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If you have sold or transferred all your shares in Tan Chong International Limited, you should at once hand this statement and the accompanying form of proxy to the purchaser or transferee or to the bank, stockbroker or other agent through whom the sale was effected for transmission to the purchaser or transferee.

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Tan Chong International Limited

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

Proposed General Mandates to Issue Shares and Repurchase Shares

Explanatory Statement

A notice convening an annual general meeting of Tan Chong International Limited to be held at The Dynasty Club, 7/F South West Tower, Convention Plaza, 1 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, on Friday, 9 May 2003 at 11.00 a.m. is set out in the annual report. Whether or not you are able to attend the meeting, you are requested to complete the form of proxy in accordance with the instructions printed thereon and return it to the principal office of the Company in Hong Kong at Unit 3001, 30th Floor, Shui On Centre, 6-8 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong as soon as possible but in any event not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting. Completion and return of the form of proxy will not prevent shareholders from attending and voting at the meeting if they so wish.

16 April 2003

DEFINITIONS

In this statement, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

“Annual General Meeting”	the annual general meeting of the Company to be held on 9 May 2003 at 11.00 a.m.
“Code”	the Hong Kong Code on Takeovers and Mergers
“Company”	Tan Chong International Limited, a company incorporated in Bermuda and currently listed on the Stock Exchange
“Companies Act”	the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda
“Directors”	directors of the Company
“Group”	the Company and its subsidiaries
“Hong Kong “	The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China
“Latest Practicable Date”	31 March 2003, being the latest practicable date prior to the printing
“Listing Rules”	the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange
“Proposed Repurchase Mandate”	a general mandate proposed to be granted to the Directors at the Annual General Meeting to repurchase shares not exceeding 10 per cent of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company as at the date of passing of the relevant resolution granting the Proposed Repurchase Mandate
“Share(s)”	ordinary share(s) of HK\$0.50 each in the capital of the Company
“Shareholder(s)”	holder(s) of Share(s)
“Stock Exchange”	The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
“TCC”	Tan Chong Consolidated Sdn. Bhd., the controlling shareholder of the Company
“\$” and “cents”	Hong Kong dollars and cents

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Tan Chong International Limited

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

Directors:

Dato' Tan Kim Hor
Mr. Tan Eng Soon
Mr. Joseph Ong Yong Loke
Mr. Tan Kheng Leong
Mr. Neo Ah Chap
Mdm. Sng Chiew Huat
Mr. Lee Han Yang*
Mr. Liu Kwei Ming*

* Independent non-executive director

Registered Office:

Clarendon House
2 Church Street
Hamilton HM 11
Bermuda

Principal Place of Business:

Unit 3001, 30th Floor
Shui On Centre
6-8 Harbour Road
Wanchai
Hong Kong

16 April 2003

To Shareholders,

Dear Sir or Madam,

Proposed General Mandates to Issue Shares and Repurchase Shares

INTRODUCTION

On 11 March 2003 the Directors of the Company announced the audited consolidated results of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2002 and the proposal to seek general mandates at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 9 May 2003 for the Directors to issue shares and repurchase shares. This statement gives you details of those mandates and seeks your approval of such general mandates at the Annual General Meeting.

GENERAL MANDATE TO ISSUE SHARES

In order to ensure flexibility and discretion to the Directors, in the event that it becomes desirable to issue any share, approval is to be sought from the shareholders, pursuant to the Listing Rules, for a general mandate to issue shares. At the Annual General Meeting, an ordinary resolution No.1 will be proposed to grant a general mandate to the Directors to exercise the powers of the Company to allot and issue new shares in the share capital of the Company up to 20 per cent of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company immediately after the passing of the resolution in relation to such general mandate. In addition, subject to a separate approval of the ordinary resolution No.3, the number of Shares purchased by the Company under ordinary resolution No.2 will also be added to the 20 per cent general mandate as mentioned in the ordinary resolution No.1. The Directors wish to state that they have no immediate plans to issue any new shares of the Company pursuant to such general mandate.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

GENERAL MANDATE TO REPURCHASE SHARES

In addition, an ordinary resolution will be proposed to approve the granting of a Proposed Repurchase Mandate to the Directors to exercise the powers of the Company to repurchase shares representing up to 10 per cent of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company immediately after the passing of the resolution in relation to such Proposed Repurchased Mandate.

The Appendix to this explanatory statement contains all information reasonably necessary to enable the Shareholders to make an informed decision on whether to vote for or against the relevant resolutions at the Annual General Meeting.

