioneer Pharma Co., Ltd, which was subject to a reduced EIT rate of 9%.

Profit for the period

As a result of the above factors, the Group's profit in the Reporting Period was RMB120.9 million, representing a 15.2% decrease from RMB142.7 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017. The Group's net profit margin decreased from 13.9% for the six months ended 30 June 2017 to 12.7% for the Reporting Period.

Liquidity and capital resources

In the past, the Group's working capital and other capital needs were mainly funded by net cash flow from its operations, with supplementary financing from banks. The Group's cash and cash equivalents as of 30 June 2018 were RMB155.8 million, decreasing from RMB226.2 million as of 31 December 2017, primarily due to an increase in inventories from suppliers whose names were changed and a change of payment method for certain suppliers.

Inventories

The Group's inventory balance as of 30 June 2018 was RMB502.9 million, representing a 19.3% decrease from RMB623.4 million as of 31 December 2017, primarily due to the higher efficiency of inventory turnover as a result of the Group's improved inventory management, as well as a decrease of inventories while having a decline in the sales of the Alcon Products.

Trade and other receivables

The Group's trade and other receivables as of 30 June 2018 were RMB448.4 million, representing a 11.9% decrease from RMB509.2 million as of 31 December 2017. The Group's trade receivables turnover as of 30 June 2018 was 77.0 days, representing an increase from 66.6 days as of 31 December 2017, primarily due to a decrease in the Group's revenue.

Trade and other payables

The Group's trade and other payables as of 30 June 2018 were RMB336.8 million, representing a 46.2% decrease from RMB626.4 million as of 31 December 2017. The Group's trade payables turnover as of 30 June 2018 was 126.4 days, representing an increase from 125.6 days as of 31 December 2017, primarily due to an increase in the proportion of products purchased with longer payment term for the Reporting Period.

Bank borrowings and gearing ratio

The Group had no bank borrowings as of 30 June 2018 as compared to RMB29.0 million as of 31 December 2017. As of 31 December 2017, bank borrowings of RMB29.0 million were secured by the pledge of the Group's trade receivables. The Group's gearing ratio, calculated as bank borrowings divided by total assets, was 1.6% as of 31 December 2017.

Indebtedness

The table below summarizes the maturity profile of the Group's non-derivative financial liabilities as of the dates indicated, based on undiscounted contractual payments:

| | Less than 1 year RMB'000 | Between 1 and 2 years RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
|--------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| As of 30 June 2018 | | | |
| Bank borrowings | – | – | – |
| Trade payables | 287,398 | 271 | 287,669 |
| As of 30 June 2017 | | | |
| Bank borrowings | 40,000 | – | 40,000 |
| Trade payables | 485,431 | 130 | 485,561 |

Significant investment

NovaBay is a biopharmaceutical company incorporated in Delaware, United States developing products for the eye care market, and currently focuses primarily on commercializing the prescription of Avenova® for managing hygiene of eyelids and lashes in the United States. Its shares are traded on the NYSE. The Group commenced its business relationship with NovaBay in 2012 and obtained the exclusive rights to market, promote and sell NovaBay's NeutroPhase products in China and certain Southeast Asia markets in the same year.

As of 30 June 2018, the Group held a total of 5,212,747 ordinary shares of NovaBay, representing approximately 30.5% of its equity interest, and does not hold any NovaBay warrants. NovaBay is now dedicated to commercializing prescription Avenova® for managing hygiene of the eyelids and lashes in the United States, and has achieved a significant improvement in financial performance. The investment allows the Group to enhance its business relationship with NovaBay, and the Group remains confident in NovaBay's future development.

EMPLOYEE AND REMUNERATION POLICY

As of 30 June 2018, the Group had a total of 308 employees. For the Reporting Period, staff costs of the Group were RMB26.2 million as compared to RMB28.3 million for the six months ended 30 June 2017. The Group's employee remuneration policy is determined by taking into account factors such as the remuneration level in the local market, the overall remuneration standard in the industry, the inflation level, the corporate operating efficiency and employees' performance. The Group conducts performance appraisals once every year for its employees, the results of which are taken into consideration in annual salary review and promotion assessment. The Group's employees are considered for annual bonuses based on certain performance criteria and appraisal results. Social insurance contributions are made by the Group for its PRC employees in accordance with the relevant PRC regulations. The Group also provides continuous learning and training programs to its employees to enhance their skills and knowledge, so as to maintain their competitiveness and improve customer service. The Group did not experience any major difficulties in recruitment, nor did it experience any material loss in manpower or any material labour dispute during the Reporting Period.

INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board does not recommend any interim dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2018.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICE

The Group is committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance to safeguard the interests of shareholders of the Company (the “**Shareholders**”) and to enhance corporate value and accountability. The Company has adopted the Corporate Governance Code (the “**CG Code**”) contained in Appendix 14 to the Rules (the “**Listing Rules**”) Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange. The Company has complied with the code provisions as set out in the CG Code for the six months ended 30 June 2018. The Company will continue to review and enhance its corporate governance practices to ensure compliance with the CG Code.

COMPLIANCE WITH MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS OF LISTED ISSUERS (THE “MODEL CODE”)

The Company has adopted the Model Code contained in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules. Specific enquiries have been made to all the Directors and each of the Directors has confirmed that he has complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code of throughout the six months ended 30 June 2018.

PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY’S LISTED SECURITIES

The Company had bought back the following Shares on the Stock Exchange during the six months ended 30 June 2018 with details as set out below:

| Month of Purchase | Number of Shares Purchased | Highest Price Paid per Share <i>HK\$</i> | Lowest Price Paid per Share <i>HK\$</i> | Total Price Paid <i>HK\$</i> |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|
| January 2018 | 6,400,000 | 2.66 | 2.34 | 16,270,870 |
| February 2018 | 1,500,000 | 2.58 | 2.48 | 3,828,570 |
| March 2018 | 11,000,000 | 2.62 | 2.37 | 27,655,180 |
| April 2018 | 6,335,000 | 2.85 | 2.49 | 17,173,410 |
| June 2018 | 607,000 | 2.24 | 2.10 | 1,324,150 |
| Total | 25,842,000 | | | 66,252,180 |

All of the Shares bought back during the six months ended 30 June 2018 were subsequently cancelled or will be cancelled. The Board considers that the value of the Shares in the capital market was undervalued. The market value of the Shares was far below their intrinsic value, taking into account the Group's sufficient and strong financial resources. The Board believes that the Company's healthy financial position allows the Company to conduct the above buy-backs while maintaining sufficient financial resources for the continuous growth of the Group's operations. The Board also believes the share buy-backs and subsequent cancellation of the repurchased Shares can improve the return to the Shareholders. Save as disclosed above and the purchases of the Shares by the trustee pursuant to the Share Award Scheme, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities during the six months ended 30 June 2018.

SHARE AWARD SCHEME

The Company adopted a share award scheme (the "**Share Award Scheme**") to recognise the contribution by certain employees including Directors and senior management of the Group, and to provide them with incentives in order to retain them for the continuing operation and development of the Group, and to attract suitable personnel for further development of the Group. The Share Award Scheme has a term of 10 years commencing from 10 April 2015 on which the Share Award Scheme was adopted by the Board (the "**Adoption Date**"). The Share Award Scheme is administrated by the Board and the trustee of the Share Award Scheme. For details of the Share Award Scheme, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 10 April 2015. On 9 October 2015, the Board had resolved to grant a total of 25,060,000 awarded shares to 150 selected employees with the award price of HK\$5.076 for each awarded share. For details of the grant of such awarded shares, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 9 October 2015. No awarded share had been granted by the Company and no granted awarded share had been vested under the Share Award Scheme for the six months ended 30 June 2018.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Board has established an audit committee (the "**Audit Committee**"), which comprises two independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Wong Chi Hung, Stanley (Chairman) and Mr. Xu Zhonghai; and one non-executive Director, namely Mr. Wu Mijia.

The principal duties of the Audit Committee include the review and supervision of the Group's financial reporting, risk management and internal control systems, preparation of financial statements and internal control procedures. It also acts as an important link between the Board and the external auditor in matters within the scope of group audit.

The unaudited interim results of the Group for the six months ended 30 June 2018 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee.

PUBLICATION OF INTERIM REPORT FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

The interim report of the Company for the six months ended 30 June 2018 will be dispatched to the Shareholders and available on the websites of the Company (<http://www.pioneer-pharma.com>) and the Stock Exchange (<http://www.hkexnews.hk>) in due course.

By order of the Board
China Pioneer Pharma Holdings Limited
Li Xinzhou
Chairman

Hong Kong, 24 August 2018

As at the date of this announcement, the Directors are Mr. LI Xinzhou and Mr. ZHU Mengjun as executive Directors, Mr. WANG Yinping and Mr. WU Mijia as non-executive Directors and Mr. XU Zhonghai, Mr. LAI Chanshu and Mr. WONG Chi Hung, Stanley as independent non-executive Directors.