# BDO LIMITED TRANSPARENCY REPORT 2015

For the financial year ended 30 September 2015



## Contents

Letter from the Managing Director	1
Legal structure and ownership	3
Network	4
Governance structure	8
Internal quality control system	18
Statement on effectiveness of functioning	27
Monitoring of quality control	27
Public interest entities	27
Independence	30
Professional development	31
Financial information	33
Directors' remuneration	33

BDO Limited, a Hong Kong limited company, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms.

BDO is the brand name for the BDO network and for each of the BDO Member Firms.



## LETTER FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

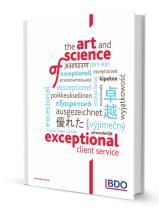
#### **OUR VISION - TO BE THE LEADER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CLIENT SERVICE**

To be the LEADER for Exceptional Client Service, the enablers are:

- EXCEPTIONAL CLIENT SERVICE
- EXCELLENT QUALITY
- ENGAGED PEOPLE
- EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

In BDO, the TOP two key initiatives are:

- Deliver Exceptional Client Service
- Deliver consistent, high audit quality



Audit Quality is always TOP priority for our leadership in BDO. A quality audit is important to ensure financial reports are reliable and at BDO we are consistently evolving to maintain and improve audit quality.

While audit quality is difficult to define and measure, there are a number of well-recognized drivers of audit quality that reflect the multi-faceted approach needed to provide the right environment to nurture it. Some of these are external drivers (e.g., the standards setting and regulatory environment), where we have little or no influence. In contrast, there are many internal drivers that can be developed and implemented by BDO network and BDO Hong Kong that directly affect audit quality.

These internal drivers can be categorized in the following areas:

- 1. Leadership responsibilities for quality within the firm
- 2. Acceptance and continuation of client relationships and engagements
- 3. Skills and personal qualities of engagement partners, engagement teams, and other firm personnel
- 4. Engagement performance
- 5. Internal monitoring and continuous improvement
- 6. Communications with those charged with governance



We use the Audit Quality Framework that has been developed by the Audit Steering Committee of BDO International to support the continuous consideration and enhancement of audit quality. This framework provides potential actions that can be undertaken within the firm to address the factors that influence audit quality.Our system of internal quality control comprises of policies, procedures, and review programs which are embedded within the BDO Hong Kong Audit Quality Framework. The Audit Quality Framework demonstrates how we support the factors influencing audit quality, and details the resources (such as policies, procedures, templates and knowledge bases) we have in place, and identifies any actions for further improvement. We are committed to continually developing and strengthening our internal quality control system to address the areas that continue to require improvement.

Finally, we are pleased to present our annual transparency report prepared in accordance with the requirements of Article 40 of Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts.

Clement Chan Managing Director - Assurance BDO Limited 31 December 2015



## LEGAL STRUCTURE AND OWNERSHIP

BDO Limited, a firm of certified public accountants registered with the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, is a limited liability company, incorporated in Hong Kong and is owned by its members who are also directors of the company.

Since our establishment in 1981, we have committed ourselves to facilitating the growth of businesses by advising the people behind them. As part of the international BDO network, we play a significant role in BDO's operation in Asia Pacific. We combine international expertise with the region's best available business and advisory services. By acting locally while thinking globally, we continue to provide truly customised services to local enterprises and multinational corporations alike.

BDO Limited is the Hong Kong member firm of the BDO network, which is the world's fifth largest accounting network. Each member firm of the BDO network is a separate legal entity and has no liability for another such entity's acts or omissions.

Our professionals are well-versed in accounting and auditing standards, tax and investment regulations prevailing in Hong Kong, mainland China as well as other major countries. We conform to the highest international standards.

BDO Limited is principally engaged in the provision of audit and assurance services. Through our affiliates, BDO Hong Kong is engaged in the provision of a wide range of other professional services, which include:

- Business Services & Outsourcing
- Private Client Services
- Risk Advisory Services
- Specialist Advisory Services
- Tax Services



## **NETWORK**

The BDO network aims to deliver exceptional client service through:

- Anticipating client needs and being forthright in our views to ensure the best outcome for them
- Being clear, open and swift in our communication
- Agreeing to and meeting our commitments
- Providing the right environment for our people and the right people for our clients and
- Creating value through giving clients up to date ideas and valuable insight and advice they can trust

#### **Description of the network**

BDO is an international network of public accounting firms, the BDO Member Firms, which perform professional services under the name and style of BDO. BDO is the brand name for the BDO network and all BDO Member Firms. BDO is a registered trademark of Stitching BDO. Stitching BDO is a Dutch Foundation whose registered office is in Eindhoven. The objects of the foundation are:

- To promote high standards of auditing, accountancy, financial, fiscal and business advice throughout the world by the use of the business name BDO and the development of the BDO network
- To own and protect any and all rights to the name BDO, its accompanying logo and styles and any other intellectual property and rights and
- To grant licenses to use the BDO name

#### Legal and structural arrangements in the network

Each BDO Member Firm is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, either as a voting member (one per country) or non-voting member.

