

Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this announcement, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this announcement.



## AUSNUTRIA DAIRY CORPORATION LTD

### 澳優乳業股份有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock code: 1717)

## INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	Six months ended 30 June		% of Change
	2020 RMB'M	2019 RMB'M	
Revenue	3,859.3	3,147.6	22.6
Gross profit	2,022.4	1,639.1	23.4
Gross profit margin (%)	52.4	52.1	0.3 pp
EBITDA			
– Reported	662.9	441.4	50.2
– Adjusted*	828.8	615.8	34.6
Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company			
– Reported	408.8	260.5	56.9
– Adjusted*	574.7	434.9	32.1
Cash inflows from operating activities	830.0	317.4	161.5

For the six months ended 30 June 2020 (the “**2020 Interim Period**”), Ausnutria Dairy Corporation Ltd (“**Ausnutria**” or the “**Company**”) and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “**Group**”) recorded the followings:

- Revenue increased by RMB711.7 million or 22.6%, among which revenue derived from own-branded business increased by 25.0% to RMB3,410.9 million.
- Gross profit increased by RMB383.3 million or 23.4%.
- Adjusted EBITDA increased by RMB213.0 million or 34.6%.
- Adjusted profit attributable to equity holders of the Company increased by RMB139.8 million or 32.1%.
- Cash inflows from operating activities increased by RMB512.6 million or 161.5%.

\* Adjusted for the loss on the fair value change of derivative financial instruments in the 2020 Interim Period of RMB165.9 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB174.4 million).

The board (the “**Board**”) of directors (the “**Directors**”) of the Company is pleased to announce the unaudited consolidated financial results of the Group for the 2020 Interim Period together with the comparative figures for the six months ended 30 June 2019 (the “**2019 Interim Period**”). The Group’s interim results for the 2020 Interim Period are unaudited but have been reviewed by the audit committee of the Company (the “**Audit Committee**”).

**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

*For the six months ended 30 June 2020*

	<i>Notes</i>	<b>2020 Unaudited RMB’000</b>	2019 Unaudited RMB’000
<b>REVENUE</b>	<i>5</i>	<b>3,859,336</b>	3,147,565
Cost of sales		<u><b>(1,836,932)</b></u>	<u>(1,508,475)</u>
Gross profit		<b>2,022,404</b>	1,639,090
Other income and gains	<i>5</i>	<b>46,750</b>	38,729
Selling and distribution expenses		<b>(985,260)</b>	(863,218)
Administrative expenses		<b>(321,458)</b>	(245,534)
Other expenses		<b>(213,607)</b>	(198,030)
Finance costs		<b>(14,519)</b>	(11,897)
Share of profits and losses of associates		<u><b>15,152</b></u>	<u>2,161</u>
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<i>6</i>	<b>549,462</b>	361,301
Income tax expense	<i>7</i>	<u><b>(129,690)</b></u>	<u>(106,546)</u>
<b>PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<u><b>419,772</b></u>	<u>254,755</u>
Attributable to:			
Owners of the parent		<b>408,761</b>	260,455
Non-controlling interests		<u><b>11,011</b></u>	<u>(5,700)</u>
		<u><b>419,772</b></u>	<u>254,755</u>
<b>EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT</b>	<i>9</i>		
Basic			
– For profit for the period ( <i>RMB cents</i> )		<u><b>25.37</b></u>	<u>16.38</u>
Diluted			
– For profit for the period ( <i>RMB cents</i> )		<u><b>24.97</b></u>	<u>16.21</u>

<i>Notes</i>	<b>2020</b> <b>Unaudited</b> <b>RMB'000</b>	2019 Unaudited RMB'000
<b>PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>419,772</b>	254,755
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS)</b>		
Other comprehensive income that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	<u>58,515</u>	<u>18,885</u>
Net other comprehensive income that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods	<u>58,515</u>	<u>18,885</u>
Other comprehensive loss that will not to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
Remeasurement loss on the defined benefit plan, net of tax	<u>—</u>	<u>(866)</u>
Net other comprehensive loss that will not to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods	<u>—</u>	<u>(866)</u>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD, NET OF TAX</b>	<u>58,515</u>	<u>18,019</u>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<u><b>478,287</b></u>	<u><b>272,774</b></u>
Attributable to:		
Owners of the parent	<u>463,330</u>	279,052
Non-controlling interests	<u>14,957</u>	<u>(6,278)</u>
	<u><b>478,287</b></u>	<u><b>272,774</b></u>

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2020

		<b>30 June 2020</b>	31 December 2019
		<b>Unaudited</b>	Audited
	<i>Notes</i>	<b>RMB'000</b>	<b>RMB'000</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	10	<b>1,640,253</b>	1,471,496
Right-of-use assets		<b>300,687</b>	349,314
Goodwill		<b>290,576</b>	289,803
Other intangible assets		<b>462,568</b>	398,100
Long-term prepayments		<b>138,300</b>	158,198
Investments in associates		<b>545,127</b>	271,831
Investments in convertible bonds		–	207,352
Deferred tax assets		<b>253,967</b>	222,890
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total non-current assets		<b>3,631,478</b>	3,368,984
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Inventories	11	<b>2,216,608</b>	2,051,326
Trade and bills receivables	12	<b>439,779</b>	419,919
Prepayments, other receivables and other assets		<b>403,707</b>	432,272
Pledged deposits		<b>342,242</b>	396,152
Cash and cash equivalents		<b>1,846,270</b>	1,674,541
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current assets		<b>5,248,606</b>	4,974,210
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and bills payables	13	<b>449,643</b>	337,937
Other payables and accruals		<b>2,297,666</b>	2,038,496
Derivative financial instruments	14	<b>649</b>	1,013
Interest-bearing bank loans and other borrowings		<b>370,721</b>	419,787
Tax payable		<b>203,289</b>	215,719
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current liabilities		<b>3,321,968</b>	3,012,952
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
		<hr/> <b>1,926,638</b> <hr/>	<hr/> 1,961,258 <hr/>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
		<hr/> <b>5,558,116</b> <hr/>	<hr/> 5,330,242 <hr/>

		<b>30 June 2020 Unaudited RMB'000</b>	31 December 2019 Audited RMB'000
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>5,558,116</b>	5,330,242
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Interest-bearing bank loans and other borrowings		702,666	784,003
Defined benefit plan		6,560	6,440
Derivative financial instruments	14	473,269	300,312
Deferred revenue		65,120	65,463
Other long-term liability		7,073	11,369
Deferred tax liabilities		87,886	98,747
Total non-current liabilities		<b>1,342,574</b>	1,266,334
Net assets		<b>4,215,542</b>	4,063,908
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Equity attributable to owners of the parent			
Share capital	15	140,336	140,031
Treasury shares		–	(24,733)
Reserves		4,038,995	3,900,356
		<b>4,179,331</b>	4,015,654
Non-controlling interests		<b>36,211</b>	48,254
Total equity		<b>4,215,542</b>	4,063,908

# NOTES TO THE INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 June 2020

## 1. CORPORATE AND GROUP INFORMATION

Ausnutria Dairy Corporation Ltd was incorporated as an exempted company with limited liability in the Cayman Islands on 8 June 2009. The registered office of the Company is located at Cricket Square, Hutchins Drive, P.O. Box 2681, Grand Cayman KY1-1111, Cayman Islands. The principal offices of the Group are located at (i) Unit 16, 36/F., China Merchants Tower, Shun Tak Centre, 168-200 Connaught Road Central, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong; (ii) 8th Floor, XinDaXin Building A, No. 168, Huangxing Middle Road, Changsha City, Hunan Province, the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"); (iii) Dokter van Deenweg 150, 8025 BM Zwolle, the Netherlands; and (iv) 25-27 Keysborough Avenue, Keysborough VIC 3173, Australia. The shares of the Company (the "Shares") were listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") on 8 October 2009. The Company and its subsidiaries are hereinafter collectively referred to as the Group.

The Company acts as an investment holding company of the Group. During the period, the Group is principally engaged in the research and development, production, marketing and distribution of dairy and related products and nutrition products to its worldwide customers, particularly in the PRC.

## 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The interim condensed consolidated financial information for the six months ended 30 June 2020 has been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 34 *Interim Financial Reporting* issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB"). The interim condensed consolidated financial information does not include all the information and disclosures required in the annual financial statements, and should be read in conjunction with the Group's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019. The interim condensed consolidated financial statements are presented in RMB and all values are rounded to nearest thousand (RMB'000), except when otherwise indicated.

## 3. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DISCLOSURES

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the interim condensed consolidated financial information are consistent with those applied in the preparation of the Group's annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019, except for the adoption of following revised International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") for the first time for the current period's financial information.

Amendments to IFRS 3	<i>Definition of a Business</i>
Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39 and IFRS 7	<i>Interest Rate Benchmark Reform</i>
Amendment to IFRS 16	<i>Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions (early adopted)</i>
Amendments to IAS 1 and IAS 8	<i>Definition of Material</i>

Other than as explained below regarding the impact of IFRS 3 *Definition of a Business* and Amendments to IFRS 16 *Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions (early adopted)*, the new and revised standards are not relevant to the preparation of the Group's interim condensed consolidated financial information. The nature and impact of the new and revised IFRSs are described below:

- (a) Amendments to IFRS 3 clarify and provide additional guidance on the definition of a business. The amendments clarify that for an integrated set of activities and assets to be considered a business, it must include, at a minimum, an input and a substantive process that together significantly contribute to the ability to create output. A business can exist without including all of the inputs and processes needed to create outputs. The amendments remove the assessment of whether market participants are capable of acquiring the business and continue to produce outputs. Instead, the focus is on whether acquired inputs and acquired substantive processes together significantly contribute to the ability to create outputs. The amendments have also narrowed the definition of outputs to focus on goods or services provided to customers, investment income or other income from ordinary activities. Furthermore, the amendments provide guidance to assess whether an acquired process is substantive and introduce an optional fair value concentration test to permit a simplified assessment of whether an acquired set of activities and assets is not a business. The Group has applied the amendments prospectively to transactions or other events that occurred on or after 1 January 2020. The amendments did not have any impact on the financial position and performance of the Group.

