

# NEO-CHINA LAND GROUP (HOLDINGS) LIMITED

中新地產集團(控股)有限公司

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 563)

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2008

On behalf of the Board of Director of Neo-China Land Group (Holdings) Limited (the "Company"), I am pleased to present the annual results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") for the financial year ended 30 April 2008:

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For the year ended 30 April	2008	2007 (restated)	Increase (%)
Financial Highlights (HK\$'000)			
Turnover	5,029,260	2,779,845	80.9
Profit attributable to equity shareholders			
of the Company	1,550,486	833,319	86.1
Financial Ratios			
Net debt to shareholders' funds (%)	61.9	51.3	
Interest cover	4.09	5.56	
Current ratio	2.03	2.68	
Financial Information per share			
( <i>HK cents</i> ) ( <i>Note</i> ) Earnings			
– Basic	84.23	58.69	43.5
– Diluted	68.19	52.72	29.3
Dividends	00.17	52.12	27.5
– Interim dividend	1.0	6.0	
– Final dividend	1.0	4.8	
	1.00		
Equity attributable to equity shareholders	8,374,052	4,958,831	68.9
Land Reserve (million sq.m.)	13.1	9.2	42.4

*Note:* The figures have been adjusted for the consolidation of the Company's ordinary share in October 2007 ("Share Consolidation").

# CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

For the year ended 30 April 2008 (Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	2008 HK\$'000	2007 <i>HK\$'000</i> (restated)
Turnover	3	5,029,260	2,779,845
Cost of sales		(4,060,574)	(2,237,616)
Gross profit		968,686	542,229
Other revenue Other net income Net valuation gain on investment properties Fair value gain on transfer of completed	4 4	73,455 416,528 111,281	33,823 39,270 214,700
properties held for sale to investment properties Distribution and selling expenses General and administrative expenses		972,403 (299,321) (342,642)	323,083 (90,604) (197,145)
Profit from operations Finance costs Share of losses of associates Gain on disposal of subsidiaries Gain on disposal of partial interests in subsidiaries Impairment loss on assets of a disposal group classified as held for sale		1,900,390 (268,363) (3,853) 47,660 699,680	865,356 (81,402) (5,258) 283,247 -
Profit before taxation	5		(20,000)
Income tax	5 6	2,375,514 (808,990)	$1,041,943 \\ (223,703)$
Profit for the year		1,566,524	818,240
Attributable to: Equity shareholders of the Company Minority interests		1,550,486 16,038	833,319 (15,079)
Profit for the year		1,566,524	818,240
<b>Dividends payable to equity shareholders of</b> <b>the Company attributable to the year:</b> Interim dividend declared during the year Final dividend proposed after the balance	7	19,456	96,156
sheet date		272,390	90,453
		291,846	186,609
Earnings per share Basic	8	84.23 HK cents	58.69 HK cents
Diluted		68.19 HK cents	52.72 HK cents

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

At 30 April 2008 (Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

		200	8	200	7
	Note	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
				(restated)	(restated)
Non-current assets					
Investment properties			3,395,620		1,475,834
Other property, plant and			0,0>0,0=0		1,170,001
equipment			780,553		137,933
Interests in associates			1,445,771		, _
Deposits for acquisition of					
subsidiaries			-		255,170
Restricted bank deposits			104,495		84,125
Derivative financial instrument					
– Redemption Right of the Issuer			46,000		20,000
Deferred tax assets			25,186		15,739
			5,797,625		1,988,801
Current assets					
Properties under development		15,277,716		8,299,508	
Completed properties held for sale		533,479		375,493	
Investments in securities					
held for trading		1,486		_	
Available-for-sale investment		_		90,900	
Trade and other receivables	10	1,458,957		1,553,555	
Income tax recoverable		119,224		133,300	
Restricted bank deposits		11,100		10,100	
Cash and cash equivalents		4,363,937		1,411,472	
		21,765,899		11,874,328	
Assets of a disposal group		, ,			
classified as held for sale		_		281,002	
		21,765,899		12,155,330	
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables		3,928,235		1,320,712	
Pre-sale receipts from customers		2,727,406		1,921,783	
Bank borrowings, secured		541,491		671,700	
Loan payables		2,394,346		170,422	
Derivative financial instrument		, ,		,	
– Warrants		158,000		_	
Income tax payable		963,455		407,496	
Dividend payable		4,360		9	
		10,717,293		4,492,122	
		10,11,20		1,122,122	

		20	08	200	)7
	Note	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
				(restated)	(restated)
Liabilities directly associated					
with assets of a disposal group					
classified as held for sale		-		39,035	
		10,717,293		4,531,157	
Net current assets			11,048,606		7,624,173
Total assets less current liabilities			16,846,231		9,612,974
Non-current liabilities					
Bank borrowings, secured		2,772,558		1,401,880	
Loan payables		-		458,174	
Convertible notes		939,480		1,254,074	
Senior notes		2,897,838		-	
Derivative financial instrument					
– Redemption Right of the Holder		34,000		53,000	
Deferred tax liabilities		1,123,032		934,295	
			7,766,908		4,101,423
NET ASSETS			9,079,323		5,511,551
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Share capital			77,826		68,754
Reserves			8,296,226		4,890,077
Total equity attributable					
to equity shareholders of					
the Company			8,374,052		4,958,831
Minority interest			705,271		552,720
TOTAL EQUITY			9,079,323		5,511,551

## SELECTED NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

#### 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs"), which collective term includes all applicable individual Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, Hong Kong Accounting Standards ("HKASs") and Interpretations issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"), accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance. These financial statements also comply with the applicable disclosure provisions of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("Stock Exchange"). A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Group is set out below.

