



# China Telecom Corporation Limited

## 中国电信股份有限公司

(A joint stock limited company incorporated in the People's Republic of China with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 0728)

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Including the amortisation of upfront connection fees	Excluding the amortisation of upfront connection fees
— Operating revenues reached RMB88,624 million	— Operating revenues reached RMB86,958 million, up by 2.5%
— EBITDA reached RMB46,217 million, EBITDA margin was 52.1%	— EBITDA reached RMB44,551 million, up by 0.8%, EBITDA margin was 51.2%
— Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company was RMB13,482 million, basic earnings per share was RMB0.17	— Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company was RMB11,816 million, up by 1.3%, basic earnings per share was RMB0.15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Total number of access lines in service reached 224 million, net addition of 1.45 million, up by 0.7%.</li><li>• Broadband subscribers reached 32.19 million, net addition of 3.87 million, up by 13.7%.</li></ul>	

#### CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Dear Shareholders,

I am gratified by the results of the first half of the year 2007. Despite facing harsh challenges from intense market competition, we have successfully maintained our solid fundamentals, benefiting from the effective implementation of strategic transformation. The Company has continued to record growth in both revenue and profit. Through the transformation, our business structure was further optimised with our Internet access, value-added and integrated information services gaining momentum. This has also vigorously abated the pressure on the operation of our traditional voice business. What encourages me most is that, on implementation of the transformation during the past two years and beyond, our people at all levels have continued to liberalise their mindset and courageously faced the prevailing tough operating environment while executing the transformation strategy with passion. They keep on exploring and innovating products and services to satisfy the increasingly diverse communication and

information needs of our customers, leveraging our rich resources and infrastructure. We firmly believe that as we further deepen our strategic transformation and capitalise on our multi-services convergence offering edge, we would drive greater value for our customers and for you as shareholders.

## **FINANCIAL RESULTS**

In the first half of 2007, operating revenues reached RMB88,624 million, of which RMB1,666 million were accounted for by the amortisation of upfront connection fees. Excluding the upfront connection fees, operating revenues were RMB86,958 million, a 2.5% growth compared to the same period in 2006. EBITDA<sup>1</sup> was RMB44,551 million, and the EBITDA margin<sup>1</sup> maintained at a healthy level of 51.2%. Operating expenses were RMB68,340 million, an increase of 3.3% compared to the same period in 2006. Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company<sup>1</sup> was RMB11,816 million, an increase of 1.3% compared to the same period last year, and basic earnings per share<sup>1</sup> was RMB0.15. Capital expenditure was RMB20,435 million, 1.6% less than that of the same period last year. Free cash flow<sup>2</sup> was RMB19,356 million.

Taking into consideration of the Company's business development needs and its cash flow position, the Board of Directors has resolved not to pay any interim dividend for the year in order to maintain adequate funding flexibility. The Board will proactively consider the final dividend proposal at the time of reviewing the full year results and propose to the shareholders' general meeting accordingly.

## **BUSINESS PERFORMANCE**

In the first half of 2007, the Company's voice business was affected by the continuous decline in effective mobile tariff, the extensive implementation of mobile calling-party-pay packages and the increased diversity in communication methods. Our voice revenue recorded RMB56,997 million, a decrease of 6.9% from the same period last year. In face of the immense pressure of declining voice revenue caused by the aggressive expansion of mobile operators, the Company strengthened its customer brand operation to fully capitalize on branding premium value. Leveraging our two major customer brands, "BizNavigator" and "One Home", we further expanded our Internet access, value-added and integrated information services, so that our non-voice businesses emerged as the new revenue-drivers for the Company. In the first half of 2007, our non-voice businesses revenue reached RMB29,961 million, an increase of 26.9% compared to the same period last year, triggering 7.5 percentage points growth in revenue and accounting for 34.5% of operating revenue. The Company's revenue profile was thus further optimised. Additionally, our high-quality customer brands enhanced effective packaged sales of both voice and non-voice businesses, fostering customer loyalty and consolidating revenue. It also progressively transformed voice usage value to integrated information services, enhancing our multi-services convergence offering edge and making good the loss in voice revenue to a certain extent.

1 Including the amortisation of upfront connection fees, EBITDA was RMB46,217 million, EBITDA margin was 52.1%, profit attributable to equity holders of the Company was RMB13,482 million and basic earnings per share was RMB0.17.

2 Free cashflow is calculated from EBITDA (excluding amortisation of upfront connection fees) minus capital expenditure and income tax.

Starting from this year, the Company has further increased the marketing efforts of broadband access, in particular for the penetration of the government & enterprise customers as well as mid-to-high-end household customers, to achieve its high value and scale development. To reinforce our leading position in the broadband market, the Company has also persistently improved the quality of the Internet network as well as the user-ends' bandwidth to enhance customers' experience. The number of our broadband subscribers increased by 3.87 million to 32.19 million in the first half of the year. In order to accelerate the development of our Internet applications business, we strengthened the cooperation with renowned software and content providers, such as Microsoft, Google and Sina to improve our back-end operation. Revenue brought by our Internet value-added services grew by 54.2% in the first half of the year.

