## THIS CIRCULAR IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

If you are in any doubt as to any aspect of this circular or as to the action to be taken, you should consult a licensed securities dealer or registered institution in securities, bank manager, solicitor, professional accountant or other professional adviser.

If you have sold or transferred all your shares in NWS Holdings Limited, you should at once hand this circular together with the accompanying proxy form to the purchaser or transferee or to the bank, licensed securities dealer, registered institution in securities or other agent through whom the sale or transfer was effected for transmission to the purchaser or transferee.

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## 新創建集團有限公司<sup>\*</sup> NWS HOLDINGS LIMITED

(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(stock code: 659)

# PROPOSALS FOR RE-ELECTION OF RETIRING DIRECTORS AND GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND TO REPURCHASE SHARES AND

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A notice convening the annual general meeting of NWS Holdings Limited to be held at Meeting Room S221 (Harbour Road Entrance), Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong on Friday, 17 November 2017 at 11:00 a.m. is set out in Appendix III to this circular. Whether or not you are able to attend the meeting in person, you are requested to complete and return the accompanying proxy form in accordance with the instructions printed thereon to the branch share registrar of NWS Holdings Limited in Hong Kong, Tricor Standard Limited, at Level 22, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong as soon as possible and in any event not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding of the meeting or any adjournment thereof. Completion and return of the proxy form shall not preclude you from attending and voting in person at the meeting or any adjourned meeting thereof should you so wish.

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## **DEFINITIONS**

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

"Annual General Meeting" the annual general meeting of the Company convened

to be held at Meeting Room S221 (Harbour Road Entrance), Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong on Friday, 17 November 2017 at 11:00 a.m., notice of which is set out in Appendix III to this circular or, where the

context so admits, any adjournment thereof

"Board" the board of directors of the Company

"Bye-laws" the bye-laws of the Company, as amended, modified or

supplemented from time to time

"Company" NWS Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in

Bermuda with limited liability and whose Shares are

listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange

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

"Group" the Company and its subsidiaries

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

People's Republic of China

"Hong Kong Stock Exchange" The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

"Issue Mandate" a general mandate proposed to be granted to the

Directors to exercise all the powers of the Company to allot, issue and deal with Shares in the manner as set out in ordinary resolution no. 5(I) of the notice of the

Annual General Meeting

"Latest Practicable Date" 9 October 2017, being the latest practicable date prior

to the printing of this circular for the purpose of

ascertaining information contained herein

"Listing Rules" the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the

Hong Kong Stock Exchange

"Repurchase Mandate" a general mandate proposed to be granted to the

Directors to exercise all the powers of the Company to repurchase Shares in the manner as set out in ordinary resolution no. 5(II) of the notice of the Annual General

Meeting

## **DEFINITIONS** "SFO" the Securities and Futures Ordinance, Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong, as amended and supplemented from time to time "Share(s)" share(s) of HK\$1.00 each in the capital of the Company "Shareholder(s)" holder(s) of Share(s) "Takeovers Code" the Code on Takeovers and Mergers as amended from time to time and administered by the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong "HK\$" Hong Kong dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong

per cent.

"%"



## 新創建集團有限公司<sup>\*</sup> NWS HOLDINGS LIMITED

(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(stock code: 659)

## **Executive Directors:**

Dr. Cheng Kar Shun, Henry (Chairman)

Mr. Tsang Yam Pui (Chief Executive Officer)

Mr. Hui Hon Chung (Deputy Chief Executive Officer)

Mr. Cheung Chin Cheung

Mr. Cheng Chi Ming, Brian

Mr. Mak Bing Leung, Rufin

### **Non-executive Directors:**

Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald

Mr. Dominic Lai

Mr. Lam Wai Hon, Patrick

Mr. William Junior Guilherme Doo

## **Independent non-executive Directors:**

Mr. Kwong Che Keung, Gordon

Dr. Cheng Wai Chee, Christopher

The Honourable Shek Lai Him, Abraham

Mr. Lee Yiu Kwong, Alan

Mrs. Oei Fung Wai Chi, Grace

## **Registered office:**

Clarendon House

2 Church Street

Hamilton HM 11

Bermuda

## Principal place of business in Hong Kong:

28/F., New World Tower 18 Queen's Road Central Hong Kong

17 October 2017

To the Shareholders and, for information purposes only, the holders of the outstanding share options of the Company

Dear Sir or Madam,

## PROPOSALS FOR RE-ELECTION OF RETIRING DIRECTORS AND GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND TO REPURCHASE SHARES AND NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## INTRODUCTION

At the Annual General Meeting, resolutions will be proposed to approve, among others, the re-election of retiring Directors and the granting of the Issue Mandate and the Repurchase Mandate (including the extension of the Issue Mandate by the number of Shares repurchased).