FORM OF PROXY

A form of proxy for use at the Annual General Meeting is enclosed in the annual report. Whether or not you intend to be present at the meeting, you are requested to complete the form of proxy and return it to the Company in accordance with the instructions printed thereon not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting. Completion and delivery of the form of proxy will not prevent the Shareholders from attending and voting at the Annual General Meeting if they so wish.

RECOMMENDATION

The Directors consider that the proposed resolutions for the granting to the Directors of the general mandate to issue shares and the Proposed Repurchase Mandate are in the interests of the Group as a whole. The Directors therefore recommend the Shareholders to vote in favour of all the resolutions to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

Yours faithfully,

For and on behalf of the Board,

Sng Chiew Huat

Finance Director

APPENDIX

LISTING RULES FOR REPURCHASE OF SHARES

The relevant sections of the Listing Rules which permit companies with a primary listing on the Stock Exchange to repurchase their shares on the Stock Exchange, subject to certain restrictions, are summarised below:

- **Shareholders approval**

The Listing Rules provide that all proposed repurchase of shares by a company with a primary listing on the Stock Exchange must be approved in advance by an ordinary resolution, either by way of general mandate or by specific approval of a particular transaction.

- **Source of funds**

Repurchases must be funded out of funds legally available for the purpose and in accordance with the company's memorandum of association, bye-laws and the applicable laws of Bermuda. Under Bermuda law, any repurchases by the company may be made out of capital paid up on the shares to be repurchased, or out of funds of the company which would otherwise be available for dividend or distribution or out of the proceeds of a fresh issue of shares made for the purpose and, in the case of premiums payable on repurchases, funds of the company which would otherwise be available for dividend or distribution or out of the share premium account of the company.

- **Trading restrictions**

The shares proposed to be repurchased by a company must be fully paid up.

A maximum of 10 per cent of the fully paid up issued share capital of the company as at the date of the passing of the relevant resolution may be repurchased on the Stock Exchange.

All repurchases of shares on the Stock Exchange in any calendar month are limited to a maximum of 25 per cent of the trading volume of such shares on the Stock Exchange in the immediate preceding calendar month. The Listing Rules also prohibit a company from repurchasing its shares on the Stock Exchange if the repurchase would result in the number of listed shares which are in the hands of the public falling below the relevant prescribed minimum percentage as required by the Listing Rules, being not less than 25 per cent. Furthermore, a company is not allowed to repurchase its shares on the Stock Exchange for a consideration other than cash or for settlement otherwise than in accordance with the trading rules of the Stock Exchange from time to time.

- **Subsequent issue of shares**

A company may not issue or announce an issue of new shares for a period of 30 days immediately following a repurchase, other than an issue of shares pursuant to an exercise of warrants, share options or similar instruments (if any) requiring the company to issue shares which were outstanding prior to such repurchase, without the prior approval of the Stock Exchange.

- **Status of repurchased shares**

The Listing Rules provide that the listing of all repurchased shares are automatically cancelled and the Company must ensure that the certificates for the repurchased shares are cancelled and destroyed as soon as reasonably practicable following the settlement of any such repurchase. Under Bermuda law, all shares repurchased shall be treated as cancelled.

- **Suspension of repurchases**

The Listing Rules prohibit any repurchase of shares at any time after a price sensitive development has occurred or has been the subject of a decision until the price sensitive information has been made publicly available. In particular, during the period of one month immediately preceding either the preliminary announcement of a company's annual results or publication of a company's interim report, the company may not repurchase its shares on the Stock Exchange unless the circumstances are exceptional. In addition, the Stock Exchange may prohibit repurchase of shares on the Stock Exchange if a company has breached the Listing Rules.

APPENDIX

LISTING RULES FOR REPURCHASE OF SHARES (Continued)

- **Reporting requirements**

Under the Listing Rules, repurchases of shares on the Stock Exchange must be reported to the Stock Exchange not later than 9.30a.m. (Hong Kong time) on the following business day. In addition, the company's annual report is required to disclose details regarding repurchases of shares (on a monthly basis) made during the year, including the reasons for making such repurchases, the number of shares repurchased and the aggregate prices paid. The directors' report shall contain reference to the repurchases made during the year and the directors' reasons for making such repurchases. Furthermore, the company shall procure that any broker appointed by it to effect the repurchase of shares shall disclose to the Stock Exchange such information with respect to repurchase made on behalf of the company as the Stock Exchange may request.