- (b) Amendment to IFRS 16 provides a practical expedient for lessees to elect not to apply lease modification accounting for rent concessions arising as a direct consequence of the covid-19 pandemic. The practical expedient applies only to rent concessions occurring as a direct consequence of the covid-19 pandemic and only if (i) the change in lease payments results in revised consideration for the lease that is substantially the same as, or less than, the consideration for the lease immediately preceding the change; (ii) any reduction in lease payments affects only payments originally due on or before 30 June 2021; and (iii) there is no substantive change to other terms and conditions of the lease. The amendment is effective retrospectively for annual periods beginning on or after 1 June 2020 with earlier application permitted.

During the period ended 30 June 2020, no rent concession was granted by the lessors as a result of the covid-19 pandemic and no other changes to the terms of the leases was noted. Accordingly, there has been no impact upon initial application.

#### 4. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION

For management purposes, the Group is organised into business units (“BUs”) based on their products and services and had two reportable operating segments during the period as follows:

- (a) the dairy and related products segment comprises the manufacturing and sale of dairy and related products, particularly on formula milk powder products, to its worldwide customers; and
- (b) the nutrition products segment comprises the manufacturing and sale of nutrition products (other than dairy related) to its customers principally in the PRC and Australia.

The Management monitors the results of the Group’s operating segments separately for the purpose of making decisions about resource allocation and performance assessment. Segment performance is evaluated based on the reportable segment profit which is a measure of adjusted profit before tax. The adjusted profit before tax is measured consistently with the Group’s profit before tax except that interest income, non-lease related finance costs as well as unallocated head office and corporate results are excluded from such measurement.

Segment assets exclude cash and cash equivalents and pledged deposits as these assets are managed on a group basis.

Segment liabilities exclude interest-bearing bank loans and other borrowings other than lease liabilities as these liabilities are managed on a group basis.

**Six months ended 30 June 2020 (unaudited)**

	<b>Dairy and related products RMB'000</b>	<b>Nutrition products RMB'000</b>	<b>Total RMB'000</b>
<b>Segment revenue</b>			
Sales to external customers	3,793,263	66,073	<u>3,859,336</u>
Revenue from operations			<u><u>3,859,336</u></u>
<b>Segment results</b>	<b>570,505</b>	<b>(3,761)</b>	<b>566,744</b>
Reconciliation:			
Interest income			16,689
Finance costs (other than interest on lease liabilities)			(10,567)
Corporate and other unallocated expenses			<u>(23,404)</u>
Profit before tax			<u><u>549,462</u></u>
<b>Other segment information</b>			
Impairment losses recognised in profit or loss	55,177	1,740	56,917
Share of profits and losses of associates	13,721	1,431	15,152
Depreciation and amortisation	109,744	5,887	115,631
Capital expenditure*	<u>211,875</u>	<u>6,296</u>	<u>218,171</u>
<b>As at 30 June 2020 (unaudited)</b>			
<b>Segment assets</b>	<b>6,717,280</b>	<b>313,197</b>	<b>7,030,477</b>
Reconciliation:			
Elimination of intersegment receivables			(338,905)
Corporate and other unallocated assets			<u>2,188,512</u>
Total assets			<u><u>8,880,084</u></u>
<b>Segment liabilities</b>	<b>3,859,365</b>	<b>293,652</b>	<b>4,153,017</b>
Reconciliation:			
Elimination of intersegment payables			(338,905)
Corporate and other unallocated liabilities			<u>850,430</u>
Total liabilities			<u><u>4,664,542</u></u>
<b>Other segment information</b>			
Investments in associates	<u>336,344</u>	<u>208,783</u>	<u>545,127</u>



Six months ended 30 June 2019 (unaudited)

	Dairy and related products <i>RMB'000</i>	Nutrition products <i>RMB'000</i>	Total <i>RMB'000</i>
<b>Segment revenue</b>			
Sales to external customers	3,094,671	52,894	<u>3,147,565</u>
Revenue from operations			<u><u>3,147,565</u></u>
<b>Segment results</b>	394,983	(18,116)	376,867
Reconciliation:			
Interest income			17,900
Finance costs (other than interest on lease liabilities)			(8,709)
Corporate and other unallocated expenses			<u>(24,757)</u>
Profit before tax			<u><u>361,301</u></u>
<b>Other segment information</b>			
Impairment losses recognised in profit or loss	54,477	–	54,477
Share of profits and losses of associates	2,161	–	2,161
Depreciation and amortisation	81,342	4,721	86,063
Capital expenditure*	<u>119,801</u>	<u>4,182</u>	<u>123,983</u>
<u>As at 31 December 2019 (audited)</u>			
<b>Segment assets</b>	6,314,293	279,013	6,593,306
Reconciliation:			
Elimination of intersegment receivables			(320,805)
Corporate and other unallocated assets			<u>2,070,693</u>
Total assets			<u><u>8,343,194</u></u>
<b>Segment liabilities</b>	3,386,474	291,839	3,678,313
Reconciliation:			
Elimination of intersegment payables			(320,805)
Corporate and other unallocated liabilities			<u>921,778</u>
Total liabilities			<u><u>4,279,286</u></u>
<b>Other segment information</b>			
Investments in associates	271,831	–	271,831
Investments in convertible bonds	<u>–</u>	<u>207,352</u>	<u>207,352</u>

\* *Capital expenditure consists of additions to property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.*

## Geographical information

### (a) Revenue from external customers

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2020 Unaudited RMB'000	2019 Unaudited RMB'000
The PRC	3,423,756	2,763,423
European Union	255,405	207,820
Middle East	55,826	24,068
North and South America	70,684	62,298
Australia	30,272	55,316
New Zealand	3,542	2,373
Others	19,851	32,267
	<u>3,859,336</u>	<u>3,147,565</u>

The revenue information is based on the locations of the customers.

### (b) Non-current assets

	30 June 2020 Unaudited RMB'000	31 December 2019 Audited RMB'000
	The PRC	941,742
The Netherlands	1,767,242	1,593,441
Australia	507,809	498,521
New Zealand	160,718	172,326
	<u>3,377,511</u>	<u>3,146,094</u>

The non-current assets information above is based on the locations of the assets and excludes deferred tax assets.

## Information about a major customer

During the six months ended 30 June 2020, there was no revenue from a single external customer which accounted for 10% or more of the Group's total revenue (six months ended 30 June 2019: Nil).

## 5. REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND GAINS

An analysis of revenue is as follows:

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2020	2019
	Unaudited	Unaudited
	<i>RMB'000</i>	<i>RMB'000</i>
Revenue from contracts with customers	<b>3,859,336</b>	3,147,565

### Other income and gains

	<i>Note</i>	Six months ended 30 June	
		2020	2019
		Unaudited	Unaudited
		<i>RMB'000</i>	<i>RMB'000</i>
<b>Other income and gains</b>			
Interest income		16,689	17,900
Government grants	(i)	24,306	15,223
Others		5,755	5,606
Total other income and gains		<b>46,750</b>	38,729

- (i) Various government grants have been received for investments in Hunan province, the PRC where the Company's subsidiaries operate. All these grants are related to expenses and there were no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies relating to these grants.

## 6. PROFIT BEFORE TAX

The Group's profit before tax is arrived at after charging:

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2020 Unaudited RMB'000	2019 Unaudited RMB'000
Cost of inventories sold	1,780,015	1,453,998
Write-down of inventories to net realisable value	56,917	54,477
Cost of sales	1,836,932	1,508,475
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	58,358	35,540
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	29,053	27,841
Amortisation of other intangible assets	28,220	22,682
Research and development costs	72,382	41,949
Foreign exchange differences, net	2,904	4,462
Fair value losses, net:		
Derivative instruments		
– transactions not qualifying as hedges	374	2,053
– subsequent consideration on acquisition of HNC Group	165,864	174,427
Auditor's remuneration	3,436	3,693
Advertising and promotion expenses	511,261	464,788
Employee benefit expenses (including directors' remuneration):		
Wages, salaries, staff welfare and others	538,611	458,141
Temporary staff costs	96,001	91,971
Equity-settled share option expense	10,237	9,080
Pension scheme contributions*	24,939	31,165
	<b>669,788</b>	<b>590,357</b>

\* At 30 June 2020, the Group had no forfeited contributions available to reduce its contributions to the pension schemes in future years (31 December 2019: Nil).

## 7. INCOME TAX

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 16.5% on the assessable profits arising in Hong Kong during the six months ended 30 June 2020 (six months ended 30 June 2019: 16.5%).

Taxes on profits assessable elsewhere have been calculated at the rates of tax prevailing in the jurisdictions in which the Group operates. Under the PRC income tax laws, enterprises are subject to corporate income tax (“CIT”) at a rate of 25%. Under the Netherlands income tax laws, enterprises are subject to the Netherlands CIT rate of 20% for the first EUR200,000 taxable profits and 25% for taxable profits exceeding EUR200,000. Under the United States tax laws, enterprises are subject to the United States CIT rate of 21%. Under the Canada tax laws, enterprises are subject to the Canada CIT rate of 26.5%. Under the Australia tax laws, enterprises are subject to the Australia CIT rate of 30%. Under the New Zealand tax laws, enterprises are subject to the New Zealand CIT rate of 28%. Under the Taiwan tax laws, enterprises are subject to the Taiwan CIT rate of 20%.

Ausnutria Dairy (China) Co. Ltd. (“**Ausnutria China**”) and Hyproca Nutrition Co. Ltd. (“**HNC**”) were designated as High-tech Enterprises and were granted a preferential CIT rate of 15% for the three years ending 31 December 2022 and 2020, respectively.