Service provision within the BDO network is coordinated by Brussels Worldwide Services BVBA, a limited liability company incorporated in Belgium with its statutory seat in Brussels. BDO International Limited and Brussels Worldwide Services BVBA do not provide any professional services to clients. This is the sole preserve of the BDO Member Firms.



Each of BDO International Limited, Brussels Worldwide Services BVBA and the member firms of the BDO network is a separate legal entity and has no liability for another such entity's acts or omissions. Nothing in the arrangements or rules of BDO shall constitute or imply an agency relationship or a partnership between BDO International Limited, Brussels Worldwide Services BVBA and/or the member firms of the BDO network.

#### Governance of the network

The BDO network is governed by the Council, the Global Board and the Executive (or Global Leadership Team) of BDO International Limited.

The Council comprises one representative from each voting member and represents the members of BDO International Limited in general meeting. The Council approves budgets, appoints the Global Board and approves any changes in the Articles and Regulations of BDO International Limited. The Council meets annually.

The Global Board, which is the Board of Directors of BDO International Limited, currently comprises a representative of the network's six largest member firms, whose appointment, each for a three year term, is approved by the Council. The Global Board sets policies and priorities for the network and oversees the work of the Global Leadership Team. The Global Board meets at least four times a year and more if required.

The Global Leadership Team is tasked with coordinating the activities of the network on a day-to-day basis. It is headed by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and comprises the Global Heads of Audit and Accounting, Tax, Advisory, People, Clients and Markets, Network Development, the CEO Europe, the CEO Asia Pacific, the CEO Americas and the Head of the Brussels Worldwide Services BVBA Legal Department. The Global Board elects a CEO to hold office for a term as may be specified by the Global Board. The CEO appoints the Global Leadership Team, with the prior approval of the Global Board. There is no limit to the number of terms that an individual may serve on the Global Leadership Team. The Global Leadership Team meets monthly.

International committees comprising professionals from BDO Member Firms and/or of Brussels Worldwide Services BVBA report to the respective members of the Global Leadership Team, the CEO and/or the Global Board. The international committees produce materials, policies and guidelines to serve the needs of BDO Member Firms.



The main committees are:

- Audit Steering Committee
- Tax Advisory Committee
- Advisory Leadership Group
- International Corporate Finance Group
- International Risk Management Committee
- International Brand & Marketing Committee
- International Human Resources & Development Committee
- International IT Committee

The committees are complemented by various other sub-groups, task forces and working parties.

#### Size of network

The global aggregated turnover for BDO Member Firms (including their exclusive Alliances) for the year ended 30 September 2015 was in excess of US\$7.30 billion. As at 30 September 2015, the BDO network had member firms operating in 154 countries with 1,408 offices, and had over 64,000 partners and staff.

#### Key features of the member firm network agreement

Each BDO Member Firm is an independent legal entity and profits are not shared between member firms. All BDO Member Firm client engagements - whether for domestic work, referred work from other firms in the network, or international work sourced from non-BDO sources conducted in the name of the local BDO Member Firm.

Membership of the network confers certain rights on BDO Member Firms, as well as certain obligations. Rights include the use of the BDO brand, including the network name and logo, the ability to refer work to and from other BDO Member Firms and a wide range of resources. Obligations include the capability to offer the minimum core services, including accounting and auditing, taxation and specialist advisory services, and a high standard of professionalism and ethics.

The International Liaison Partner in each member firm facilitates international referrals and the smooth running of projects and relationships to ensure clients receive an integrated service.



#### **Operations carried out centrally**

At the direction of the Global Board, the CEO and the Global Leadership Team, operations including but not limited to those noted below are carried out centrally for the BDO network:

- Register, maintain and defend BDO's intellectual property rights
- Enter into worldwide agreements on behalf of BDO Member Firms, such as software licenses
- Develop and maintain BDO Audit Approach and software
- Coordinate the involvement of the BDO network in various large audit network groupings and international professional bodies
- Coordinate and submit network responses to certain consultations by regulators and policy makers in areas such as audit regulation, proposed technical standards, accounting issues generally and corporate governance
- Develop, organise and run training in audit, tax, advisory, human resources and IT
- Facilitate and support strategic secondments between member firms
- Organise and run conferences (international and regional)
- Carry out pre-admission reviews of candidate member firms
- Carry out quality assurance reviews
- Conduct the BDO Member Firm accreditation process
- Support member firm business lines (audit, accounting, tax and advisory) through international committees, global and regional Heads and Advisers
- Provide BDO Member Firms with access to IFRS support including BDO IFR (International Financial Reporting) Advisory Services
- Maintain and promote the BDO intranet and BDO international website
- Develop a corporate visual identity and an online brand centre with guidelines, templates and material for member firm publications and
- Publish and distribute the international directory of BDO Member Firms.



