

If such prior notification is filed, the proposed inward direct investment may not be consummated until after 30 days have passed from the date of filing, although this screening period may be shortened to two weeks unless the Ministers deem it necessary to review the proposed inward direct investment. The Ministers may extend the screening period up to five months if they deem it necessary to review the proposed inward direct investment and may recommend any modification or abandonment of the proposed inward direct investment and, if the foreign investor does not accept such recommendation, the Ministers may order the modification or abandonment of such inward direct investment. In addition, if the Ministers consider the proposed inward direct investment to be an inward direct investment that is likely to cause damage to the national security of Japan and, if a foreign investor (i) consummates such inward direct investment without filing the prior notification described above; (ii) consummates such inward direct investment before the expiration of the screening period described above; (iii) in connection with such inward direct investment, makes false statements in the prior notification described above; or (iv) does not follow the recommendation or order issued by the Ministers to modify or abandon such inward direct investment, the Ministers may order such foreign investor to dispose of all or part of the shares acquired or take other measures.

**Post Facto Reporting Requirements**

A foreign investor who consummates an inward direct investment as described above through an acquisition of shares or voting rights or the authority to exercise, directly or through instructions, voting rights of a Japanese listed company that is engaged in the Designated Businesses, but is not subject to the prior notification requirements described above due to the exemptions from such prior notification requirements, in general, must file a report of the relevant inward direct investment with the Minister of Finance and any other competent Ministers having jurisdiction over such Japanese company within 45 days of such inward direct investment when, as a result of such acquisition, the foreign investor (excluding, in the cases of (i) and (ii) below, a foreign investor who falls under a category of certain foreign financial institutions (as prescribed in the Foreign Exchange Law)) directly or indirectly holds (i) 1% or more but less than 3% of the total number of issued shares or voting rights, for the first time, (ii) 3% or more but less than 10% of the total number of issued shares or voting rights, for the first time, or (iii) 10% or more of the total number of issued shares or voting rights.

**Deposit and Withdrawal under American Depositary Facility**

The deposit of shares with us, in our capacity as custodian and agent for the depositary, in Tokyo, the issuance of ADSs by the depositary to a non-resident of Japan in respect of the deposit and the withdrawal of the underlying shares upon the surrender of the ADSs, in each case by a foreign investor, where such acquisition of ADSs or withdrawal of the underlying shares constitutes an inward direct investment, in general, a prior notification will be required unless the exemption is available, as noted above, and if such prior notification is not required due to the exemption, a post facto report will be required, as noted above.

**Reporting of Substantial Shareholdings**

The Financial Instruments and Exchange Act of Japan requires any person who has become, beneficially and solely or jointly, a holder of more than 5% of the total issued shares of capital stock of a company listed on any Japanese financial instruments exchange or whose shares are traded on the over-the-counter market in Japan to file with the director of a competent finance bureau within five business days a report concerning such shareholding.

A similar report must also be filed in respect of any subsequent change of 1% or more in any such holding ratio or any change in material matters set out in reports previously filed, with certain exceptions. For this purpose, shares issuable to such person upon exchange of exchangeable securities, conversion of convertible securities or exercise of share subscription warrants or stock acquisition rights (including those incorporated in bonds with stock acquisition rights) are taken into account in determining both the number of shares held by such holder and the issuer's total issued shares of capital stock.

**E. Taxation**

**Japanese Taxation**

The following sets forth the material Japanese tax consequences to owners of shares of our common stock or ADSs who are non-resident individuals or non-Japanese corporations without a permanent establishment in Japan to which the relevant income is attributable, which we refer to as “non-resident holders” in this section. The statements regarding Japanese tax laws below are based on the laws in force and as interpreted by the Japanese taxation authorities as at the date of this Annual Report and are subject to changes in the applicable Japanese laws, double taxation treaties, conventions or agreements or interpretations thereof occurring after that date. This summary is not exhaustive of all possible tax considerations that may apply to a particular investor, and potential investors are advised to satisfy themselves as to the overall tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of shares of our common stock 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, by consulting their own tax advisers.

Generally, a non-resident holder of shares of our common stock 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 rate of withholding tax, the rate of Japanese withholding tax applicable to dividends paid by us to non-resident holders is (i) 15.315% for dividends to be paid on or before December 31, 2037 and (ii) 15% for dividends to be paid thereafter, except for dividends paid to any individual non-resident holder who holds 3% or more of our issued shares for which the applicable rate is (a) 20.42% for dividends to be paid on or before December 31, 2037 and (b) 20% for dividends to be paid thereafter, pursuant to Japanese tax law.

