

C. Material Contracts

We have not entered into any material contracts (which would present any significant impact on our financial condition), other than in the ordinary course of business.

D. Exchange Controls

There are no laws, decrees, regulations or other legislation which materially affect our ability to import or export capital for our use or our ability to pay dividends to nonresident holders of our shares.

E. Taxation

1. United States Federal Income Taxation

This section describes the material United States federal income tax consequences of owning shares or ADSs. It applies to you only if you are a U.S. holder (as defined below) and hold your shares or ADSs as capital assets for tax purposes. This section does not apply to you if you are a member of a special class of holders subject to special rules, including:

- a dealer in securities;
- a trader in securities that elects to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for securities holdings;
- a tax-exempt organization;
- a life insurance company;
- a person liable for alternative minimum tax;
- a person that actually or constructively owns 10% or more of our voting stock;
- a person that holds shares or ADSs as part of a straddle or a hedging or a conversion transaction;
- a person that purchases or sells shares or ADSs as part of a wash sale for tax purposes; or
- a person whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar.

This section is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations, published rulings and court decisions, all as currently in effect, as well as on the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Japan for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income ("the Treaty"). These laws are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. In addition, this section is based in part upon the representations of The Bank of New York Mellon as depository and the assumption that each obligation in the deposit agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms.

If a partnership holds shares or ADSs, the United States federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the tax treatment of the partnership. A partner in a partnership holding the shares or ADSs should consult its tax advisor with regard to the United States federal income tax treatment of an investment in shares or ADSs.

In general, and taking into account the earlier assumptions, for United States federal income tax purposes, if you hold ADRs evidencing ADSs, you will be treated as the owner of the shares represented by those ADRs. Exchanges of shares for ADRs, and ADRs for shares, generally will not be subject to United States federal income tax.

For purposes of United States federal income taxation, you are treated as a U.S. holder if 1) you are a beneficial owner of shares or ADSs and 2) you are, for United States federal income tax purposes:

- a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a domestic corporation;

- an estate whose income is subject to United States federal income tax regardless of its source; or
- a trust if a United States court can exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more United States persons are authorized to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

You should consult your own tax advisor regarding the United States federal, state and local and the Japanese and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of shares and ADSs in your particular circumstances.

2. Taxation of Dividends

Under the United States federal income tax laws, and subject to the passive foreign investment company rules discussed below, if you are a U.S. holder, the gross amount of any dividend paid by us out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for United States federal income tax purposes) is subject to United States federal income taxation. If you are a non-corporate U.S. holder, dividends that constitute qualified dividend income will be taxable to you at the preferential rates of 15% applicable to long-term capital gains provided that you hold the shares or ADSs for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date and meet other holding period requirements. For a U.S. holder who is subject to the highest income tax rate, 20% is the applicable tax rate instead of the preferential rates of 15%. Dividends paid by us with respect to our shares or ADSs generally will be qualified dividend income. You must include any Japanese tax withheld from the dividend payment in this gross amount even though you do not in fact receive it. The dividend is taxable to you when you, in the case of shares, or the depository, in the case of ADSs, receive the dividend, actually or constructively. The dividend will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally allowed to United States corporations in respect of dividends received from other United States corporations. The amount of the dividend distribution that you must include in your income as a U.S. holder will be the U.S. dollar value of the Japanese yen payments made, determined at the spot Japanese yen/U.S. dollar rate on the date the dividend distribution is includible in your income, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars. In general, any gain or loss resulting from currency exchange fluctuations during the period from the date you include the dividend payment in income to the date you convert the payment into U.S. dollars will be treated as ordinary income or loss and will not be eligible for the special tax rate applicable to qualified dividend income. The gain or loss generally will be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes. Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits, as determined for United States federal income tax purposes, will be treated as a nontaxable return of capital to the extent of your basis in the shares or ADSs and thereafter as capital gain. However we do not expect to calculate earnings and profits in accordance with United States federal income tax principles. Accordingly, you should expect to generally treat distributions we make as dividends.

