



(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore) Reg. No. 199905292D

# RECEIPT OF THE NO-OBJECTION LETTER FROM THE SINGAPORE EXCHANGE SECURITIES TRADING LIMITED (THE "SGX-ST") FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO RELEASE THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

# 1. INTRODUCTION

The Board of Directors (the "**Board**") of Hong Lai Huat Group Limited (the "**Company**" and together with its subsidiaries, the "**Group**") wishes to announce that the Company has made an application to the SGX-ST for an extension of time to release the unaudited financial results of the Group for the half year ended 30 June 2021 ("**1H2021**") by 30 September 2021, instead of the prescribed deadline of 14 August 2021 under Listing Rule 705(3)(b)(ii).

The SGX-ST has on 3 August 2021 advised that, based on the Company's submissions and representations to the SGX-ST, the SGX-ST has no objection to the Company's application for extension of time from 14 August 2021 to 30 September 2021 to announce its 1H2021 financial results (the "**Waiver**"), subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the Company announcing the period of extension granted, the reasons for seeking the extension of time, the conditions as required under Listing Rule 107 and if the Waiver conditions have been satisfied. If the Waiver conditions have not been met on the date of the announcement, the Company must make an update announcement when the conditions have all been met;
- (b) submission of a written confirmation from the Company that it is not aware of any information that will have a material bearing on investors' decision which has yet to be announced by the Company; and
- (c) the Board of Directors' confirmation that the Waiver will not be in contravention of any laws and regulations governing the Company and its constitution (or equivalent in the Company country of incorporation).

## 2. REASONS FOR SEEKING THE WAIVER

The reasons for seeking the Waiver are set out below:

- (a) The Royal Government of Cambodia had ordered a curfew from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and lockdown from 15<sup>th</sup> April to 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 to contain the rapid surge in the number of Covid-19 cases.
- (b) 98% of the Company's primary business activities are in Cambodia and the hard lockdown had prevented the staff from coming into the Cambodian office to access working papers and to work on the accounts, thereby impacting the Company's ability to review its group financial report.
- (c) In addition to the above, there were four employees in the accounting department in the Cambodia subsidiary who were tested positive for Covid-19 at end June 2021. These employees have received medical attention and have since recovered after a period of recuperation. As a result of the infections, the government had ordered the Cambodia subsidiary office to be shut for 14 days from 26<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to about 10<sup>th</sup> July 2021 for deep cleaning. The office could only start functioning at a minimal capacity due to safe



distancing measures implemented by splitting up the work force into separate teams. As such, there had been a shortage of manpower due to the confirmed cases in the department until end of July 2021.

(d) The hard lockdown including the office shutdowns and travel restrictions in the area had substantially slowed down the financial reporting process and the Cambodia subsidiary is not able to provide the figures for the 1H2021 financial results in time for the half year reporting deadline.

However, the Company wishes to inform that the accounts team is back to work in full strength now and the Company will use its best endeavours to complete and announce its 1H2021 financial results before the extended timeline and as soon as possible when the figures are available.

## 3. CONFIRMATION FROM THE COMPANY

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any information that will have a material bearing on investors' decision which has yet to be announced by the Company.

As at the date of this announcement and to the best of the Board's knowledge and belief, the Company will not be in contravention of any laws and regulations governing the Company and the constitution of the Company (or the equivalent in the Company's country of incorporation) arising from the Waiver.

## 4. SATISFACTION OF WAIVER CONDITIONS

The Company informs that following this announcement, the Company has satisfied the Waiver conditions as required under Rule107 of the Listing Manual.

# By Order of the Board

Ong Jia Jing Group General Manager and Executive Director 4 August 2021