

SECTION VIII INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024

1. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

China Telecom Corporation Limited (the “Company”) was incorporated in the People’s Republic of China (the “PRC”) on 10 September 2002. The Company and its subsidiaries (hereinafter, collectively referred to as the “Group”) is a leading and large-scale full-service and integrated intelligent information services provider, providing its individual, household, government and enterprise customers with integrated intelligent information services.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The condensed consolidated interim financial information has been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 (“IAS 34”), “*Interim Financial Reporting*” issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (the “IASB”) and the applicable disclosure requirements of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Listing Rules”). The condensed consolidated interim financial information, which was authorised for issuance by the Board of Directors on 20 August 2024, reflects the unaudited financial position of the Group as at 30 June 2024 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 2024.

The preparation of condensed consolidated interim financial information in conformity with IAS 34, “*Interim Financial Reporting*”, requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses on a year-to-date basis. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The condensed consolidated interim financial information contains condensed consolidated statement of financial position, condensed consolidated statement of comprehensive income, condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity and condensed consolidated statement of cash flows and selected explanatory notes. The notes include an explanation of events and transactions that are significant to an understanding of the changes in financial position and performance of the Group since the 2023 annual financial statements. The condensed consolidated interim financial information and notes thereon do not include all of the information required for a full set of financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards. The condensed consolidated interim financial information should be read in conjunction with the Company’s 2023 annual financial statements. The Group’s policies on financial risk management were set out in the financial statements included in the Group’s 2023 Annual Report and there have been no significant changes in these policies for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024.

As at 30 June 2024, the total current liabilities of the Group had exceeded the total current assets by RMB128,054 million (31 December 2023: RMB135,573 million). Management of the Company has assessed the Group’s available sources of funds as follows: 1) the Group’s continuous net cash inflow to be generated from its operating activities; 2) the unutilised credit facilities amounting to RMB201,771 million (31 December 2023: RMB205,452 million); and 3) the Group’s other available sources of financing from domestic banks in mainland China and other financial institutions in view of the Group’s good credit history. Based on the above considerations, the Board of Directors is of the opinion that the Group has sufficient funds to meet its working capital commitments, expected capital expenditure and debt obligations. As a result, the condensed consolidated interim financial information of the Group for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024 has been prepared on a going concern basis.

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3. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The condensed consolidated interim financial information is prepared on the historical cost basis as modified by the revaluation of certain financial instruments measured at fair value.

Other than changes in accounting policies resulting from application of amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards, the accounting policies and methods of computation used in the condensed consolidated interim financial information are the same as those followed in the preparation of the 2023 annual financial statements of the Group.

Application of amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards

In the current interim period, the Group has applied, for the first time, the following amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards issued by the IASB that are mandatorily effective for the current period:

- Amendments to IAS 1 “*Presentation of Financial Statement*” – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current
- Amendments to IAS 1 “*Presentation of Financial Statement*” – Non-current Liabilities with Covenants
- Amendments to IFRS 16 “*Leases*” – Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback
- Amendments to IAS 7 “*Statement of Cash Flows*” and IFRS 7 “*Financial Instruments: Disclosures*” – Supplier finance arrangements

The application of the above amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards in the current period has had no material effect on the Group’s condensed consolidated interim financial information.

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4. SEGMENT REPORTING

An operating segment is a component of an entity that engages in business activities from which revenues are earned and expenses are incurred, and is identified on the basis of the internal financial reports that are regularly reviewed by the chief operating decision maker ("CODM") in order to allocate resources and assess performance of the segment. The Executive Directors of the Company have been identified as the CODM. For the periods presented, management has determined that the Group has one operating segment as the Group is only engaged in the integrated telecommunications business. The Group's assets located outside mainland China and operating revenues derived from activities outside mainland China are less than 10% of the Group's assets and operating revenues, respectively. No geographical area information has been presented as such amount is immaterial. No single external customer accounts for 10% or more of the Group's operating revenues.

5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, NET AND CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS

For the six-month period ended 30 June 2024, the Group acquired items of property, plant and equipment and construction in progress with an aggregate cost of RMB46,593 million (for the six-month period ended 30 June 2023: RMB41,614 million) and the depreciation of property, plant and equipment recognised in unaudited condensed consolidated statement of comprehensive income was RMB37,287 million (for the six-month period ended 30 June 2023: RMB35,731 million).