The HKICPA has issued certain new and revised HKFRSs that are first effective or available for early adoption for the current accounting period of the Group. Note 2 provides information on any changes in accounting policies resulting from initial application of these developments to the extent that they are relevant to the Group for the current and prior accounting periods reflected in these financial statements.

# 2. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND RESTATEMENT OF PRIOR PERIODS AND OPENING BALANCES

#### (a) Change in accounting policies

The HKICPA has issued a number of new and revised HKFRSs and Interpretations that are first effective or available for early adoption for the current accounting period of the Group.

There have been no significant changes to the accounting policies applied in these financial statements for the years presented as a result of these developments. However, as a result of the adoption of HKFRS 7 "*Financial instruments: Disclosures*" and the amendment to HKAS 1 "*Presentation of financial statements: Capital disclosures*", there have been some additional disclosures provided as follows:

As a result of the adoption of HKFRS 7, the financial statements include expanded disclosure about the significance of the Group's financial instruments and the nature and extent of risks arising from those instruments, compared with the information previously required to be disclosed by HKAS 32 *"Financial instruments: Disclosure and presentation"*. These disclosures are provided throughout these financial statements, in particular in note to the financial statements.

The amendment to HKAS 1 introduces additional disclosure requirements to provide information about the level of capital and the Group's objectives, policies and processes for managing capital. These new disclosures are set out in note to the financial statements.

Both HKFRS 7 and the amendment to HKAS 1 do not have any material impact on the classification, recognition and measurement of the amounts recognised in the financial instruments.

The Group has not applied any new standard or interpretation that is not yet effective for the current accounting period.

#### (b) Restatement of prior periods and opening balances

In prior years, the Group classified land appreciation tax ("LAT") in the People's Republic of China (the" PRC") as part of cost of sales, with the related prepaid LAT included in trade and other receivables and LAT payables included in trade and other payables.

In September 2007, the HKICPA's Financial Reporting Standards Committee has clarified that the LAT is a form of income tax and is within the scope of HKAS 12 "*Income Taxes*". Accordingly, LAT charge has been reclassified from cost of sales to income tax expense on the consolidated income statement and the related prepaid LAT and LAT payable shall be grouped under tax recoverable and tax payable on the face of the consolidated balance sheet.

These changes in accounting treatment have been adjusted retrospectively by restating the comparative information for the period.

#### 3. TURNOVER

The principal activities of the Group are property development and property investment.

Turnover represents revenue from sale of property units (net of business tax) and rental income. The amount of each significant category of revenue recognised in turnover during the year is as follows:

#### 4. OTHER REVENUE AND NET INCOME

	2008 HK\$'000	2007 HK\$'000
Other revenue		
Interest income from bank deposits	28,721	6,749
Interest income from loan to an associate	-	5,494
Other interest income		6,602
Total interest income on financial assets		
not at fair value through profit or loss	28,721	18,845
Dividend income from unlisted investments held for trading	37,366	14,286
Bad debts recovered	4,793	-
PRC government subsidies	765	545
Forfeiture of customers' deposits	496	-
Others	1,314	147
	73,455	33,823
Other net income		
Net gain on disposal of investment properties	32,453	_
Available-for-sale investments: transfer from equity		
– on disposal	61,945	-
Changes in fair values of derivative financial instruments	48,802	436
Exchange gain on convertible notes	108,355	24,291
Exchange gain on senior notes	97,595	-
Other net exchange gain	67,378	14,394
Others		149
	416,528	39,270

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#### 5. PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

Profit before taxation is arrived at after charging/(crediting):

		2008 HK\$'000	2007 HK\$'000
(a)	Finance costs:		
	Interest on bank borrowings wholly repayable within five years	158,748	88,842
	Interest on bank borrowings wholly repayable after five years	17,163	-
	Interest on loan payables	238,722	37,712
	Interest on convertible notes	97,622	96,007
	Interest on senior notes	254,128	-
	Interest on loan from a minority shareholder	6,241	-
	Interest on amount due to a related company		5,770
	Total interest expense on financial liabilities		
	not at fair value through profit or loss	772,624	228,331
	Less: interest expense capitalised into properties		
	under development*	(504,261)	(146,929)
		268,363	81,402

\* The borrowing costs have been capitalised at a rate of 5.91% – 19.66% (2007: 7.48%) per annum.