For our value-added and integrated information services, the Company concentrated its efforts in promoting the development of services, such as "Best Tone" (information search engine), enterprise informatisation applications, IT services and applications. We also nurtured new value-added services such as media advertising and video applications, thus establishing an advantage over our peers in core competitiveness. These new services play an important role in consolidating the Company's traditional voice business and creating room for further business growth. The Company also established specialised subsidiaries to operate our "Best Tone" and system integration businesses respectively, introducing innovative management and incentive mechanisms to promote the rapid development of integrated information services at their growing phase and gradually establish a new operating model that would better suit their development.

Over the past two years and beyond, through transformation in our businesses, networks and human resources, we have developed a series of established products and services such as "Best Tone", "Mega Eye" (remote monitoring) and ICT (Information, Communication and Technology), which laid a solid foundation for our customer brand operation. In the first half of the year, we transformed our operation model from product-oriented to customer-oriented to better cater to our customers' needs. We enriched the product combinations under our customer brands and aligned marketing resource allocation with customer value to enhance customers' perception and loyalty. Leveraging our two major customer brands, "BizNavigator" and "One Home", we concentrated our marketing efforts and resources on the key customer segments of government and enterprise as well as mid-to-high-end household, providing them with our integrated information solutions which incorporated voice, broadband access and Internet applications, enhancing customers' value in a broader market. The success of "BizNavigator" and "One Home" brought our multi-services packaged strategy into a new stage. Consumers began to appreciate the value enhanced by the multi-services packaging under the customer brand oriented operation. Customer brand operations have driven the robust growth of our non-voice businesses and reduced the risk of our traditional voice business at the same time.

To tackle with the intense market competition, the Company has persistently improved its financial management. Leveraging comprehensive mechanisms, the Company allocated resource tilting towards business or operating units with high growth and high profitability to ensure the quality and growth of

transformation businesses, and directed each level of the corporation to embrace long-term value creation. The Company also strived to ensure sustainable revenue growth, reinforce financial control and cost control with a view to enhancing its operating efficiency and value creation capability.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

We are firmly committed to continuously improving our corporate governance and transparency to ensure our healthy development and enhance our corporate value. With regard to the US Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Company continuously strengthened its internal control systems while further improving its risk management system to effectively lower operating risk. Our efforts in corporate governance have been widely recognized by the capital market and honored with a number of awards, including the accreditation with “CAPITAL Outstanding China Enterprise Awards — Telecommunications” by CAPITAL magazine for two consecutive years. Furthermore, in the nomination of the Asia’s Best Companies 2007 (China region) organised by FinanceAsia, we achieved top rankings in the “Best Managed Company”, “Best Corporate Governance” and “Best Investor Relations” categories.

## **FUTURE OUTLOOK**

Our strategic transformation has gathered pace with brand building further strengthened and customer brand oriented operation progressively enhanced. Emerging integrated information business has grown rapidly, expanding new markets for the Company. Our revenue profile has been further enhanced, alleviating the risk of traditional voice business. In addition, we successfully acquired from our parent company, its subsidiaries in Hong Kong and US, as well as its system integration operating subsidiary. These acquisitions have afforded us with expanded markets for our development.

Looking ahead, we are fully confident. Rising demand in the domestic telecommunications market brings a great wealth of opportunities. The vast market potential in social informatization provides us with broader room for development. As we further deepen the strategic transformation, our roadmap is getting clearer. We have built our experience in integrated information operation with our people getting more suited to the requirements of strategic transformation. We are confident that the Company would achieve sustainable development and drive more value for its shareholders.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank our shareholders and customers for their continuous support to the Company. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our people for their considerable efforts in the corporate transformation.

**Wang Xiaochu**

*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*

Beijing, PRC

28 August 2007

## GROUP RESULTS

China Telecom Corporation Limited (the “Company”) is pleased to announce the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the “Group”) for the six months ended 30 June 2007 extracted from the unaudited interim financial statements of the Group as set out in its 2007 Interim Report.

### Consolidated Income Statement (Unaudited)

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2007

(Amounts in millions, except per share data)

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
		2007 RMB	2006 RMB (restated)
<b>Operating revenues</b>	4	<b>88,624</b>	87,345
<b>Operating expenses</b>			
Depreciation and amortisation		(25,933)	(25,494)
Network operations and support		(14,597)	(13,829)
Selling, general and administrative		(10,886)	(10,425)
Personnel expenses		(13,578)	(13,395)
Other operating expenses		<u>(3,346)</u>	<u>(2,991)</u>
<b>Total operating expenses</b>		<u><b>(68,340)</b></u>	<u>(66,134)</u>
<b>Operating profit</b>		<b>20,284</b>	21,211
Net finance costs	5	(2,022)	(2,498)
Investment loss		—	(20)
Share of profit from associates		<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
<b>Profit before taxation</b>		<b>18,269</b>	18,700
Income tax	6	<u>(4,760)</u>	<u>(4,512)</u>
<b>Profit for the period</b>		<u><b>13,509</b></u>	<u>14,188</u>
<b>Attributable to:</b>			
Equity holders of the Company		<b>13,482</b>	14,155
Minority interests		<u>27</u>	<u>33</u>
<b>Profit for the period</b>		<u><b>13,509</b></u>	<u>14,188</u>
<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	7	<u><b>0.17</b></u>	<u>0.17</u>
<b>Weighted average number of shares</b>		<u><b>80,932</b></u>	<u>80,932</u>