Subject to certain limitations, the Japanese tax withheld in accordance with the Treaty and paid over to Japan will be creditable or deductible against your United States federal income tax liability. To the extent a refund of the tax withheld is available to you under Japanese law or under the Treaty, the amount of tax that is refundable will not be eligible for credit against your United States federal income tax liability. Please see "Japanese Taxation", below, for the procedures for obtaining a reduced rate of withholding under the Treaty or a tax refund. Special rules apply in determining the foreign tax credit limitation with respect to dividends that are subject to the preferential tax rates. Dividends will generally be income from sources outside the United States and will, depending on your circumstances, generally be either "passive" or "general" income for purposes of computing the foreign tax credit allowable to you.

Distributions of additional shares to you with respect to shares or ADSs that are made as part of a *pro rata* distribution to all of our shareholders generally will not be subject to United States federal income tax. Your basis in the new shares or ADSs received will be determined by allocating your basis in the shares or ADSs you held at the time of the distribution between the new shares or ADSs and the shares or ADSs you held at the time of the distribution based on their relative fair market values on the date of the distribution.

- **Taxation of Capital Gains**

Subject to the passive foreign investment company rules discussed below, if you are a U.S. holder and you sell or otherwise dispose of your shares or ADSs, you will recognize capital gain or loss for the United States federal income tax purposes equal to the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the amount that you realize and your tax basis, determined in U.S. dollars, in your shares or ADSs. Capital gain of a non-corporate U.S. holder is generally taxed at preferential rates where the property is held for more than one year. The gain or loss will generally be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

- **Passive Foreign Investment Company Rules**

We believe that our shares and ADSs should not be treated as stock of a passive foreign investment company, or "PFIC," for United States federal income tax purposes, but this conclusion is a factual determination that is made annually and thus may be subject to change. If we were to be treated as a PFIC, unless a U.S. holder were to elect to be taxed annually on a mark-to-market basis with respect to the shares or ADSs, gain realized on the sale or other disposition of your shares or ADSs would in general not be treated as capital gain. Instead, if you are a U.S. holder, you would be treated as if you had realized such gain and certain "excess distributions" ratably over your holding period for the shares or ADSs and would be taxed at the highest tax rate in effect for each such year to which the gain was allocated, together with an interest charge in respect of the tax attributable to each such year. With certain exceptions, your shares or ADSs will be treated as stock in a PFIC if we were a PFIC at any time during your holding period in your shares or ADSs. In addition, dividends that you receive from us will not be eligible for the special tax rates applicable to qualified dividend income if we are treated as a PFIC with respect to you either in the taxable year of the distribution or the preceding taxable year, but instead will be taxable at rates applicable to ordinary income.

3. Japanese Taxation

The following is a summary of the principal Japanese tax consequences to owners of our shares or ADSs who are non-resident individuals or non-Japanese corporations without a permanent establishment in Japan to which income from our shares is taxable. The tax treatment is subject to possible changes in the applicable Japanese laws or double taxation conventions occurring after the date of this annual report. This summary is not exhaustive of all possible tax considerations that may apply to a particular investor. Potential investors should consult their own tax advisors as to:

- the overall tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of shares or ADSs, including specifically the tax consequences under Japanese law;
- the laws of the jurisdiction of which they are resident; and
- any tax treaty between Japan and their country of residence.

Generally, a non-resident individual or a non-Japanese corporation as a holder of shares or ADSs is subject to Japanese withholding tax on dividends paid by us. In the absence of any applicable tax treaty, convention or agreement reducing the maximum rate of withholding tax, the rate of Japanese withholding tax applicable to dividends paid by us to a non-resident individual of Japan or a non-Japanese corporation is 20.42% (up to December 31, 2037, which rate of Japanese withholding tax includes the Special Reconstruction Income Tax, which is described below) and will be 20% after December 31, 2037. With respect to dividends paid on listed shares issued by a Japanese corporation (such as our shares) to a non-resident individual of Japan or a non-Japanese corporation, the aforementioned 20.42% or 20% withholding tax rate is reduced to (i) 7.147% for dividends to be due and payable on or before December 31, 2013, (ii) 15.315% for dividends to be due and payable on or before December 31, 2037, and (iii) 15% for dividends to be due and payable thereafter. This tax reduction is not available for a non-resident individual who holds 3% or more of the issued shares of a Japanese corporation. For the purpose of this paragraph, the Special Reconstruction Income Tax is a special surtax at the rate of 2.1% imposed on individuals and corporations (whether residents or non-residents of Japan, or Japanese