(restated) (b) Staff costs: Contributions to defined contribution retirement plans Equity-settled share-based payment expense 92,941 97,840 Salaries, wages and other benefits 103,315 38,980 Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development (22,914) (10,081) 199,546 138,391 (22,914) (10,081) 176,632 128,310 (c) Other items: Depreciation 2000 11,163 3,712 Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development (371) (442) 10,792 3,270 Auditors' remuneration - audit services 3,600 3,131 - other services 720 6,664 Cost of properties sold 4,060,574 2,237,616			2008 HK\$'000	2007 <i>HK\$`000</i>
Contributions to defined contribution retirement plans $3,290$ $1,571$ Equity-settled share-based payment expense $92,941$ $97,840$ Salaries, wages and other benefits $103,315$ $38,980$ Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development $(22,914)$ $(10,081)$ $176,632$ $128,310$ (c) Other items: Depreciation $11,163$ $3,712$ Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development $(371)$ $(442)$ $10,792$ $3,270$ Auditors' remuneration - audit services $3,600$ $3,131$ - other services $720$				(restated)
Equity-settled share-based payment expense $92,941$ $97,840$ Salaries, wages and other benefits $103,315$ $38,980$ Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development $(22,914)$ $(10,081)$ $(22,914)$ $(10,081)$ $176,632$ $128,310$ (c) Other items: Depreciation Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development $(371)$ $(442)$ $(442)$ $10,792$ $3,270$ Auditors' remuneration - audit services $3,600$ $3,131$ - other services $720$ $6,664$	(b)	Staff costs:		
Salaries, wages and other benefits $103,315$ $38,980$ Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development $199,546$ $138,391$ Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development $(22,914)$ $(10,081)$ $176,632$ $128,310$ (c) Other items: Depreciation Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development $(371)$ $(442)$ $10,792$ $3,270$ Auditors' remuneration - audit services $3,600$ $3,131$ - other services $720$ $6,664$		Contributions to defined contribution retirement plans	3,290	1,571
Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development $199,546$ $138,391$ $(22,914)$ $(10,081)$ $176,632$ $128,310$ (c) Other items: Depreciation Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development $11,163$ $3,712$ $(442)$ $(371)$ $(442)$ $10,792$ $3,270$ Auditors' remuneration - audit services $3,600$ $3,131$ - other services		Equity-settled share-based payment expense	92,941	97,840
Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development $(22,914)$ $(10,081)$ 176,632128,310(c) Other items: Depreciation Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development11,1633,712 $(371)$ $(442)$ 10,7923,270Auditors' remuneration - audit services3,6003,131- other services7206,664		Salaries, wages and other benefits	103,315	38,980
Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development $(22,914)$ $(10,081)$ 176,632128,310(c) Other items: Depreciation Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development11,1633,712 $(371)$ $(442)$ 10,7923,270Auditors' remuneration - audit services3,6003,131- other services7206,664				
176,632128,310(c) Other items: Depreciation $Less:$ depreciation capitalised into properties under development11,163 (371)10,7923,270Auditors' remuneration - audit services3,600 (3,131) (6,664)			199,546	138,391
(c) Other items: Depreciation Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development11,163 (371)3,712 (442)10,7923,270Auditors' remuneration - audit services - other services3,600 (6,664)		Less: Staff costs capitalised into properties under development	(22,914)	(10,081)
Depreciation11,1633,712Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development(371)(442)10,7923,270Auditors' remuneration3,6003,131- other services7206,664			176,632	128,310
Depreciation11,1633,712Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development(371)(442)10,7923,270Auditors' remuneration3,6003,131- other services7206,664	(c)	Other items:		
Less: depreciation capitalised into properties under development(371)(442)10,7923,270Auditors' remuneration audit services3,600- other services7206,664	(-)		11,163	3,712
Auditors' remuneration- audit services3,600- other services7206,664				
Auditors' remuneration- audit services3,600- other services7206,664			10.792	3 270
- audit services       3,600       3,131         - other services       720       6,664		Auditors' remuneration	10,772	5,270
- other services <b>720</b> 6,664			3,600	3,131
Cost of properties sold 2,237,616		- other services		
		Cost of properties sold	4,060,574	2,237,616

#### 6. INCOME TAX IN THE INCOME STATEMENT

	2008 HK\$'000	2007 <i>HK\$'000</i> (restated)
Current tax		
Provision for the year		
- PRC Enterprise Income Tax	440,378	171,678
– Land Appreciation Tax	265,112	200,613
	705,490	372,291
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of temporary differences		
– Current year	102,114	(24,915)
- Attributed to a change in tax rate	1,386	(123,673)
	103,500	(148,588)
	808,990	223,703

The provision for income tax comprised PRC Enterprise Income Tax and Land Appreciation Tax.

No provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax has been made in the consolidated income statement as the Group did not derive any assessable profits in Hong Kong for the years ended 30 April 2007 and 2008.

The provision for PRC Enterprise Income Tax for the Company's subsidiaries in the PRC is based on PRC Enterprise Income Tax rates of 15% to 33% of the taxable income as determined in accordance with the relevant income tax rules and regulations of the PRC on or before 31 December 2007.

On 16 March 2007, the Fifth Plenary Session of the Tenth National People's Congress passed the Corporate Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China ("New Tax Law") which takes effect on 1 January 2008. As a result of the New Tax Law, the PRC Enterprise Income Tax rate applicable to the Company's subsidiaries in the PRC except for Shenzhen Phoenix Real Estates Co., Ltd. is reduced from 33% to 25%, while that applicable to Shenzhen Phoenix Real Estates Co., Ltd. increases gradually from 15% to standard rate of 25% over a five-year transitional period commencing from January 2008.

In accordance with the Land Appreciation Tax Law of the PRC, Land Appreciation Tax is charged on the appreciated amount of the properties developed by the Group for sale in the PRC at progressive rates ranging from 30% to 60%.

#### 7. DIVIDENDS

#### (a) Dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the year

	2008 HK\$'000	2007 HK\$'000
	ΠΚφ 000	ΠΚφ 000
Interim dividend declared and paid of HK1.0 cent per		
ordinary share (2007: HK6.0 cents)	19,456	96,156
Final dividend proposed after the balance sheet date of		
HK14.0 cents per ordinary share (2007: HK4.8 cents)	272,390	90,453
	291,846	186,609

The final dividend proposed after the balance sheet date has not been recognised as a liability at the balance sheet date.

