

ESSEX BIO-TECHNOLOGY LIMITED
(incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

Rules of the
SHARE OPTION SCHEME
Adopted on [*] 2023

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**Rules of the
SHARE OPTION SCHEME**

1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

1.1 In this Scheme the following expressions have the following meanings:

“Articles of Association”	means the articles of association of the Company for the time being;
“Adoption Date”	means [*] 2023, the date on which this Scheme is conditionally adopted by resolution of the shareholders of the Company;
“Allotment Date”	means the date on which Shares are allotted to a Grantee pursuant to the exercise of an Option hereunder;
“Applicable Laws”	means any applicable laws and regulations of Hong Kong or other relevant jurisdictions (including but not limited to the Listing Rules);
“associate”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules;
“Auditors”	means the auditors of the Company for the time being;
“Bankruptcy”	means, in respect of any Grantee, any of the following events: <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) any liquidator, provisional liquidator, receiver or any person carrying out any similar function has been appointed anywhere in the world in respect of the whole or any part of the assets or undertakings of the Grantee (being a corporation);(ii) the Grantee (being a corporation) has ceased or suspended payment of its debts, become unable to pay its debts (within the meaning of section 178 of the CWUMPO) or otherwise become insolvent;(iii) there is unsatisfied judgment, order or award outstanding against the Grantee or the Board has reason to believe that the Grantee is unable to pay or to have no reasonable prospect of being able to pay

his/her/its debts;

- (iv) there are circumstances which entitle any person to take any action, appoint any person, commence proceedings or obtain any order of the type mentioned in sub-clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) above;
- (v) a bankruptcy or winding up order has been made against the Grantee or any director of the Grantee (being a corporation) in any jurisdiction; or
- (vi) a petition for bankruptcy or winding up has been presented against the Grantee or any director of the Grantee (being a corporation) in any jurisdiction;

“Board”	means the board of Directors or a duly authorised committee thereof;
“business day”	shall have the meaning as ascribed to it in the Listing Rules;
“Category A Participant”	means any director of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any Employee;
“Category B Participant”	means any director or employee (whether full time or part time) of any of the Related Entities;
“Category C Participant”	means any person who provides services to the Group on a continuing or recurring basis in its ordinary and usual course of business which are in the interests of the long-term growth of the Group, including consultants and advisors of the Company with relevant expertise in fields related to biotechnology and capital market, and investor relations consultants, which could provide insights on areas such as investor relations, market development and promotion, technological trends and innovations, as well as management (excluding any placing agents or financial advisors providing advisory services for fundraising, mergers or acquisitions, and professional service providers such as auditors or valuers who provide assurance, or are required to perform their services with impartiality and objectivity);
“chief executive”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules;
“close associate”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules;

“Commencement Date”	means, in respect of any particular Option, the business day on which that Option is deemed to have been granted in accordance with clause 6.4;
“Company”	means Essex Bio-Technology Limited, a company incorporated in Cayman Islands with limited liability, the Shares of which are listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange;
“connected person”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules;
“controlling shareholder”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules;
“core connected person”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules;
“Culpable Termination”	means, in relation to a Grantee who is a Category A Participant or Category B Participant, the termination of the employment of such Grantee (being an Employee or an employee of any of the Related Entities) by the relevant company (or companies) or the removal of such Grantee (being a director of the Group or any of the Related Entities) from the office of a director on the grounds that he or she has been guilty of serious misconduct, or there exist grounds allowing summary dismissal under the relevant employment contract or under common law, or he or she has been convicted of any criminal offence involving his or her integrity or honesty;
“CWUMPO”	means the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Chapter 32 of the Laws of Hong Kong) as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time;
“Director(s)”	means the director(s) of the Company;
“Disability”	in respect of a Grantee who is a Category A Participant or a Category B Participant, shall have the meaning as defined under the long-term disability policy (if any) of the relevant company to which the Grantee provides services regardless of whether the Grantee is covered by such policy. In the event the relevant company to which the Grantee provides services does not have a long-term disability plan in place, “Disability” shall mean that a Grantee is unable to carry out the responsibilities and functions of the position held

by the Grantee in the relevant company (or companies) by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment for a period of not less than ninety (90) consecutive days. A Grantee will not be considered to have incurred a Disability unless he or she furnishes proof of such impairment to the satisfaction of the Board;

“Effective Date”	means the date on which the conditions referred to in clause 3.1 are fulfilled;
“Eligible Participant”	means a person who is a Category A Participant, Category B Participant and/or Category C Participant;
“Employee”	means any employee employed by the Company and/or any of its subsidiaries (whether full time or part time), including persons who are granted Options under this Scheme as an inducement to enter into employment contracts with any of such companies;
“Exercise Period”	means, in respect of any particular Option, the period (which shall not be more than ten (10) years from the Commencement Date) to be notified by the Board to each Grantee which the Board may in its absolute discretion determine;
“Exercise Price”	means the price per Share at which a Grantee may subscribe for Shares upon the exercise of an Option pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Scheme;
“Grantee”	means any Eligible Participant who accepts an Offer pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Scheme or (where the context permits) the Personal Representative of that Eligible Participant (being an individual) or the Permitted Transferee;
“Group”	means the Company and its subsidiaries;
“Hong Kong”	means the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China;
“HK\$”	means Hong Kong dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong;
“Listing Rules”	means the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time;

