

CSRC Announcement [2023] No. 43

Upon approval by the State Council, the CSRC hereby releases the *Trial Administrative Measures of Overseas Securities Offering and Listing by Domestic Companies*, which will come into effect on 31 March 2023.

China Securities Regulatory Commission

Date: 17 February 2023

Trial Administrative Measures of Overseas Securities Offering and Listing by Domestic Companies

Chapter I General Provisions

Article 1 This *Measures* is formulated to regulate overseas securities offering and listing activities by domestic companies, either in direct or indirect form (hereinafter collectively referred to as overseas offering and listing), and promote lawful use of overseas capital markets by domestic companies to achieve regulated and sound development, in accordance with statutes including the *Securities Law of the People's Republic of China*.

Article 2 Direct overseas offering and listing by domestic companies refers to such overseas offering and listing by a joint-stock company incorporated domestically.

Indirect overseas offering and listing by domestic companies refers to such overseas offering and listing by a company in the name of an overseas incorporated entity, whereas the company's major business operations are located domestically and such offering and listing is based on the underlying equity, assets, earnings or other similar rights of a

domestic company.

For the purpose of this *Measures*, securities refer to equity shares, depository receipts, corporate bonds convertible to equity shares, and other equity securities that are offered and listed overseas, either directly or indirectly, by domestic companies.

Article 3 Overseas offering and listing by domestic companies shall abide by laws, administrative regulations and relevant state rules concerning foreign investment in China, state-owned asset administration, industry regulation and outbound investment. Such overseas offering and listing shall not disrupt domestic market order, harm state or public interest or undermine the lawful rights and interests of domestic investors.

Article 4 Overseas offering and listing by domestic companies shall be supervised and regulated in accordance with the lines, principles, policies, decisions and plans of the Party and the state, ensuring both development and security.

China Securities Regulatory Commission (the “CSRC”) shall exercise supervision and regulation over the overseas offering and listing activities by domestic companies according to law. The CSRC and competent authorities under the State Council shall, to the extent of their respective mandate and according to law, exercise supervision and regulation over

domestic companies that offer and list securities in overseas markets, and securities companies and securities service providers that provide domestic services to such activities.

The CSRC shall set up a supervisory and regulatory coordination mechanism with competent authorities under the State Council, with a view to strengthening policy cohesiveness, regulatory coordination and cross-agency information sharing.

Article 5 The CSRC and competent authorities under the State Council will, under the principle of reciprocity, step up supervisory and regulatory cooperation with overseas securities regulatory agencies and competent authorities to implement cross-border supervision and regulation.

Chapter II Overseas Offering and Listing

Article 6 A domestic company that seeks to offer and list securities in overseas markets shall abide by applicable laws, including the *Company Law of the People's Republic of China* and the *Accounting Law of the People's Republic of China*, administrative regulations and relevant state rules, and formulate articles of association, improve internal control system, enhance corporate governance, and promote compliance in corporate finance and accounting practices.

Article 7 A domestic company that seeks to offer and list

securities in overseas markets shall abide by national secrecy laws and relevant provisions and take necessary measures to fulfill confidentiality obligations. Divulgence of state secrets or working secrets of government agencies is strictly prohibited.

Provision of personal information, important data and etc. to overseas parties in relation to overseas offering and listing of domestic companies shall be in compliance with applicable laws, administrative regulations and relevant state rules.

Article 8 No overseas offering and listing shall be made under any of the following circumstances:

(1) where such securities offering and listing is explicitly prohibited by provisions in laws, administrative regulations and relevant state rules;

(2) where the intended securities offering and listing may endanger national security as reviewed and determined by competent authorities under the State Council in accordance with law;

(3) where the domestic company intending to make the securities offering and listing, or its controlling shareholders and the actual controller, have committed crimes such as corruption, bribery, embezzlement, misappropriation of property or undermining the order of the socialist market economy during the latest three years;

(4) where the domestic company intending to make the

securities offering and listing is suspected of committing crimes or major violations of laws and regulations, and is under investigation according to law, and no conclusion has yet been made thereof;

(5) where there are material ownership disputes over equity held by the domestic company's controlling shareholder or by other shareholders that are controlled by the controlling shareholder and/or actual controller.

Article 9 Overseas offering and listing by domestic companies shall be made in strict compliance with relevant laws, administrative regulations and rules concerning national security in spheres of foreign investment, cybersecurity, data security and etc., and duly fulfill their obligations to protect national security. If the intended overseas offering and listing necessitates a national security review, relevant security review procedures shall be completed according to law before the application for such offering and listing is submitted to any overseas parties such as securities regulatory agencies and trading venues.