Note: The figures for dividends per share have been adjusted with the effect of Share Consolidation.

# (b) Dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company attributable to the previous financial year, approved and paid during the year.

	2008	2007
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Final dividend in respect of the previous financial year, approved and paid during the year, of HK4.8 cents per		
ordinary share (2007: HK nil cents per ordinary share)	90,453	_

#### 8. EARNINGS PER SHARE

#### (a) Basic earnings per share

The calculation of basic earnings per share is based on the profit attributable to ordinary equity shareholders of the Company of HK\$1,550,486,000 (2007: HK\$833,319,000) and the weighted average number of 1,840,767,124 ordinary shares (2007 (restated): 1,419,831,298 ordinary shares) in issue during the year calculated as follows:

#### Weighted averaged number of ordinary shares

	2008	2007 (restated)
Issued ordinary shares at 1 May	1,718,843,585	1,019,834,872
Effect of shares issued under a private placement	-	65,972,603
Effect of conversion of convertible notes	38,848,716	99,726,027
Effect of shares issued for acquisition of subsidiaries	80,420,588	234,297,796
Effect of share options exercised	2,654,235	
Weighted average number of ordinary shares at 30 April	1,840,767,124	1,419,831,298

*Note:* The weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of basic earnings per share have been adjusted with the effect of Share Consolidation.

#### (b) Diluted earnings per share

(ii)

The calculation of diluted earnings per share is based on the profit attributable to ordinary equity shareholders of the Company of HK\$1,410,830,000 (2007: HK\$853,287,000) and the weighted average number of ordinary shares of 2,069,070,162 shares (2007: (restated) 1,618,619,511 shares) calculated as follows:

(i) Profit attributable to ordinary equity shareholders of the Company (diluted)

		2008 HK\$'000	2007 HK\$'000
	Profit attributable to ordinary equity shareholders	1,550,486	833,319
	After tax effect of effective interest on liability		
	component of convertible notes	13,699	44,695
	After tax effect of exchange gain		
	on liability component of convertible notes	(108,355)	(24,291)
	After tax effect of gains/losses recognised		
	on the derivative component of convertible notes	(45,000)	(436)
	Profit attributable to ordinary equity shareholders (diluted)	1,410,830	853,287
1	Weighted average number of ordinary shares (diluted)		
		2008	2007
			(restated)
	Weighted average number of ordinary shares at 30 April	1,840,767,124	1,419,831,298
	Effect of conversion of convertible notes	183,772,228	197,888,183
	Effect of deemed issue of shares under the Company's		
	share option scheme	44,530,810	900,030
	Weighted average number of ordinary shares (diluted)		
	at 30 April	2,069,070,162	1,618,619,511

During the year ended 30 April 2008, the computation of diluted earnings per share did not assure the exercise of the Company's outstanding warrants since the exercise would result in an increase in diluted earnings per share.

*Note:* The weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of diluted earnings per share have been adjusted with the effect of Share Consolidation.

#### 9. SEGMENT REPORTING

Segment information is presented in respect of the Group's business segments. Business segment information is chosen as the primary reporting format because this is more relevant to the Group's internal financial reporting.

As the operations of the Group are all in the PRC, no geographical segment information is presented.

#### **Business segments**

The Group comprises the following main business segments:

Property development: the development and sale of commercial and residential properties.

Property investment: the leasing of properties to generate rental income and to gain from the appreciation in the properties' values in the long term.

	Property		Property		Unallocated			
	<b>development</b> <b>2008</b> 2007		investment		2008	2007	Consolidated	
	2008 HK\$'000	2007 HK\$'000 (restated)	2008 HK\$'000	2007 HK\$'000	2008 HK\$'000	2007 HK\$'000	2008 HK\$'000	2007 <i>HK\$'000</i> (restated)
Revenue								
External sales	5,018,642	2,779,642	10,618	203			5,029,260	2,779,845
Result								
Segment result	1,441,913	720,667	172,265	208,737		_	1,614,178	929,404
Unallocated corporate								
income/(expenses)							286,212	(64,048)
Profit from operations							1,900,390	865,356
Finance costs							(268,363)	(81,402)
Share of losses of associates							(3,853)	(5,258)
Gain on disposal of subsidiaries	47,660	283,247	_	_	_	_	47,660	283,247
Gain on disposal of	,	200,217						200,217
partial interests in subsidiaries	699,680	-	-	-	-	-	699,680	-
Impairment loss on assets of a disposal group								
classified as held for sale							_	(20,000)
Income tax							(808,990)	(223,703)
Profit for the year							1,566,524	818,240
Other information								
Capital expenditure								
- acquisition of subsidiaries	2,441	7,767	-	560,924	962	90,000	3,403	658,691
- others	12,858	9,055	3,202	62,366	5,211	26,804	21,271	98,225
Depreciation	7,449	2,501	1,039	740	2,675	471	11,163	3,712
Valuation gain on								
investment properties	-	-	111,281	214,700	-	-	111,281	214,700
Fair value gain on transfer of completed properties held								
for sale to investment properties	972,403	323,083			-		972,403	323,083