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2020 Unaudited RMB'000	2019 Unaudited RMB'000
Current – Mainland China		
Charge for the period	122,472	84,377
Underprovision prior periods	–	150
Current – The Netherlands		
Charge for the period	11,190	24,710
Overprovision prior periods	–	(965)
Current – Hong Kong		
Charge for the period	13,326	4,155
Current – Australia		
Charge for the period	–	13,433
Current – Taiwan		
Charge for the period	343	972
Deferred	(17,641)	(20,286)
Total	<u>129,690</u>	<u>106,546</u>

## 8. INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board did not recommend the payment of any interim dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2020 (six months ended 30 June 2019: Nil).

## 9. EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT

The calculation of the basic earnings per share amount is based on the profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent and the weighted average number of ordinary shares of 1,611,479,387 (six months ended 30 June 2019: 1,590,436,309) in issue during the period.

The calculation of the diluted earnings per share amount is based on the profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent, adjusted to reflect the share option issued. The weighted average number of ordinary shares used in the calculation is the number of ordinary shares in issue during the period, as used in the basic earnings per share calculation, and the weighted average number of ordinary shares assumed to have been issued at no consideration on the deemed exercise or conversion of all dilutive potential ordinary shares into ordinary shares.

## Earnings

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2020	2019
	Unaudited RMB'000	Unaudited RMB'000
Profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent, used in the basic and diluted earnings per share calculation	<u>408,761</u>	<u>260,455</u>

## Shares

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2020	2019
	Unaudited Number of shares	Unaudited Number of shares
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period used in the basic earnings per share calculation	1,611,479,387	1,590,436,309
Effect of dilution – weighted average number of ordinary shares: Share options	<u>25,515,097</u>	<u>15,872,483</u>
	<u>1,636,994,484</u>	<u>1,606,308,792</u>

## 10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

During the six months ended 30 June 2020, the Group acquired assets with a cost of RMB196,615,000 (30 June 2019: RMB148,967,000). Assets with a net book value of RMB7,900,000 were disposed of by the Group at their respective net book values during the six months ended 30 June 2020 (30 June 2019: RMB2,054,000) resulting no gains or losses (30 June 2019: nil).

As at 30 June 2020, the Group had pledged (i) the land and buildings, and plant and machineries that were attributed to Ausnutria B.V. and its subsidiaries (the “**Ausnutria B.V. Group**”) and located in the Netherlands with net carrying amounts of EUR88,652,000 (equivalent to approximately RMB705,759,000) (31 December 2019: EUR87,760,000, equivalent to approximately RMB685,888,000) for the banking facilities granted to the Group for the financing of the Group’s daily working capital and capital expenditure plans.

As at 30 June 2020, the Group’s land included in property, plant and equipment with a net carrying amount of EUR7,443,000 (equivalent to approximately RMB59,254,000) (31 December 2019: EUR7,443,000, equivalent to approximately RMB58,171,000), AUD7,491,000 (equivalent to approximately RMB36,449,000) (31 December 2019: AUD4,430,000, equivalent to approximately RMB21,637,000) and NZD3,000,000 (equivalent to approximately RMB13,649,000) (31 December 2019: NZD3,000,000, equivalent to approximately RMB14,092,000) are situated in the Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand, respectively, and are held as freehold land.

## 11. INVENTORIES

	<b>30 June 2020 Unaudited RMB'000</b>	31 December 2019 Audited RMB'000
Raw materials	666,487	677,374
Finished goods	1,362,257	1,149,143
Goods in transit	167,490	200,102
Others	20,374	24,707
Total	<b>2,216,608</b>	<b>2,051,326</b>

## 12. TRADE AND BILLS RECEIVABLES

	<b>30 June 2020 Unaudited RMB'000</b>	31 December 2019 Audited RMB'000
Trade receivables	401,014	403,840
Bills receivable	38,765	16,079
Total	<b>439,779</b>	<b>419,919</b>

The Group normally allows a credit period from 1 to 12 months (31 December 2019: from 1 to 12 months) to certain customers. The Group seeks to maintain strict control over its outstanding receivables. Overdue balances are reviewed regularly by senior management. In view of the aforementioned and the fact that the Group's trade receivables relate to a large number of diversified customers, there is no significant concentration of credit risk. Trade receivables are non-interest-bearing.

An ageing analysis of the trade receivables of the Group as at the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date and net of provisions, is as follows:

	<b>30 June 2020 Unaudited RMB'000</b>	31 December 2019 Audited RMB'000
Within 3 months	305,454	353,852
3 to 6 months	19,325	36,155
6 months to 1 year	64,200	5,726
Over 1 year	12,035	8,107
Total	<b>401,014</b>	<b>403,840</b>

An impairment analysis is performed at each reporting date using a provision matrix to measure expected credit losses. The provision rates are based on days past due for groupings of various customer segments with similar loss patterns (i.e., by geographical region, product type, customer type and rating, and coverage by letters of credit or other forms of credit insurance). The calculation reflects the probability-weighted outcome, the time value of money and reasonable and supportable information that is available at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions. Generally, trade receivables are written off if past due for more than one year and are not subject to enforcement activity.

There was no provision for impairment as at 30 June 2020 (31 December 2019: Nil). The carrying amounts of the trade and bills receivables approximate their fair values.

### 13. TRADE AND BILL PAYABLES

An ageing analysis of the trade and bill payables of the Group as at the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date, is as follows:

	<b>30 June 2020 Unaudited RMB'000</b>	31 December 2019 Audited RMB'000
Within 12 months	437,344	336,631
Over 12 months	<u>12,299</u>	<u>1,306</u>
	<b><u>449,643</u></b>	<b><u>337,937</u></b>

Trade payables are interest-free and are normally settled within 12 months.

### 14. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	<i>Notes</i>	<b>2020 Unaudited RMB'000</b>	2019 Audited RMB'000
Subsequent HNC consideration	<i>(i)</i>	473,269	300,312
Interest rate swaps		–	376
Interest rate caps		<u>649</u>	<u>637</u>
		<b><u>473,918</u></b>	<b><u>301,325</u></b>
Portion classified as non-current:			
Subsequent HNC consideration	<i>(i)</i>	<u>(473,269)</u>	<u>(300,312)</u>
Current portion		<b><u>649</u></b>	<b><u>1,013</u></b>

*Notes:*

- (i) On 30 May 2018, the Group completed the acquisition of the remaining 15% equity interest in the Hyproca Nutrition (Hong Kong) Company Limited and HNC (collectively, the “HNC Group”) (the “HNC Group Acquisition”). The consideration is subject to certain adjustments, based on the financial performance of the HNC Group for the three years ending 31 December 2018, 2019, and 2020 (the “Subsequent HNC Consideration”), which is to be settled by the issue and allotment of the Shares (the “Subsequent HNC Consideration Shares”) at an issue price of HK\$5.00 per Share in 2021. Balance represented the fair value of the Subsequent HNC Consideration which was derived with reference to management’s estimation of the future financial performance of the HNC Group for the three years as mentioned in the above and the closing market price of the Share at 30 June 2020 of HK\$17.34.

The Subsequent HNC Consideration is classified as a derivative financial instrument and is measured at fair value through profit or loss. The losses arising from the change in fair value between 31 December 2019 and 30 June 2020 amounted to approximately HK\$182,865,000 (equivalent to approximately RMB165,864,000) (six months ended 30 June 2019: HK\$201,988,000 (equivalent to approximately RMB174,427,000)), and a net exchange loss amounted to RMB7,093,000 (six months ended 30 June 2019: RMB4,163,000) were recognised during the period.

On 9 April 2020, the Group entered into a supplemental deed with the vendors of the HNC Group Acquisition (the “HNC Vendors”) pursuant to which the parties have conditionally agreed to amend certain terms regarding, among others, the early settlement of the Subsequent HNC Consideration (the “HNC Amendments”). The HNC Amendments were approved by shareholders of the Company (the “Shareholders”) in the extraordinary general meeting of the Company on 30 July 2020.



## 15. SHARE CAPITAL

### Shares

	<b>30 June 2020 Unaudited HK\$'000</b>	31 December 2019 Audited HK\$'000
Issued and fully paid: 1,615,420,299 (2019: 1,612,106,299) ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each	<b>161,542</b>	161,211

A summary of movements in the Company's share capital is as follows:

	<b>Number of shares in issue '000</b>	<b>Share capital RMB'000</b>
At 1 January 2020 (audited)	1,612,106	140,031
Share options exercised ( <i>Note (i)</i> )	5,993	545
Shares cancelled ( <i>Note (ii)</i> )	(2,679)	(240)
At 30 June 2020 (unaudited)	<b>1,615,420</b>	<b>140,336</b>

#### Notes:

- (i) The subscription rights attaching to 5,993,000 share options were exercised at the subscription price of HK\$2.45 per Share, resulting in the issue of 5,993,000 Shares for a total cash consideration before expenses, of HK\$14,683,000 (equivalent to approximately RMB13,355,000). An amount of RMB3,387,000 was transferred from the share option reserve to share premium account upon the exercise of the share options.
- (ii) During the year ended 31 December 2019, the Company repurchased 2,679,000 Shares on the Stock Exchange and fully paid at a total consideration of HK\$27,484,000 (equivalent to approximately RMB24,733,000). On 28 February 2020, the concerned Shares were cancelled.

## MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

### BUSINESS REVIEW

The first half of 2020 has been challenging. Unexpected events such as the outbreak of COVID-19 and the ongoing Sino-US trade frictions, have affected the global economy, market sentiment and purchase patterns of consumers in many sectors across the globe. Nevertheless, the Group recorded a revenue of RMB3,859.3 million, representing an increase of RMB711.7 million, or 22.6%, for the 2020 Interim Period when compared with the 2019 Interim Period. The performance of the own-branded formula milk powder business, one of the Group's core operations, continued to be the main driver, with a recorded revenue of RMB3,410.9 million, representing an increase of RMB681.4 million, or 25.0%, when compared with the 2019 Interim Period, and accounted for 88.4% (2019 Interim Period: 86.7%) of the total revenue of the Group.

