

shares in Alphaville. As of the date of this annual report, we hold 21.20% of Alphaville's shares, a decrease from our previous 30% stake, as a result of a capital increase in Alphaville by affiliates of PEAÉ. The sale price totals R\$100 million, payable through credit offsets and the delivery of certain assets. The consummation of the transaction is subject to customary conditions precedent, including a corporate restructuring of certain assets of Alphaville, the obtainment of third party consents and corporate approvals. This transaction is in line with the Company's strategy to optimize and improve the Company's portfolio and capital allocation, aiming at creating value for our shareholders.

#### **D. Exchange Controls**

There are no restrictions on ownership of our common shares by individual or legal entities domiciled outside Brazil. However, the right to convert dividend payments and proceeds from the sale of our shares into foreign currency and to remit such amounts abroad is subject to requirements under foreign investment legislation which generally establish that the relevant investment be registered with the Central Bank and/or the CVM. Subject to certain procedures and specific regulatory provisions, the purchase and sale of foreign currency and the international transfer of *reais* by a person or legal entity resident, domiciled or headquartered in Brazil, as the case may be, is allowed, without limitation as to amount, provided that the underlying transaction is legal, legitimate and has economic substance, as evidenced by the applicable supporting documentation submitted to the financial institution in charge of the foreign exchange transaction. In addition, foreign currencies may only be purchased through duly authorized financial institutions headquartered in Brazil. See "Item 3. Key Information–D. Risk Factors–Risks Relating to Brazil–Restrictions on the movement of capital out of Brazil may adversely affect your ability to receive dividends and distributions on the ADSs and on our common shares, or the proceeds of any sale of our common shares" and "Item 9. The Offer and Listing–C. Markets–Investment in Our Common Shares by Non-Residents of Brazil."

In the past, the Brazilian Central Bank has intervened occasionally to control unstable movements in foreign exchange rates. We cannot predict whether the Brazilian Central Bank or the Brazilian government will continue to let the *real* float freely or will intervene in the exchange rate market through the return of a currency band system or otherwise. The *real* may depreciate or appreciate against the U.S. dollar substantially.

Brazilian law provides that, whenever there is a serious imbalance in Brazil's balance of payments or there are serious reasons to foresee a serious imbalance, temporary restrictions may be imposed on remittances of funds abroad. We cannot assure you that such measures will not be taken by the Brazilian government in the future. See "Item 3. Key Information–D. Risk Factors–Risks Relating to Brazil–Restrictions on the movement of capital out of Brazil may adversely affect your ability to receive dividends and distributions on the ADSs and on our common shares, or the proceeds of any sale of our common shares" and "Item 9. The Offer and Listing–C. Markets–Investment in Our Common Shares by Non-Residents of Brazil."

#### **E. Taxation**

The following discussion contains a description of material Brazilian and U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of common shares or ADSs. The discussion is based upon the tax laws of Brazil and regulations thereunder and on the tax laws of the United States and regulations thereunder as of the date hereof, which are subject to change.

Although there is at present no income tax treaty between Brazil and the United States, the tax authorities of the two countries have entered into a Tax Information Exchange Agreement and have had discussions that may culminate in an income tax treaty. No assurance can be given, however, as to whether or when an income tax treaty will enter into force or how it will affect the U.S. Holders (as defined below) of common shares or ADSs. Prospective holders of common shares or ADSs should consult their own tax advisers as to the tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of common shares or ADSs in their particular circumstances.

#### **Brazilian Tax Considerations**

The following discussion summarizes the principal Brazilian tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our common shares or ADSs by a holder that is not domiciled in Brazil for purposes of Brazilian taxation (a "Non-Resident Holder"). This discussion is based on Brazilian law as currently in effect, which is subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect, and subject to different interpretations. Any change in that law may change the consequences described below.

The tax consequences described below do not take into account the effects of any tax treaties or reciprocity agreements for tax treatment entered into by Brazil and other countries. The discussion also does not address any tax consequences under the tax laws of any state or municipality of Brazil. The description below is not intended to

constitute a complete analysis of all tax consequences relating to the acquisition, exchange, ownership and disposition of our common shares or ADSs. Each Non-Resident Holder should consult his or her own tax adviser concerning the Brazilian tax consequences of an investment in our common shares or ADSs.