A domestic company that seeks to offer and list securities in overseas markets shall, as per requirement by competent authorities under the State Council, take such measures as timely rectification, commitment and divestiture of relevant business and assets, to eliminate or avert any impact on national

security resulting from such overseas offering and listing.

Article 10 Target investors of overseas offering and listing by domestic companies shall be overseas investors, unless prescribed in the following paragraph or otherwise stipulated by the state.

A domestic company that seeks to offer and list securities in overseas markets for the purpose of implementing equity incentive plans or financing asset acquisitions may offer securities to eligible domestic investors that meet the standards prescribed by the CSRC.

A domestic state-owned company that seeks to offer securities to eligible domestic investors as prescribed in the preceding paragraphs shall also comply with relevant regulations of state-owned assets administration.

Article 11 A company that offers and lists securities on overseas markets may raise funds and pay dividends in a foreign currency or the Chinese Yuan (RMB).

Proceeds from the company's overseas securities offering shall be used and invested for purposes in compliance with laws, administrative regulations and relevant state rules.

Currency conversion and cross-border remittance of funds in relation to overseas offering and listing by domestic companies shall comply with state regulations concerning cross-border investment and financing, foreign exchange

administration, and cross-border RMB administration.

Article 12 Securities companies, securities service providers and practitioners engaged in overseas offering and listing by domestic companies shall abide by laws, administrative regulations and relevant state rules, observe industry-accepted professional standards and ethical norms, and rigorously fulfill statutory duties to ensure the truthfulness, accuracy and completeness of the documents that they produce and issue. Securities companies, securities service providers and practitioners engaged in overseas offering and listing by domestic companies shall not, in the document they produce and issue, make any comments in a manner that misrepresents or disparages laws and policies, business environment and judicial situation, etc. of the state.

Chapter III Filing Requirements

Article 13 A domestic company that seeks to offer and list securities in overseas markets shall fulfill the filing procedure with the CSRC as per requirement of this *Measures*, submit relevant materials that contain a filing report and a legal opinion, and provide truthful, accurate and complete information on the shareholders and etc.

Article 14 Where a domestic company seeks to directly

offer and list securities in overseas markets, the issuer shall file with the CSRC.

Where a domestic company seeks to indirectly offer and list securities in overseas markets, the issuer shall designate a major domestic operating entity, which shall, as the domestic responsible entity, file with the CSRC.

Article 15 Any overseas offering and listing made by an issuer that meets both the following conditions will be determined as indirect:

(1) 50% or more of the issuer's operating revenue, total profit, total assets or net assets as documented in its audited consolidated financial statements for the most recent accounting year is accounted for by domestic companies; and

(2) the main parts of the issuer's business activities are conducted in the Chinese Mainland, or its main places of business are located in the Chinese Mainland, or the senior managers in charge of its business operation and management are mostly Chinese citizens or domiciled in the Chinese Mainland.

The determination as to whether or not an overseas offering and listing by domestic companies is indirect, shall be made on a substance over form basis.

Article 16 Initial public offerings or listings in overseas markets shall be filed with the CSRC within 3 working days

after the relevant application is submitted overseas.

Subsequent securities offerings of an issuer in the same overseas market where it has previously offered and listed securities shall be filed with the CSRC within 3 working days after the offering is completed.

Subsequent securities offerings and listings of an issuer in other overseas markets than where it has offered and listed shall be filed pursuant to provisions in the first paragraph of this Article.

Article 17 A domestic company that seeks to directly or indirectly list its domestic assets in overseas markets through single or multiple acquisitions, share swaps, transfers of shares or other means, shall fulfil the filing procedure as prescribed in the first paragraph of Article 16 herein. Where overseas application documents are not required, the filing shall be made within 3 working days after the first public disclosure of the specifics of the transaction is made by the listed company.

Article 18 For a domestic company directly offering and listing overseas, shareholders of its domestic unlisted shares applying to convert such shares into shares listed and traded on an overseas trading venue shall conform to relevant regulations promulgated by the CSRC, and authorize the domestic company to file with the CSRC on their behalf.

The term “domestic unlisted shares” in the preceding

paragraph refers to shares offered by a domestic company but not listed or quoted for trading on any domestic trading venues. Domestic unlisted shares shall be centrally registered and deposited at a domestic securities depository and settlement agency. The registration and settlement of overseas listed shares is subject to applicable rules in overseas markets.

