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Disclaimer

This interim report contains "forward-looking statements". All statements, other than statements of historical facts, that address business activities, events or developments that the Company expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future (including, but not limited to projections, targets, estimates and business plans) are forward-looking statements. The actual results or developments of the Company may differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors and uncertainties. The Company makes the forward-looking statements referred to herein as at 27 August 2004 and, unless otherwise required by the relevant regulatory authorities, undertakes no obligation to update these statements.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CHINA PETROLEUM & CHEMICAL CORPORATION ("SINOPEC CORP.") AND THE DIRECTORS WARRANT THAT THERE ARE NO MATERIAL OMISSIONS FROM, OR MISREPRESENTATIONS OR MISLEADING STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS INTERIM REPORT AND SEVERALLY AND JOINTLY ACCEPT FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE AUTHENTICITY, ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS INTERIM REPORT. MESSRS. MOU SHULING, GAO JIAN, FAN YIFEI, HO TSU KWOK CHARLES, SHI WANPENG AND ZHANG YOUCAI, DIRECTORS OF SINOPEC CORP., COULD NOT ATTEND THE TENTH MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE BOARD FOR REASONS OF OFFICIAL DUTIES. MR. MOU SHULING, DIRECTOR OF SINOPEC CORP., AUTHORISED MR. CAO XIANGHONG; MR. GAO JIAN, DIRECTOR OF SINOPEC CORP., AUTHORISED MR. CHEN TONGHAI, CHAIRMAN; MR. FAN YIFEI, DIRECTOR OF SINOPEC CORP., AUTHORISED MR. WANG JIMING, VICE CHAIRMAN; AND MESSRS. HO TSU KWOK CHARLES, SHI WANPENG AND ZHANG YOUCAI, DIRECTORS OF SINOPEC CORP., AUTHORISED MR. CHEN QINGTAI, RESPECTIVELY, TO VOTE ON THEIR BEHALF IN RESPECT OF THE RESOLUTIONS PUT FORWARD IN THE TENTH MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE BOARD. MR. CHEN TONGHAI, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, MR. WANG JIMING, VICE CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT, MR. ZHANG JIAREN, DIRECTOR, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND MR. LIU YUN, HEAD OF THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT WARRANT THE AUTHENTICITY AND COMPLETENESS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS INTERIM REPORT.
THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2004 OF SINOPEC CORP. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES ("THE COMPANY") PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRC ACCOUNTING RULES AND REGULATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS ("IFRS") HAVE BEEN AUDITED BY KPMG HUAZHEN AND KPMG, RESPECTIVELY, AND BOTH FIRMS HAVE ISSUED STANDARD UNQUALIFIED OPINIONS ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS INTERIM REPORT.

COMPANY PROFILE

Sinopec Corp. is the first company in China listed on the stock exchanges in Hong Kong, New York, London and Shanghai, and is also an integrated energy and chemical company with upstream, midstream and downstream operations. The principal operations of the Company include: exploring for and developing, producing and trading crude oil and natural gas; processing crude oil, producing petroleum products and trading, transporting, distributing and marketing petroleum products; producing, distributing and trading petrochemical products. Sinopec Corp.'s basic information is as follows:

LEGAL NAME
中国石油化工股份有限公司

CHINESE ABBREVIATION
中國石化

ENGLISH NAME
China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation

ENGLISH ABBREVIATION
Sinopec Corp.

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE
Mr. Chen Tonghai

AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES
Mr. Wang Jiming, Mr. Chen Ge

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Mr. Chen Ge

REPRESENTATIVE ON SECURITIES MATTERS
Mr. Huang Wensheng

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PLACES WHERE THE INTERIM REPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION
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New York, NY 10013 USA

UK: Citibank N. A.
Citigroup Centre
Canada Square
Canary Wharf
London E14 5LB UK

PLACES OF LISTING OF SHARES, STOCK NAMES AND STOCK CODES

A Shares:	Shanghai Stock Exchange Stock name: 中國石化 Stock code: 600028
H Shares:	Hong Kong Stock Exchange Stock name: SINOPEC CORP Stock code: 0386
ADSs:	New York Stock Exchange Stock name: SINOPEC CORP Stock code: SNP
	London Stock Exchange Stock name: SINOPEC CORP Stock code: SNP

PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL DATA AND INDICATORS

1 FINANCIAL DATA AND INDICATORS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRC ACCOUNTING RULES AND REGULATIONS

(1) Financial Data and Indicators of the Company for the first half of 2004

Item	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Current assets	117,062	96,918
Current liabilities	136,314	120,792
Total assets	422,925	390,213
Shareholders' funds (excluding minority interests)	172,276	162,946
Net assets per share (RMB/share) (Fully diluted)	1.987	1.879
Adjusted net assets per share (RMB/share)	1.961	1.850

Item	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
Net profit	15,039	9,765
Net profit before non-operating profits/losses	16,332	10,221
Return on net assets (%) (Fully diluted)	8.73	6.25
Return on net assets (%) (Weighted average)	8.82	6.24
Earnings per share (RMB/share) (Fully diluted)	0.173	0.113
Earnings per share (RMB/share) (Weighted average)	0.173	0.113
Net cash flow from operating activities	21,694	29,982

Items under non-operating profits/losses:	Six-month period ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions
Loss on disposal of long-term equity investments	2
Written back of provisions for impairment losses in previous years	(80)
Non-operating expenses:	
(excluding normal provisions on assets provided in accordance with the Accounting Regulations for Business Enterprises)	2,189
Of which: Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,405
Employee reduction expenses	412
Donations	49
Non-operating income	(181)
Tax effect	(637)
Total	1,293

(2) Appendix to income statement prepared in accordance with the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations

Item	Six-month period ended 30 June 2004 Return on net assets (%) Fully diluted	Weighted average	Six-month period ended 30 June 2003 Return on net assets (%) Fully diluted	Weighted average
Profit from principal operations	30.09	30.41	23.29	23.24
Operating profit	16.46	16.63	10.00	9.98
Net profit	8.73	8.82	6.25	6.24
Net profit before non-operating profits/losses	9.48	9.58	6.54	6.53

Item	Six-month period ended 30 June 2004 Earnings per share RMB Fully diluted	Weighted average	Six-month period ended 30 June 2003 Earnings per share RMB Fully diluted	Weighted average
Profit from principal operations	0.598	0.598	0.420	0.420
Operating profit	0.327	0.327	0.180	0.180
Net profit	0.173	0.173	0.113	0.113
Net profit before non-operating profits/losses	0.188	0.188	0.118	0.118

(3) Significant changes of items in the financial statements

Descriptions and reasons for changes of financial data during the reporting period where the fluctuation is more than 30%, or the fluctuation in such item is 5% or more of the total assets or more than 10% of the profit before tax:

Item	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	Changes Amount of increase RMB millions	Percentage of increase (%)	Analysis of Changes
Bills receivable	8,009	5,953	2,056	34.54	Mainly due to the increase in income from principal operations
Accounts receivable	13,621	9,284	4,337	46.71	Mainly due to the increase in income from principal operations
Advance payments	7,248	3,904	3,344	85.66	Mainly due to the increase in contracted amounts
Inventories	58,990	44,915	14,075	31.34	Mainly due to the increase in inventories of crude oil and refined oil products
Provision for impairment losses on fixed assets	4,094	1,331	2,763	207.59	Mainly due to provisions based on recoverable amount after the amendments of production and operation plans
Construction materials	1,659	1,226	433	35.32	Since more construction projects were expected to commence after the end of the period, purchase of construction material increased
Construction in progress	44,498	28,513	15,985	56.06	Please refer to Note 13 of the financial statements prepared under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations for details.
Deferred tax assets	3,115	1,752	1,363	77.80	Please refer to Note 15 of the financial statements prepared under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations for details.
Accrued expenses	2,151	303	1,848	609.90	Mainly due to the increase in accrued and unpaid production and operation costs
Current portion of long-term liabilities	10,895	8,175	2,720	33.27	Mainly due to the increase in loans with maturity within one year
Bonds payable	3,500	—	3,500	—	Please refer to Note 26 of the financial statements prepared under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations for details

(3) Significant changes of items in the financial statements *(Continued)*

Item	Six-month period ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	Six-month period ended 30 June 2003 RMB millions	Changes Amount of increase RMB millions	Changes Percentage of increase (%)	Analysis of Changes
Income from principal operations	265,709	194,842	70,867	36.37	Please refer to Management's Discussion and Analysis
Cost of sales	206,098	152,303	53,795	35.32	Please refer to Management's Discussion and Analysis
Investment income	516	341	175	51.32	Mainly due to the increase in net profit from associates
Non-operating expenses	4,952	768	4,184	544.79	Please refer to Note 36 of the financial statements prepared under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations for details.
Taxation	7,154	4,762	2,392	50.23	Mainly due to the increase in profit before taxation
Minority interests	2,412	759	1,653	217.79	Mainly due to the increase in net profit from subsidiaries
Unrecognized investment losses	507	—	507	—	Mainly due to unrecognized investment losses exceeding the carrying value of long-term equity investment

(4) Details of provisions for assets in the consolidated financial statements

Unit: RMB millions

Item	Lines	At the beginning of the period	Increase in the period	Decrease in the period: Written back due to increase in assets' valuation	Decrease in the period: Other reasons	Decrease in the period: Total	At the end of the period
Allowance for doubtful accounts	1	5,533	543	38	31	69	6,007
Of which: Allowance for doubtful accounts for accounts receivable		3,185	271	15	2	17	3,439
Allowance for doubtful accounts for other receivable		2,348	272	23	29	52	2,568
Provision for diminution in value of short-term investments	2	Nil					Nil
Provision for diminution in value of inventories	3	519	184	39	1	40	663
Provision for impairment losses on long-term investments	4	271	42	3	5	8	305
Of which: Long-term equity investments		271	42	3	5	8	305
Provision for impairment losses on fixed assets	5	1,331	2,763				4,094
Of which: Buildings		8	325				333
Machinery and equipment		559	1,815				2,374
Provision for impairment losses on intangible assets	6	Nil					Nil
Provision for impairment losses on construction in progress	7	Nil					Nil
Provision for impairment losses on entrusted loans	8	Nil					Nil
Total		7,654	3,532	80	37	117	11,069

2 FINANCIAL DATA AND INDICATORS OF THE COMPANY FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2004 PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

Item	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2003 RMB millions
Operating profit	27,339	18,569
Net profit	16,151	10,727
Return on capital employed (%)*	6.17	4.47
Earnings per share (RMB/share)	0.186	0.124
Net cash flow from operating activities	19,291	28,649

* Return on capital employed = operating profit x (1 - income tax rate)/capital employed

Item	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Current assets	120,102	99,328
Current liabilities	137,713	122,005
Total assets	434,937	400,818
Shareholders' funds (excluding minority interests)	178,409	167,899
Net assets per share (RMB/share)	2.058	1.937
Adjusted net assets per share (RMB/share)	2.033	1.908

3 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PRC ACCOUNTING RULES AND REGULATIONS AND IFRS ON NET PROFIT AND SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2004

(1) Analysis of the effects of major differences between the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations and IFRS on net profit:

Item	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2003 RMB millions
Net profit under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations	**15,039**	**9,765**
Adjustments:		
Disposal of oil and gas properties (net of depreciation effect)	879	—
Impairment losses on revaluated assets	439	—
Depreciation of oil and gas properties	370	1,270
Capitalization of general borrowing costs	247	203
Acquisition of Sinopec National Star	58	58
Acquisition of Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical	—	26
Revaluation of land use rights	9	9
Unrecognized losses of subsidiaries	(236)	—
Pre-operating expenditures	(95)	(100)
Impairment losses on long-lived assets	—	(5)
Effects of the above adjustments on taxation	(559)	(499)
Net profit under IFRS	**16,151**	**10,727**

(2) Analysis of the effects of major differences between the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations and IFRS on shareholders' funds:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Shareholders' funds under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations	**172,276**	**162,946**
Adjustments:		
Disposal of oil and gas properties	2,139	1,260
Depreciation of oil and gas properties	11,255	10,885
Capitalization of general borrowing costs	1,372	1,125
Acquisition of Sinopec National Star	(2,754)	(2,812)
Revaluation of land use rights	(861)	(870)
Effect of minority interests on unrecognized losses of subsidiaries	332	61
Pre-operating expenditures	(264)	(169)
Impairment losses on long-lived assets	(113)	(113)
Government grants	(326)	(326)
Effects of the above adjustments on taxation	(4,647)	(4,088)
Shareholders' funds under IFRS	**178,409**	**167,899**

CHANGES IN SHARE CAPITAL AND SHAREHOLDINGS OF PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS

1 CHANGES IN THE SHARE CAPITAL OF SINOPEC CORP.

There were no changes in the total number of shares and equity structure of Sinopec Corp. during the reporting period.

2 SHAREHOLDINGS OF PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS

As at 30 June 2004, there were a total of 302,856 shareholders of Sinopec Corp., of which 291,585 were domestic holders of A Shares and 11,271 were overseas holders of H Shares.

(1) Top ten shareholders as at 30 June 2004

Name of shareholders	Increase/ decrease during the reporting period (1,000 shares)	Number of shares held (1,000 shares)	Percentage at the end of the reporting period: Among total shareholdings (%)	Among the type of shares held (%)	Nature of Shareholders	Type of Shares held	Number of pledges, lock-ups or trusts (1,000 shares)
China Petrochemical Corporation ("Sinopec Group Company")	0	47,742,561	55.06	71.13	State-owned shares	Non tradable	0
HKSCC (Nominees) Limited	5,036,626	16,676,244	19.23	99.38	H shares	Tradable	Unknown
China Development Bank	0	8,775,570	10.12	13.07	State-owned shares	Non tradable	0
China Cinda Asset Management Corp.	0	8,720,650	10.06	12.99	State-owned shares	Non tradable	0
China Orient Asset Management Corp.	0	1,296,410	1.50	1.93	State-owned shares	Non tradable	0
Guo Tai Jun An Corp.	(10,428)*	586,760	0.68	0.87	State-owned shares	Non tradable	293,380 (pledged)
Qingdao Port Authority	0	60,000	0.07	2.14	A Shares	Tradable	0
EFUND 50 Securities Investment Fund	51,906	51,906	0.06	1.85	A Shares	Tradable	0
Xinghua Securities Investment Fund	33,190	48,190	0.06	1.72	A Shares	Tradable	0
Xinghe Securities Investment Fund	(15,799)	46,149	0.05	1.65	A Shares	Tradable	0
CITIC Securities Co.,Ltd.	40,985	44,485	0.05	1.59	A Shares	Tradable	0
Explanation for the relationships among the above shareholders or activities in concert:	Except for Xinghua Securities Investment Fund and Xinghe Securities Investment Fund both of which belong to Huaxia Fund Management Co.,Ltd., Sinopec Corp. is not aware of any connections among other corporate shareholders. Sinopec Corp. is not aware of any connections or activities in concert between other holders of shares in circulation and is not aware of any pledges, lock-ups or trust of shareholdings of holders of H Shares.						

* The shares sold by Guo Tai Jun An Corp. were A shares previously purchased on the stock exchanges by Guo Tai Jun An Corp.

(2) Top ten shareholders with tradable shares as at 30 June 2004

Name of shareholders	Increase/decrease during the reporting period (1,000 shares)	Number of shares held (1,000 shares)	Percentage at the end of the reporting period: Among total shareholdings (%)	Percentage at the end of the reporting period: Among the type of shares held (%)	Nature of Shareholders	Type of Shares held	Number of pledges, lock-ups or trusts (1,000 shares)
HKSCC (Nominees) Limited	5,036,626	16,676,244	19.23	99.38	H shares	Tradable	Unknown
Qingdao Port Authority	0	60,000	0.07	2.14	A shares	Tradable	0
EFUND 50 Securities Investment Fund	51,906	51,906	0.06	1.85	A shares	Tradable	0
Xinghua Securities Investment Fund	33,190	48,190	0.06	1.72	A shares	Tradable	0
Xinghe Securities Investment Fund	(15,799)	46,149	0.05	1.65	A shares	Tradable	0
CITIC Securities Co.,Ltd.	40,985	44,485	0.05	1.59	A shares	Tradable	0
China Southern Principal Protected Fund	28,652	40,144	0.05	1.43	A shares	Tradable	0
China Southern Sustaining Growth Fund	36,153	39,153	0.05	1.40	A shares	Tradable	0
Harvest Service Sector Fund	39,087	39,087	0.05	1.40	A shares	Tradable	0
Tian Yuan Securities Investment Fund	928	37,030	0.04	1.32	A shares	Tradable	0

Explanation for the relationships among the above shareholders or activities in concert: Except for Xinghua Securities Investment Fund and Xinghe Securities Investment Fund both of which belong to Huaxia Fund Management Co.,Ltd. and China Southern Principal Protected Fund, China Southern Sustaining Growth Fund and Tian Yuan Securities Investment Fund which belong to China Southern Fund Management Co., Ltd., Sinopec Corp. is not aware of any connections among other corporate shareholders. Sinopec Corp. is not aware of any connections or activities in concert between other holders of shares in circulation and is not aware of any pledges, lock-ups or trust of shareholdings of holders of H Shares.

(3) Information disclosed by the shareholders of H share according to the Securities and Futures Ordinance

Name of shareholders	Nature	Number of share interests held or regarded as held	Approximate percentage of Sinopec Corp's interests (H share) (%)
Exxon Mobil Corporation	Corporate	3,168,529,000 (L)	18.88 (L)
Exxonmobil Far East Holdings Ltd.	Beneficial	3,168,529,000 (L)	18.88 (L)
Exxonmobil International Holdings Inc.	Corporate	3,168,529,000 (L)	18.88 (L)
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.	Beneficial, Investment manager, Trustee, Physically settled derivatives	1,095,132,880 (L)	6.53 (L)
	N/A	610,911,725 (P)	3.64 (P)
Morgan Stanley	Corporate	932,527,786 (L)	5.56 (L)
	Corporate	478,305,000 (S)	2.85 (S)

Note: (L): Long position, (S): Short position (P): Lending pool

3 CHANGES IN THE CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDERS AND THE ACTUAL BENEFICIAL OWNERS

There was no change in the controlling shareholders or the actual beneficial owners during the reporting period.

BUSINESS REVIEW

In the first half of 2004, the Chinese government adopted a series of macro-economic control measures, and achieved good results. The national economy maintained an upward momentum of steady growth and GDP rose by 9.7%. Demands for petroleum and petrochemical products continued to grow accordingly. According to the Company's statistics, the apparent domestic consumption of refined oil products (gasoline, diesel and kerosene including jet fuel) in the first half of this year increased by 24.6% over the same period last year whilst the apparent consumption of petrochemical products (in terms of ethylene) increased by 15.59%.

In the first half of 2004, prices of international crude oil fluctuated at a high level. Refining margin was improved and the chemical industries were in the rising trend of a new cycle. The Company closely monitored the changes in the domestic and overseas market of crude oil and petrochemical products, and responsively adopted effective operation measures, actively explored the market, optimised resources, rationalised structures, and maximised operation volume. As a result, the oil and gas production increased steadily, oil refining and petrochemical facilities operated at a high utilisation rate, the sales of refined oil products increased significantly and marketing structures were further optimised. At the same time, the Company further enhanced its internal reform, streamlined the assets and reinforced internal control. As a result of the joint efforts made by all the employees together with the Company, the Company achieved remarkable operating results.