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6. INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES AND JOINT VENTURES

	30 June 2024	31 December 2023
	RMB million	RMB million
Cost of investment in associates and joint ventures	37,095	36,986
Share of post-acquisition changes in net assets	6,081	6,172
	43,176	43,158

The Group's interests in associates and joint ventures are accounted for under the equity method. Details of the Group's principal associates are as follows:

Name of company	Notes	Attributable equity interest	Principal activities
China Tower Corporation Limited	(i)	20.5%	Construction, maintenance and operation of communications towers as well as ancillary facilities
Shanghai Information Investment Incorporation	(ii)	24.0%	Information technology consulting services

Notes:

(i) China Tower Corporation Limited ("China Tower") is established and operated in the PRC, and listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited on 8 August 2018.

(ii) Shanghai Information Investment Incorporation is established and operated in the PRC and is not traded on any stock exchange.

As at 30 June 2024, the fair value of investment in China Tower was RMB33,265 million (31 December 2023: RMB26,816 million) based on its quoted market price, which was below its carrying amount by 17.0% (31 December 2023: 33.3%). The management of the Group performed an impairment assessment and determined the recoverable amount of the investment based on the present value of expected future cash flows. The calculation has considered pre-tax cash flow projections of China Tower in five years with an extrapolation made to perpetuity. The discount rate used in projecting present value of future cash flows was based on cost of capital used to evaluate investments of similar nature in mainland China. Management judgement is required in estimating the future cash flows of China Tower. The key assumptions are determined with reference to external sources of information. Based on the management's assessment result, there was no impairment of the investment as at 30 June 2024.

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7. OTHER ASSETS

	Notes	30 June 2024 RMB million	31 December 2023 RMB million
Term deposits		5,153	48
Contract costs	(i)	1,148	1,486
Other long-term prepaid expenses and receivables	(ii)	8,501	8,375
		14,802	9,909

Notes:

(i) Contract costs capitalised as at 30 June 2024 and 31 December 2023 mainly relate to the direct cost of the provision of wireline terminals to subscribers for the provision of Wireline and Smart Family services of the Group. The amount of capitalised costs recognised in profit or loss for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024 was RMB602 million (for the six-month period ended 30 June 2023: RMB781 million). There was no impairment in relation to the opening balance of capitalised costs or the costs capitalised during this period.

(ii) Other long-term prepaid expenses and receivables mainly include prepayments of construction and materials, etc.

8. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, NET

Accounts receivable, net, are analysed as follows:

	30 June 2024 RMB million	31 December 2023 RMB million
Third parties	64,079	37,861
China Telecom Group	2,370	1,670
China Tower	33	24
Other telecommunications operators in the PRC	1,241	893
	67,723	40,448
Less: Allowance for credit losses	(11,989)	(8,238)
	55,734	32,210

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8. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, NET (continued)

Ageing analysis of accounts receivable from telephone and Internet subscribers based on the billing dates is as follows:

	30 June 2024	31 December 2023
	RMB million	RMB million
Current, within 1 month	9,418	6,073
1 to 3 months	3,811	2,554
4 to 6 months	1,491	905
7 to 12 months	1,535	1,469
Over 12 months	2,538	1,604
	18,793	12,605
Less: Allowance for credit losses	(5,587)	(3,944)
	13,206	8,661

Ageing analysis of accounts receivable from other telecommunications operators and enterprise customers based on dates of rendering of services is as follows:

	30 June 2024	31 December 2023
	RMB million	RMB million
Within 6 months	34,491	17,601
7 to 12 months	6,224	5,540
1 to 2 years	5,203	2,663
2 to 3 years	1,634	913
Over 3 years	1,378	1,126
	48,930	27,843
Less: Allowance for credit losses	(6,402)	(4,294)
	42,528	23,549

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9. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	30 June 2024	31 December 2023
	RMB million	RMB million
Cash at bank and in hand	53,330	78,740
Time deposits with original maturity within three months	21,742	2,306
	75,072	81,046

10. SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEBTS

Short-term debts comprise:

	30 June 2024	31 December 2023
	RMB million	RMB million
Loans from banks – unsecured	2,645	2,867

The weighted average interest rate of the Group's total short-term debts as at 30 June 2024 was 2.7% (31 December 2023: 3.0%) per annum, and the loans bear interests at rates ranging from 1.5% to 3.3% (31 December 2023: 2.7% to 3.4%) per annum, which are repayable within one year.