## Consolidated Balance Sheet (Unaudited)

at 30 June 2007

(Amounts in millions)

	<b>30 June</b>	31 December
	<b>2007</b>	2006
	<b>RMB</b>	<b>RMB</b>
<i>Note</i>		(restated)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment, net	318,352	328,379
Construction in progress	21,648	18,426
Lease prepayments	5,125	5,092
Interests in associates	587	581
Other investments	292	225
Deferred tax assets	9 8,710	10,971
Other assets	<u>10,356</u>	<u>11,013</u>
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>365,070</b>	<b>374,687</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Inventories	2,922	3,213
Accounts receivable, net	10 18,942	15,992
Prepayments and other current assets	3,152	2,556
Time deposits with maturity over three months	145	119
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>16,991</u>	<u>22,326</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>42,152</b>	<b>44,206</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b><u>407,222</u></b>	<b><u>418,893</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Short-term debt	70,203	79,576
Current portion of long-term debt	9,311	8,242
Accounts payable	11 30,380	32,355
Accrued expenses and other payables	31,322	27,181
Income tax payable	3,257	3,124
Current portion of finance lease obligations	—	48
Current portion of deferred revenues	<u>6,166</u>	<u>7,098</u>
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>150,639</b>	<b>157,624</b>
<b>Net current liabilities</b>	<b>(108,487)</b>	<b>(113,418)</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>256,583</b>	<b>261,269</b>

	<i>Note</i>	<b>30 June 2007 RMB</b>	31 December 2006 RMB (restated)
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Long-term debt		<b>34,207</b>	37,257
Deferred revenues		<b>11,742</b>	13,625
Deferred tax liabilities	9	<b>2,095</b>	2,711
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>48,044</b>	53,593
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>198,683</b>	211,217
<b>Equity</b>			
Share capital		<b>80,932</b>	80,932
Reserves		<b>126,146</b>	125,296
<b>Total equity attributable to equity holders of the Company</b>		<b>207,078</b>	206,228
<b>Minority interests</b>		<b>1,461</b>	1,448
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>208,539</b>	207,676
<b>Total liabilities and equity</b>		<b>407,222</b>	418,893

*Notes:*

## 1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

These interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 “Interim Financial Reporting” promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Board and the applicable disclosure requirements of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. These interim financial statements, which were authorised for issuance by the Board of Directors on 28 August 2007, reflect the unaudited financial position of the Group as at 30 June 2007 and the unaudited results of operations and cash flows of the Group for the six-month period then ended, which are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations and cash flows expected for the year ending 31 December 2007.

These interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the same accounting policies adopted in the 2006 annual financial statements.

These interim financial statements are unaudited, but have been reviewed by the Audit Committee of the Company. These interim financial statements have also been reviewed by the Company’s international auditors in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Review Engagements 2410 “Review of interim financial information performed by the independent auditor of the entity” issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

## 2. ACQUISITION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Pursuant to an equity purchase agreement entered into by the Company with China Telecommunications Corporation (“China Telecom” and together with its subsidiaries other than the Company are referred to as “China Telecom Group”) on 15 June 2007, the Company acquired the entire equity interests in China Telecom System Integration Co., Ltd. (“CTSI”), China Telecom (Hong Kong) International Limited (“CT (HK)”) and China Telecom (USA) Corporation (“CT (USA)”) (collectively the “Third Acquired Group”) from China Telecom for a total purchase price of RMB1,408 million on 30 June 2007 (hereinafter, referred to as the “Third Acquisition”). The purchase price was settled by cash in July 2007.

Since the Group and the Third Acquired Group are under common control of China Telecom, the Third Acquisition has been accounted for as a “combination of entities under common control”. Accordingly, the assets and liabilities of the Third Acquired Group have been accounted for at historical amounts and the consolidated financial statements of the Company prior to the Third Acquisition have been restated to include the results of operations and assets and liabilities of the Third Acquired Group on a combined basis. The assets of the Third Acquired Group that were retained by China Telecom which consist of bank deposits, have been reflected as a distribution to China Telecom in the consolidated statement of changes in equity for the six-month period ended 30 June 2007. The purchase price payable by the Company for the acquisition of the Third Acquired Group has been accounted for as an equity transaction in the consolidated statement of changes in equity.

The results of operations for the six-month period ended 30 June 2006 and the financial condition as at 31 December 2006 previously reported by the Group have been restated to include the results and assets and liabilities of the Third Acquired Group as set out below:

	<b>The Group (as previously reported)</b> <i>RMB millions</i>	<b>The Third Acquired Group</b> <i>RMB millions</i>	<b>The Group (as restated)</b> <i>RMB millions</i>
Result of operations for the six-month period ended 30 June 2006:			
Operating revenues	86,936	409	87,345
Net profit	14,117	71	14,188
Financial condition as at 31 December 2006:			
Total assets	414,041	4,852	418,893
Total liabilities	210,168	1,049	211,217

The functional currencies of CT (HK) and CT (USA) are Hong Kong dollars and US dollars respectively. The results of operations of CT (HK) and CT (USA) are translated into Renminbi at average rate prevailing during the year. Balance sheet items of CT (HK) and CT (USA) are translated into Renminbi at the foreign exchange rates ruling at the balance sheet date. The resulting exchange differences are recognised directly in exchange reserves, a component of equity. For the periods presented, all significant balances and transactions between the Group and the Third Acquired Group have been eliminated on combination.