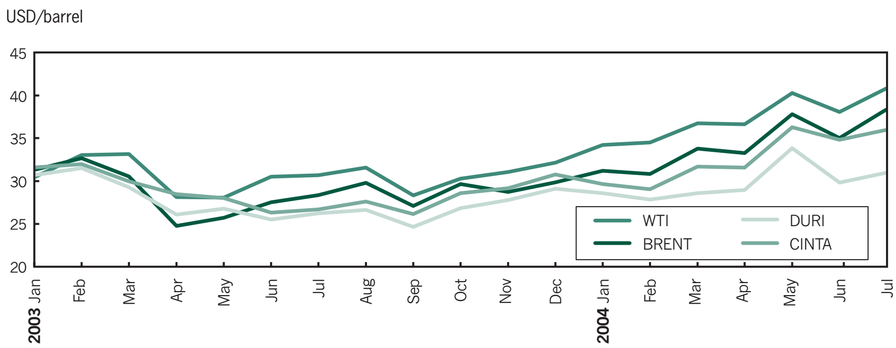
According to the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, the Company's income from principal operations was RMB 265.71billion, up by 36.4% over the first half of 2003. The Company's net profit was RMB 15.04 billion, up by 54.0% over the first half of 2003. Based on the number of shares outstanding at the end of the reporting period, earnings per share were RMB 0.17. According to the International Financial Reporting Standards, turnover and other operating revenues amounted to RMB 275.44 billion, up by 34.1% over the first half of 2003. Profit attributable to shareholders was RMB 16.15 billion, up by 50.6% over the first half of 2003. Based on the number of shares outstanding at the end of the reporting period, earnings per share were RMB 0.19.

The Board of Directors has decided to distribute an interim dividend of RMB 0.04 per share for the first half of 2004, which is equivalent to RMB 4.00 per ADS.

1 PRODUCTION AND OPERATION

(1) Exploration and Production Segment

In the first half of 2004, the average international crude oil price increased significantly compared with the same period last year. The Platt's global Brent spot price averaged USD 33.65 per barrel, up by 16.9% over the first half of 2003. Domestic prices of crude oil generally followed the trend in the international market. However, as there is a one-month time lag of domestic crude oil prices behind the international crude oil prices and the increase in international benchmarked prices for the Company's self-produced oil was not significant, the average crude price realised by the Company during the first half of 2004 was USD 29.62 per barrel, up by 2.5% over the same period last year.



Trend of International Oil Prices

In the first half of 2004, the Company achieved good results in exploration, development and production of crude oil and natural gas.

In exploration, the Company optimised exploration plan and profile of oil and gas reserves by taking the zone exploration as the main objective and the discovery of qualified proven reserves as the primary goal. New blocks in Tahe oilfield and deep layers in Jiyang trough demonstrated good indications of oil and gas reserves, and sound results were achieved in exploration in mature fields in eastern China. Important progress was achieved in the natural gas exploration blocks such as in northeastern Sichuan. Exploration wells in 6 key blocks in Ordos, Shengli, Zhongyuan, etc. obtained commercial oil and gas flow. In addition, oil and gas were discovered in a number of major exploration wells in the new blocks in western China. In the first half of 2004, the newly added proved geological reserves of crude oil amounted to approximately 133 million tonnes, whilst the newly added geological reserves of natural gas was approximately 62.3 billion cubic meters.

In development, the Company aimed to optimise its development plans and improve the quality of production capacity build-up. In the first half of 2004, newly developed production capacity of crude oil and natural gas reached 2.29 million tonnes per year and 415 million cubic meters per year, respectively.

In production, the Company seized the opportunity of high crude oil prices and carefully arranged oil and gas production. The Company exercised comprehensive management over its existing oilfields and consolidated its foundation for stable output, and the production of oil and gas increased steadily.

Summary of Operations of Exploration and Production Segment

	Six-month periods ended 30 June		Changes
	2004	2003	(%)
Crude oil production (million barrels)	135.85	133.72	1.59
Natural gas production (billion cubic feet)	100.06	90.71	10.31
Newly added proved oil reserves (million barrels)	124.40	115.80	7.43
Newly added proved gas reserves (billion cubic feet)	872.74	276.80	215.30
Proved oil reserves at the end of the reporting period (million barrels)	3,245.73	3,302.00	(1.70)
Proved gas reserves at the end of the reporting period (billion cubic feet)	3,660.30	3,515.00	4.13

Note: Crude oil production is converted at 1 tonne = 7.1 barrels, and natural gas production is converted at 1 cubic meter = 35.31 cubic feet.

(2) Refining Segment

In the first half of 2004, in response to the significant growth of demand in the domestic market, the Company made careful arrangement so as to ensure a safe, stable, sustained, optimal and full load operation of its facilities. The Company also made serious effects in increasing the processing volume of crude oil. In addition, the Company optimised the allocation of crude oil resources, further increased the processing volume of sour crude, optimised logistics and reduced production costs. The Company also optimised product mix, increased production of diesel and high value-added products and improved profitability. Furthermore, the Company enhanced its management over the operation of production facilities, and further improved major economic and technical indicators for oil refining, such as light product yield and refining yield.

Summary of Operations of Refining Segment

	Six-month periods ended 30 June		Changes
	2004	2003	(%)
Crude processing volume (million tonnes)	64.98	54.70	18.79
Of which: Sour crude processing volume (million tonnes)	13.39	10.64	25.85
Refinery utilisation (%)	91.57	83.30	8.27 percentage points
Gasoline, diesel oil and kerosene (including jet fuel) production (million tonnes)	39.17	32.59	20.19
Of which: Gasoline (million tonnes)	11.42	10.25	11.41
Diesel oil (million tonnes)	24.72	19.89	24.28
Kerosene (including jet fuel) (million tonnes)	3.03	2.45	23.67
Chemical feedstock (million tonnes)	8.92	8.23	8.38
Light product yield (%)	74.06	73.97	0.09 percentage point
Refining yield (%)	93.10	93.07	0.03 percentage point

Notes:

1. The data of the first half of 2003 and the first half of 2004 in this table includes that of Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical

2. Crude processing volume is converted at 1 tonne = 7.35 barrels.

(3) Marketing and Distribution Segment

In the first half of 2004, the Company closely monitored the changes of the market, optimised logistics and marketing structure. Sales volume of refined oil products increased significantly together with a steady expansion of market share. The Company actively expanded and optimised the marketing network of refined oil products, and rationalised network layout and product logistics. In the first half of 2004, the Company's total domestic sales volume of refined oil products was up by 29.09% over the same period last year, and the volumes of retail and direct sales were up by 40.89% and 38.15%, respectively, over the same period last year. Retail and direct sales volume, as a percentage of the Company's total domestic sales volume of refined oil products increased to 76.2% from 70.2% in the same period last year. In order to meet the domestic demand for refined oil products and to maintain a balance in product mix, the Company reduced the export volume of its refined oil products. In the first half of 2004, total export volume of refined oil products was 1.85 million tonnes, representing a decrease of 43.5% from the first half of 2003.

Summary of Operations of Marketing and Distribution Segment

	Six-month periods ended 30 June		Changes
	2004	2003	(%)
Total domestic sales of refined oil products (million tonnes)	45.49	35.24	29.09
Of which: Retail volume (million tonnes)	25.12	17.83	40.89
Direct sales volume (million tonnes)	9.56	6.92	38.15
Wholesale volume (million tonnes)	10.81	10.49	3.05
Average annual throughput per petrol station (tonne/station)	1,986	1,612	23.20
Total number of petrol stations	30,682	29,425	4.27
Of which: Number of self-operated petrol stations	25,306	24,128	4.88
Number of franchised petrol stations	5,376	5,297	1.49

In March 2004, Sinopec won the exclusive entitlement of Sinopec Formula 1 Grand Prix China, which is another initiative of the Company's international branding strategy. The Company will make the best use of the cooperation with Formula 1 to promote the overall value of Sinopec's branding.

(4) Chemicals Segment

In the first half of 2004, the global chemicals sector was in a new round of an upturn cycle. Prices of chemical products increased significantly, and demand in the domestic chemical market continued to grow. The Company's average price of synthetic resin, synthetic rubber, synthetic fiber, and monomers and polymers for synthetic fiber increased by 27.7%, 15.9%, 16.2% and 21.3% respectively over the first half of 2003. The Company seized the favorable opportunities and maintained operation of its chemical facilities at full load. As a result, production of major chemical products increased significantly, among which, production of synthetic resin, synthetic fiber, and synthetic rubber were up by 10.95%, 7.19%, and 13.79% respectively over the first half of 2003. In addition, the chemical product mix was improved and the portion of high value-added products such as performance compound of synthetic resin and differential fiber was further increased. The marketing model of the newly established Acrylic Fibre Sales Company achieved good results.

Production of Major Petrochemical Products **Unit: thousand tonnes**

	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004	2003	Changes (%)
Ethylene	1,863	1,724	8.06
Synthetic resin	2,806	2,529	10.95
Of which: Performance compound resins	1,478	1,246	18.62
Synthetic fiber	641	598	7.19
Of which: Differential fiber	289	241	19.92
Synthetic fiber monomers and polymers	2,443	2,133	14.53
Synthetic rubber	297	261	13.79
Urea	1,322	1,154	14.56

Note: The production of chemical products in the first half of 2003 and the first half of 2004 includes that of Maoming Ethylene.

2 COST-REDUCTION

In the first half of 2004, the Company adopted a series of measures to reduce costs: optimising the allocation of resources and logistics to reduce transportation costs, increasing the processing volume of sour crude to reduce procurement costs of crude oil, and further optimising the operation of facilities to cut down material and energy consumption. In the first half of 2004, the Company reduced its costs by a total of RMB 1.43 billion. The breakdown is as follows: RMB 250 million from the Exploration and Production Segment, RMB 380 million from the Refining Segment, RMB 400 million from the Marketing and Distribution Segment and RMB 400 million from the Chemicals Segment. In addition, the Company further carried out measures aiming at improving efficiencies through staff reduction during the first half of this year, and a total of 8,000 employees were voluntarily terminated.

3 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

In the first half of 2004, the Company's total capital expenditure was RMB 25.82 billion. The capital expenditure in the Exploration and Production Segment totaled RMB 10.07 billion. The layout of the addition of oil and gas reserves and production and the profile of oil and gas has been adjusted, and the sequence structure of the three class reserves of crude oil and gas was improved. The newly added production capacity of crude oil was 2.29 million tonnes per year, while the newly added production capacity of natural gas reached 415 million cubic meters per year. The capital expenditure in the Refining Segment was RMB 4.10 billion. A number of major projects were ahead of schedule: Ningbo-Shanghai-Nanjing crude oil pipeline and Tianjin-Yanshan crude oil pipeline were put into operation, revamping projects in Gaoqiao Petrochemical, Jinling Petrochemical, Yangzi Petrochemical, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical proceeded smoothly. The capital expenditure for the Chemicals Segment was RMB 2.94 billion, the second round of ethylene facility revamping project in Qilu Petrochemical will be commissioned in the second half of this year. The capital expenditure for the Marketing and Distribution Segment was RMB 8.61 billion, the construction of refined oil product pipeline in southwest China is progressing smoothly, the construction and acquisition of petrol stations in key areas achieved remarkable results, which consolidated the Company's marketing and distribution network. The capital expenditure for Corporate and Others amounted to RMB 94 million.

In addition, the joint venture projects such as Shanghai Secco proceeded smoothly and the total capital expenditure incurred by the Company for these joint ventures was RMB 3.37 billion.

BUSINESS PROSPECTS

Looking into the second half of 2004 for the international market, the global economy continues to maintain a good momentum of recovery. Asia will maintain its position as the most robust economy in the world, and its economy will keep growing at a high rate. The Company expects that global demand for crude oil will continue to grow in the second half of this year, with crude oil prices fluctuating at a relatively high level. Refining business will remain in a good shape and chemical industries will remain in a new round of upturn cycle. In the domestic market, as the Chinese government takes measures to adjust and optimise economic structure, the national economy will continue to grow rapidly driving the growth of the demand for petroleum and petrochemical products.

At the same time, according to the undertakings made by the Chinese government for entering the World Trade Organization, the retail market of refined oil products will open to foreign players by the end of this year, and the domestic competition in the marketing of refined oil products may be more severe.

By following the changes in the market, the Company will take a proactive approach, in production and management and minimize operational risks. In addition, the Company will capture the opportunities in the market and invest in and expedite the construction of major projects. Additionally, the Company will deepen reform, reinforce internal management, expand resources and market, improve efficiencies through staff reduction and ensure sustainable and effective growth.

In Exploration and Production Segment, the Company intends to implement its resources strategy to accelerate the exploration and development, to seek for the addition of oil reserves in mature blocks in eastern China, breakthrough in new exploration blocks in western China and discoveries in marine phase blocks in southern China, as well as to speed up the construction of oil and gas production capacity through developing newly found reserve in the existing mature blocks and building auxilary facilities for production capacity in the new blocks while reinforcing the production and operation management to reduce the production costs of oil and gas. In the second half of 2004, the Company plans to produce 138.2 million barrels of crude oil and 104.9 billion cubic feet of natural gas.

In Refining Segment, the Company will closely monitor the changes of international oil market, continue to optimise allocation of crude oil resources, increase the processing volume of sour crude to reduce the purchasing costs of crude oil. The Company intends to fully leverage the Ningbo-Shanghai-Nanjing crude oil pipeline, optimise the allocation of crude oil to reduce transportation costs. The Company will timely adjust product mix in accordance with the market demand, reinforce operation management and ensure safe, stable, sustainable, optimal and full-load operations. In addition, the Company will proactively implement reform of marketing system of refined oil products other than gasoline, diesel and jet fuel. The Company plans to process 67.46 million tonnes of crude oil in the second half of this year.

In Marketing and Distribution Segment, the Company intends to enhance the distribution network of refined oil products by accelerating the construction of refined oil product pipeline, optimising and adjusting the layout of oil depots, as well as expanding the retail network. Following the principle of achieving regional and professional management and flattening of the management hierarchy, the Company intends to further carry out reform of its marketing system of refined oil products. The Company will further improve service quality and its corporate image. In the second half of 2004, the Company will target its total domestic sales volume of refined oil products at 45.5 million tonnes, including a retail volume of 25.37 million tonnes and a direct sales volume of 9.5 million tonnes.

In Chemicals Segment, the Company will focus on the full load operation of major chemical facilities and revamping of some facilities as well as optimisation of feedstock and resources allocation to reduce the material and energy consumption and increase product yield. The Company will rationalise its product mix and increase the output of high value-added products. The Company will continue to carry out the reform of marketing system of chemical products. The Company plans to produce 1.7 million tonnes of ethylene in the second half of this year.

In respect of capital expenditure, the original planned capital expenditure for 2004 was RMB 50.2 billion. According to the current market supply-demand situation and the projected market analysis in the future, the Company decided to seize the opportunities, increase investment and accelerate the construction progress of key projects. The Company intends to increase the capital expenditure by RMB 6.12 billion to RMB 56.32 billion. The breakdown of increases by segments is as follows: the expenditure for Exploration and Production Segment is RMB 1.24 billion, Refining Segment RMB 1.68 billion, Chemicals Segment RMB 1.15 billion, Marketing and Distribution Segment RMB 1.95 billion. The expenditure will be mainly used for the construction of natural gas and crude oil pipelines and the speeding up of the refining renovation in Guangzhou Petrochemical, Yanshan Petrochemical, Shanghai Petrochemical, chemical renovation of PTA in Yangzi Petrochemical, polyester project in Yizheng Chemical Fiber, and the construction and acquisition of petrol stations, etc.

In the second half of 2004, by following the operating guidelines featuring “reform, rationalisation, innovation and development”, the Company will actively adopt flexible operating tactics, realise the production and operation objectives for 2004, and continue to maintain sound operation results.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COMPANY'S AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES. THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS SECTION ARE DERIVED FROM THE COMPANY'S AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH IFRS.

1 CONSOLIDATED RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

In the first half of 2004, the Company's turnover and other operating revenues were RMB 275.4 billion and operating profit was RMB 27.3 billion, respectively, representing an increase of 34.1% and 47.2%, respectively, over those in the first half of 2003. These changes are mainly attributable to the fact that the Company timely took the apportunities of the rapid growth of domestic GDP and high prices of petrochemical products, further expanded resources and market, increased processing volume of crude oil and production of ethylene, reinforced management, deepened corporate reforms, rationalised asset portfolio, and realised satisfactory results.

The following table lists the major items in the consolidated income statement of the Company for the indicated periods:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004	2003	Changes
	RMB millions		(%)
Turnover and other operating revenues	**275,442**	**205,335**	**34.1**
Of which: Turnover	265,709	197,614	34.5
Other operating revenues	9,733	7,721	26.1
Operating expenses	**(248,103)**	**(186,766)**	**32.8**
Of which: Purchased crude oil, products, and operating supplies and expenses	(197,123)	(144,365)	36.5
Selling, general and administrative expenses	(14,212)	(11,428)	24.4
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	(14,773)	(12,947)	14.1
Exploration expenses (including dry holes)	(2,475)	(2,784)	(11.1)
Personnel expenses	(8,346)	(8,338)	0.1
Employee reduction expenses	(412)	—	N/A
Taxes other than income tax	(7,776)	(6,190)	25.6
Other operating expenses, net	(2,986)	(714)	318.2
Operating profit	**27,339**	**18,569**	**47.2**
Net finance costs	(1,803)	(2,074)	(13.1)
Investment income and share of profits less losses from associates	481	270	78.1
Profit from ordinary activities before taxation	**26,017**	**16,765**	**55.2**
Taxation	(7,713)	(5,264)	46.5
Profit from ordinary activities after taxation	**18,304**	**11,501**	**59.2**
Minority interests	(2,153)	(774)	178.2
Profit attributable to shareholders	**16,151**	**10,727**	**50.6**

(1) Turnover and other operating revenues

In the first half of 2004, the Company's turnover and other operating revenues were RMB 275.4 billion. Of which, turnover was RMB 265.7 billion, up by 34.5% over the first half of 2003. This was mainly due to the fact that in the first half of 2004, prices of crude oil, petroleum products and chemical products all increased in the global market, and the Company seized the market opportunity to increase its refining throughput and sales volume of its refined products. As a result, the Company's sales volume of major petrochemical products increased significantly. The Company's other operating revenues was RMB 9.7 billion, up by 26.1% over the first half of 2003. This was mainly due to the increase of sales revenue from its sale of raw and auxiliary materials and other products and services to China Petrochemical Corporation and its subsidiaries (excluding the Company) ("Sinopec Group") and to third parties.

Most of crude oil and a small portion of natural gas produced by the Company were internally used for its refining and chemical production. The remaining was sold to the refineries owned by Sinopec Group and other customers. In the first half of 2004, external sales revenues of crude oil and natural gas amounted to RMB 7.4 billion, up by 4.1% over the first half of 2003, accounting for 2.7% of the Company's turnover and other operating revenues.

The Company's Refining Segment and Marketing and Distribution Segment sell petroleum products (mainly consisting of refined oil products and other refined petroleum products) to third parties. In the first half of 2004, the aggregate external sales revenues of petroleum products by these two segments were RMB 188.5 billion, up by 38.1% over the first half of 2003 and accounting for 68.4% of the Company's turnover and other operating revenues. The sales revenues of gasoline and diesel increased by 39.0% from that in the first half of 2003 to RMB 136.1 billion, accounting for 72.2% of the total sales revenues of petroleum products.

In the first half of 2004, the Company's external sales revenues of chemical products were RMB 50.9 billion, up by 33.6% over the first half of 2003, accounting for 18.4% of its turnover and other operating revenues.