### **Income tax**

*Dividends.* Dividends paid by a Brazilian corporation, such as ourselves, including stock dividends and other dividends paid to a Non-Resident Holder of common shares or ADSs, are currently not subject to income withholding tax in Brazil to the extent that such amounts are related to profits generated after January 1, 1996. Dividends paid from profits generated before January 1, 1996 may be subject to Brazilian income withholding tax at varying rates depending on the year the profits were generated, according to the tax legislation applicable to each corresponding year. There is uncertainty regarding the taxation of dividends supported by profits earned in the 2014 calendar year, due to the new rules introduced in Brazil in order to align the Brazilian tax system with the International Financial Reporting Standards, or “IFRS”, as of January 1, 2015. As we did not earn profits in that year, this issue should not apply to us. *Interest on Shareholders’ Equity.* Law No. 9,249, dated December 26, 1995, as amended, permits a Brazilian corporation, such as ourselves, to make distributions to shareholders of interest on shareholders’ equity as an alternative to making dividend distributions and to treat such payments as a deductible expense for purposes of calculating Brazilian corporate income tax and social contribution on net profits, to the extent the limits described below are observed. These distributions may be paid in cash. For tax purposes, this interest is limited to the daily pro rata variation of the Brazilian long-term interest rate, or TJLP, as determined by the Central Bank from time to time, and the amount of the deduction may not exceed the greater of:

- 50% of net income (after the deduction of social contribution on net profits but before taking into account the provision for corporate income tax and the interest on shareholders’ equity) for the period in respect of which the payment is made; and
- 50% of the sum of retained profits and profit reserves as of the date of the beginning of the period in respect of which the payment is made.

Payment of interest on shareholders’ equity to a Non-Resident Holder is subject to income withholding tax at the rate of 15%, or 25% if the Non-Resident Holder is domiciled in a Tax Favorable Jurisdiction, as defined below.

These payments of interest on shareholders’ equity may be included, at their net value, as part of any mandatory dividend. To the extent payment of interest on shareholders’ equity is so included, the Company is required to distribute to shareholders an additional amount to ensure that the net amount received by them, after payment of the applicable withholding income tax, plus the amount of declared dividends is at least equal to the mandatory dividend.

### **Gains**

According to Law No. 10,833/03, enacted on December 29, 2003, the disposition or sale of assets located in Brazil by a Non-Resident Holder, whether to another non-Brazilian resident or to a Brazilian resident, may be subject to capital gain taxes in Brazil.

Therefore, with respect to the disposition of our common shares, which are treated as assets located in Brazil, a non-Brazilian resident will be subject to income tax on the gains assessed according to the rules described below, regardless of whether the transactions are conducted in Brazil or with a Brazilian resident.

With respect to the ADSs, although the matter is not entirely clear, it is reasonable to take the position that ADSs do not constitute assets located in Brazil for the purposes of Law No. 10,833/03 and, therefore, that the gains realized by a Non-Resident Holder on the disposition of our ADSs to another Non-Resident Holder should not be taxed in Brazil. We cannot assure you, however, that the Brazilian tax authorities or the Brazilian courts will agree with this interpretation. Accordingly, gains on a disposition of ADSs by a Non-Resident Holder may be subject to income tax in Brazil in the event that courts determine that ADSs constitute assets located in Brazil. For more information, please refer to “Item 3. Key Information–D. Risks Factors–Risks Relating to Our Common Shares and the ADSs–Changes in Brazilian tax laws may have an adverse impact on the taxes applicable to a disposition of the ADSs.”

As a general rule, gain realized as a result of a disposition or sale of common shares (or ADSs should they be deemed to be “assets located in Brazil”) is the positive difference between the amount realized on the sale or other disposition of the securities and their acquisition cost.

Under Brazilian law, however, income tax rules on such gains can vary, depending on the domicile of the Non-Resident Holder, the type of registration of the investment by the Non-Resident Holder with the Central Bank and how the disposition is carried out, as described below.

Gains assessed on a disposition of common shares carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange (which includes the transactions carried out on the organized over-the-counter market) are:

- exempt from income tax when the gain is earned by a Non-Resident Holder that (1) has registered its investment in Brazil with the Central Bank under the rules of Resolution No. 4,373, dated September 14, 2014, which replaced Resolution 2,689, dated January 26, 2000 (a “4,373 Holder”) and (2) is not a resident or domiciled in a country or location that does not tax income, or that taxes it at a maximum rate lower than 20%; or
- in all other cases, subject to income tax at a rate of up to 25%. In these cases, a withholding income tax of 0.005% of the sale value will be applicable and can be later offset against any income tax due on the capital gain.