<sup>\*</sup> For identification purposes only

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The purpose of this circular is to provide you with all the information reasonably necessary to enable you to make an informed decision on whether to vote for or against the proposed resolutions at the Annual General Meeting.

### RE-ELECTION OF RETIRING DIRECTORS

Pursuant to bye-law 87 of the Bye-laws, at each annual general meeting, one-third of the Directors for the time being (or, if their number is not a multiple of three, the number nearest to but not greater than one-third) shall retire from office by rotation provided that notwithstanding anything therein, each Director shall be subject to retirement by rotation at least once in every three years. As announced by the Company on 4 August 2017, Mr. Hui Hon Chung has tendered his resignation as an executive director and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Company with effect from 1 November 2017. Accordingly, Dr. Cheng Kar Shun, Henry, Mr. Cheng Chi Ming, Brian, Mr. Lam Wai Hon, Patrick and Dr. Cheng Wai Chee, Christopher ("Dr. Christopher Cheng") shall retire from their offices.

Pursuant to the code provision set out in paragraph A.4.3 of Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules, any further appointment of independent non-executive director serving more than nine years should be subject to a separate resolution to be approved by shareholders. Notwithstanding that Dr. Christopher Cheng has served as an independent non-executive Director for more than nine years, (i) the Board has assessed and reviewed the annual confirmation of independence based on the criteria set out in Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules and affirmed that Dr. Christopher Cheng remains independent; (ii) the nomination committee of the Company has assessed and is satisfied of the independence of Dr. Christopher Cheng; and (iii) the Board considers that Dr. Christopher Cheng remains independent of management and free of any relationship which could materially interfere with the exercise of his independent judgment. In view of the aforesaid factors and the experience and knowledge of the relevant individual, the Board would recommend Dr. Christopher Cheng for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

The abovementioned retiring Directors, being eligible, shall offer themselves for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. Details of such Directors are set out in Appendix I to this circular.

## ISSUE MANDATE AND REPURCHASE MANDATE

The existing general mandates to issue Shares and to repurchase Shares will expire at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

In order to provide flexibility and discretion to the Directors to issue new Shares, an ordinary resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that the Directors be granted the Issue Mandate to allot and issue new Shares up to a number not exceeding 20% of the total number of the Shares in issue at the date of passing such resolution and a separate ordinary resolution will also be proposed to extend the Issue Mandate by adding the number of any Shares repurchased by the Company pursuant to the Repurchase Mandate.

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

At the Annual General Meeting, an ordinary resolution will be proposed to the Shareholders that the Directors be granted the Repurchase Mandate to repurchase Shares up to a maximum of 10% of the total number of Shares in issue at the date of passing such resolution. An explanatory statement as required by the Listing Rules to provide the requisite information concerning the Repurchase Mandate is set out in Appendix II to this circular.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Set out in Appendix III to this circular is a notice convening the Annual General Meeting. A proxy form for use in connection with the Annual General Meeting is enclosed with this circular. Whether or not you are able to attend the Annual General Meeting in person, you are requested to complete and return the accompanying proxy form in accordance with the instructions printed thereon to the branch share registrar of the Company in Hong Kong, Tricor Standard Limited, at Level 22, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong as soon as possible but in any event not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding of the Annual General Meeting or any adjournment thereof. Completion and return of the proxy form shall not preclude you from attending and voting in person at the Annual General Meeting or any adjourned meeting thereof should you so desire.

Pursuant to Rule 13.39(4) of the Listing Rules, any vote of shareholders at a general meeting must be taken by way of poll save for resolution relating purely to a procedural or administrative matter. Accordingly, the Chairman of the Annual General Meeting shall demand the resolutions to be put to vote by poll.

After the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting, the results of the poll will be published on HKEXnews website at www.hkexnews.hk and the Company's website at www.nws.com.hk.

### RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

This circular, for which the Directors collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the Listing Rules for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company. The Directors, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirm that to the best of their knowledge and belief the information contained in this circular is accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading or deceptive, and there are no other matters the omission of which would make any statement herein or this circular misleading.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Directors believe that the proposals for the re-election of the retiring Directors and the granting of the Issue Mandate and the Repurchase Mandate (including the extension of the Issue Mandate by the number of Shares repurchased) are all in the best interests of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole. Accordingly, the Directors recommend you to vote in favour of the proposed resolutions as set out in the notice convening the Annual General Meeting.

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

## **GENERAL**

Your attention is drawn to the additional information set out in the Appendices to this circular.