- **Connected parties**

The Listing Rules prohibit a company from knowingly repurchasing shares on the Stock Exchange from connected persons, which include directors, chief executives, substantial shareholders of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or their associates, as defined in the Listing Rules. Also, a connected person shall not knowingly sell his shares to the company.

SHARE CAPITAL

As at the Latest Practicable Date, the issued share capital of the Company comprised 2,013,309,000 Shares. Subject to the passing of the resolution granting the Proposed Repurchase Mandate and on the basis that no further Shares are issued or repurchased before the Annual General Meeting, the Company will be allowed to repurchase a maximum of 201,330,900 Shares during the period ending on the earlier of the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company or the date by which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required to be held by law or the date upon which such authority is revoked or varied by a resolution of the Shareholders in general meeting.

REASONS FOR REPURCHASES

The Directors believe that it is in the best interests of the Company and the Shareholders to seek a general authority from the Shareholders to enable the Company to repurchase its Shares on the Stock Exchange. Such repurchases may, depending on market conditions and funding arrangements at the time, lead to an enhancement of the net asset value and/or earnings per Share and will only be made when the Directors believe that such a repurchase will benefit the Company and the Shareholders. If such a repurchase is made, the Directors propose to use the Company's internal cash surplus to fund such repurchase.

The Directors have no present intention to repurchase any Shares and they would only exercise the power to repurchase in circumstances where they consider that the repurchase would be in the best interests of the Company. The Directors consider that if the general mandate to repurchase Shares were to be exercised in full at the current prevailing market value, it could have a material adverse impact on the working capital but not the gearing position of the Company, as compared with the positions disclosed in the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company as at 31 December 2002, being the date to which the latest published audited consolidated financial statements of the Company were made up. The Directors do not propose to exercise the mandate to repurchase Shares to such extent as would, in the circumstances, have a material adverse effect on the working capital requirements of the Company or the gearing levels which in the opinion of the Directors are from time to time appropriate for the Company.

APPENDIX

SHARE PRICES

The following table shows the highest and lowest prices at which the Shares have been traded on the Stock Exchange in each of the last twelve months.

Month	Highest trade price \$	Lowest trade price \$
2002		
April	1.380	1.260
May	1.380	1.250
June	1.280	1.200
July	1.250	1.180
August	1.180	1.040
September	1.030	0.990
October	1.060	0.990
November	1.080	1.020
December	1.050	1.010
2003		
January	1.060	1.000
February	1.030	0.960
March	1.030	0.960

Source: The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

GENERAL

To the best of their knowledge, having made all reasonable enquiries, none of the Directors or any of their associates currently intend to sell any Shares to the Company or its subsidiaries.

The Directors have undertaken to the Stock Exchange that, so far as the same may be applicable, they will exercise the Proposed Repurchase Mandate in accordance with the Listing Rules and the applicable laws of Bermuda.

No connected person, as defined in the Listing Rules, has notified the Company that he has a present intention to sell any Shares to the Company, or has undertaken not to do so.

If as a result of a repurchase of Shares, a Shareholder's proportionate interest in the voting rights of the Company increases, such increase will be treated as an acquisition for the purposes of Rule 32 of the Code. Accordingly, a Shareholder, or group of Shareholders acting in concert, depending on the level of increase of the Shareholder's interest, could obtain or consolidate control of the Company and become obliged to make a mandatory offer in accordance with Rule 26 of the Code.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, to the best knowledge and belief of the Directors, TCC is interested in approximately 45.34 per cent of the existing issued share capital of the Company. In the event that the Directors should exercise in full the Proposed Repurchase Mandate, the shareholding of TCC in the Company will be increased to approximately 50.38 per cent of the issued share capital of the Company. To the best knowledge and belief of the Directors, such increase would give rise to an obligation to make a mandatory offer under the Code. The Directors have no present intention to repurchase the Shares to the extent that it will trigger the obligations under the Code to make a mandatory offer.

The Listing Rules prohibit a company from making repurchase on the Stock Exchange if the result of the repurchase would be that less than 25 per cent (or such other prescribed minimum percentage as determined by the Stock Exchange) of the issued share capital would be in public hands. The Directors do not propose to repurchase Shares which would result in less than the prescribed minimum percentage of Shares in public hands.

SHARE PURCHASE MADE BY THE COMPANY

The Company had not purchased any Share (whether on the Stock Exchange or otherwise) in the six months preceding the Latest Practicable Date.