“Offer”	means an offer of the grant of an Option by the Company to an Eligible Participant pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Scheme;
“Offer Letter”	means a document containing an Offer to an Eligible Participant pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Scheme;
“Option”	means a right to subscribe for Shares granted pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Scheme;
“Other Schemes”	means schemes involving the grant of awards or options over Shares of the Company, other than this Scheme;
“Performance Conditions”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in clause 6.6(d);
“Permitted Transferee”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in clause 9.1;
“Personal Representative(s)”	means the person or persons who, in accordance with the laws of succession applicable in respect of the death of a Grantee (being an individual), is or are entitled to exercise any Option granted to such Grantee (to the extent not already exercised);
“Related Entities”	means the Company’s holding companies, fellow subsidiaries and associated companies;
“Renewed Mandate”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in clause 11.2;
“Scheme”	means this Share Option Scheme in its present or any amended form;
“Scheme Mandate Limit”	shall have the meaning ascribed to it in clause 11.1;
“Share(s)”	means ordinary share(s) of HK\$0.10 each of the Company, or, if there has been a sub-division, consolidation, re-classification or re-construction of the share capital of the Company, shares forming part of the ordinary share capital of the Company of such other nominal amount as shall result from any such sub-division, consolidation, re-classification or re-construction;
“Stock Exchange”	means The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited;

“subsidiary” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules; and

“substantial shareholder” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules.

1.2 In this Scheme:

- (a) clause headings are for reference only and shall be ignored in the interpretation of this Scheme;
- (b) references to clauses are to clauses of this Scheme;
- (c) words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa, words importing a gender include every gender and references to persons include bodies corporate or unincorporate;
- (d) references to any ordinance or law shall include any statutory modification, amendment or re-enactment thereof; and
- (e) references to a grant or offer of any Option include references to a conditional grant or offer thereof.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS SCHEME

This Scheme is a share incentive scheme and is established to enable the Group to:

- (a) recognise and acknowledge the contributions that Eligible Participants have (or may have) made or may make to the Group (whether directly or indirectly);
- (b) attract and retain and appropriately remunerate the best possible quality of Employees and other Eligible Participants;
- (c) motivate the Eligible Participants to optimise their performance and efficiency for the benefit of the Group;
- (d) enhance its business, employee and other relations; and
- (e) retain maximum flexibility as to the range and nature of rewards and incentives which the Group can offer to Eligible Participants.

3. CONDITIONS

3.1 This Scheme shall take effect upon the fulfillment of the following conditions:

- (a) the passing of the necessary resolution(s) by the shareholders of the Company in general meeting for approving the adoption of this Scheme; and
- (b) the Stock Exchange granting approval for the listing of and permission to deal in the Shares to be allotted and issued by the Company pursuant to the exercise of the Options in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Scheme.

- 3.2 References in clause 3.1 to the Stock Exchange granting the approvals, listing and permission referred to therein shall include where such approvals, listing and permission are granted subject to conditions.

4. DURATION AND ADMINISTRATION

- 4.1 Subject to clauses 3 and 16, this Scheme shall be valid and effective for a period of ten (10) years commencing on the Effective Date, after which no further Options may be offered or granted under this Scheme but the provisions of this Scheme shall remain in full force and effect to the extent necessary to give effect to the exercise of any Options granted prior thereto or otherwise as may be required in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Scheme.

- 4.2 This Scheme shall be subject to the administration of the Board, whose decision shall (save as otherwise provided herein) be final and binding on all parties. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Board shall, subject to the Applicable Laws, have the absolute discretion to:

- (a) interpret and construe the provisions of this Scheme;
- (b) determine the persons to whom Options are offered or granted under this Scheme, the number of Shares subject to an Option and the Exercise Price of Options so offered or granted;
- (c) determine the Exercise Period and other relevant terms and conditions of each Option;
- (d) subject to clause 15, make such appropriate and equitable adjustments to the terms of Options granted under this Scheme as it deems necessary;
- (e) subject to clause 15, adopt rules and regulations for carrying out this Scheme;
- (f) prescribe the form or forms of instruments to be issued as evidence of any Options granted under this Scheme; and
- (g) make such other decisions or determinations as it shall deem appropriate in the administration of this Scheme.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 5.1 The Board shall have the absolute discretion to determine whether a person is qualified to be (or, where applicable, continues to qualify to be) an Eligible Participant.