## **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

#### **Management Committee**

The Management Committee was established in January 2015 and is responsible for the execution of our strategy as laid down by the Board, and for the day-to-day operations. The Management Committee is assisted by Functional and Service Line Heads in executing our strategy and administering the day-to-day operations. The members of the Management Committee are with a term of 3 years and they are:



#### ALBERT AU - Co-Chairman

Albert is Co-Chairman of the firm. He has more than 30 years of experience in the accountancy profession. As International Liaison Partner, Albert is in constant communication with many BDO offices around the globe looking after the service needs of inbound and outbound BDO clients.

Albert is a past president of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (2008) and currently represents the Institute as a member of the Small & Medium Practices Committee of the International Federation of Accountants, the global organisation for the accountancy profession.

Albert has been appointed by the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to serve as the followings:

- Chairman of Corruption Prevention Advisory Committee and member of Advisory Committee on Corruption, Independent Commission Against Corruption;
- Member, Hong Kong Housing Authority;
- Council member and Chairman of Audit Committee of Hong Kong Productivity Council; and
- Non-Executive Director, Chairman of Audit Committee, Member of Budget Committee, Investment Committee, Remuneration Committee of Securities and Futures Commission





#### ZHU JIANDI - Co-Chairman

Zhu JianDi, is Co-chairman of the firm and he is also Chairman and Managing Partner of BDO China Shu Lun Pan Certified Public Accountants LLP.

Mr Zhu is also

- Member of the 12<sup>th</sup> Chinese People Political Consultative Conference National Committee
- Executive Committee member of the Chinese Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Executive Committee Member of Shanghai Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Member of Finance, Accounting and Risk Control Committee of China Securities Association of China
- Vice Chairman of the China Accounting Museums
- Member of the 11<sup>th</sup> Chinese People Political Consultative Shanghai Committee
- Member of Listing Committee of Shanghai Stock
  Exchange





#### JOHNSON KONG - Managing Director - Non Assurance

Johnson Kong has over 30 years of professional accounting experience. He specialises in financial investigation, due diligence, litigation support, restructuring, receivership and insolvency related assignments.

In addition to being the Managing Director - Non Assurance of the Firm, as an International Liaison Partner, Johnson is in constant communication with many BDO offices round the globe looking after the service needs of inbound and outbound BDO clients.

Johnson holds a number of professional and public appointments. He is an elected Council Member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (HKICPA). He is the Chairman of Insolvency Specialist Designation Vetting Committee, Deputy Chairman of Small and Medium Practitioners Committee, a member of the Professional Qualifications Accountability Board, Registration and Practising Committee, Professional Conduct Committee, Ethics Committee and Accountancy Manpower Research Advisory Group of HKICPA. He is also a Past Chairman of the Restructuring & Insolvency Faculty of HKICPA and Past President of the Hong Kong Institute of Accredited Accounting Technicians.





#### **CLEMENT CHAN - Managing Director - Assurance**

Clement is the Immediate Past President of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He has actively participated in standards setting and governance activities of the Institute. In addition, Clement is the Chairman of Audit Profession Reform Working Group.

Clement has also actively served in a number of public interest bodies:

- Chair, Asian-Oceania Standard-Setters Group
- Past Chairman and Board Director, The Australian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong
- Member, Higher Rights Assessment Board
- Member, Audit Committee of Western Kowloon
  Cultural District Authority
- Council Member of the Consumer Council
- Member, Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal Panel, Judiciary Administration, HKSAR government
- Director, UNSW Hong Kong Foundation Board
- External Advisors, Department of Accountancy & Law, Hong Kong Baptist University
- Chairman, Departmental Advisory Committee for Department of Accountancy, City University of Hong Kong
- Adviser, Department of Business Administration of Caritas Institute of Higher Education

Clement as the Managing Director of the firm executes and implements the firm's business plan and provides support and backup to the Chairmen in discharging their duties.





## MARY JOYCE LEUNG - Managing Director - Operation and Finance

Mary Joyce Leung has over 35 years of accounting and assurance experience in Hong Kong and Canada. Mary Joyce started her professional career in BDO Canada in 1978 and was transferred to head BDO Binder in Hong Kong after seven years. Prior to her appointment as the Director of Resource Management in 2005 and as COO in 2011, Mary Joyce's main responsibilities were in the areas of assurance and financial advisory services, serving both privately held and publicly traded clients. Her past exposure provides her with extensive experience in dealing with various business sectors and especially in servicing multinational corporations.

In her current role, Mary Joyce mainly oversees the firm's corporate services such as human resources management, financial management, IT and marketing services.





HONG NG - Managing Director - Risk Management Hong Ng is a Managing Director - Risk Management of BDO Limited. He has nearly 30 years of experience in the accountancy profession.

Hong qualified with the now BDO UK in 1985. He is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales as well as the City and Guild Institute in London.

Whilst being responsible for the risk management functions of the Firm, Hong continues to serve as the engagement director on a portfolio of audit clients comprising publicly listed and private companies spanning over a wide spectrum of industries.

