

# PRESS RELEASE (FOR HK SHARES)

For Immediate Release

Unless otherwise stated, the financial data contained in this document have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

# CHINA MOBILE ANNOUNCES 2021 ANNUAL RESULTS

Build a new information service system of "connectivity, computing force and ability" based on 5G, computing force network and smart mid-end platforms

Become a world-class information services and sci-tech innovation enterprise

# Highlights

- · Accelerated business transformation and upgrade; delivered outstanding business performance
- Value-oriented operating practices yielded notable outcomes; innovative business gained strong growth momentum
- Systematically optimized layout of new infrastructure; comprehensively enhanced sci-tech and innovation capabilities
- · Implemented enterprise reforms in greater depth; A-shares listing marked a new milestone
- Attach utmost importance to shareholder returns; continuously create value for shareholders
- · Set the development goal of becoming a world-class information services and sci-tech innovation enterprise

# **Operating Performance**

	2020	2021	Change
Operating revenue (RMB million)	768,070	848,258	10.4%
Of which: Revenue from telecommunications services	695,692	751,409	8.0%
(RMB million)			
EBITDA (RMB million) <sup>1</sup>	285,135	311,008	9.1%
Profit attributable to equity shareholders (RMB million)	107,843	116,148	7.7%
Basic earnings per share (RMB)	5.27	5.67	7.7%
Dividend per share (HK\$)	3.29	4.06	23.4%
Total mobile customers (million)	942	957	1.6%
Of which: 5G package customers (million)	165	387	134.4%
5G network customers (million)	-	207	-
Mobile ARPU (RMB)	47.4	48.8	3.0%
Wireline broadband customers (million)	210	240	14.2%
Of which: Household broadband customers (million)	192	218	13.5%
Household broadband blended ARPU (RMB)	37.7	39.8%	5.6%
Corporate customers (million)	13.84	18.83	36.1%
IoT smart connections (million)	873	1,049	20.1%

*1. EBITDA* = *profit from operations* + *depreciation and amortization* 

(Hong Kong, 23 March 2022) –China Mobile recorded operating revenue of RMB848.3 billion for the year of 2021, up by 10.4% year- on-year. Of this, telecommunications services revenue amounted to RMB751.4 billion, up by 8.0% year-on-year, and the growth rate was 4.8 percentage points higher than that of 2020. All four CHBN businesses expanded in terms of both customer base and revenue. The HBN business revenue contributed 35.7% to the revenue of telecommunications services, up by 4.3 percentage points year-on-year, showing a further enhanced revenue structure. Driven by rapid business expansion in areas including smart home services, DICT (data, information and communications technology) services, mobile cloud, and digital content, digital transformation revenue (digital transformation revenue includes the revenues from new businesses from the "Customer" market (and-Caiyun and others), the revenues from smart home added-value businesses from the "Home" market, the revenues from DICT, IoT and dedicated lines businesses from the "Business" market and the revenue from the "New" market) increased by 26.3% year-on-year to reach RMB159.4 billion, contributing 59.5% of the growth of telecommunications services revenue and to become our largest revenue growth driver. Overall, our most emphasized second curve of growth, with digital transformation revenue as the major component, is leading us to explore a boarder market in the blue-ocean of information services.

As part of our consistent efforts to reduce costs and enhance operating efficiency, we tightened cost-control measures involving all staff members and elements of production, as well as our entire workflow, which generated favorable outcomes. Profit attributable to equity shareholders reached RMB116.1 billion, or RMB5.67 per share, up by 7.7% year-on-year. Our profitability remained in a leading position among top-tier global telecommunications operators. EBITDA increased by 9.1% year-on-year to RMB311.0 billion, with an EBITDA margin of 36.7%. EBITDA accounted for 41.4% of telecommunications services revenue, representing a 0.4 percentage point increase year-on-year. Return on equity was 9.8%, up by 0.3 percentage points compared to 2020. Our capital expenditure totaled RMB183.6 billion and we maintained a healthy cash flow, with free cash flow amounting to RMB131.2 billion, or an increase of 3.2% year-on-year. We have maintained industry-leading profitability, return on assets and cash flow for a number of consecutive years, demonstrating our outstanding operating level and management efficiency, and laying a solid ground for future development.