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10. SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEBTS (continued)

Long-term debts comprise:

	Note	30 June 2024 RMB million	31 December 2023 RMB million
Loans from banks – unsecured	(i)	6,875	6,275
Less: Current portion		(1,051)	(1,133)
Non-current portion		5,824	5,142

Note:

(i) The loans from banks include long-term RMB denominated government loans with below-market interest rates ranging from 1.08% to 1.20% per annum obtained by the Group through banks (the "Low-interest Loans"). The Group recognised the Low-interest Loans at their fair value on initial recognition, and accreted the discount to profit or loss using the effective interest rate method. The difference between the fair value and face value of the Low-interest Loans was recognised as government grants in accrued expenses and other payables and other non-current liabilities.

As at 30 June 2024, the loans from banks bear interests at contractual rates ranging from 1.08% to 2.66% (31 December 2023: 1.08% to 2.60%) per annum with maturities through 2036.

The Group's short-term and long-term debts do not contain any financial covenants. As at 30 June 2024, the Group had unutilised credit facilities amounting to RMB201,771 million (31 December 2023: RMB205,452 million).

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11. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounts payable are analysed as follows:

	30 June 2024 RMB million	31 December 2023 RMB million
Third parties	120,974	111,025
China Telecom Group	30,618	26,444
China Tower	9,863	7,505
Other telecommunications operators in the PRC	1,284	898
	162,739	145,872

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

Ageing analysis of accounts payable based on the due dates is as follows:

	30 June 2024 RMB million	31 December 2023 RMB million
Due within 1 month or on demand	39,880	40,068
Due after 1 month but within 3 months	34,361	30,859
Due after 3 months but within 6 months	38,573	35,261
Due after 6 months	49,925	39,684
	162,739	145,872

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12. OPERATING REVENUES

Disaggregation of revenues

	Notes	Six-month period ended 30 June 2024	2023
		RMB million	RMB million
Type of goods or services			
Service revenues		246,235	235,977
Mobile communications service revenues	(i)	105,217	101,607
Wireline and Smart Family service revenues	(ii)	63,993	62,024
Industrial Digitalisation service revenues	(iii)	73,750	68,802
Other service revenues	(iv)	3,275	3,544
Sales of goods and others	(v)	21,776	24,687
Total operating revenues		268,011	260,664
Revenue from customer contracts		265,002	257,690
Revenue from other sources and others		3,009	2,974
Total operating revenues		268,011	260,664
Timing of revenue recognition			
A point in time		19,689	22,619
Over time		248,322	238,045
Total operating revenues		268,011	260,664

Notes:

- (i) Represent primarily the aggregate amount of mobile communications service fees, mobile Internet access service fees, and short messaging service fees, etc., charged to customers for the provision of mobile services.
- (ii) Represent primarily the aggregate amount of wireline communications service fees, broadband Internet access service fees, e-Surfing HD service fees and Smart Family applications service fees, etc., charged to customers for the provision of wireline services.
- (iii) Represent primarily the aggregate amount of fees charged to customers for the provision of Internet data centre services, cloud services, digital platform services, dedicated Internet access services, etc.
- (iv) Represent primarily the aggregate amount of revenues from property rental and other revenues.
- (v) Represent primarily revenues from sales of mobile terminal equipment as well as wireline communications equipment and government grants.

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13. NETWORK OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

	Note	Six-month period ended 30 June 2024	2023
		RMB million	RMB million
Operating and maintenance		52,381	48,463
Utility		9,350	9,325
Network resources usage and related fees	(i)	15,304	14,707
Others		3,096	3,557
		80,131	76,052

Note:

- (i) Network resources usage and related fees include fees in respect of the short-term leases and leases of low-value assets, variable lease payments not depending on an index or a rate and fees for non-lease components in respect of communications towers and related assets lease and the usage of network resources provided by third parties.

14. SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

	Note	Six-month period ended 30 June 2024	2023
		RMB million	RMB million
Channel commission and customer services expenses		24,069	25,068
Advertising and promotion expenses		791	833
Property and transportation related expenses		1,262	1,261
Research and development expenses	(i)	1,062	1,001
Others		5,906	4,676
		33,090	32,839

Note:

- (i) The item does not include depreciation and amortisation and personnel expenses related to research and development.

