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# Star Properties Group (Cayman Islands) Limited 星星地產集團(開曼群島)有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 1560)

VERY SUBSTANTIAL ACQUISITION AND CONNECTED TRANSACTION IN RELATION TO THE ACQUISITION OF THE ENTIRE ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL OF AND SHAREHOLDERS' LOAN OWING BY METROPOLITAN GROUP (BVI) LIMITED

# THE ACQUISITION

On 21 July 2020 (after trading hours of the Stock Exchange), the Company (as purchaser) and the Vendor (as vendor) entered into the Acquisition Agreement, pursuant to which the Company conditionally agreed to acquire, and the Vendor conditionally agreed to sell, the Sale Share and Sale Loan, at an aggregate consideration of HK\$460,000,000, which will be satisfied by (i) part payment in cash; and (ii) allotment and issue of the Convertible Bonds. The Conversion Shares will be allotted and issued under the Specific Mandate to be sought from the Independent Shareholders at the EGM.

As at the date of this announcement, the Target Company is wholly-owned by the Vendor. Upon Completion, the Target Company will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company and its financial results will be consolidated into the financial statements of the Group.

#### LISTING RULES IMPLICATION

As one or more of the applicable percentage ratios (as defined under Chapter 14 of the Listing Rules) in respect of the Transactions exceed 100%, the Transactions constitute a very substantial acquisition for the Company and are therefore subject to the reporting, announcement and shareholders' approval requirements under Chapter 14 of the Listing Rules.

As at the date of this announcement, the Vendor is indirectly held as to 100% by Mr. Chan, who is a Director and controlling shareholder of the Company. As such, the Vendor is an associate of Mr. Chan and thus a connected person of the Company. Therefore, the Transactions also constitute a connected transaction of the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules and are subject to the approval of the Independent Shareholders at the EGM.

An Independent Board Committee, comprising all the independent non-executive Directors, has been established to consider the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder, and to advise the Independent Shareholders as to whether the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder are on normal commercial terms, fair and reasonable and in the interests of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole. Sinolink Securities (HK) Co. Ltd has been appointed as the Independent Financial Adviser to advise the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders in this regard.

#### GENERAL

The EGM will be convened and held for the Independent Shareholders to consider and, if thought fit, approve the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder.

A circular containing, among other things, (i) details of the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder; (ii) the letter of recommendation from the Independent Board Committee to the Independent Shareholders in respect of the Transactions; (iii) the letter of advice from the Independent Financial Adviser to the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders in respect of the Transactions; (iv) other information as required under the Listing Rules; and (v) a notice convening the EGM will be despatched to the Shareholders on or before 31 August 2020, which is more than 15 Business Days after the publication of this announcement, as the Company requires more time to prepare the information to be included in the circular

As Completion is subject to fulfilment or waiver (as the case may be) of the conditions precedent to the Acquisition Agreement, the Acquisition may or may not proceed. Shareholders and potential investors of the Company should exercise caution when dealing in the Shares.

#### INTRODUCTION

Reference is made to the announcements of the Company dated 24 January 2020 and 30 June 2020 and the circular of the Company dated 27 March 2020 in relation to the Previous Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder.

As disclosed in the announcement of the Company dated 30 June 2020, as certain condition(s) under the Previous Acquisition Agreement have not been fulfilled or waived by the long stop date of 30 June 2020, the Previous Acquisition Agreement has lapsed on 30 June 2020 pursuant to the terms thereof and shall cease to be of any effect and neither party shall have any obligations and liabilities thereunder. The refund of the deposit paid under the Previous Acquisition Agreement has been made by the Vendor to the Company on the same day.

The Board considers that it will be in the interest of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole, if, upon the termination of the Previous Acquisition Agreement, the Company and the Vendor could enter into the Acquisition Agreement as soon as possible because:

- (a) the Company has formulated its business strategy for the forthcoming second half of 2020 and the next few years on the assumption that the transactions contemplated under the Previous Acquisition Agreement having been completed by 30 June 2020. The Company considers that the proposed Acquisition would help to minimize the disruption and adjustment of the business plan and strategy of the Group (as the disruption and adjustment of the business plan and strategy of the Group may result in the Group incurring extra operation costs);
- (b) with a view to implementing the transactions contemplated under the Previous Acquisition Agreement, the Group negotiated with various banks for the release of certain personal guarantees and new facilities (the "New Facilities") with revised terms have been granted by the banks which originally would become effective upon/after the completion of the transactions contemplated under the Previous Acquisition Agreement. The New Facilities were available to the Group for only a specified term and some of them would lapse in August 2020. Entering into the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder as soon as possible can help to avoid incurring extra costs by the parties to the Previous Acquisition Agreement for renegotiating for the approval of the grant of the New Facilities by the banks; and

(c) if completion of the proposed Acquisition is further delayed, the auditors to the Group will be required to adopt new reference date for the determination of the financial information of the Group to be disclosed in the circular in compliance of the Listing Rules for which the Company will need to incur extra professional charges and fees.

On 21 July 2020 (after trading hours of the Stock Exchange), the Company (as purchaser) and the Vendor (as vendor) entered into the Acquisition Agreement, pursuant to which the Company conditionally agreed to acquire, and the Vendor conditionally agreed to sell, the Sale Share and Sale Loan, at an aggregate consideration of HK\$460,000,000, which will be satisfied by (i) part payment in cash; and (ii) allotment and issue of the Convertible Bonds. The Conversion Shares will be allotted and issued under the Specific Mandate to be sought from the Independent Shareholders at the EGM.

Principal terms of the Acquisition Agreement are set out below.

# THE ACQUISITION AGREEMENT

Date: 21 July 2020

Parties: (i) the Company (as purchaser); and

(ii) Metropolitan Lifestyle (BVI) Limited (as vendor);

# Assets to be acquired

The assets to be acquired under the Acquisition Agreement comprise (i) the Sale Share; and (ii) the Sale Loan. The Sale Share represent the entire issued share capital of the Target Company as at the date of the Acquisition Agreement and Completion. The Sale Loan shall represent all obligations, liabilities and debts owing or incurred by the Target Group to the Vendor on or at any time prior to the Completion whether actual, contingent or deferred and irrespective of whether or not the same is due and payable on Completion. The outstanding unaudited indebtedness owing by the Target Group to the Vendor as at 31 March 2020 was approximately HK\$258,124,000.

Pursuant to the terms of the Acquisition Agreement, it is one of the conditions precedent that the Reorganisation shall be completed prior to Completion. It is expected that, upon completion of the Reorganisation, the Target Group will hold the various interests in the businesses and properties (details of which are set out in the section headed "Information on the Target Group" below) which are the subject of the Acquisition. Please refer to the section headed "Information on the Target Group" below for further information on the business and financial information of the Target Group.

# **Consideration and payment terms**

The Consideration shall be HK\$460,000,000 in aggregate, which shall comprise the purchase price for the Sale Loan (representing the dollar-to-dollar equivalent of the amount of the Sale Loan) and the purchase price for the Sale Share (which shall be the aggregate Consideration less the purchase price for the Sale Loan).

Subject to the terms of the Acquisition Agreement, the Consideration shall be payable by the Company to the Vendor in the following manner:

- (i) the Deposit, being HK\$42,000,000, shall be paid by the Company as deposit and part payment of the Consideration upon the signing of the Acquisition Agreement; and
- (ii) the sum of HK\$418,000,000, being the balance of the Consideration, shall be satisfied by the Company by way of the issue and delivery of the Convertible Bonds in the name of the Vendor on Completion.

#### **Basis of the Consideration**

The Consideration was determined after arm's length negotiations between the Company and the Vendor on normal commercial terms with reference to, including without limitation, to (i) the market value of the property interests held by the Target Group of HK\$930.1 million as at 31 March 2020 based on the preliminary valuation conducted by an independent property valuer based on market approach adopting a direct comparison method; and (ii) the net asset value of the Target Group as at 31 March 2020.