## 3. SEGMENTAL REPORTING

A business segment is a distinguishable component of the Group that is engaged in providing products or services and is subject to risks and rewards that are different from those of other segments. For the periods presented, the Group has one business segment which is the provision of wireline telecommunications services. No analysis of the Group’s operating revenues and profit before taxation by geographical segment has been presented as the majority of the

Group's operating activities are carried out in the PRC and less than 10 percent of the Group's operating revenues and profit before taxation were derived from activities outside the PRC. A majority of the Group's assets are located in the PRC and less than 10 percent of the Group's total assets are located outside the PRC.

#### 4. OPERATING REVENUES

Operating revenues represent revenues from the provision of wireline telecommunications services. The components of the Group's operating revenues are as follows:

	<i>Note</i>	<b>Six-month periods ended 30 June</b>	
		<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
		<b><i>RMB millions</i></b>	<b><i>RMB millions</i></b>
Upfront connection fees	(i)	<b>1,666</b>	2,494
Upfront installation fees	(ii)	<b>1,411</b>	1,458
Monthly fees	(iii)	<b>13,284</b>	14,936
Local usage fees	(iv)	<b>21,558</b>	23,378
DLD	(iv)	<b>12,194</b>	12,889
ILD	(iv)	<b>1,464</b>	1,610
Internet	(v)	<b>14,641</b>	11,198
Managed data	(vi)	<b>1,528</b>	1,496
Interconnections	(vii)	<b>7,086</b>	6,975
Leased line	(viii)	<b>2,521</b>	2,183
Value-added services and integrated information services	(ix)	<b>9,115</b>	6,805
Others	(x)	<b>2,156</b>	1,923
		<b><u>88,624</u></b>	<b><u>87,345</u></b>

*Note:*

- (i) Represent the amortised amount of the upfront fees received for the initial activation of wireline services.
- (ii) Represent the amortised amount of the upfront fees received for installation of wireline services.
- (iii) Represent amounts charged to customers each month for their use of the Group's telephone services.
- (iv) Represent usage fees charged to customers for the provision of telephone services.
- (v) Represent amounts charged to customers for the provision of Internet access services.
- (vi) Represent amounts charged to customers for the provision of managed data transmission services.
- (vii) Represent amounts charged to domestic and foreign telecommunications operators for delivery of voice and data traffic connecting to the Group's wireline telecommunications networks.
- (viii) Represent primarily lease income from other telecommunications operators and business customers for the usage of the Group's wireline telecommunications networks and is measured by the number of lines leased and the agreed upon rate per line leased.

- (ix) Represent amounts charged to customers for the provision of wireline value-added services and integrated information services, which comprise primarily caller ID services, short messaging services, ring tone services and telephone information services.
- (x) Represent primarily revenues from sale and repairs and maintenance of customer-end equipment and constructions of telecommunications network and infrastructure for customers.

## 5. NET FINANCE COSTS

Net finance costs comprise:

	<b>Six-month periods ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	2006
	<i><b>RMB millions</b></i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Interest expense incurred	<b>2,629</b>	3,060
Less: Interest expense capitalised*	<u>(241)</u>	<u>(397)</u>
Net interest expense	<b>2,388</b>	2,663
Interest income	<b>(204)</b>	(227)
Foreign exchange losses	<b>2</b>	70
Foreign exchange gains	<u>(164)</u>	<u>(8)</u>
	<u><b>2,022</b></u>	<u>2,498</u>
* Interest expense was capitalised in construction in progress at the following rates per annum	<u><b>2.0%–5.9%</b></u>	<u>2.0%–5.3%</u>

## 6. INCOME TAX

Income tax in the consolidated income statement comprises:

	<b>Six-month periods ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	2006
	<i><b>RMB millions</b></i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Provision for PRC income tax	<b>4,712</b>	4,560
Provision for income tax in other tax jurisdictions	<b>8</b>	8
Deferred taxation	<u>40</u>	<u>(56)</u>
	<u><b>4,760</b></u>	<u>4,512</u>

A reconciliation of the expected tax with the actual tax expense is as follows:

	<i>Note</i>	<b>Six-month periods ended 30 June</b>	
		<b>2007</b>	2006
		<b><i>RMB millions</i></b>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Profit before taxation		<u><b>18,269</b></u>	<u>18,700</u>
Expected income tax expense at statutory tax rate of 33%	<i>(i)</i>	<b>6,029</b>	6,171
Differential tax rate on PRC subsidiaries' income	<i>(i)</i>	<b>(899)</b>	(956)
Differential tax rate on other subsidiaries' income	<i>(ii)</i>	<b>(8)</b>	(7)
Non-deductible expenses	<i>(iii)</i>	<b>654</b>	744
Non-taxable income	<i>(iv)</i>	<b>(928)</b>	(1,280)
Effect of change of tax rate	<i>9</i>	<b>72</b>	—
Tax credit for domestic equipment purchases		<u><b>(160)</b></u>	<u>(160)</u>
Income tax		<u><b>4,760</b></u>	<u>4,512</u>

- (i) The provision for PRC current income tax is based on a statutory rate of 33% of the assessable income of the Company and its PRC subsidiaries as determined in accordance with the relevant income tax rules and regulations of the PRC, except for certain subsidiaries which are taxed at a preferential rate of 15%.
- (ii) Income tax provision of the Company's subsidiaries in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China and other countries is based on the subsidiaries' assessable income and income tax rates applicable in the respective tax jurisdictions which range from 17.5% to 35%.
- (iii) Amounts represent personnel and other miscellaneous expenses in excess of statutory deductible limits for tax purpose.
- (iv) Amounts primarily represent connection fees received from customers which are not subject to income tax.