Yours faithfully, **Dr. Cheng Kar Shun, Henry** *Chairman* 

The following are the particulars of the Directors who will retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the Annual General Meeting:

Dr. Cheng Kar Shun, Henry, aged 70, was appointed as Executive Director in March 2000 and became the Chairman from March 2001. He is also the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Nomination Committee of the Company and a director of certain subsidiaries of the Group. Dr. Cheng is the Chairman and Executive Director of New World Development Company Limited (stock code: 17), a substantial Shareholder, the Chairman and Executive Director of Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Limited (stock code: 1929), the Chairman and Non-executive Director of New World Department Store China Limited (stock code: 825), Newton Resources Ltd (stock code: 1231) and FSE Engineering Holdings Limited (stock code: 331), the Vice Chairman and Non-executive Director of i-CABLE Communications Limited (stock code: 1097), an independent non-executive director of HKR International Limited (stock code: 480) and Hang Seng Bank Limited (stock code: 11) and a non-executive director of SJM Holdings Limited (stock code: 880), all being listed public companies in Hong Kong. He is the Chairman and Managing Director of New World China Land Limited, a listed public company in Hong Kong until its delisting on 4 August 2016. He was a non-executive director of Lifestyle International Holdings Limited (stock code: 1212) (retired on 4 May 2015) and the Chairman and Executive Director of International Entertainment Corporation (stock code: 1009) (resigned on 10 June 2017), both being listed public companies in Hong Kong. Dr. Cheng is also the Chairman of New World Hotels (Holdings) Limited and a director of several substantial Shareholders, namely Cheng Yu Tung Family (Holdings) Limited, Cheng Yu Tung Family (Holdings II) Limited, Chow Tai Fook Capital Limited, Chow Tai Fook (Holding) Limited, Chow Tai Fook Enterprises Limited and Mombasa Limited. Dr. Cheng is the Chairman of the Advisory Council for The Better Hong Kong Foundation and a Standing Committee Member of the Twelfth Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference of The People's Republic of China. Dr. Cheng was awarded the Gold Bauhinia Star and the Grand Bauhinia Medal in 2001 and 2017 respectively by the Government of the HKSAR. Dr. Cheng is the father of Mr. Cheng Chi Ming, Brian and the uncle of Mr. William Junior Guilherme Doo.

Save as disclosed above, Dr. Cheng did not hold any directorship in other listed public companies in the last three years.

Dr. Cheng's service contract provides for a fixed term of three years and he is also subject to the rotational retirement and re-election requirements at annual general meeting pursuant to the Bye-laws. His emoluments comprise annual salary package, discretionary bonus and share options and a director's fee to be reviewed and determined by the Board annually with the authorization granted by the Shareholders at an annual general meeting of the Company and taking reference to his duties and responsibilities with the Company, the Company's performance and the prevailing market situation. For the financial year ended 30 June 2017, he was paid fees for acting as the Chairman and an executive director of the Company, the Chairman of a board committee of the Company and a director of certain subsidiaries of the Group in an aggregate amount of approximately HK\$0.72 million and other emoluments (including salary, bonus, allowances and other benefits) of approximately HK\$14.21 million.

Save as disclosed above, Dr. Cheng does not have any relationship with any Director, senior management of the Company, substantial Shareholder or controlling Shareholder. As at the Latest Practicable Date, Dr. Cheng had personal interest in 18,349,571 Shares and 7,420,739 underlying Shares attached to the share options granted by the Company, and corporate interest in 12,000,000 Shares within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO.

Dr. Cheng has not been involved in any of the matters as mentioned under Rules 13.51(2)(h) to 13.51(2)(v) of the Listing Rules and there are no other matters in relation to Dr. Cheng that need to be brought to the attention to the Shareholders.

Mr. Cheng Chi Ming, Brian, aged 34, was appointed as Executive Director in July 2009 and is also a member of the Executive Committee and the Sustainability Committee of the Company. He is also a director of certain subsidiaries of the Group. He has been with the Company since January 2008 and is mainly responsible for overseeing the infrastructure business and the merger and acquisition affairs of the Group. Mr. Cheng is the Chairman and non-executive director of Integrated Waste Solutions Group Holdings Limited (stock code: 923) and a non-executive director of Haitong International Securities Group Limited (stock code: 665), Wai Kee Holdings Limited (stock code: 610), Beijing Capital International Airport Co., Ltd. (stock code: 694) and Leyou Technologies Holdings Limited (stock code: 1089), all being listed public companies in Hong Kong. He is also a director of SUEZ NWS Limited and a number of companies in Mainland China. Mr. Cheng was a non-executive director of Newton Resources Ltd (stock code: 1231) (resigned on 23 January 2017), a listed public company in Hong Kong, and a non-executive director of Tharisa plc (retired on 1 February 2017), whose shares are listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange Limited and the London Stock Exchange plc. He is currently a member of the 11th Hangzhou Municipal Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Before joining the Company, Mr. Cheng had been working as a research analyst in the Infrastructure and Conglomerates sector for CLSA Asia-Pacific Markets. Mr. Cheng holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Babson College in Massachusetts, USA. Mr. Cheng is the son of Dr. Cheng Kar Shun, Henry and the cousin of Mr. William Junior Guilherme Doo.