During the 2020 Interim Period, the Group recorded a loss on the fair value change of derivative financial instruments of RMB165.9 million. On 30 May 2018, the Group completed the HNC Group Acquisition. The HNC Group is principally engaged in the marketing and distribution of goat milk nutrition products under the brand name of Kabrita in the PRC. Pursuant to the sale and purchase agreement for the HNC Group Acquisition, the consideration is subject to the Subsequent HNC Consideration, which shall be settled by the issuance and allotment of no more than 29,879,877 Subsequent HNC Consideration Shares in around April 2021.

In accordance with International Accounting Standard 32, the Subsequent HNC Consideration, being a contingent consideration, is classified as a financial instrument in the Group's financial statements and is measured at fair value through profit or loss. Accordingly, valuation of the Subsequent HNC Consideration and thus the fair value of the financial instrument hinges on the market price of the Shares. During the 2020 Interim Period, the Group recorded another expense attributable to the loss on fair value changes of financial instrument arising from the Subsequent HNC Consideration of HK\$182.9 million, equivalent to RMB165.9 million (the "**HNC FV Loss**") (2019 Interim Period: RMB174.4 million). Such loss was calculated by multiplying the Subsequent HNC Consideration Shares by the difference of the closing market price of the Shares between the last reporting date (i.e. HK\$11.22 as at 31 December 2019) and at the end of the reporting period (i.e. HK\$17.34 as at 30 June 2020). The Group's profit attributable to equity holders of the Company increased by 56.9% to RMB408.8 million for the 2020 Interim Period. Excluding the HNC FV Loss of RMB165.9 million, the adjusted profit attributable to equity holders of the Company amounted to RMB574.7 million, representing an increase of RMB139.8 million, or 32.1%, when compared with the adjusted profit for the 2019 Interim Period. The Company would like to emphasise that the HNC FV Loss is an accounting loss which has no adverse implications to the Group's cash flow and operating position.

In order to ensure that the businesses of the Group and hence the supply of quality formula milk powder products to the end consumers, particularly the infant, are not interrupted during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Group has since in the early stage of the COVID-19 pandemic taken timely and appropriate measures to ensure (i) the health conditions of all the employees are properly protected; (ii) the supply of raw materials is stable; (iii) the production facilities operate as usual; and (iv) the logistics for the delivery of products to the end consumers are properly arranged. As a result of all these efforts, despite the Company has incurred additional delivery charges for the timely delivery of goods to the market, and the purchasing behaviour on essentials of distributors and consumers which includes formula milk powder products become more difficult to predict, the businesses of the Group was not materially adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Research and development (“R&D”) have always been the priority of the Group. In the 2020 Interim Period, the Company’s R&D expenses was 72.5% higher than that in the 2019 Interim Period. During the 2020 Interim Period, the Company has successfully launched two new formula milk powder products, a maternal mothers’ and a children’s formula powder, and a number of new nutritional products as scheduled. Furthermore, the Group has entered into a comprehensive strategic cooperation agreement with Jiangnan University, a renowned university in the PRC, for the purpose of strengthening the R&D capabilities of the Group on various aspects, including product development on probiotic, goat milk, and scientific research on milk proteomics, lipomics, etc.

In 2018, the Company announced the building of the Group’s headquarter in the PRC in order to cater for the long term growth of the Group. On 28 June 2020, a ceremony recognising the topping-out of the PRC headquarter was held. According to the latest schedule, the construction of the PRC headquarter will be completed in the first quarter of 2021. Besides, the investment in the infant formula based powder facility and other related facilities, a project to increase the processing of goat milk and whey announced earlier this year, was also carried out as planned.

The Company will continue to deploy its strategies with a combination of prudent and proactive approaches with an aim to realise its “Golden Decade” strategic plan set out at the end of 2015.

### **Formula Milk Powder Business**

In the 2020 Interim Period, the core business of the Group, namely the own-branded formula milk powder business, maintained satisfactory results with overall sales of RMB3,410.9 million, representing an increase of RMB681.4 million, or 25.0%, when compared with the corresponding period in 2019. The Group believes that such increase was mainly attributable to (i) the implementation of the Group’s effective strategic plans, the constant refinement of its business chain and the continuous improvement of the upstream operational efficiency and product quality; (ii) the constant enhancement in its product mix; and (iii) the synergies between its brands and channels resulting from its unremitting efforts to develop mama and baby store channels by high-frequency and high-quality marketing activities.

Yet, growth in the Group’s revenue in the second quarter of 2020 mildly slowed down when compared with that in the first quarter of 2020. In late May 2020, the Company first became aware that sales of certain brands of the Group in the distribution channel began to slow down, which was believed to be a post-effect after the outbreak of COVID-19. In order to avoid overstocking in the distribution level of those brands, the Company decided to take a conservative approach by moderating its delivery to its distributors. The Company believes the above measures are necessary steps executed in response to the market change after the outbreak of COVID-19, which will benefit the Group and its distributors in the long run. Furthermore, the Company has executed a restructuring exercise on some BUs in response to the market change in May 2020, which included merging Allnutria BU and Eurlate BU to focus on Allnutria brand, as well as re-positioning Puredo BU to dedicate to milk formula products made in Australia by enriching its product portfolio. Such restructuring exercise resulted in a temporary impact on the sale of those BUs in the second quarter of 2020. The Company believes the restructuring of these BUs will bring a clearer brand strategy and resources integration to drive the business success of these BUs.

The own-branded formula milk powder products of the Group principally comprise both cow milk formulas and goat milk formulas. As at 30 June 2020, the Group had a total of forty-five registered formulas under fifteen series covering all segments of the market ranging from super premium, premium, to mid-end segments. In particular, thirty-nine formulas under thirteen series were cow milk powders, while six formulas under two series were goat milk powders.

**(a) Own-branded Cow Milk Formula**

In the 2020 Interim Period, sales of own-branded cow milk formulas amounted to RMB1,755.3 million, representing an increase of RMB344.9 million, or 24.5%, when compared with the corresponding period in 2019. The Group's own-branded cow milk formula business has established a number of BUs with different formulas, milk sources, price ranges, and target consumer groups. Each BU has its unique vision and marketing strategy.

Amongst these BUs, the Hyproca 1897 BU, which comprises the brands of Hyproca Hollary, Hyproca Hypure and Neolac, focuses on the super premium market and was the fastest-growing BU in the Group with recording sales of RMB1,155.0 million during the 2020 Interim Period, representing an increase of RMB461.0 million, or 66.4%, when compared with the 2019 Interim Period.

During the period under review, all BUs under the Group's own-branded cow milk formula segment endeavoured in various ways to improve their brand competitiveness. In March 2020, the Hyproca 1897 BU signed Lang Lang (郎朗), a world-class Chinese pianist, as its ambassador and established a close connection with him through multi-dimensional promotions. Such promotional activities included making an online broadcast named With Love and Music – The Story of Lang Lang and the Spark for His Quest for Art (《用愛成就—聽郎朗演奏成長故事, 探索藝術啟蒙的奧秘》) on Sina Weibo, a famous social media platform in the PRC, and iQIYI.com, a major online video platform; airing “Hyproca 1897” Lang Lang Music Time (《「海普諾凱1897」郎朗音樂時間》) on various provincial radio stations in the PRC; and placing print advertisement in major cities across the country through Focus Media in order to publicise the appointment of Lang Lang as its ambassador among consumers in a direct and frequent manner. It also continued to sponsor Mr. Housework 2 (《做家务的男人2》), a sequel to a popular variety show of the same name, to improve its brand awareness by intensive placement marketing. To rationalise the allocation of resources and boost the development of the cow milk formula business, the Allnutria BU consolidated and streamlined its organisational structure in May 2020 and re-launched its brand campaign in June 2020. It rolled out a wish-making event entitled Please, Allnutria! (《拜托了, 能立多》) on Children's Day, 1 June 2020, via TikTok (抖音), Weibo (微博), WeChat (微信) and other platforms. It has also been conducting a unified print ad campaign through smart screens and posters since June 2020 with the aim of accumulating brand equity for the future.

Following the outbreak of COVID-19 at the beginning of the year, the Group has never stopped caring about the health of mothers, babies and families around the world. The Group also cares about the needs of all its channel partners. As such, the Group has adjusted its marketing strategy in a proactive and timely manner, and adopted various kinds of marketing channels. For instances, live streaming templates were created and online events were organised. Starting from the second quarter of 2020, offline activities gradually resumed so as to empower the channels and achieve synergies among them and the Group's brands. For example, the Hyproca 1897 BU re-launched the Hyproca 1897 Fairy Tale Festival (海普諾凱1897童話節), which has continued for 4 years, in June 2020. Four years of experimentation and experience were backed by constant innovation in the contents of the Fairy Tale Festival, which was originated by the Hyproca 1897 BU. Having put on over 600 shows in more than 320 cities, the Hyproca 1897 Fairy Tale Festival has taken over 200,000 families with mothers and babies on a wonderful journey in a fairyland full of love. The Allnutria BU held a large-scale baby crawling contest named Go Allnutria Babies! – A Gold Medalist Factory (《能寶總動員—金牌體質創造營》) in collaboration with retail stores with the aim of increasing interaction with the consumers.

In the 2020 Interim Period, the Allnutria and Puredo BUs introduced maternal mothers' and children's milk powder formulas imported directly from the Netherlands and New Zealand, respectively, to broaden their milk powder formula product portfolios and target consumer groups.

Through such efforts, all of the Group's own-branded cow milk formulas have successfully raised their brand influence and awareness among the consumers, thereby laying the foundation for the steady and rapid growth of the Group's cow milk formula business in the future.

**(b) Own-branded Goat Milk Formula**

In the 2020 Interim Period, sales of own-branded goat milk formulas amounted to RMB1,655.6 million, representing an increase of RMB336.5 million, or 25.5%, when compared with the corresponding period in 2019. The Group's own-branded goat milk formulas are all produced in the Netherlands and marketed globally.