Hong is active in the social communities. He is the Honorary Auditor of the Hong Kong Society of Paediatric Dentistry and Honorary Auditor and auditor of a number of charitable and not-for-profit organisations in Hong Kong.

Hong is a Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Practising). He had served on the Professional Risk Management Committee of the Institute and had been a member of the Institute's Liability Reform Task Force for a number of years.

Hong is also a member of the Financial Reporting Review Panel of the Financial Reporting Council.





#### **ANDREW LAM - Director - Assurance**

Andrew Lam is a director of the firm, and also the Head of Business Development of the Assurance Department. Andrew has extensive experience in initial public offering exercises in Hong Kong and overseas stock exchanges. He has assisted numerous companies to list on stock exchanges and issue financial products in Hong Kong, Singapore and other overseas financial centres. Andrew's other areas of expertise include financial due diligence, corporate mergers, acquisitions, reorganisation and other capital market transactions. He is also active in providing statutory assurance work to companies listed locally and abroad. Andrew's clients are mainly based in Hong Kong and mainland China, some with substantial overseas investments, and covering a wide range of industries and businesses.

Andrew was trained and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in the United Kingdom. He has accumulated approximately 30 years of public practice experience in major international accounting firms.

Andrew is a Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Practising) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.





#### **GORDON GAO - Director - Tax**

Gordon has over 20 years of professional experiences in providing tax and business advisory services to various types of business and industries including experiences with the tax authority, large MNCs and CPA firms in China and overseas countries.

Gordon was a tax partner in Big Four before joining BDO China. He also worked for MNCs as tax directors, mainly focus on group strategies, tax and financial risks management, negotiation with government authorities. Moreover, he served in China Tax Bureau Foreign Tax Section for many years, which brings him a solid relationship with many levels of tax authorities.

Gordon is specialized in tax controversy services and difficult tax cases; he successfully fulfilled many "impossible cases" and helped clients obtain millions of US dollars tax savings.

Gordon graduated from Brock University, Canada and had a Master degree of Accountancy; he is a Certified General Accountant of Canada and Chinese Certified Tax Agent.



#### Risk Management Committee (RMC)

The RMC is responsible for:

- Evaluating the risks faced by us and identifying and implementing such actions as are appropriate to mitigate these risks
- Formulating and implementing risk management policies and procedures and ensuring the compliance of directors and members of staff with those policies and procedures. These policies and procedures include the requirements of the Codes of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued by the HKICPA and the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and such other ethical regulations and requirements applicable to us
- Promoting a culture of risk awareness and consultation and being the primary point of contact for risk issues no matter their nature and source

The RMC meets regularly with responsibility for considering the various areas of risk relevant to us including the areas of responsibility of the risk management and such other risk topics that are considered appropriate from time to time.

The RMC members are as follows:

Name	Title
Stephen Chan (Chair)	Head of Risk
Albert Au	Chairman
Johnson Kong	Managing Director - Non Assurance
Clement Chan	Managing Director - Assurance
Hong Ng	Managing Director - Risk Management
Simon Riley	Head of Professional Services
Cecilia Yam	Head of Quality Assurance
Lesley Yeung	Head of Assurance
Ringo Chiu	Assurance Director
Jonathan Leong	Assurance Director



#### New Client Acceptance Panel (NCAP)

The NCAP plays a pivotal role in the new client and engagement acceptance process. We have robust new client and engagement acceptance procedures in place to ensure that we are only associated with quality clients and we only take on engagements that we are competent in delivering quality services.

The new client and engagement acceptance procedures include:

- Consideration of the client's business including its geographical spread and the industry it operates in;
- Evaluation of information concerning the client, its management and its owners including obtaining evidence of the identity of the owners and officers of the business;
- Consideration of information regarding the character and reputation of the prospective client and key personnel;
- Assessment of potential independence risks and potential conflicts of interest;
- If relevant, inquiry of the previous auditor regarding the reasons for the change in auditor and whether there is any reason we should not accept the appointment;
- Assessment of our ability to serve the prospective client; and
- Reviewing filings of the company, including prior year financial statements.

The NCAP members are as follows:

Name	Title
Stephen Chan (Chair)	Head of Risk
Albert Au	Chairman
Johnson Kong	Managing Director - Non Assurance
Clement Chan	Managing Director - Assurance
Simon Riley	Head of Professional Services
Cecilia Yam	Head of Quality Assurance
Lesley Yeung	Head of Assurance
Ringo Chiu	Assurance Director
Peter Chow	Assurance Director
Fanny Li	Assurance Director



## **INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEM**

Our system of internal quality control is designed to provide reasonable assurance that we, our directors and staff comply with professional standards and regulatory and legal requirements, work is performed to a consistently high standard and that reports issued by us are appropriate.

We consider that our systems are compliant with all applicable standards, such as the Hong Kong Standard on Quality Control issued by the HKICPA and the International Standard on Quality Control of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, published by the International Federation of Accountants.