Save as disclosed above, Mr. Cheng did not hold any directorship in other listed public companies in the last three years.

Mr. Cheng's service contract provides for a fixed term of three years and he is also subject to the rotational retirement and re-election requirements at annual general meeting pursuant to the Bye-laws. His emoluments comprise annual salary package, discretionary bonus and share options and a director's fee to be reviewed and determined by the Board annually with the authorization granted by the Shareholders at an annual general meeting of the Company and taking reference to his duties and responsibilities with the Company, the Company's performance and the prevailing market situation. For the financial year ended 30 June 2017, he was paid fees for acting as an executive director of the Company, a member of a board committee of the Company and a director of certain subsidiaries of the Group in an aggregate amount of approximately HK\$0.38 million and other emoluments (including salary, bonus, allowances and other benefits) of approximately HK\$7.79 million.

Save as disclosed above, Mr. Cheng does not have any relationship with any Director, senior management of the Company, substantial Shareholder or controlling Shareholder. As at the Latest Practicable Date, Mr. Cheng had personal interest in 3,710,368 underlying Shares attached to the share options granted by the Company within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO.

Mr. Cheng has not been involved in any of the matters as mentioned under Rules 13.51(2)(h) to 13.51(2)(v) of the Listing Rules and there are no other matters in relation to Mr. Cheng that need to be brought to the attention to the Shareholders.

Mr. Lam Wai Hon, Patrick, aged 55, was appointed as Executive Director in January 2003 and was re-designated as Non-executive Director on 1 January 2016. He is also a member of the Sustainability Committee of the Company and a director of certain subsidiaries of the Group. Mr. Lam is currently an executive director and the Chief Executive Officer of FSE Holdings Limited. He is also an executive director and the Vice Chairman of the board of directors of FSE Engineering Holdings Limited (stock code: 331), a listed public company in Hong Kong. He was a non-executive director of Wai Kee Holdings Limited (stock code: 610) (resigned on 30 December 2015), the Vice Chairman and a non-executive director of Newton Resources Ltd (stock code: 1231) (resigned on 2 January 2016) and a non-executive director of Road King Infrastructure Limited (stock code: 1098) (retired on 18 May 2017), all being listed public companies in Hong Kong. Mr. Lam is a Chartered Accountant by training and is a fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, and a member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario, Canada. He is a member of the Asia advisory board of Ivey Business School of Western University, Canada.

Save as disclosed above, Mr. Lam did not hold any directorship in other listed public companies in the last three years.

Mr. Lam's service contract provides for a fixed term of three years and he is also subject to the rotational retirement and re-election requirements at annual general meeting pursuant to the Bye-laws. His director's fee will be reviewed and determined by the Board annually with the authorization granted by the Shareholders at an annual general meeting of the Company and taking reference to his duties and responsibilities with the Company, the Company's performance and the prevailing market situation. For the financial year ended 30 June 2017, he was paid fees for acting as a non-executive director of the Company, a member of a board committee of the Company and a director of a subsidiary of the Group in an aggregate amount of approximately HK\$0.34 million and allowances of approximately HK\$0.07 million.

Mr. Lam does not have any relationship with any Director, senior management of the Company, substantial Shareholder or controlling Shareholder. As at the Latest Practicable Date, Mr. Lam had personal interest in 1,316,207 Shares and 3,240,368 underlying Shares attached to the share options granted by the Company and corporate interest in 7,608 Shares within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO.

On 13 March 2008, the Takeovers Executive of the Securities and Futures Commission issued a notice criticizing NWS Financial Management Services Limited ("NWSFM", an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company) and two of its directors, including Mr. Lam, for breaching Rule 31.3 of the Takeovers Code in connection with the acquisition of shares of Taifook Securities Group Limited (now known as Haitong International Securities Group Limited) by NWSFM at prices higher than the offer price during the six-month period after the close of the unconditional offer for all the shares of Taifook Securities Group Limited made by NWSFM. The breach was caused by an inadvertent miscalculation of the six-month period as prescribed under Rule 31.3 of the Takeovers Code.

Save as disclosed above, Mr. Lam has not been involved in any of the matters as mentioned under Rules 13.51(2)(h) to 13.51(2)(v) of the Listing Rules and there are no other matters in relation to Mr. Lam that need to be brought to the attention to the Shareholders.