- 5.2 In determining the basis of eligibility of each Eligible Participant, the Board would mainly take into account:

- (a) the experience of the Eligible Participant on the Group's business;
- (b) the length of the service of the Eligible Participant with the Group (if the Eligible Participant is an employee or a director of the Group);

- (c) the actual degree of involvement in and/or cooperation with the Group; and
 - (d) the amount of support, assistance, guidance, advice, efforts and contribution the Eligible Participants has given or made, or may give or make, towards the success of the Group in the future.
- 5.3 In determining whether a person is qualified to be (or, where applicable, continues to qualify to be) a Category A Participant and Category B Participant, the Board will take into account various factors that it in its absolute discretion considers relevant in assessing his or her contribution to the long-term growth of the Group, including, among others:
- (a) the individual performance;
 - (b) time commitment;
 - (c) responsibilities or employment conditions according to the prevailing market practice and industry standard; and
 - (d) the length of engagement with the Group and the individual contribution or potential contribution to the development and growth of the Group.
- 5.4 In determining whether a person is qualified to be (or, where applicable, continues to qualify to be) a Category C Participant, the Board will take into account various factors that it in its absolute discretion considers relevant in assessing his or her contribution to the long-term growth of the Group, including, among others:
- (a) individual performance;
 - (b) length of business relationship with the Group;
 - (c) materiality and nature of business relationship with the Group (including but not limited to whether their business relate to the core business of the Group and whether such business dealings could be readily replaced by third parties);
 - (d) track record in the quality of services provided to and/or cooperation with the Group; and
 - (e) scale of business dealings with the Group, with reference to factors such as the actual or expected change in the Group's revenue or profits which is or may be attributable to the person.
- 5.5 In assessing whether the Category C Participant provides services to the Group on a continuing and recurring basis and in its ordinary and usual course of business, the Board will take into consideration:
- (a) the length and type of services provided and the recurrences and regularity of such services;
 - (b) the nature of the services provided to the Group by the Category C Participant; and
 - (c) whether such services form part of or are directly ancillary to the business

conducted by the Group, as disclosed in the Company's announcements, circulars, interim and annual reports.

- 5.6 In order for a person to satisfy the Board that he is qualified to be (or, where applicable, continues to qualify to be) an Eligible Participant, such person shall provide all such information as the Board may request for the purpose of assessing his eligibility (or continuing eligibility).
- 5.7 Subject to clause 9, a Grantee shall continue to qualify as an Eligible Participant during the period when any Option granted to him remains outstanding, or otherwise the Company would (subject to the Applicable Laws) be entitled to deem any outstanding Option or any part thereof, granted to such Grantee and to the extent not already exercised, as lapsed.
- 5.8 For the purpose of clauses 6 and 9:
- (a) an Eligible Participant which is a corporation shall be regarded as ceasing to be an Eligible Participant if there is any change in the management and/or shareholding of the Eligible Participant, unless otherwise determined to the contrary by the Board;
 - (b) a Category A Participant shall not be regarded as ceasing to be an Eligible Participant if he or she ceases to be a Category A Participant but becomes, or continues to be, a Category B Participant;
 - (c) a Category B Participant shall not be regarded as ceasing to be an Eligible Participant if he or she ceases to be a Category B Participant but becomes, or continues to be a Category A Participant; and
 - (d) a Category A Participant who is a director of the Group shall not be regarded as ceasing to be a Category A Participant by reason of his retirement as a director of the relevant company by rotation at general meeting if he is re-elected as a director at the same general meeting pursuant to the articles of association or bye-laws of that company.

6. GRANT OF OPTIONS

- 6.1 Subject to the terms and conditions of this Scheme, the Board shall be entitled at any time on a business day within a period of ten (10) years commencing on the Effective Date to make an Offer or Offers to any Eligible Participant(s) as the Board may in its absolute discretion select.
- 6.2 An Offer shall be made to an Eligible Participant in writing on a business day in such form as the Board may from time to time determine. The Offer Letter shall specify the following:
- (a) the name and address of the Eligible Participant;
 - (b) the number of Shares to which the Option to be granted to the Eligible Participant relates;
 - (c) the procedure for acceptance of the Option and the last date by which the Offer shall be accepted, which shall be not earlier than three business days from the

date of the Offer, except that for any Offer which is made within the last three business days before the expiry of the life of this Scheme, the Offer shall remain open for acceptance on a business day by the Eligible Participant concerned for a period of no longer than the remaining life of this Scheme;

- (d) the Exercise Period, the Exercise Price and the manner of payment of the Exercise Price;
 - (e) without prejudice to the generality of clause 6.6, such other terms and conditions of the Offer as may be imposed by the Board at its discretion either on a case-by-case basis or generally as are not inconsistent with this Scheme; and
 - (f) a statement requiring the Eligible Participant to undertake to hold the Option on and subject to the terms on which it is to be granted and to be bound by the provisions of this Scheme.
- 6.3 An Offer cannot be accepted by an Eligible Participant who ceases to be qualified as an Eligible Participant after the Offer has been made.
- 6.4 An Offer shall be deemed to have been accepted when the Company receives a duplicate Offer Letter duly signed from the Grantee together with a remittance of HK\$1.00 (or such other nominal sum in any currency as the Board may determine) in favour of the Company as consideration for the grant thereof. Such remittance shall in no circumstances be refundable. Once accepted, the Option shall be deemed to have been granted as from the date on which it was offered to the relevant Eligible Participant. No Offer shall be capable of or open for acceptance after the expiry of ten (10) years from the Effective Date.
- 6.5 Unless otherwise stated in the Offer Letter, any Offer may be accepted in respect of less than the number of Shares in respect of which it is offered provided that it is accepted in respect of a board lot for dealings in Shares on the Stock Exchange or an integral multiple thereof. To the extent that the Offer is not accepted in the manner set out in the Offer Letter or by virtue of clause 6.3, it shall be deemed to have been irrevocably declined and lapsed automatically without notice.
- 6.6 Subject to the provisions of this Scheme and the Applicable Laws, the Board may, on a case-by-case basis and at its absolute discretion when offering the grant of an Option, impose any conditions, restrictions or limitations in relation thereto in addition to those expressly set forth in this Scheme as it may think fit (which shall be stated in the Offer Letter) including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing):
- (a) the continuing eligibility of the Grantee under this Scheme, and in particular, where the Board determines that the Grantee has failed or otherwise is or has been unable to meet such continuing eligibility criteria, the Option (to the extent not already exercised) shall lapse, subject to the requirements of clause 9;
 - (b) the continuing compliance of such terms and conditions that may be attached to the grant of the Option, failing which the Option (to the extent not already exercised) shall lapse unless otherwise determined to the contrary by the Board, subject to the requirements of clause 9;
 - (c) the vesting period of the Options which shall not be less than 12 months, save and except that Options to be granted to a Category A Participant may be