	Property development		Property investment			
					Consolidated	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Assets						
Segments assets	19,047,714	10,210,885	1,706,567	1,483,296	20,754,281	11,694,181
Unallocated corporate assets					6,809,243	2,449,950
Consolidated total assets					27,563,524	14,144,131
Liabilities						
Segment liabilities	6,250,145	3,133,869	62,070	172,669	6,312,215	3,306,538
Unallocated corporate liabilities					12,171,986	5,326,042
Consolidated total liabilities					18,484,201	8,632,580

#### 10. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Included in trade and other receivables are trade debtors (net of allowance for doubtful debts) with the following ageing analysis as of the balance sheet date:

	2008 HK\$'000	2007 HK\$'000
Less than 90 days	128,786	24,080
More than 90 days but less than 180 days	-	22,266
More than 180 days	10,411	
	139,197	46,346

## MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The operating results of the Company again rose to historic high in 2008. For the year ended 30 April 2008, under the Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, the Group recorded a turnover of approximately HK\$5,030 million (2007: HK\$2,780 million), representing an increase of approximately 80.9% over the prior period. Profit attributable to shareholders amounted to HK\$1,550 million (2007: HK\$833 million), representing an increase of approximately 86.1% over the prior period. Basic earnings per share was HK84.23 cents (2007: HK58.69 cents) and diluted earnings per share was HK68.19 cents (2007: HK52.72 cents). Total prepaid receipts from customers as at 30 April 2008 were HK\$2,727 million (2007: HK\$1,922 million).

## **PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS**

The Board of Directors has made every effort to maintain a stable dividend policy while keeping a sound financial position for further development. For the best interests of shareholders, the Board recommended a payment of final dividend of HK14.0 cents per share payable on 22 August 2008 to those shareholders whose names are shown in the register of members of the Company on 12 September 2008. Together with an interim dividend of HK1.0 cent per share distributed on February 2008, the total dividend for the whole year amounted to HK15.0 cents per share.

## **BUSINESS REVIEW**

During the year under review, the Group's businesses underwent an effective consolidation in accordance with its strategic plan. While expanding the Group's capability on property development, the Group also placed great emphasis on reasonable allocation of the operating cash flow. Total GFA sold and recognized of the Group were 822,491 sq.m., while GFA of completed properties held were 292,963 sq.m.. The turnover of the Group increased by 80.9% to HK\$5,030 million, attributable to the Group being capable of providing refined products, and the dedication by the employees in the last year was another key factor. The consolidated net profit of the Group increased by 86.1% as compared with that of the previous year, fulfilling its promise to the investors.

# LAND BANK

While expanding the Group's valuable land bank in a moderate manner, the Group also paid particular attention to diversification in the districts, cities and property portfolios in the land bank. Over the year, through a number of acquisitions of equity interests and by other means, the Group's land bank had increased by approximately 4,118,109 sq.m..

The Group currently has 16 projects under development in 12 cities. These 16 projects have an aggregate site area of 7,933,750 sq.m. and an aggregate GFA of approximately 14,818,361 sq.m. or an aggregate saleable GFA of approximately 13,084,482 sq.m., including completed property developments with a total saleable GFA of 1,938,262 sq.m., properties under development with a total planned saleable GFA of 2,107,304 sq.m., and properties held for future development with a total planned GFA of 9,038,916 sq.m..

# **DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

• Shenzhen

#### **Phoenix Tower Project**

Phoenix Tower is located in the central district of Futian District, Shenzhen, and was co-developed with Phoenix Satellite Television Holdings, Ltd., one of China's leading television networks. The project comprises office building and service apartments. The project occupies a GFA (including saleable and non-saleable) of approximately 106,190 sq.m.. As of 30 April 2008, the Group had 91% ownership of this project.

As of 30 April 2008, the property developments have fully completed with a saleable GFA of approximately 79,391 sq.m.. Among which, a saleable GFA of approximately 48,165 sq.m. had been sold, with the remaining GFA being retained as property held.

#### • Beijing Region

### Xidiaoyutai Project

Xidiaoyutai Project is situated on the banks of the Kunyu River, a prestigious area in Beijing. The property comprises waterfront luxury residential and service apartments. The project occupies a site area of 42,541 sq.m., with a total GFA (including saleable and non-saleable) of 250,836 sq.m.. The Group has a 90% ownership of this project.

As of 30 April 2008, the completed property development consisted of a saleable GFA of approximately 175,682 sq.m., among which GFA of approximately 156,319 sq.m. had been sold.

As of 30 April 2008, properties held for future development consisted of a saleable GFA of approximately 44,965 sq.m..

#### American Rock Project

The American Rock Project is situated at Baiziwan Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing, adjacent to the central business district. The development consists of approximately 5,400 residential and commercial units. The project site area with a GFA (both saleable and non-saleable) of 523,833 sq.m.. The development is divided into four zones with different development themes to cater for the needs of customer groups. The Group has 100% ownership of this development.

As of 30 April 2008, this property development project was fully completed, with GFA of approximately 453,064 sq.m. had been sold.

#### Youngman Point Project

The Youngman Point Project is located at No. 2 Ganluyuan, Zhongli, Qingnian Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing, and is close to the central business district. The project occupies a site area of 113,166 sq.m., with a GFA (including saleable and non-saleable) of 352,305 sq.m.. The Group has 74% ownership of this development.

As of 30 April 2008, completed property developments comprised a saleable GFA of approximately 213,085 sq.m.. Among which, saleable GFA of approximately 199,365 sq.m. had been sold.

As of 30 April 2008, properties held for future development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 76,615 sq.m..