The Tax Convention establishes the maximum rate of Japanese withholding tax which may be imposed on dividends paid to a U.S. resident not having a permanent establishment in Japan. Under the Tax Convention, the maximum withholding rate for U.S. holders (as defined below) is generally set at 10% of the gross amount distributed. However, the maximum rate is 5% of the gross amount distributed if the recipient is a corporation and owns directly or indirectly, on the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined, at least 10% of the voting shares of the paying corporation. Furthermore, the amount distributed shall not be taxed if the recipient is (i) a pension fund which is a U.S. resident, provided that such dividends are not derived from the carrying on of a business, directly or indirectly, by such pension fund or (ii) a company with a 50% or more interest in the paying company and satisfies certain other requirements. U.S. holders (as defined below) are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to their eligibility for benefits under the Tax Convention.

Japanese tax law provides in general that if the Japanese statutory rate is lower than the maximum rate applicable under tax treaties, conventions or agreements, the Japanese statutory rate as stated above shall be applicable.

Non-resident holders of shares who are entitled to a reduced rate of Japanese withholding tax on payments of dividends on the shares of our common stock or ADSs by us are required to submit an Application Form for the Income Tax Convention regarding Relief from Japanese Income Tax on Dividends, or an Application Form for the Income Tax Convention, in advance through a paying handling agent to the relevant tax authority before the payment of dividends. A standing proxy for non-resident holders may provide this application service for the non-resident holders. In this regard, a certain simplified special filing procedure is available for non-resident holders to claim treaty benefits of exemption from or reduction of Japanese withholding tax with respect to dividends to be paid 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 (together with any other required forms and documents). With respect to ADSs, this reduced rate or exemption will be applicable to non-resident holders of ADSs if the depository or its agent submits two Application Forms (one before payment of dividends and the other within eight months after the record date concerning such payment of dividends), together with certain other documents. To claim this reduced rate or exemption, non-resident holders of ADSs will be required to file a proof of taxpayer status, residence and beneficial ownership, as applicable, and to provide other information or documents as may be required by the depository. Non-resident holders who are entitled, under any applicable tax treaty, to a reduced rate of Japanese withholding tax below the rate otherwise applicable under Japanese tax law, or exemption therefrom, as the case may be, but fail to submit the required application in advance may nevertheless be entitled to claim a refund from the relevant Japanese tax authority of withholding taxes withheld in excess of the rate under an applicable tax treaty (if such non-resident holders are entitled to a reduced treaty rate under the applicable tax treaty) or the full amount of tax withheld (if such non-resident holders are entitled to an exemption under the applicable tax treaty), as the case may be, by complying with a certain subsequent filing procedure. We do not assume any responsibility to ensure withholding at the reduced rate, or an exemption therefrom, for non-resident holders who would be so eligible under an applicable tax treaty but where the required procedures as stated above are not followed.

Gains derived from the sale or other disposition of shares of our common stock or ADSs by a non-resident holder are not, in general, subject to Japanese income or corporation taxes or other Japanese taxes.

Any deposits or withdrawals of shares of our common stock by a non-resident holder in exchange for ADSs are not subject to Japanese income or corporation tax.

Japanese inheritance and gift taxes, at progressive rates, may be payable by an individual who has acquired shares of our common stock or ADSs as legatee, heir or donee, even if none of the individual, the decedent or the donor is a Japanese resident.

**U.S. Taxation**

The following sets forth the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership of shares and ADSs by a U.S. holder, as defined below. This summary is based on U.S. federal income tax laws, including the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the Code, its legislative history, existing and proposed Treasury regulations thereunder, published rulings and court decisions, and the Tax Convention (as defined above), all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect.

The following summary is not a complete analysis or description of all potential U.S. federal income tax consequences to a particular U.S. holder. It does not address all U.S. federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to all categories of potential purchasers, certain of which (such as banks or other financial institutions, insurance companies, dealers in securities, tax-exempt entities, non-U.S. persons, persons holding a share or an ADS as part of a “straddle,” “hedge,” conversion or integrated transaction, holders whose “functional currency” is not the U.S. dollar, holders liable for alternative minimum tax, holders required to report income no later than when such income is reported on an “applicable financial statement,” and holders of 10% or more of our shares by vote or value) are subject to special tax treatment. This summary does not address any foreign, state, local or other tax consequences of investments in our shares or ADSs.