subject to a vesting period of less than 12 months (or no vesting period) in the following circumstances:

- (i) grants of “make-whole” Options to new joiners to replace the share awards they forfeited when leaving the previous employer;
 - (ii) grants of Options to a Category A Participant whose employment is terminated due to death or disability or occurrence of any out-of-control event;
 - (iii) grants of Options that are made in batches during a year for administrative and compliance reasons;
 - (iv) grants of Options with a mixed or accelerated vesting schedule such as where the Options may vest evenly over a period 12 months; and
 - (v) grants of Options with a total vesting and holding period of more than 12 months;
- (d) conditions, restrictions or limitations relating to the achievement of operating or financial targets (the “**Performance Conditions**”). For the avoidance of doubt, there is no performance target stipulated under the terms of the Scheme which a Grantee is required to achieve before any Option granted under the Scheme can be exercised. The terms of the Scheme, however, do provide that the Board has the discretion to require at the time of grant of an Option any particular Grantee to achieve such performance targets as the Board may then specify in the grant before any Option granted under the Scheme to such Grantee can be exercised;
- (e) if applicable, the satisfactory performance of certain obligations by the Grantee;
- (f) a clawback mechanism under which upon the occurrence of any of the following in relation to the Grantee, the Board may propose that no further Options shall be granted to such Grantee and shall clawback the options granted to such Grantee and such Options shall lapse automatically:
- (i) the Grantee has failed to perform duties effectively or is involved in serious misconduct or malfeasance;
 - (ii) the Grantee has contravened the relevant laws and regulations of the applicable jurisdiction and/or the provisions of the Articles of Association;
 - (iii) the Grantee has, during his/her tenure of office, been involved in acceptance or solicitation of bribery, corruption, theft, leakage of trade and technical secrets, conducted connected transactions and other unlawful acts and misconducts, which prejudiced the interest and reputation of and caused significant negative impact to the image of the Company; or
 - (iv) the Grantee has failed to discharge, or failed to discharge properly, his/her duties and thereby resulting in serious loss in asset to our Company and other serious and adverse consequence.

6.7 Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing and subject to the Applicable Laws and clause 8, the Board may grant Options in respect of which the Exercise Price is fixed at different prices for different periods during the Exercise Period.

6.8 The Board shall not make any Offer:

- (a) after inside information (as defined under the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time) has come to its knowledge until (and including) the trading day after the Company has announced such inside information pursuant to the relevant requirements of the Applicable Laws; or
- (b) during the period commencing one month immediately before the earlier of:
 - (i) the date of the Board meeting (as such date is first notified to the Stock Exchange under the Listing Rules) for approving the Company's results for any year, half-year, quarterly or any other interim period (whether or not required under the Listing Rules); and
 - (ii) the deadline for the Company to announce its results for any year or half-year under the Listing Rules, or quarterly or any other interim period (whether or not required under the Listing Rules),

and ending on the date of the results announcement, or during any period of delay in publication of a results announcement.

7. GRANT OF OPTIONS TO CONNECTED PERSONS

Without prejudice to clause 6:

- (a) any grant of Options to a Director, chief executive or substantial shareholder of the Company, or any of their respective associates shall be approved by the independent non-executive Directors (excluding any independent non-executive Director who is the proposed Grantee of such Options); and
- (b) where any grant of Options to an independent non-executive Director or a substantial shareholder of the Company or any of their respective associates would result in the Shares issued and to be issued in respect of all options and awards granted under this Scheme or other Schemes (excluding any Options lapsed in accordance with the terms of this Scheme) to such person in the 12-month period up to and including the date of such grant representing in aggregate over 0.1% of the Shares in issue, such further grant of Options shall be approved by the shareholders of the Company in general meeting. The Company shall send a circular to its shareholders containing such information as required under the Applicable Laws. The relevant Grantee, his or her associates and all core connected persons of the Company shall abstain from voting in favour at such general meeting. The Company shall comply with the requirements under Rules 13.40, 13.41 and 13.42 of the Listing Rules.