Dr. Cheng Wai Chee, Christopher, aged 69, was appointed as Independent Non-Executive Director in January 2003 and is a member of the Audit Committee, the Remuneration Committee and the Nomination Committee of the Company. Dr. Cheng is the Chairman and an executive director of Wing Tai Properties Limited (stock code: 369), a listed public company in Hong Kong. He is an independent non-executive director of Eagle Asset Management (CP) Limited (as manager of Champion Real Estate Investment Trust (stock code: 2778) which is listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange). Dr. Cheng is also an independent non-executive director of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. He was an independent non-executive director of New World China Land Limited (resigned on 1 September 2016), a listed public company in Hong Kong until its delisting on 4 August 2016, and an independent non-executive director of Kingboard Chemical Holdings Limited (stock code: 148) (retired on 29 May 2017), a listed public company in Hong Kong. Dr. Cheng has a keen interest in the public services. He is currently a member of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission and a steward of the Hong Kong Jockey Club. He also serves as a member of the Board of Overseers at Columbia Business School and a member on the President's Council on International Activities of the Yale University. He retired as a member of the board of Temasek Foundation CLG Limited on 7 September 2016. Dr. Cheng holds a Doctorate in Social Sciences honoris causa from The University of Hong Kong and a Doctorate in Business Administration honoris causa from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame, Indiana with a BBA degree and from Columbia University, New York with an MBA degree.

Save as disclosed above, Dr. Cheng did not hold any directorship in other listed public companies in the last three years.

Dr. Cheng's service contract provides for a fixed term of three years and he is also subject to the rotational retirement and re-election requirements at annual general meeting pursuant to the Bye-laws. His director's fee will be reviewed and determined by the Board annually with the authorization granted by the Shareholders at an annual general meeting of the Company and taking reference to his duties and responsibilities with the Company, the Company's performance and the prevailing market situation. For the financial year ended 30 June 2017, he was paid fees for acting as an independent non-executive director of the Company and a member of certain board committees of the Company in an aggregate amount of approximately HK\$0.45 million and allowances of approximately HK\$0.07 million.

Dr. Cheng, who has served the Board for more than nine years, confirmed that he has satisfied all factors set out in Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules in assessing his independence. Dr. Cheng does not have any relationship with any Director, senior management of the Company, substantial Shareholder or controlling Shareholder. As at the Latest Practicable Date, Dr. Cheng had personal interest in 2,875,786 Shares and 1,403,922 underlying Shares attached to the share options granted by the Company within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO.

Dr. Cheng was a director of Central Park Limited during the 4-month period from 27 June 1998 to 28 October 1998. This company was incorporated in Australia and ran apparel retail chains. After his resignation as a director, a receiver was appointed for this company on 2 November 1998. The receiver generated sufficient funds from this company to repay in full the debt owed to his appointer.

Save as disclosed above, Dr. Cheng has not been involved in any of the matters as mentioned under Rules 13.51(2)(h) to 13.51(2)(v) of the Listing Rules and there are no other matters in relation to Dr. Cheng that need to be brought to the attention to the Shareholders.

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR THE REPURCHASE MANDATE

This explanatory statement contains the information required by the Listing Rules. Its purpose is to provide to the Shareholders with all the information reasonably necessary to enable them to make an informed decision on whether to vote for or against the resolution approving the Repurchase Mandate.

### (a) SHARE CAPITAL

As at the Latest Practicable Date, the issued share capital of the Company comprised 3,890,738,181 fully paid up Shares. Subject to the passing of the relevant ordinary resolution approving the Repurchase Mandate on the basis that no further Shares are issued or repurchased prior to the Annual General Meeting, the Company would be allowed under the Repurchase Mandate to repurchase a maximum of 389,073,818 Shares.

## (b) REASONS FOR REPURCHASES

The Directors believe that the Repurchase Mandate is in the best interests of the Company and the Shareholders and will provide the Directors the flexibility to repurchase Shares in the market when appropriate and beneficial to the Company. Such repurchases may, depending on market conditions and funding arrangements at the time, lead to an enhancement of the net assets value of the Company and/or earnings per Share and will only be made when the Directors believe that such repurchases will benefit the Company and the Shareholders.

## (c) FUNDING OF REPURCHASES

Pursuant to the Listing Rules, repurchases must be financed out of funds legally available for the purpose in accordance with the Company's constitutional documents and the laws of the jurisdiction in which the Company is incorporated or otherwise established.