Our system of internal quality control can be split into the following elements:

- a. Leadership responsibilities for quality
- b. Ethical requirements
- c. Acceptance and continuance of client relationships and specific engagements
- d. Human resources
- e. Engagement performance
- f. Monitoring



#### a. Leadership responsibilities for quality

Quality control is dependent upon an organisational structure that is inherently sound and clearly defines the responsibilities of the various levels of management.

It is a fundamental firm value that our directors and staff act with honesty, integrity and a commitment to high quality work. Failure to act this way will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action.

The Management Committee and the firm are committed to quality work, the public interest and professional judgement and our values of:

- Honesty and integrity
- Taking personal responsibility
- Mutual support
- Strong and personal client relationship

We have clearly established responsibilities for the Managing Directors, the directors, and other senior personnel. The Management Committee devises and implements our business strategy and manages operational issues.

Along with our management, the Head of Technical and Training reinforces the appropriate "tone at the top" by instilling professional and ethical values and is also responsible for the following:

- Develop assurance methodology and guidance to ensure compliance with auditing standards;
- Maintain our technical manuals and communicating developments to our directors and staff;
- Help maintain our assurance practice at the highest standards prevailing in the profession;
- Consult with directors and other network professionals seeking technical advice; and
- Oversee our technical continuing professional education programmes.



#### b. Ethical requirements

Our policies relating to ethical conduct are set out in detailed pages on our intranet and in the BDO Hong Kong Quality Assurance Manual. We expect our directors and staff to act with honesty and integrity and to conduct themselves with an appropriate level of professional deportment. Non-compliance with our policies and procedures will result in appropriate actions, including disciplinary action.

Our directors and staff will act in utmost integrity. This will require that we only associate with businesses and individuals of integrity. Our policy of client and engagement acceptance therefore requires that the integrity of individuals and businesses for which we intend to act be considered.

## c. Acceptance and continuance of client relationships and specific engagements

Robust new client and engagement acceptance procedures play a pivotal role in our ability to deliver quality professional services. Before we enter into a relationship with any prospective client, and throughout our relationship with any client, we gain and document knowledge about the client and the risks of our association with them.

In addition to fulfilling legal and regulatory requirements, understanding our clients and risks is essential to our ability to deliver exceptional client service.

The acceptance of all clients requires an approval process that is appropriate to the perceived risk. Acceptance of new public interest entity audit clients requires pre-approval by the New Client Acceptance Panel.



#### d. Human resources

Our people are the critical factor in our ability to provide exceptional client service and audit quality. To ensure that we have sufficient staff with the capability, competence and ethical standards necessary to provide quality audits in accordance with professional and legal requirements, we have established clear policies and procedures addressing the following areas:

- Recruitment
- Performance development
- Capabilities and competence
- Career development and progression
- Resource management

#### Recruitment

Policies and procedures for recruitment are designed to ensure that those employed possess the appropriate attributes to enable them to deliver high quality service and perform their duties with professional competence.

We work actively to ensure that we have an inclusive culture where everyone has an opportunity to develop and progress regardless of their differences. Inclusivity within our organisation strengthens our values, makes us more representative and more capable of providing quality professional service.

We seek people with high levels of intelligence, stability, maturity, integrity, motivation, aptitude and leadership appropriate to the roles for which they are being hired.

We continuously seek and adopt the most up-to-date relevant recruitment selection tools and processes, which aim to improve the quality and fit of those joining us.

We work proactively to source a high number of vacancies via direct resourcing channels, including universities in Hong Kong and overseas and continuously re-evaluate our recruitment policies and procedures to ensure that they are appropriate and are operating effectively.



#### Performance development

The purpose of the Performance Appraisal is to facilitate performance management and provide all levels of staff (including directors) with a formal two-way communication channel to discuss the staff's performance. Through the Performance Appraisal, our staff better understand our expectations on their performance, and to what extent that they have achieved these expectations. Training and development needs of our staff can also be identified through this process. This is an essential process to enhance our staff's professional development and competency.

Our Appraisal System is designed and implemented based on the principle of transparency and objectivity, and minimises personal prejudice and subjectivity. Continuous assessment is believed to be one of the best methods to meet this purpose.

Appraisees benefit from continuous assessment through timely performance feedback from their supervisors and make appropriate improvements.

Reviews are performed on an assignment-by-assignment basis by trainees and audit seniors as well as at six-month intervals. The factors evaluated (which vary by staff level) include work performance and general contribution, professional and technical competence, and other core competences required for the execution of their duties.

#### Capabilities and competence

Policies and procedures for assigning our people to engagements are designed such that only those persons having adequate technical proficiency and competence will perform the work, taking into account the size, nature and complexity of each engagement. Technical training is provided by our Technical and Training Department, which include online and traditional classroom-based delivery mechanisms. The learning outcomes for these training programmes are reviewed annually against the role requirements at each staff grade.