Any other gains recognized on a sale or disposition of the common shares that is not carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange are subject to (1) income tax at a progressive rate from 15% up to 22.5%, when realized by a Non-Resident Holder that is not resident or domiciled in a Tax Favorable Jurisdiction; and (2) income tax up to a rate of 25% when realized by a Non-Brazilian Holder that is resident or domiciled in a Tax Favorable Jurisdiction. In the event that these gains are related to transactions conducted on the Brazilian non-organized over-the-counter market with intermediation, the withholding income tax of 0.005% shall also be applicable and can be offset against the eventual income tax due on the capital gain.

In the case of a redemption of common shares (or ADSs, should they be deemed to be “assets located in Brazil”) or a capital reduction by a Brazilian corporation, such as ourselves, the positive difference between the amount received by the Non-Resident Holder and the acquisition cost of the common shares or ADSs redeemed is treated as capital gain derived from the sale or exchange of shares not carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange and is therefore subject to income tax at a rate from 15% to 22.5%, or up to 25%, as described above.

Any exercise of preemptive rights relating to the common shares or ADSs will not be subject to Brazilian income tax. Gains realized by a Non-Resident Holder on the disposition of preemptive rights relating to the common shares (or ADSs, should they be deemed to be “assets located in Brazil”) will be subject to Brazilian income tax according to the same rules applicable to the sale or disposition of common shares.

As a Non-Resident Holder of ADSs, you may cancel your ADSs and exchange them for the underlying common shares and no income tax may be levied on such exchange, as long as the appropriate rules are complied with in connection with the registration of the investment with the Central Bank and as long as ADSs are not deemed to be “assets located in Brazil.” See “Item 9 The Offering and Listing—C. Markets—Investment in Our Common Shares by Non-Residents of Brazil—Depositary Receipts” for a discussion of the rules related to exchanging ADS for common shares.

The deposit of common shares by Non-Resident Holders in exchange for ADSs may be subject to Brazilian income tax if the acquisition cost of the common shares is lower than (a) the average price per common share on a Brazilian stock exchange on which the greatest number of such common shares were sold on the day of deposit; or (b) if no common shares were sold on that day, the average price on a Brazilian stock exchange on which the greatest number of common shares were sold in the 15 trading sessions immediately preceding such deposit. The difference between the acquisition cost and the average price of the common shares will be considered to be a capital gain subject to income tax at a rate from 15% up to 22.5% or 25%, as described above. In some circumstances, it could be reasonable to take the position that this tax is not applicable in the case of a Non-Resident Holder that is a 4,373 Holder and is not a resident in a Tax Favorable Jurisdiction.

There can be no assurance that the current favorable treatment of 4,373 Holders will continue in the future.

Law 13,259/16, dated March 16, 2016, increased tax rates on capital gains earned by Brazilian individuals and certain legal entities. The new rates should apply as from 2017 as follows: (i) 15% on the capital gain not exceeding R\$5,000,000; (ii) 17.5% on the capital gain amount which varies from R\$5,000,000 and R\$10,000,000; (iii) 20% on the capital gain amount which varies from R\$10,000,000 and R\$30,000,000; and (iv) 22.5% on the capital gain which exceeds R\$ 30,000,000. The new rates should also apply to Non-Resident Holders depending on their type of investment, jurisdiction and the sale transaction, to be determined on a case by case basis.

## **Discussion on Tax Favorable Jurisdictions and Privileged Tax Regimes**

A “Tax Favorable Jurisdiction” is a country or location that (1) does not impose taxation on income or imposes the income tax at a rate lower than 20% or (2) imposes restrictions on the disclosure of shareholding composition or the ownership of the investment. A regulation issued by the Ministry of Treasury on November 28, 2014 decreased from 20% to 17% this minimum threshold for certain specific cases. The 17% threshold applies only to countries and regimes aligned with international standards of fiscal transparency in accordance with rules to be established by the Brazilian tax authorities.