## Freedom Town Project

The property is situated at Tong Zhou District, Beijing. The project will become a composite development including luxury high-rise residential buildings and ancillary facilities. The development occupies an area of 253,043 sq.m. and has a GFA of approximately 826,092 sq.m.. The project will be completed by two phases. Phase 1 of the said development is scheduled to be completed before the end of 2010.

In November 2007, December 2007 and May 2008, the Group has entered into agreements with independent third parties to acquire 56% interest in total in the project. The transaction has been completed as at the date of this announcement.

#### Yanjiao Project

The project is situated in Yanjiao, Hebei Province and will be developed mainly for composite use including residential, commercial and hotel use. The project occupies an usable land area of 333,333 sq.m. while the current planned GFA is approximately 460,000 sq.m..

In November 2007, the Group entered into purchase agreements with independent third parties to acquire 90% equity interest in the project company. Details of the development was disclosed in the circular of the Company issued on 4 January 2008. The transaction has been completed as at the date of this announcement.

## • Chongqing

## **Chongqing Yuanjiagang Project**

This project is located at a premier location at Yuanjiagang, the intersection of the Yuzhong District and the Hi-Tech District, Chongqing. In addition to residential, commercial and office buildings, this project will also include a hotel property. The project comprises five different sites and occupies a site area of 113,268 sq.m., with a GFA (both saleable and non-saleable) of 802,532 sq.m.. The Group has a 100% ownership of this development.

As of 30 April 2008, the completed property development comprised saleable GFA of approximately 425,737 sq.m.. As of 30 April 2008, saleable GFA of approximately 121,657 sq.m. had been sold and a GFA of approximately 226,303 sq.m has been retained as rental premises.

As of 30 April 2008, properties under development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 309,345 sq.m.. Among which, GFA of 81,887 sq.m. had been pre-sold.

#### • Tianjin

## Tianjin Laochengxiang Project

Tianjin Laochengxiang is located in an old urban area in the center of Tianjin city. This development will contain residential and commercial premises, office buildings and a hotel. The project comprises seven parcels of land and occupies a total site area of 296,551 sq.m., with a GFA (including saleable and non-saleable) of 1,151,261 sq.m.. The Group has a 100% ownership of this development.

As of 30 April 2008, completed property developments comprised a saleable GFA of approximately 129,445 sq.m.. The Group allocated saleable GFA of approximately 49,954 sq.m. to be held for rental purposes, with saleable GFA of approximately 78,462 sq.m. had been sold.

As of 30 April 2008, properties under development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 364,686 sq.m.. Among which, GFA of 161,790 sq.m. had been pre-sold.

As of 30 April 2008, properties held for future development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 446,698 sq.m..

## **Beichen Project**

Beichen Project is situated at the old village of Yi Xing Fu. The project occupies a land area of 1,115,476 sq.m., and will mainly consist of residential units with a construction area of 2,263,000 sq.m.. As the existing constructions on land are still in the process of being demolished and relocated, so the whole area of the land is currently being held for future development.

In November 2007 and April 2008, the Group has entered into a co-operation agreement and supplement agreement with Wukuang Zhiye Company (五礦置業公司) to jointly develop the project and dispose 20% equity interest in Tianjin City Yi Jia He Zhi Ye Company Limited (天津億嘉合置業有限公司). Details of which has been disclosed in the circular of the Company dated 20 June 2008. The transaction has been completed up to the date of this announcement.

## • Changsha

## Neo-China Forest Garden Project

Neo-China Forest Garden is situated in Wancheng Xian, Changsha City, approximately 15 kilometers from the Changsha Municipal Government Headquarters and is being developed mainly for residential use. The project comprises five parcels of land and occupies a GFA (both saleable and non-saleable) of 1,073,600 sq.m..

As of 30 April 2008, the saleable GFA of completed properties were approximately 50,700 sq.m., among which approximately 40,210 sq.m. had been sold.

As of 30 April 2008, properties under development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 194,833 sq.m..

As of 30 April 2008, properties held for future development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 746,802 sq.m..

#### • Xian

### Neo Water City Project

Neo Water City is located at the intersection of Chan River and Ba River, in the only large ecological community in Xian. It comprises, in addition to residential and commercial developments, a hotel, the first phase of which has been completed during the year. The project occupies a GFA (both saleable and non-saleable) of approximately 3,534,736 sq.m.. The group has a 71.5% ownership of this development.

As of 30 April 2008, properties of approximately 409,612 sq.m. had been completed, among which 339,425 sq.m. had been sold.

As of 30 April 2008, properties under development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 780,070 sq.m..

As of 30 April 2008, the properties held for future development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 2,016,017 sq.m..

#### • Chengdu

## Wen Jiang Project

The Wen Jiang Project is located at Wen Jiang Xin Cheng District in Chengdu City and is being developed for residential use. The project occupies a site area of 228,106 sq.m., with a GFA (both saleable and non-saleable) of 775,000 sq.m..

As of 30 April 2008, properties under development comprised an expected saleable GFA of approximately 295,482 sq.m., and it is scheduled to be put on sale during 2008, with the remaining area to be held for future properties development.

In June 2008, the Group entered into an agreement with the other shareholder of the Chengdu project company for the acquisition of its 30% equity interests in the project company and relevant shareholder's loan. For further details, please refer to the Company's circular dated 18 July 2008. As at the date hereof, the transaction had not yet been completed.