The Board recommends a cash dividend of 60% of the profit attributable to equity shareholders (The base of the Company's profit distribution is the profit attributable to equity shareholders under International Financial Reporting Standards) for the full year of 2021. It also recommends a final dividend payment of HK\$2.43 per share (dividends will be denominated and declared in Hong Kong dollars. Dividends for A-shares will be paid in Renminbi with the conversion rate to be calculated based on the average central parity rate between Hong Kong dollars and Renminbi announced by the People's Bank of China in the week before the date of the declaration of dividends at the annual general meeting, and a separate announcement will be made before the annual general meeting as regards the exact amount. Dividends for Hong Kong shares will be paid in Hong Kong dollars) for the year ended 31 December 2021, an increase of 38.0% year-on-year. Together with the interim dividend of HK\$1.63 per share already paid, total dividend for the full year of 2021 amounted to HK\$4.06 per share, an increase of 23.4% from that of 2020.

To create higher returns for our shareholders and share the results of our operating gains, after giving full consideration to the Company's profitability, cash flow conditions and future development needs, in the three-year period from 2021, the profit to be distributed in cash for each year will gradually increase to 70% or above of the profit attributable to equity shareholders of the Company for that year. The Company will strive to create more value for shareholders.

Mr. Yang Jie, Chairman of the Company commented, 'In 2021, faced with various obstacles and challenges including the prevention and control of COVID-19, the disruption of industrial supply chains and the need for business transformation, we managed to mobilize everyone at China Mobile to work together and firmly seize the opportunities arising from the accelerated digital transformation of the economy and society. By upholding our overarching strategy of becoming a world-class enterprise by building a dynamic "Powerhouse", focusing our efforts on spearheading our "4x3" strategy and furthering our "5G+" plans, we drove the comprehensive and

integrated development of our CHBN3 markets. By doing so, we advanced towards our goal of becoming a worldclass information services and sci-tech innovation enterprise. Our digital intelligent transformation and accelerated high-quality development have yielded fresh outcomes. Over the year, we achieved all-round growth in customer and enterprise values and shareholder returns, along with our fastest revenue growth rate in a decade. Our net profit grew favorably and overall business performance was remarkable.'

# Value-oriented Operating Practices and Integrated Development Achieved Significant Progress

Capturing the new opportunities presented to the industry by accelerated 5G development and digital economic growth, we focused on value-oriented practices while drawing on the advantages of our business scale. Through continuous efforts to promote their comprehensive and integrated development, all four of the CHBN markets delivered outstanding performance, with increasing customer satisfaction.

#### "Customer" Market: Scale Expansion with Value Uplift

We furthered the integrated operation of data access, applications, and customer benefits, while competing in the market in a rational and regulated way to drive an industry-wide value uplift. We stepped up efforts to encourage customers to switch from 4G to 5G and to create more synergy between the "Customer" market and the "Home" and "Business" markets, expanding our 5G customer base and value and continuously boosting personal information and communications consumption. At the same time, we implemented more measures to carry out customer segmentation and precision marketing and to generate revenue from our members. Through promoting diversified and dedicated products, applications and customer benefits, and further differentiating the services on offer from our three major brands (GoTone, M-zone and Easy Own), we continued to enhance customer value and user experience. In 2021, revenue from the "Customer" market reversed its downward trajectory and recorded positive growth, increasing by 1.4% year-on-year to RMB483.4 billion. Our mobile customer base reached 957 million, with a net addition of 14.97 million customers. Of these, 387 million customers were our 5G package customers – a net increase of 222 million customers. The scale of growth anchored us at the forefront of the industry. The number of customers with integrated benefit products reached 190 million, with a net addition of 112 million customers. The number of monthly active users of our cloud product "and-Caiyun" increased 32.43 million to reach 135 million. Thanks to the traction created by the upgrade of 5G and the incremental value engendered by integrated operations, the ARPU (average revenue per user per month) of our mobile business reached RMB48.8, up by 3.0% year-on-year.