8. EXERCISE PRICE

- 8.1 The Exercise Price in respect of any particular Option shall be a price determined by the Board and stated in the Offer Letter, and shall be at least the higher of:
- (a) the closing price of the Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheet on the date of the Offer;
 - (b) the average closing price of the Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheets for the five business days immediately preceding the date of the Offer; and
 - (c) the nominal value of a Share.
- 8.2 In the event the Shares cease to be listed on the Stock Exchange, the Exercise Price in respect of any particular Option shall be determined by the Board in good faith and in a manner consistent with all Applicable Laws taking into account (i) the price at which securities of reasonably comparable corporations (if any) in the same industry are being traded, or (ii) if there are no securities of reasonably comparable corporations in the same industry being traded, the earnings history, book value and prospects of the Company in light of market conditions generally.

9. EXERCISE OF OPTIONS

- 9.1 An Option shall be personal to the Grantee. No Option shall not be transferred or assigned, and no Grantee shall in any way sell, transfer, assign, charge, mortgage, encumber or create any interest over or in relation to any Option in favour of any third party, provided that the Board may at its absolute discretion allow a Grantee to transfer or assign an Option to a vehicle (such as a trust or a private company) for the benefit of the Grantee and/or any of the family members of such Grantee for estate planning or tax planning purposes ("**Permitted Transferee**") if:
- (a) the Grantee provides all such information in relation to the proposed transferee or assignee as the Board may request for the purpose of establishing to the Board's satisfaction that the proposed transferee or assignee is a Permitted Transferee;
 - (b) each of the Grantee and the proposed transferee or assignee undertakes and warrants that the proposed transferee or assignee (i) will not in any way sell, transfer, assign, charge, mortgage, encumber or create any interest over or in relation to any Option so transferred or assigned to it in favour of any third party (unless such third party is also a Permitted Transferee and all the conditions in this clause 9.1 which shall apply mutatis mutandis to such further transfer or assignment are satisfied); and (ii) will at all times be a Permitted Transferee; and
 - (c) a waiver is granted by the Stock Exchange to permit such a transfer or assignment.
- 9.2 Subject to the relevant Exercise Period and the other terms and conditions of the grant, an Option shall be exercised in whole or in part by the Grantee by giving notice in writing to the Company stating that the Option is thereby exercised and the number of Shares in respect of which it is exercised. Each such notice shall be accompanied by a remittance for the full amount of the Exercise Price for the Shares in respect of which the notice is given. Any notice given without such relevant remittance in full shall be

invalid. Within 21 business days (excluding any period(s) of closure of the Company's share register) after receipt of the notice together with remittance of the relevant Exercise Price in full and, where appropriate, receipt of the certificate given by the Auditor or an independent financial adviser pursuant to clause 12, the Company shall allot and issue the relevant number of Shares to the Grantee credited as fully paid and issue to the Grantee a share certificate in respect of the Shares so allotted and issued.

9.3 Subject to the Applicable Laws and as provided herein, an Option may be exercised by the Grantee at any time during the applicable Exercise Period, provided that:

- (a) in the event of death of the Grantee (being an individual) before exercising the Option in full, his or her Personal Representative(s) may exercise the Option (to the extent exercisable and not already exercised as at the date of his death) either in full or in part within 12 months following his or her death or such longer period as the Board may determine;
- (b) in the event of the Grantee being a Category A Participant and/or a Category B Participant at the time of the grant of the relevant Option ceasing to be a Category A Participant or a Category B Participant by reason of Disability, the Grantee may exercise the Option (to the extent exercisable and not already exercised as at the date of such cessation) either in full or in part within 6 months following such cessation or such longer period as the Board may determine;
- (c) subject to sub-clauses (d) and (e), in the event of the Grantee being a Category A Participant and/or a Category B Participant at the time of the grant of the relevant Option ceasing to be a Category A Participant or a Category B Participant for any reason other than his or her death or Disability, Bankruptcy or Culpable Termination, the Grantee may exercise the Option (to the extent exercisable and not already exercised as at the date of such cessation) either in full or in part within 30 days following such cessation or such longer period as the Board may determine;
- (d) in the event of a general offer (whether by way of takeover offer or scheme of arrangement or otherwise in like manner) being made to all the holders of Shares (or all such holders other than the offeror and/or any person acting in concert with the offeror) and such offer becomes or is declared unconditional (in the case of a takeover offer) or is approved by the requisite resolutions of shareholders of the Company in general meeting (in the case of a scheme of arrangement), the Company shall forthwith give notice thereof to all Grantees, and thereupon the Grantees may exercise the Options (to the extent exercisable and not already exercised as at the date on which the offer becomes or is declared unconditional (in the case of a takeover offer) or is approved by the requisite resolutions of shareholders of the Company in general meeting (in the case of a scheme of arrangement)) either in full or in part at any time up to the close of such offer (or any revised offer) unless the Board shall determine to the contrary (in the case of a takeover offer) or within such period as shall be notified by the Company to the Grantees (in the case of a scheme of arrangement);
- (e) in the event of a notice being given by the Company to its shareholders to convene a shareholders' meeting for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving a resolution to voluntarily wind up the Company, the Company shall forthwith give notice thereof to all Grantees, and thereupon the Grantees may exercise the Options (to the extent exercisable and not already exercised as at the date of the notice to the Grantee) either in full or in part not later than three

business days (excluding any period(s) of closure of the Company's share register) immediately preceding the date of the proposed shareholders' meeting, and the Company shall, as soon as possible and in any event no later than the business day (excluding any period(s) of closure of the Company's share register) immediately preceding the date of the proposed shareholders' meeting, allot and issue such number of Shares to the Grantees which falls to be issued upon such exercise; and