The Company is empowered by its Memorandum of Association and Bye-laws to repurchase its Shares pursuant to and in accordance with the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda. Repurchases will be funded from the Company's available cash flow or working capital facilities. The laws of Bermuda provide that repurchases may only be effected out of the capital paid up on the repurchased Shares or out of the funds of the Company otherwise available for payment of dividend or distribution or out of proceeds of a fresh issue of Shares made for the purpose of the repurchase. Any premium payable on a repurchase over the par value of the Shares to be repurchased must be provided for out of funds of the Company otherwise available for payment of dividend or distribution or out of the Company's share premium account. No repurchase may be made if on the date on which the repurchase is to be effected, there are reasonable grounds for believing the Company is, or after the repurchase would be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due.

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR THE REPURCHASE MANDATE

The Directors consider that there might be a material adverse impact on the working capital or gearing position of the Company (as compared with the position disclosed in the audited financial statements contained in the annual report of the Company for the financial year ended 30 June 2017) in the event that the Repurchase Mandate was to be exercised in full. However, the Directors do not propose to exercise the Repurchase Mandate to such extent as would, in the circumstances, have a material adverse impact on the working capital or gearing ratio of the Company which in the opinion of the Directors are from time to time appropriate for the Company.

## (d) UNDERTAKING OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors have undertaken to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to exercise the powers of the Company to make repurchases under the Repurchase Mandate in accordance with the Listing Rules and the applicable laws of Bermuda and the regulations set out in the Memorandum of Association and Bye-laws of the Company.

None of the Directors nor, to the best of their knowledge having made all reasonable enquiries, any of their close associates (as defined in the Listing Rules) has any present intention to sell Shares to the Company if the Repurchase Mandate is approved by the Shareholders.

No core connected persons (as defined in the Listing Rules) of the Company has notified the Company that they have a present intention to sell Shares to the Company, or has undertaken not to do so in the event that the Repurchase Mandate is approved by the Shareholders.

## (e) EFFECT OF TAKEOVERS CODE

Repurchase of Shares may result in an increase in the proportionate interests of a Shareholder in the voting rights of the Company and such increase will be treated as an acquisition of voting rights for the purposes of the Takeovers Code. As a result, a Shareholder, or group of Shareholders acting in concert, depending on the level of increase of the Shareholder's interests, could obtain or consolidate control of the Company and become obliged to make a mandatory offer in accordance with Rule 26 of the Takeovers Code.

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR THE REPURCHASE MANDATE

As at the Latest Practicable Date, so far as is known to any Director or chief executive of the Company, the following parties had an interest in the Shares which would fall to be disclosed to the Company under the provisions of Divisions 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO as recorded in the register required to be kept under Section 336 of the SFO:

|   | Ŋ                    | Number of shares    |               | Approximate percentage to the issued share capital of the Company as at | Approximate percentage to the issued share capital of the Company if the Repurchase |  |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|---|---|--|
| Name  | Beneficial interests | Corporate interests | Total         | the Latest<br>Practicable Date  |   |  |
| Cheng Yu Tung Family<br>(Holdings) Limited    | -                    | 2,477,530,362       | 2,477,530,362 | 63.68%  | 70.75%  |  |
| Cheng Yu Tung Family<br>(Holdings II) Limited | -                    | 2,477,530,362       | 2,477,530,362 | 63.68%  | 70.75%  |  |
| Chow Tai Fook Capital<br>Limited              | -                    | 2,477,530,362       | 2,477,530,362 | 63.68%  | 70.75%  |  |
| Chow Tai Fook<br>(Holding) Limited            | -                    | 2,477,530,362       | 2,477,530,362 | 63.68%  | 70.75%  |  |
| Chow Tai Fook<br>Enterprises Limited          | 97,034,424           | 2,380,495,938       | 2,477,530,362 | 63.68%  | 70.75%  |  |
| New World Development<br>Company Limited      | 1,588,468,276        | 792,027,662         | 2,380,495,938 | 61.18%  | 67.98%  |  |
| Mombasa Limited                               | 718,384,979          | -                   | 718,384,979   | 18.46%  | 20.52%  |  |

In the event that the Directors shall exercise in full the Repurchase Mandate, the total interests of the above Shareholders would be increased to approximately the percentages shown in the last column of the above table and such increase will not give rise to an obligation to make a mandatory general offer under Rule 26 of the Takeovers Code and will not reduce the number of Shares held by the public to be less than 25% of the total issued Shares.