Article 19 Where the filing documents are complete and in compliance with stipulated requirements, the CSRC will, within 20 working days after receiving the filing documents, conclude the filing procedure and publish the filing results on the CSRC website.

Where the filing documents are incomplete or do not conform to stipulated requirements, the CSRC shall request supplementation and amendment thereto within 5 working days after receiving the filing documents. The issuer should then complete supplementation and amendment within 30 working days. During the filing process, where the issuer may be involved in circumstances prescribed in Article 8 herein, the CSRC may consult with competent authorities under the State Council. Time taken for filing document supplementation and the CSRC consultation shall not be counted in the time limit for filing.

The CSRC may formulate filing guidelines based on this *Measures* to illustrate specific requirements for the format,

content and attachments of filing documents.

Article 20 Filing documents for overseas offering and listing by domestic companies shall be truthful, accurate and complete. No misrepresentation, misleading statement or major omission is allowed. The domestic company and its controlling shareholders, actual controllers, board directors, supervisors, and senior executives shall fulfill their information disclosure obligations according to law, practice with integrity and due diligence in ensuring the truthfulness, accuracy and completeness of the filing documents.

Securities companies and law firms should make thorough examination and verification of filing documents, and ensure none of the circumstances specified below occurs:

- (1) the filing documents contain conflicting or inconsistent and materially different descriptions of the same facts;
- (2) the filing documents are considerably difficult to understand due to lack of clarity and logic in writing;
- (3) the filing documents fail to prove whether the company meets the conditions prescribed in Article 15 herein;
- (4) failure to report material events timely as required.

Article 21 An overseas securities company that serves as a sponsor or lead underwriter for overseas securities offering and listing by domestic companies shall file with the CSRC within 10 working days after signing its first engagement

agreement for such business, and submit to the CSRC, no later than January 31 each year, an annual report on its business activities in the previous year associated with overseas securities offering and listing by domestic companies.

An overseas securities company that has entered into engagement agreements before the effectuation of this *Measures* and is serving in practice as a sponsor or lead underwriter for overseas securities offering and listing by domestic companies shall file with the CSRC within 30 working days after this *Measures* takes effect.

Chapter IV Supervision and Regulation

Article 22 Upon the occurrence of any of the material events specified below after an issuer has offered and listed securities in an overseas market, the issuer shall submit a report thereof to CSRC within 3 working days after the occurrence and public disclosure of the event:

- (1) change of control;
- (2) investigations or sanctions imposed by overseas securities regulatory agencies or other relevant competent authorities;
- (3) change of listing status or transfer of listing segment;
- (4) voluntary or mandatory delisting.

Where an issuer's main business undergoes material changes after overseas offering and listing, and is therefore beyond the scope of business stated in the filing documents, such issuer shall submit to the CSRC an *ad hoc* report and a relevant legal opinion issued by a domestic law firm within 3 working days after occurrence of the changes.

Article 23 The CSRC and competent authorities under the State Council shall, to the extent of their respective mandate and according to law, carry out supervisory inspections or investigations of domestic companies whose securities are offered and listed overseas, and of the related business undertakings carried out by securities companies and securities service providers in the Chinese Mainland.

Article 24 For violations of this *Measures* by domestic companies offering and listing overseas, and securities companies, securities service providers and relevant practitioners providing service to such overseas offering and listing from the Chinese Mainland, the CSRC and competent authorities under the State Council may, for the purpose of maintaining market integrity and to the extent of their respective mandate, impose administrative regulatory measures including order for correction, regulatory talks and warning letters, proportionate to the severity of the violations.

Article 25 A domestic company found in violation of

Article 8 herein prior to an overseas offering and listing shall postpone or terminate the intended overseas offering and listing, and report to the CSRC and competent authorities under the State Council in a timely manner.

Article 26 Where the overseas offering and listing by a domestic company is in violation of this *Measures*, or where a foreign securities company is in violation of Article 21 herein, the CSRC may inform its regulatory counterparts in the overseas jurisdictions via cross-border securities regulatory cooperation mechanisms.

Where an overseas securities regulatory agency intends to carry out investigation and evidence collection regarding overseas offering and listing activities by a domestic company, and request assistance of the CSRC under relevant cross-border securities regulatory cooperation mechanisms, the CSRC may provide necessary assistance in accordance with law. Any domestic entity or individual providing documents and materials requested by an overseas securities regulatory agency out of investigative or evidence collection purposes, shall not provide such information without prior approval from the CSRC and competent authorities under the State Council.