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15. PERSONNEL EXPENSES

Personnel expenses are attributable to the following functions:

	Six-month period ended 30 June	
	2024	2023
	RMB million	RMB million
Network operations and support	31,008	30,264
Selling, general and administrative	19,558	18,734
	50,566	48,998

16. OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

		Six-month period ended 30 June	
	Notes	2024	2023
		RMB million	RMB million
Interconnection charges	(i)	7,498	6,757
Cost of goods sold	(ii)	18,980	21,780
Others	(iii)	954	892
		27,432	29,429

Notes:

- (i) Interconnection charges represent amounts incurred for the use of other domestic and foreign telecommunications operators' networks for delivery of voice and data traffic that originate from the Group's telecommunications networks.
- (ii) Cost of goods sold primarily represents cost of communications equipment sold.
- (iii) Others mainly include tax and surcharges other than value-added tax and income tax.

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17. NET FINANCE COSTS

	Six-month period ended 30 June	
	2024	2023
	RMB million	RMB million
Interest expense on lease liabilities	912	1,107
Interest expense on short-term and long-term debts	320	258
Less: Interest expense capitalised*	(40)	(46)
Net interest expense	1,192	1,319
Interest income	(1,042)	(1,039)
Net foreign exchange gain or loss and others	100	203
	250	483
*Interest expense was capitalised in construction in progress at the following rates per annum	2.8%-3.2%	2.8%-3.6%

18. INCOME TAX

Income tax in the profit or loss comprises:

	Six-month period ended 30 June	
	2024	2023
	RMB million	RMB million
Provision for PRC income tax	5,761	4,230
Provision for income tax in other tax jurisdictions	103	125
Deferred taxation	409	1,651
	6,273	6,006

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18. INCOME TAX (continued)

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

		Six-month period ended 30 June 2024	2023
	Notes	RMB million	RMB million
Profit before taxation		28,239	26,180
Expected income tax expense at statutory tax rate of 25%	(i)	7,060	6,545
Impact of tax incentives and reduction including additional deduction for qualified research and development costs, etc.		(568)	(432)
Differential tax rate on mainland China subsidiaries' and branches' income	(i)	(364)	(416)
Differential tax rate on other subsidiaries' income	(ii)	(32)	(22)
Non-deductible expenses	(iii)	434	424
Non-taxable income	(iv)	(333)	(260)
Tax effect of deductible temporary difference and deductible tax loss for which no deferred tax asset was recognised		177	353
Others	(v)	(101)	(186)
Income tax expense		6,273	6,006

Notes:

- (i) Except for certain subsidiaries and branches which are mainly taxed at the preferential rate of 15%, the provision for mainland China income tax is based on a statutory rate of 25% of the assessable income of the Company, its mainland China subsidiaries and branches as determined in accordance with the relevant income tax rules and regulations of mainland China.
- (ii) Income tax provisions of the Company's subsidiaries in Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions of the PRC, and in other countries are based on the subsidiaries' assessable income and income tax rates applicable in the respective tax jurisdictions which range from 12% to 38%.
- (iii) Amounts represent miscellaneous expenses in excess of statutory deductible limits for tax purposes.
- (iv) Amounts represent share of profits of associates and joint ventures and miscellaneous income which are not subject to income tax.
- (v) Amounts primarily represent settlement of tax filing differences of prior year annual tax return, etc.

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19. DIVIDENDS

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting held on 27 May 2024, a final dividend of RMB0.090 (equivalent to HK\$0.098814) per share (pre-tax) totalling approximately RMB8,236 million in respect of the year ended 31 December 2023 was declared. The dividend of RMB7,082 million was paid on 13 June 2024, and the dividend of RMB1,154 million was paid on 26 July 2024.

The 2022 Annual General Meeting considered and approved the authorisation to the Board of Directors to decide on the interim profit distribution plan of the Company for year 2023. Pursuant to a resolution at the Board of Directors' meeting on 8 August 2023, an interim dividend of RMB0.1432 (equivalent to HK\$0.156524) per share (pre-tax) totalling approximately RMB13,104 million in respect of the six-month period ended 30 June 2023 was declared. The dividend of RMB11,117 million was paid on 31 August 2023, and the dividend of RMB1,987 million was paid on 28 September 2023.