## 7. BASIC EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic earnings per share for the six-month periods ended 30 June 2007 and 2006 is based on the profit attributable to equity holders of the Company of RMB13,482 million and RMB14,155 million, respectively, divided by 80,932,368,321 shares in issue.

The amount of diluted earnings per share is not presented as there were no dilutive potential ordinary shares in existence for the periods presented.

## 8. DIVIDENDS

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting held on 29 May 2007, a final dividend of RMB0.083302 (equivalent to HK\$0.085) per share totalling RMB6,741 million in respect of the year ended 31 December 2006 was declared, which was paid on 15 June 2007.

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting held on 23 May 2006, a final dividend of RMB0.077637 (equivalent to HK\$0.075) per share totalling RMB6,283 million in respect of the year ended 31 December 2005 was declared, which was paid on 15 June 2006.

The Board of Directors has resolved not to pay an interim dividend for the year ending 31 December 2007.

## 9. DEFERRED TAX ASSET AND LIABILITIES

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are attributable to the items set out below:

	Assets		Liabilities		Net Balance	
	30 June 2007	31 December 2006	30 June 2007	31 December 2006	30 June 2007	31 December 2006
	RMB millions	RMB millions	RMB millions	RMB millions	RMB millions	RMB millions
<i>Current</i>						
Provisions and impairment losses, primarily for receivables	532	540	—	—	532	540
<i>Non-current</i>						
Property, plant and equipment	530	589	(1,172)	(1,566)	(642)	(977)
Deferred revenues and installation costs	1,688	2,152	(877)	(1,123)	811	1,029
Land use rights	5,960	7,690	—	—	5,960	7,690
Available-for-sale equity securities	—	—	(46)	(22)	(46)	(22)
Deferred tax assets/(liabilities)	<b>8,710</b>	<b>10,971</b>	<b>(2,095)</b>	<b>(2,711)</b>	<b>6,615</b>	<b>8,260</b>

Movements in temporary differences are as follows:

	Balance at 1 January 2007	Recognised in income statement	Recognised in equity	Balance at 30 June 2007
Note	RMB millions	RMB millions	RMB millions	RMB millions
<i>Current</i>				
Provisions and impairment losses, primarily for receivables	540	(8)	—	532
<i>Non-current</i>				
Property, plant and equipment	(i) (977)	275	60	(642)
Deferred revenues and installation costs	1,029	(218)	—	811
Land use rights	(i) 7,690	(89)	(1,641)	5,960
Available-for-sale equity securities	(22)	—	(24)	(46)
Net deferred tax assets	<b>8,260</b>	<b>(40)</b>	<b>(1,605)</b>	<b>6,615</b>

Note:

- (i) 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 will take effect on 1 January 2008. According to the new tax law, a unified corporate income tax rate of 25% and unified tax deduction standards will be applied to PRC entities. Effective from 1 January 2008, the 25% unified tax rate will replace the 33% tax

rate currently in effect through 2007. In addition, entities currently taxed at preferential rates will be subject to a five-year transition period during which the tax rates will gradually be increased to the unified rate of 25% from 1 January 2008.

According to the new tax law, the income tax rate applicable to the Company and certain of its subsidiaries which are currently taxed at 33% will be reduced to the unified rate of 25% from 1 January 2008. For subsidiaries operating in special economic zones which are currently taxed at preferential rate of 15%, management expect that their tax rate will be increased to 25% from 1 January 2013. For subsidiaries operating in the western region of the PRC which were granted a preferential tax rate of 15% from 2004 to 2010, management expect that their tax rate will be increased to 25% from 1 January 2011. Accordingly, deferred tax assets and liabilities as at 1 January 2007 were adjusted to reflect the change in tax rate. For deferred tax assets and liabilities previously credited and charged to profit and loss upon initial recognition, the effect of change in the tax rate amounted to RMB72 million was recognised in the consolidated income statement. For deferred tax assets and liabilities previously credited and charged to equity upon initial recognition, the effect of change in the tax rate amounted to RMB1,641 million and RMB60 million respectively were recognised in the consolidated statement of changes in equity.

#### 10. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, NET

Accounts receivable, net, are analysed as follows:

	<b>30 June 2007</b>	31 December 2006
	<i>RMB millions</i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Third parties	<b>18,541</b>	15,501
China Telecom Group	<b>67</b>	199
Other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC	<b>2,373</b>	1,792
	<b>20,981</b>	17,492
Less: Impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts	<b>(2,039)</b>	(1,500)
	<b>18,942</b>	15,992

Amounts due from the provision of wireline telecommunications services to residential and business customers are due within 30 days from the date of billing.