This summary addresses only shares or ADSs that are held as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code.

As used herein, a “U.S. holder” is a beneficial owner of shares or ADSs, as the case may be, that is:

- a citizen or resident of the United States as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation created or organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;
- an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source; or a trust
- the administration of which is subject to (1) the supervision of a court within the United States and (2) the control of one or more U.S. persons as described in Section 7701(a)(30) of the Code; or
- that has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

If a partnership holds shares or ADSs, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership holding shares or ADSs, you should consult your tax advisor.

**We urge U.S. holders to consult their own tax advisors concerning the U.S. federal, state and local and other tax consequences to them of the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares or ADSs.**

This summary is based in part on the assumption that each obligation under the deposit agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its respective terms. Subject to the discussion in the next paragraph, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, holders of ADSs will be treated as the owners of the shares represented by the ADSs. Accordingly, withdrawals or deposits of shares in exchange for ADSs generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax.

The U.S. Treasury has expressed concerns that intermediaries in the chain of ownership between the holder of an ADS and the issuer of the security underlying the ADS may be taking actions that are inconsistent with the beneficial ownership of the underlying shares (for example, pre-releasing ADSs to persons who do not have beneficial ownership of the securities underlying the ADSs). Accordingly, the discussion on the creditability of Japanese taxes and the availability of the reduced rate of tax for dividends received by certain non-corporate U.S. holders, each as described below, could be affected by actions taken by intermediaries in the chain of ownership between the holder of ADSs and us if, as a result of such actions, the holders of ADSs are not properly treated as beneficial owners of the underlying shares. We are not aware of any intention to take any such actions, and accordingly, the remainder of this discussion assumes that holders of ADSs will be properly treated as beneficial owners of the underlying shares.

Special adverse U.S. federal income tax rules apply if a U.S. holder holds shares or ADSs of a company that is treated as a “passive foreign investment company” (a “PFIC”) for any taxable year during which the U.S. holder held shares or ADSs, as discussed in more detail below. U.S. holders should consult their own tax advisors as to the potential application of the PFIC rules to their ownership and disposition of shares or ADSs.

***Taxation of Dividends***

Subject to the application of the PFIC rules discussed below, U.S. holders will include the gross amount of any distribution received with respect to shares or ADSs (before reduction for Japanese withholding taxes), to the extent paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes), as ordinary income in their gross income. As discussed below, for certain U.S. holders, dividends may be eligible for a reduced rate of taxation. The amount of distribution of property other than cash will be the fair market value of such property on the date of the distribution. Dividends received by a U.S. holder will not be eligible for the “dividends-received deduction” allowed to U.S. corporations in respect of dividends received from other U.S. corporations. To the extent that an amount received by a U.S. holder exceeds such holder’s allocable share of our current earnings and profits, such excess will be applied first to reduce such holder’s tax basis in its shares or ADSs, thereby increasing the amount of gain or decreasing the amount of loss recognized on a subsequent disposition of the shares or ADSs. Then, to the extent such distribution exceeds such U.S. holder’s tax basis, such excess will be treated as capital gain. However, we do not maintain calculations of our earnings and profits in accordance with U.S. federal income tax principles, and U.S. holders should therefore assume that any distribution by us with respect to shares or ADSs will constitute ordinary dividend income. The amount of the

dividend will be the U.S. dollar value of the Japanese yen payments received. This value will be determined at the spot Japanese yen/U.S. dollar rate on the date the dividend is received by the depositary in the case of U.S. holders of ADSs, or by the shareholder in the case of U.S. holders of shares, regardless of whether the dividend payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars at that time. If the Japanese yen received as a dividend are not converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, a U.S. holder will have basis in such Japanese yen equal to their U.S. dollar value on the date of receipt, and any foreign currency gains or losses resulting from the conversion of the Japanese yen will generally be treated as U.S. source ordinary income or loss. If the Japanese yen received as a dividend are converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, a U.S. holder will generally not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income.