According to relevant market research data, the goat milk formula market continues to outpace the infant formula market when compared with other categories. Such exponential growth of the goat milk formula industry has prompted many industry players to roll out goat milk formula products. Although competition has intensified, market recognition of goat milk formulas was also on the rise. Notwithstanding such competition, goat milk powder products of the Group remained the leaders in the industry in the PRC. Data from a global marketing research firm, AC Nielsen, shows that sales of Kabrita accounted for 61.1% and 64.0% of all imported infant goat milk formulas in 2018 and 2019, respectively.

Over the years, the Group has been striving to raise awareness about goat milk and foster the growth of the industry while expanding its up-stream production capacity and securing quality raw materials for production. The Group has sponsored dairy industry conferences to publicise the special nutritional value of goat milk, and has established academic exchange platforms with medical experts, to safeguard the health of mothers and children. As a result, consumer acceptance of goat milk and awareness about Kabrita have both soared.

Moreover, Kabrita infant formula was newly launched in Mexico in early 2020 despite the COVID-19 pandemic and received encouraging feedback. Other than infant formula products, Kabrita also launched some new products across the globe: a liquid ready-to-feed formula in Korea, purees in Russia and a range of porridges and snacks across the globe.

During the period under review, Kabrita continued to increase its investment in strengthening and spreading its brand influence. I Will Find You a Better Home (《安家》) and Three Lives Three Worlds, The Pillow Book (《三生三世枕上書》), both being popular TV series in the first half of 2020, generated tens of billions of views for Kabrita and introduced the brand to more target consumers. Intensive placement marketing via Sisters Who Make Waves (《乘風破浪的姐姐》), a recent popular variety TV show, also created increased exposure and discussion of the brand. The brand also got a lot of exposure on five major word-of-mouth platforms including Xiaohongshu (小紅書), Zhihu (知乎) and TikTok. As for offline activities, more advertisements were posted on common modes of transportation such as buses, high-speed trains and in airports.

In order to increase the foot traffic and sales of its retail stores, Kabrita launched a multi-dimensional marketing campaign combining online and offline activities. Such offline activities included the creation of unified offline store display shelves, Blue Hurricane (藍旋風) promotional and roadshow vehicles, provincial and regional exclusive offers, offline maternity care courses and in-store tasting. Online activities included the continual live streaming of themed and community activities that began in the first quarter of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic collaboration with mama and baby stores with the aim of engaging in more interactions with the consumers and developing more potential customers.

After more than 8 years of efforts in this industry, Kabrita's infant formulas have successfully captured the heart of the consumers and built up several core strengths. Kabrita has gathered powerful brand influence by integrating its strengths in terms of products, marketing, services, operation and sales. Through multi-dimensional channel marketing, Kabrita is confident of realising sustainable long-term benefits while protecting the interests of its partners. To continue strengthening Kabrita's position in the future, the Group is now formulating a global innovation strategy for the next three to five years, which will be finalised in this year.

**(c) Private Label and Others**

Alongside the development of its own-branded formula milk powder business, the Group also produces formula milk powder products for other worldwide customers on an original equipment manufacturing basis (the “**Private Label**”) and engaged in the trading of dairy related products such as milk, milk powder, cream and other milk derived ingredients such as whey protein powder. For the 2020 Interim Period, sales of the Private Label and others businesses, which represented 9.9% (2019 Interim Period:11.6%) of the total revenue of the Group, increased by 4.7% to RMB382.4 million. The increase in sales was mainly due to the increase in trading of commodities as a result of the increase in the in-take of milk, particularly goat, for the processing of related ingredients in order to fulfill the internal production needs. The increase was partly offset by the decrease in sales of the Private Label business which was temporary affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Company believes that the Private Label and other businesses will continue to play an important role in the Group's growth. In particular, with the continuous ramping up of the output and efficiency of the two factories in the Netherlands which commenced operation in the beginning of 2018 and the increase in the in-take of milk, the Private Label and other businesses can help maximise the operation efficiency of production facilities and to balance the in-take of milk while simultaneously providing a reasonable return to the Group.

**Nutrition Business**

Since the Group acquired an Australian nutrition business, namely Nutrition Care, in 2016, and the subsequent establishment of a sales platform (the “**Nutrition Business**”), the Group has devoted itself to deliver gastrointestinal health solutions to consumers all over the world. With the Australian nutritional products brand, NC, a series of marketing activities has been rolled out to offer gastrointestinal health education and quality nutritional healthcare products to tens of thousands of families.

NC Gut Relief products are proudly endorsed by The Gut foundation in Australia. In particular, NC Gut Relief has passed clinical trial and proved to be effective in relieving gastrointestinal ailments. The results of such clinical trial was formally published in Nutrition Research Journal, a journal of nutrition, in March 2020 and was announced at the Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition, which is the largest annual conference of pharmacy professionals in Australia.



In the 2020 Interim Period, sales of nutrition products amounted to RMB66.0 million, representing an increase of RMB13.1 million, or 24.8%, when compared with the corresponding period in 2019. In spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nutrition Business maintained relatively high growth rates attributable to the new product marketing strategy formulated during the period. The scope of this new marketing strategy extended from NC's gastrointestinal products to other new products, including NC Seasonal Biotic (NC舒鼻益生菌) and NC Floral Biotic (NC女神益生菌), that cater to the health needs of different people. These new products were launched during the 2020 Interim Period and achieved expected performance.

To promote consumers' awareness of potential gastrointestinal health problems, NC maintained close communication and collaboration with several gastrointestinal and nutritional experts from the PRC and Australia, and advocated the philosophy of "Love your gut, Live your life" together with experts from the National Institute of Integrative Medicine of Australia. It also sought to improve its marketing effectiveness, reach target users and enhance its brand influence by utilising short video clips via four channels on the TikTok platform, namely KOLs' endorsements, live streams, presentations and its own subscriber base. Furthermore, it is capturing the heart of the consumers on Xiaohongshu through powerful endorsements.

In the first half of 2020, NC was invited to participate in the third China International Import Expo in Shanghai. Participating in this exhibition for the third consecutive year demonstrated that NC's brand power is widely recognised by major e-commerce channels as well as the public. As consumers in the PRC are becoming more health-conscious over time, the Group believes that the Nutrition Business will benefit from the increasing market demand for nutrition products.

## **STRATEGIC STEPS TAKEN**

In order to achieve the Company's vision, the Group has executed the following strategic steps during the 2020 Interim Period:

### **HBC Acquisition**

On 9 April 2020, the Company (through its wholly-owned subsidiary) entered into a sale and purchase agreement (the "**HBC Sale and Purchase Agreement**") with two individuals for the acquisition of the remaining 15.0% equity interest in Hyproca Bio-Science (Hong Kong) Company Limited (together with its subsidiary, the "**HBC Group**") (the "**HBC Acquisition**"), at a consideration of HK\$896.0 million by way of issuance and allotment of 70,000,000 new Shares at a price of HK\$12.8 each by the Company. Such consideration is subject to a call option of downward adjustment up to 20,000,000 Shares, which can be exercised by the Group at its absolute discretion should the future financial performance of the HBC Group fail to meet certain performance indicators for the three years ending 31 December 2022 pursuant to the terms as set out in the HBC Sale and Purchase Agreement.

The HBC Group is principally engaged in the marketing and distribution of Hyproca 1897 series cow milk powder products (the "**Hyproca 1897 Series**") in Mainland China and Hong Kong through the Hyproca 1897 BU. Since the establishment of the Hyproca 1897 BU in 2013, sale of the Hyproca 1897 Series products have increased significantly and become a major momentum for the Group's business growth. The Board is of the view that the HBC Acquisition is in line with the development of the Group to continue to develop its cow milk based infant formula products sector, which is expected to give a positive impact to the operations, financial results and profitability of the Group.

As one of the vendors of the HBC Acquisition is a director of both Hyproca Bio-Science (Hong Kong) Company Limited and its subsidiary, and hence is a connected person of the Company. Accordingly, the HBC Acquisition constitutes a connected transaction for the Company. The HBC Acquisition was approved by Shareholders independent of the HBC Acquisition in an extraordinary general meeting of the Company on 30 July 2020. Further details of the above are set out in the announcement and the circular of the Company dated 9 April 2020 and 13 July 2020 respectively.

### **HNC Amendments**

On 30 May 2018, the Group completed the HNC Group Acquisition. Pursuant to the sale and purchase agreement for the HNC Group Acquisition, the consideration is subject to the Subsequent HNC Consideration, which shall be settled by the issuance and allotment of Subsequent HNC Consideration Shares in around April 2021. Having considered the outstanding financial performance of the HNC Group and to recognise the contribution of the management team (being the HNC Vendors) in the continued strong profitable growth momentum of the HNC Group to the Group, on 9 April 2020, the Company (through its wholly-owned subsidiary) and the HNC Vendors entered into the HNC Amendments for the early settlement of the Subsequent HNC Consideration.

As two of the HNC Vendors are a director of HNC and a chief executive of the Company, and hence are considered to be connected persons of the Company. The HNC Group Acquisition constituted a discloseable and connected transaction of the Company and relevant resolutions were approved in the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on 11 May 2018. Given that the HNC Amendments are considered as material changes in substance, and give rise to a new transaction, the Company is required to re-comply with the requirement of obtaining approval from the Shareholders independent of the HNC Group Acquisition on the HNC Amendments. The HNC Amendments were approved by Shareholders independent of the HNC Group Acquisition in the extraordinary general meeting of the Company on 30 July 2020. Further details of the above are set out in the announcement and the circular of the Company dated 9 April 2020 and 13 July 2020 respectively.

### **Changsha Land Acquisition**

On 20 November 2019, Ausnutria China, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into a share transfer agreement with an independent party (the “**Changsha Land Vendor**”). Pursuant to the agreement, Ausnutria China agreed to acquire and the Changsha Land Vendor agreed to sell the entire equity interests in 長沙安爾營養有限公司 (formerly 湖南坤源塑化有限公司) (the “**Changsha Land Holdco**”), a company established in the PRC, which as of the date of the agreement, is holding a plot of land (the “**Changsha Land**”) with a site area of approximately 84,000 square meters and is adjacent to the Group’s existing production facility in Changsha City, the PRC, at a consideration of US\$11.5 million (equivalent to approximately RMB79.3 million) (the “**Changsha Land Acquisition**”).

The purpose of the Changsha Land Acquisition is to facilitate the future expansion of the Group’s production and storage facilities in Changsha city, the PRC. The consideration was determined after arm’s length negotiation between Ausnutria China and the Changsha Land Vendor based on the appraised value of the Changsha Land reported under a valuation report produced by an independent qualified appraisal company in the PRC.

The Changsha Land Acquisition was completed during the 2020 Interim Period.



## SUSTAINABILITY AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Sustainability and creating shared value with different stakeholders have always been a commitment of the Group. The Group has been actively implementing its strategic plan to streamline its operations and resources across different regions while being mindful of integrating sustainability into the Group's business. The Group is committed to continue to stand by its sustainability vision and the relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the Group has committed to national action plans to fight against it. Moreover, in order to help different communities combat the COVID-19 pandemic, the Group, together with its different BUs and Ausnutria YOU-Foundation, acted swiftly and has donated eleven batches of cash, surgical masks, medical supplies, and nutrition products to charities and organisations worth over RMB78.0 million in total. The Group will continue to uphold its commitment in corporate social responsibilities and support the communities from time to time.

## OUTLOOK

Based on the strategic steps that have been implemented by the Group over the years, from the investment in world-class upstream facilities to the building of a strong and well-established downstream sales team and network, and the establishment of strong R&D capabilities and first-class quality control system, the Company believes that the Group is well-positioned to become one of the major players of infant formula in the world. The Company will continue to allocate its best resources to support the ongoing developments in these important areas, in particular on the R&D, the digitalisation of the operational platform and further improvement of the supply and production capabilities. Besides, the Company will endeavour to fulfill the formula registration requirements with the State Administration for Market Regulation (國家市場監督管理總局) of the PRC for the new factory in New Zealand.

The Company considers the capability to secure key raw materials to be one of the critical success factors in the formula milk products industry, in particular for the development of goat and organic related products. The Company will continue to formulate its long-term plan and strategies, including cooperation with industry pioneers and further investments to ensure the Group's products are always of the highest quality standard and that there are sufficient raw materials and resources to support its long-term growth.

In 2015, the Company announced its "Golden Decade" strategic plan and its vision "To become the most trustworthy milk formula, nutrition and health-care enterprise in the world". In 2016, the Group extended its business into the nutrition sector by investing in Nutrition Care Pharmaceutical Pty Ltd ("NCP"), a company engaged in development, manufacturing, packaging, and distribution of complementary medicine, nutritional and health care products. In 2017, the Group launched a number of the nutrition products developed by NCP under various brands, including Nutrition Care, NC, and Kidsbon, into the PRC. In 2019, the Group invested in Glac Biotech Co. Ltd (the "**Glac Biotech**") for the purpose of extending the Nutrition Business into the probiotic sector.

With a mission to become the most trustworthy formula, nutrition and health-care enterprise in the world, the Company has not only enriched its product portfolio of infant formulas by rolling out nutritional products for all age groups, but also enlarged its health care product line. On 10 July 2020, the Company marked a major milestone of the “Golden Decade” strategic plan by introducing the first of its probiotic products, Aunulife Probiotic (developed by the Group and produced by Glac Biotech), in order to broaden its product portfolio and offer a new choice to the increasingly nutrition-conscious consumers.

The outbreak of COVID-19 raised consumers’ understanding and awareness of immune-boosting nutritional products. In particular, probiotic became a rising star among the health-conscious public for its attributes of being beneficial to gastrointestinal well-being and the immune system. According to a market research report, the scale of the global probiotic market in 2019 amounted to about EUR40 billion (approximately RMB300 billion) while the probiotic market in the PRC has been expanding at an average annual growth rate of 15% and is expected to reach around RMB90 billion by 2022. Being one of the fastest-growing segments, the probiotic market has become a major battlefield for the Chinese nutritional food and health care product industry.

In order to foster the development of the probiotic business, the Company has allocated its resources in a holistic manner. Through the acquisition of Glac Biotech last year, (i) a complete industry value chain was assembled and an initial success in the application of the formula comprising five key probiotics for the mucosal immune system and six major probiotics for metabolism the concentrate of probiotics and multiple enzymes have been achieved; (ii) the first Chinese human microbiome research centre was established with the aim of ending the monopoly of European and American high-end probiotic powders; (iii) five core technological platforms including the reversibly switchable fluorescent proteins (RSFP) bacterial strains selection mechanism are used to deliver precise, effective and quality products to the users; and (iv) a comprehensive functional bacterial strains collection was created. The continuous investment in scientific research has yielded over forty articles published on international platforms. At the same time, the Company collaborated with the scientific research station led by Chen Wei, a fellow of Jiangnan University, in July 2020 to form a state-of-the-art corporate food biotechnology research and development team. With their full support, advanced technologies and global resources of the Group, Aunulife Probiotic will be developed into a new driver of the Company’s growth. Glac Biotech, the producer of Aunulife Probiotic, is a member of several international organisations for probiotics such as the International Probiotics Association and the International Scientific Association for Probiotics and Prebiotics. It also has the proprietary microcapsule embedded and lyophilisation technology as well as the largest and most comprehensive civil functional probiotic bacterial strain collection.

To capture the market and build up its strength in a timely manner, Aunulife Probiotic will be marketed by the Kabrita BU. Capitalising on Kabrita’s comprehensive sales and service network, strong and accurate marketing strategy as well as high quality and volume promotional activities, the Company believes that Aunulife Probiotic will become another superstar product after Kabrita.

The Company considers the extension and development of the Nutrition Business to be a major strategic step for the Group.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

### Analysis on Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

#### Revenue

	Notes	Six months ended 30 June		Change %	Proportion to total revenue Six months ended 30 June	
		2020 RMB'M (Unaudited)	2019 RMB'M (Unaudited)		2020 %	2019 %
Own-branded formula milk powder products:						
Cow milk (in the PRC)	(i)	<u>1,755.3</u>	<u>1,410.4</u>	24.5	<u>45.5</u>	<u>44.8</u>
Goat milk (in the PRC)	(i)	<u>1,535.2</u>	<u>1,198.0</u>	28.1	<u>39.8</u>	<u>38.1</u>
Goat milk (elsewhere)	(i)	<u>120.4</u>	<u>121.1</u>	(0.6)	<u>3.1</u>	<u>3.8</u>
		<u>1,655.6</u>	<u>1,319.1</u>	25.5	<u>42.9</u>	<u>41.9</u>
		<u>3,410.9</u>	<u>2,729.5</u>	25.0	<u>88.4</u>	<u>86.7</u>
Private Label and others:						
Private Label	(ii)	<u>90.9</u>	<u>117.4</u>	(22.6)	<u>2.4</u>	<u>3.7</u>
Others	(iii)	<u>291.5</u>	<u>247.8</u>	17.6	<u>7.5</u>	<u>7.9</u>
		<u>382.4</u>	<u>365.2</u>	4.7	<u>9.9</u>	<u>11.6</u>
Dairy and related products		<u>3,793.3</u>	<u>3,094.7</u>	22.6	<u>98.3</u>	<u>98.3</u>
Nutrition products	(iv)	<u>66.0</u>	<u>52.9</u>	24.8	<u>1.7</u>	<u>1.7</u>
Total		<u><u>3,859.3</u></u>	<u><u>3,147.6</u></u>	22.6	<u><u>100.0</u></u>	<u><u>100.0</u></u>

#### Notes:

- (i) Representing the sales of own-branded cow milk formula products in the PRC and Kabrita in the PRC, Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the United States, Canada, the Middle East countries, South Korea, South Africa, etc.
- (ii) Representing the sales of formula milk powder products (including infant formula) under the customers' own brands in the Netherlands and other overseas countries, such as the PRC, other European countries, the United States, the Middle East countries and other Asian countries.
- (iii) Representing mainly the sales of milk, milk powder, cream and other milk derived ingredients such as whey protein powder, etc.
- (iv) Representing the sales of nutrition products in the PRC and Australia which are mainly produced in Australia.

For the 2020 Interim Period, the Group recorded revenue of RMB3,859.3 million, representing an increase of RMB711.7 million, or 22.6%, from RMB3,147.6 million for the 2019 Interim Period. Despite the competition of the formula milk powder product market in the PRC continuing to be intense during the 2020 Interim Period, revenue of the Group continued to increase. This was mainly driven by the increase in sales of the Group's own-branded cow and goat milk formula products by 24.5% and 25.5% respectively, when compared with that of the 2019 Interim Period, as a result of the continuous strengthening of sales network and brand building.

Yet, growth in the Group's revenue in the second quarter of 2020 mildly slowed down when compared with that in the first quarter of 2020. In late May 2020, the Company first became aware that sales of certain brands of the Group in the distribution channel began to slow down, which was believed to be a post-effect after the outbreak of COVID-19. In order to avoid overstocking in the distribution level of those brands, the Company decided to take a conservative approach by moderating its delivery to its distributors. The Company believes the above measures are necessary steps executed in response to the market change after the outbreak of COVID-19, which will benefit the Group and its distributors in the long run. Furthermore, the Company has executed a restructuring exercise on some BUs in response to the market change in May 2020, which included merging Allnutria BU and Eurlate BU to focus on Allnutria brands, as well as re-positioning Puredo BU to dedicate to milk formula products made in Australia by enriching its product portfolio. Such restructuring exercise resulted in a temporary impact on the sale of those BUs in the second quarter of 2020. The Company believes the restructuring of these BUs will bring a clearer brand strategy and resources integration to drive the business success of these BUs.

In the past years, the Group experienced limits on production capacity and maintained a strategy to serve the own-branded sector with priority. With the commencement of operation of the Group's two factories in the Netherlands, the production capacity limitation issue is gradually relieved. While the Group was actively rebuilding its customer base in the Private Label business, the COVID-19 pandemic situation inevitably affected the growth of the existing customers and new customers development which resulted in the drop of the sales of the Private Label business for the period under review. Other than the development of the Private Label business, the Group has other side businesses, including sales of dairy related products such as milk, milk powder, cream and other milk derived ingredients such as whey protein powder. The Group has entered into long-term contracts with farmers and key raw materials/ingredients suppliers in order to secure the supply of key raw materials. The Group will trade its supplies whenever there is a surplus. During the 2020 Interim Period, the Group increased its in-take of goat milk in order to secure the supply of goat whey for the production of Kabrita. As such, the output of corresponding by-products including cream, goat milk (after processing) and powder increased for the period under review. Revenue derived from the trading of these products increased accordingly.

## ***Gross profit and gross profit margin***

	Six months ended 30 June		Six months ended 30 June	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>RMB'M</i>	<i>RMB'M</i>	%	%
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Own-branded formula milk powder products:				
Cow milk	<b>982.8</b>	783.6	<b>56.0</b>	55.6
Goat milk	<b>999.6</b>	769.4	<b>60.4</b>	58.3
	<b>1,982.4</b>	1,553.0	<b>58.1</b>	56.9
Private Label and others	<b>57.7</b>	111.3	<b>15.1</b>	30.5
Dairy and related products	<b>2,040.1</b>	1,664.3	<b>53.8</b>	53.8
Nutrition products	<b>39.2</b>	29.3	<b>59.4</b>	55.4
	<b>2,079.3</b>	1,693.6	<b>53.9</b>	53.8
Less: provision for inventories	<b>(56.9)</b>	(54.5)		
Total	<b>2,022.4</b>	1,639.1	<b>52.4</b>	52.1

The Group's gross profit for the 2020 Interim Period was RMB2,022.4 million, representing an increase of RMB383.3 million, or 23.4%, when compared with the 2019 Interim Period. The increase in the gross profit margin of the Group from 52.1% for the 2019 Interim Period to 52.4% for the 2020 Interim Period was mainly attributable to the proportionate increase in the sales of the higher profit margin own-branded formula milk powder products, particularly those products that are in the super premium (such as Hyproca Hollary for cow) and niche segment (such as Kabrita Yuebai for goat), as compared with the other business sectors. Overall contribution to revenue by the own-branded formula milk powder products increased to 88.4% for the 2020 Interim Period (2019 Interim Period: 86.7%).

During the 2020 Interim Period, the commodity price such as cream, goat milk and powder decreased when compared with the corresponding period under review. As a result of the increase in in-take of goat milk for the processing of goat whey, the gross profit margins derived from trading of the corresponding by-products decreased for the period under review.

## ***Other income and gains***

Other income and gains mainly represented (i) incentive granted from the PRC government of RMB24.3 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB15.2 million); and (ii) interest income from the Group's deposits with banks of RMB16.7 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB17.9 million).

### ***Selling and distribution expenses***

Selling and distribution expenses, which mainly comprised advertising and promotion expenses, exhibition and trade show expenses, salaries and travelling costs of the sales and marketing staff, and delivery costs, represented 25.5% (2019 Interim Period: 27.4%) of the revenue for the 2020 Interim Period. The decrease in the selling and distribution expenses to revenue ratio was mainly due to the net effect of:

- (i) less advertising and promotion activities in proportion to revenue were carried out during the reporting period due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (ii) the increase in air-freight charges by RMB22.1 million from RMB28.6 million for the 2019 Interim Period to RMB50.7 million for the 2020 Interim Period. In order to shorten the delivery time of the products and to secure the timely delivery of the Group's own-branded products to respective markets under the COVID-19 pandemic situation, more air-freight charges were incurred.

### ***Administrative expenses***

The administrative expenses accounted for 8.3% (2019 Interim Period: 7.8%) of the revenue of the Group for the 2020 Interim Period.

Administrative expenses mainly comprised staff costs (including the non-cash equity-settled share option expense of RMB10.2 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB9.1 million)), travelling expenses, auditors' remuneration, professional fees, depreciation and R&D costs. The increase in administrative expenses was primarily attributed to the continuous increase in the scale of operations of the Group and the increase in R&D costs by RMB30.5 million, from RMB41.9 million for the 2019 Interim Period to RMB72.4 million for the 2020 Interim Period for the R&D of new products.

### ***Other expenses***

Other expenses for the 2020 Interim Period mainly comprised (i) the HNC FV Loss of RMB165.9 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB174.4 million); (ii) charitable donations of RMB35.4 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB3.2 million) mainly for the purpose of supporting different communities to combat the COVID-19 pandemic; and (iii) net foreign currency exchange losses of RMB2.9 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB4.5 million) arising from the foreign currency transactions, mainly between EUR and RMB, and translation of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the functional currency rates of exchange ruling at the end of the reporting period.

### ***Finance costs***

The finance costs of the Group for the 2020 Interim Period amounted to RMB14.5 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB11.9 million), representing mainly the interest on bank loans and other borrowings raised principally for the financing of the upstream capital expenditures of the Group, particularly in the Netherlands.

### ***Share of profits of associates***

Balance mainly represented the share of profits of Farmel Holding B.V. and its subsidiaries (the “**Farmel Group**”) for the 2020 Interim Period. The Farmel Group is principally engaged in the collection and trading of milk in Europe. The purpose for the investment in the Farmel Group is to secure the long-term milk supply for the Group’s operations in the Netherlands.

### ***Income tax expenses***

The profits generated by the Group for the 2020 Interim Period were mainly derived from operations in the PRC and the Netherlands. Under the PRC income tax laws, enterprises are subject to the CIT at a rate of 25%. Ausnutria China and HNC, both being wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Company, were designated as High-tech Enterprises and were granted a preferential CIT rate of 15% for the 2020 Interim Period. All other subsidiaries established in the PRC are subject to the standard CIT rate of 25%. The standard CIT rate in the Netherlands was applied at 20% for the first EUR200,000 taxable profits and 25% for the taxable profits exceeding EUR200,000. The standard CIT rates in Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada and Taiwan are 30%, 28%, 21%, 26.5% and 20%, respectively.

The Group’s adjusted effective tax rate of 18.1% (excluding the HNC FV Loss of RMB165.9 million) for the 2020 Interim Period decreased by 1.8 percentage points as compared with the 2019 Interim Period of 19.9% (excluding the HNC FV Loss of RMB174.4 million). The decrease in the adjusted effective tax rate was mainly due to the proportionate increase in the profit contributed by Ausnutria China which is subject to CIT rate of 15%.

### ***Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company***

The Group’s profit attributable to equity holders of the Company for the 2020 Interim Period amounted to RMB408.8 million, representing an increase of RMB148.3 million, or 56.9% when compared with the 2019 Interim Period.

The Group’s adjusted profit attributable to equity holders of the Company was arrived at after excluding the HNC FV Loss from the above reported profit as set out below:

	<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>		
	<b>2020</b>	2019	Change
	<b><i>RMB’M</i></b>	<i>RMB’M</i>	%
	<b>(Unaudited)</b>	(Unaudited)	
Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company	<b>408.8</b>	260.5	56.9
HNC FV Loss	<b>165.9</b>	174.4	(4.9)
Adjusted profit attributable to equity holders of the Company	<b><u>574.7</u></b>	<u>434.9</u>	32.1

The continuous improvement in the Group’s financial performance was spurred by (i) better brand awareness and acceptance of the Group’s goat and cow brands in the market; (ii) the implementation of the Group’s strategic plans, in particular, continuous improvement of the upstream operational efficiency, streamlining of the supply chain and enhancement in the product mix; and (iii) the improvement in business structure as a result of the rising proportion of the sales of the Group’s own-branded goat and cow milk formula products.



## Analysis on Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2020, the total assets and net asset value of the Group amounted to RMB8,880.1 million (31 December 2019: RMB8,343.2 million) and RMB4,215.5 million (31 December 2019: RMB4,063.9 million), respectively.

The increase in total assets of the Group as at 30 June 2020 was mainly contributed by:

- (i) the increase in inventories by RMB165.3 million as a result of (a) the Group's decision to take a conservative approach by moderating its delivery to its distributors for certain brands as a measure to optimise the stock level in the Group's distribution channels in late May 2020; and (b) the increase in safety inventory level on certain key ingredients to avoid interruption on production during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (ii) the increase in construction in progress by RMB113.6 million for the building of a new infant formula base powder facility in the Netherlands;
- (iii) the Changsha Land Acquisition which resulted in an increase in property, plant and equipment and other intangible assets of RMB21.0 million and RMB69.6 million, respectively; and
- (iv) the net increase in cash and cash equivalent and pledged deposits of a total of RMB117.8 million derived mainly from cash generated from operating activities.

The increase in total assets of the Group as at 30 June 2020 was mainly financed by internal working capital and the cash flows generated from operating activities of the Group of RMB830.0 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB317.4 million) during the 2020 Interim Period.

The increase in net assets of the Group as at 30 June 2020 was mainly a result of the net effect of (i) the contribution in net profit of the Group generated for the 2020 Interim Period of RMB419.8 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB254.8 million); and (ii) the payment of 2019 final dividend of RMB320.7 million.

## Working Capital Cycle

As at 30 June 2020, the current assets to current liabilities ratio of the Group was 1.58 times (31 December 2019: 1.65 times) which remained fairly stable as compared with the prior year.

An analysis of key working capital cycle is as follows:

	Six months ended 30 June		
	2020 <i>Number of days</i>	2019 <i>Number of days</i>	Change <i>Number of days</i>
Inventories turnover days	211	214	(3)
Debtors' turnover days	20	20	–
Creditors' turnover days	39	37	2



The Group's inventories turnover days decreased slightly for the period under review and this was mainly attributable to the improved production lead time in the upstream production facilities. Such improvement was partly offset by (i) the strategic steps taken by the Group to increase the safety inventory level on certain of its key materials in its production facilities as well as finished goods in the PRC in order to ensure that there is a stable supply of formula milk powder products to its customers; and (ii) the slower-than-expected growth in the sales of certain brands of the Group's formula milk powder products in the PRC in the second quarter of 2020.