Law No. 11,727/08 created the concept of “Privileged Tax Regimes”, which encompasses the countries and jurisdictions that: (1) do not tax income or tax it at a maximum rate lower than 20%, or 17%, as applicable; (2) grant tax advantages to a non-resident entity or individual (i) without the need to carry out a substantial economic activity in the country or territory or (ii) conditioned to the non-exercise of a substantial economic activity in the country or territory; (3) do not tax or taxes proceeds generated abroad at a maximum rate lower than 20%, or 17%, as applicable; or (4) restricts the ownership disclosure of assets and ownership rights or restricts disclosure about economic transactions carried out.

Normative Ruling 1,037 provides a list of Tax Favorable Jurisdictions and Privileged Tax Regimes. Normative Ruling No. 1,037 is periodically updated to include and exclude countries, locations and tax regimes from the lists of Tax Favorable Jurisdictions and Privileged Tax Regimes.

In principle, the best interpretation of Law No. 11,727/08 leads us to conclude that the concept of Privileged Tax Regimes should be applied solely for purposes of transfer pricing rules in export and import transactions, for the definition of the applicable rate of withholding income tax on the remittance of specific items of income and for certain other Brazilian tax purposes that are not relevant to an investment by a Non-Resident Holder in our common shares or ADSs. Although we are of the opinion that the concept of Privileged Tax Regimes should not affect the tax treatment of a Non-Resident Holder described above, we cannot assure you that subsequent legislation or interpretations by the Brazilian tax authorities regarding the definition of “privileged tax regimes” will not apply such regime to Non-Resident Holders. Investors should consult with their own tax advisors regarding the consequences of the implementation of Law No. 11,727, Normative Ruling No. 1,037 and of any related Brazilian tax laws or regulations concerning Tax Favorable Jurisdictions and Privileged Tax Regimes.

### **Tax on Foreign Exchange and Financial Transactions**

**Foreign Exchange Transactions.** Brazilian law imposes a Tax on Foreign Exchange Transactions, or IOF/Exchange Tax, on the conversion of *reais* into foreign currency and on the conversion of foreign currency into *reais*. Any inflow of funds related to investments carried out on the Brazilian financial and capital markets by 4,373 Holders is currently subject to the IOF/Exchange Tax at a rate of zero percent. Foreign exchange transactions related to outflows of funds in connection with investments carried out on the Brazilian financial and capital markets are subject to the IOF/Exchange Tax at a rate of zero percent, which also applies to payments of dividends and interest on shareholders’ equity to 4,373 Holders with respect to investments on the Brazilian financial and capital markets.

Nevertheless, the rate applicable to most foreign exchange transactions is 0.38%. In any case, the Brazilian government may increase the rate at any time by up to 25% on the foreign exchange transaction amount. However, any increase in rates will only apply to future transactions.

The purchase of ADSs by a Non-Resident Holder outside Brazil generally does not require the execution of a foreign exchange agreement with the Brazilian Central Bank. If this is the case, the IOF/Exchange Tax is not due. The IOF/Exchange Tax is levied at a zero percent rate in connection with foreign exchange agreements, without any actual flows of funds, that are required for a cancellation of ADSs and exchange for shares traded on a Brazilian stock exchange.

**Tax on Transactions Involving Bonds and Securities.** Brazilian law imposes a Tax on Transactions Involving Bonds and Securities, or IOF/Bonds Tax, due on transactions involving bonds and securities, including those carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange. The rate of IOF/Bonds Tax applicable to transactions involving common shares is currently zero percent. The rate of the IOF/Bonds Tax applicable to the transfer of shares with the sole purpose of enabling the issuance of ADSs is currently also zero percent. However, the Brazilian government may increase the rate of the IOF/Bonds Tax at any time by up to 1.5% per day on the transaction amount, but only in respect of future transactions.

### **Other Brazilian Taxes**

There are no Brazilian inheritance, gift or succession taxes applicable to the ownership, transfer or disposition of common shares or ADSs, except for gift and inheritance taxes that may be imposed by some Brazilian states. There are no Brazilian stamp, issue, registration, or similar taxes or duties payable by holders of common shares or ADSs.