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting held on 23 May 2023, a final dividend of RMB0.076 (equivalent to HK\$0.085065) per share (pre-tax) totalling approximately RMB6,955 million in respect of the year ended 31 December 2022 was declared. The dividend of RMB5,900 million was paid on 9 June 2023, and the dividend of RMB1,055 million for was paid on 21 July 2023.

20. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic earnings per share for the six-month periods ended 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023 is based on the profit attributable to equity holders of the Company of RMB21,812 million and RMB20,153 million, respectively, divided by 91,507,138,699 shares in issue.

The amount of diluted earnings per share equals basic earnings per share as there were no potential ordinary shares in existence for the periods presented.

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21. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

As at 30 June 2024 and 31 December 2023, the Group had capital commitments as follows:

	30 June 2024 RMB million	31 December 2023 RMB million
Contracted for but not provided		
Property	1,994	1,912
Telecommunications network plant and equipment	17,671	21,015
	19,665	22,927

22. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial assets of the Group include cash and cash equivalents, bank deposits and restricted cash, equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income, accounts receivable, financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and financial assets included in prepayments and other current assets. Financial liabilities of the Group include short-term and long-term debts, accounts payable and financial liabilities included in accrued expenses and other payables.

Fair Value Measurements

Based on IFRS 13, “*Fair Value Measurement*”, the fair value of each financial instrument is categorised in its entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to that fair value measurement. The levels are defined as follows:

- Level 1: fair values measured using quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical financial instruments
- Level 2: fair values measured using quoted prices in active markets for similar financial instruments, or using valuation techniques in which all significant inputs are directly or indirectly based on observable market data
- Level 3: fair values measured using valuation techniques in which any significant input is not based on observable market data

The fair values of the Group’s financial instruments (other than long-term debts and financial instruments measured at fair value) approximate their carrying amounts due to the short-term maturity of these instruments.

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22. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

Fair Value Measurements (continued)

The listed equity securities investments included in the Group's equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are categorised as level 1 financial instruments. As at 30 June 2024, the fair value of the Group's listed equity securities investments is RMB855 million (31 December 2023: RMB1,373 million), based on quoted market price on PRC stock exchanges. The Group's investments in unlisted equity securities, included in financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income, are classified as financial instruments categorised as level 3. As at 30 June 2024, the fair value of the Group's financial instruments categorised as level 3 is RMB466 million (31 December 2023: RMB450 million). For the financial instruments which are not traded in active markets, the Group establishes fair value by using valuation techniques. The valuation methods or models used primarily include net asset value method and market comparable company model, etc. The input values of valuation models mainly include net asset value, expected yield rates and comparable company valuation multiples, etc.

The fair value of long-term debts is estimated by discounting future cash flows using current market interest rates offered to the Group for debts with substantially the same characteristics and maturities. The fair value measurement of long-term debts is categorised as level 2. The interest rates used by the Group in estimating the fair values of long-term debts, having considered the foreign currency denomination of the debts, ranged from 4.0% to 4.9% (31 December 2023: 4.2% to 4.9%). As at 30 June 2024 and 31 December 2023, the carrying amounts and fair values of the Group's long-term debts were as follows:

	30 June 2024		31 December 2023	
	Carrying amount RMB million	Fair value RMB million	Carrying amount RMB million	Fair value RMB million
Long-term debts	6,875	6,706	6,275	6,124

During both periods, there were no transfers among instruments in level 1, level 2 or level 3.

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23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**(a) Transactions with China Telecom Group**

The Group is a part of companies under China Telecommunications Corporation, a company owned by the PRC government, and has significant transactions and business relationships with members of China Telecom Group.