If a U.S. holder is eligible for benefits under the Tax Convention, the holder may be able to claim a reduced rate of Japanese withholding tax. All U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors about their eligibility for reduction of Japanese withholding tax. A U.S. holder may claim a deduction or a foreign tax credit, subject to other applicable limitations, only for tax withheld at the appropriate rate. A U.S. holder would be allowed a foreign tax credit for withholding tax for any portion of the tax that could have been avoided by claiming benefits under the Tax Convention. For foreign tax credit limitation purposes, the dividend will be income from sources outside the United States. The limitation on foreign taxes eligible for credit is calculated separately with respect to specific classes of income. For this purpose, dividends we pay will constitute “passive income” or, in the case of certain U.S. holders, “financial services income.” However, recently issued Treasury regulations that apply to taxes paid or accrued in taxable years beginning on or after December 28, 2021 impose additional requirements for foreign taxes to be eligible for a foreign tax credit, and there can be no assurance that those requirements will be satisfied. Further, in certain circumstances, if a U.S. holder:

- has held shares or ADSs for less than a specified minimum period during which such U.S. holder is not protected from the risk of loss; or
- is obligated to make payments related to the dividends,

such U.S. holder will not be allowed a foreign tax credit for foreign taxes imposed on dividends paid on shares or ADSs. Instead of claiming a foreign tax credit, a U.S. holder may be able to deduct Japanese withholding taxes on dividends in computing such holder’s taxable income, subject to generally applicable limitations under U.S. law (including that a U.S. holder is not eligible for a deduction for foreign income taxes paid or accrued in a taxable year if such U.S. holder claims a foreign tax credit for any foreign income taxes paid or accrued in the same taxable year). The rules governing U.S. foreign tax credits are very complex and U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the availability of foreign tax credits under their particular circumstances.

Subject to applicable exceptions with respect to short-term and hedged positions, qualified dividends received by non-corporate U.S. holders from a qualified corporation may be eligible for reduced rates of taxation. Qualified corporations include those foreign corporations eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty with the United States that the U.S. Treasury Department determines to be satisfactory for these purposes and that includes an exchange of information provision. The Tax Convention meets these requirements. Subject to the PFIC discussion below, we believe that we are a qualified foreign corporation and that dividends received by U.S. investors with respect to our shares or ADSs will be qualified dividends. Dividends received by U.S. investors from a foreign corporation that was a PFIC in either the taxable year of the distribution or the preceding taxable year are not qualified dividends.

**Passive Foreign Investment Company Considerations**

Special adverse U.S. federal income tax rules apply if a U.S. holder holds shares or ADSs of a company that is treated as a PFIC, for any taxable year during which the U.S. holder held shares or ADSs. A foreign corporation will be considered a PFIC for any taxable year in which (i) 75% or more of its gross income is passive income (the “income test”), or (ii) 50% or more of the average fair market value of its assets (determined quarterly) is attributable to assets that produce or are held for the production of passive income (the “asset test”). For this purpose, passive income generally includes dividends, interest, royalties, rents and certain gains from the sale of stock and securities. If a foreign corporation owns at least 25% (by value) of the stock of another corporation, the corporation will be treated, for purposes of the PFIC tests, as owning a proportionate share of the other corporation’s assets and receiving its proportionate share of the other corporation’s income. The determination of whether a foreign corporation is a PFIC is made annually.

Multiple sets of proposed Treasury regulations and an earlier IRS notice would convert what would otherwise be passive income into non-passive income when such income is banking income earned by an active bank. The various proposed Treasury regulations and IRS notice have different (and in some respects inconsistent) requirements for qualifying as an active bank, and for determining the banking income that may be excluded from passive income under this special rule for active banks. Moreover, the proposed Treasury regulations (some of which have been outstanding since 1995, and others of which were recently issued in 2021) will not be effective unless finalized. There can be no assurance that the proposed Treasury regulations will be finalized in their current form. Because final regulations have not been issued, the definition of banking income for purposes of the active bank exception is unclear under both the proposed Treasury regulations and the notice. Based upon certain management estimates and assumptions, we do not believe that we were a PFIC for the year ended March 31, 2023. The determination of whether we are a PFIC must be made annually and involves a fact-intensive analysis based upon, among other things, the composition of our income and assets and the value of our assets from time to time. It is possible that we may become a PFIC in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024 or any future taxable year

due to changes in our income or asset composition or changes to applicable Treasury and IRS guidance (including as a result of the final regulations). In addition, a decrease in the price of our shares may also result in our becoming a PFIC. If we were classified as a PFIC in any year during which a U.S. holder owns shares or ADSs and the U.S. holder does not make a “mark-to-market” election, as discussed below, we generally would continue to be treated as a PFIC as to such U.S. holder in all succeeding years, regardless of whether we continue to meet the income or asset test discussed above. U.S. Holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences to them if we were to become a PFIC for any taxable year in which they own our shares or ADSs.