## "Home" Market: Strong Growth Momentum with Increased Scale and Revenue

With a focus on setting up a service suite that combines full-gigabit network connections with cloudbased applications, we strove to extend our smart home application services to the wider community, and to rural areas by supporting digital village development. To foster leadership in broadband services, we sped up the upgrade of gigabit broadband and optimized our end-to-end service and quality management system; to foster leadership in content-driven TV services, we further integrated the operation of big – and small-screen content and created a household information service portal consisting of broadband television, digital cinema and vertical content; to foster leadership in smart home services, we expanded our applications by covering more household service scenarios, boosting the uptake of household applications including smart home network deployment, home security and smart remote controls, and exploring more new application scenarios of HDICT (home data, information and communications technology) solutions. In 2021, revenue from the "Home" market maintained rapid growth and reached RMB100.5 billion, up by 20.8% year-on-year. We added 25.88 million household broadband customers, bringing the total number to 218 million, which was the highest in the industry. We also made significant progress in expanding our smart home business, with customers of our digital set-top box service "Mobaihe" reaching 167 million, accounting for 76.8% of our household customer base. Customers deploying smart home networks increased by 110.2% year-on-year, while those using our home security services and smart remote controls grew by 164.7% and 132.3%, respectively. Household broadband blended ARPU

increased 5.6% year-on-year to reach RMB39.8. The value contribution from smart home applications grew significantly.

#### "Business" Market: Revenue Growth Driver with Strong Momentum

Drawing on our innovative computing and network integration and our well-established nationwide localized services, we focused on key industries to foster the scale and integrated development of networks, cloud, and DICT. In 2021, the revenue from the "Business" market maintained rapid growth to reach RMB137.1 billion, up by 21.4% year-on-year. We gained 4.99 million corporate customers, bringing the total to 18.83 million. The revenue from DICT amounted to RMB62.3 billion, with an increase of 43.2% year-on-year, contributing 2.7 percentage points to the telecommunications services revenue growth. We nurtured our differentiated advantages in the convergences of cloud and networks, cloud and big data, cloud and intelligence, and cloud and edge computing, further strengthening our product structure with the goal of expediting our development to become a top-tier player in this space. Mobile cloud revenue amounted to RMB24.2 billion, up by 114% year-on-year. For 5G vertical industry sectors, we created an image of industry superiority and continued to make full use of our 5G industry-leading position to spearhead the development of dedicated network and promote the deep assimilation of 5G applications into industry sectors. A number of industry segments have seen their application solutions entering large-scale replication phase, and these efforts have underscored our leadership in 5G. We launched 200 leading showcases, signed agreements with more than 2,800 high-quality commercial projects and developed 1,590 5G dedicated network projects, bringing the DICT contract value to more than RMB16.0 billion. We have started implementing these projects at scale across a wide range of industries, covering smart mining, smart factories, smart grid, smart metallurgy, smart ports and smart hospitals. In terms of Industrial Internet, we have built a "1+1+1+N"<sup>7</sup> product suite and further promoted the deep integration of 5G and Industrial Internet. Considering the differentiated needs of industry customers, we have built a manageable and controllable 5G dedicated industry network that is adaptive to industry development with device-cloud integration, helping the industry boost digital transformation and upgrading.

