ASIA CEMENT (CHINA) HOLDINGS CORPORATION: THE SICHUAN EARTHQUAKE CHANGES EVERYTHING

The earthquake, measuring 7.90 on the Richter Scale, that struck the Sichuan Province of the People's Republic of China (PRC), leaving in excess of 34,000 people, confirmed to have been killed (as at yesterday's latest count), and many tens of thousands, missing and presumed dead, raises a host of questions with regard to companies, operating in this area of the country, especially those companies, dependent on the infrastructure of the area near to the epicentre of the earthquake – the City of Wenchuan – as well as lines of communication/transportation to and from the Central Yangtze River Region and the Yangtze River Delta Region.

One such company that has been singled out is Asia Cement (China) Holdings Corporation ([]) (Code: 743, Main Board, The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd).

The earthquake struck early on Monday afternoon, May 12, 2008, and the following day, Asia Cement (China) published the following statement:

'... The Directors are aware that a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck the City of Wenchuan () in the Sichuan province on 12 May 2008. The Company would like to advise that (i) the Sichuan Yadong Plant () is located approximately 70 kilometers from the City of Wenchuan, and (ii) after due and careful enquiry, to the best of their knowledge, information and belief, the Directors advise that (A) for the Sichuan Yadong Plant: (a) the No. 1 rotary kiln ceased operation after a electricity blackout and is undergoing standard inspection and repair, operation is expected to resume within approximately two to three days, (b) other production facilities were slightly damaged, (c) communication system was slightly affected, (d)electricity supply was stable, and (e) other living facilities were not materially affected, (B) the Sichuan limestone quarry ceased mining operations for inspection and operation is expected to resume within approximately two to three days, (C) Chengdu Ya Li (a RMC batching plant) (Chengdu Ya Li Cement Products Company Ltd []), Sichuan Ya Li (a RMC *batching plant*) (Sichuan Ya Li Cement Products Company Ltd []), Sichuan Ya Li *Transportation (transportation services company)* (Sichuan Ya Li Transportation Company Ltd []) and Chengdu Ya Xin (manufacturer of slag powder) (Chengdu Yaxin Slag Powder Company Ltd []) were not materially affected, (D) no material damage to the Group's personnel and assets located in the Sichuan province as a result of the earthquake has come to their attention; and (E) to ensure high degree of safety, the operation of the Sichuan Yadong Plant is temporarily suspended for inspection and the Directors expect that the inspection procedures could last for approximately two to three days. Accordingly, the Directors would like to clarify that they did not observe and do not expect any material impact to the business operation and financial performance of the Group as a result of the earthquake.

'The Company undertakes to make separate announcement as soon as practicable should anything come to its attention that would have a material impact to the business operation and financial performance of the Group as a result of the earthquake.

'The Directors confirm that there has been no significant change affecting any matter contained in the Prospectus and that no significant new matter has arisen which would require the Company to include additional information in the Prospectus had they been known at the time when the Prospectus was issued.' While TARGET makes every attempt to ensure accuracy of all data published, TARGET cannot be held responsible for any errors and/or omissions.

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