As disclosed in the circular of the Company dated 27 March 2020, since the outstanding audited indebtedness owing by the Target Group to the Vendor as at 30 September 2019 was approximately HK\$216.2 million, the purchase price of the Sale Share under the Previous Acquisition Agreement would be approximately HK\$203.8 million, representing a discount of HK\$31 million or approximately 13.2% to the adjusted combined net asset value of the Target Group as at 30 September 2019 of approximately HK\$234.8 million (after taken into account of the adjustment of the market value of the property interest of the Target Group).

Since the outstanding audited indebtedness owing by the Target Group to the Vendor as at 31 March 2020 was approximately HK\$258.1million, the purchase price of the Sale Share (which shall be the aggregate Consideration less the purchase price for the Sale Loan) would be approximately HK\$201.9 million, representing a discount of HK\$2.1 million or approximately 1.03% to the unaudited adjusted combined net asset value of the Target Group as at 31 March 2020 of approximately HK\$204.0 million (after taken into account the adjustment of the market value of the property interest of the Target Group).

A larger discount (i.e. approximately 13.2%) was applied in the purchase price of the Sale Share under the Previous Acquisition Agreement, as compared to a smaller discount (i.e. approximately 1.03%) in relation to the purchase price of the Sale Share under the Acquisition Agreement, when comparing to the adjusted combined net asset value of the Target Group, mainly due to the uncertainty of the impact of COVID-19 when the Previous Acquisition Agreement was entered into, details of which are set out as follows:

(a) the market value of the property interests held by the Target Group of HK\$956 million was based on the valuation conducted by an independent property valuer as at 30 September 2019 based on market approach adopting a direct comparison method. The Board considered that there would likely be a decline of around 3.2% on the market value of the property interests held by the Target Group after 30 September 2019 due to the outbreak of COVID-19. In the weeks following the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Hong Kong on 23 January 2020, comprehensive testing and quarantine rules were imposed in Hong Kong. Having taken the potential impact of COVID-19 into account, the Company negotiated a discount of HK\$31 million to the market value of the property interests held by the Target Group as at 30 September 2019, which was reflected by the discount of approximately 13.2% to the adjusted combined net asset value of the Target Group as at 30 September 2019.

The market value of the property interests held by the Target Group of HK\$930 million was based on the preliminary valuation conducted by an independent property valuer as at 31 March 2020 based on market approach adopting a direct comparison method. As at late May 2020, the number of new COVID-19 cases was around zero or single digit every day in Hong Kong and the businesses of the Target Group had recovered considerably (details of which are set out in the section headed "information on the Target Group" below). Further, based on the preliminary understanding from the independent property valuer, the market value of the property interests held by the Target Group as at 31 May 2020 remained relatively stable at approximately HK\$930 million, which is more or less the same as compared to the market value of the property interests held by the Target Group as at 31 March 2020. It demonstrates that the effect of the outbreak of COVID-19 in Hong Kong has been fully reflected in the market value of the property interests held by the Target Group as at 31 March 2020. Therefore, no significant discount was applied on the Sale Share based on the market value of the property interests held by the Target Group as at 31 March 2020. A discount of HK\$2.1 million was applied based on rounding issue only; and

(b) the Target Group recorded a loss of approximately HK\$30.2 million for the three months ended 31 March 2020, which was mainly attributable to the net valuation loss on investment properties of approximately HK\$32.7 million. After excluding the net valuation loss on investment properties of approximately HK\$32.7 million, the Target Group recorded a profit of approximately HK\$2.5 million for the three months ended 31 March 2020. The revenue of the Target Group recorded an increase by 5.1%, to approximately HK\$14.3 million, for the three months ended 31 March 2020, as compared to the revenue of approximately HK\$13.6 million for the three months ended 31 March 2019 as per management accounts.

The cash component of the Consideration will be financed by the internal resources of the Group.

# **Conditions precedent**

Completion is conditional upon fulfilment or waiver (as the case may be) of the following Conditions:

- (i) the Vendor's title to the Sale Share and the Sale Loan being in order and free from all encumbrances;
- (ii) all the Warranties remaining true and accurate and not misleading as at Completion and no events having occurred that would result in any breach of any of the Warranties or provisions of the Acquisition Agreement by the Vendor;

- (iii) the Vendor having facilitated the Company to undertake a legal, financial and business due diligence investigation in respect of the Target Group and the results of such due diligence investigation being reasonably satisfactory to the Company;
- (iv) the Reorganisation having been duly completed;
- (v) all necessary consents in relation to the transactions contemplated under the Acquisition Agreement, including without limitation such consents (if required) of the Stock Exchange and the SFC and any relevant governmental or regulatory authorities and other relevant third parties in Hong Kong or elsewhere which are required for the entering into, execution, delivery and performance of the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder, including but not limited to the listing of, and the permission to deal in, any Conversion Shares which may be issued to the Vendor upon conversion of the Convertible Bonds, having been obtained;
- (vi) approval having been obtained from the Independent Shareholders at the EGM convened for approving the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder;
- (vii) the transactions contemplated under the Acquisition Agreement not having been deemed by the Stock Exchange as a reverse takeover of the Company under the Listing Rules; and
- (viii) the release of the personal guarantees given by the Controlling Shareholders in favour of the banks in relation to loans taken out by the Target Group.

The Vendor shall use its reasonable endeavours to procure the fulfillment of the Conditions. The Company may at any time by notice in writing to the Vendor waive any of the Conditions (other than Conditions (v), (vi) and (vii)) or any part thereof on such terms as it may decide.

If any of the Conditions are not fulfilled (or waived by the Company) on or before the Long Stop Date, the Vendor shall forthwith on the Long Stop Date repay the full amount of the Deposit without any interest to the Company, and the Acquisition Agreement shall cease and determine (save and except certain clauses specified in the Acquisition Agreement) and neither party shall have any obligations and liabilities thereunder save for any antecedent breaches of the terms thereof.

#### **COMPLETION**

Completion shall take place on the 5th Business Day after all the Conditions have been satisfied or waived, or such other date as may be agreed by the Vendor and the Company in writing.

#### ISSUE OF THE CONVERTIBLE BONDS

The Convertible Bonds shall be issued by the Company on the date of Completion to settle part of the Consideration for the purchase of the Sale Share and the Sale Loan.

The terms of the Convertible Bonds have been negotiated on an arm's length basis and the principal terms of which are summarised below:

Issuer: The Company

Principal amount: HK\$418,000,000

Maturity date: The Convertible Bonds are perpetual in term and have no

maturity date

Interest rate: The Convertible Bonds bear a coupon rate of 3% per annum.

The coupon shall accrue on the outstanding principal amount of the Convertible Bonds and be payable annually subject to the Company's sole discretion to defer the coupon payment for a maximum period of 10 years from the date when the relevant coupon payment fall due by giving notice to the holders of the

Convertible Bonds

Conversion Price: The initial Conversion Price is HK\$0.50 per Conversion Share

subject to adjustments, details of which are summarized below

Conversion Shares: Assuming the conversion rights attaching to the Convertible

Bonds are exercised in full at the initial Conversion Price of HK\$0.50 per Conversion Share, a maximum of 836,000,000 new Shares will be issued upon conversion of the Convertible Bonds (subject to adjustments), which represent (i) approximately 130.32% of the existing issued share capital of the Company as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) approximately 56.58% of the issued share capital of the Company as enlarged by the allotment and issue of the Conversion Shares upon full conversion of the Convertible

Bonds at the initial Conversion Price

Conversion Period:

The holders of the Convertible Bonds may convert such Convertible Bonds (in whole or in part) into Conversion Shares during the period commencing from the date of issue of the Convertible Bonds up to the date which falls on the 10th anniversary of the date of issue of the Convertible Bonds (the "Conversion Period") to the extent all or part of the Convertible Bonds remain outstanding.

Upon expiry of the said Conversion Period, no conversion rights could be exercised and the amount outstanding under the Convertible Bonds (if any) will become an unlisted straight perpetual bond of the Company.