- (f) in the event of a compromise or arrangement between the Company and its members or creditors being proposed in connection with a scheme for the reconstruction or amalgamation of the Company (other than any scheme of arrangement referred to in clause 9.3(d) above or any relocation schemes as contemplated in Rule 7.14(3) of the Listing Rules), the Company shall give notice thereof to all Grantees on the same date as it gives notice of the meeting to its members or creditors to consider such a scheme, and thereupon the Grantees may exercise the Options (to the extent exercisable and not already exercised as at the date of the notice to the Grantee) either in full or in part not later than three business days (excluding any period(s) of closure of the Company's share register) immediately preceding the date of the proposed meeting, and the Company shall, as soon as possible and in any event no later than the business day (excluding any period(s) of closure of the Company's share register) immediately preceding the date of the proposed meeting, allot and issue such number of Shares to the Grantees which falls to be issued on such exercise.

9.4 The Shares to be allotted and issued upon the exercise of an Option shall be subject to all the provisions of the Articles of Association and the Applicable Laws in force as at the Allotment Date and shall rank pari passu in all respects with the existing fully paid Shares in issue on the Allotment Date and accordingly shall entitle the holder to participate in all dividends or other distributions paid or made on or after the Allotment Date other than any dividend or other distribution previously declared or recommended or resolved to be paid or made if the record date therefor is before the Allotment Date.

9.5 Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Grantee may only exercise an Option subject to any restrictions as may be reasonably imposed by the Board from time to time with a view to ensuring or facilitating compliance with any Applicable Laws, in particular those relating to insider dealing and other prohibitions under the Listing Rules.

10. LAPSE OF OPTION

An Option (to the extent not already exercised) shall lapse and not be exercisable on the earliest of:

- (a) the expiry of the Exercise Period;
- (b) the expiry of any of the periods referred to in clauses 9.3(a) to (f);
- (c) subject to clause 9.3(e), the date of the commencement of the winding-up of the Company;
- (d) the date when the proposed compromise or arrangement becomes effective in respect of the situation contemplated in clause 9.3(f);

- (e) in the case of the Grantee being a Category A Participant or a Category B Participant, the date on which he or she ceases to be a Category A Participant or a Category B Participant by reason of Culpable Termination;
- (f) the occurrence of Bankruptcy of the Grantee, unless otherwise resolved to the contrary by the Board;
- (g) the date on which the Grantee commits a breach of any terms or conditions attached to the grant of the Option, unless otherwise resolved to the contrary by the Board; and
- (h) the date on which the Board resolves that the Grantee has failed or otherwise is or has been unable to meet the continuing eligibility criteria as may be prescribed pursuant to clause 6.6(a).

11. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SHARES AVAILABLE FOR SUBSCRIPTION

11.1 Subject to clauses 11.2 and 11.3,

- (a) the total number of Shares which may be issued in respect of all options and awards to be granted under this Scheme and Other Schemes shall not, in aggregate, exceed 57,093,100^(Note) Shares, which represents 10.0% of the Shares in issue as at the Adoption Date (the “**Scheme Mandate Limit**”); and
- (b) the total number of Shares which may be issued in respect of all options and awards to be granted to all Category C Participants under this Scheme and Other Schemes shall not, in aggregate, exceed 5,709,310^(Note) Shares, which represents 1.0% of the Shares in issue as at the Adoption Date and 10.0% of the Scheme Mandate Limit (the “**Category C Participant Limit**”),

provided that if the Company conducts a share consolidation or subdivision after the Scheme Mandate Limit or the Category C Participant Limit has been approved in general meeting, the maximum number of Shares that may be issued in respect of all options and awards to be granted under this Scheme and Other Schemes under the Scheme Mandate Limit or the Category C Participant Limit as a percentage of the total number of issued Shares at the date immediately before and after such consolidation or subdivision shall be the same, rounded to the nearest whole Share. Options lapsed in accordance with the terms of this Scheme will not be regarded as utilised for the purpose of calculating the Scheme Mandate Limit or the Category C Participant Limit.

Note:

The number of Shares stated herein is calculated based on the number of Shares in issue of the Company as at 18 May 2023, which may be subject to further changes. The number of Shares which represents 10.0% of the Shares in issue and 1.0% of the Shares in issue will be confirmed at the adoption date of this Scheme.