Ageing analysis of accounts receivable from telephone and Internet subscribers is as follows:

	<b>30 June 2007</b>	31 December 2006
	<i>RMB millions</i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Current, within 1 month	<b>11,724</b>	11,634
1 to 3 months	<b>2,785</b>	1,074
4 to 12 months	<b>1,153</b>	1,062
More than 12 months	<b>762</b>	314
	<b>16,424</b>	14,084
Less: Impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts	<b>(1,915)</b>	(1,376)
	<b>14,509</b>	12,708

Ageing analysis of accounts receivable from other telecommunications operators and customers is as follows:

	<b>30 June 2007</b>	31 December 2006
	<i>RMB millions</i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Current, within 1 month	<b>1,709</b>	1,716
1 to 3 months	<b>1,621</b>	814
4 to 12 months	<b>760</b>	546
More than 12 months	<b>467</b>	332
	<b>4,557</b>	3,408
Less: Impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts	<b>(124)</b>	(124)
	<b>4,433</b>	3,284

## 11. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounts payable are analysed as follows:

	<b>30 June 2007</b>	31 December 2006
	<i>RMB millions</i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Third parties	<b>24,363</b>	25,709
China Telecom Group	<b>5,947</b>	6,583
Other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC	<b>70</b>	63
	<b>30,380</b>	32,355

Amounts due to China Telecom Group are repayable in accordance with contractual terms which are similar to those terms offered by third parties.

Ageing analysis of accounts payable is as follows:

	<b>30 June</b>	31 December
	<b>2007</b>	2006
	<i>RMB millions</i>	<i>RMB million</i>
Due within 1 month or on demand	<b>6,416</b>	6,115
Due after 1 month but within 3 months	<b>6,569</b>	8,831
Due after 3 months but within 6 months	<b>8,178</b>	7,181
Due after 6 months	<b>9,217</b>	10,228
	<b>30,380</b>	32,355

## 12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Companies are considered to be related if one company has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control or jointly control the other company or exercise significant influence over the other company in making financial and operating decisions. Companies are also considered to be related if they are subject to common control.

### (a) Transactions with China Telecom Group

The Group is part of a large group of companies under China Telecom, a company owned by the PRC government, and has significant transactions and relationships with members of China Telecom. Because of these relationships, it is possible that the terms of these transactions are not the same as those that would result from transactions among unrelated parties.

The principal transactions with China Telecom Group which were carried out in the ordinary course of business are as follows:

		<b>Six-month periods</b>	
		<b>ended 30 June</b>	
		<b>2007</b>	2006
	<i>Note</i>	<i>RMB millions</i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Purchases of telecommunications equipment and materials	<i>(i)</i>	<b>53</b>	95
Construction, engineering and information technology services	<i>(ii)</i>	<b>3,406</b>	3,420
Provision of community services	<i>(iii)</i>	<b>1,025</b>	1,199
Provision of ancillary services	<i>(iv)</i>	<b>1,629</b>	1,115
Provision of comprehensive services	<i>(v)</i>	<b>409</b>	339
Operating lease expenses	<i>(vi)</i>	<b>193</b>	195
Centralised service expenses	<i>(vii)</i>	<b>169</b>	120
Interconnection revenues	<i>(viii)</i>	<b>75</b>	91
Interconnection charges	<i>(viii)</i>	<b>374</b>	350
Interest on amounts due to and loans from China Telecom Group	<i>(ix)</i>	<b>1,164</b>	1,218

*Note:*

- (i) Represent commission paid and payable for procurement services provided by China Telecom Group.

- (ii) Represent provision of network construction, engineering and information technology services provided by China Telecom Group.
- (iii) Represent amounts paid and payable to China Telecom Group in respect of cultural, educational, hygiene and other community services.
- (iv) Represent amounts paid and payable to China Telecom Group in respect of ancillary services such as repairs and maintenance of telecommunications equipment and facilities and certain customer services.
- (v) Represent amounts paid and payable to China Telecom Group which were not within the scope of other related party service agreements in respect of services for procurement of telecommunications equipment, network design, software upgrade, system integration and manufacturing of calling cards.
- (vi) Represent amounts paid and payable to China Telecom Group for leases of business premises and inter-provincial transmission optic fibres.
- (vii) Represent net amount charged by China Telecom for costs associated with common corporate services and international telecommunications facilities.
- (viii) Represent amounts charged from/to China Telecom for interconnection of domestic long distance telephone calls.
- (ix) Represent interest paid and payable to China Telecom Group with respect to the amounts due to China Telecom and loans from China Telecom Group.

Amounts due from/to China Telecom Group included in the following balances are summarised as follows:

	<b>30 June 2007 RMB millions</b>	31 December 2006 RMB millions
Accounts receivable	67	199
Prepayments and other current assets	<u>524</u>	<u>588</u>
Total amounts due from China Telecom Group	<u><b>591</b></u>	<u><b>787</b></u>
Accounts payable	5,947	6,583
Accrued expenses and other payables	3,542	1,984
Short-term debt	36,763	23,826
Long-term debt	<u>30,150</u>	<u>30,150</u>
Total amounts due to China Telecom Group	<u><b>76,402</b></u>	<u><b>62,543</b></u>

Amounts due from/to China Telecom Group, other than short-term debt and long-term debt, bear no interest, are unsecured and are repayable in accordance with contractual terms which are similar to those terms offered by third parties. The terms of short-term debt and long-term debt payable to China Telecom Group are set out in Note 8 to the interim financial statements included in the Interim Report.