Conversion:

Provided that any conversion of the Convertible Bonds does not result in (i) a mandatory offer under rule 26 of the Takeovers Code on the part of the holder and/or any party(ies) acting in concert with it; and (ii) the public float of the Shares being less than 25% (or such percentage as required by the Listing Rules) of the issued Shares, the bondholder shall, subject to compliance with the procedures set out in the CB Conditions, have the right at any time during the Conversion Period to convert the whole or part of the outstanding principal amount of the Convertible Bonds registered in its name into Shares, provided further that any conversion shall be made in amounts of not less than a whole multiple of HK\$1,000,000 on each conversion (or if the outstanding principal amount of the Convertible Bonds is less than HK\$1,000,000 on such conversion, the whole of such outstanding principal amount of the Convertible Bonds).

Redemption:

The Company may, at any time, by serving at least ten (10) days' prior written notice on the holder of the Convertible Bonds with the total amount proposed to be redeemed specified therein, redeem the Convertible Bonds (in whole or in part) at 100% of the principal amount of such Convertible Bonds.

Adjustments to the Conversion Price:

The Conversion Price shall from time to time be adjusted upon the occurrence of certain events in relation to the Company including but not limited to the following:

- (i) an alteration of the number of the Shares by reason of consolidation or subdivision;
- (ii) an issue (other than in lieu of a cash dividend) by the Company of Shares credited as fully paid by way of capitalisation of profits or reserves (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve fund);
- (iii) a capital distribution being made by the Company to the Shareholders, whether on a reduction of capital or otherwise, to Shareholders (in their capacity as such) or a grant by the Company to Shareholders (in their capacity as such) of rights to acquire for cash assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries;
- (iv) an offer of new Shares for subscription by way of rights, or grant any options or warrants to subscribe for new Shares, being made by the Company to the Shareholders (in their capacity as such) at a price which is less than 80% of the then market price of the Share;
- (v) an issue wholly for cash being made by the Company of securities convertible into or exchangeable for or carrying rights of subscription for new Shares, if in any case the total effective consideration per Share initially receivable for such securities is less than 80% of the then market price of the Shares, or such rights of conversion or exchange or subscription attached to any such securities being modified so that the said total effective consideration per Share initially receivable for such securities is less than 80% of the then market price of the Shares;

- (vi) an issue being made by the Company wholly for cash of Shares (other than Shares issued on the exercise of conversion rights attaching to the Convertible Bonds or on the exercise of any other rights of conversion into, or exchange or subscription for, Shares) at a price per Share less than 80% of the then market price of the Shares; and
- (vii) an issue being made by the Company of Shares for the acquisition of asset at the total effective consideration per Share which is less than 80% of the then market price of the Shares.

Transferability:

Subject to the prior written consent by the Company and compliance with the Listing Rules and other applicable laws and regulations, the Convertible Bonds may be transferred or assigned by the holder(s) of the Convertible Bonds in whole or in part in multiples of HK\$1,000,000 to any party.

Voting rights:

The Convertible Bonds shall not carry any voting rights.

Status:

The obligations of the Company arising under the Convertible Bonds constitute general, unconditional, unsecured and unsubordinated obligation of the Company and rank *pari passu* and rateably without preference (with the exception of obligations accorded preference by mandatory provisions of applicable law) equally with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Company.

Listing:

No application will be made by the Company for the listing of the Convertible Bonds on the Stock Exchange or any other stock exchange.

The initial Conversion Price of HK\$0.50 per Conversion Share represents:

- (i) a premium of approximately 25.00% to the closing price of HK\$0.40 per Share as quoted on the Stock Exchange on the date of the Acquisition Agreement;
- (ii) a premium of approximately 23.76% to the average closing price of approximately HK\$0.404 per Share as quoted on the Stock Exchange for the last five consecutive trading days immediately prior to the date of the Acquisition Agreement;

- (iii) a premium of approximately 23.00% to the average closing price of approximately HK\$0.407 per Share as quoted on the Stock Exchange for the last ten consecutive trading days immediately prior to the date of the Acquisition Agreement; and
- (iv) a discount of approximately 70.06% to the net assets value per Share attributable to the Shareholders of approximately HK\$1.67 as at 31 March 2020.

The Conversion Price was determined based on arm's length negotiations between the parties with reference to the prevailing market prices of the Shares.

# **Specific Mandate**

The Conversion Shares will be allotted and issued under the Specific Mandate to be approved by the Independent Shareholders at the EGM. An application will be made to the Stock Exchange for the listing of, and permission to deal in, the Conversion Shares. The Conversion Shares, when allotted and issued, will rank *pari passu* in all respects with each other and with the other Shares then in issue at the time of issue of the Conversion Shares.

# INFORMATION ON THE TARGET GROUP

# **Principal businesses of the Target Group**

The Target Company is an investment holding company. As at the date of this announcement, the Target Group Companies operate the following businesses under the "Metropolitan" brand with its self-owned and leased properties: (i) serviced apartment business, (ii) wine cellar and fine wine business, (iii) storage business and workshop business and (iv) production and other investment holding business.

# 1. Serviced apartment business

Metropolitan Apartment is principally engaged in the business of operation of serviced apartments in Hong Kong. The business of Metropolitan Apartment commenced in 2012 and all suites provided by Metropolitan Apartment are fully furnished with flexible terms by monthly renewal. The target customers of Metropolitan Apartment are short-term overseas employees, local residents and college students.

Metropolitan Apartment operates a total of 28 serviced apartments on self-owned properties for rental which are situated at No.16 & No. 18 Yiu Wa Street, Causeway Bay and 3/F, 14 Yiu Wa Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.

Types of serviced apartments include (i) co-living apartments (ranging from 80 to 120 sq.ft. in size), (ii) contemporary studios (ranging from 180 to 230 sq.ft. in size), (iii) studios with terrace (ranging from 230 to 390 sq.ft. in size with a terrace of approximately 20 to 180 sq.ft. each), and (iv) family studios (which are 400 sq.ft. to 700 sq.ft. in size).

The valuation of the properties used by Metropolitan Apartment for its apartment business and held by Crystal Cay Group conducted by an independent property valuer was HK\$175,000,000 as at 31 December 2019 and HK\$169,100,000 as at 31 May 2020.

The occupancy rate of the serviced apartments operated by Metropolitan Apartment were almost over 85% each year from 2012 to 2018. From the third quarter of 2019, due to the social unrest in Hong Kong and the outbreak of COVID-19, the occupancy rate of the serviced apartments has dropped approximately 70% in February 2020. However, the occupancy rate of the serviced apartments has gradually rebounded to approximately 78.23%, 78.23% and 79.44% as at 31 March 2020, 30 April 2020 and 31 May 2020, respectively. It was believed that the good reputation, high standard of hygienic conditions and quality services had helped in attracting more referrals from existing tenants. Also, the monthly leasing renewal arrangement gives the flexibility to tenants who demand for short term leasing.

Subject to Completion, in relation to future development, Metropolitan Apartment intends to explore opportunities for new apartments in high density districts in Hong Kong such as Central, Happy Valley, Tsim Sha Tsui and Yuen Long by acquisition or joint venture. It is anticipated that Metropolitan Apartment will continue to provide comfortable living experience with a variety and flexible living arrangements for discerning customers. Also, Metropolitan Apartment intends to launch a tenant referral program to boost engagement and increase outreach.

# 2. Wine cellar and fine wine businesses

Metropolitan Wine Cellar Group is principally engaged in the business of provision of professional fine wine storage services. Metropolitan Fine Wine is principally engaged in wine trading.