#### Career development and progression

We address career development on an individual basis. Our people are promoted to the next level only when they are prepared for the increased responsibilities that the promotion entails.



For a promotion to be awarded, the individual must have demonstrated attainment of the competences required for that role. In addition, promotion to the roles of Principal and Director are subject to a demonstration of the competences via assessment centres and technical interviews.

Non-compliance with our policies and professional standards is also identified through internal and external reviews. Lack of compliance is remediated by additional training, delays in promotion, or dismissal for serious instances of non-compliance.

#### Resource management

We recognise that ultimately it is the ability and commitment of our people that really makes a difference and enables us to deliver quality professional services. Given this, our ability to attract the right number of high quality people is of utmost importance. We determine our resource requirements 12 to 18 months in advance, factoring in current and future client needs so as to continue to maintain quality professional services.



#### e. Engagement performance

#### Common approach

Our policies and procedures are designed to ensure that audits meet all applicable professional standards, and regulatory requirements and that we issue reports that are appropriate in the circumstances. To achieve this, and to ensure consistency in the approach to auditing, we have contributed to the development of the common BDO Audit Approach, related software tools and other standard forms of documentation. This approach is fully compliant with Hong Kong and International Standards on Auditing and these common processes are used by all BDO Member Firms.

The BDO Audit Approach is scalable and designed to be applied to all entities, whether small or large, to ensure that all audits are carried out to a consistently high standard. The successful application of the BDO Audit Approach depends on its intelligent application throughout the audit process by our people, drawing on our knowledge, experience and support mechanisms. In carrying out our work, we observe the following principles:

- Independence and objectivity
- Diligence
- Professional judgement
- Professional scepticism

#### Supervision and review

We require all professional work to be supervised by those people who have appropriate knowledge and experience. It is the responsibility of the relevant Engagement Director to ensure that related risks are identified and that decisions are taken by those with an appropriate level of experience. The relevant Engagement Director must also ensure that professional work is carried out efficiently, with appropriate scepticism, and that it meets our standards in all respects.

The Engagement Director, through a review of the audit documentation and discussion with the engagement team, must be satisfied that sufficient and appropriate audit evidence has been obtained to support the conclusions reached and for the auditor's report to be issued and that the audit has been carried out in accordance with our policies and procedures. The



Engagement Director is ultimately responsible for ensuring that all material or potentially material matters or issues raised during the audit are satisfactorily resolved and documented in the working papers.

An engagement quality control review is performed for audits of public interest entities and other greater than normal risk engagements.

This review is performed by an assurance director other than the Engagement Director. The engagement quality control reviewer possesses the level of knowledge and competence related to accounting, auditing, and financial reporting required to serve as the person who has overall responsibility for the same type of engagement and be knowledgeable and familiar with the client's industry, but will be independent from the audit engagement team. He or she would ordinarily be an experienced assurance director and not be unduly influenced by the views of the Engagement Director. The engagement quality control reviewer cannot be actively involved in making ongoing decisions relating to the engagement and will not be involved in performing the engagement.

Engagement quality control reviewers are selected by Head of Quality Assurance from a list of approved reviewers, as determined by the Head of Assurance and Managing Director - Assurance.

#### Consultation

Our culture of openness encourages consultation with experienced directors and other specialists where appropriate in order to achieve quality outcomes that properly take into account the public interest.

We have a process in place for assurance directors and teams to follow when consulting and seeking a 'firm' opinion, support on a client issue, judgement or risk.



#### f. Monitoring

Our policies and procedures concerning monitoring activities are designed to give us reasonable assurance that our internal quality control system is operating effectively and is being complied with in practice.

Our quality control system includes an annual review of audit working paper (the Internal Quality Control Review programme) to monitor compliance with our policies, procedures and standards and to ensure that the work done to arrive at an opinion is both adequate and properly documented.

The review consists of reviewing, on a sample basis, the working papers and reports of selected audit engagements and documentation of compliance with our quality control policies and procedures in other areas. This review process selects appropriate sample files to ensure that each assurance director is subject to review at least once every three years.

Quality Assurance Department is responsible for monitoring and documenting the implementation of, and compliance with, any corrective actions. The process is managed by Head of Quality Assurance and review team is also headed by the Head of Quality Assurance.

Briefing sessions are given to all review team leaders and selected review team members. In advance of the review, instructions are issued to the reviewers, which include:

- Objectives of the process
- Checklist of procedures
- Appropriate guidance
- Reporting templates



## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF FUNCTIONING

These policies, procedures and monitoring activities have provided our Management Committee with reasonable assurance that we, our directors and staff, have materially complied with applicable professional, regulatory and legal requirements, that work has been performed to a consistently high standard and that appropriate reports have been issued.

The Management Committee is satisfied that our system of internal control allows us to identify crucial areas where improvements may be necessary. The Management Committee has inter alia considered the results of the reviews performed internally and externally by BDO International and HKICPA in reaching this opinion.