#### • Shanghai

### Jiujiu Youth City Project

Jiujiu Youth City Project is situated in Gui Dao Jiao Tong Jiu Ting Zhen No. 1, Song Jiang District, Shanghai. The project will be developed into office buildings and serviced apartments. The Group has 100% ownership in this development. The project occupies a land area of approximately 57,944 sq.m., with total GFA of 213,755 sq.m. of which 162,888 sq.m. is saleable.

As of 30 April 2008, all the properties had commenced construction of which 51,016 sq.m. have been pre-sold.

#### • Zhu Hai

#### Qi Ao Island Project

The project is locate at Qi Ao Island, and is going to be developed into a mix of high class residential villas and commercial property. The project occupies an site area of 2,215,516 sq.m. and a total saleable GFA of approximately 770,000 sq.m.. The project is currently in the stage of planning submission and the construction is expected to be commenced at the end of 2008.

On 24 and 26 September 2007, the Group entered into two agreements with Zhuhai City Yu Zhou Hung Ji Group Company Limited and Mr. Chan Kin Kay Stanley (both are independent third-parties) respectively, to obtain the 100% ownership in this project. The transaction has been completed as at the date of this announcement.

#### • Harbin

### Harbin Project

The property is situated at Nan Gang District, Harbin. It is a composite of high quality high-rise apartments and commercial premises which can accommodate up to 30,000 residents. Amongst the total GFA of approximately 1,214,000 sq.m., an area of approximately 50,000 sq.m. will be developed for commercial purpose which further increases the portion of investment properties in the Group's portfolio.

In November 2007, the Group entered into purchase agreements with independent third parties to acquire 40% of Invest Online Limited which holds 100% equity interest in the project company. The transaction has been completed as at the date of this announcement.

#### • Shenyang

#### Tai Yuan Street Project

The property is situated in the commercial hub of Tai Yuan Street, Shenyang. The project primarily will be developed into commercial buildings. The project occupies a land area of 22,651 sq.m. and a GFA of over 181,208 sq.m.. In September 2007, the Group entered into purchase agreement with independent third parties to acquire in aggregate 80% equity interest in 瀋陽向明陽益置業有限公司. The transaction has been completed as at the date of this announcement.

#### • Tianjn Primary Land Development Project

The Tianjin Primary Land Development Project is a joint venture with The Tianjin Dianshi Investment Consulting Limited and the Tianjin Xin Zhuang Economic Development Centre with respect to the property at Land Lot No. 2003-181 Jinnanke, west side of Keyan East Road, Nankai District in Tianjin. The joint venture Company so established intends to engage in the construction of city infrastructure projects for a plot of land of approximately 7.0 million sq.m.. The land will be developed for sale through an open auction process, and the proceeds will be retained by the Municipal Government of Tianjin as to 25% with the remaining profit to be attributable to the joint venture. The Group has a 65% ownership of the joint venture.

#### **Property Investment**

The growth in investment properties will generate for the Group an additional and regular revenue stream. To date, after completion of large scale commercial properties in Chongqing and hotels in Xian, the aggregate saleable GFA of the properties held by the Group in cities like Chongqing, Tianjin, Xian and Shenzhen has reached 367,728 sq.m., some of which have been leased to retailers. It is expected that an increase of approximately 30% in net profit generated from rental investment can be achieved by the end of 2011. With the increase in the quantity of properties held, the Group has also expanded the pool of talented professionals in property operations and has been active in seeking partnerships with internationally recognized property management companies. This has helped build up a solid foundation for the Group's development strategy to ensure smooth property investments.

# PROSPECT

Following the implementation of further austerity measures by the PRC government, there was a slump in transactions of the property market nationwide since the end of 2007. With the existence of the grave hesitant atmosphere, there was substantial adjustment to the property market. The Group believes that the said adjustment of the property market will make the Group stand out in the future market competition as the Group is of abundant cash flow and quality.

In the coming year, the Company will actively follow and study both changes in macroeconomic condition and property market. While continuing the implementation of the Company's development plan in a long term, it will also make specific adjustments to the current land portfolio of the Company, improving product quality, enhancing the Company's brand value and adopting a more effective and flexible sales strategy to facilitate quicker fund return. In respect of acquiring additional land bank, the Company will stick to its prudence principle and not to expand hastily so as to further enhance the Company's ability to resist risks. The Company is of the view that after the rapid growth of the domestic property market between 2005 and 2007, the market is inevitably in need of a reasonable adjustment. It should also be noted that, given the property sector is still one of the pillars of the PRC economy, there was no fundamental changes in the material factors that affect the long term development of property market, which includes urbanization progress, economic growth, population structure, liquidity of funds and shift in accommodation pattern, there was neither any interruption in the basic development trend of the industry. Upon the current adjustment completes, new development phases will be emerged.

# **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

# CHANGE OF COMPANY NAME

On 17 October, 2007, the Company changed its name from "Neo-China Group (Holdings) Limited" to "Neo-China Land Group (Holdings) Limited".

## DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVES OF THE COMPANY

As at 30 April 2008, the Company had HK\$1,763,954,000 (2007: HK\$809,167,000) reserves available for distribution, consisting of contributed surplus in 2008 of nil (2007: HK\$331,149,000) and retained profits of HK\$1,763,954,000 (2007: HK\$478,018,000).

Under the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (as amended), the Company cannot declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of the contributed surplus if:

- (a) it is, or would after the payment be unable to pay its liabilities as they become due; or
- (b) the realizable value of its assets would thereby be less than the aggregate of its liabilities and its issued share capital and share premium accounts.