If we were classified as a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. holder holds our shares or ADSs, the U.S. holder would generally not receive capital gains treatment upon the sale of the shares or ADSs and would be subject to increased tax liability (generally including an interest charge) upon the sale or other disposition of the shares or ADSs or upon the receipt of certain distributions treated as “excess distributions,” unless the U.S. holder makes the mark-to-market election described below. An excess distribution generally would be any distribution to a U.S. holder with respect to shares or ADSs during a single taxable year that is greater than 125% of the average annual distributions received by a U.S. holder with respect to shares or ADSs during the three preceding taxable years or, if shorter, during the U.S. holder’s holding period for the shares or ADSs.

**Mark-to-Market Election.** If the shares or ADSs are regularly traded on a registered national securities exchange or certain other exchanges or markets, then such shares or ADSs would constitute “marketable stock” for purposes of the PFIC rules, and a U.S. holder would not be subject to the foregoing PFIC rules if such holder made a mark-to-market election. After making such an election, the U.S. holder generally would include as ordinary income each year during which the election is in effect and during which we are a PFIC the excess, if any, of the fair market value of our shares or ADSs at the end of the taxable year over such holder’s adjusted basis in such shares or ADSs. These amounts of ordinary income would not be eligible for the favorable tax rates applicable to qualified dividend income or long-term capital gains. A U.S. holder also would be allowed to take an ordinary loss in respect of the excess, if any, of the holder’s adjusted basis in our shares or ADSs over their fair market value at the end of the taxable year (but only to the extent of the net amount of income that was previously included as a result of the mark-to-market election). A U.S. holder’s tax basis in our shares or ADSs would be adjusted to reflect any income or loss amounts resulting from a mark-to-market election. If made, a mark-to-market election would be effective for the taxable year for which the election was made and for all subsequent taxable years unless the shares or ADSs cease to qualify as “marketable stock” for purposes of the PFIC rules or the IRS consented to the revocation of the election. In the event that we are classified as a PFIC, U.S. holders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the availability of the mark-to-market election, and whether the election would be advisable in the holder’s particular circumstances.

**QEF Election.** The PFIC rules outlined above also would not apply to a U.S. holder if such holder alternatively elected to treat us as a “qualified electing fund” or “QEF.” An election to treat us as a QEF will not be available, however, if we do not provide the information necessary to make such an election. We will not provide U.S. holders with the information necessary to make a QEF election, and thus, the QEF election will not be available with respect to our shares.

Notwithstanding any election made with respect to our shares, dividends received with respect to our shares will not constitute “qualified dividend income” if we are a PFIC in either the year of the distribution or the preceding taxable year. Dividends that do not constitute qualified dividend income are not eligible for taxation at the reduced tax rate described above in “Taxation of Dividends.” Instead, such dividends would be subject to tax at ordinary income rates.

If a U.S. holder owns shares or ADSs during any year in which we are a PFIC, the U.S. holder must also file IRS Form 8621 regarding distributions received on the shares or ADSs, any gain realized on the shares or ADSs, and any “reportable election” in accordance with the instructions to such form. In addition, each U.S. holder is required to file a separate IRS Form 8621 if such U.S. holder owns shares or ADSs during any year in which we are a PFIC whether or not such U.S. holder received distributions on the shares or ADSs, realized a gain on the shares or ADSs or made a “reportable election” during such year. U.S. holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors concerning the U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding shares or ADSs if the Company were considered a PFIC in any taxable year.

**Taxation of Capital Gains**

Subject to the application of the PFIC rules discussed above, upon a sale or other disposition of shares or ADSs, a U.S. holder will recognize a gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the amount realized and the U.S. holder’s tax basis, determined in U.S. dollars, in such shares or ADSs. Such gains or losses will be capital gains or losses and will be long-term capital gains or losses if the U.S. holder’s holding period for such shares or ADSs exceeds one year. Long-term capital gains of non-corporate U.S. holders (including individuals) are generally eligible for reduced rates of taxation. A U.S. holder’s adjusted tax basis in its shares or ADSs will generally be the cost to the holder of such shares or ADSs. Any such gains or losses realized by a U.S. holder upon disposal of the shares or ADSs will generally be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations under the Code.

**Information Reporting and Backup Withholding**

Dividends paid on shares or ADSs to a U.S. holder, or proceeds from a U.S. holder’s sale or other disposition of shares or ADSs, may be subject to information reporting requirements. Those dividends or proceeds from sale or disposition may also be subject to backup withholding unless the U.S. holder: