

# **Bank of China (UK) Limited**

## **The Capital Requirements (Country-by-Country-Reporting) Regulations 2013**

**31 December 2022**

This report has been prepared for Bank of China (UK) Limited (“the Bank”) to comply with the Capital Requirements (Country by Country Reporting) Regulations 2013 which implement Article 89 of the Capital Requirements Directive IV.

This report shows the income, profit/(loss) before tax, tax paid/(received), average employee numbers on a full-time equivalent basis for the entities located in the countries in which we operate.

### **Basis of preparation**

#### **(a) Country**

Each subsidiary or branch is allocated to the country in which it is resident for tax purposes. The data is consolidated for all the subsidiaries and branches allocated to each country.

#### **(b) Income and profit/(loss) before tax**

Income and profit/(loss) before tax are compiled from the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Bank of China (UK) Ltd was prepared accordance with UK adopted international accounting standards and in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

China Bridge (UK) Ltd was prepared accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 101, “Reduced Disclosure Framework” (FRS101) and in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **(c) Tax paid/(received)**

Tax paid/(received) disclosed under CRD IV relates to corporate tax.

Corporate tax paid represents net cash taxes paid to/(received) from the tax authorities in each jurisdiction.

Corporate tax paid is reported on a cash basis as opposed to an accounting basis and therefore does not necessarily have a direct correlation to the reported profits or losses arising in the year.

#### **(d) Full-time equivalent employees (“FTEs”)**

FTEs are allocated to the country in which they are primarily based for the performance of their employment duties. The figures disclosed represent the average number of FTEs, including temporary staff, in each country during the period.

#### **(e) Public subsidies received**

There were no public subsidies received during the period.

Bank of China (UK) Limited  
 Company Registration Number 06193060

Country by Country Reporting at 31 December 2022

*Disclosure in accordance with the Capital Requirements Directive as enacted in the UK by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000*

	Business	Income £000	Profit / (loss) before tax £000	Tax paid / (received) £000	Public subsidies received £000	Average Employees
<b>United Kingdom:</b> Bank of China (UK) Limited	Banking	150,380	91,147	18,955	-	588
China Bridge (UK) Ltd	Travel visa services	759	(2,041)	(464)	-	39
<b>Italy:</b> China Bridge Group (Italy) S.R.L.	Travel visa services	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>151,139</b>	<b>89,106</b>	<b>18,491</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>627</b>

China Bridge (UK) Ltd received a tax refund of £500k relating to a prior period, which had already been accrued. China Bridge (UK) Ltd also suffered £36k withholding tax on the final dividend received from China Bridge Group (Italy) S.R.L. upon China Bridge Group (Italy) S.R.L. official closure.

China Bridge Group (Italy) S.R.L. ceased trading from October 2018, was liquidated on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 following agreement with the Italian tax authorities and was officially closed in April 2022.

# ***Independent auditors' report to the directors of Bank of China (UK) Limited***

## **Report on the audit of the country-by-country information**

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### **Opinion**

In our opinion, Bank of China (UK) Limited's country-by-country information for the year ended 31 December 2022 has been properly prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of the Capital Requirements (Country-by-Country Reporting) Regulations 2013.

We have audited the country-by-country information for the year ended 31 December 2022 in the Country-by-Country Report.

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### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)"), including ISA (UK) 800 and ISA (UK) 805, and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the country-by-country information section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Independence**

We remained independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the country-by-country information in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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### **Emphasis of matter - Basis of preparation**

In forming our opinion on the country-by-country information, which is not modified, we draw attention to content of the country-by-country information which describes the basis of preparation. The country-by-country information is prepared for the directors for the purpose of complying with the requirements of the Capital Requirements (Country-by-Country Reporting) Regulations 2013. The country-by-country information has therefore been prepared in accordance with a special purpose framework and, as a result, the country-by-country information may not be suitable for another purpose.

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### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

Our evaluation of the directors' assessment of the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting included:

- a detailed risk assessment to identify factors that could impact the going concern basis of accounting including the effect of the conflict in Ukraine, and the effects of the significant increase in inflation and interest rate;
- Consideration of the company's regulatory capital and liquidity positions and forecasts thereof, regulatory correspondence and reports provided to the Board Risk Committee;
- Evaluation of the results of stress testing performed by management;
- Evaluation of the liquidity facilities available to the company, for example from the immediate parent company; and
- Reviewing the appropriateness of the disclosures in the Annual Report.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the country-by-country information is authorised for issue.

In auditing the country-by-country information, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the country-by-country information is appropriate.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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### **Reporting on other information**

The other information comprises all of the information in the Country-by-Country Report - description as defined in the second paragraph of the opinion section above other than the country-by-country information and our auditors' report

thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the country-by-country information does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the country-by-country information, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the country-by-country information or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the country-by-country information or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

## **Responsibilities for the country-by-country information and the audit**

### *Responsibilities of the directors for the country-by-country information*

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the country-by-country information in accordance with the requirements of the Capital Requirements (Country-by-Country Reporting) Regulations 2013 as explained in the basis of preparation and accounting policies to the country-by-country information, and for determining that the basis of preparation and accounting policies are acceptable in the circumstances. The directors are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of country-by-country information that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the country-by-country information, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### *Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the country-by-country information*

It is our responsibility to report on whether the country-by-country information has been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Capital Requirements (Country-by-Country Reporting) Regulations 2013.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the country-by-country information as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this country-by-country information.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the company and industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to relevant rules of the Prudential Regulatory Authority ('PRA') and Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA'), and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the country-by-country information. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the country-by-country information such as the Capital Requirements (Country-by-Country Reporting) Regulations 2013. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the country-by-country information (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries and management bias in accounting estimates and judgements. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Discussions with management and those charged with governance including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Reading PRA and FCA correspondence;
- Reading minutes of the Board and Board Audit Committee to identify any matters of audit relevance;
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular journal entries posted by senior management and journals posted with descriptions indicating a higher level of risk;
- Incorporating unpredictability into the nature, timing and/or extent of our testing; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates, in particular in relation to the expected credit losses for loans and advances to customers and valuation of level 3 financial instruments recorded at fair value (see related key audit matters above).

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the country-by-country information. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the country-by-country information is located on the FRC's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditors' report.

*Use of this report*

This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the company's directors in accordance with the Capital Requirements (Country-by-Country Reporting) Regulations 2013 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come, save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

The engagement partner responsible for this audit is Ajay Kabra.

Pricewaterhousecoopers LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
London  
27 June 2023