## "New" Market: Innovative Strategic Layout with Visible Results

Upholding the spirit of innovation, entrepreneurship and originality, we strove for new breakthroughs in the "New" market by fostering synergetic growth across four key areas: international business, equity investment, digital content, and FinTech. Our efforts have yielded notable results. In 2021, revenue from the "New" market achieved rapid double- digit growth, increasing by 34.2% year-on-year to RMB30.3 billion. In the international business, we deepened synergy between the domestic and international markets and sped up the introduction of our quality and proven capabilities to overseas markets, with the goal of further optimizing the deployment of international resources and enhancing our international operations. In 2021, our international business revenue amounted to RMB13.3 billion, representing an increase of 20.1% year-on-year. In terms of equity investment, we used the capital to achieve value growth, ecosystem formation, and synergy creation with a range of industries. We persisted in the dual approach of combining direct investment and investment in funds, focusing strategically on key areas. By establishing the dual links through industry and capital, we nurtured the digitalized and intelligent industry ecosystem. In 2021, our equity investment income accounted for 10.3% of our net profit. With regards to digital content and FinTech, we have developed high-quality Internet products in areas including videos, games, VR/AR, and payment systems. By constantly reinforcing our capabilities in combining scenarios, content, and operations, we expanded the scale of these products and enhanced user experience. In 2021, the revenue generated from digital content grew by 47.1% year-on-year and the number of monthly active users of MIGU Video across all platforms was up by 45.0% year-on-year. The revenue from Internet Finance increased 102.1% year-on-year and the number of monthly active users of "and-Wallet" also showed an increase of 155.7% year- on-year. During the Beijing Winter Olympics, MIGU Video's ubiquitous and immersive live coverage of the events won wide recognition and reached a cumulative 34 billion viewership on programmes related to the Olympics. MIGU Video was one of the most downloaded apps in the Apple App Store, delivering 71.8 billion instances of brand exposure for China Mobile.

#### Systematic Optimization of New Information Infrastructure Layout

As the digital economy continues to increase in strength, quality and scope, we have stressed further efforts to expedite the construction of a high-speed, ubiquitous, intelligent, agile and comprehensive digital information infrastructure that integrates space and ground, and the cloud and the network. The infrastructure is also green, low-carbon, secure and controllable, centering around 5G, CFN (computing force network) and smart mid-end platforms and serving as the 'artery' to help information flow throughout the economy and society.

We fully implemented our "5G+" plan while deepening network co-construction and sharing with China Broadcasting Network Corporation Limited. Leveraging these efforts, we were able to yield the combined advantages of the 2.6GHz/4.9GHz capacity and 700MHz coverage to create synergy from a multifrequency network and enable efficient deployment, making our high-quality 5G offering more practical, open and secure. In 2021, our 5G-related investments amounted to RMB114.0 billion. We put in use a cumulative more than 730,000 5G base stations, of which 200,000 were 700MHz 5G base stations. We have basically achieved continuous 5G network coverage across urban districts, counties, towns and villages, with favorable coverage in some of the key regions and locations, developed villages, key buildings and venues. With the number of 5G network customers reaching 207 million, we boast the world's largest 5G network and customer base. In addition, we maintained our leadership in 5G network technology and perception by helping to promote the maturity of the R16 standard and leading 47 projects in relation to R17 standard-setting, and we have become one of the first-tier industry players in the world in this area. We published a whitepaper on 5G-Advanced technology, took steps to promote network digitalization upgrades and set the path for how R18 standards are developed. The cloud migration of our network saw steady progress, resulting in further streamlining and integration. We initiated the 5G voice function upgrade, equipping the 5G network with the VoNR (Voice over New Radio) feature for commercial use. In terms of typical 5G application scenarios, we launched network solutions for vertical industry sectors including ports and mining. We attached importance to low-carbon development by applying green technologies in base stations and terminals, and conducting research into an energysaving smart 5G platform.