Chapter V Legal Liabilities

Article 27 Where a domestic company fails to fulfill filing procedure as stipulated by Article 13 herein, or offers and lists securities in an overseas market in violation of Articles 8 and 25 herein, the CSRC shall order rectification, issue warnings to such domestic company, and impose a fine of between RMB 1,000,000 yuan and RMB 10,000,000 yuan. Directly liable persons-in-charge and other directly liable persons shall be warned and each imposed a fine of between RMB 500,000 yuan and RMB 5,000,000 yuan.

Controlling shareholders and actual controllers of the domestic company that organize or instruct the aforementioned violations shall be imposed a fine of RMB 1,000,000 yuan and RMB 10,000,000 yuan. Directly liable persons-in-charge and other directly liable persons shall be each imposed a fine of between RMB 500,000 yuan and RMB 5,000,000 yuan.

Securities companies and securities service providers that fail to duly urge compliance by the domestic company with Articles 8, 13 and 25 herein shall be warned and imposed a fine of between RMB 500,000 yuan and RMB 5,000,000 yuan. Directly liable persons-in-charge and other directly liable persons shall be warned and each imposed a fine of between RMB 200,000 yuan and RMB 2,000,000 yuan.

Article 28 Where the filing documents submitted by a domestic company contains misrepresentation, misleading

statement or material omission, the CSRC shall issue correction orders and warnings, and impose a fine of between RMB 1,000,000 yuan and RMB 10,000,000 yuan. Directly liable persons-in-charge and other directly liable persons shall be warned and each imposed a fine of between RMB 500,000 yuan and RMB 5,000,000 yuan.

Controlling shareholders and actual controllers of the domestic company that organize or instruct the aforementioned violations, or enable the aforementioned violations by concealing relevant matters, shall be imposed a fine of RMB 1,000,000 yuan and RMB 10,000,000 yuan. Directly liable persons-in-charge and other directly liable persons shall be each imposed a fine of between RMB 500,000 yuan and RMB 5,000,000 yuan.

Article 29 Where a securities company or securities service provider, failing to practice with due diligence, either: 1) makes misrepresentation, misleading statement or material omission in documents produced and issued in compliance with domestic laws, administrative regulations or relevant rules promulgated by the state, or; 2) makes misrepresentation, misleading statement or material omission in documents produced and issued in compliance with rules of the overseas listing market, and thereby disrupts domestic market order and undermines lawful rights and interests of domestic investors, the

CSRC and competent authorities under the State Council shall issue correction orders and warnings, and impose a fine of between one and ten times of the revenue if any, or of between RMB 500,000 yuan and RMB 5,000,000 yuan in the absence of a revenue therefrom or if the revenue was less than RMB 500,000 yuan. Directly liable persons-in-charge and other directly liable persons shall be warned and each imposed a fine of between RMB 200,000 yuan and RMB 2,000,000 yuan.

Article 30 Violations of other articles of this *Measures* that are penalizable under other laws or administrative regulations shall be penalized accordingly.

Article 31 For cases of severe violations of this *Measures* or other laws and administrative regulations, the CSRC may impose a ban on entering into the securities market upon the relevant responsible persons. Any such violation that constitutes a crime shall be investigated for criminal liability according to law.

Article 32 The CSRC shall, in accordance with law, incorporate the compliance status of relevant market participants with this *Measures* into the Securities Market Integrity Archives and upload the record to the National Credit Information Sharing Platform, with a view to strengthening cross-agency information sharing through concerted efforts with competent authorities, and enforcing punishment and deterrence in

accordance with laws and regulations.

Chapter VI Supplementary Provisions

Article 33 Overseas offering and listing by subordinate companies majority-owned by or under the actual control of a domestically listed company, and overseas issuance by domestically listed companies of securities such as depository receipts that are based on and convertible into domestic securities shall also comply with other applicable rules and regulations promulgated by the CSRC, and be filed in accordance with this *Measures*.

Article 34 For the purpose of this *Measures*, domestic companies herein refers to companies incorporated within the Chinese Mainland, including domestic joint-stock companies whose securities are directly offered and listed overseas and the domestic operating entities of companies whose securities are indirectly offered and listed overseas.

For the purpose of this *Measures*, securities companies and securities service providers herein refers to securities companies and securities service providers, both domestic and overseas, that undertake business in relation to overseas offering and listing by domestic companies.

Article 35 This *Measures* shall come into effect on 31

March 2023. The *Notice on Implementing “Essential Clauses of Articles of Association for Companies Seeking to List Overseas”* shall be simultaneously invalidated.

Courtesy translation