Metropolitan Wine Cellar is a participating company of the Wine Storage Management Systems (WSMS) Certification Scheme of the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA). It complies with the requirements of Fine Wine Storage Management Systems Standard of HKQAA Wine Storage Management Systems Certification Scheme: 2013 applicable to provision of 24-hour wine storage rental services for fine wine. As at the date of this announcement, there are a total of 232 wine lockers and 131 private cellars located in rented and self-owned properties of Metropolitan Wine Cellar Group in Seaview Estate, Tin Hau, Hong Kong, which are provided for storage of wine. Capacity of each wine locker ranges from 24 to 432 bottles or 2 to 36 cases and that of each private cellar ranges from 132 to 9,360 bottles or 11 to 780 cases.

In 2008, the zero wine duty policy has been launched, and wine and spirits business flourished in Hong Kong. Metropolitan Wine Cellar was established in 2011 in view of the contemplated need for storage of wine and it aimed to provide professional storage facilities to customers. It expanded from utilizing a rented property of approximately 10,000 sq.ft. only in 2011 to acquiring a self-owned property of approximately 3,000 sq.ft. to provide its wine storage service. In 2019, there was further expansion and an additional rented property of approximately 3,000 sq.ft. has since been used for providing wine storage facilities to customers. As at the date of this announcement, the total storage area available is over 16,000 sq.ft.. Metropolitan Wine Cellar had less than 20% occupancy rate for 1 shop in 2011 when it was established, and had attained up to 95% occupancy rate for 3 shops in 2019. For the new cellar on 9/F which was opened in February 2019, the occupancy rate reached 85% within one year. This shows that there is high demand for wine storage in the market.

Metropolitan Fine Wine mainly targets local Hong Kong residents and offers products delivery. Supplementing the fine wine storage services offered by Metropolitan Wine Cellar Group, Metropolitan Fine Wine designates a transportation company to deliver the wines and provides an inland transit insurance coverage within Hong Kong, subject to a limit of HK\$50,000 per bottle of wine (cost value) and HK\$2,000,000 (per conveyance) insurance coverage. Its products include dessert wine, red wine, sparkling wine, white wine, rose wine, champagne and spirits such as whiskey, cognac and brandy, and are sourced from different countries including France, United Kingdom, Portugal, Australia, the United States of America, Chile, Italy and Spain. The core and main selection of its wines comprises "old world" wines, especially French wines which account for 80% of its inventory.

The growth in fine wine trading in Hong Kong is obvious since consumers in Asia are increasingly wine savvy and their demand for wine remains strong. With government support, assistance and deregulation of wine imports, the wine business has boomed in Hong Kong. It is expected that the wine trading will grow continuously in the coming five to ten years.

Recently, the outbreak of COVID-19 slightly slowed down the wine cellar occupancy and fine wine trading as it influenced all other retail businesses. Wine cellar occupancy rate decreased from 95% in December 2019 to 89% in May 2020. As for fine wine, Metropolitan Fine Wine changed its sales strategy from offline trading to online trading as customers are staying at home for safety and health reasons. Crisis creates opportunities, online trading penetrates into a bigger market not only locally but internationally. Metropolitan Wine Cellar Group has a wine cellar business to power up the wine trading business of Metropolitan Fine Wine. If customers ordering online cannot pick up the wines immediately or do not want to stock up too many bottles of wine at home, they can choose to store them temporarily at the cellar of Metropolitan Wine Cellar Group.

In respect of the wine cellar and wine trading businesses of the Target Group, the turnover for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020 amounted to HK\$4,361,942, which is approximately 34% higher than the turnover for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2019 (which amounted to HK\$3,247,161), in which (a) the wine trading business contributed to an increase of approximately 22% (from HK\$2,114,903 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2019 to HK\$2,574,164 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020); and (b) the storage contributed to an increase of approximately 58% (from HK\$1,132,258 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2019 to HK\$1,787,778 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020).

The valuation of the properties used by Metropolitan Wine Cellar Group and held by Crystal Cay Group conducted by an independent property valuer was HK\$33,000,000 as at 31 December 2019 and HK\$33,000,000 as at 31 May 2020.

# 3. Storage and workshop businesses

Metropolitan Storage Group is principally engaged in the business of provision and operation of 24-hour storage service to the public in Hong Kong. Metropolitan Storage Group was established in December 2016. Its first store was in Yuen Long, within one year development, there were a total of six stores located in Yuen Long, Fo Tan, Kwai Chung and Chai Wan. Due to the increasing demands from domestic users and corporate users, Metropolitan Storage Group expanded its business from 6 stores to 14 stores until 2019. Both households and corporate customers are Metropolitan Storage Group's target customers. Metropolitan Workshop is principally engaged in the business of provision of 24-hour co-working spaces ranging from private rooms/shared offices, dedicated desks, hot desks, and virtual offices to memberships in multi-location, providing flexible price plans and all equipped workspace perfect for freelancers, entrepreneurs, smaller companies and corporates. The operation of the storage and workshop businesses of the Target Group are under the same management team.

Metropolitan Storage Group operates its mini-storage business in 14 branches located in Chai Wan, San Po Kong, Lai Chi Kok, Fo Tan, Yuen Long, Kwai Chung, Tsing Yi and Tai Po as at the date of this announcement. It provides mini storage services with size of each mini-storage unit ranging from 8 sq.ft. to over 40 sq.ft.. Metropolitan Storage Group has a total of approximately 2,000 mini-storage units in these 14 branches. The mobility of the storage clients were limited; therefore Metropolitan Storage Group would need to fulfill its obligations under the licence agreements with the clients and the term for each of such licence agreements is long. For the selection of its premises, Metropolitan Storage Group selected the landlord who offers long term lease to ensure that it can fulfill its obligations under the agreements with the client. Since the beginning of 2019, the occupancy rate of Metropolitan Storage is on an upward trend. The average increasing rate is around 1.5% per month from 51.9% in January 2019 to 69.7% in December 2019. In 2020, the occupancy rate has further increased from approximately 70.11% as at 31 January 2020 to approximately 75.53% as at 31 May 2020. The occupancy rate is expected to reach 80% at the end of 2020.

The recent outbreak of COVID-19 had no impact on Metropolitan Storage in May 2020. The occupancy rate had increased by around 5.9% in May 2020. After Lunar New Year, there is a huge demand for storage space because many retails business will trend to online market. Metropolitan Storage Group has entered into a provisional agreement for tenancy in June 2020 to rent premises in Chai Wan to further expand its coverage in Chai Wan.

Also the mini-storage business in Hong Kong was established over 15 years ago, and it is proven that there is a huge demand for this service. There has been stable increase in occupancy due to (i) increasing demands of storage as more people start up online business and need storage space; and (ii) that some businesses are re-structuring by streamlining manpower or using co-working space. Metropolitan Storage Group plans to expand to 5-10 new stores (which are expected to locate at the Hong Kong Island, Kowloon East and/or Kowloon West) by 2022.

The co-working spaces of Metropolitan Workshop are located at self-owned properties. It started at The Galaxy, Kwai Chung in 2015. Since then Metropolitan Workshop has set up camp in an array of convenient locations across the city including Central, Admiralty, Wan Chai, Tin Hau, and Kwai Chung, all equipped with workspaces which are desired by freelancers, entrepreneurs, smaller companies and corporates. The company has grown to provide more than 200 private work spaces and 450 work desks with 435 active members. Each of the locations has its own style so members can pick and choose the environment that best suited their needs.

Metropolitan Workshop positions itself between co-working spaces and business centers, providing a higher privacy to existing co-working spaces and cheaper option for business center tenants. The target audience is a well-mixed group of individuals from startups to satellite offices, company industries including but not limited to, marketing, finance, insurance, recruitment, fashion, IT solution, consultants and blockchain development. The company also developed an online member portal including meeting room booking, member's directory, direct messaging and a benefits section introducing members to professional services like company secretary to offering discounts from nearby restaurants. The recent coronavirus outbreak has an impact for new members to get on board and for existing customers to renew their contracts for the months of January and February 2020. Average occupancy rate of private work desks declined from an average of 81% in 2019 to 74% and 72% in January 2020 and February 2020, respectively. Subsequently, the average of overall occupancy rate as at 31 May 2020 has increased to 75%, indicating that the business is rebounding back to normal. Metropolitan Workshop believes that the flexibility from its co-working space could cater for customers looking to scale up or down quickly during both the market highs and lows.

