

For immediate release

30 August 2016

**GUOCO GROUP LIMITED**  
(the “Company” or “Guoco”)

**FINAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

<b>FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS</b>			
	<b>2016</b>	2015	
	<b>HK\$'M</b>	HK\$'M	<i>Decrease</i>
Turnover	<b>18,878</b>	33,771	<i>(44%)</i>
Revenue	<b>17,260</b>	21,748	<i>(21%)</i>
Profit from operations	<b>5,118</b>	5,436	<i>(6%)</i>
Profit attributable to equity shareholders of the Company	<b>3,088</b>	4,625	<i>(33%)</i>
	<b>HK\$</b>	HK\$	
Earnings per share	<b>9.50</b>	14.23	<i>(33%)</i>
Dividend per share : Interim	<b>1.00</b>	1.00	
Proposed final	<b>3.00</b>	3.00	
Total	<b>4.00</b>	4.00	-
Equity per share attributable to equity shareholders of the Company	<b>170.71</b>	177.60	<i>(4%)</i>

(30 August 2016, Hong Kong) Guoco Group (Guoco Group Limited, Stock Code: 53) announced today its final results for the year ended 30 June 2016.

**FINANCIAL RESULTS**

The audited consolidated profit attributable to equity shareholders for the year ended 30 June 2016, after taxation and non-controlling interests, amounted to HK\$3,088 million, as compared to HK\$4,625 million for the previous year. Basic earnings per share amounted to HK\$9.50.

For the year ended 30 June 2016, profits before taxation were generated from the following sources:

- property development and investment of HK\$4,500 million;
- hospitality and leisure of HK\$1,557 million;
- financial services of HK\$821 million;
- oil and gas royalty of HK\$132 million;
- a net operating loss of HK\$352 million from principal investment;

and were set off by HK\$777 million of finance costs.

Revenue decreased by 21% to HK\$17.3 billion. The decrease was mainly resulted from the decline of property development and investment sector of HK\$3.8 billion.

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**DIVIDENDS**

In addition to the interim dividend of HK\$1.00 per share already paid, the Company is recommending a final dividend of HK\$3.00 per share. This gives a total dividend of HK\$4.00 per share for the year, keeping intact a healthy dividend payout track record over the years.

**GUOCO’S CORE BUSINESSES**

Principal Investment

The Company’s investment strategy has always been to identify important market and sector cycles as well as laggards with good recovery potential. Due to the U.S. stock market being over-valued relative to its long term valuation and the European stock markets having enjoyed a multi-year rally subsequent to the Greek debt crisis, the Company chose to focus on the moribund Chinese stock market and the under-performing Japanese stock market. The Company began investing in Chinese stocks after a sharp correction and building our positions in Japan at the end of the year after the negative interest rate policy had backfired on the foreign exchange market and concomitantly the stock market. “While the Company’s investment portfolio reported losses as at financial year end date, its overall value has registered above the mark-to-market prices as of date of writing,” said Mr. Quek Leng Chan, Chairman of Guoco Group.

Property Development and Investment

*GuocoLand Limited (“GuocoLand”)*

GuocoLand ended the financial year 2015/16 with a profit attributable to equity holders of S\$606.7 million on the back of revenue of S\$1,059.8 million. Revenue for the current financial year decreased by 9% mainly due to lower revenue recognised for Singapore and China. The lower revenue was partially offset by revenue recognised in the current financial year for DC Residency in Malaysia as the Temporary Occupation Permit for the project was obtained in November 2015 and the progressive revenue recognition from the sale of Sims Urban Oasis in Singapore. The fall in revenue and change in sales mix have led to a 25% decrease in gross profit as compared to the previous financial year.

“While GuocoLand recorded lower revenue from sales of inventories in the current year, it was able to achieve a better performance from the successful divestment of its Dongzhimen project, the integrated mixed-use development in Beijing,” said Mr. Quek Leng Chan. “As GuocoLand continued to monetise its inventories during the year, the strong cash flow from operating activities has effectively reduced its gearing ratio to 0.73 times as at 30 June 2016. It has sufficient financial resources to support future projects and to capitalise on investment opportunities when they arise,” he added.