11.2 Subject to clause 11.3, the Company may seek approval by its shareholders in general meeting for renewing the Scheme Mandate Limit and/or the Category C Participant Limit (the “**Renewal Mandate**”) separately from time to time, provided that:

- (a) if the Renewal Mandate is sought within three years from the Adoption Date or the date on which the last Renewal Mandate was granted (as the case may be), any controlling shareholders of the Company and their associates (or if there is

no controlling shareholder, Directors (excluding independent non-executive Directors) and the chief executive of the Company and their respective associates) shall abstain from voting in favour of the relevant resolution at the general meeting; and the Company shall comply with the requirements under Rules 13.39(6) and (7), 13.40, 13.41 and 13.42 of the Listing Rules, unless the Renewal Mandate is sought immediately after an issue of securities by the Company to its shareholders on a pro rata basis as set out in Rule 13.36(2)(a) of the Listing Rules such that the unused part of the Scheme Mandate Limit (as a percentage of the relevant class of shares in issue) upon renewal is the same as the unused part of the Scheme Mandate Limit immediately before the issue of securities, rounded to the nearest whole Share;

- (b) the total number of Shares which may be issued in respect of all options and awards to be granted under this Scheme and Other Schemes after renewal of the Scheme Mandate Limit shall not exceed 10.0% of the Shares in issue as at the date on which the Renewal Mandate is obtained;
- (c) if the Company conducts a share consolidation or subdivision after the Renewal Mandate is obtained, the maximum number of Shares that may be issued in respect of all options and awards to be granted under this Scheme and Other Schemes under the renewed Scheme Mandate Limit or the Category C Participant Limit as a percentage of the total number of issued Shares at the date immediately before and after such consolidation or subdivision shall be the same, rounded to the nearest whole Share; and
- (d) the Company shall send a circular to its shareholders containing the number of Options that were already granted under the then existing Scheme Mandate Limit and the then existing Category C Participant Limit and the reason for the renewal.

11.3 The Company may seek separate approval by its shareholders in general meeting for granting Options beyond the Scheme Mandate Limit or the renewed Scheme Mandate Limit provided that:

- (a) the Options in excess of the Scheme Mandate Limit or the renewed Scheme Mandate Limit shall be granted only to the Eligible Participants specifically identified by the Company before such shareholders' approval is sought;
- (b) the Company shall issue a circular to its shareholders containing the name of each specified Eligible Participant who may be granted such Options, the number and terms of the Options to be granted to each such specified Eligible Participant, and the purpose of granting Options to each such specified Eligible Participants with an explanation as to how the terms of the Options serve such purpose;
- (c) the number and terms of Options to be granted to each such specified Eligible Participant shall be fixed before such shareholders' approval; and
- (d) for the purpose of calculating the minimum Exercise Price under clause 8 in respect of any Options to be so granted to each such specified Eligible Participant, the date of the Board meeting for proposing such grant shall be taken as the date of the Offer of such Options.

11.4 Where any grant of Option to an Eligible Participant would result in the Shares issued and to be issued in respect of all options and awards granted under this Scheme and Other Schemes to such Eligible Participant (excluding any options and awards lapsed

in accordance with the terms of this Scheme and Other Schemes) in the 12-month period up to and including the date of such grant representing in aggregate over 1.0% of the Shares in issue as at the date of such grant, such grant shall be subject to the following requirements:

- (a) approval of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting with such Eligible Participant and his or her close associates (or associates if such Eligible Participant is a connected person of the Company) abstaining from voting;
- (b) the Company shall send a circular to its shareholders disclosing the identity of such Eligible Participant, the number and terms of the further Options to be granted (and those previously granted to such Eligible Participant in the 12-month period), the purpose of granting further Options to such Eligible Participant and an explanation as to how the terms of the further Options serve such purpose;
- (c) the number and terms of the further Options to be granted to such Eligible Participant shall be fixed before the shareholders' approval mentioned in (a) above; and
- (d) for the purpose of calculating the minimum Exercise Price under clause 8 in respect of the further Options to be so granted to such Eligible Participant, the date of the Board meeting for proposing such grant of further Options shall be taken as the date of the Offer of such Options.

12. REORGANISATION OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE

12.1 In the event of any alteration in the capital structure of the Company while any Option remains exercisable, and such event arises from, including a capitalisation issue, rights issue, subdivision or consolidation of Shares, or reduction of capital of the Company, the Board may, if it deems appropriate, direct that such corresponding adjustments (if any) be made in:

- (a) the number of Shares subject to the Options so far as unexercised; and/or
- (b) the Exercise Price.

For the avoidance of doubt, the issue of securities as consideration in a transaction may not be regarded as a circumstance requiring adjustment.

12.2 Any adjustments required under clause 12.1 shall be made in accordance with the following requirements:

- (a) the adjustments shall give a Grantee the same proportion of the equity capital, rounded to the nearest whole Share, as that to which that Grantee was previously entitled, but no such adjustments may be made to the extent that Shares would be issued at less than their nominal value; and
- (b) the adjustments shall be made in accordance with the Listing Rules and any other requirements or guidance by the Stock Exchange from time to time (including the supplementary guidance attached to the letter from the Stock Exchange dated 5 September 2005 relating to share option schemes), if applicable.

- 12.3 In respect of any adjustments required under clause 12.1 (other than any made on a capitalisation issue), the Auditors or an independent financial adviser appointed by the Company shall certify the Directors in writing that the adjustments satisfy the requirements set out in clause 12.2.
- 12.4 In giving any certificate under clause 12.3, the Auditors or the independent financial adviser appointed by the Company shall be deemed to be acting as experts and not as arbitrators and their certificate shall, in the absence of manifest error, be final, conclusive and binding on the Company and all persons who may be affected thereby.
- 12.5 The costs of the Auditors or the independent financial adviser appointed by the Company for the purpose of and in connection with this Scheme shall be borne by the Company.