In relation to future development, it is anticipated that Metropolitan Workshop would be launching new workspace in Yuen Long, which is called "The Rainbow", offering 44 new work desks at the end of August 2020. The current market sentiment is offering new opportunities for Metropolitan Workshop to work with traditional landlords from providing design and offering office solution to providing office management services. Metropolitan Workshop anticipates to continue to increase its footprint in Hong Kong and actively seek opportunities in the overseas market.

Seongsu Vision, a Target Group Company, which is an investment holding company holding a property situated in Seongsu, Seoul, South Korea will also be acquired under the Acquisition. The property held by Seongsu Vision is currently a bare site that does not have any building erected on it. It has a site area of approximate 5,180 sq.ft.. Upon completion of the Acquisition, the Company intends to develop it into a high end prestigious commercial building with 10 floors, rooftop and 3 underground floors for workshop business. The expected new gross floor area after development is approximately 32,285 sq.ft.. As at the date of this announcement, the Company has already owned two construction sites in Seongsu area, South Korea. It is believed that the acquisition of Seongsu Vision would bring synergy to the Company from construction, operation and development aspects. Together with the other two sites in Seongsu area, it is expected that the Company will be able to establish a strong brand image and the three sites would be developed and regarded as a landmark in the Seongsu area.

The valuation of the properties used by Metropolitan Workshop and held by Crystal Cay Group conducted by an independent property valuer was HK\$671,300,000 as at 31 December 2019 and HK\$644,400,000 as at 31 May 2020.

# 4. Production and other investment holding business

Metropolitan Production is principally engaged in the business of provision of marketing solution and consultancy services, film or advertisement production, organization of local and overseas events and music concerts and artist management.

Metropolitan Production has organised varies famous local and oversea singer concerts in Hong Kong such as Namie Amuro — "Finally" Final Tour 2018, Mr. "Everyone Concert 10" and HOTCHA "Are U My Best Friend" 10th Anniversary Concert, Sherman Chung "R U SHER?" Live in Concert and DStage Music Concert.

Metropolitan Production provides film production as well as professional photography services to well-known organisations. It produced a short video named "PANAM98" which won "Best Cinematography" Award from 5th Microfilm Production Support Scheme (Music).

To develop and promote brand image of Star Properties, Metropolitan Production has developed Star Properties' Facebook Fanpage as well as its Instagram for corporate communication purpose since 2017. Moreover, it has produced a series of promotional videos for stimulating sales volume of "The Rainbow".

Metropolitan Production has developed two social media platforms, namely as "DStage" and "Memories Hong Kong". DStage aims to provide a stage for young people to perform different types of art while Memories Hong Kong aims to promote local tourism and business through producing videos for website and Facebook as well as organising competitions and performances. Both platforms have collaboration with Star Properties, since "Memories Hong Kong" promotes particular locations with links to Star Properties' projects, such as "Our Memories in Yuen Long Drawing Competition", and "DStage" supports the development of other businesses and the corporate social responsibility of Star Properties, such as "DStage Music Concert".

In relation to future development, Metropolitan Production intends to produce TV programmes for sale to local and overseas digital channels and organise more music concerts. In addition, it intends to continue to expand DStage and Memories Hong Kong by local and overseas networking partnership in order to attract more advertisers and sponsors from different industries. Moreover, Metropolitan Production intends to prepare and develop valuable promotional plans and medium to support Star Properties' growth and development.

The Target Group put a lot of effort on market and business development in the beginning stages. The Target Group has allocated huge costs on business set up, administrative and marketing. The goal is to differentiate itself from its competitors by its classical and impressive environment. It is expected that after the brand has become well established and merged into the Group, the market share and sales of the Target Group will continue to grow.

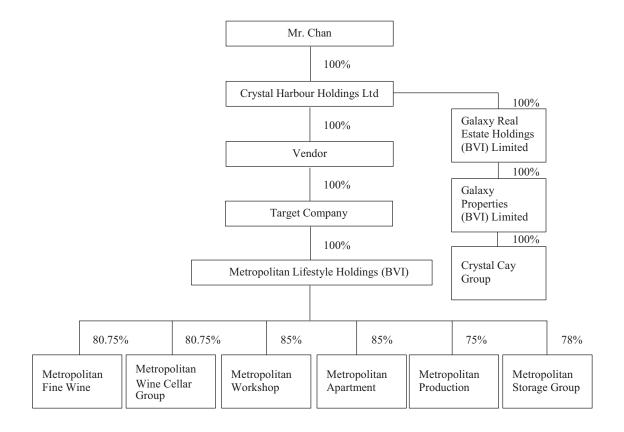
As at the date of this announcement, apart from the properties described above, the following property interests are held by the Target Group:

- (i) farmland with an area of approximate 97,052 sq.ft. situated in Yuen Long, New Territories, Hong Kong, which is held by Mark Wealthy Limited, a Target Group Company, is now leased to 2 leasees to operate the farmland as commercial/organic farm and being held as an investment property. The property lies within an area zoned "Agriculture" in Kam Tin South Outline Zoning Plan. Currently, it forms part of the land bank of the Target Group. It is anticipated that a substantial change of land use by statutory resumption or lease modification is expected to be granted in the future; and
- (ii) a shop located on 1/F podium of the Admiralty Centre, Admiralty, Hong Kong, which is held by Well Sure Corporation Limited, a Target Group Company, is being held as an investment property and is currently leased to an independent third party for a monthly rent of HK\$45,000 from 11 August 2019 to 10 August 2021. In consideration of impact of coronavirus outbreak to retails business, a 10% rent concession was offered to the leasee for the period from 1 March 2020 to 31 May 2020 and 20% rent concession was offered to the lease for the period from 1 June 2020 to 30 September 2020. During the above rent concession periods, the monthly rent shall be HK\$40,500 and HK\$36,000 respectively. The Company intends that the shop will continue to be held as an investment property upon completion of the Acquisition. The shop is expected to generate a stable rental income for the Company during the term of the lease.

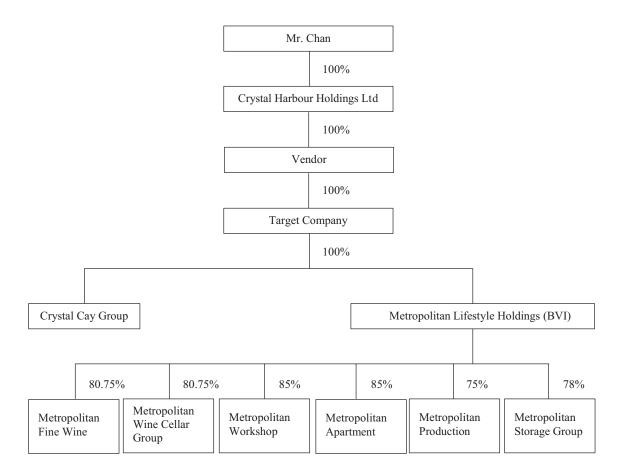
Mark Wealthy Limited and Well Sure Corporation Limited are Target Group Companies which will be acquired under the Acquisition. The valuation of the above property interests held by Mark Wealthy Limited and Well Sure Corporation Limited conducted by an independent property valuer was HK\$79,375,000 as at 31 December 2019 and HK\$78,375,000 as at 31 May 2020.

