

Lianhe Global has assigned 'BBB' global scale Long-term Issuance Credit Rating to Hubei New Tongdu Urban Investment Development Group Co., Ltd.'s proposed senior unsecured bonds

HONG KONG, 8 December 2023 – Lianhe Ratings Global Limited ("Lianhe Global"), an international credit rating company, has assigned 'BBB' global scale Long-term Issuance Credit Rating to the senior unsecured bonds ("the Bonds") to be issued by Hubei New Tongdu Urban Investment Development Group Co., Ltd. ("HNTU"; 'BBB/Stable').

HNTU intends to use the net proceeds from this offering for project construction and supplement of working capital.

Key Rating Rationales

The Bonds are rated at the same level as HNTU's global scale Long-term Issuer Credit Rating of 'BBB' as the Bonds constitute direct, unsubordinated, unconditional and unsecured obligations of HNTU. The payment obligations of HNTU under the Bonds shall at all times rank at least equally with all its other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations.

The Issuer Credit Rating reflects a high possibility that the People's Government of Daye City ("the Daye government") would provide strong support to HNTU if needed, in light of its indirect 100% ownership of HNTU through Hubei Optics Valley East State-owned Capital Investment and Operation Group Co., Ltd. ("HOVE", 'BBB'/Stable), HNTU's strategic importance as an important local investment and development company that is responsible for infrastructure construction and land consolidation in Daye, and the strong linkage between the Daye government and HNTU, including the control of the senior management, management supervision, strategic alignment, and ongoing operational and financial support. In addition, the Daye government may face significant negative impact on its reputation and financing activities should HNTU encounters any operational and financial difficulties.

The Stable Outlook reflects our expectation that HNTU's strategic importance would remain intact while the Daye government will continue to ensure HNTU's stable operation.

Rating Sensitivities

Any rating action on HNTU's rating would result in a similar rating action on the Bonds.

We would consider downgrading HNTU's rating if (1) there is perceived weakening in support from the Daye government, particularly due to its reduced strategic importance with diminished government functions, or (2) there is a significant reduction of the Daye government's ownership of HNTU, or (3) there is a downgrade in our internal credit assessment on the Daye government.

We would consider upgrading HNTU's rating if (1) there is strengthened support from the Daye government, or (2) there is an upgrade in our internal credit assessment on the Daye government.

About Lianhe Global

Lianhe Global is an international credit rating company that provides credit ratings to corporations, banks, non-bank financial institutions, local investment and development companies, and other asset classes around the globe. Lianhe Global also provides credit risk research and other services related to credit ratings.

Rating Methodology

The principal methodology used in this HNTU's rating is Lianhe Global's China Local Investment and Development Companies Criteria published on 5 December 2022, which can be found at the website <u>www.lhratingsglobal.com</u>.

Note: The above Issuer/Issuance Credit Ratings are solicited at the request of the rated entity or a related third party.

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