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## CHINA UNICOM (HONG KONG) LIMITED

# 中國聯合網絡通信(香港)股份有限公司

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 0762)

# CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS AND

# WITHHOLDING AND PAYMENT OF ENTERPRISE INCOME TAX FOR NON-RESIDENT ENTERPRISES IN RESPECT OF 2010 FINAL DIVIDEND

China Unicom (Hong Kong) Limited (the "Company") refers to the 2010 annual results announcement made by the Company on 29 March 2011 (the "2010 Annual Results Announcement"). This announcement also constitutes a notice pursuant to section 99 of the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 32 of Laws of Hong Kong).

The board of directors of the Company (the "Board") proposed to pay a final dividend of RMB0.08 per share (pre-tax) for the year ended 31 December 2010 (the "2010 Final Dividend"). The 2010 Final Dividend is subject to shareholders' approval at the annual general meeting of the Company to be held on 24 May 2011.

#### **CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

The register of members of the Company will be closed from 20 May 2011 to 24 May 2011 (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares of the Company will be registered. In order to qualify for (i) attendance and voting at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 24 May 2011 (or any adjournment thereof) and (ii) the proposed 2010 Final Dividend, all transfers, accompanied by the relevant certificates, must be lodged with the Company's Share Registrar, Hong Kong Registrars Limited at Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's

Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong by no later than 4:30 p.m. of 19 May 2011. The 2010 Final Dividend is expected to be paid in Hong Kong dollars on or about 22 June 2011 to those members registered in the Company's register of members as at 24 May 2011 (the "**Record Date**").

#### WITHHOLDING OF ENTERPRISE INCOME TAX

Pursuant to (i) the "Notice Regarding Matters on Determination of Tax Residence Status of Chinese-controlled Offshore Incorporated Enterprises under Rules of Effective Management" (the "Notice") issued by the State Administration of Taxation of the People's Republic of China (the "SAT"); (ii) the "Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China" (the "Enterprise Income Tax Law") and the "Detailed Rules for the Implementation of the Enterprise Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China" (the "Implementation Rules"); and (iii) information obtained from the SAT, the Company is required to withhold and pay enterprise income tax when it pays the 2010 Final Dividend to its non-resident enterprise shareholders. The enterprise income tax is 10% on the amount of dividend paid to non-resident enterprise shareholders (the "Enterprise Income Tax"), and the withholding and payment obligation lies with the Company.

As a result of the foregoing, in respect of any shareholders whose names appear on the Company's register of members on the Record Date and who are not individuals (including HKSCC Nominees Limited, other custodians, corporate nominees and trustees such as securities companies and banks, and other entities or organisations), the Company will distribute the 2010 Final Dividend payable to them after deducting the amount of Enterprise Income Tax payable on such dividend.

In respect of any shareholders whose names appear on the Company's register of members on the Record Date and who are individual shareholders, there will be no deduction of Enterprise Income Tax from the dividend payable.

Shareholders who are not individual shareholders listed on the Company's register of members and who (i) are resident enterprises of the People's Republic of China (the "PRC") (as defined in the Enterprise Income Tax Law), or (ii) are enterprises deemed to be resident enterprises of the PRC in accordance with the Notice, and who, in each case, do not desire to have the Company withhold Enterprise Income Tax from their 2010 Final Dividend, should lodge with the Company's Share Registrar, Hong Kong Registrars Limited at Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong at or before 4:30 p.m. of 19 May 2011, and present the documents from such shareholder's governing tax authority in the PRC confirming that the Company is not required to withhold and pay Enterprise Income Tax in respect of the dividend that such shareholder is entitled to.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Investors should read this announcement carefully. If any investor would like to change the identity of the holders in the register of members, please enquire about the relevant procedures with the nominees or trustees. The Company will withhold for payment of the enterprise income tax for its non-resident enterprise shareholders strictly in accordance with the relevant laws and requirements of the relevant government agencies and adhere strictly to the information set out in the Company's register of members on the Record Date. The Company assumes no liability whatsoever in respect of and will not process any claims, arising from any delay in, or inaccurate determination of, the status of the shareholders, or any disputes over the mechanism of withholding.

# By Order of the Board CHINA UNICOM (HONG KONG) LIMITED Chu Ka Yee

Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 29 March 2011

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises:

Executive Directors: Chang Xiaobing, Lu Yimin, Zuo Xunsheng and Tong Jilu

Non-executive Director: Cesareo Alierta Izuel

Independent Non-executive Cheung Wing Lam Linus, Wong Wai Ming, John Lawson Thornton,

Directors: Timpson Chung Shui Ming and Cai Hongbin