Set out below is the shareholding structure of (i) the Target Group Companies as at the date of execution of the Acquisition Agreement; (ii) the Target Group upon completion of the Reorganisation and immediately before Completion; and (iii) the Target Group immediately after Completion:

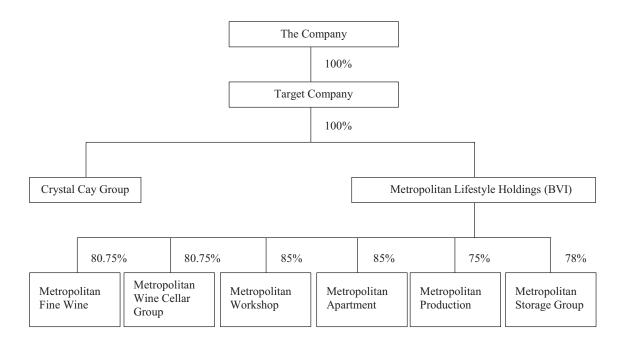
# (i) as at the date of execution of the Acquisition Agreement



# (ii) upon completion of the Reorganisation and immediately before Completion



# (iii) immediately after Completion



# **Financial Information of the Target Group**

Set out below is the audited financial information of the Target Group for the financial years ended 31 December 2017 and 2018 and the unaudited financial information of the Target Group for the financial year ended 31 December 2019 and for the three months ended 31 March 2020 (assuming that the members of the Target Group have been consolidated throughout the relevant periods):

			For the	
			three months	
	ended 31 March			
2017	2018	2019	2020	
(HK\$'000)	(HK\$'000)	(HK\$'000)	(HK\$'000)	
48,314	23,951	19,445	(35,395)	
43,656	17,539	13,214	(30,176)	
	<b>2017</b> (HK\$'000) 48,314	31 December 2017 2018 (HK\$'000) (HK\$'000)  48,314 23,951	2017       2018       2019         (HK\$'000)       (HK\$'000)       (HK\$'000)         48,314       23,951       19,445	

According to the unaudited financial information of the Target Group, the net asset value of the Target Group as of 31 March 2020 was approximately HK\$203,997,000. The original acquisition cost of the Target Group Companies, in aggregate, was approximately HK\$618,000,000.

All information relating to the Target Group, including information relating to the financial information of the Target Group and the businesses of the Target Group, as disclosed in this announcement has been provided by the Vendor. The financial information of the Target Group as set out above is subject to the audited financial statements of the Target Group.

Upon Completion, the Target Company will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company and its financial results will be consolidated into the financial statements of the Group.

#### FUTURE FULLY EXEMPT CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTION

Prior to the entering into of the Acquisition Agreement, Mr. Chan, who is an executive Director and hence connected person of the Company, has executed the Deed of Guarantee to guarantee the punctual payment of rent and due performance and observance by Noble Empire (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Metropolitan Wine Cellar and a Target Group Company) of all terms and conditions of the Tenancy Agreement for the term from 1 March 2020 to 28 February 2023 and renewed term (if any) under the Tenancy Agreement.

The transactions contemplated under the Deed of Guarantee will constitute financial assistance received from a connected person upon Completion. Pursuant to Rule 14A.90 of the Listing Rules, financial assistance received by the Group from Mr. Chan under the Deed of Guarantee is fully exempt as it is conducted on normal commercial terms and it is not secured by any assets of the Group. The Company is therefore exempt from the reporting, announcement and independent shareholders' approval requirements as set out in Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

#### CHANGES IN THE SHAREHOLDING STRUCTURE OF THE COMPANY

Set out below is the shareholding structure of the Company (i) as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) upon Completion but prior to the exercise of conversion rights under the Convertible Bonds and the allotment and issue of the Conversion Shares; and (iii) immediately after the allotment and issue of the Conversion Shares upon the exercise of the conversion rights under the Convertible Bonds in full (assuming that the Conversion Price is HK\$0.5 per Conversion Share and there is no issue or repurchase of Shares from the date of this announcement other than the Conversion Shares):

Unan Completion

Immediately often

	As at the date of this announcement		Upon Completion but prior to the exercise of conversion rights under the Convertible Bonds and the allotment and issue of the Conversion Shares		Immediately after the allotment and issue of the Conversion Shares upon the exercise of the conversion rights under the Convertible Bonds in full (Note 5)	
	Number of	Approximate	Number of	Approximate	Number of	Approximate
	Shares	%	Shares	%	Shares	%
Mr. Chan	2,500,000	0.39	2,500,000	0.39	2,500,000	0.17
Star Properties Holdings (BVI) Limited (Note 1)	432,140,800	67.36	432,140,800	67.36	432,140,800	29.25
Vendor	_	_	_	_	836,000,000	56.58
Ms. Cheung Wai Shuen (Note 3)	300,000	0.05	300,000	0.05	300,000	0.02
Ms. Chan Wah Man (Note 4)	156,000	0.02	156,000	0.02	156,000	0.01
Mr. Lam Kin Kok	1,408,000	0.22	1,408,000	0.22	1,408,000	0.10
Eagle Trend (BVI) Limited (Note 2)	38,259,200	5.96	38,259,200	5.96	38,259,200	2.59
Public Shareholders	166,734,000	25.99	166,734,000	25.99	166,734,000	11.28
Total	641,498,000	100	641,498,000	100	1,477,498,000	100

Notes:

- (1) Star Properties Holdings (BVI) Limited is an investment holding company incorporated in the BVI with limited liability and is wholly-owned by Mr. Chan. By virtue of the SFO, Mr. Chan is deemed to be interested in all shares in which Star Properties Holdings (BVI) Limited is interested.
- (2) Eagle Trend (BVI) Limited is an investment holding company incorporated in the BVI with limited liability and is wholly-owned by Mr. Lam Kin Kok. By virtue of the SFO, Mr. Lam Kin Kok is deemed to be interested in all shares in which Eagle Trend (BVI) Limited is interested.
- (3) Ms. Cheung Wai Shuen is an executive Director.
- (4) Ms. Chan Wah Man Carman is an independent non-executive Director.
- (5) For illustration purpose only as the conversion of the Convertible Bonds is subject to the restrictions that the conversion does not result in (i) a mandatory general offer under the Takeovers Code; and (ii) the public float of the Shares being less than 25% (or such percentage as required by the Listing Rules) of the issued Shares.

# REASONS FOR AND BENEFITS OF THE ACQUISITION

In assessing the fairness and reasonableness of the Acquisition, the Board has considered the following:

# (i) Strong synergy between the Group's property development business and the businesses of the Target Group

Upon completion of the Reorganisation, the Target Company will have acquired the operating entities which operate the business of provision of stylish living space including apartments, workshops, storages and wine cellar. An integrated approach has been developing in the global property sector in recent years whereby living spaces are integrated with different life-style facilities such as wine cellar, flexible storage space and co-working space. The Directors believe that the provision of this type of living space with life-style element will become the future trend of the global property market, including the property market in Hong Kong. There is also synergy to the Group by operating the life-style business in its developing projects such as Kwun Tong Site Project, Yuen Long Site Project, Tack Lee Project, etc. which may in turn increase the value of different developed properties in the future.

# (ii) Enhancement of the Group's portfolio of investment properties with regular income

The Company is principally engaged in property development and property investment for sale, rental or capital appreciation, provision of property management services and provision of finance. As at 31 December 2019, the Group's portfolio of investment properties comprised car parking spaces and an industrial unit located in Hong Kong with a total carrying value of approximately HK\$52.0 million. Revenue amounting to approximately HK\$474,000 was generated from property investment segment for the year ended 31 December 2019.

The Board considers that the acquisition of an established brand, namely, the "Metropolitan" brand, together with its underlying investment properties will allow the Group to strengthen and enhance the value of its asset base, and at the same time generating stable and regular income for the Group. The revenue from lease income generated from the Target Group in FY2017, FY2018, FY2019 and the three months ended 31 March 2020 were approximately HK\$25.6 million, HK\$31.0 million, HK\$46.4 million and HK\$15.6 million respectively, representing strong growth of lease income by more than 20% per year since FY2017. In addition, according to the independent property valuer, the rental income to be generated and the value of the investment properties are expected to be enhanced by the provision of value added services operated under the lifestyle-related businesses such as co-working space and flexible storage space, as compared to leasing out the whole properties directly to independent third parties. As at 31 March 2020, the Target Group's portfolio of investment properties located in Hong Kong and Korea is with a total carrying value of approximately HK\$930.1 million. Revenue from lease income amounting to approximately HK\$15.6 million was generated from the Target Group's portfolio of investment properties for the three months ended 31 March 2020.