(2) Operating expenses

In the first half of 2004, the Company's operating expenses were RMB 248.1 billion, up by 32.8% over the first half of 2003. The operating expenses mainly consisted of the following:

Purchased crude oil, products, and operating supplies and expenses

The Company's purchase of crude oil, products and operating supplies and expenses were RMB 197.1 billion, up by 36.5% over the first half of 2003, accounting for 79.5% of the operating expenses, of which:

Purchase of crude oil was RMB 102.8 billion, up by 35.1% over the first half of 2003, accounting for 41.5% of the total operating expenses.

The following table lists the Company's principal external sales volume and average realised prices, and changes between the first half of 2004 and the first half of 2003:

	Sales Volume (thousand tonnes)			Average Realised Prices (RMB/tonne, RMB/thousand cubic meters)		
	Six-month periods ended 30 June		Changes	Six-month periods ended 30 June		Changes
	2004	2003	(%)	**2004**	2003	(%)
Crude oil	3,019	3,304	(8.6)	1,679	1,559	7.7
Natural gas (million cubic meters)	1,767	1,617	9.3	601	596	0.8
Gasoline	13,266	10,779	23.1	3,580	3,318	7.9
Diesel	29,096	22,025	32.1	3,044	2,823	7.8
Kerosene	2,633	2,118	24.3	2,710	2,495	8.6
Synthetic fiber monomer and polymer	1,203	1,038	15.9	7,489	6,172	21.3
Synthetic resin	2,376	2,238	6.2	7,360	5,764	27.7
Synthetic fiber	679	629	7.9	10,728	9,231	16.2
Synthetic rubber	299	261	14.6	9,301	8,024	15.9
Chemical fertilizer	1,287	1,040	23.8	1,327	1,185	12.0

To meet the increasing demands resulting from the rapid growth of the Chinese economy, the Company increased its refining throughput. In the first half of 2004, the Company's refining throughput was 63.26 million tonnes (excluding amounts processed for third parties), representing an increase of 15.67%, compared with that in the first half of 2003. The Company's average cost for crude oil was RMB 2,098 per tonne, representing an increase of 10.8% compared with that in the first half of 2003.

In the first half of 2004, the Company's other purchasing expenses were RMB 94.3 billion, up by 38.1% over the first half of 2003, accounting for 38.0% of the total operating expenses. This increase was mainly due to the increased costs of outsourced refined oil products and chemical feedstock.

Selling, general and administrative expenses

In the first half of 2004, the Company's selling, general and administrative expenses were RMB 14.2 billion, up by 24.4% over the first half of 2003. This increase was mainly due to:

- Sales expenses, such as the costs of transportation, and other service charges etc. increased by RMB 1.2 billion, as a result of the increase in the sales volume of refined oil products and the increased proportion of retail and direct sales in total sales volume of refined oil products.
- Expenses in maintenance increased by RMB 400 million.
- Operating lease rentals increased by (inclusive land lease expenses) RMB 400 million.
- Expenses in advertising increased by RMB 300 million.
- Expenses in research and development increased by RMB 200 million.

Depreciation, depletion and amortization

In the first half of 2004, the Company's depreciation, depletion and amortization were RMB 14.8 billion, up by 14.1% over the first half of 2003. The increase was mainly due to the addition of property, plant and equipment as a result of capital expenditure.

Exploration expenses

In the first half of 2004, the Company's exploration expenses were RMB 2.5 billion, representing a decrease of 11.1% compared with that in the first half of 2003.

Personnel expenses

In the first half of 2004, the Company's personnel expenses were RMB 8.3 billion, which was flat with that in the first half of 2003.

Employee reduction expenses

The Company incurred approximately RMB 412 million of staff reduction expenses for approximately 8,000 employees who voluntarily left the Company in the first half of 2004.

Taxes other than income tax

In the first half of 2004, the Company's taxes other than income tax were RMB 7.8 billion, up by 25.6% over the first half of 2003. The increase was mainly attributable to the increase of consumption tax and surcharges as a result of the increase in sales volume of gasoline and diesel of the Company.

Other operating expenses, net

In the first half of 2004, the Company's other operating expenses (net) were RMB 3.0 billion, up by RMB 2.3 billion over the first half of 2003. The increase was mainly due to the fact that in order to allocate its internal resources more efficiently, the Company adjusted the production and operation plans for certain less efficient facilities in Chemicals and Marketing and Distribution segments, and accordingly made a provision for impairment of long-lived assets of RMB 2.3 billion representing the difference between the expected recoverable value and the net book value of these assets, up by RMB 2.1 billion over the first half of 2003.

(3) Operating profit
In the first half of 2004, the Company's operating profit was RMB 27.3 billion, up by 47.2% over the first half of 2003.

(4) Net finance costs
In the first half of 2004, the Company's net finance costs were RMB 1.8 billion, down by 13.1% compared with that in the first half of 2003.

(5) Profit from ordinary activities before taxation
In the first half of 2004, the Company's profit from ordinary activities before taxation was RMB 26.0 billion, up by 55.2% over the first half of 2003.

(6) Taxation
In the first half of 2004, the Company's income tax was RMB 7.7 billion, up by 46.5% over the first half of 2003.

(7) Minority interests
In the first half of 2004, the Company's minority interests were RMB 2.2 billion, up by 178.2% over the first half of 2003, mainly due to the significant increase in the profits from the Company's subsidiaries.

(8) Profit attributable to shareholders
In the first half of 2004, the Company's profit attributable to shareholders was RMB 16.2 billion, up by 50.6% over the first half of 2003.

2 DISCUSSION ON RESULTS OF SEGMENT OPERATIONS

The Company divides its operations into four business segments (Exploration and Production Segment, Refining Segment, Marketing and Distribution Segment and Chemicals Segment) and Corporate and Others. Unless otherwise specified, the financial data discussed in the section have not eliminated inter-segment transactions. In addition, the operating revenue data of each segment include other operating revenues of the segment.

The following table shows the operating revenues by each segment, the contribution of external sales and inter-segment sales as a percentage of operating revenues before elimination of inter-segment sales, and the contribution of external sales as a percentage of consolidated operating revenues (i.e. after elimination of inter-segment sales) for the periods indicated.

	Operating revenues Six-month periods ended 30 June		As a percentage of consolidated operating revenues before elimination of inter-segment sales Six-month periods ended 30 June		As a percentage of consolidated operating revenues after elimination of inter-segment sales Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003	**2004**	2003	**2004**	2003
	RMB millions		(%)		(%)	
Exploration and Production Segment						
External sales*	10,920	10,035	2.4	2.8	4.0	4.9
Inter-segment sales	26,316	24,980	5.8	7.1		
Operating revenues	**37,236**	**35,015**	**8.2**	**9.9**		
Refining Segment						
External sales*	34,353	28,320	7.6	8.0	12.5	13.8
Inter-segment sales	126,904	102,765	28.1	29.2		
Operating revenues	**161,257**	**131,085**	**35.7**	**37.2**		
Marketing and Distribution Segment						
External sales*	156,901	110,433	34.8	31.4	57.0	53.8
Inter-segment sales	1,334	1,630	0.3	0.5		
Operating revenues	**158,235**	**112,063**	**35.1**	**31.9**		
Chemicals Segment						
External sales*	53,591	40,146	11.9	11.4	19.4	19.5
Inter-segment sales	4,794	3,923	1.1	1.1		
Operating revenues	**58,385**	**44,069**	**13.0**	**12.5**		
Corporate and others segment						
External sales*	19,677	16,401	4.4	4.7	7.1	8.0
Inter-segment sales	16,246	13,419	3.6	3.8		
Operating revenues	**35,923**	**29,820**	**8.0**	**8.5**		
Operating revenues before elimination of inter-segment sales	**451,036**	**352,052**	**100.0**	**100.0**		
Elimination of inter-segment sales	**(175,594)**	**(146,717)**				
Consolidated operating revenues	**275,442**	**205,335**			**100.0**	**100.0**

* including other operating revenues.

The following table shows the operating revenues, operating expenses and operating profit by each segment before elimination of the inter-segment transactions for the periods indicated, and the percentage change from the first half of 2003 to the first half of 2004:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June		
	2004	2003	Changes
	RMB millions		(%)
Exploration and Production Segment			
Operating revenue	37,236	35,015	6.3
Operating expenses	26,716	24,717	8.1
Operating profit	**10,520**	**10,298**	**2.2**
Refining Segment			
Operating revenue	161,257	131,085	23.0
Operating expenses	157,006	128,441	22.2
Operating profit	**4,251**	**2,644**	**60.8**
Marketing and Distribution Segment			
Operating revenue	158,235	112,063	41.2
Operating expenses	149,666	106,602	40.4
Operating profit	**8,569**	**5,461**	**56.9**
Chemicals Segment			
Operating revenue	58,385	44,069	32.5
Operating expenses	53,461	43,211	23.7
Operating profit	**4,924**	**858**	**473.9**
Corporate and others segment			
Operating revenue	35,923	29,820	20.5
Operating expenses	36,848	30,512	20.8
Operating profit	**(925)**	**(692)**	**33.7**

(1) Exploration and Production Segment

Most of the crude oil and a small portion of the natural gas produced by the Exploration and Production Segment were used for the Company's refining and chemical operations. Most of the natural gas and a small portion of crude oil produced by the Company were sold to refineries owned by Sinopec Group and third party customers.

In the first half of 2004, the operating revenues of this segment were RMB 37.2 billion, up by 6.3% over the first half of 2003, which was mainly due to the increase of sales volume and the realised price of crude oil over that in the first half of 2003.

In the first half of 2004, this segment sold 17.96 million tonnes of crude oil, up by 1.5% over the first half of 2003. 1.814 billion cubic meters of natural gas were sold, up by 10.2% over the first half of 2003. The average realised price of crude oil increased by 2.5% over the first half of 2003 to RMB 1,742 per tonne (approximately USD 29.6/barrel); the average realised price of natural gas increased by 1.0% over the first half of 2003 to RMB 607 per thousand cubic meters.

In the first half of 2004, the operating expenses of this segment were RMB 26.7 billion, up by 8.1% over the first half of 2003. This was mainly due to the increase of the oil and gas properties caused by the capital expenditure incurred in this segment. In the first half of 2004, the depreciation, depletion and amortization of the segment increased by approximately RMB 1 billion over the first half of 2003; other operating expenses increased by RMB 600 million over the first half of 2003; and the expenditure on land lease rentals and research and development increased by approximately RMB 200 million over the first half of 2003.

In the first half of 2004, the Company's lifting cost for crude oil and natural gas was USD 6.28 per barrel, a slight increase from USD 6.26 per barrel recorded in the first half of 2003.

In the first half of 2004, operating profit for the Exploration and Production Segment was RMB 10.5 billion, up by 2.2% over the first half of 2003.

(2) Refining Segment

The business activities of the Refining Segment consist of purchasing crude oil from the Company's Exploration and Production Segment and from third parties, processing crude oil into refined oil products, selling gasoline, diesel and kerosene to the Company's Marketing and Distribution Segment, selling other refined oil products externally to domestic and overseas customers by the Refining Segment.

In the first half of 2004, operating revenues of the Refining Segment were RMB 161.3 billion, up by 23.0% over the first half of 2003, mainly because of increased sales volume of products and increase in the realised prices.

The following table shows the sales volumes, average realised prices and the percentage change of various kinds of refined petroleum products of the segment between the first half of 2003 and the first half of 2004:

	Sales Volume (thousand tonnes) Six-month periods ended 30 June			Average realised prices (RMB/tonne) Six-month periods ended 30 June		
	2004	2003	Change (%)	**2004**	2003	Changes (%)
Gasoline	10,167	9,896	2.7	2,771	2,635	5.2
Diesel	24,210	19,550	23.8	2,711	2,455	10.4
Chemical feedstock	11,580	10,847	6.8	2,439	2,317	5.3
Other refined petroleum products	15,520	13,793	12.5	2,373	2,164	9.7

In the first half of 2004, the sales revenues of gasoline realised by the segment were RMB 28.2 billion, up by 8.1% over the first half of 2003 and accounting for 17.5% of this segment's operating revenues.

In the first half of 2004, the sales revenue of diesel realised by the segment were RMB 65.6 billion, representing an increase of 36.8 % over the first half of 2003 and accounting for 40.6% of this segment's operating revenues.

In the first half of 2004, the sales revenues of chemical feedstock realised by the segment were RMB 28.2 billion, representing an increase of 12.4 % over the first half of 2003, and accounting for 17.5% of this segment's operating revenues.

In the first half of 2004, the sales revenues of refined petroleum products other than gasoline, diesel and chemical feedstock were RMB 36.9 billion, representing an increase of 23.4% compared with that in the first half of 2003, and accounting for 22.8% of this segment's operating revenues.

In the first half of 2004, the segment's operating expenses were RMB 157 billion, up by 22.2% over the first half of 2003, principally due to the increase of processing volume of crude oil and the high price of crude oil.

In the first half of 2004, the average cost of crude oil was RMB 2,036 per tonne, representing an increase by 9.0% compared with that in the first half of 2003. Refining throughput was 63.26 million tonnes (excluding amounts processed for third parties), representing an increase of 15.67% compared with that in the first half of 2003. In the first half of 2004, the total crude oil costs were RMB 128.8 billion, accounting for 82.0% of the segment's operating expenses, representing an increase of 26.0% compared with that in the first half of 2003.

In the first half of 2004, refining margin was USD 4.07 per barrel (defined as the sales revenues less the crude oil costs and refining feedstock costs and taxes other than income tax; divided by the throughput of crude oil and refining feedstock), up by USD 0.11 per barrel compared with USD 3.96 per barrel in the first half of 2003, representing an increase of 2.8%.

In the first half of 2004, the unit refining cash operating cost (defined as operating expenses less the purchasing costs of crude oil and refining feedstock, depreciation and amortization, taxes other than income tax, other operating expenses; and divided by the throughput of crude oil and refining feedstock) was USD 1.98 per barrel, down by USD 0.04 per barrel compared with USD 2.02 per barrel in the first half of 2003, representing a decrease of 2.0%.

In the first half of 2004, operating profit of the Refining Segment was RMB 4.3 billion, representing an increase of 60.8% compared with that in the first half of 2003.

(3) Marketing and Distribution Segment

The business of Marketing and Distribution Segment includes purchasing refined products from the Refining Segment and third parities, conducting wholesale and direct sale to domestic users, and retailing, distributing refined products through the segment's retail and distribution network, as well as providing services related to refined product sales. In the first half of 2004, the operating revenues of this segment was RMB 158.2 billion, up by 41.2% over the first half of 2003, mainly due to the increase of sales volume and prices of refined products and the rationalization of marketing structure.

In the first half of 2004, the sales of gasoline and diesel were RMB 137.2 billion, which accounted for 86.7% of the operating revenues of this segment.

The following table shows the sales volumes, average realised prices, and respective percentages of changes of the four product categories in the first half of 2003 and 2004, including detailed information of different sales channels for gasoline and diesel.

	Sales Volumes (thousand tonnes)			Average Realised Prices (RMB/tonne)		
	Six-month periods ended 30 June		Changes	Six-month periods ended 30 June		Changes
	2004	2003	(%)	**2004**	2003	(%)
Gasoline	**13,356**	**10,875**	**22.8**	**3,577**	**3,314**	**7.9**
Of which: Retail	8,783	6,581	33.5	3,733	3,493	6.9
Direct sales	1,454	709	105.2	3,347	3,143	6.5
Wholesale	3,119	3,585	(13.0)	3,245	3,021	7.4
Diesel	**29,428**	**22,368**	**31.6**	**3,039**	**2,817**	**7.9**
Of which: Retail	13,999	8,861	58.0	3,164	3,001	5.4
Direct sales	7,541	3,595	109.8	3,045	2,774	9.8
Wholesale	7,888	9,912	(20.4)	2,811	2,667	5.4
Kerosene including jet fuel	**2,597**	**2,084**	**24.6**	**2,706**	**2,495**	**8.5**
Fuel oil	**4,973**	**2,268**	**119.3**	**1,715**	**1,673**	**2.5**

In the first half of 2004, this segment's operating expenses were RMB 149.7 billion, up by 40.4% compared with that in the first half of 2003, mainly due to the increase of procurement costs, of which purchasing costs of gasoline and diesel were RMB 118.1 billion, constituting 78.9% of the segment's operating expenses, up by 37.0% over that in the first half of 2003. In the first half of 2004, average purchased prices of gasoline and diesel went up by 0.8% and 9.6%, respectively, compared with that in the first half of 2003, to RMB 2,806 per tonne and RMB 2,741 per tonne, respectively. The purchasing volume of gasoline and diesel went up by 22.8% and 31.6%, respectively, compared with that in the first half of 2003, to 13.36 million tonnes and 29.43 million tonnes, respectively.

In the first half of 2004, the segment's cash operating cost per tonne of petroleum products (defined as the operating expenses less the purchasing costs, taxes other than income tax, depreciation and amortization, and divided by the sales volume) was RMB 153.4 per tonne, down by 6.0% compared with that in the first half of 2003. This decrease was primarily attributable to diluted expenses caused by increased total sales volume and decreased expenses as a result of flattened management hierarchy.

In the first half of 2004, the Marketing and Distribution Segment's operating profit was RMB 8.6 billion, up by 56.9% over the first half of 2003.

(4) Chemicals Segment

The business activities of the Chemicals Segment include purchasing chemical feedstock from the Refining Segment and third parties, producing, marketing and distribution of petrochemical products.

In the first half of 2004, operating revenues of the Chemicals Segment were RMB 58.4 billion, up by 32.5% over the first half of 2003, mainly because of increased sales volume of major chemical products and an increase in realised prices.

The sales revenue from the Company's six categories of chemical products (i.e. basic organic chemicals, synthetic resin, synthetic rubber, synthetic fiber, synthetic fiber monomer and polymer and chemical fertilizer) totaled RMB 51.8 billion, accounting for 88.7% of the operating revenues of this segment, up by 34.3% over the first half of 2003.

The following table lists the sales volumes, average realised price and rates of change of each of these six categories of chemical products of this segment in the first half of 2003 and 2004.

	Sales Volumes (thousand tonnes) Six-month periods ended 30 June			Average Realised Prices (RMB/tonne) Six-month periods ended 30 June		
	2004	2003	Changes (%)	**2004**	2003	Changes (%)
Basic organic chemicals	3,905	3,459	12.9	3,458	2,930	18.0
Synthetic resin	2,377	2,238	6.2	7,360	5,764	27.7
Synthetic rubber	299	261	14.6	9,301	8,024	15.9
Synthetic fiber	679	629	7.9	10,728	9,231	16.2
Synthetic fiber monomer and polymer	1,203	1,038	15.9	7,489	6,172	21.3
Chemical fertilizer	1,314	1,050	25.1	1,326	1,185	12.0

In the first half of 2004, operating expenses of the Chemicals Segment were RMB 53.5 billion, up by 23.7% over the first half of 2003. This was primarily because that in line with the increase in price of the feedstock and the significant increase in the Segment's production, the expenses for various raw materials and ancillary materials, other variable expenses and fixed costs increased accordingly. Of which:

- Purchased crude oil, products, and operating supplies and expenses were up by RMB 6.8 billion, due to the increase in consumption and unit costs of feedstock and auxiliary materials.
- Provision for the impairment losses on assets was RMB 1.7 billion.
- Selling expenses were up by RMB 200 million, due to the significant increases in sales volumes.
- Depreciation and amortization were up by RMB 300 million.
- The increase of other business expenses were RMB 600 million.

In the first half of 2004, operating profit for chemical segment was RMB 4.9 billion, representing an increase of RMB 4.1 billion over the first half of 2003.

(5) Corporate and Others

The business activities of Corporate and Others mainly consist of import and export business activities of its subsidiaries, research and development activities of the Company, and managerial activities of its headquarters.

In the first half of 2004, the operating revenues from corporate and others were RMB 35.9 billion, up by 20.5% over the first half of 2003. The increase was largely because China Petrochemical International Company Limited and its subsidiaries increased their trading volume of crude oil and refined oil products and proprietary business as well as their revenues.

In the first half of 2004, the operating expenses were RMB 36.8 billion, up by 20.8% over the first half of 2003. This increase was largely because the purchasing costs of subsidiaries increased in line with its increased revenue.

In the first half of 2004, the operating losses were RMB 900 million, representing an increase in losses of RMB 200 million compared with that in the first half of 2003, mainly due to the increase in advertising expenses, which amounted to RMB 300 million.

3 ASSETS, LIABILITIES, SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS, AND CASH FLOW

(1) Assets, liabilities and shareholders' funds **Unit: RMB millions**

	At 30 June 2004	At 31 December 2003	Changes
Current assets	120,102	99,328	20,774
Non-current assets	314,835	301,490	13,345
Total assets	434,937	400,818	34,119
Current liabilities	137,713	122,005	15,708
Non-current liabilities	91,375	85,048	6,327
Total liabilities	229,088	207,053	22,035
Minority interests	27,440	25,866	1,574
Shareholders' funds	178,409	167,899	10,510
Share capital	86,702	86,702	—
Reserves	91,707	81,197	10,510

As at 30 June 2004, the Company's total assets were RMB 434.9 billion, up by RMB 34.1 billion compared with those at the beginning of the period, of which:

- Current assets were RMB 120.1 billion, increase by RMB 20.8 billion compared with those at the beginning of the period. The change was mainly because in the first half of 2004, the Company's inventories increased by RMB 14.5 billion, of which, crude oil and other feedstock increased by RMB 8.4 billion, the inventory of refined oil products and other finished products increased by RMB 4.5 billion. Accounts receivable and bills receivable increased by RMB 6.4 billion.

- Non-current assets were RMB 314.8 billion, increase by RMB 13.3 billion compared with those at the beginning of the period, mainly due to the increase in the construction in progress, which amounted to RMB 15.7 billion.

As at 30 June 2004, the Company's total liabilities were RMB 229.1 billion, up by RMB 22.0 billion from that at the beginning of the period, of which:

- Current liabilities were RMB 137.7 billion, up by RMB 15.7 billion compared with that at the beginning of the period. These increases were mainly due to the increase of short-term debt and loan from Sinopec Group, which amounted to RMB 8.3 billion, and the increase of trade accounts payable and bills payable which amounted to RMB 8.1 billion.

- Non-current liabilities were RMB 91.4 billion, increased by RMB 6.3 billion compared with those at the beginning of the period. This was mainly due to the issuance of corporte bonds and increase in long-term loans.

As at 30 June 2004, the Company's shareholder's funds were RMB 178.4 billion, up by RMB 10.5 billion from those at the beginning of the period, which was due to the increase of the reserves.

(2) Cash flow

In the first half of 2004, cash and cash equivalents decreased by a net amount of RMB 947 million from RMB 15.2 billion as at 31 December 2003 to RMB 14.3 billion as at 30 June 2004. The following table lists the major items in the consolidated cash flow statements of the Company for the first half of 2004 and the first half of 2003.

Unit: RMB millions

Major items of cash flows	Six-month periods ended 30 June **2004**	2003	Changes
Net cash inflow from operating activities	19,291	28,649	(9,358)
Net cash used in investing activities	(30,659)	(21,553)	(9,106)
Net cash inflow from/(used in) financing activities	10,421	(5,074)	15,495
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(947)	2,022	(2,969)

Net cash inflow from operating activities was RMB 19.3 billion.

- *Major sources*: Profit from ordinary activities before taxation for the first half of 2004 was RMB 26.0 billion. The operating expenses items that have no cash flow effect were: depreciation, depletion and amortisation of RMB 14.8 billion; impairment losses on long-lived assets and the dry holes costs of RMB 2.3 billion and RMB 800 million, respectively.

- *Major uses*: the addition of inventory of crude oil and refined oil products led to an increase by RMB 14.5 billion in terms of cash outflow, and increase in other assets results in RMB 800 million of cash outflow. The increased cash outflow from changes in operating receivables and payables was RMB 900 million.

In addition, deducting the cash outflow caused by payment for income tax totaling RMB 8.3 billion, the net cash flow from operating activities was RMB 19.3 billion.

Net cash used in investing activities was RMB 30.7 billion, which was mainly used at:

- The Company had cash outflow for capital expenditure of RMB 26.1 billion;

- The Company's jointly controlled entities had cash outflow for capital expenditure of RMB 3.4 billion;

- Cash outflow for acquisition of investments and associates of RMB 800 million.

Net cash inflow from financing activities was RMB 10.4 billion. This was mainly from the issuance of corporate bonds by the Company and bank loans.

(3) Contingent liabilities

At 30 June 2004, the amount of guarantees given by the Company in respect of banking facilities granted to associates amounted to approximately RMB 4.897 billion, the main guarantees, which amounted to RMB 4.68 billion, were granted to BASF-YPC Co., Ltd.

4 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Please refer to the descriptions under "Capital Expenditure" in the section entitled "Business Review and Prospects".

5 ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PREPARED UNDER THE PRC ACCOUNTING RULES AND REGULATIONS

(1) The major differences between the Company's financial statements prepared under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations and IFRS are set out in the section C of the financial statements of the Company on page 104 to page 105 of this report.

(2) The following table sets forth each of its segments' income from principal operations, cost of sales, sales taxes and surcharges and profit from principal operations, as prepared under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations:

	Six-month periods ended June 30	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Income from principal operations		
Exploration and Production Segment	33,692	32,063
Refining Segment	158,890	127,599
Marketing and Distribution Segment	157,873	111,861
Chemicals Segment	55,740	39,144
Corporate and Others	35,108	28,465
Elimination of inter-segment sales	(175,594)	(144,290)
Consolidated income from principal operations	**265,709**	**194,842**
Cost of sales, sales taxes and surcharges		
Exploration and Production Segment	16,165	16,345
Refining Segment	151,772	123,141
Marketing and Distribution Segment	138,914	98,271
Chemical Segment	45,685	35,713
Corporate and Others	34,769	28,249
Elimination of the cost of inter-segment sales	(173,431)	(143,275)
Consolidated cost of sales, sales taxes and surcharges	**213,874**	**158,444**
Profit from principal operations		
Exploration and Production Segment	15,568	14,784
Refining Segment	6,914	4,377
Marketing and Distribution Segment	18,959	13,590
Chemicals Segment	10,055	3,431
Corporate and Others	339	216
Consolidated profit from principal operations	**51,835**	**36,398**
Consolidated net profit	**15,039**	**9,765**

Profit from principal operations: In the first half of 2004, the profit from principal operations realised by the Company was RMB 51.8 billion, representing an increase of 42.4% over the first half of 2003. This was mainly due to the increase of the prices of crude oil, refined oil products and chemical products and the increase of sales volume.

Net profit: In the first half of 2004, the Company's realised net profit was RMB 15.0 billion, representing an increase of 54.01% over the first half of 2003. This was mainly due to the increase in profit from principal operations.

(3) Financial data prepared in accordance with the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Total assets	422,925	390,213
Long-term liabilities	86,187	80,109
Sharehoders' funds	172,276	162,946

Analysis of changes

Total assets: At 30 June 2004, the Company's total assets were RMB 422.9 billion, up by RMB 32.7 billion from that at the beginning of the period, representing an increase of 8.38%. Of which, current assets were RMB 117.1 billion, up by RMB 20.2 billion over the beginning of the period. The change was mainly due to the increment of the Company's inventory by RMB 14.1 billion, among others, the increase in crude oil and other feedstock amounted to RMB 8.4 billion, the inventory of refined oil products and other products RMB 4.5 billion, accounts receivable and bills receivable RMB 6.4 billion, which was mainly because sales revenue increased significantly compared with that in the first half of 2003. Non-current assets were RMB 305.9 billion, increased by RMB 12.6 billion over the beginning of the period. This was mainly due to the increase of RMB 16.0 billion in construction in progress.

Long-term liabilities: At 30 June 2004, the Company's long-term liabilities were RMB 86.2 billion, up by RMB 6.1 billion from that at the beginning of the period, representing an increase by 7.62%. This was mainly due to the issuance of corporate bonds and long-term loans.

Shareholders' funds: At 30 June 2004, the shareholders' funds of the Company were RMB 172.3 billion, up by RMB 9.3 billion from that at the beginning of the period, representing an increase of 5.71%.

6 SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PREPARED UNDER IFRS AND US GAAP

The significant differences between the Company's financial statements prepared under IFRS and US GAAP are set out in the Section D of the financial statements of the Company on page 106 to page 107 of this report.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

In strict compliance with the requirements of the domestic and overseas regulatory authorities, the Company has constantly improved the corporate governance.

According to the "Notice on Certain Issues Relating to Regulating Fund Transfers between a Listed Company and Connected Parties and the External Guarantees of Listed Company" (Zheng Jian Fa [2003] No. 56) jointly promulgated by the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) and the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council (SASAC), and the newly amended Listing Rules of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Sinopec Corp. held its Annual General Meeting for the Year 2003 on 18 May 2004 and approved the amendment of Articles of Association and its schedules including "Rules and Procedures for the Shareholders' General Meetings" and "Rules and Procedures for the Board of Directors' Meetings". The above documents were approved by SASAC on 30 July 2004. The Company's internal control system has been improving continuously.

The directors, supervisors and other members of the senior management studied newly promulgated laws and regulations. Independent directors actively participated in Sinopec Corp.'s important decision-making and manifested the independent opinions on the issues including connected transactions, appointment and removal of directors, external guarantees, etc.

The Company actively and positively disclosed information and continued to strengthen its daily communication with the investors so as to realise a positive interaction with investors and to further improve company's transparency.

2 CHANGES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Since Mr. Liu Kegu, the previous director of Sinopec Corp., resigned from the Board of Directors of Sinopec Corp., the China Development Bank, which held 10.12% of Sinopec Corp.'s total issued share capital, nominated Mr. Gao Jian as the candidate of Sinopec Corp.'s director on 29 April 2004. At the Annual General Meeting for the Year 2003 held on 18 May 2004, Mr. Gao Jian was elected as the member of the Second Session of the Board of Directors of Sinopec Corp.

3 DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 AND INTERIM DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION PLAN FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

(1) Dividend Distribution for the year ended 31 December 2003

As approved at the Annual General Meeting for the Year 2003 of Sinopec Corp., a final cash dividend of RMB 0.06 (inclusive of tax) per share for the year ended 31 December 2003 was distributed, with a total amount of RMB 5.202 billion. Shareholders whose names appeared on the register of members of Sinopec Corp. on 4 June 2004 had already received the final dividend on 28 June 2004.

For the year of 2003, the annual cash dividend of RMB 0.09 (inclusive of tax) per share was distributed and the total cash dividend amounted to RMB 7.803 billion.

(2) Interim Dividend Distribution Plan for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004

According to the provision of the Articles of Association of Sinopec Corp., the Board approved the Interim Dividend Distribution Plan for the period ended 30 June 2004 at the tenth meeting of the Second Session of the Board of Directors. An interim cash dividend of RMB 0.04 (inclusive of tax) per share is to be distributed, based on the total number of shares of 86,702.439 million as at 30 June 2004, which amounts to a total cash dividend of approximately RMB 3.468 billion.

The interim dividend will be distributed on or before 30 September 2004 (Thursday) to the shareholders whose names appear on the register of members of Sinopec Corp. on Monday, 20 September 2004.

To be entitled to the interim dividend, holders of H shares shall lodge their share certificate(s) and transfer materials with Hong Kong Registrars Limited at Shops 1712-1716, 17/F., Hopewell Center, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong for registration of transfer, no later than 4:00pm on Monday, 13 September 2004. The register of members of the H shares of Sinopec Corp. will be closed from Tuesday, 14 September 2004 to Monday, 20 September 2004 (both dates inclusive).

Dividends will be denominated and declared in Renminbi. Dividends for domestic shares will be paid in Renminbi and dividends for foreign shares will be paid in Hong Kong dollar. The exchange rate for dividends to be paid in Hong Kong dollars is the mean of the average rate of Hong Kong dollar to Renminbi published by Bank of China during the calendar week (from 16 August 2004 to 20 August 2004) prior to the date of declaration of dividends, being Friday, 27 August 2004.

4 THE COMPANY HAS NOT BEEN INVOLVED IN ANY MATERIAL LITIGATIONS AND ARBITRATIONS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

5 CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

(1) Connected transactions entered into by the Company during the reporting period

During the reporting period, the aggregate amount of connected transactions incurred between the Company and the connected parties was RMB 63.841 billion, of which, incoming trade amounted to RMB 33.07 billion, and outgoing trade amounted to RMB 30.771 billion (including RMB 30.715 billion of sales of products and services). Details of the connected transactions incurred during the reporting period are set out in the notes to the financial statements contained in this report.

All connected transactions incurred during the reporting period have been carried out in compliance with its respective agreements as published in the relevant announcements.

The following table shows the principal operations categorized by business segments and the details of the connected transactions, including income from principal operations and cost of principal operations for each business segment which are extracted from Sinopec Corp.'s financial statements prepared under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations:

Categorised by business segments	Income from principal operations RMB millions	Cost of principal operations RMB millions	Gross profit ratio* (%)	Increase/decrease of income from principal operations compared to the same period of preceding year (%)	Increase/decrease of cost of principal operations compared to the same period of preceding year (%)	Increase/decrease of gross profit ratio compared to the same period of preceding year (percentage point)
Exploration and production	33,692	15,574	47.96	5.08	(1.31)	0.09
Refining	158,890	145,154	8.52	24.52	23.05	1.03
Chemicals	55,740	45,398	18.55	42.40	27.76	9.33
Marketing and distribution	157,873	138,640	12.18	41.13	41.39	(0.16)
Others	35,108	34,763	0.98	23.34	23.08	0.21
Elimination of inter-segment sales	(175,594)	(173,431)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	265,709	206,098	22.43	36.37	35.32	0.60
Of which: connected transactions	22,001	19,525	11.25	71.77	80.83	(4.45)

Pricing policy for connected transactions	(1) Government-prescribed prices and government-guided prices are adopted for products or projects if such prices are available; (2) Where there is no government-prescribed price or government-guided price for products or projects, the market price (inclusive of bidding price) will apply; (3) Where none of the above is applicable, the price will be decided based on the reasonable cost incurred plus sales taxes and reasonable profit. Reasonable cost means the average production cost of products by the same type of enterprises within regions with proximity using the same kind of raw materials. Reasonable profit means profit margin of not more than 6% of the cost incurred based on the current interest rate level set by the government.

Of which: during the reporting period, the total amount of connected transactions of the principal products sold by the Company to Sinopec Group was RMB 12.878 billion.

* Gross profit ratio = profit from principal operations/income from principal operations

Provision of fund to and fund provided by connected party **Unit: RMB millions**

Connected party	Provision of funds to connected party		Funds provided by connected party to the Company	
	Net occurrence	Balance	Net occurrence	Balance
Sinopec Group and other principal connected parties	(2,063)	7,162	(3,723)	10,792
Total	(2,063)	7,162	(3,723)	10,792

Of which: during the reporting period, the net occurrence of the fund provided by the Company for Sinopec Group amounted to a negative amount of RMB 2.026 billion, and the balance was RMB 6.868 billion.

(2) Acquisition of shares of Jinzhi Company

The other party to the transaction and its assets acquired or invested	Date of purchase	Transaction price	Net profits contributed to the Company during the period from the purchase day to the end of the reporting day	Whether it constituted to connected transaction (if yes, explain the pricing principle)
100% of the shares of Tianjian Lubricant & Grease Company Limited held by Sinopec Group	30 June 2004	RMB 230 million	Nil	Yes. Principle of Pricing: The consideration of the acquisition was determined by negotiations between the two parties according to the valuation of the Target Shares, the market conditions, profitability and development potential, and the valuation methods commonly used internationally.

At the seventh meeting of the Second Session of the Board of Directors of Sinopec Corp. held on 26 March 2004, the Board reviewed and approved to acquire 100% of the shares of Yanhua Group Tianjin Lubricant & Grease Company Limited (Jinzhi Company) (which was owned by Sinpec Group Beijing Yanshan Petrochemical Company Limited which is, in turn, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sinopec Group) at a consideration for RMB 230 million in cash. The two parties signed the acquisition agreement. For details, please refer to Sinopec Corp.'s relevant announcement published in China Securities, Shanghai Securities and Securities Times in mainland China and South China Morning Post and Hong Kong Economic Times in Hong Kong on 29 March 2004. The acquisition was completed on 30 June 2004.

6 SIGNIFICANT TRUSTEESHIP, CONTRACT AND LEASE

In this reporting period, Sinopec Corp. did not have any significant trusteeship, sub-contract or lease of any other company's assets, nor placed its assets to or under any other company's trusteeship, sub-contract or lease which were required to be disclosed.

7 IN THIS REPORTING PERIOD, SINOPEC CORP. DID NOT ENTRUST ANY OTHER PARTY TO CARRY OUT CASH ASSETS MANAGEMENT FOR IT.

8 SIGNIFICANT GUARANTEE

Obligors	Date of occurrence (date of execution of agreement)	Amount RMB millions	Type	Term	Whether completed or not	Whether for a connected party
Shanghai Secco Petrochemical Co., Ltd.	9 Feb. 2002	2,930	Joint and several liability	9 Feb. 2002-20 Dec. 2021	No	Yes
Shanghai Secco Petrochemical Co., Ltd.	9 Feb. 2002	4,062	Joint and several liability	9 Feb. 2002-20 Dec. 2013	No	Yes
BASF-YPC Co., Ltd.	7 Mar. 2003	4,680	Joint and several liability	7 Mar. 2003-31 Dec. 2008	No	Yes
Yueyang Sinopec Shell Coal Gasification Co., Ltd.	10 Dec. 2003	377	Joint and several liability	10 Dec. 2003-10 Dec. 2017	No	Yes
Others	N/A	315	Joint and several liability	N/A	No	Yes
Total amount of guarantee provided during the reporting period						Nil
Total amount of guarantee outstanding*						RMB 12,191 million
Of which: total outstanding amount of guarantee provided to connected parties						RMB 12,191 million
Total amount of guarantee provided by Sinopec Corp. for its controlling subsidiaries						RMB 173 million
Total amount of guarantee provided by Sinopec Corp. not in compliance with the requirements of (Zheng Jian Fa [2003] No.56)**						RMB 184 million
Total amount of guarantee as a percentage of the Company's net assets						7.18%

* Pursuant to "Notice on the Preparation of Interim Report of 2004 of the Listed Company" issued by Shanghai Stock Exchange, "the total amount of guarantee outstanding" and "the total outstanding amount of guarantee provided to connected parties" do not include the guarantee provided by Sinopec Corp. to its controlling subsidiaries.

** These guarantees were granted to subsidiaries and associates of Sinopec Corp. and were formally approved by the Board of Directors according to relative procedures. Pursuant to "Notice on Certain Issues Relating to Regulating Fund Transfers between a Listed Company and Connected Parties and External Guarantees of List Company" (Zheng Jian Fa [2003] No.56) promulgated by the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) and the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council (SASAC) published on 28 March 2003, as the total liabilities to total assets ratios of this subsidiary and associate were over 70%, the provision of these guarantees is subject to restrictions.

Material Items of Guarantee under Performance

At the fourteenth meeting of the First Session of the Board of Directors of Sinopec Corp., the Board approved Sinopec Corp. to provide guarantee with conditions in both domestic and foreign currency for Shanghai Secco project loan, and the amount of guarantee was RMB 6.992 billion. For relevant details, please refer to Sinopec Corp.'s 2001 annual results announcement published in China Securities, Shanghai Securities and Securities Times in mainland China and South China Morning Post and Hong Kong Economic Times in Hong Kong on 2 April 2002.

At the twenty-second meeting of the First Session of the Board of Directors of Sinopec Corp., the Board approved the proposal concerning Sinopec Corp.'s provision of equity pledge for the BASF-YPC project loan on the condition that BASF should provide equity pledge on the same terms. The Board also approved the proposal concerning Sinopec Corp.'s provision of guarantee for Yueyang Sinopec Shell Coal Gasification Co., Ltd., of an amount of RMB 377 million.

On 7 March 2003, Sinopec Corp. signed a "Guarantee Agreement for Completion of Construction" with domestic and foreign banks, whereby it guaranteed 40% of a domestic and foreign currencies denominated loan equivalent to around RMB 11.7 billion provided by such banks to BASF-YPC Co., Ltd. for completion of construction.

The independent directors presented special explanations and independent opinions on the external guarantees

According to the requirements in "Notice on the Preparation of Interim Report of 2004 of the Listed Company", a listed company shall, pursuant to the regulations in the "Notice on Certain Issues Relating to Regulating Fund Transfers between a Listed Company and Connected Parties and External Guarantees of List Company" ("Zheng Jian Fa [2003] No. 56"), publish in "the significant events section" of the Interim Report of 2004 the independent directors' special explanations and independent opinions on the accumulative and current external guarantees of the listed company, any guarantees provided by the listed company which are not in compliance with the requirements of Zheng Jian Fa [2003] No.56 as well as execution of the above stipulations. As independent directors of Sinopec Corp., we have carefully reviewed the external guarantees of Sinopec Corp. The explanations on Sinopec Corp.'s accumulative and current external guarantees for the first half of 2004 (ended 30 June 2004) are described below:

In the first half of 2004, no new external guarantees was incurred by Sinopec Corp. The accumulative guarantees were approximately RMB 12.191 billion (exclusive of the guarantees provided for its controlling subsidiaries amounted to approximately RMB 173 million), decreased by approximately RMB 43 million compared with that at the end of 2003, and the total amount of guarantees accounted for 7.18% of the net assets. The total amount of the guarantees which is not in compliance with the requirements of Zheng Jian Fa [2003] No. 56 is about RMB 184 million. Information related to the external guarantees incurred before 2003 or in 2003 has been disclosed in details in Sinopec Corp.'s 2003 Annual Report.

We present our independent opinions as follows:

(1) Sinopec Corp. has carefully carried out self-inspection with respect to the accumulative and current external guarantees incurred in the first half of 2004. The result shows that there was no new external guarantees incurred in the first half year of 2004 and the amount of accumulative guarantees decreased approximately RMB 43 million compared with that at the end of 2003.

(2) In compliance with the requirements by Zheng Jian Fa [2003] No. 56, Sinopec Corp. amended in a timely manner the Articles of Association and its schedules including "Rules and Procedures of the Shareholders' General Meetings" and "Rules and Procedures of the Board of Directors' Meetings", thereby playing an active role in strengthening management and controlling the relevant risks in association with the guarantees.

(3) Sinopec Corp. shall, pursuant to the newly amended Articles of Association and other related provisions, continue to straighten out existing guarantees which are not in compliance with Zheng Jian Fa [2003] No. 56, so as to safeguard the legitimate interests of Sinopec Corp.

9 SUMMARY OF THE USE OF FUNDS BY THE CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDERS AND OTHER CONNECTED PARTIES FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2004

Unit: RMB millions

Nature of the use of funds	Name of connected parties	Relationship	Account name	Beginning balance of the period	Increase during the period	Decrease during the period	Ending balance of the period
Borrowings	—	—	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Entrusted loans	—	—	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Entrusted investment	—	—	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Issuing commercial bills without genuine business transaction	—	—	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Accounts receivable and other receivables aged over one year as at 30 June 2004	Sinopec Group Company	Controlling shareholder	Other receivables/ accounts receivable	3,111	Nil	109	3,002
	Fellow subsidiaries controlled by Sinopec Group Company	Fellow subsidiaries controlled by controlling shareholder	Other receivables/ accounts receivable	3,706	1,383	2,407	2,682
Total				6,817	1,383	2,516	5,684

10 PERFORMANCE OF THE COMMITMENTS BY SINOPEC CORP. AND ITS SHAREHOLDER HOLDING 5% OR MORE OF THE TOTAL ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL, NAMELY, SINOPEC GROUP COMPANY

(1) As at the end of the reporting period, the undertakings made by Sinopec Corp. include:

(a) Carrying out the reorganization of its three wholly-owned subsidiaries, namely, Sinopec Shengli Oilfield Company Limited, Sinopec Sales Company Limited and Sinopec International Company Limited, in accordance with the PRC Company Law within a specified period of time;

(b) Changing the logo currently used at the petrol stations within a specified period of time;

(c) Setting up separate office buildings between Sinopec Group Company and Sinopec Corp. within a specified period of time; and

(d) Complying with the relevant applicable provisions and rules of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Hong Kong Stock Exchange") regarding the waiver of connected transactions.

(2) As at the end of the reporting period, the major undertakings given by Sinopec Group Company include:

(a) Complying with the agreements concerning connected transactions;

(b) Solving the issues arising from the land use rights certificates and property ownership rights certificates within a specified period of time;

(c) Implementing the Reorganization Agreement (defined in the Prospectus for the Issuance of H Shares);

(d) Granting licenses for intellectual property rights;

(e) Avoiding competition within the industry; and

(f) Giving up the business competition and conflict of interests with Sinopec Corp.

Details of the above commitments were included in the preliminary prospectus for the issuance of A shares published by Sinopec Corp. in China Securities, Shanghai Securities, and Securities Times on 22 June 2001.

In the period of the report, Sinopec Corp. did not breach and was not aware of itself or the above principal shareholders having breached the commitments.

11 USE OF PROCEEDS FROM ISSUANCE OF A SHARE

The proceeds from the issuance of A shares of Sinopec Corp. amounted to RMB 11.816 billion. After deducting the issuance expenses, the net proceeds from the issuance of A shares amounted to RMB 11.648 billion. In the year of 2001, RMB 7.766 billion was used, of which, RMB 6.446 billion was used to acquire Sinopec National Star, RMB 50 million to cover the initial preparation cost of the southwest refined oil products pipeline project and RMB 1.27 billion to supplement Sinopec Corp.'s working capital. RMB 696 million was used in 2002, of which, RMB 46 million was used to cover the initial preparation cost of the southwest oil products pipeline project and RMB 650 million to build the Ningbo-Shanghai-Nanjing crude oil pipeline. In the year of 2003, RMB 1.514 billion was used, of which, RMB 814 million was used for the construction of Ningbo-Shanghai-Nanjing crude oil pipeline, RMB 700 million for the construction of the southwest refined oil products pipeline project. In this reporting period, RMB 190 million was used for the southwest refining oil products pipeline project. As at 30 June 2004, the remaining balance of the proceeds from the issuance of A shares was RMB 1.482 billion.

12 AUDITORS

At the Company's Annual General Meeting for the Year 2003 held on 18 May 2004, KPMG Huazhen and KPMG were reappointed respectively as the domestic and international auditors of the Company for the year of 2004 and the Board of Directors was authorized to determine the remunerations for them. The financial statements for the first half of 2004 have been audited by KPMG Huazhen and KPMG. The audit fee accrued for the first half of 2004 was RMB 29 million. The certified public accountants of KPMG Huazhen are Wu Wei and Song Chenyang.

13 TRANSFER OF STATE-OWNED LEGAL PERSON SHARES IN CHINA PHOENIX HELD BY SINOPEC CORP.

At the ninth meeting of the Second Session of the Board of Directors of Sinopec Corp. held on 6 July 2004, the Board reviewed and approved to transfer 211,423,651 state-owned legal person shares held by Sinopec Corp. in Sinopec Wuhan Phoenix Company Limited ("China Phoenix") (representing 40.72% of the total issued share capital of China Phoenix) to Hubei Qingjiang Water Power Investment Limited ("Qingjiang Investment") and China Guodian (Group) Corporation ("Guodian Group") . The total consideration payable was RMB 620,954,100. The Board also approved the Share Transfer Agreement and its related documents to be entered into between Sinopec Corp., Qingjiang Investment and Guodian Group. On 6 July 2004, Sinopec Corp. signed the Share Transfer Agreement with Qiangjiang Investment and Guodian Group. Meanwhile, the Board reviewed and approved the proposed acquisition by Sinopec Corp. from Qingjiang Investment and Guodian Group of petrochemical assets (including production facilities, inventories and corresponding accounts receivables) which they had obtained by way of assets swap from China Phoenix (the Petrochemical Assets). The total consideration payable in respect of the acquisition was RMB 548,040,500 in cash. The Board of Directors authorized the Chairman, Mr. Chen Tonghai, to sign the Asset Acquisition Agreement and related documents on behalf of Sinopec Corp. after SASAC approved the share transfer and CSRC approved the Petrochemical Assets swap. For relevant details, please refer to Sinopec Corp.'s announcement published in China Securities, Shanghai Securities, and Securities Times in Mainland China, and South China Morning Post and Hong Kong Economic Times in Hong Kong on 6 July 2004.

14 THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST, REDEMPTION AND DELIST OF MAO LIAN CONVERTIBLE BONDS FOR 2004

Approved by CSRC (refer to Zheng Jian Fa [1999] No.90), Sinopec Mao Ming Refining and Chemical Company Limited (Maoming Oil Refinery) issued RMB 1.5 billion convertible bonds ("Mao Lian Convertible Bonds") with 5-year term through Shenzhen Stock Exchange on 28 July 1999 and listed on Shenzhen Stock Exchange on 17 August 1999. In accordance with Provisional Rules on the Management of Convertible Corporate Bonds, Convertible Corporate Bonds Prospectus prepared by Maoming Oil Refinery, the resolution of its Board of Directors on 7 July 2003 and the resolution of its General Meeting of Shareholders on 23 March 2004, trading of Mao Lian Convertible Bonds had been terminated on 28 July 2004, and on the same day they were delisted. For those convertible bonds which were not yet sold to Maoming Oil Refinery, they were redeemed with the redemption price of RMB 118.5/piece (tax exempted).

15 QINGDAO REFINING PROJECT

On 22 July 2004, the Report of Feasibility study on Qingdao Refining Project was approved by National Development and Reform Commission ("NDRC"). The capacity of the refinery is expected to be 10 million tonnes per year. Total investment of the project is estimated to be RMB 9.7 million. Construction of the project is expected to be completed at the beginning of 2007.

16 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SINOPEC-SHELL (JIANG SU) PETROLEUM SALES LTD.

On 13 July 2004, Ministry of Commerce approved the establishment of Sinpec-Shell (Jiangsu) Petroleum Sales Co. Ltd. jointly invested by Sinopec Corp., Royal Dutch/Shell (China) Holding BV and Shell (China) Ltd. and granted the joint venture contract and the Articles of Association signed by each party on 11 May 2004. The total investment amounts to RMB 1.55154 billion and the registered capital amounts to RMB 0.83 billion. The investment proportion is 60%, 30% and 10% by Sinopec Corp., Royal Dutch/Shell (China) Holding BV and Shell (China) Ltd. respectively.

17 ISSUANCE OF CORPORATE BONDS

At Sinopec Corp.'s second Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders for Year 2003 held on 15 Oct. 2003, the shareholders considered and approved "the Proposal Concerning the Issuance of Domestic Corporate Bonds Amounting to RMB 3.5 billion". On 16 January 2004, Sinopec Corp. obtained the approval from the NDRC to issue 10-year term domestic corporate bonds of RMB 3.5 billion. On 23 February 2004, the sixth meeting of Sinopec Corp.'s Second Session of the Board of Directors and the NDRC determined the coupon rate of the corporate bonds to be 4.61%. As of the date of 8 March 2004, the corporate bonds of Sinopec Corp. have been issued mainland successfully. For relevant details, please refer to Sinopec Corp.'s announcement published in China Securities, Shanghai Securities, and Securities Times in Mainland China, and South China Morning Post and Hong Kong Economic Times in Hong Kong, respectively on 25 August 2003, 16 October 2003, 30 January 2004, 9 February 2004, and 24 February 2004.

18 COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF BEST PRACTICE

The Board of Directors of Sinopec Corp. is not aware of any information which reasonably indicates that Sinopec Corp. fails/has failed to, currently or at any time within the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, comply with those requirements as set out under the Code of Best Practice in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules stipulated by Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

19 APPLICATION OF THE MODEL CODE

In this reporting period, no director has infringed the requirements set out under the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers, Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules stipulated by Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

20 REPURCHASE, SALE AND REDEMPTION OF SHARES

In the first half of 2004, Sinopec Corp. or any of its subsidiaries, has not repurchased, sold or redeemed any securities of Sinopec Corp.

21 INTERESTS OF DIRECTORS, SUPERVISORS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR MANAGEMENT IN THE SHARE CAPITAL AND THEIR ENGAGEMENT OR DISMISSAL

(1) Interests of Directors, Supervisors and Other Members of the Senior Management in the Share Capital

As at 30 June 2004, none of the directors, supervisors or senior management of Sinopec Corp. had any interest in any shares of Sinopec Corp.

As at 30 June 2004, none of the directors, supervisors and senior management of Sinopec Corp. had any interests or short positions in the shares, underlying shares of the Sinopec Corp. or any associated corporations (as defined in Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance) which was recorded in the register required to be kept under section 352 of the SFO or otherwise notified to Sinopec Corp. and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Companies.

(2) The engagement or dismissal of Directors, Supervisors and Other Members of the Senior Management

Please refer to item 2 in "Changes of members of the Second Session of the Board of Directors".

22 OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

In this reporting period, neither Sinopec Corp., the Board of Directors of Sinopec Corp., nor the directors were subject to any investigation from the CSRC, nor was there any administrative penalty or circular of criticism issued by the CSRC, the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong and the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States, nor any reprimand published by the Shanghai Stock Exchange, the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange or the London Stock Exchange.

KPMG Huazhen

To the Shareholders of China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation:

We have audited the accompanying Company's consolidated balance sheet and balance sheet at 30 June 2004, and the consolidated income statement and profit appropriation statement, income statement and profit appropriation statement, consolidated cash flow statement and cash flow statement for the period then ended. The preparation of these financial statements is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an audit opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with China's Independent Auditing Standards of the Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, an assessment of the accounting policies used and significant estimates made by the Company's management in the preparation of the financial statements, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the above-mentioned financial statements comply with the requirements of the Accounting Standards for Business Enterprises and the Accounting Regulations for Business Enterprises issued by the Ministry of Finance of the People's Republic of China and present fairly, in all material respects, the Company's consolidated financial position and financial position at 30 June 2004, and the consolidated results of operations, results of operations, consolidated cash flows and cash flows for the period then ended.

KPMG Huazhen

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Beijing, The People's Republic of China
Post Code: 100738

Certified Public Accountants
Registered in the People's Republic of China

Wu Wei
Song Chenyang

27 August 2004

(A) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PREPARED UNDER THE PRC ACCOUNTING RULES AND REGULATIONS
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
at 30 June 2004

	Note	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	4	17,028	17,405
Bills receivable	5	8,009	5,953
Trade accounts receivable	6	13,621	9,284
Other receivables	7	12,166	15,457
Advance payments	8	7,248	3,904
Inventories	9	58,990	44,915
Total current assets		**117,062**	**96,918**
Long-term equity investments (Including equity investment differences of RMB 425 million (2003: RMB 400 million))	10	**12,106**	**11,150**
Fixed assets			
Fixed assets, at cost		466,212	461,128
Less: Accumulated depreciation		222,732	213,804
	11	243,480	247,324
Less: Provision for impairment losses on fixed assets	11	4,094	1,331
Net book value of fixed assets		239,386	245,993
Construction materials	12	1,659	1,226
Construction in progress	13	44,498	28,513
Total fixed assets		**285,543**	**275,732**
Intangible assets and other assets			
Intangible assets	14	4,526	4,564
Long-term deferred expenses		573	97
Total intangible assets and other assets		**5,099**	**4,661**
Deferred tax assets	15	**3,115**	**1,752**
Total assets		**422,925**	**390,213**
Liabilities and shareholders' funds			
Current liabilities			
Short-term loans	16	26,445	20,904
Bills payable	17	28,531	23,958
Trade accounts payable	18	26,277	22,704
Receipts in advance	19	5,610	5,908
Wages payable		2,463	1,850
Staff welfare payable		1,093	1,230
Taxes payable	20	6,025	6,986
Other payables	21	1,490	1,237
Other creditors	22	25,334	27,537
Accrued expenses	23	2,151	303
Current portion of long-term liabilities	24	10,895	8,175
Total current liabilities		**136,314**	**120,792**
Long-term liabilities			
Long-term loans	25	82,038	79,221
Bonds payable	26	3,500	—
Other long-term payables	27	649	888
Total long-term liabilities		**86,187**	**80,109**
Deferred tax liabilities	15	**238**	**289**
Total liabilities		**222,739**	**201,190**
Minority interests		**27,910**	**26,077**
Shareholders' funds			
Share capital	28	86,702	86,702
Capital reserve	29	36,852	36,852
Surplus reserves (Including statutory public welfare fund of RMB 7,834 million (2003: RMB 6,330 million))	30	22,668	19,660
Unrecognised investment losses		(750)	(243)
Undistributed profits (Including dividend declared after the balance sheet date of RMB 3,468 million (2003: RMB 5,202 million))	38	26,804	19,975
Total shareholders' funds		**172,276**	**162,946**
Total liabilities and shareholders' funds		**422,925**	**390,213**

Approved by the Board of Directors on 27 August 2004.

Chen Tonghai
Chairman
(Authorised representative)

Wang Jiming
Vice Chairman
and President

Zhang Jiaren
Director, Senior Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

Liu Yun
Head of Accounting
Division

The notes on pages 47 to 75 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

at 30 June 2004

	Note	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	4	7,328	6,581
Bills receivable	5	2,070	1,282
Trade accounts receivable	6	9,678	7,080
Other receivables	7	19,418	24,861
Advance payments	8	5,486	2,990
Inventories	9	31,864	22,793
Total current assets		**75,844**	**65,587**
Long-term equity investments (Including equity investment differences of RMB 415 million (2003: RMB 395 million))	10	**106,673**	**98,334**
Fixed assets			
Fixed assets, at cost		226,100	223,015
Less: Accumulated depreciation		95,673	94,138
	11	130,427	128,877
Less: Provision for impairment losses on fixed assets	11	2,505	764
Net book value of fixed assets		127,922	128,113
Construction materials	12	603	263
Construction in progress	13	27,124	19,858
Total fixed assets		**155,649**	**148,234**
Intangible assets and other assets			
Intangible assets	14	3,701	3,712
Long-term deferred expenses		154	—
Total intangible assets and other assets		**3,855**	**3,712**
Deferred tax assets	15	**2,391**	**1,510**
Total assets		**344,412**	**317,377**
Liabilities and shareholders' funds			
Current liabilities			
Short-term loans	16	14,277	9,787
Bills payable	17	21,630	18,006
Trade accounts payable	18	21,656	18,117
Receipts in advance	19	4,275	4,077
Wages payable		920	643
Staff welfare payable		442	583
Taxes payable	20	1,482	2,975
Other payables	21	470	380
Other creditors	22	24,080	26,102
Accrued expenses	23	850	133
Current portion of long-term liabilities	24	6,268	4,428
Total current liabilities		**96,350**	**85,231**
Long-term liabilities			
Long-term loans	25	71,300	68,723
Bonds payable	26	3,500	—
Other long-term payables	27	220	461
Total long-term liabilities		**75,020**	**69,184**
Deferred tax liabilities	15	**16**	**16**
Total liabilities		**171,386**	**154,431**
Shareholders' funds			
Share capital	28	86,702	86,702
Capital reserve	29	36,852	36,852
Surplus reserves (Including statutory public welfare fund of RMB 7,834 million (2003: RMB 6,330 million))	30	22,668	19,660
Undistributed profits (Including dividend declared after the balance sheet date of RMB 3,468 million (2003: RMB 5,202 million))	38	26,804	19,732
Total shareholders' funds		**173,026**	**162,946**
Total liabilities and shareholders' funds		**344,412**	**317,377**

Approved by the Board of Directors on 27 August 2004.

Chen Tonghai
Chairman
(Authorised representative)

Wang Jiming
Vice Chairman
and President

Zhang Jiaren
Director, Senior Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

Liu Yun
Head of Accounting
Division

The notes on pages 47 to 75 form part of these financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT AND PROFIT APPROPRIATION STATEMENT

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
Income from principal operations	31	265,709	194,842
Less:Cost of sales		206,098	152,303
Sales taxes and surcharges	32	7,776	6,141
Profit from principal operations		**51,835**	**36,398**
Add: Profit from other operations		616	583
Less:Selling expenses		8,664	6,692
Administrative expenses		10,865	9,646
Financial expenses	33	2,094	2,234
Exploration expenses, including dry holes	34	2,475	2,784
Operating profit		**28,353**	**15,625**
Add: Investment income	35	516	341
Non-operating income		181	88
Less:Non-operating expenses	36	4,952	768
Profit before taxation		**24,098**	**15,286**
Less:Taxation	37	7,154	4,762
Minority interests		2,412	759
Add: Unrecognised investment losses		507	—
Net profit		**15,039**	**9,765**
Add: Undistributed profits at the beginning of the period		19,975	12,569
Distributable profits		**35,014**	**22,334**
Less:Transfer to statutory surplus reserve	30	1,504	977
Transfer to statutory public welfare fund	30	1,504	977
Distributable profits to shareholders		**32,006**	**20,380**
Less:Distribution of ordinary shares' dividends	38	5,202	5,202
Undistributed profits at the end of the period (Including dividend distributed after the balance sheet date of RMB 3,468 million (2003: RMB 2,601 million))	38	**26,804**	**15,178**

The notes on pages 47 to 75 form part of these financial statements.

Financial Statements (PRC)

INCOME STATEMENT AND PROFIT APPROPRIATION STATEMENT

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
Income from principal operations	31	183,836	132,267
Less:Cost of sales		154,678	111,788
Sales taxes and surcharges	32	4,661	3,855
Profit from principal operations		**24,497**	**16,624**
Add: Profit from other operations		29	77
Less:Selling expenses		5,590	4,448
Administrative expenses		7,204	6,173
Financial expenses	33	1,287	1,200
Exploration expenses, including dry holes	34	1,831	1,966
Operating profit		**8,614**	**2,914**
Add: Investment income	35	16,640	11,949
Non-operating income		112	29
Less:Non-operating expenses	36	3,552	568
Profit before taxation		**21,814**	**14,324**
Less:Taxation	37	6,532	4,559
Net profit		**15,282**	**9,765**
Add: Undistributed profits at the beginning of the period		19,732	12,569
Distributable profits		**35,014**	**22,334**
Less:Transfer to statutory surplus reserve	30	1,504	977
Transfer to statutory public welfare fund	30	1,504	977
Distributable profits to shareholders		**32,006**	**20,380**
Less:Distribution of ordinary shares' dividends	38	5,202	5,202
Undistributed profits at the end of the period (Including dividend distributed after the balance sheet date of RMB 3,468 million (2003: RMB 2,601 million))	38	**26,804**	**15,178**

The notes on pages 47 to 75 form part of these financial statements.

Financial Statements (PRC)

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash received from sale of goods and rendering of services		313,412	233,461
Rentals received		202	108
Other cash received relating to operating activities		1,105	548
Sub-total of cash inflows		**314,719**	**234,117**
Cash paid for goods and services		(246,030)	(169,367)
Cash paid for operating leases		(2,122)	(1,786)
Cash paid to and on behalf of employees		(8,282)	(6,491)
Value added tax paid		(12,672)	(8,189)
Income tax paid		(8,347)	(5,061)
Taxes paid other than value added tax and income tax		(8,456)	(6,415)
Other cash paid relating to operating activities		(7,116)	(6,826)
Sub-total of cash outflows		**(293,025)**	**(204,135)**
Net cash inflow from operating activities	(a)	**21,694**	**29,982**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash received from sale of investments		31	95
Dividends received		222	231
Net cash received from sale of fixed assets and intangible assets		187	279
Maturity of time deposits with financial institutions		800	442
Other cash received relating to investing activities		170	140
Sub-total of cash inflows		**1,410**	**1,187**
Cash paid for acquisition of fixed assets and intangible assets		(26,424)	(18,872)
Cash paid for acquisition of fixed assets and intangible assets of jointly controlled entities		(3,368)	(1,942)
Cash paid for purchases of investments		(919)	(89)
Increase in time deposits with financial institutions		(1,371)	(1,804)
Cash paid for acquisition of Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical		(1,828)	—
Sub-total of cash outflows		**(33,910)**	**(22,707)**
Net cash outflow from investing activities		**(32,500)**	**(21,520)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from contribution from minority interests		92	12
Proceeds from issuance of bonds, net of issuing expenses		3,472	—
Proceeds from borrowings		160,356	102,590
Proceeds from borrowings of jointly controlled entities		1,621	1,132
Sub-total of cash inflows		**165,541**	**103,734**
Repayments of borrowings		(150,838)	(102,642)
Cash paid for dividends, appropriation of profit or interest		(4,703)	(7,635)
Dividends paid to minority interests by subsidiaries		(141)	(149)
Sub-total of cash outflows		**(155,682)**	**(110,426)**
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from financing activities		**9,859**	**(6,692)**
Effects of foreign exchange rate		**(1)**	**—**
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents	(c)	**(948)**	**1,770**

The notes on pages 47 to 75 form part of these financial statements.

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004 **RMB millions**	2003 RMB millions
(a) Reconciliation of net profit to cash flows from operating activities		
Net profit	15,039	9,765
Add: Allowance for doubtful accounts	505	677
Provision for diminution in value of inventories	145	62
Depreciation of fixed assets	14,749	13,542
Amortisation of intangible assets	287	153
Impairment losses on fixed assets	2,763	264
Impairment losses on long-term investments	39	40
Net loss on disposal of fixed assets and intangible assets	1,376	234
Financial expenses	2,094	2,234
Dry hole costs	764	1,238
Investment income	(403)	(308)
Deferred tax	(1,414)	(427)
(Increase) / decrease in inventories	(14,653)	67
Increase in operating receivables	(6,681)	(3,071)
Increase in operating payables	4,672	4,753
Minority interests	2,412	759
Net cash inflow from operating activities	**21,694**	**29,982**
(b) Financing activities not requiring the use of cash or cash equivalents		
Current portion of convertible bonds	**1,500**	—
(c) Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	14,273	19,469
Less: Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	15,221	17,699
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents	**(948)**	**1,770**

The notes on pages 47 to 75 form part of these financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash received from sale of goods and rendering of services		217,649	158,651
Rentals received		106	32
Other cash received relating to operating activities		820	150
Sub-total of cash inflows		**218,575**	**158,833**
Cash paid for goods and services		(181,662)	(124,520)
Cash paid for operating leases		(1,472)	(1,185)
Cash paid to and on behalf of employees		(4,314)	(3,599)
Value added tax paid		(7,122)	(5,928)
Income tax paid		(3,265)	(922)
Taxes paid other than value added tax and income tax		(5,193)	(3,970)
Other cash paid relating to operating activities		(6,924)	(5,280)
Sub-total of cash outflows		**(209,952)**	**(145,404)**
Net cash inflow from operating activities	(a)	**8,623**	**13,429**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash received from sale of investments		62	111
Dividends received		4,908	3,404
Net cash received from sale of fixed assets and intangible assets		98	142
Maturity of time deposits with financial institutions		422	202
Other cash received relating to investing activities		74	66
Sub-total of cash inflows		**5,564**	**3,925**
Cash paid for acquisition of fixed assets and intangible assets		(18,628)	(10,880)
Cash paid for purchases of investments		(1,240)	(48)
Increase in time deposits with financial institutions		(395)	(233)
Cash paid for acquisition of Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical		(1,828)	—
Sub-total of cash outflows		**(22,091)**	**(11,161)**
Net cash outflow from investing activities		**(16,527)**	**(7,236)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from issuance of bonds, net of issuing expenses		3,472	—
Proceeds from borrowings		73,745	67,457
Sub-total of cash inflows		**77,217**	**67,457**
Repayments of borrowings		(64,779)	(66,952)
Cash paid for dividends, distribution of profit or interest		(3,760)	(6,413)
Sub-total of cash outflows		**(68,539)**	**(73,365)**
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from financing activities		**8,678**	**(5,908)**
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	(b)	**774**	**285**

The notes on pages 47 to 75 form part of these financial statements.

	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
(a) Reconciliation of net profit to cash flow from operating activities		
Net profit	15,282	9,765
Add: Allowance for doubtful accounts	613	575
Provision for diminution in value of inventories	87	32
Depreciation of fixed assets	6,201	6,029
Amortisation of intangible assets	173	123
Impairment losses on fixed assets	1,741	264
Net loss on disposal of fixed assets and intangible assets	1,207	107
Financial expenses	1,287	1,200
Dry hole costs	408	758
Investment income	(12,103)	(8,181)
Deferred tax	(881)	(417)
Increase in inventories	(9,158)	(800)
(Increase)/decrease in operating receivables	(1,009)	1,572
Increase in operating payables	4,775	2,402
Net cash inflow from operating activities	**8,623**	**13,429**
(b) Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	7,119	8,492
Less: Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	6,345	8,207
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	**774**	**285**

The notes on pages 47 to 75 form part of these financial statements.

1 STATUS OF THE COMPANY

China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation (the "Company") was established on 25 February 2000 as a joint stock limited company.

According to the State Council's approval to the "Preliminary Plan for the Reorganisation of China Petrochemical Corporation" (the "Reorganisation"), the Company was established by China Petrochemical Corporation ("Sinopec Group Company"), which transferred its core businesses together with the related assets and liabilities at 30 September 1999 to the Company. Such assets and liabilities had been valued jointly by China United Assets Appraisal Corporation, Beijing Zhong Zheng Appraisal Company, CIECC Assets Appraisal Corporation and Zhong Fa International Properties Valuation Corporation ("registered valuers"). The net asset value was determined at RMB 98,249,084,000. The valuation was reviewed and approved by the Ministry of Finance ("MOF") (Cai Ping Zi [2000] No. 20 "Comments on the Review of the Valuation Regarding the Formation of a Joint Stock Limited Company by China Petrochemical Corporation").

In addition, pursuant to the notice Cai Guan Zi [2000] No. 34 "Reply to the Issue Regarding Management of State-Owned Equity by China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation" issued by the MOF, 68.8 billion domestic state-owned shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each were issued to Sinopec Group Company, the amount of which is equivalent to 70% of the above net asset value transferred from Sinopec Group Company to the Company in connection with the Reorganisation.

Pursuant to the notice Guo Jing Mao Qi Gai [2000] No. 154 "Reply on the Formation of China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation", the Company obtained the approval from the State Economic and Trade Commission on 21 February 2000 for the formation of a joint stock limited company.

The Company took over the exploration, development and production of crude oil and natural gas, refining, chemicals and related sales and marketing business of Sinopec Group Company after the establishment of the Company.

Pursuant to the resolution passed at the extraordinary general meeting held on 24 August 2001, the Company acquired the entire equity interest of Sinopec National Star Petroleum Company ("Sinopec National Star") from Sinopec Group Company for a consideration of RMB 6.45 billion.

Pursuant to the resolution passed at the Board of Directors' meeting held on 28 October 2003, the Company acquired the principal assets and liabilities related to the 380 Kiloton ethylene production and distribution equipments from Sinopec Group Maoming Petrochemical Company ("Sinopec Maoming"), for a consideration of RMB 3.3 billion (hereinafter referred to as the "Acquisition of Ethylene Assets").

Pursuant to the resolution passed at the Board of Directors' meeting held on 29 December 2003, the Company acquired the entire operating assets and liabilities of Tahe Oilfield Petrochemical Factory ("Tahe Petrochemical") and Xi'an Petrochemical Main Factory ("Xi'an Petrochemical") from Sinopec Group Company, for considerations of RMB 0.14 billion and RMB 0.22 billion, respectively (hereinafter referred to as the "Acquisition of Refining Assets").

2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies adopted by the Group are in conformity with the Accounting Standards for Business Enterprises and "Accounting Regulations for Business Enterprises" and other relevant regulations issued by the MOF of the PRC.

(a) Accounting year

The accounting year of the Group is from 1 January to 31 December.

(b) Basis of consolidation

The Group prepared the consolidated financial statements according to "Accounting Regulations for Business Enterprises" and Cai Kuai Zi [1995] No.11 "Provisional regulations on consolidated financial statements" issued by the MOF.

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the Company and all of its principal subsidiaries made up to 31 December each year. Subsidiaries are those entities controlled by the Company. Control exists when the Company has the power, directly or indirectly, to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. The consolidated income statement of the Company only includes the results of the subsidiaries during the period when such control effectively commences until the date that control effectively ceases. The effect of minority interests on equity and profit/loss attributable to minority shareholders are separately shown in the consolidated financial statements.

Where the accounting policies adopted by the subsidiaries are different from the policies adopted by the Company, the financial statements of the subsidiaries have been adjusted in accordance with the accounting policies adopted by the Company on consolidation. All significant inter-company balances and transactions, and any unrealised gains arising from inter-company transactions, have been eliminated on consolidation. For those subsidiaries whose assets and results of operation are not significant and have no significant effect on the Group's consolidated financial statements, the Company does not consolidate these subsidiaries, but includes in the long-term equity investments.

For those jointly controlled entities which the Company has joint control with other investors under contractual arrangement, the Company consolidates their assets, liabilities, revenues, costs and expenses based on the proportionate consolidation method according to its percentage of holding of equity interest in those entities in the consolidated financial statements.

(c) Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Group have been prepared on an accrual basis under the historical costs convention, unless otherwise stated.

2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(d) Reporting currency and translation of foreign currencies

The Group's financial statements are prepared in Renminbi. Foreign currency transactions during the period are translated into Renminbi at exchange rates quoted by the People's Bank of China ("PBOC rates") prevailing on the transaction dates. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated into Renminbi at the PBOC rates at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences, other than those arising from foreign currency loans used to finance the construction of fixed assets before they are ready for their intended use are capitalised, are recognised as income or expenses in the income statement.

The results of overseas subsidiaries are translated into Renminbi at the annual average PBOC rates. The balance sheet items are translated into Renminbi at the PBOC rates at the balance sheet date. The resulting exchange gains or losses are accounted for as foreign currency exchange differences.

(e) Cash equivalents

Cash equivalents held by the Group are short-term and highly liquid investments which are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(f) Allowance for doubtful accounts

Trade accounts receivable showing signs of uncollectibility are identified individually and allowance is then made based on the probability of being uncollectible. In respect of trade accounts receivable showing no sign of uncollectibility, allowance is made with reference to the ageing analysis and management's estimation based on past experience. Allowances for other receivables are determined based on the nature and corresponding collectibility. Specific approval from management is required for allowances made in respect of significant doubtful accounts.

(g) Inventories

Inventories, other than spare parts and consumables, are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Difference between the cost and net realisable value of each category of inventories is recognised as provision for diminution in value of inventories. Inventories are measured at their actual cost upon acquisition. The cost of inventories is calculated using the weighted average method. In addition to the purchase cost of raw material, work in progress and finished goods include direct labour and appropriate proportion of production overheads, also computed using the weighted average method. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs and related taxes necessary to make the sale.

Spare parts and consumables are stated at cost less any provision for obsolescence. Consumables are expensed when being consumed.

Inventories are recorded by perpetual method.

(h) Long-term equity investments

The investment income and long-term equity investments related to the Group's investments in the associates and the Company's investments in subsidiaries, jointly controlled entities and associates are accounted for using the equity method. Equity investment difference, which is the difference between the initial investment cost and the Company's share of investors' equity of the investee enterprise, is accounted for as follows:

Any excess of the initial investment cost over the share of shareholders' funds of the investee is amortised on a straight-line basis. The amortisation period is determined according to the investment period as stipulated in the relevant agreement, or 10 years if the investment period is not specified in the agreement. The amortisation is recognised as investment loss in the income statement in the relevant period.

Any shortfall of the initial investment cost over the share of shareholders' funds of the investee is recognised in capital reserve - reserve for equity investment. Such shortfall is amortised on a straight-line basis over 10 years if the investment was acquired before the issuance of Cai Kuai [2003] No.10 "Questions and answers on implementing Accounting Regulations for Business Enterprises and related accounting standards (II)" on 7 April 2003.

An associate is a company in which the Group holds, for long-term purposes, not less than 20% but not more than 50% of its equity interests and exercises significant influence in its management. A jointly controlled entity is an entity over which the Group can exercise joint control with other venturers.

Long-term investments in entities in which the Group does not hold more than 20% of their equity interests or those in which the Group holds more than 20% of their equity interests but does not exercise significant influence in their management are stated at cost. Investment income is recognised when an investee enterprise declares a cash dividend or distributes profits.

Disposals or transfers of long-term equity investments are recognised in investment income/losses based on the difference between the disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the investments.

Long-term equity investments are valued at the lower of the carrying amount and the recoverable amount. A provision for impairment of loss is made when the recoverable amount is lower than the carrying amount.

2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(i) Fixed assets and construction in progress

Fixed assets represent the assets held by the Group for production of products and administrative purpose with useful life over 1 year and comparatively high unit value.

Fixed assets are stated in the balance sheet at cost or revalued amount less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Construction in progress is stated in the balance sheet at cost or revalued amount less impairment losses. Valuation is carried out in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations and fixed assets and construction in progress are adjusted to the revalued amounts accordingly.

All direct and indirect costs related to the purchase or construction of fixed assets, incurred before the assets are ready for its intended use, are capitalised as construction in progress. Those costs included borrowing costs, which include foreign exchange gains or losses on specific borrowings for the construction of the fixed assets during the construction period.

Construction in progress is transferred to fixed assets when the asset is ready for its intended use.

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis, after taking into account their estimated residual values.

The respective estimated useful lives, residual values and annual depreciation rates on fixed assets are as follows:

	Depreciation life	Residual value	Annual depreciation rate
Land and buildings	15-45 years	3%-5%	2.1%-6.5%
Oil and gas properties	10-14 years	0%-3%	6.9%-10.0%
Plant, machinery, equipment and vehicles	4-18 years	3%	5.4%-24.3%
Oil depots and storage tanks	8-14 years	3%	6.9%-12.1%
Service stations	25 years	3%-5%	3.8%-3.9%

No depreciation is provided in respect of construction in progress.

(j) Oil and gas properties

Costs of development wells and the related support equipment are capitalised. The cost of exploratory wells is initially capitalised as construction in progress pending determination of whether the well has found proved reserves. Exploratory well costs are charged to expenses upon the determination that the well has not found proved reserves. However, in the absence of a determination of the discovery of proved reserves, exploratory well costs are not carried as an asset for more than one year following completion of drilling. If, after one year has passed, a determination of the discovery of proved reserves cannot be made, the exploratory well costs are impaired and charged to expense. All other exploration costs, including geological and geophysical costs, are charged to the income statement in the period as incurred.