### **U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations**

The following discussion is a summary of material U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. Holders described herein of owning and disposing of common shares or ADSs, but it does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to a particular person's decision to hold such securities. The discussion applies only to the U.S. Holders described below that hold common shares or ADSs as capital assets for U.S. federal tax purposes and does not address all of the tax consequences applicable to all categories of investors, some of which may be subject to special rules, such as:

- certain financial institutions;
- dealers or traders in securities who use a mark-to-market method of tax accounting;
- persons holding common shares or ADSs as part of a hedging transaction, straddle, wash sale, conversion transaction or integrated transaction or persons entering into a constructive sale with respect to the common shares or ADSs;
- persons whose functional currency for U.S. federal income tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar;
- entities classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- persons liable for the alternative minimum tax;
- tax-exempt entities, including "individual retirement accounts" or "Roth IRAs;"
- persons that own or are deemed to own ten percent or more of our stock (by vote or value);
- persons who acquired our ADSs or common shares pursuant to the exercise of any employee stock option or otherwise as compensation; or
- persons holding our ADSs or common shares in connection with a trade or business conducted outside of the United States.

If an entity that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds common shares or ADSs, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and upon the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding common shares or ADSs and partners in such partnerships should consult their tax advisers as to the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding and disposing of common shares or ADSs.

This discussion is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations, all as of the date hereof, any of which is subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. It is also based in part on representations by the depositary and assumes that each obligation under the deposit agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms.

You are a "U.S. Holder" if you are a beneficial owner of our common shares or ADSs and if you are, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- a citizen or individual resident of the United States;
- a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state therein or the District of Columbia; or
- an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

The summary of U.S. federal income tax consequences set out below is intended for general informational purposes only. You should consult your advisers with respect to the particular tax consequences to you of owning or disposing of common shares or ADSs, including the applicability and effect of state, local, non-U.S. and other tax laws and the possibility of changes in tax laws.

In general, if you own ADSs, you will be treated as the owner of the underlying shares represented by those ADSs for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, no gain or loss will be recognized if you exchange ADSs for the underlying shares represented by those ADSs.

The U.S. Treasury has expressed concerns that parties to whom American depositary shares are released before shares are delivered to the depositary (“pre-release”) or intermediaries in the chain of ownership between U.S. Holders and the issuer of the security underlying the American depositary shares may be taking actions that are inconsistent with the claiming of foreign tax credits by U.S. Holders of American depositary shares. Such actions would also be inconsistent with the claiming of the reduced rate of tax, described below, applicable to dividends received by certain non-corporate holders. Accordingly, the creditability of Brazilian taxes, and the availability of the reduced tax rate for dividends received by certain non-corporate holders, each described below, could be affected by actions taken by such parties or intermediaries.

Please consult your tax adviser concerning the U.S. federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of purchasing, owning and disposing of common shares or ADSs in your particular circumstances.

Except as discussed below under “Passive Foreign Investment Company Rules,” this discussion assumes that the Company will not be a passive foreign investment company, or “PFIC,” for U.S. federal income tax purposes for any taxable year.

#### ***Taxation of Distributions***

Distributions paid on ADSs or common shares (including any amounts that are treated as interest on shareholders’ equity for Brazilian tax purposes and any Brazilian withholding taxes deducted from distributions), other than certain *pro rata* distributions of ordinary shares, will generally be treated as dividends to the extent paid out of the Company’s current or accumulated earnings and profits as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. Because the Company does not maintain calculations of its earnings and profits under U.S. federal income tax principles, it is expected that distributions will generally be reported to you as dividends.

Subject to applicable limitations and the discussion above regarding concerns expressed by the U.S. Treasury, dividends paid by “qualified foreign corporations” to certain non-corporate U.S. Holders may be taxable at rates applicable to long-term capital gains. A foreign corporation is treated as a qualified foreign corporation with respect to dividends paid on stock that is readily tradable on a securities market in the United States. You should consult your tax adviser to determine whether the favorable rate will apply to dividends you receive and whether you are subject to any special rules that limit your ability to be taxed at this favorable rate.

The amount of a dividend will include any amounts withheld by the Company in respect of Brazilian taxes on the distribution. The amount of the dividend will be treated as foreign-source dividend income to you and will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally available to U.S. corporations under the Code. Dividends will be included in your income on the date of your, or in the case of ADSs, the depositary’s, receipt of the dividend. The amount of any dividend income paid in *reais* will be the U.S. dollar amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the date of such receipt, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars. If the dividend is converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, you should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income. You may have foreign currency gain or loss if the amount of such dividend is converted into U.S. dollars after the date of such receipt. See also “Brazilian Tax Considerations—Tax on Foreign Exchange and Financial Transactions.”

