

# Independent Auditor's Report

## To the Shareholders of CK Hutchison Holdings Limited

(incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

### Opinion

#### What we have audited

The consolidated financial statements of CK Hutchison Holdings Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the "Group"), which are set out on pages 126 to 266, comprise:

- the consolidated and Company statements of financial position as at 31 December 2022;
- the consolidated income statement for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of changes in equity for the year then ended;
- the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the consolidated financial statements, which include significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### Our opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company and of the Group as at 31 December 2022, and of its consolidated profit and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and have been properly prepared in compliance with the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing ("HKSA") issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the HKICPA's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants ("the Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

## Independent Auditor's Report

### Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Key audit matters identified in our audit are summarised as follows:

- Goodwill and brand names with an indefinite useful life; and
- Investments in associated companies and joint ventures.

#### **Key Audit Matter**

##### **Goodwill and brand names with an indefinite useful life**

*Refer to notes 5(b)(xvi), 7(c)(i), 15, 16 and 46 to the consolidated financial statements*

The Group has a significant amount of goodwill and brand names with an indefinite useful life arising from various acquisitions. As at 31 December 2022, goodwill amounted to approximately HK\$268 billion and brand names with an indefinite useful life amounted to approximately HK\$67 billion.

Goodwill and brand names with an indefinite useful life are subject to impairment assessments annually and when there is an indication of impairment.

In carrying out the impairment assessments, significant judgements are required to estimate the recoverable amounts, being the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. The recoverable amounts are estimated taking into consideration the future cash flows of the respective business units based on the latest approved financial budgets for the next five years and a number of other assumptions, including the growth rates to extrapolate the cash flows beyond the budget period and the discount rates to bring the future cash flows back to their present values.

The Group recognised the impairment of goodwill of approximately HK\$11 billion relating to the mobile telecommunications business in Italy for the year ended 31 December 2022. Refer to notes 5(b)(xvi), 7(c)(i) and 16 to the consolidated financial statements for details. The significant assumptions are disclosed in notes 7(c)(i), 16 and 46 to the consolidated financial statements.

We considered this is a key audit matter as significant judgements are involved in the impairment assessments.

#### **How our audit addressed the Key Audit Matter**

Our procedures to address this key audit matter included:

- Understanding the management's assessment process of impairment of goodwill and brand names with an indefinite useful life and assessing the inherent risk of material misstatement by considering the degree of estimation uncertainty and the judgements involved in determining the assumptions to be applied;
- Assessing the appropriateness of the valuation methodologies used;
- Assessing the reasonableness of key assumptions used in management's estimation of recoverable amounts based on our knowledge of the relevant businesses and industries, other appropriate supporting evidence, and with the involvement of our valuations experts;
- Testing source data to supporting evidence, such as approved budgets, on a sample basis, and considering the reasonableness of these budgets; and
- Performing sensitivity analyses on the key assumptions to evaluate the potential impacts on the recoverable amounts including the growth rates and discount rates as these are the key assumptions to which the measurement of recoverable amounts is the most sensitive.

We found the assumptions adopted in relation to the impairment assessments to be supportable and reasonable based on available evidence.

## Key Audit Matters *(continued)*

### **Key Audit Matter**

#### **Investments in associated companies and joint ventures**

*Refer to notes 17, 18 and 46 to the consolidated financial statements*

The Group has significant investments in associated companies and joint ventures, which are accounted for under the equity method. As at 31 December 2022, investments in associated companies and joint ventures amounted to approximately HK\$289 billion.

Investments in associated companies and joint ventures are subject to impairment assessments when there is an indication of impairment. For those associated companies and joint ventures in which such indication exists, the Group performed impairment assessments. In carrying out the impairment assessments, significant judgements are required to estimate the recoverable amounts of the Group's investments in the associated companies and the joint ventures, taking into consideration the share of the associated companies' and the joint ventures' future cash flows and a number of other assumptions, including the growth rates to prepare the associated companies' and joint ventures' cash flow projections, and the discount rates to bring the future cash flows back to their present values. We considered this is a key audit matter as significant judgements are involved in the impairment assessments.

### **How our audit addressed the Key Audit Matter**

Our procedures to address this key audit matter included:

- Understanding the management's assessment process of identification of impairment indicators and impairment assessments of investments in associated companies and joint ventures and assessing the inherent risk of material misstatement by considering the degree of estimation uncertainty and the judgements involved in determining the assumptions to be applied;
- Assessing the appropriateness of the valuation methodologies used;
- Assessing the reasonableness of key assumptions used by management in the estimation of recoverable amounts of those investments in associated companies or joint ventures with impairment indicators, including the growth rates and discount rates; and comparing cash flow projections to supporting evidence, such as approved budgets; and
- Performing sensitivity analyses on the key assumptions, including the growth rates and discount rates, to evaluate the potential impacts on the recoverable amounts.

We found the assumptions adopted in relation to the impairment assessments to be supportable and reasonable based on available evidence.

## Independent Auditor's Report

### Other Information

The directors of the Company are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all of the information included in the annual report other than the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Responsibilities of Directors and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. We report our opinion solely to you, as a body, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with HKSAAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with HKSAAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements *(continued)*

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Luk Lai Yin.

**PricewaterhouseCoopers**  
*Certified Public Accountants*

Hong Kong, 16 March 2023