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

		Six-month period ended 30 June 2024	2023
	Notes	RMB million	RMB million
Construction engineering and design services	(i)	10,369	8,699
Receiving ancillary services	(ii)	10,603	10,590
Interconnection revenues*	(iii)	18	27
Interconnection charges*	(iii)	36	45
Receiving community services	(iv)	1,942	1,973
Centralised services transaction revenues	(v)	1,762	1,790
Centralised services transaction expenses	(v)	301	325
Property and land use right lease income	(vi)	13	16
Property and land use right lease related expenses	(vii)	360	345
Addition to right-of-use assets	(vii)	167	250
Interest expense on lease liabilities	(vii)	11	8
Provision of IT services	(viii)	1,152	945
Receiving IT services	(viii)	3,194	2,638
Purchases of telecommunications equipment, materials and procurement services	(ix)	1,947	1,750
Sales of telecommunications equipment, materials and procurement services	(ix)	2,068	2,110
Internet applications channel services revenues	(x)	25	36
Payment and digital finance related services	(xi)	484	466
Communications resources lease expenses	(xii)	223	245
Net inflow/(outflow) of deposit by China Telecom Group with Finance Company*	(xiii)	638	(5,495)
Interest expense on the deposit by China Telecom Group with Finance Company*	(xiii)	209	140
Short-term loans granted by Finance Company to China Telecom Group	(xiii)	2,029	6,100
China Telecom Group's repayments of short-term loans granted by Finance Company	(xiii)	(6,080)	(6,071)
Interest income from loans granted by Finance Company to China Telecom Group	(xiii)	99	126
Receiving finance lease services	(xiv)	2,777	1,901
License income for intellectual property*	(xv)	1	–

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23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

(a) Transactions with China Telecom Group (continued)

- * These transactions are conducted on normal commercial terms or better and are fully exempted from compliance with the reporting, announcement, independent shareholders' approval and/or annual review requirements under Rules 14A.76 or 14A.90 of the Listing Rules.

Notes:

- (i) Represent construction and engineering as well as design and supervisory services provided by China Telecom Group.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) Represent amounts received and receivable from/paid and payable to China Telecom Group for interconnection of local and domestic long distance calls.
- (iv) Represent amounts paid and payable to China Telecom Group in respect of cultural, educational, health care and other community services.
- (v) Represent related revenues and expenses shared between the Company and China Telecom Group for centralised services.
- (vi) Represent amounts of property lease fees received and receivable from China Telecom Group for leasing of properties and land use rights.
- (vii) Represent amounts in respect of the leasing of properties and land use rights from China Telecom Group, which include the fees for short-term leases, leases of low-value assets, variable lease payments not depending on an index or a rate, fees for non-lease components, and right-of-use assets and related expenses recognised for leases.
- (viii) Represent IT services provided to and received from China Telecom Group.
- (ix) Represent the amount of telecommunications equipment and materials purchased from/sold to China Telecom Group and commission paid and payable for procurement services provided by China Telecom Group.
- (x) Represent amounts received and receivable from China Telecom Group in respect of Internet applications channel services, including the provision of communications channel and applications support platform and billing and deduction services, etc.
- (xi) Represent amounts paid and payable to China Telecom Group in respect of payment and digital finance related services.
- (xii) Represent amounts in respect of the leasing of related communications resources from China Telecom Group, including transmission network communications resources, wireless network communications resources and wireline access network communications resources, etc.
- (xiii) Represent amounts related to financial services provided by Finance Company to China Telecom Group, including loan service, deposit service and other financial services.
- (xiv) Represent amounts related to finance lease services provided by China Telecom Group, including finance lease services such as sale and leaseback, direct lease, etc., and related finance lease consulting services.
- (xv) Represent amounts related to license income of intellectual property granted by the Group to China Telecom Group.

SECTION VIII INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED
CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024

23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)**(a) Transactions with China Telecom Group (continued)**

Amounts due from/to China Telecom Group are summarised as follows:

	30 June 2024 RMB million	31 December 2023 RMB million
Accounts receivable	2,370	1,670
Contract assets	190	161
Prepayments and other current assets	5,101	9,067
Other assets	99	135
Accounts payable	30,618	26,444
Accrued expenses and other payables	30,095	29,969
Contract liabilities	124	245
Lease liabilities	1,177	1,051

Amounts due from/to China Telecom Group, other than short-term loans granted by Finance Company included in prepayments and other current assets and deposit with Finance Company included in accrued expenses and other payables, are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are receivable or repayable in accordance with contractual terms which are similar to those terms offered by third parties.

As at 30 June 2024, short-term loans granted by Finance Company to China Telecom Group amounted to RMB4,029 million, and an impairment allowance recognised at RMB81 million (31 December 2023: RMB8,080 million, and an impairment allowance recognised at RMB162 million). Of the above loans, the interest rate for loans of RMB4,000 million is 2.88%; the interest rate for loans of RMB16 million is 3.00%; the interest rate for loans of RMB13 million is 3.50%, and all of the maturity dates are within one year.