Subject to applicable limitations that may vary depending upon your circumstances and subject to the discussion above regarding concerns expressed by the U.S. Treasury, Brazilian income taxes withheld from dividends on common shares or ADSs will be creditable against your U.S. federal income tax liability. The rules governing foreign tax credits are complex, and you should consult your tax adviser regarding the availability of foreign tax credits in your particular circumstances. Instead of claiming a credit, you may, at your election, deduct foreign taxes, including Brazilian taxes in computing your taxable income, subject to generally applicable limitations under U.S. law. An election to deduct foreign taxes instead of claiming foreign tax credits applies to all foreign taxes paid or accrued in the relevant taxable year.

### ***Sale or Other Disposition of Common Shares or ADSs***

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, gain or loss you realize on the sale or other disposition of common shares or ADSs will be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if you have held the common shares or ADSs for more than one year. Long-term capital gains of non-corporate U.S. Holders (including individuals) are eligible for reduced rates of taxation. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

The amount of your gain or loss will equal the difference between the amount realized on the disposition and your tax basis in the common shares or ADSs disposed of, in each case as determined in U.S. dollars. If a Brazilian tax is withheld on the sale or disposition of common shares or ADSs, your amount realized will include the gross amount of the proceeds of such sale or disposition before deduction of the Brazilian tax. See “–Brazilian Tax Considerations–Gains” for a description of when a disposition may be subject to taxation by Brazil. Such gain or loss will generally be U.S.-source gain or loss for foreign tax credit purposes. Consequently, you will not be able to credit any Brazilian income tax imposed on such gains against your U.S. federal income tax liability unless you have other creditable taxable income from foreign sources in the appropriate foreign tax credit basket. You should consult your tax adviser as to whether the Brazilian tax on gains would be creditable against your U.S. federal income tax on foreign-source income from other sources.

### ***Other Brazilian Taxes***

Any Brazilian IOF/Bond Tax and the IOF/Exchange Tax imposed on the deposit of common shares in exchange for ADSs and the cancellation of ADSs in exchange for common shares (as discussed above under “–Brazilian Tax Considerations–Tax on Foreign Exchange and Financial Transactions”) will not be treated as creditable foreign taxes for U.S. federal income tax purposes. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding the treatment of these taxes for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

### ***Passive Foreign Investment Company Rules***

In general, a non-U.S. corporation is a PFIC for any taxable year if: (1) 75% or more of its gross income consists of passive income (the “income test”) or (2) 50% or more of the average quarterly value of its assets consists of assets that produce, or are held for the production of, passive income (including cash and cash equivalents). Generally, “passive income” includes interest, dividends, rents, royalties and certain gains. For purposes of the above calculations, a non-U.S. corporation that directly or indirectly owns at least 25% by value of the shares of another corporation is treated as if it held its proportionate share of the assets of the other corporation and received directly its proportionate share of the income of the other corporation. The Company believes that it was not a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes for its 2017 taxable year. However, because the Company’s PFIC status is an annual determination that can be made only after the end of each taxable year and will depend on the composition of its income and assets for each such year, there can be no assurance that the Company will not be a PFIC for the current or any other taxable year. The Company may become a PFIC for any future taxable year if its financial income exceeds its gross loss or constitutes 75% or more of its gross profit for such year.

If the Company were a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. Holder held common shares or ADSs, gain recognized by a U.S. Holder on a sale or other disposition (including, under certain circumstances, a pledge) of the common shares or ADSs would be allocated ratably over the U.S. Holder’s holding period for the common shares or ADSs. The amounts allocated to the taxable year of the sale or other disposition and to any year before the Company became a PFIC would be taxed as ordinary income. The amount allocated to each other taxable year would be subject to tax at the highest rate in effect for individuals or corporations, as appropriate, for that taxable year, and an interest charge would be imposed on the tax on the amount allocated to that taxable year. Further, to the extent that any distribution received by a U.S. Holder on its common shares or ADSs exceeds 125% of the average of the annual distributions on common shares or ADSs received during the preceding three years or the U.S. Holder’s holding period, whichever is shorter, that distribution would be subject to taxation in the same manner as gain, described immediately above. Certain elections may be available that would result in alternative treatments (such as mark-to-market treatment) of the common shares or ADSs. If we are a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. Holder owned our shares, the U.S. Holder will generally be required to file Internal Revenue Service Form 8621 with their annual U.S. federal income tax returns, subject to certain exceptions. You should consult your tax adviser to determine whether any of these elections would be available and, if so, what the consequences of the alternative treatments would be in your particular circumstances.