As at 30 June 2007 and 31 December 2006, no material impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts was recorded in respect of amounts due from China Telecom Group.

**(b) Key management personnel compensation**

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group, directly or indirectly, including directors and supervisors of the Group.

Key management personnel compensation of the Group is summarised as follows:

	<b>Six-month periods ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<i>RMB thousands</i>	<i>RMB thousands</i>
Short-term employee benefits	<b>3,948</b>	3,833
Post-employment benefits	<b>301</b>	331
	<b><u>4,249</u></b>	<b><u>4,164</u></b>

The above remuneration is included in personnel expenses.

**(c) Contributions to post-employment benefit plans**

As stipulated by the regulations of the PRC, the Group participates in various defined contribution retirement plans organised by municipal and provincial governments for its employees. The Group is required to make contributions to the post-employment benefit plans at rates ranging from 18% to 20% of the salaries, bonuses and certain allowances of the employees. A member of the plan is entitled to a pension equal to a fixed proportion of the salary prevailing at the member's retirement date. The Group has no other material obligation for the payment of pension benefits associated with these plans beyond the contributions described above.

The Group's contributions for the six-month period ended 30 June 2007 were RMB1,214 million (six-month period ended 30 June 2006: RMB1,202 million).

The amount payable for contributions to defined contribution retirement plans as at 30 June 2007 was RMB531 million (31 December 2006: RMB522 million).

**(d) Transactions with other state-controlled entities in the PRC**

The Group is a state-controlled public utilities enterprise and operates in an economic regime currently dominated by entities directly or indirectly controlled by the State through government authorities, agencies, affiliations and other organisations (collectively referred to as "state-controlled entities").

Apart from transactions with parent company and its affiliates, the Group have transactions with other state-controlled entities which include but not limited to the following:

- sales and purchases of goods, properties and other assets
- rendering and receiving services
- lease of assets
- depositing and borrowing money

— use of public utilities

These transactions are conducted in the ordinary course of the Group's business on terms comparable to those with other entities that are not state-controlled. The Group prices its telecommunication services and products based on government-regulated tariff rates, where applicable, or based on commercial negotiations. The Group has also established its procurement policies and approval processes for purchases of products and services, which do not depend on whether the counterparties are state-controlled entities or not.

Having considered the transactions potentially affected by related party relationships, the entity's pricing strategy, procurement policies and approval processes, and the information that would be necessary for an understanding of the potential effect of the related party relationships on the financial statements, the directors are of the opinion that the following related party transactions require disclosure of numeric details:

(i) *Transactions with other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC*

The Group's wireline telecommunications networks interconnect with the networks of other state-controlled telecommunications operators. The Group also leases wireline telecommunications networks to these operators in the normal course of business. The interconnection and leased line charges are regulated by the Ministry of Information Industry. The extent of the Group's interconnection and leased line transactions with other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC is as follows:

	<b>Six-month periods ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	2006
	<i><b>RMB millions</b></i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Interconnection revenues	<b>6,158</b>	5,926
Interconnection charges	<b>1,870</b>	1,564
Leased line revenues	<b>389</b>	744

Amounts due from/to other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC included in the following balances are summarised as follows:

	<b>30 June</b>	31 December
	<b>2007</b>	2006
	<i><b>RMB millions</b></i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Accounts receivable	<b>2,373</b>	1,792
Prepayments and other current assets	<b>267</b>	242
Total amounts due from other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC	<b>2,640</b>	2,034
Accounts payable	<b>70</b>	63
Accrued expenses and other payables	<b>201</b>	181
Total amounts due to other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC	<b>271</b>	244

Amounts due from/to other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC bear no interest, are unsecured and are repayable in accordance with normal commercial terms.

As at 30 June 2007 and 31 December 2006, there were no material impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts in respect of amounts due from other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC.

(ii) *Transactions with state-controlled banks*

The Group deposits its cash balances with several state-controlled banks in the PRC and obtains short-term and long-term loans from these banks in the ordinary course of business. The interest rates of the bank deposits and loans are regulated by the People's Bank of China. The Group's interest income earned from deposits with and interest expense incurred on loans from state-controlled banks in the PRC are as follows:

	<b>Six-month periods ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<i>RMB millions</i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Interest income	<b>180</b>	158
Interest expense	<b><u>1,465</u></b>	<u>1,842</u>

The amounts of cash deposited with and loans from state-controlled banks in the PRC are summarised as follows:

	<b>30 June</b>	31 December
	<b>2007</b>	2006
	<i>RMB millions</i>	<i>RMB millions</i>
Cash at bank	<b>12,834</b>	10,659
Time deposits with maturity within three months	<b>4,034</b>	10,484
Time deposits with maturity over three months	<b><u>145</u></b>	<u>119</u>
Total deposits with state-controlled banks in the PRC	<b><u>17,013</u></b>	<u>21,262</u>
Short-term loans	<b>33,440</b>	35,750
Long-term loans	<b><u>13,362</u></b>	<u>15,347</u>
Total loans from state-controlled banks in the PRC	<b><u>46,802</u></b>	<u>51,097</u>

Further details of the interest rates and repayment terms of loans from state-controlled banks are set out in Note 8 to the interim financial statements included in the Interim Report.

The directors believe the above information has provided meaningful disclosure of related party transactions.

## **MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

According to paragraph 40 of Appendix 16 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Listing Rules”), save as disclosed herein, the Company confirms that the current company information in relation to those matters set out in paragraph 32 of Appendix 16 has not changed materially from the information disclosed in the Company’s 2006 Annual Report.

## **PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF SECURITIES**

During the period, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company’s listed securities.

## **DIRECTORS’ AND SUPERVISORS’ INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES, UNDERLYING SHARES AND DEBENTURES**

As at 30 June 2007, none of the Directors or Supervisors had any interests or short positions in any shares, underlying shares of equity derivatives or debentures of the Company or its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the laws of Hong Kong) (the “SFO”)) as recorded in the register required to be kept under Section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the “Model Code”).

As at 30 June 2007, the Company has not granted its Directors or Supervisors, or their respective spouses or children below the age of 18 any rights to subscribe for the shares or debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations and none of them has ever exercised any such right to subscribe for the shares or debentures.

## MATERIAL INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES AND UNDERLYING SHARES OF THE COMPANY

As at 30 June 2007, the interests or short position of persons who are entitled to exercise or control the exercise of 5% or more of the voting power at any of the Company's general meetings (excluding the Directors and Supervisors) in the shares and underlying shares of equity derivatives of the Company as recorded in the register required to be maintained under Section 336 of the SFO are as follows:

Name of Shareholder	Number of shares held	Type of Shares	Percentage of the respective type of shares in issue (%)	Percentage of the total of shares in issue (%)	Capacity
China Telecommunications Corporation	57,377,053,317 (Long position)	Domestic shares	85.57%	70.89%	Beneficial owner
Guangdong Rising Assets Management Co., Ltd	5,614,082,653 (Long position)	Domestic shares	8.37%	6.94%	Beneficial owner
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	1,228,624,000 (Long position)	H shares	8.85%	1.52%	Interest of controlled corporations
ABN AMRO Holding N.V.	937,521,293 (Long position)	H shares	6.76%	1.16%	Beneficial owner of 715,102,443 shares, and custodian corporation/approved lending agent of 222,418,850 shares
	120,390,850 (Lending pool)	H shares	0.87%	0.15%	Approved lending agent

Save as stated above, as at 30 June 2007, in the register required to be maintained under Section 336 of the SFO, no other persons were recorded to hold any interests or short positions in the shares or underlying shares of the equity derivatives of the Company.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

The audit committee has reviewed with management and the Company's international auditor, KPMG, the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed internal control and financial reporting matters including the review of the Company's Interim Report for the six months ended 30 June 2007.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES**

The Company has attached great importance to corporate governance. We continued to make efforts in improving the Company's internal control mechanisms, strengthening information disclosure and enhancing the Company's transparency, developing corporate governance practices and protecting shareholders' interests to the maximum degree.

Save for the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company being performed by the same individual, for the six months period ended 30 June 2007, the Company has been in compliance with all the code provisions as set out in Appendix 14 "Code on Corporate Governance Practices" of the Listing Rules.

In the Company's opinion, through supervision of the Board and independent non-executive directors, and effective control of the Company's internal check and balance mechanism, the same individual performing the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer can achieve the goal of improving the Company's efficiency in decision-making and execution, and effectively capture business opportunities. Many international leading corporations also have a similar arrangement.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS**

The Company has adopted the Model Code as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules to govern securities transactions by Directors. Further to the specific enquiries made by the Company to all Directors, they have confirmed their compliance with the Model Code throughout the period from 1 January 2007 to 30 June 2007.

## **INTERIM REPORT**

The Interim Report for the six months ended 30 June 2007 will be despatched to shareholders and made available on the website of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited ([www.hkex.com.hk](http://www.hkex.com.hk)) and the website of the Company ([www.chinatelecom-h.com](http://www.chinatelecom-h.com)) in due course.

## **FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain statements contained in this announcement may be viewed as "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 (as amended) and Section 21E of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (as amended). Such forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual performance, financial condition or results of operations of the Company to be materially different from any future performance, financial condition or results of operations implied by such forward-looking statements. In addition, we do not intend to update these forward-looking statements. Further information regarding these risks, uncertainties and other factors is included in the Company's most recent Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and in the Company's other filings with the SEC.

As of the date of this announcement, the Board consists of Mr. Wang Xiaochu as the chairman and chief executive officer, Mr. Leng Rongquan as the president and chief operating officer, Madam Wu Andi as the executive vice president and chief financial officer, Mr. Zhang Jiping as the executive vice president, Madam Huang Wenlin, Mr. Li Ping as the executive vice president, Mr. Yang Jie as the executive vice president, Mr. Sun Kangmin as the executive vice president, Mr. Li Jinming as the non-executive director, and Mr. Zhang Youcai, Mr. Lo Hong Sui, Vincent, Mr. Shi Wanpeng, Mr. Xu Erming and Mr. Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius as the independent non-executive directors.