The turnover days of the Group's trade and bills receivables and payables remained fairly stable and were in line with the credit periods granted to the customers/by the suppliers.

## FINANCIAL RESOURCES, LIQUIDITY AND PLEDGE OF ASSETS

The Group adopts conservative financial management policies. A summary of liquidity and financial resources is set out below:

	<i>Notes</i>	<b>30 June 2020 RMB'M (Unaudited)</b>	31 December 2019 RMB'M (Audited)
Interest-bearing bank loans and other borrowings		<b>(1,073.4)</b>	(1,203.8)
Less: Pledged deposits	<i>(i)</i>	<b>342.2</b>	396.2
Cash and cash equivalents	<i>(ii)</i>	<b>1,846.3</b>	1,674.5
		<b>1,115.1</b>	866.9
Total assets		<b>8,880.1</b>	8,343.2
Shareholders' equity		<b>4,179.3</b>	4,015.7
Gearing ratio	<i>(iii)</i>	N/A	N/A
Solvency ratio	<i>(iv)</i>	<b>47.1%</b>	48.1%

*Notes:*

(i) An analysis of pledged deposits by currency is set out below:

Currency	30 June 2020		31 December 2019	
	<i>RMB'M (Unaudited)</i>	<i>% (Unaudited)</i>	<i>RMB'M (Audited)</i>	<i>% (Audited)</i>
RMB	<b>341.4</b>	<b>99.8</b>	395.4	99.8
EUR	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	0.8	0.2
Total	<b>342.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	396.2	100.0

(ii) An analysis of cash and cash equivalents by currency is set out below:

Currency	30 June 2020		31 December 2019	
	<i>RMB'M</i> (Unaudited)	% (Unaudited)	<i>RMB'M</i> (Audited)	% (Audited)
RMB	1,225.2	66.4	1,129.8	67.5
EUR	281.0	15.2	275.0	16.4
HK\$	167.3	9.1	125.6	7.5
AUD	87.8	4.8	42.4	2.5
US\$	29.5	1.6	61.3	3.7
TWD	17.2	0.9	10.9	0.6
NZD	2.2	0.1	3.3	0.2
Others	36.1	1.9	26.2	1.6
Total	<b>1,846.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,674.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(iii) Calculated as a percentage of net bank loans and other borrowings over total assets.

(iv) Calculated as a percentage of shareholders' equity over total assets.

The Group is dedicated to maintain its overall liquidity by maximising the cashflows generated from operating activities and increasing the facilities with banks to reserve sufficient funding to support its business development, in particular to meet the Group's strategy of building a new infant formula base powder facility and the related facilities in the Netherlands, principally for the processing of goat milk and goat whey, and the extension into the Nutrition Business segment.

As at 30 June 2020, the Group had outstanding borrowings of RMB1,073.4 million (31 December 2019: RMB1,203.8 million), of which RMB370.7 million (31 December 2019: RMB419.8 million) was due within one year and the remaining RMB702.7 million (31 December 2019: RMB784.0 million) was due over one year. The repayments of bank loans and other borrowings for the 2020 Interim Period of RMB151.5 million and the payment of the 2019 final dividend of RMB320.7 million was supported by cash flows generated from the operating activities.

An analysis of the Group's outstanding borrowings by currency is set out below:

Currency	30 June 2020		31 December 2019	
	<i>RMB'M</i> (Unaudited)	% (Unaudited)	<i>RMB'M</i> (Audited)	% (Audited)
EUR	960.6	89.5	986.1	81.9
RMB	69.2	6.4	178.2	14.8
Others	43.6	4.1	39.5	3.3
Total	<b>1,073.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,203.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>

As at 30 June 2020, the Group had pledged (i) the land and buildings, plant and machineries, inventories and trade receivables that were attributable to the operations in the Netherlands with a total carrying value of EUR254.5 million, equivalent to approximately RMB2,026.1 million (31 December 2019: EUR235.0 million, equivalent to approximately RMB1,836.4 million); and (ii) the time deposits that were placed in the PRC and the Netherlands of a total of RMB342.2 million (31 December 2019: RMB396.2 million) for the banking facilities granted to the Group for the financing of the Group's daily working capital and capital expenditure plans.

## **FOREIGN EXCHANGE RISK**

The operations of the Group are mainly carried out in the PRC, the Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand. During the 2020 Interim Period, revenue, cost of sales and operating expenses of the Group are mainly denominated in Renminbi (“**RMB**”), Hong Kong dollars (“**HK\$**”), EURO (“**EUR**”), United States dollars (“**US\$**”), Australian dollars (“**AUD**”), Taiwan dollars (“**TWD**”) or New Zealand dollars (“**NZD**”) and RMB is the Group’s presentation currency. Besides, most of the bank deposits and bank loans of the Group are denominated in RMB and EUR, respectively. The Group is exposed to potential foreign exchange risk as a result of fluctuation of HK\$, EUR, US\$, AUD, TWD or NZD against RMB.

The Group adopts a hedging policy to actively manage its currency risk exposure concerning non-RMB denominated indebtedness. Depending on the market circumstances, trend of currency rates and the cost of hedging, the Group will consider and enter into a hedging arrangement to mitigate the impact of RMB fluctuation against other operating currencies.

The management monitors closely on its foreign currency exposure to ensure appropriate measures are taken promptly against any significant potential adverse impact.

## **INTEREST RATE RISK**

The Group has exposure to the risk of change in market interest rate in relation to its interest-bearing bank loans and other borrowings with a floating interest rate. In order to minimise the impact of the interest rate exposure, the Group entered into an interest rate swap contract with a bank, effective from 30 September 2015, of a notional amount of EUR12.0 million with 3-month floating EURO Interbank Offered Rate being swapped to a fixed interest rate of 0.42% per annum. The interest rate swap contract was expired during the period.

## **CREDIT RISK**

The Group seeks to maintain strict control over its outstanding receivables and closely monitors the collection to minimise credit risk. As the Group’s exposure spreads over a diversified portfolio of customers, there is no significant concentration of credit risk.

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, trade and bills receivables, deposits and other receivables represent the Group’s maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to the Group’s other financial assets.

## **COMMITMENTS**

As at 30 June 2020, the Group had contracted, but not provided for, capital commitments mainly in respect of purchase of plant and machineries and intangible assets of a total of RMB166.4 million (31 December 2019: RMB212.3 million).

## **CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

As at 30 June 2020, the Group did not have any significant contingent liabilities (31 December 2019: Nil).

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Number of full-time employees	Mainland China	Hong Kong	The Netherlands	Australia and New Zealand	Others	Total
30 June 2020	3,855	10	702	155	139	4,861
31 December 2019	<u>3,722</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>685</u>	<u>151</u>	<u>122</u>	<u>4,689</u>

For the 2020 Interim Period, total employee costs, including Directors' emoluments, amounted to RMB669.8 million (2019 Interim Period: RMB590.4 million). The Group determined the remuneration packages of all employees with reference to individual performance and current market salary scale.

The Group provides a defined contribution mandatory provident fund for retirement benefits of its employees in Hong Kong and various plans in either defined benefit or defined contribution arrangements for the retirement benefits of its employees in the Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand. The Group also provides various welfare schemes as required by the applicable local laws and regulations to its employees in the PRC and other countries.

## PURCHASE, REDEMPTION OR SALE OF LISTED SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, redeemed or sold any of the Shares during the 2020 Interim Period (2019 Interim Period: Nil).

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE

The Board is committed to raising the standard of corporate governance within the Group at all times and believes that good corporate governance helps the Group to safeguard the interests of the Shareholders and improve its performance.

The Company has adopted the code provisions set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the "CG Code") contained in Appendix 14 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (the "Listing Rules") on the Stock Exchange as its own code of corporate governance practices. The Board also strives to implement the best practices embodied in the CG Code where feasible and as far as practicable.

In the opinion of the Board, the Company has complied with the respective code provisions of the CG Code during the 2020 Interim Period.

## MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Model Code") as contained in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules as the standards for the Directors' dealings in the securities of the Company. Specific enquiries have been made with all Directors by the Company, the Directors confirmed that they have complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code during the 2020 Interim Period.

The Company has a written guideline “Employees’ Code of Dealing the Securities of the Company” on terms no less exacting than the Model Code for securities transactions by employees who are likely to be in possession of unpublished inside information of the Company. No incident of non-compliance with the “Employees’ Code of Dealing the Securities of the Company” by relevant employees was noted by the Company for the 2020 Interim Period.

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee comprises all three independent non-executive Directors, and was established with written terms of reference in compliance with Rules 3.21 to 3.23 of the Listing Rules. The primary duties of the Audit Committee are to provide the Board with an independent review of the effectiveness of the financial reporting process, internal control and risk management of the Group, oversee the audit process and perform other duties and responsibilities stated in the written terms of reference.

## **PUBLICATION OF INTERIM RESULTS AND INTERIM REPORT**

The interim report of the Company for the 2020 Interim Period, which contains the detailed results and other information of the Company for the 2020 Interim Period required pursuant to Appendix 16 to the Listing Rules, will be despatched to the shareholders of the Company and published on the Stock Exchange’s website at [www.hkexnews.hk](http://www.hkexnews.hk) and the Company’s website at [www.ausnutria.com.hk](http://www.ausnutria.com.hk) in due course. This announcement can also be accessed on the above websites.

By order of the Board  
**Ausnutria Dairy Corporation Ltd**  
**Yan Weibin**  
*Chairman*

The PRC, 13 August 2020

*As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises three executive Directors, namely Mr. Yan Weibin (Chairman), Mr. Bartle van der Meer (Chief Executive Officer) and Ms. Ng Siu Hung; three non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Shi Liang (Vice-Chairman), Mr. Qiao Baijun and Mr. Tsai Chang-Hai; and three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Jason Wan, Mr. Lau Chun Fai Douglas and Mr. Aidan Maurice Coleman.*