(k) Intangible assets

Intangible assets are carried in the balance sheet at cost or valuation less accumulated amortisation and provision for impairment losses. Amortisation is provided on a straight-line basis. The amortisation period is the shorter of the beneficial period as specified in the related agreement and the legal life of the intangible asset. Amortisation is provided over 10 years if it is not specified in agreements or stipulated by law.

Intangible assets include exploration and production right. Exploration and production right are amortised on a straight-line basis over the average period of the production rights of the related oil fields.

(l) Pre-operating expenditures

Except for the acquisition and constructions of fixed assets, all expenses incurred during the start-up period are aggregated in long-term deferred expenses and then fully charged to the income statement in the month operations commence.

(m)Bonds payable

Bonds payable is stated in the balance sheet based on the proceeds received upon issuance. Interest expenses are calculated using actual interest rate.

(n) Revenue recognition

Revenues associated with the sale of crude oil, natural gas, petroleum and chemical products and all other items are recorded when the customer accepts the goods and the significant risks and rewards of ownership and title have been transferred to the buyer. No revenue is recognised if there are significant uncertainties regarding recovery of the consideration due, the possible return of goods, or when the amount of revenue and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction cannot be measured reliably.

When the outcome of a transaction involving the rendering of services can be estimated reliably, revenue from the rendering of services is recognised in the income statement in proportion to the stage of completion of the transaction based on the progress of work performed. When the outcome of the transaction involving the rendering of services cannot be estimated reliably, revenues recognised only to the extent that costs incurred are expected to be recoverable.

Interest income is recognised on a time apportioned basis by reference to the principal outstanding and the rate applicable.

2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(o) Income tax

Income tax is the provision for income tax recognised in the income statement for the period using the tax effect accounting method. It comprises current and deferred tax.

Deferred tax is provided using the liability method, for timing differences between accounting profit before tax and the taxable income arising from the differences in the tax and accounting treatment of income and expenses or loss.

The tax value of losses expected to be available for utilisation against future taxable income is set off against the deferred tax liability within the same legal tax unit and jurisdiction. A valuation allowance is provided for the tax value of losses to reduce the deferred tax asset to the amount that is more likely than not to be realised through future taxable income.

(p) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs incurred on specific borrowings for the construction of fixed assets are capitalised into the cost of the fixed assets during the construction period which brings the assets to their intended uses.

Except for the above, other borrowing costs are recognised as financial expenses in the income statement when incurred.

(q) Repairs and maintenance expenses

Repairs and maintenance expenses, including cost of major overhaul, are expensed as incurred.

(r) Environmental expenditures

Environmental expenditures that relate to current ongoing operations or to conditions caused by past operations are expensed as incurred.

(s) Research and development costs

Research and development costs are recognised as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

(t) Operating leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the respective leases.

(u) Dividends

Dividends appropriated to shareholders are recognised in the profit appropriation statement when approved. Dividends proposed or approved after the balance sheet date but before the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue are separately disclosed under shareholders' funds in on balance sheet.

(v) Retirement benefits

The contributions payable under the Group's retirement plans are charged to the income statement when the contribution becomes due in accordance with the terms of the plan.

(w) Impairment loss

The carrying amounts of long-lived assets are reviewed by the Group periodically in order to assess whether the recoverable amounts have declined below the carrying amounts. These assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their recorded carrying amounts may not be recoverable. When such a decline has occurred, the carrying amount is reduced to the recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the greater of the net selling price and the value in use. In determining the value in use, expected future cash flows generated by the asset are discounted to their present value. The amount of the reduction is recognised as an expense in the income statement.

The Group assesses at each balance sheet date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised for an asset in prior years may no longer exist. The provision for impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount by which the impairment loss is reduced. The reversed amount is recognised as income in the period in the income statement.

(x) Related parties

Parties are considered to be related to the Group if the Group has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the party or exercise significant influence over the party in making financial and operating decisions, or vice versa, or where the Group and the party are subject to common control or common significant influence. Related parties may be individuals or entities.

3 TAXATION

Major taxes applicable to the Group and the Company comprise income tax, consumption tax, resources tax and value added tax.

Income tax rate is 33% and that of certain subsidiaries is 15%.

Consumption tax is levied on gasoline and diesel at a rate of RMB 277.6 per tonne and RMB 117.6 per tonne respectively.

Resources tax is levied on crude oil and natural gas at rates ranging from RMB 8 per tonne to RMB 30 per tonne and RMB 2 to RMB 15 per 1000 cubic metre respectively.

Value added tax rate for liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas and certain agricultural products is 13% and that for other products is 17%.

The subsidiaries granted with tax concession are set out below:

Name of subsidiaries	Preferential tax rate	Reasons for granting concession
Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical Company Limited	15%	Among the first batch of joint stock enterprises which successfully launched their overseas listings
Sinopec Yizheng Chemical Fibre Company Limited	15%	Among the first batch of joint stock enterprises which successfully launched their overseas listings
Sinopec Qilu Petrochemical Company Limited	15%	Hi-tech enterprise
Sinopec Yangzi Petrochemical Company Limited	15%	Hi-tech enterprise
Sinopec Zhongyuan Petroleum Company Limited	15%	Hi-tech enterprise
Petro-CyberWorks Information Technology Company Limited	15%	Hi-tech enterprise

4 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

The Group

	At 30 June 2004			At 31 December 2003		
	Original currency millions	**Exchange rates**	**RMB millions**	Original currency millions	Exchange rates	RMB millions
Cash in hand						
Renminbi			92			101
Cash at bank						
Renminbi			13,603			11,959
US Dollars	63	8.2766	522	118	8.2767	973
Hong Kong Dollars	45	1.0609	48	70	1.0657	75
Japanese Yen	236	0.0764	18	207	0.0773	16
Euro	1	10.0738	13	2	10.3380	17
			14,296			**13,141**
Deposits at related parties						
Renminbi			2,678			4,210
US Dollars	7	8.2766	54	7	8.2767	54
Total cash at bank and in hand			**17,028**			**17,405**

The Company

	At 30 June 2004			At 31 December 2003		
	Original currency millions	**Exchange rates**	**RMB millions**	Original currency millions	Exchange rates	RMB millions
Cash in hand						
Renminbi			25			64
Cash at bank						
Renminbi			6,459			4,752
US Dollars	3	8.2766	21	6	8.2767	53
Hong Kong Dollars			–	26	1.0657	28
Japanese Yen			–	7	0.0773	1
			6,505			**4,898**
Deposits at related parties						
Renminbi			769			1,629
US Dollars	7	8.2766	54	7	8.2767	54
Total cash at bank and in hand			**7,328**			**6,581**

Deposits at related parties represent deposits placed at Sinopec Finance Company Limited. Deposits interest is calculated at market rate.

5 BILLS RECEIVABLE

Bills receivable represents mainly the bills of acceptance issued by banks for sales of goods and products.

6 TRADE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	The Group At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	The Group At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	The Company At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	The Company At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Subsidiaries	–	–	4,151	2,920
Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	3,600	3,044	1,797	1,623
Associates	42	81	15	23
Others	13,418	9,344	6,087	4,813
	17,060	**12,469**	**12,050**	**9,379**
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	3,439	3,185	2,372	2,299
	13,621	**9,284**	**9,678**	**7,080**

Allowance for doubtful accounts are analysed as follows:

	The Group At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	The Group At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	The Company At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	The Company At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Balance at 1 January	3,185	2,666	2,299	1,867
Provision for the period/year	271	910	80	763
Written back for the period/year	(15)	(46)	(5)	(20)
Written off for the period/year	(2)	(345)	(2)	(311)
Balance at 30 June/31 December	**3,439**	**3,185**	**2,372**	**2,299**

Ageing analysis on trade accounts receivable are as follows:

	The Group							
	At 30 June 2004				At 31 December 2003			
	Amount RMB millions	%	Allowance RMB millions	%	Amount RMB millions	%	Allowance RMB millions	%
Within one year	12,699	74.4	62	0.5	8,229	66.0	64	0.8
Between one and two years	480	2.8	170	35.4	770	6.2	309	40.1
Between two and three years	530	3.1	321	60.6	497	4.0	246	49.5
Over three years	3,351	19.7	2,886	86.1	2,973	23.8	2,566	86.3
	17,060	**100.0**	**3,439**		**12,469**	**100.0**	**3,185**	

	The Company							
	At 30 June 2004				At 31 December 2003			
	Amount RMB millions	%	Allowance RMB millions	%	Amount RMB millions	%	Allowance RMB millions	%
Within one year	9,037	75.0	33	0.4	6,466	68.9	15	0.2
Between one and two years	336	2.8	107	31.8	373	4.0	157	42.1
Between two and three years	341	2.8	208	61.0	350	3.7	180	51.4
Over three years	2,336	19.4	2,024	86.6	2,190	23.4	1,947	88.9
	12,050	**100.0**	**2,372**		**9,379**	**100.0**	**2,299**	

6 TRADE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE *(Continued)*

Major trade accounts receivable of the Group at 30 June 2004 are set out below:

Name of entity	Balance RMB millions	Percentage of trade accounts receivable %
Maoming Petrochemical Shihua Corporation	291	1.7
Jinan Petrochemical Plant	142	0.8
Luoyang Petrochemical Plant	130	0.8
The Second Thermoelectricity Plant of Beijing	124	0.7
Jiujiang Fertilizer Plant of Agriculture Material-Supply Company of Jiangxi	97	0.6

Major trade accounts receivable of the Group at 31 December 2003 are set out below:

Name of entity	Balance RMB millions	Percentage of trade accounts receivable %
Hinchest (HK) Limited	256	2.1
Trafigura Pte Limited	179	1.4
Pertamina Divisi Perbendaharaa	145	1.2
Jinan Petrochemical Plant	141	1.1
COSMO Oil	124	1.0

Except for the balances disclosed in Note 39, there is no amount due from shareholders who hold 5% or more voting right of the Company included in the balance of trade accounts receivable.

During the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, the Group and the Company had no individually significant trade accounts receivable been fully or substantially provided for.

During the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, the Group and the Company had no individually significant write off or recover of doubtful debts which had been fully or substantially provided for in prior years.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no individually significant trade accounts receivable that aged over three years.

7 OTHER RECEIVABLES

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Subsidiaries	–	–	10,255	12,434
Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	6,868	8,894	6,383	8,104
Associates	294	331	294	331
Others	7,572	8,580	4,982	5,959
	14,734	**17,805**	**21,914**	**26,828**
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	2,568	2,348	2,496	1,967
	12,166	**15,457**	**19,418**	**24,861**

Allowance for doubtful accounts are analysed as follows:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Balance at 1 January	2,348	1,872	1,967	1,193
Provision for the period/year	272	1,098	550	1,258
Written back for the period/year	(23)	(61)	(12)	(45)
Written off for the period/year	(29)	(561)	(9)	(439)
Balance at 30 June/31 December	**2,568**	**2,348**	**2,496**	**1,967**

7 OTHER RECEIVABLES *(Continued)*

Ageing analysis of other receivables are as follows:

The Group								
	At 30 June 2004				At 31 December 2003			
	Amount RMB millions	**%**	**Allowance RMB millions**	**%**	Amount RMB millions	%	Allowance RMB millions	%
Within one year	6,763	45.9	119	1.8	8,191	46.0	14	0.2
Between one and two years	1,159	7.9	346	29.9	4,256	23.9	321	7.5
Between two and three years	3,554	24.1	92	2.6	1,367	7.7	65	4.8
Over three years	3,258	22.1	2,011	61.7	3,991	22.4	1,948	48.8
	14,734	**100.0**	**2,568**		**17,805**	**100.0**	**2,348**	

The Company								
	At 30 June 2004				At 31 December 2003			
	Amount RMB millions	**%**	**Allowance RMB millions**	**%**	Amount RMB millions	%	Allowance RMB millions	%
Within one year	14,364	65.5	537	3.7	18,585	69.3	257	1.4
Between one and two years	814	3.7	77	9.5	3,777	14.1	21	0.6
Between two and three years	3,503	16.0	79	2.3	1,062	3.9	35	3.3
Over three years	3,233	14.8	1,803	55.8	3,404	12.7	1,654	48.6
	21,914	**100.0**	**2,496**		**26,828**	**100.0**	**1,967**	

Major other receivables of the Group at 30 June 2004 are set out below:

Name of entity	Particulars	Balance RMB millions	Percentage of other receivables %
China Petrochemical Corporation	Current Account	3,188	21.6
Jinhuang Real Estate Company Limited	Current Account	369	2.5
Qingdao Qirun Petrochemical Co., Ltd.	Current Account	154	1.0
Sinopec Petrochemical Shengli Bureau	Current Account	88	0.6
Shanghai Gaoqiao Petrochemical Company	Current Account	64	0.4

Major other receivables of the Group at 31 December 2003 are set out below:

Name of entity	Particulars	Balance RMB millions	Percentage of other receivables %
China Petrochemical Corporation	Current Account	3,201	18.0
Baling Petrochemical Company Limited	Current Account	967	5.4
Jinhuang Real Estate Company Limited	Current Account	367	2.1
Changling Petrochemical Company Limited	Current Account	300	1.7
Guangzhou Petrochemical Plant	Current Account	141	0.8

Except for the balances disclosed in Note 39, there is no amount due from shareholders who hold 5% or more voting right of the Company included in the balance of other receivables.

During the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, the Group and the Company had no individually significant other receivables been fully or substantially provided for.

During the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, the Group and the Company had no individually significant write off of other receivables.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no individually significant other receivables that aged over three years.

8 ADVANCE PAYMENTS

All advance payments are aged within one year.

Except for the balances disclosed in Note 39, there is no amount due from shareholders who hold 5% or more voting right of the Company included in the balance of advance payments.

9 INVENTORIES

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Raw materials	31,947	23,570	15,904	10,200
Work in progress	8,045	6,805	3,351	3,308
Finished goods	16,729	12,268	11,961	8,741
Spare parts and consumables	2,932	2,791	961	770
	59,653	**45,434**	**32,177**	**23,019**
Less: Provision for diminution in value of inventories	663	519	313	226
	58,990	**44,915**	**31,864**	**22,793**

All of the above inventories are purchased or self-manufactured.

Provision for diminution in value of inventories is mainly against finished goods and spare parts.

Provision for diminution in value of inventories are analysed as follows:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Balance at 1 January	519	486	226	224
Provision for the period/year	184	196	94	72
Written back for the period/year	(39)	(82)	(7)	(42)
Written off for the period/year	(1)	(81)	–	(28)
Balance at 30 June/31 December	**663**	**519**	**313**	**226**

The cost of inventories recognised as costs and expenses by the Group and the Company amounted to RMB 211,880 million (2003: RMB 156,878 million) and RMB 158,638 million (2003: RMB 114,468 million) for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004.

10 LONG-TERM EQUITY INVESTMENTS

The Group

	Listed stock investment RMB millions	Unlisted stock and other equity investment RMB millions	Equity investment differences RMB millions	Provision for impairment losses RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Balance at 1 January 2004	736	10,285	400	(271)	11,150
Addition for the period	—	799	115	—	914
Share of profits less losses from investments accounted for under the equity method	28	306	—	—	334
Dividends receivable/received	—	(156)	—	—	(156)
Disposal for the period	—	(12)	—	—	(12)
Amortisation for the period	—	—	(90)	—	(90)
Movement of provision for impairment losses	—	—	—	(34)	(34)
Balance at 30 June 2004	**764**	**11,222**	**425**	**(305)**	**12,106**

The Company

	Listed stock investment RMB millions	Unlisted stock and other equity investment RMB millions	Equity investment differences RMB millions	Provision for impairment losses RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Balance at 1 January 2004	43,459	54,640	395	(160)	98,334
Addition for the period	—	1,127	108	—	1,235
Share of profits less losses from investments accounted for under the equity method	5,630	6,456	—	—	12,086
Dividends receivable/received	(1,693)	(3,198)	—	—	(4,891)
Disposal for the period	—	(8)	—	—	(8)
Amortisation for the period	—	—	(88)	—	(88)
Movement of provision for impairment losses	—	—	—	5	5
Balance at 30 June 2004	**47,396**	**59,017**	**415**	**(155)**	**106,673**

10 LONG-TERM EQUITY INVESTMENTS *(Continued)*

Provision for impairment losses are analysed as follows:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Balance at 1 January	271	184	160	149
Provision for the period/year	42	131	—	21
Written back for the period/year	(3)	(16)	—	—
Written off for the period/year	(5)	(28)	(5)	(10)
Balance at 30 June/31 December	**305**	**271**	**155**	**160**

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no individually significant provision for impairment losses on long-term equity investments.

Other equity investments represent the Group's interests in PRC domiciled enterprises which are mainly engaged in non-oil and gas and chemical activities and operations. This includes non-consolidated investments which the Group has over 50% equity interest but the costs of investment are not significant or the Group has no control on the entities. Stock investment of the Company represents investment in subsidiaries and associates. Details of the Company's principal subsidiaries are set out in Note 40.

At 30 June 2004, details of listed stock investment of the Group are as follows:

Name of investee enterprise	Type of equity interest	No. of shares millions	Percentage of equity interest held by the Group	Initial investment cost RMB millions	Balance at 1 January 2004 RMB millions	Shares of profits accounted for under the equity method RMB millions	**Balance at 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	**Market value as at 30 June 2004* RMB millions**
Sinopec Shengli Oil Field Dynamic Co., Ltd.	Legal person shares	96	26.33%	223	425	21	446	693
Sinopec Shandong Taishan Petroleum Co., Ltd.	Legal person shares	186	38.68%	124	311	7	318	2,085
					736	**28**	**764**	

* Information of market price is sourced from Shenzhen Stock Exchange.

At 30 June 2004, details of principal unlisted stock and other equity investment of the Group are as follows:

Name of investee enterprise	Initial investment cost RMB millions	Investment period	Percentage of equity interest held by the Group	Balance at 1 January 2004 RMB millions	Addition for the period RMB millions	Share of profits/(losses) accounted for under the equity method RMB millions	Dividends receivable/ received RMB millions	**Balance at 30 June 2004 RMB millions**
BASF-YPC Company Limited (i)	3,254	—	40%	2,814	440	—	—	3,254
Sinopec Finance Company Limited	1,205	—	40%	1,288	—	50	(60)	1,278
Shanghai Chemical Industry Park Development Company Limited	608	30 years	38%	652	—	5	(11)	646
Shanghai Petroleum National Gas Corporation	300	—	30%	754	—	153	(90)	817
China Shipping & Sinopec Suppliers Company Limited	438	—	50%	438	—	16	—	454
Sinopec Changjiang Fuel Company Limited	190	20 years	50%	217	—	48	(28)	237
Hunan Highway Industrial Development Company Limited	110	—	49%	106	7	2	—	115
Shanghai Jinpu Packaging Material Company Limited	102	30 years	50%	104	—	(6)	—	98

No provision for individually significant impairment losses or individually significant equity investment difference was made for the long-term equity investments as set out above.

(i) Due to the fact that the project in the company is still under construction, there is no income statement for the company. Accordingly, the Group did not have any share of profit or loss of the company for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004.

At 30 June 2004, the Group's and the Company's proportion of the total investments to the net assets was 6.1% (2003: 6.8%) and 61.7% (2003: 60.3%) respectively.