Having considered the above-mentioned benefits to the Group, the Directors consider that the use of the brand "Metropolitan" is a long term plan of the Group's development. Metropolitan Group put a great effort and resources in developing its brand and reputation. The Director considers that the Acquisition is fair and reasonable and is in the interest of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole.

# (iii) Opportunities of future redevelopment

Opportunities for redevelopment are available in respect of some of the properties owned by the Target Group, which may enhance the portfolio for properties development. After Completion, the Company intends to hold the acquired properties for rental purpose, and the Group has no development plan thereof as at the date of this announcement.

In light of the Board's belief and the potential in the business of the Target Group, the Board is of the view that the Acquisition is a suitable opportunity for the Group to broaden its range of investments to increase its revenue sources and/or enhance its profitability and it will tap into services which are to complementary the Group's property development business.

# Determination of settlement method of the Consideration

#### Issue of Convertible Bonds

The Board has considered the following factors and concluded that satisfying the Consideration substantially by the issuance of Convertible Bonds is in the interests of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole:

- (i) the Group's principal business activities include, amongst other things, property development and investments, which are capital intensive activities. The Board considers that through the issuance of the Convertible Bonds, the Group will be able to maintain relatively more flexibility in applying its cash resources where needed in order to cater for its business needs;
- (ii) the issuance of Convertible Bonds will not have any immediate dilution effect until the relevant holders convert the Convertible Bonds into Shares; and
- (iii) following issuance of the Convertible Bonds, the Company will bear a coupon rate of 3% per annum. This represents significant advantage over other means of financing e.g. bank borrowings where the relevant finance cost is much higher.

The Board has considered alternative settlement method such as issuance of other types of debt securities. However, taking into account the relatively higher finance costs as well as the impact on the gearing ratio of the Company, the Board considers that the issuance of other debt securities may (1) depend on the extent of borrowing, resulting in possible breach of financial covenants of the Group's existing borrowings regarding the gearing ratio; (2) have an adverse financial impact on the Group's financial position and affect its future fundraising ability; and (3) reduce the Group's liquidity due to the payment of interests and repayment of such debt securities, and will in turn hinder its business development options and therefore the potential return and interest of the Company and its Shareholders.

Based on the above, the Directors (excluding Mr. Chan who is required to abstain from voting and the independent non-executive Directors who will express their views after considering the advice from the Independent Financial Adviser) are of the view that the terms of the Acquisition Agreement are on normal commercial terms, fair and reasonable, and the Transactions are in the interests of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole.

To the best of the Directors' knowledge, information and belief having made all reasonable enquiries, save and except for Mr. Chan who was materially interested in the Transactions and therefore had abstained from voting on the Board resolutions approving the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder, none of the other Directors had a material interest in the Transactions

#### INFORMATION OF THE GROUP

The Group is principally engaged in property development and property investment for sale, rental or capital appreciation, provision of property management services and provision of finance.

#### INFORMATION OF THE VENDOR

The Vendor is an investment holding company and is indirectly held as to 100% by Mr. Chan is as at the date of this announcement.

# LISTING RULES IMPLICATION

As one or more of the applicable percentage ratios (as defined under Chapter 14 of the Listing Rules) in respect of the Transactions exceed 100%, the Transactions constitute a very substantial acquisition for the Company and are therefore subject to the reporting, announcement and shareholders' approval requirements under Chapter 14 of the Listing Rules.

As at the date of this announcement, the Vendor is indirectly held as to 100% by Mr. Chan, who is a Director and controlling shareholder of the Company. As such, the Vendor is an associate of Mr. Chan and thus connected person of the Company. Therefore, the Transactions also constitute a connected transaction of the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules and are subject to the approval of the Independent Shareholders at the EGM.

An Independent Board Committee, comprising all the independent non-executive Directors, has been established to consider the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder, and to advise the Independent Shareholders as to whether the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder are on normal commercial terms, fair and reasonable and in the interests of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole. Sinolink Securities (HK) Co. Ltd. has been appointed as the Independent Financial Adviser to advise the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders in this regard.

#### **GENERAL**

The EGM will be convened and held for the Independent Shareholders to consider and, if thought fit, approve the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder.

A circular containing, among other things, (i) details of the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder; (ii) the letter of recommendation from the Independent Board Committee to the Independent Shareholders in respect of the Transactions; (iii) the letter of advice from the Independent Financial Adviser to the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders in respect of the Transactions; (iv) other information as required under the Listing Rules; and (v) a notice convening the EGM will be despatched to the Shareholders on or before 31 August 2020, which is more than 15 Business Days after the publication of this announcement, as the Company requires more time to prepare the information to be included in the circular.

As Completion is subject to fulfilment or waiver (as the case may be) of the conditions precedent to the Acquisition Agreement, the Acquisition may or may not proceed. Shareholders and potential investors of the Company should exercise caution when dealing in the Shares.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

In this announcement, the following expressions shall, unless the context requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

"Acquisition" the acquisition of the Sale Share and the Sale Loan by the

Company from the Vendor pursuant to the Acquisition

Agreement

"Acquisition Agreement" the sale and purchase agreement dated 21 July 2020 entered

into between the Company and the Vendor in relation to the

Acquisition

"Board" the board of the Directors

"Business Day" any day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and days on which

a tropical cyclone warning no.8 or above or a "black" rainstorm warning signal is hoisted in Hong Kong at any time between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.) on which banks are

generally open for business in Hong Kong

"BVI" British Virgin Islands

"CB Conditions" the terms and conditions of the Convertible Bonds

"Company" or "Star Properties" Star Properties Group (Cayman Islands) Limited, a company

incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability and the issued Shares of which are listed on the Main Board of

the Stock Exchange (stock code: 1560)

"Completion" completion of the Acquisition

"Completion Date" means the date falling the 5th Business Day after all the

Conditions have been fulfilled or waived, or such other date

as may be agreed by the Vendor and the Company in writing

"Conditions" the condition(s) precedent for Completion as set out in the

section headed "Conditions precedent" in this announcement

"connected person(s)" has the meaning ascribed to it under the Listing Rules

"controlling shareholder" has the meaning ascribed to it under the Listing Rules "Controlling Shareholders" means the controlling shareholders of the Company "Consideration" the aggregate consideration for the Acquisition "Conversion Price" the price at which each Conversion Share will be issued upon a conversion of all or any part of the Convertible Bonds, being HK\$0.5 as adjusted from time to time in accordance with the CB Conditions "Conversion Share(s)" new Share(s) to be allotted and issued to the holder(s) of the Convertible Bonds upon exercise of the conversion rights attaching to the Convertible Bonds "Convertible Bonds" the 3% coupon perpetual convertible bonds in the aggregate principal amount of HK\$418,000,000 which will be issued by the Company to the Vendor to settle part of the Consideration "COVID-19" the novel coronavirus identified as the source of a global outbreak in late 2019 "Crystal Cay" means Crystal Cay Assets Limited, a company incorporated in the BVI, which (i) is beneficially owned by Mr. Chan as to 100% as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) is to be held by the Target Company as to 100% immediately upon completion of the Reorganisation "Crystal Cay Group" means Crystal Cay and its subsidiaries as at the date of this announcement "Deed of Guarantee" the deed of guarantee dated 10 June 2020 executed by Mr. Chan to guarantee the punctual payment of rent and due performance and observance by Noble Empire of all terms and conditions of the Tenancy Agreement for the term from 1 March 2020 to 28 February 2023 and renewed term (if any) under the Tenancy Agreement