corporations or non-Japanese corporations) up to December 31, 2037 for reconstruction funding after the Great East Japan Earthquake. This special surtax is applicable to various income taxes including withholding tax on dividends and the amount of such special surtax is calculated by multiplying the amount of the original income tax by the surtax rate of 2.1%. In consequence, the amount of the aggregate withholding tax on dividends will be the original amount of such withholding tax plus the original amount multiplied by the surtax rate (i.e. 102.1% of the original amount). Japan has income tax treaties whereby the withholding tax rate is provided not to exceed the prescribed rate, which is generally 15% or 10%, for portfolio investors. 15% is applied under the income tax treaties with, among others, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain and Sweden, and 10% is applied under the income tax treaties with Australia, France, Hong Kong, Kuwait, The Netherlands, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. In addition, under the income tax treaty between the United States and Japan, dividends paid to pension funds of qualified United States residents eligible to enjoy treaty benefits are exempt from Japanese income taxation by way of withholding or otherwise unless such dividends are derived from the carrying on of a business, directly or indirectly, by such pension funds. Under the income tax treaties between Japan and the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, and Switzerland, similar treatment will be applied to dividends. Under Japanese tax law, any reduced maximum rate applicable under a tax treaty shall be available when such maximum rate is below the rate otherwise applicable under the Japanese tax law referred to in the preceding paragraph with respect to the dividends to be paid by us on the shares.

Non-resident holders who are entitled to a reduced rate of Japanese withholding tax on payments of dividends on the shares by us are required to submit an Application Form for the Income Tax Convention regarding Relief from Japanese Income Tax on Dividends in advance through us to the relevant tax authority before the payment of dividends. A standing proxy for non-resident holders may provide the application. In this regard, a certain simplified special filing procedure is available for non-resident holders of listed shares to claim treaty benefits of exemption from or reduction of Japanese withholding tax, with respect to dividends to be due and payable on or after January 1, 2014, by submitting a Special Application Form for Income Tax Convention regarding Relief from Japanese Income Tax and Special Income Tax for Reconstruction on Dividends of Listed Stocks. With respect to ADSs, this reduced rate is applicable if the depositary or its agent submits in duplicate two Application Forms for Income Tax Convention (one is FORM 4 subtitled "Extension of Time for Withholding of Tax on Dividends with respect to Foreign Depositary Receipt" to the payer of dividends, who has to file the original with the district director of tax office for the place where the payer resides, by the day before the payment of dividends and the other is FORM 5 subtitled "Relief from Japanese Income Tax and Special Income Tax for Reconstruction on Dividends with respect to Foreign Depositary Receipt" to the district director of tax office through the payer of Dividends in 8 months from the day following the base date of payment of dividends for application purposes for which FORM 4 has been submitted). To claim this reduced rate, a non-resident holder of ADSs will be required to file proof of taxpayer status, residence and beneficial ownership (as applicable) and to provide other information or documents as may be required by the depositary. Non-resident holders who do not submit an application in advance will generally be entitled to claim a refund from the relevant Japanese tax authority of withholding taxes withheld in excess of the rate of an applicable tax treaty.

Gains derived from the sale of shares or ADSs outside Japan, or from the sale of shares within Japan by a non-resident holder, generally are not subject to Japanese income or corporation taxes provided that such gains are from portfolio investments where the shareholding ratio is within certain prescribed level.

Japanese inheritance and gift taxes at progressive rates may be payable by an individual who has acquired shares or ADSs as a legatee, heir or donee, even if the individual is not a Japanese resident.

F. Dividends and Paying Agents

Not applicable.