

## ANNOUNCEMENT

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### PROPOSED SPECIAL DIVIDEND VIA DISTRIBUTION *IN SPECIE* OF SHARES IN THE STRAITS TRADING COMPANY LIMITED OR ESR GROUP LIMITED

#### - NOTICE OF BOOKS CLOSURE DATE

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

On 14 August 2022, the Company announced that it is proposing to undertake a distribution *in specie* (the “**Proposed Distribution**”) of new ordinary shares of the Company (“**Straits Shares**”), or at the shareholders’ election, up to 62,758,837 ordinary shares (the “**ESR Distribution Shares**”) in the issued share capital of ESR Group Limited (“**ESR**”) to shareholders of the Company (“**Shareholders**”) in accordance with the Distribution Ratio (as defined below) and in the manner described herein. The ESR Distribution Shares are currently held by Straits Equities Holdings (One) Pte. Ltd. (“**SE1**”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company.

On 15 September 2022, the Company announced (i) the receipt of approval-in-principle for the listing and quotation of up to 23,698,245 new Straits Shares for the Proposed Distribution; and (ii) an update on the Shareholders’ approval for the Proposed Distribution.

Copies of the announcement of the Company dated 14 August 2022 (the “**14 August Announcement**”) and the announcement of the Company dated 15 September 2022 (the “**15 September Announcement**”) are available on the website of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited (“**SGX-ST**”) at [www.sgx.com](http://www.sgx.com).

*Capitalised terms used herein, but not otherwise defined, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the 15 September Announcement.*

#### 2. NOTICE OF BOOKS CLOSURE DATE FOR THE PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the share transfer books of the Company and the register of members of the Company will be closed at **5:00 p.m. on 27 September 2022** (“**Books Closure Date**”) for the purposes of determining the entitlements of Entitled Shareholders to the Proposed Distribution.

Duly completed transfers received by the Company’s Share Registrar, Tricor Barbinder Share Registration Services Pte. Ltd. at 80 Robinson Road #11-02, Singapore 068898, up to the close of business at 5:00 p.m. on 27 September 2022 will be registered to determine entitlements to the Proposed Distribution.

Please refer to the 14 August Announcement and the 15 September Announcement for more details on the entitlements of Entitled Shareholders to the Proposed Distribution.

As the Company is tax resident in Singapore, dividends paid by the Company (whether paid in the form of cash, as a scrip dividend in lieu of cash or by way of distribution *in specie* of the Company's assets) are exempt from Singapore income tax in the hands of the shareholders. The distribution of ESR Shares under the Proposed Distribution is a dividend *in specie*, while the distribution of New Straits Shares under the Proposed Distribution is a scrip dividend in lieu of cash. Accordingly, the Proposed Distribution in the form of ESR Shares or New Straits Shares will be exempt from Singapore income tax when received by Shareholders. Shareholders who are in doubt as to their respective tax positions or any such tax implications or who may be subject to tax in a jurisdiction outside Singapore should consult their own professional advisers.

### 3. LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS AND NOTICE OF ELECTION

As announced in the 15 September Announcement, the Company will despatch a letter to Entitled Shareholders setting out further details on the Proposed Distribution and their options to receive either new Straits Shares or ESR Distribution Shares under the Proposed Distribution. Together with this letter to Entitled Shareholders, the Company will also despatch a notice of election for Entitled Shareholders with instructions for the election of the new Straits Shares or ESR Distribution Shares under the Proposed Distribution.

The Company will make further announcements at [www.sgx.com](http://www.sgx.com) and its corporate website when the letter to Entitled Shareholders and the notice of election have been despatched.

Please note however that the circulation of the letter, and notice of election, to Entitled Shareholders may be prohibited or restricted (either absolutely or subject to various requirements, whether legal or administrative, being complied with) in certain jurisdictions under the relevant securities laws of those jurisdictions.

### 4. IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATES

Shareholders should note the following important events and dates in respect of the Proposed Distribution:

Last date and time of "cum" trading of the Straits Shares on the SGX-ST	23 September 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
Commencement of "ex" trading of the Straits Shares on the SGX-ST	26 September 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
Books Closure Date	27 September 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

#### By Order of the Board

Ngiam May Ling  
Company Secretary  
**The Straits Trading Company Limited**

19 September 2022

This Announcement will be available at the Company's website at <http://www.straitstrading.com.sg>.

## 135 Years New



### **About The Straits Trading Company Limited**

Incorporated in 1887, The Straits Trading Company Limited is a conglomerate-investment company with operations and financial interests in resources, property, and hospitality. These include strategic stakes in one of the world's leading tin producer, Malaysia Smelting Corporation Berhad, which is dual listed on Bursa Malaysia and the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited, ESR Cayman Limited and Far East Hospitality Holdings as well as a diversified property portfolio that is wholly owned by the Group.