## (f) SHARE PRICES

The highest and lowest market prices at which the Shares have traded on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange during each of the previous 12 months preceding the Latest Practicable Date were as follows:

|   | Per Share  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   | Highest  | Lowest   |
|   | Price  | Price  |
|   | HK\$   | HK\$   |
| October   | 13.90  | 12.98  |
| November  | 14.88  | 13.20  |
| December  | 13.70  | 12.14  |
| January   | 13.98  | 12.52  |
| February  | 14.92  | 13.54  |
| March   | 14.48  | 13.26  |
| April   | 15.28  | 13.62  |
| May   | 15.66  | 14.56  |
| June  | 15.68  | 14.82  |
| July  | 15.54  | 14.60  |
| August  | 16.28  | 14.92  |
| September   | 16.34  | 14.52  |
| October (up to and including the Latest Practicable |  |  |
| Date)   | 15.34  | 15.00  |
|   | November December  January February March April May June July August September October (up to and including the Latest Practicable | Highest Price Price HK\$         October       13.90         November       14.88         December       13.70         January       13.98         February       14.92         March       14.48         April       15.28         May       15.66         June       15.68         July       15.54         August       16.28         September       16.34         October (up to and including the Latest Practicable |

## (g) SHARE REPURCHASE MADE BY THE COMPANY

The Company has not repurchased any of its Shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange or otherwise during the previous six months from the Latest Practicable Date.



## 新創建集團有限公司<sup>\*</sup> NWS HOLDINGS LIMITED

(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(stock code: 659)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the annual general meeting of NWS Holdings Limited (the "Company") will be held at Meeting Room S221 (Harbour Road Entrance), Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Expo Drive, Wanchai, Hong Kong on Friday, 17 November 2017 at 11:00 a.m. for the following purposes:

- 1. To receive and consider the audited financial statements and the Reports of the Directors and Auditor for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.
- 2. (a) To declare a final dividend of HK\$0.39 per share for the year ended 30 June 2017.
  - (b) To declare a special final dividend of HK\$0.72 per share for the year ended 30 June 2017.
- 3. (a) To re-elect Dr. Cheng Kar Shun, Henry as Director.
  - (b) To re-elect Mr. Cheng Chi Ming, Brian as Director.
  - (c) To re-elect Mr. Lam Wai Hon, Patrick as Director.
  - (d) To re-elect Dr. Cheng Wai Chee, Christopher as Director.
  - (e) To authorize the Board of Directors to fix the Directors' remuneration.
- 4. To re-appoint Auditor and to authorize the Board of Directors to fix the Auditor's remuneration.
- 5. As special business, to consider and if thought fit, pass with or without amendment, the following resolutions as ordinary resolutions:
  - (I) "**THAT**:
    - (A) subject to paragraph (C) of this resolution, the exercise by the Directors of the Company during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) of all the powers of the Company to allot, issue and deal with additional shares in the capital of the Company or securities convertible into such

<sup>\*</sup> For identification purpose only

shares or options, warrants, or similar rights to subscribe for any shares or convertible securities and to make or grant offers, agreements and options which would or might require the exercise of such powers be and is hereby generally and unconditionally approved;

- (B) the approval in paragraph (A) of this resolution shall authorize the Directors of the Company during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) to make or grant offers, agreements and options which might require the exercise of such powers after the end of the Relevant Period;
- (C) the total number of shares allotted or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be allotted (whether pursuant to an option or otherwise) and issued by the Directors of the Company pursuant to the approval granted in paragraph (A) of this resolution, otherwise than pursuant to (i) a Rights Issue (as hereinafter defined); (ii) the exercise of any conversion rights attaching to any securities which are convertible into shares of the Company; (iii) the exercise of the rights under any option scheme or similar arrangement for the time being adopted for the grant or issue to Directors and/or employees of the Company and/or any of its subsidiaries and/or eligible participants as defined under such option scheme of options to subscribe for, or rights to acquire, shares of the Company; or (iv) any issue of shares as scrip dividends or similar arrangement providing for the allotment of shares in lieu of the whole or part of a dividend on shares of the Company in accordance with the bye-laws of the Company, shall not exceed 20% of the total number of issued shares of the Company as at the date of passing of this resolution, provided that if any subsequent consolidation or subdivision of shares of the Company is effected, the maximum number of shares of the Company that may be issued pursuant to the approval in paragraph (A) of this resolution as a percentage of the total number of issued shares of the Company at the date immediately before and after such consolidation or subdivision shall be the same and such maximum number of shares of the Company shall be adjusted accordingly, and the approval granted in paragraph (A) shall be limited accordingly; and
- (D) for the purpose of this resolution:

"Relevant Period" means the period from the passing of this resolution until whichever is the earlier of:

- (i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company;
- (ii) the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by the bye-laws of the Company or any applicable laws to be held; and

(iii) the revocation or variation of the authority given under this resolution by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting.

"Rights Issue" means an offer of shares open for a period fixed by the Directors of the Company to holders of shares on the register on a fixed record date in proportion to their then holdings of such shares (subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Directors of the Company may deem necessary or expedient in relation to fractional entitlements or having regard to any restrictions or obligations under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognized regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any territory outside Hong Kong)."