GuocoLand will continue to focus on sales and leasing of its current projects while staying watchful for investment opportunities which provide long-term value for future growth.

More details are available at [www.guocoland.com.sg](http://www.guocoland.com.sg).

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Hospitality and Leisure

*GL Limited (formerly known as GuocoLeisure Limited) (“GL”)*

GL recorded a profit after tax for the year ended 30 June 2016 at US\$67.4 million, an increase of 42% as compared to US\$47.5 million in the previous financial year, with strong profit growth out of the hospitality division, glh Hotels, although driven primarily by some non-operating support with lower interest costs and a one-off gain. Revenue stood at US\$393.9 million, which was 7% below that of the previous financial year, principally due to lower hotel revenue in USD terms as a result of the weakening of the GBP/USD exchange rate which worsened after the Brexit referendum.

glh continues to make progress in its transformation. It presently operates 16 hotels in the United Kingdom. In an exciting development, glh has also unveiled plans for a collaboration with Hard Rock International. The 900-room Hard Rock Hotel London, to be converted from the existing Cumberland Hotel, is scheduled for opening in the summer of 2018.

More details are available at <http://www.gl-grp.com>.

*The Rank Group Plc (“Rank”)*

Rank recorded an increase of 8% in its profit after tax (before exceptional items and discontinued operations) for the year ended 30 June 2016 to GBP61.4 million. Statutory revenue grew by 1% to GBP708.5 million, with strong growth in digital revenue, flat revenues from Mecca Bingo venues (despite the closure of a number of under-performing venues) and a marginal fall in Grosvenor Casinos venues channel following tough trading in the fourth quarter of FY2015/16.

Mr. Quek Leng Chan stated, “Rank aims to be a U.K. leading multi-channel gaming operator, possessing market leading brands and with the ability to deliver them via the channels their customers prefer, whether in venue, online or mobile. Rank is in a strong financial position and has a clear strategy for sustained long-term organic growth.”

More details are available at [www.rank.com](http://www.rank.com).

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Financial Services

*Hong Leong Financial Group Berhad (“HLFG”)*

HLFG Group achieved a profit before tax of RM2,565.0 million for the year ended 30 June 2016 as compared to RM3,023.3 million last year, a decrease of RM458.3 million or 15.2%. The decrease was mainly due to lower contribution across all operating divisions, although was impacted by considerable one-off items which if backed out would have shown growth in normalized profit before tax.

The Malaysian economy is expected to continue to see lower growth with reduced domestic demand, higher cost pressure, increased competition and regulations in the financial sector. Mr. Quek Leng Chang remarked, “With its core operations taking concrete steps to increase productivity and application of technology for customer services to strengthen the business franchise and its competitive edge, HLFG is very well positioned to build on its solid foundation for the next phase of growth and to take advantage of potential opportunities that may arise to generate further return for shareholders.”

More details are available at [www.hlfq.com.my](http://www.hlfq.com.my).

**GROUP OUTLOOK**

Global equity markets are in a range constrained by lackluster profits, slower growth and possible recession risks. Despite the global uncertainties, each of our core businesses will continue to enhance its competitive advantages through productivity improvement, innovation as well as new technology initiatives to achieve stable growth and sustain profitability. In addition, the Group shall attempt to capitalize on market volatility to strengthen its Principal Investment business.

(Please visit [www.guoco.com](http://www.guoco.com) or [www.hkexnews.hk](http://www.hkexnews.hk) for Guoco's full final results announcement.)

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Guoco Group Limited (“Guoco”) (Stock Code: 53), listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, is an investment holding and investment management company with the vision of achieving long term sustainable returns for its shareholders and creating prime capital value. Guoco's operating subsidiary companies and investment activities are principally located in Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam and the United Kingdom. Guoco has four core businesses, namely, Principal Investment; Property Development and Investment; Hospitality and Leisure Business; and Financial Services.

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