## MONITORING OF QUALITY CONTROL

The last completed quality assurance reviews (known as practice review) performed by HKICPA and BDO International were in January 2015 August 2015 respectively. Both reviews were with no follow-up action being required. The review results, however, are not publicly available.

## **PUBLIC INTEREST ENTITIES**

Public interest entities as defined under paragraph 290.25 of Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued by the HKICPA are:

- (a) All listed entities; and
- (b) Any entity (a) defined by regulation or legislation as a public interest entity or (b) for which the audit is required by regulation or legislation to be conducted in compliance with the same independence requirements that apply to the audit of listed entities 1b. Such regulation may be promulgated by any relevant regulator, including an audit regulator.

We do not determine additional entities to be classified as public interest entities other than those falls within the above definition.



In the financial year ended 30 September 2015, we performed statutory audits of the following public interest entities:

#### Companies listed in Hong Kong or elsewhere:

1010 PRINTING GROUP LIMITED **Combest Holdings Limited** Advanced Card Systems Holdings Limited **Continental Holdings Limited** Agritrade Resources Limited **Creative China Holdings Limited** AID Partners Capital Holdings Limited Culture Landmark Investment Limited **Datronix Holdings Limited** AMCO United Holding Limited Asia Energy Logistics Group Limited Differ Group Holding Company Limited Bestway International Holdings Limited **Digital Domain Holdings Limited** Branding China Group Limited Dongwu Cement International Limited Century Legend (Holdings) Limited E Lighting Group Holdings Limited Eagle Legend Asia Limited Chanco International Group Limited Changshouhua Food Company Limited Eco-Tek Holdings Limited China Assurance Finance Group Limited EGL Holdings Company Limited Energy International Investments Holdings Limited China Binary Sale Technology Limited China Bio-Med Regeneration Technology Limited Essex Bio-Technology Limited China Chengtong Development Group Limited EVOC Intelligent Technology Company Limited China Dynamics (Holdings) Limited Flying Financial Service Holdings Limited China Energy Development Holdings Limited Fountain Set (Holdings) Limited China Fortune Holdings Limited Future Bright Holdings Limited China Innovative Finance Group Limited G.A. Holdings Limited China Investment Development Limited Gemini Investments (Holdings) Limited China Kangda Food Company Limited Good Resources Holdings Limited China Lumena New Materials Corp\* Great China Holdings Limited China Nonferrous Metals Company Limited Green Energy Group Limited China Nuclear Energy Technology Corporation Limited Guocang Group Limited Haier Healthwise Holdings Limited China Overseas Grand Oceans Group Limited\* China Primary Resources Holdings Limited Honbridge Holdings Limited China Resources and Transportation Group Limited\* Hybrid Kinetic Group Limited China Sandi Holdings Limited Jia Meng Holdings Limited China Shun Ke Long Holdings Limited Jiahua Stores Holdings Limited China Water Affairs Group Limited Jimei International Entertainment Group Limited Cinderella Media Group Limited King Fook Holdings Limited Citychamp Watch & Jewellery Group Limited King Force Security Holdings Limited King's Flair International (Holdings) Limited Soundwill Holdings Limited



Kingston Financial Group Limited Kwan On Holdings Limited **KPa-BM Holdings Limited** Lansen Pharmaceutical Holdings Limited Link Holdings Limited Loco Hong Kong Holdings Limited Mexan Limited Nagacorp Limited Nan Hai Corporation Limited **Orient Securities International Holdings Limited** Oriental University City Holdings (H.K.) Limited Pak Wing Group (Holdings) Limited PC Partner Group Limited Phoenitron Holdings Limited Pinestone Capital Limited Pizu Group Holdings Limited Quali-Smart Holdings Limited Quam Limited Regent Pacific Group Limited Roma Group Limited Runway Global Holdings Company Limited Shanghai Tonva Petrochemical Co., Ltd. Sheng Yuan Holdings Limited SHK Hong Kong Industries Limited Shougang Fushan Resources Group Limited\* Shuanghua Holdings Limited Sincere Watch (Hong Kong) Limited Sino Harbour Holdings Group Limited Sino Oil And Gas Holdings Limited Sino Splendid Holdings Limited Sino-i Technology Limited Skyfame Realty (Holdings) Limited Solartech International Holdings Limited

South China Land Limited Sparkle Roll Group Limited Sun East Technology (Holdings) Limited Symphony Holdings Ltd. Synergy Group Holdings International Limited Tech Pro Technology Development Limited Thiz Technology Group Limited **Tiande Chemical Holdings Limited** Tianjin Teda Biomedical Engineering Company Limited Topsearch International (Holdings) Limited Travel Expert (Asia) Enterprises Limited **U-Home Group Holdings Limited** United Pacific Industries Limited V1 Group Limited Winfull Group Holdings Limited Yueshou Environmental Holdings Limited Zebra Strategic Holdings Limited 99 Wuxian Limited Changtian Plastic & Chemical Limited China Yuanbang Property Holdings Limited Chinasing Investment Holdings Limited **Dukang Distillers Holdings Limited** Full Apex (Holdings) Limited Joyas International Holdings Limited Li Heng Chemical Fibre Technologies Limited Longcheer Holdings Limited Luxking Group Holdings Limited Pan Hong Property Group Limited Qingmei Group Holdings Limited Dukang Distillers Holdings Limited LED International Holdings Limited Cathay International Holdings Limited Worldsec Limited



### **INDEPENDENCE**

It is our fundamental principle to perform assurance services with unimpaired professional judgement and objectivity, and to be seen to be doing so by a reasonable observer.