## (II) "THAT:

- (A) subject to paragraph (B) of this resolution, the exercise by the Directors of the Company during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) of all the powers of the Company to repurchase its own shares on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Hong Kong Stock Exchange") or on any other stock exchange on which the shares of the Company may be listed and recognized by the Securities and Futures Commission and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange for this purpose, subject to and in accordance with all applicable laws and the requirements of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange or that of any other stock exchange as amended from time to time, be and is hereby generally and unconditionally approved;
- (B) the total number of shares which may be repurchased by the Company pursuant to the approval in paragraph (A) of this resolution shall not exceed 10% of the total number of issued shares of the Company as at the date of the passing of this resolution, provided that if any subsequent consolidation or subdivision of shares of the Company is effected, the maximum number of shares of the Company that may be repurchased pursuant to the approval in paragraph (A) of this resolution as a percentage of the total number of issued shares of the Company at the date immediately before and after such consolidation or subdivision shall be the same and such maximum number of shares of the Company shall be adjusted accordingly, and the authority granted pursuant to paragraph (A) of this resolution shall be limited accordingly; and
- (C) for the purpose of this resolution:

"Relevant Period" means the period from the passing of this resolution until whichever is the earlier of:

(i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company;

- (ii) the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by the bye-laws of the Company or any applicable laws to be held; and
- (iii) the revocation or variation of the authority given under this resolution by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting."
- (III) "THAT conditional upon the Ordinary Resolutions Nos. (I) and (II) being passed, the general mandate granted to the Directors of the Company pursuant to Ordinary Resolution No. (I) be and is hereby extended by the addition to the total number of shares of the Company which may be allotted by the Directors of the Company pursuant to such general mandate, a number representing the total number of shares repurchased by the Company under the authority granted pursuant to Ordinary Resolution No. (II) provided that such number shall not exceed 10% of the total number of issued shares of the Company as at the date of passing of this resolution (subject to adjustment in the case of consolidation or subdivision of shares of the Company)."

By Order of the board of NWS HOLDINGS LIMITED Chow Tak Wing

Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 17 October 2017

### Notes:

- Any member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint one or (if he
  is a holder of two or more shares) more proxies to attend and vote in his stead. A proxy need not be a
  member of the Company.
- 2. In order to be valid, the instrument appointing a proxy, together with the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed or a certified copy thereof, must be deposited at the branch share registrar of the Company in Hong Kong, Tricor Standard Limited, at Level 22, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding of the meeting or any adjournment thereof (as the case may be).
- 3. For the purposes of determining shareholders' eligibility to attend and vote at the meeting and entitlement to the final dividend and the special final dividend, the register of members of the Company will be closed. Details of such closures are set out below:

## For determining eligibility to attend and vote at the meeting:

| Latest time to lodge transfer documents for registration 4:30 p.m. on 13 November 2017 |
|--|
| Closure of register of members   |
| (both days inclusive)  |
| Record date  |
|  |
| For determining entitlement to the final dividend and the special final dividend:      |
| Latest time to lodge transfer documents for registration 4:30 p.m. on 22 November 2017 |
| Closure of register of members   |

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

During the above closure periods, no transfer of shares will be registered. To be eligible to attend and vote at the meeting and to qualify for the final dividend and the special final dividend, all properly completed transfer forms accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged for registration with the branch share registrar of the Company in Hong Kong, Tricor Standard Limited, at Level 22, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong no later than the aforementioned latest time.

- 4. If a tropical cyclone warning signal number 8 or above is in force in Hong Kong at any time between 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the date of the meeting, the meeting will be automatically postponed to a later date. The Company will post an announcement on its corporate website (www.nws.com.hk) and the HKEXnews website (www.hkexnews.hk) to notify its shareholders of the date, time and location of the rescheduled meeting.
- 5. The translation into Chinese language of this notice is for reference only. In case of any inconsistency, the English version shall prevail.
- 6. As at the date of this notice, (a) the executive directors of the Company are Dr. Cheng Kar Shun, Henry, Mr. Tsang Yam Pui, Mr. Hui Hon Chung, Mr. Cheung Chin Cheung, Mr. Cheng Chi Ming, Brian and Mr. Mak Bing Leung, Rufin; (b) the non-executive directors of the Company are Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald, Mr. Dominic Lai, Mr. Lam Wai Hon, Patrick and Mr. William Junior Guilherme Doo; and (c) the independent non-executive directors of the Company are Mr. Kwong Che Keung, Gordon, Dr. Cheng Wai Chee, Christopher, The Honourable Shek Lai Him, Abraham, Mr. Lee Yiu Kwong, Alan and Mrs. Oei Fung Wai Chi, Grace.