The deposit interest rates provided by Finance Company to China Telecom Group shall comply with the relevant requirements of the People's Bank of China and be with reference to the deposit benchmark interest rates promulgated by the People's Bank of China from time to time (if any) and the deposit interest rates of the same type of deposit services for the same period offered by the major cooperative commercial banks of China Telecom Group and are conducted on normal commercial terms or better.

SECTION VIII INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED
CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024

23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

(b) Transactions with China Tower

The principal transactions with China Tower are as follows:

		Six-month period ended 30 June 2024 RMB million	2023 RMB million
	Notes		
Tower assets lease related expenses	(i)	5,949	6,290
Addition to right-of-use assets	(i)	1,857	1,571
Interest expenses on lease liabilities	(i)	496	609
Provision of IT services	(ii)	27	18

Notes:

(i) Represent amounts in respect of the lease of tower assets. Tower assets lease related expenses include the variable lease payments not depending on an index or a rate, fees for non-lease components and right-of-use assets and related expenses recognised for leases.

(ii) Represent IT and other ancillary services provided to China Tower.

Amounts due from/to China Tower are summarised as follows:

	30 June 2024 RMB million	31 December 2023 RMB million
Accounts receivable	33	24
Contract assets	–	1
Prepayments and other current assets	45	227
Accounts payable	9,863	7,505
Accrued expenses and other payables	1,954	1,875
Contract liabilities	1	1
Lease liabilities	29,097	31,755

Amounts due from/to China Tower are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are receivable or repayable in accordance with contractual terms which are similar to those terms offered by third parties.

SECTION VIII INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED
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for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024

23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)**(c) 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:

	Six-month period ended 30 June	
	2024	2023
	RMB thousand	RMB thousand
Short-term employee benefits	3,444	3,539
Post-employment benefits	710	605
	4,154	4,144

The above remuneration has been reflected in personnel expenses.

(d) Transactions with other government-related entities

The Group is a government-related enterprise and operates in an economic regime currently dominated by entities directly or indirectly controlled by the People's Republic of China through government authorities, agencies, affiliations and other organisations (collectively referred to as "government-related entities").

Apart from transactions with the parent company and its fellow subsidiaries (Note 23(a)) and China Tower (Note 23(b)), the Group has transactions with other government-related entities, which include but not limited to the following:

- rendering and receiving services, including but not limited to telecommunications services
- sales and purchases of goods, properties and other assets
- lease of assets
- deposits and borrowings
- use of public utilities

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

The directors of the Company believe the above information provides appropriate disclosure of related party transactions.

SECTION VIII INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED
CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024

24. POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS PLANS

As stipulated by the regulations of the PRC, the Group participates in various defined contribution retirement plans organised by provincial, autonomous regional and municipal governments for its employees. The Group is required to make contributions to the retirement plans at rates ranging from 15% to 16% of the salaries, bonuses and certain allowances of employees. Other than the above, the Group also participates in supplementary defined contribution retirement plans managed by independent external parties whereby the Group is required to make contributions to the retirement plans at fixed rates of the employees' salaries, bonuses and certain allowances. The Group has no other material obligation for the payment of pension benefits associated with these plans beyond the annual contributions described above.

The Group's contributions to the above plans for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024 were RMB5,930 million (for the six-month period ended 30 June 2023: RMB5,319 million).

The amount payable for contributions to the above defined contribution retirement plans as at 30 June 2024 was RMB1,079 million (31 December 2023: RMB960 million).

25. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

On 11 March 2024, China Telecom Quantum Information Technology Group Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into "The Conditional Non-Public A Share Subscription and Strategic Cooperation Agreement with Quantumctek Co., Ltd." with Quantumctek Co., Ltd. ("Quantumctek"), planning to subscribe non-public issuance of A shares of Quantumctek with self-owned funds. The transaction has been approved by State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council and shareholder's meeting of Quantumctek, and is yet to be approved by and registered with relevant authorities.

The dividend of RMB1,154 million (Note 19) of the Company was paid on 26 July 2024.

The Board of Directors has been authorised by 2023 Annual General Meeting to decide on the interim profit distribution plan. Pursuant to a resolution passed at the Board of Directors' meeting on 20 August 2024, the Board of Directors has resolved to declare an interim dividend of RMB0.1671 (equivalent to HK\$0.182289) per share (pre-tax), totalling approximately RMB15,291 million, for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024. The dividend has not been provided for in the condensed consolidated financial information for the six-month period ended 30 June 2024.