CFN represents a new information infrastructure that puts computing at its core, with the network serving as its foundation. This infrastructure deeply integrates ABCDNETS (AI, blockchain, cloud, data, network, edge, terminal and security), making one-stop service possible. To meet the demand arising from the digital-intelligent development of productivity, we set the goal of developing ubiquitous computing, coexisting computing and network, smart orchestration, and integrated services to speed up the construction of an extensive and integrated CFN. We will promote computing force as an essential service serving the whole society in the same plug-and-play way as access to water and electricity. At the China Mobile Global Partners Conference, held in November 2021, we officially published Computing Force Network Whitepaper to clearly outline our overall strategy and implementation roadmap. In terms of the provision of computing force, we have responded to the national strategy of channeling more computing resources from the eastern areas to the western regions by establishing our "4+3+X" facilities, with a total of 407,000 IDC cabinets available for external use, representing a net addition of 47,000. We continued to build up our cloud infrastructure and enhance our "N+31+X" mobile cloud infrastructure to include 13 central nodes, cumulatively commissioning more than 480,000 cloud servers. Going forward, we will explore market demand for computing force and provide diversified computing force services to society. For management of computing force, we will accelerate the convergence of computing force and network, evolving our network from one with connecting computing force to one with sensing, carrying and scheduling computing forces. By assimilating data and intelligence into the network, we will gradually build a brain system of computing network, promoting the intelligent arrangement and centralised management of computing network resources and capabilities. In terms of computing force services, we proactively explored business integration and innovation. During the Beijing Winter Olympics, we applied CFN and integrated the metaverse concept to create digital and intelligent sports personas, XR broadcasting studios, AR snow towns and other snow-themed applications to promote winter sports. In addition, China Mobile aims to make breakthroughs in original technologies, lay out research on frontier technologies such as next-generation optical communications and next-generation IP, and lead the formulation of more than ten domestic and foreign standards to accelerate the construction of a technologically advanced, open and integrated computing force trial network. Going forward, we will set omnipresence and synergy creation as our initial CFN goal. Building on this, we will optimize top-layer design and consolidate existing resources to enhance our CFN capabilities to promote the mature development of our CFN.

We strove to build and fully implement our industry-leading smart mid-end platform by leveraging the abundant resources and outstanding capabilities in data, AI, blockchain and other fields that we have accumulated over time. By centralizing our capabilities, we were able to launch the unified gateway and branding of the China Mobile Smart Mid-end Platform, combining the salient features of telecommunications operators and our own. This platform has an AaaS (Ability as a Service) system that combines business, data, and technology. Internally, this platform supported our digital and intelligent transformation and has achieved initial outcomes. It has been further deployed to support various aspects of our business, including marketing and sales, service, management, and innovation. Externally, we explored potential digital and intelligent applications in wider society to support sectors including public administration, finance, and cultural tourism. To date, the China Mobile Smart Mid-end Platform has centralized 325 common capabilities and was deployed more than 8.1 billion times per month on average, empowering digitalization and intelligence in more than 2,000 internal and external scenarios. Our Wutong big data service cumulatively processed more than 600 petabyte of data, a scale that put us at the forefront of the industry. Through building a mutually beneficial AaaS ecosystem, we strove to scale up the service by strengthening its three pillars – mobile cloud, Wutong big data platform and Jiutian AI platform – in order to amass additional capabilities on the platform. We also plan to offer modular and ready-to-deploy services by launching feature capabilities such as basic communications, AI, big data, blockchain, security certification and precise positioning, empowering cloud migration, digitalization and intelligent transformation of all industries.

# A-share Listing Marked a New Milestone

On 5 January 2022, the Company's A-shares were officially listed on the main board of the Shanghai Stock Exchange, making us the first red-chip stock listed on the main board of the A-share market and marking another milestone in our history of development. With the listing of our A-shares, we successfully formed a "Hong Kong+ A-share" capital operation platform, effectively connecting customers, business, and the capital market, and allowing our customers to share the returns of our growth. Capital will also serve as a link for us to build a new ecosystem for open collaboration and create new advantages for our brand.

The Company's A-share listing raised net proceeds of around RMB51.4 billion, making it the largest IPO for the A-share main board listing in a decade. The Company has introduced 19 diverse and high-quality strategic investors, including national-level investment platforms, well-known leading enterprises in various fields, and long-term financial investors such as the National Social Security Fund. The powerful joint force resulting from the collaboration of strong enterprises is set to maximize synergies to create a brighter future for the digital economy.