"Deposit" the deposit of HK\$42,000,000, which shall be payable to

Vendor under the Acquisition Agreement, details of which are set out under the section headed "Consideration and

payment terms" of this announcement

"Director(s)" the director(s) of the Company

"EGM" the extraordinary general meeting of the Company to be

convened and held for the Shareholders to consider and, if though fit, approve the Acquisition Agreement and the

transactions contemplated thereunder

"Existing Target Group" means the Target Company, and Metropolitan Lifestyle

Holdings (BVI) and its subsidiaries, as at the date of this

announcement

"Enlarged Group" the Group upon Completion

"FY2017" the financial year ended 31 December 2017

"FY2018" the financial year ended 31 December 2018

"FY2019" the financial year ended 31 December 2019

"Group" the Company and its subsidiaries

"HK\$" Hong Kong dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong

"Hong Kong" the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the

People's Republic of China

"Independent Board Committee" means the independent committee of the Board comprising

all of the independent non-executive Directors, established to advise the Independent Shareholders in respect of the

Acquisition

"Independent Financial Adviser"

means Sinolink Securities (HK) Company Limited, a corporation licensed to carry out Type 1 (dealing in securities), Type 2 (dealing in futures contracts), Type 4 (advising on securities), Type 6 (advising on corporate finance) and Type 9 (asset management) regulated activity under the SFO, being the independent financial adviser appointed by the Company to advise the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders in respect of the Acquisition

"Independent Shareholders"

the Shareholders other than Mr. Chan and his associates who are required to abstain from voting on the resolutions approving the Acquisition Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereunder

"Kwun Tong Site Project"

our property development project situated at Nos. 107-109 Wai Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong

"Listing Rules"

the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange

"Long Stop Date"

means 31 October 2020 or such later date as the Vendor and the Company may agree in writing

"Metropolitan Apartment"

means Metropolitan Apartment Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong, which (i) is beneficially owned by Mr. Chan as to 85% as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) is held indirectly by the Target Company as to 85% as at the date of this announcement and immediately upon completion of the Reorganisation

"Metropolitan Fine Wine"

means Metropolitan Fine Wine Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong, which (i) is beneficially owned by Mr. Chan as to approximately 80.75% as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) is held indirectly by the Target Company as to approximately 80.75% as at the date of this announcement and immediately upon completion of the Reorganisation

"Metropolitan Lifestyle Holdings (BVI)" means Metropolitan Lifestyle Holdings (BVI) Limited, a company incorporated in the BVI with limited liability and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Target Company as at the date of this announcement

"Metropolitan Lifestyle Holdings (BVI) Group" means Metropolitan Lifestyle Holdings (BVI), Metropolitan Fine Wine, Metropolitan Wine Cellar Group, Metropolitan Workshop, Metropolitan Apartment, Metropolitan Production, Metropolitan Storage Group

"Metropolitan Production"

means Metropolitan Production Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong, which (i) is beneficially owned by Mr. Chan as to 75% as at the date of this announcement; (ii) is held indirectly by the Target Company as to 75% as at the date of this announcement and immediately upon completion of the Reorganisation

"Metropolitan Storage"

means Metropolitan Storage Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong, which (i) is beneficially owned by Mr. Chan as to approximately 78% as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) is held indirectly by the Target Company as to approximately 78% as at the date of this announcement and immediately upon completion of the Reorganisation

"Metropolitan Storage Group"

means Metropolitan Storage and its subsidiaries

"Metropolitan Wine Cellar"

means Metropolitan Wine Cellar Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong, which (i) is beneficially owned by Mr. Chan as to approximately 80.75% as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) is to be held indirectly by the Target Company as to approximately 80.75% as at the date of this announcement and immediately upon completion of the Reorganisation

"Metropolitan Wine Cellar Group"

means Metropolitan Wine Cellar and its subsidiaries

"Metropolitan Workshop"

means Metropolitan Workshop Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong, which (i) is beneficially owned by Mr. Chan as to 85% as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) is held indirectly by the Target Company as to 85% as at the date of this announcement and immediately upon completion of the Reorganisation

"Mr. Chan"

means Mr. Chan Man Fai Joe, an executive Director and controlling shareholder of the Company

"Noble Empire"

Noble Empire Investments Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Metropolitan Wine Cellar

"Parties"

means, collectively, the Vendor and the Company, and individually, a "Party"

"PRC"

the People's Republic of China, which, for the purpose of this announcement, shall exclude Hong Kong, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the PRC and Taiwan

"Previous Acquisition Agreement"

the sale and purchase agreement dated 24 January 2020 entered into between the Company and the Vendor in relation to the acquisition of the Sale Share and all obligations, liabilities and debts owing or incurred by Metropolitan Group (BVI) Limited and its subsidiaries at an aggregate consideration of HK\$420,000,000, details of which are set out in the announcement of the Company dated 24 January 2020 and the circular of the Company dated 27 March 2020

"Reorganisation"

the reorganization of the Existing Target Group conducted prior to Completion, comprising (i) the acquisition of the Crystal Cay Group by the Target Company; and (ii) the assignment of the Sale Loan to the Target Company "Sale Loan" all obligations, liabilities and debts owing or incurred by the Target Group to the Vendor on or at any time prior to the Completion whether actual, contingent or deferred and irrespective of whether or not the same is due and payable on Completion "Sale Share" one (1) ordinary share of the Target Company to be sold by the Vendor to the Company, representing all the issued and fully paid up shares of the Target Company as at the date of this announcement and as at Completion "Seongsu Vision" Seongsu Vision Co. Limited, a company incorporated in the South Korea with limited liability "SFC" Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong "SFO" Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) "Share(s)" ordinary share(s) in the share capital of the Company "Shareholder(s)" holder(s) of the Share(s) "Specific Mandate" the specific mandate to be sought from the Independent Shareholders at the EGM for the allotment and issue of the Conversion Shares upon exercise of the conversion rights attaching to the Convertible Bonds "Stock Exchange" The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited "Tack Lee Project" our property development project situated at Nos. 107-111 Tung Chau Street, Tai Kok Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong "Takeovers Code" the Hong Kong Code on Takeovers and Mergers "Target Company" Metropolitan Group (BVI) Limited, a company incorporated in the BVI with limited liability and a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of the Vendor, which will hold the companies being the subject of the Acquisition after the completion of

the Reorganisation

"Target Group"

the Target Company and its subsidiaries immediately after the completion of the Reorganisation, comprising the Crystal Cay Group and the Metropolitan Lifestyle Holdings (BVI) Group, and a "Target Group Company" shall mean any of them

"Tenancy Agreement"

the tenancy agreement dated 10 June 2020 entered into by Noble Empire (as tenant) and an independent third party (as landlord) in respect of the property situated at Unit No. 2 on 4th Floor of Block A, Sea View Estate, No. 2 Watson Road, Hong Kong for a term of 3 years commencing from 1 March 2020 to 28 February 2023

"Transactions"

the acquisition of the Sale Share and the Sale Loan by the Company from the Vendor and any other transactions contemplated under the Acquisition Agreement, including the issue of the Convertible Bonds by the Company to satisfy part of the Consideration and the allotment and issue of the Conversion Shares upon exercise of the conversion rights attaching to the Convertible Bonds under the Specific Mandate

"Vendor"

Metropolitan Lifestyle (BVI) Limited, a company incorporated in the BVI with limited liability and is indirectly held as to 100% by Mr. Chan as at the date of this announcement

"Yuen Long Site Project"

our property development project situated at No. 21, Wang Yip Street West, Yuen Long, New Territories, Hong Kong

"Warranties"

the representations, warranties and undertakings of the Vendors as set out in the Acquisition Agreement

"%" per cent.

# For and on behalf of the Board Star Properties Group (Cayman Islands) Limited Chan Man Fai Joe

Chairman

Hong Kong, 21 July 2020

As at the date of this announcement, the Board consists of four executive Directors, namely Mr. Chan Man Fai Joe (Chairman), Ms. Cheung Wai Shuen, Mr. Liu Hon Wai and Prof. Pong Kam Keung; one non-executive Director, namely Mr. Yim Kwok Man; and three independent non-executive Directors, namely Dr. Wong Wai Kong, Mr. Lee Chung Ming Eric and Ms. Chan Wah Man Carman.