13. SHARE CAPITAL

The exercise of any Option shall be subject to the approval by the shareholders of the Company in general meeting of any necessary increase in the share capital of the Company. Subject thereto the Board shall make available sufficient authorised but unissued share capital of the Company to meet subsisting requirements on the exercise of Options.

14. DISPUTES

Any dispute arising in connection with this Scheme (whether as to the number of Shares subject to Options, (where applicable) whether all or part of the Option has been vested, the amount of the Exercise Price or otherwise) shall be referred to the decision of the Auditors or the independent financial adviser appointed by the Company, who shall act as experts and not as arbitrators and whose decision shall, in the absence of manifest error, be final, conclusive and binding on all persons who may be affected thereby.

15. ALTERATION OF TERMS OF OPTIONS AND THIS SCHEME

- 15.1 Any change to the terms of the Options granted to a Grantee (except where the changes take effect automatically under the existing terms of this Scheme) shall be approved by the Board, the remuneration committee, the independent non-executive Directors and/or the shareholders of the Company (as the case may be) if the initial grant of the Options was approved by the Board, the remuneration committee, the independent non-executive Directors and/or the shareholders of the Company (as the case may be).
- 15.2 This Scheme may be altered in any respect by resolution of the Board save for the following alterations which may be effected only with the prior approval of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting:
- (a) any alterations to the terms and conditions of this Scheme which are of a material nature;
 - (b) any alterations to the provisions relating to the matters set out in Rule 17.03 of the Listing Rules to the advantage of the Grantees; and

(c) any change to the authority of the Board to alter the terms of this Scheme, provided always that the amended terms of this Scheme shall continue to comply with the relevant provisions of the Listing Rules and any other Applicable Laws.

16. TERMINATION

The Company by resolution in general meeting or the Board may at any time terminate the operation of this Scheme and in such event, no further Options may be offered or granted under this Scheme but the provisions of this Scheme shall remain in full force and effect to the extent necessary to give effect to the exercise of any Options granted prior to the termination or otherwise as may be required in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Scheme.

17. CANCELLATION

17.1 Any Option may be cancelled in whole or in part and at any time:

- (a) if agreed between the Company and the relevant Grantee; or
- (b) if the Board offers to grant to the Grantee replacement Options of equivalent value of the Options being cancelled; or
- (c) if the Company pays or procures to be paid to the Grantee an amount equal to the cash value of the Options being cancelled as at the date of cancellation as determined by the Board by reference to the difference between the closing price of a Share as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheet on the date of the cancellation and the Exercise Price.

17.2 Where an Option granted to a Grantee is cancelled and a new grant is made to the same Grantee under this Scheme, such new grant may only be made under the Scheme Mandate Limit (or the renewed Scheme Mandate Limit) and, if applicable, the Category C Participant Limit (or the renewed Category C Participant Limit) available at the time of such new grant. The Options cancelled will be regarded as utilised for the purpose of calculating the Scheme Mandate Limit (or the renewed Scheme Mandate Limit) and the Category C Participant Limit (or the renewed Category C Participant Limit).

18. MISCELLANEOUS

18.1 This Scheme shall not confer on any person any legal or equitable rights (other than those constituting the Options themselves) against the Group or any of the Related Entities directly or indirectly or give rise to any cause of action at law or in equity against the Group or any of the Related Entities.

18.2 This Scheme shall not form part of any contract of employment between the Group (or any of the Related Entities) and any Grantee, and the grant of an Option under this Scheme shall not confer on the Grantee any additional employment rights or limit in any way the right of the relevant member of the Group or the relevant Related Entity

to terminate the Grantee's employment or confer any additional rights to compensation or damages in consequence of the termination of employment for any reason.

- 18.3 By accepting an Option, a Grantee shall be deemed irrevocably to have waived any entitlement, by way of compensation for loss of office or otherwise howsoever, to any sum or other benefit to compensate him for loss of any rights under this Scheme.
- 18.4 A Grantee shall be responsible for obtaining any governmental or other official consent that may be required by any country or jurisdiction in order to permit the grant, acceptance and/or exercise of his or her Option. By accepting an Offer of the grant of an Option or exercising his or her Option, the Grantee thereof is deemed to have represented to the Company that he or she has obtained all such consents and shall indemnify the Company in full against any loss, claim, penalty, demand, liability, costs and expenses made against or incurred by the Company in respect of a breach by the Grantee of such representation or failure to obtain such consents. The Company shall not be responsible for any failure by a Grantee to obtain any such consents or for any tax or other liability to which a Grantee may become subject arising from or in connection with the grant, acceptance and/or exercise of any Option.
- 18.5 The Company shall bear the costs of establishing and administering this Scheme.
- 18.6 A Grantee shall be entitled to receive copies of all notices and other documents sent by the Company to its shareholders.
- 18.7 Any notice or other communication between the Company and a Grantee may be given by sending the same by prepaid post or by personal delivery to, in the case of the Company, its principal place of business in Hong Kong from time to time and, in the case of the Grantee, his address as notified to the Company from time to time.
- 18.8 Any notice or other communication served:
- (a) by the Company shall be deemed to have been served 24 hours after the same was put in the post; and
 - (b) by the Grantee shall not be deemed to have been received until the same shall have been received by the Company.
- 18.9 This Scheme and all Options granted hereunder shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Hong Kong.