In relation to independence, we have detailed internal guidance setting out the policies and procedures designed to meet the principles and requirements of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (HK COE) issued by the HKICPA and the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IFAC COE) issued by the IFAC. This guidance is complemented by extensive advice on consultation and training programmes targeting the needs of the individual directors and staff.

These policies and procedures cover, inter alia, our relationships with audit clients, rotation of engagement directors, fees and the provision of non-audit services to audit clients.

A review of independence practices has been conducted via processes of internal review as part of a series of monitoring and review activities, including:

- An annual declaration undertaken by all directors and staff. All exceptions are reviewed and investigated by Quality Assurance Department.
- The audit quality assurance programme examines a selection of audit files on an annual basis to review, among other things, the independence compliance.
- Regular and ad hoc monitoring activities targeting specific aspects of audit independence.

In addition to the HK COE, all BDO Member Firms are required to comply with, and annually report their compliance with, the IFAC COE.



## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

We are committed to developing and maintaining the highest possible standards of technical competence through our own professional development programmes.

We have developed a curriculum for our staff, which includes:

- Completion of a relevant professional qualification
- Technical training and
- Professional skills development

This curriculum reflects individual roles and responsibilities to be undertaken throughout their careers - encouraging above all application of professional judgement and professional scepticism skills.

At initial professional development levels, for all trainee audit professionals, there is an intensive orientation programme covering our audit approach, tools, policies and procedures and our organisational structure. Additional professional development training is provided as a trainee progresses through his or her audit career. This includes access to online content as well as classroom and other forms of training. Training content is integrated alongside role requirements and content provided by professional qualifications to ensure that only the right people are performing the work at each level. This professional development is complemented by on the job coaching which provides a significant contribution to the professional development of trainees.

All qualified audit professionals, including managers and directors, are provided with continuing professional development (CPD) annual updates in auditing, accounting and reporting matters, some of which are mandatory for certain individuals and elective for others, depending on their business focus and own professional development needs. In addition to technical workshops, additional content is provided on a more just in time basis throughout the year. Additional training is also provided by sectors with support and guidance (including training). We require participation in appropriate CPD programmes and monitor the fulfilment of programme obligations.



Professional development opportunities for our people are identified by grade and highlighted in annually updated learning maps provided on our intranet. Our learning management systems can be used to select, book and track attendance in online or workshop based activities.

Newly employed professionals with prior work experience are reviewed on an individual basis and receive a programme of training appropriate to their role and responsibilities - this may include additional training based on their prior work experience in order to ensure that audit quality is maintained.

Our people are personally responsible for keeping up-to-date with technical and professional skills that they need to successfully carry out the roles to which they are assigned. Regular technical guidance is also provided.

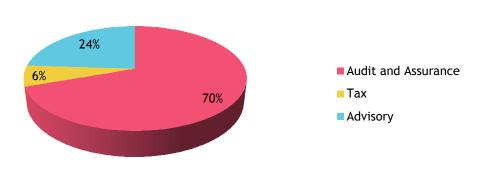
Performance development reviews reinforce our emphasis on lifelong learning and the continuous development of skills and attitudes including professional judgement and professional scepticism. As part of an individual's performance development review, initial and continuing professional development needs are discussed and training courses, online support tools, workshops or other learning and development opportunities are identified using our published learning maps and career development wheel. Specific on-the-job training opportunities are identified in order to further develop technical and professional skills, and may include international secondments as well as additional mentoring or coaching.



## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

BDO Hong Kong has a staff contingent of 1,000, which includes over 200 qualified accountants, offering a wide range of professional services that can be broadly divided into three main businesses - Audit and Assurance, Tax and Advisory. Advisory comprises business services & outsourcing, private client services, risk advisory services and special advisory services.

Analysis of total turnover by professional services for the fiscal year ended 30 September 2015 is as follows:





## DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

Directors' remuneration is determined commensurate with their responsibilities, experience and performance, and is reviewed by the Remuneration Committee based on their achievement of the annually determined goals based on a series of competencies, which include technical competence, client services, business development, leadership, operational excellence, people management, risk management and professional ethics and communication.



### **BDO Limited**

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BDO Limited, a Hong Kong limited company, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms.

BDO is the brand name for the BDO network and for each of the BDO Member Firms.

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