Under the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (as amended), the Company's share premium account of HK\$5,515,551,000 (2007: HK\$3,673,938,000) may be distributed in the form of fully paid bonus shares.

# LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

As at 30 April 2008, the Group had cash and bank balances of approximately HK\$4,364,000,000 with net assets totaling to HK\$9,079,000,000 and current ratio of approximately 2.03. The total debt of the Group as at 30 April 2008 amounted to HK\$9,546,000,000 making the Group's gearing ratio at 61.9% at 30 April 2008 calculated as net debt to shareholders' funds of HK\$8,374,052,000.

The board of directors believes that liquid assets, funds and future revenue will be sufficient to finance future expansion and working capital requirements.

# HUMAN RESOURCES AND REMUNERATION POLICIES

As at 30 April 2008, the Group employed 1,176 employees (including Hong Kong and PRC offices) (2007: 890).

The emolument policy of the employees of the Group is set out by the Remuneration Committee on the basis of their merit, qualifications and competence.

The emolument of the directors of the Company are decided by the Remuneration Committee, having regard to the Company's operating results, individual performance and comparable market statistics.

Staff benefits include contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes and discretionary bonus payments which are linked to the profit performance of the Group and individual performances.

The Group has adopted a share option scheme as an incentive to directors and eligible employees.

## **CLOSURE OF REGISTER MEMBERS**

The Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 16 September 2008 to 19 September 2008, both dates inclusive. In order to be entitle to the final dividend, all transfers of shares accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Share Registrar, Tricor Secretaries Limited, at 26th Floor, Tesbury Centre, 28 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong not later than 4:30 p.m. on 12 September 2008.

# CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Company has complied with the Code on Corporate Governance Practices (the "Code") as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules throughout the fiscal year ended 30 April 2008, except for the following:

Code A.4.1 specifies that the independent non-executive directors should be appointed for a specific term and every director should be subject to retirement by rotation at least once every three years. Currently, the existing four independent non-executive directors are not appointed for specific terms, but are subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at the Company's annual general meeting in accordance with the Company's Bye-laws.

The Company has not established a Nomination Committee. The duties and functions of the Nomination Committee recommended in the Code are performed by the Board collectively with no director being involved in fixing his/her own terms of appointment and no independent non-executive director being involved in assessing his/her own independence.

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules as its own code of conduct regarding securities transactions by the directors of the Company (the "Model Code"). Having made specific enquiry of all directors, all directors have confirmed that they had compiled with the required standard as set out in the Model Code during the period.

# AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Company's audit committee comprises three independent non-executive directors. Its terms of reference have been modified to incorporate certain provisions with reference to Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules. The audit committee has reviewed the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and considered auditing, internal controls and financial reporting matters including a review of the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2008.

# AUDITORS

Messrs. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu resigned as auditors of the Company on 10 June 2008 while CCIF CPA Limited was appointed by the Board to fill the casual vacancy.

Apart from the foregoing, there were no other changes in auditors of the Company in any of the preceding three years.

CCIF CPA Limited shall retire and being eligible, offer themselves for re-appointment. A resolution for the reappointment of CCIF CPA Limited as auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

# COMMUNICATIONS WITH SHAREHOLDERS AND INVESTORS

The Board recognizes the importance of good communications with all shareholders. Extensive information on the Company's activities is provided in the annual and interim reports, which are sent to shareholders. The Company's annual general meeting is a valuable forum for the board to communicate directly with shareholders. The directors are present to answer shareholders' questions. Details of some transactions undertaken by the Group are also disclosed in a timely manner to shareholders through press announcements to facilitate shareholders' understanding of the Group's activities.

The Company continues to enhance communications and relationships with its investors. Designated senior management maintains regular dialogue with institutional investors and analysts to keep them abreast of the Company's developments. Enquires from investors are dealt with in an informative and timely manner.

At the request of the Company, trading in the shares (stock code: 563) and the convertible bonds (stock code: 2528) of the Company was suspended with effect from 10:10 a.m. on 22 January 2008 pending the release of announcements in respect certain price-sensitive information.

The Company will continue to work closely with the Stock Exchange on an announcement with respect to matters which led to the Company's suspension of trading of its securities and will apply to the Stock Exchange for the resumption of trading of its shares and the convertible bonds as soon as practicable.

### SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS

To safeguard the shareholders' interests and rights, separate resolutions are proposed at shareholders' meetings on each substantial issue, including the election of individual directors.

The rights of shareholders and the procedures for demanding a poll on resolutions at shareholders' meetings at which voting is taken on a poll are contained in the Company's Articles of Association. Details of such rights to demand a poll were included in all circulars to shareholders and will be explained during the proceedings of meetings.

As at the date of this announcement, Directors are as follows:-

Executive Directors: Mr. Li Song Xiao Mr. Liu Yi Ms. Niu Xiao Rong Mr. Yuan Kun Ms. Liu Yan Mr. Jia Bo Wei Mr. Lu Zhao Qun Ms. Bao Jing Tao Mr. Lam Kwan Sing Non-Executive Directors: Mr. Lai Leong

Independent Non-Executive Directors: Ms. Nie Mei Sheng Mr. Gao Ning Mr. Zhang Qing Lin Mr. Lai Man Leung

By Order of the Board of Neo-China Group (Holdings) Limited Li Song Xiao Chairman

Hong Kong, 22 August 2008