The Company will rigorously follow the regulatory rules of the jurisdictions in which it is listed. We will use the proceeds in a highly efficient manner, with the goal of creating new information infrastructure of first-class quality, as well as a new digital ecosystem that enables open collaboration. In addition, we will continue to improve our corporate governance structure and decision-making mechanism, providing premium information services and delivering remarkable operating results to our customers and investors.

## **Future Outlook**

With the advancement of a new wave of technological revolution and industry transformation, information technology has increasingly become the fiber of every aspect and process of the economy, society, and people's livelihoods. The pace at which the digital economy is developing, and the breadth and depth of its impact are at previously unseen levels. China's digital economy is expected to grow from 38.6% of its GDP in 2020 to more than 50% by 2025. The information and communications sector, as the key driver of digital economic development, will have ample room for growth.

We are blessed with valuable opportunities and a solid foundation from which to accelerate the expansion of information services. To start with, 5G traction has gradually emerged, which has not only unleashed domestic consumption demand but also effectively transformed traditional industries, nurturing new revenue growth areas. "Connectivity, computing force and ability" have gradually become the pillars that support the digital-intelligent transformation of the whole society. It is estimated that by 2025, the revenue of China's information services industry will exceed RMB20 trillion, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 14.4%, while its computing force network market size will exceed RMB1 trillion, with a CAGR of 25%. At the same time, in order to increase the strength, quality and scope of its digital economy, China has provided very favorable policy support. More proactive steps are taken to strengthen the overall planning of the construction of Digital China, build digital information infrastructure, launch the scale application of 5G, promote the digital transformation of industries and develop smart cities and digital villages. The industry has reached a consensus on high-quality development and is competing in a more rational manner, launching more co-construction and sharing initiatives. All these are steering the industry towards healthier and more orderly development.

However, we face uncertainties in our transformation and development. The shortage in chip supplies, fluctuations in energy and raw material prices, and other factors will all somehow affect our operations. While the information services market landscape has become more complex and volatile, the trend towards cross-disciplinary collaboration and convergence has become more prominent. Our core business has faced competition from multiple fronts which has become more intense. These challenge us to increase our efforts in digital- intelligent platform operations and product offerings. In addition, there is the rising threat of cyberattacks, which is driving us to further raise risk awareness of cybersecurity, and information and data protection, as well as continuously strengthening risk prevention and control.

We need to be adept at long-term planning, while taking practical steps to deliver solid outcomes. Faced with a complex reality in which both opportunities and challenges exist, we reiterate our development goal of becoming a world-class information services and sci-tech innovation enterprise. We will spare no effort in building a new information service system of "connectivity, computing force and ability" based on 5G, computing force network and smart mid-end platforms, in order to create a new model of value growth. We will drive new infrastructure by systematically creating new information architecture centered around 5G, computing force, and smart mid-end platforms to accelerate the realization of ubiquitous network, omnipresent computing force and omnipotent intelligence. We will also fully integrate new elements, boosting the integration and application of information architecture construction and application of information technology and data to develop a new growth model and an industry ecosystem driven by digitalization and intelligence. In addition, we will instigate new growth momentum through information technology integration and innovation, as well as deeply embedding information technology in the economy, society, and people's livelihoods. Through promoting the digital industry, we will help the digitalization of industries, thus nurturing new industries, new landscapes and new models of information services.

Mr. Yang Jie, Chairman of the Company commented, '2022 is a critical transitional year in the 14th Five-Year Plan, building on the past and preparing for the future. We will embrace the new phase of development, fully, accurately and comprehensively implement the new principles of development, and devote ourselves to the new paradigm to promote high-quality development. We will pursue stable progress while forging ahead with a steadfast focus on innovation-driven development. At the same time, we will advance towards the new position of becoming a world-class information services and sci-tech innovation enterprise and implement our new strategy of becoming a world-class enterprise by building a dynamic "Powerhouse". We will drive new infrastructure, integrate new elements and instigate new growth momentum, striving to achieve favourable growth in

telecommunications services revenue and net profit and consistently creating greater value for our shareholders and customers.'

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