11 FIXED ASSETS

The Group - by segment

	Exploration and production RMB millions	Refining RMB millions	Marketing and distribution RMB millions	Chemicals RMB millions	Others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Cost/valuation:						
At 1 January 2004	166,603	104,432	54,212	133,374	2,507	461,128
Addition for the period	442	200	803	99	9	1,553
Transferred from construction in progress	3,706	3,977	3,143	668	123	11,617
Disposals	(4,029)	(1,667)	(1,282)	(1,102)	(6)	(8,086)
At 30 June 2004	**166,722**	**106,942**	**56,876**	**133,039**	**2,633**	**466,212**
Accumulated depreciation:						
At 1 January 2004	84,662	50,335	10,000	68,235	572	213,804
Depreciation charge for the period	5,664	3,656	1,264	4,075	90	14,749
Written back on disposal	(2,954)	(1,360)	(728)	(775)	(4)	(5,821)
At 30 June 2004	**87,372**	**52,631**	**10,536**	**71,535**	**658**	**222,732**
Net book value:						
At 30 June 2004	**79,350**	**54,311**	**46,340**	**61,504**	**1,975**	**243,480**
At 31 December 2003	**81,941**	**54,097**	**44,212**	**65,139**	**1,935**	**247,324**

The Company - by segment

	Exploration and production RMB millions	Refining RMB millions	Marketing and distribution RMB millions	Chemicals RMB millions	Others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Cost/valuation:						
At 1 January 2004	59,647	71,414	52,729	37,698	1,527	223,015
Addition for the period	42	131	426	9	—	608
Transferred from construction in progress	2,635	3,413	2,879	107	122	9,156
Disposals	(3,423)	(1,407)	(1,244)	(599)	(6)	(6,679)
At 30 June 2004	**58,901**	**73,551**	**54,790**	**37,215**	**1,643**	**226,100**
Accumulated depreciation:						
At 1 January 2004	27,651	36,047	9,627	20,509	304	94,138
Depreciation charge for the period	1,990	2,049	1,216	918	28	6,201
Written back on disposal	(2,482)	(1,120)	(720)	(340)	(4)	(4,666)
At 30 June 2004	**27,159**	**36,976**	**10,123**	**21,087**	**328**	**95,673**
Net book value:						
At 30 June 2004	**31,742**	**36,575**	**44,667**	**16,128**	**1,315**	**130,427**
At 31 December 2003	**31,996**	**35,367**	**43,102**	**17,189**	**1,223**	**128,877**

11 FIXED ASSETS *(Continued)*

The Group - by asset class

	Land and buildings RMB millions	Oil and gas properties RMB millions	Oil depots, storage tanks and service stations RMB millions	Plant, machinery, equipment and others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Cost/valuation:					
At 1 January 2004	41,648	147,275	46,067	226,138	461,128
Addition for the period	85	1	623	844	1,553
Transferred from construction in progress	144	3,667	5,090	2,716	11,617
Disposals	(618)	(3,627)	(985)	(2,856)	(8,086)
At 30 June 2004	**41,259**	**147,316**	**50,795**	**226,842**	**466,212**
Accumulated depreciation:					
At 1 January 2004	16,978	77,640	8,771	110,415	213,804
Depreciation charge for the period	809	4,882	1,049	8,009	14,749
Written back on disposal	(321)	(2,657)	(491)	(2,352)	(5,821)
At 30 June 2004	**17,466**	**79,865**	**9,329**	**116,072**	**222,732**
Net book value:					
At 30 June 2004	**23,793**	**67,451**	**41,466**	**110,770**	**243,480**
At 31 December 2003	**24,670**	**69,635**	**37,296**	**115,723**	**247,324**

The Company - by asset class

	Land and buildings RMB millions	Oil and gas properties RMB millions	Oil depots, storage tanks and service stations RMB millions	Plant, machinery, equipment and others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Cost/valuation:					
At 1 January 2004	21,267	51,380	44,703	105,665	223,015
Addition for the period	43	1	150	414	608
Transferred from construction in progress	89	2,598	4,845	1,624	9,156
Disposals	(462)	(3,389)	(978)	(1,850)	(6,679)
At 30 June 2004	**20,937**	**50,590**	**48,720**	**105,853**	**226,100**
Accumulated depreciation:					
At 1 January 2004	7,682	25,631	8,505	52,320	94,138
Depreciation charge for the period	483	1,725	997	2,996	6,201
Written back on disposal	(250)	(2,452)	(488)	(1,476)	(4,666)
At 30 June 2004	**7,915**	**24,904**	**9,014**	**53,840**	**95,673**
Net book value:					
At 30 June 2004	**13,022**	**25,686**	**39,706**	**52,013**	**130,427**
At 31 December 2003	**13,585**	**25,749**	**36,198**	**53,345**	**128,877**

The fixed assets and construction in progress of the Group at 30 September 1999 were valued by registered valuers in the PRC. The valuation was reviewed and approved by the MOF (Note 1). Surplus on revaluation was RMB 29,093 million and deficit on revaluation was RMB 3,210 million. A net surplus on revaluation of RMB 25,883 million was resulted which has been incorporated in the Group's financial statements since the year ended 31 December 1999.

In accordance with the relevant rules and regulations in respect of the acquisition of Sinopec National Star, the fixed assets and construction in progress of Sinopec National Star have been valued by a firm of independent valuers in the PRC. Surplus on revaluation of RMB 541 million has been incorporated in the Group's financial statements since the year ended 31 December 2001.

In accordance with the relevant rules and regulations in respect of the Acquisition of Ethylene Assets (Note 1), the fixed assets and construction in progress of Sinopec Maoming have been revalued by a firm of independent valuers in PRC. Deficit on revaluation of RMB 86 million has been incorporated in the Group's financial statements since the year ended 31 December 2003.

In accordance with the relevant rules and regulations in respect of the Acquisition of Refining Assets (Note 1), the fixed assets and construction in progress of the Refining Assets have been revalued by a firm of independent valuers in PRC. Surplus on revaluation of RMB 82 million has been incorporated in the Group's financial statements since the year ended 31 December 2003.

At 30 June 2004, the carrying amounts of fixed assets that were pledged by the Group and the Company were RMB 120 million (2003: RMB 519 million) and RMB 10 million (2003: RMB 14 million) respectively.

11 FIXED ASSETS *(Continued)*

Provision for impairment losses on fixed assets are analysed as follows:

The Group - by segment

	Exploration and production RMB millions	Refining RMB millions	Marketing and Distribution RMB millions	Chemicals RMB millions	Total RMB millions
At 1 January 2004	764	114	—	453	1,331
Addition for the period	—	—	623	2,140	2,763
At 30 June 2004	**764**	**114**	**623**	**2,593**	**4,094**

The Company - by segment

	Exploration and production RMB millions	Refining RMB millions	Marketing and Distribution RMB millions	Chemicals RMB millions	Total RMB millions
At 1 January 2004	701	63	—	—	764
Addition for the period	—	—	623	1,118	1,741
At 30 June 2004	**701**	**63**	**623**	**1,118**	**2,505**

The Group - by asset class

	Land and buildings RMB millions	Oil and gas properties RMB millions	Oil depots, storage and service stations RMB millions	Plant, machinery, equipment and others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
At 1 January 2004	8	764	—	559	1,331
Addition for the period	325	—	623	1,815	2,763
At 30 June 2004	**333**	**764**	**623**	**2,374**	**4,094**

The Company - by asset class

	Land and buildings RMB millions	Oil and gas properties RMB millions	Oil depots, storage and service stations RMB millions	Plant, machinery, equipment and others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
At 1 January 2004	—	701	—	63	764
Addition for the period	173	—	623	945	1,741
At 30 June 2004	**173**	**701**	**623**	**1,008**	**2,505**

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no individually significant fixed assets which were temporarily idle or pending for disposal.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no individually significant fully depreciated fixed assets which were still in use.

12 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group's and the Company's construction materials mainly represent the actual cost of materials such as steel and copper to be used for construction projects.

13 CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS

The Group

	Exploration and production RMB millions	Refining RMB millions	Marketing and distribution RMB millions	Chemicals RMB millions	Others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
At 1 January 2004	5,535	8,355	7,641	6,581	401	28,513
Addition for the period	10,394	3,834	7,638	3,047	85	24,998
Addition for the period of jointly controlled entities	702	—	—	2,666	—	3,368
Dry hole costs written off	(764)	—	—	—	—	(764)
Transferred to fixed assets	(3,706)	(3,977)	(3,143)	(668)	(123)	(11,617)
At 30 June 2004	**12,161**	**8,212**	**12,136**	**11,626**	**363**	**44,498**

The interest rates per annum at which borrowing costs were capitalised during the period by the Group ranged from 3.1% to 5.8% (2003: 3.1% to 6.1%).

The Group's proportionate share of the jointly controlled entities' construction in progress at 30 June 2004 in the exploration and production and the chemicals segments were RMB 7,180 million (2003: RMB 3,812 million) and RMB 5,659 million (2003: RMB 2,993 million), respectively.

13 CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS *(Continued)*

At 30 June 2004, major projects of the Group are as follows:

Project name	Budgeted amount RMB millions	At 1 January 2004 RMB millions	Addition for the period RMB millions	Transfer out for the period RMB millions	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	Percentage of completion	Source of funding	Accumulated interest capitalised at 30 June 2004 RMB millions
The Group								
Ningbo · Shanghai · Nanjing Pipeline Project	3,261	3,049	743	(2,163)	1,629	50%	Bank loans & self-financing	14
Ethylene Reconstruction Project II	4,667	1,392	1,217	—	2,609	56%	Bank loans & self-financing	61
8,000,000 tonnes per annum Crude Oil Plant Improvement Project	1,397	304	185	—	489	35%	Self-financing	1
South-west Fuel Oil Pipeline Project	3,526	787	734	—	1,521	43%	Bank loans & self-financing	—
Jointly controlled entities								
900,000 tonnes Ethylene Project	8,895	2,975	3,231	—	6,206	70%	Bank loans & self-financing	179

The Company

	Exploration and production RMB millions	Refining RMB millions	Marketing and distribution RMB millions	Chemicals RMB millions	Others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
At 1 January 2004	4,501	7,311	6,380	1,284	382	19,858
Addition for the period	6,814	2,798	6,313	827	78	16,830
Dry hole costs written off	(408)	—	—	—	—	(408)
Transferred to fixed assets	(2,635)	(3,413)	(2,879)	(107)	(122)	(9,156)
At 30 June 2004	**8,272**	**6,696**	**9,814**	**2,004**	**338**	**27,124**

The interest rates per annum at which borrowing costs were capitalised for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 by the Company ranged from 3.1% to 5.8% (2003: 3.1% to 6.1%).

14 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The Group

	Computer software license RMB millions	Technical know-how RMB millions	Exploration and production right RMB millions	Others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Cost:					
At 1 January 2004	554	1,797	3,163	198	5,712
Addition for the period	136	13	—	141	290
Disposals	—	—	—	(50)	(50)
At 30 June 2004	**690**	**1,810**	**3,163**	**289**	**5,952**
Accumulated Amortisation:					
At 1 January 2004	90	634	351	73	1,148
Amortisation charge for the period	52	147	58	30	287
Written back on disposal	—	—	—	(9)	(9)
At 30 June 2004	**142**	**781**	**409**	**94**	**1,426**
Net book value:					
At 30 June 2004	**548**	**1,029**	**2,754**	**195**	**4,526**
At 31 December 2003	**464**	**1,163**	**2,812**	**125**	**4,564**

Except for the exploration and production right, the above intangible assets were acquired from third parties. The Company acquired Sinopec National Star together with the exploration and production right from Sinopec Group Company. The exploration and production right was valued with reference to the proved reserves of the associated oil fields. The amortisation period of the exploration and production right was 27 years. The amortisation periods of other intangible assets range from 4 to 10 years. At 30 June 2004, the remaining amortisation period of the exploration and production right was 23.5 years.

The Company

	Computer software license RMB millions	Technical know-how RMB millions	Exploration and production right RMB millions	Others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Cost:					
At 1 January 2004	379	1,036	3,163	129	4,707
Addition for the period	125	6	—	61	192
Disposals	—	—	—	(37)	(37)
At 30 June 2004	**504**	**1,042**	**3,163**	**153**	**4,862**
Accumulated Amortisation:					
At 1 January 2004	48	554	351	42	995
Amortisation charge for the period	38	60	58	17	173
Written back on disposal	—	—	—	(7)	(7)
At 30 June 2004	**86**	**614**	**409**	**52**	**1,161**
Net book value:					
At 30 June 2004	**418**	**428**	**2,754**	**101**	**3,701**
At 31 December 2003	**331**	**482**	**2,812**	**87**	**3,712**

Except for the exploration and production right, the above intangible assets were acquired from third parties. The Company acquired Sinopec National Star together with the exploration and production right from Sinopec Group Company. The exploration and production right was valued with reference to the proved reserves of the associated oil fields. The amortisation period of the exploration and production right was 27 years. The amortisation periods of other intangible assets range from 4 to 10 years. At 30 June 2004, the remaining amortisation period of the exploration and production right was 23.5 years.

15 DEFERRED TAX ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Group

	Deferred tax assets		Deferred tax liabilities		Net balance	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Current						
Provision primarily for receivables and inventories	2,243	1,436	—	—	2,243	1,436
Non-current						
Property, plant and equipment	845	272	(238)	(289)	607	(17)
Others	27	44	—	—	27	44
Deferred tax assets/(liabilities)	**3,115**	**1,752**	**(238)**	**(289)**	**2,877**	**1,463**

The Company

	Deferred tax assets		Deferred tax liabilities		Net balance	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Current						
Provision primarily for receivables and inventories	2,011	1,249	—	—	2,011	1,249
Non-current						
Property, plant and equipment	367	226	(16)	(16)	351	210
Others	13	35	—	—	13	35
Deferred tax assets/(liabilities)	**2,391**	**1,510**	**(16)**	**(16)**	**2,375**	**1,494**

16 SHORT-TERM LOANS

The Group's and the Company's short-term loans represent:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Short-term bank loans	22,298	16,979	11,055	7,466
Short-term other loans	—	29	—	25
Loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	4,147	3,896	3,222	2,296
	26,445	**20,904**	**14,277**	**9,787**

The Group's and the Company's weighted average interest rates per annum on short-term loans were 3.3% (2003: 3.2%) and 3.7% (2003: 3.1%) respectively at 30 June 2004. The majority of the above loans are unsecured.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no significant overdue short-term loan.

17 BILLS PAYABLE

Bills payable primarily represented the bank accepted bills for the purchase of material, goods and products. The repayment term is normally from three to six months.

18 TRADE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The ageing analysis of trade accounts payable are as follows:

	The Group			
	At 30 June 2004		At 31 December 2003	
	RMB millions	**%**	RMB millions	%
Within 3 months	15,776	60.0	16,311	71.8
Between 3 and 6 months	8,785	33.5	5,140	22.6
Over 6 months	1,716	6.5	1,253	5.6
	26,277	**100.0**	**22,704**	**100.0**

	The Company			
	At 30 June 2004		At 31 December 2003	
	RMB millions	**%**	RMB millions	%
Within 3 months	15,947	73.6	15,143	83.6
Between 3 and 6 months	4,395	20.3	2,130	11.8
Over 6 months	1,314	6.1	844	4.6
	21,656	**100.0**	**18,117**	**100.0**

Except for the balances disclosed in Note 39, there is no amount due to shareholders who hold 5% or more voting right of the Company included in the balance of trade accounts payable.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no individually significant trade accounts payable aged over three years.

19 RECEIPTS IN ADVANCE

Except for the balances disclosed in Note 39, there is no amount due to shareholders who hold 5% or more voting right of the Company included in the balance of receipts in advance.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no individually significant receipts in advance aged over one year.

20 TAXES PAYABLE

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Value added tax	32	459	(998)	(389)
Consumption tax	1,028	1,547	690	1,184
Income tax	4,146	4,077	1,623	2,012
Business tax	62	52	30	24
Other taxes	757	851	137	144
	6,025	**6,986**	**1,482**	**2,975**

The provision for PRC current income tax is based on a statutory rate of 33% of the assessable income of the Group and the Company as determined in accordance with the relevant income tax rules and regulations of the PRC during the periods ended 30 June 2004 and 2003, except for certain subsidiaries of the Company, which are taxed at a preferential rate of 15%.

21 OTHER PAYABLES

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group's and the Company's other payables primarily represented payables for resources compensation fee and education surcharge.

22 OTHER CREDITORS

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group's and the Company's other creditors primarily represented payables for constructions.

Except for the balances disclosed in Note 39, there is no amount due to shareholders who hold 5% or more voting right of the Company included in the balance of other creditors.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no individually significant other creditors aged over three years.

23 ACCRUED EXPENSES

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group's and the Company's accrued expenses primarily represented accrued interest expenses, repair and maintenance expenses, research and development expenses and other production expenses.

24 CURRENT PORTION OF LONG-TERM LOANS

The Group's and the Company's current portion of long-term loans represent:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Long-term bank loans				
– Renminbi loans	5,621	5,363	3,015	3,437
– Japanese Yen loans	485	533	485	498
– US Dollar loans	1,173	623	699	408
– Hong Kong Dollar loans	—	4	—	—
	7,279	**6,523**	**4,199**	**4,343**
Long-term other loans				
– Renminbi loans	78	65	34	30
– US Dollar loans	32	62	29	30
	110	**127**	**63**	**60**
Bonds payable				
– Renminbi loans (Note 26)	1,500	1,500	—	—
Long-term loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries				
– Renminbi loans	2,000	19	2,000	19
– US Dollar loans	6	6	6	6
	2,006	**25**	**2,006**	**25**
Total current portion of long-term loans	**10,895**	**8,175**	**6,268**	**4,428**

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the Group and the Company had no significant overdue long-term loan.

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25 LONG-TERM LOANS

The Group's and the Company's long-term loans represent:

	Interest rate and final maturity	The Group At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	The Group At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	The Company At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	The Company At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Third parties debts					
Long-term bank loans					
Renminbi loans	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 6.2% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2013	42,268	38,863	34,219	29,577
Japanese Yen loans	Interest rates ranging from 2.6% to 5.8% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2024	2,586	2,909	2,586	2,866
US Dollar loans	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 7.4% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2031	4,793	4,340	2,832	2,676
Hong Kong Dollar loans	Floating rate at Hong Kong Prime Rate plus 0.3% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2006	6	7	—	—
Less: Current portion		7,279	6,523	4,199	4,343
Long-term bank loans		**42,374**	**39,596**	**35,438**	**30,776**
Other long-term loans					
Renminbi loans	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 5.0% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2008	226	359	56	182
US Dollar loans	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 4.0% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2015	124	151	103	118
Euro loans	Interest rates ranging from 1.8% to 8.1% per annum at 31 December 2003 with maturities through 2025. Paid off as at 30 June 2004	—	21	—	21
Less: Current portion		110	127	63	60
Other long-term loans		**240**	**404**	**96**	**261**
Long-term bank loans of jointly controlled entities					
Renminbi loans	Floating rate at 90% of PBOC's base lending rate per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2021	1,350	705	—	—
US Dollar loans	Floating rate at London Interbank Offer Rate plus 0.7% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2013	1,614	745	—	—
Long-term bank loans of jointly controlled entities		**2,964**	**1,450**	**—**	**—**
Long-term loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries					
Renminbi loans	Interest free with maturity in 2020	35,561	35,561	35,561	35,561
Renminbi loans	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 5.2% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2009	2,896	2,223	2,202	2,138
US Dollar loans	Floating rate at London Interbank Offer Rate plus 1.4% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2005	9	12	9	12
Less: Current portion		2,006	25	2,006	25
Long-term loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries		**36,460**	**37,771**	**35,766**	**37,686**
		82,038	**79,221**	**71,300**	**68,723**

25 LONG-TERM LOANS *(Continued)*

The maturity analysis of the Group's and the Company's long-term loans are as follows:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Between one and two years	9,635	13,145	6,195	9,346
Between two and five years	31,234	26,591	27,118	21,526
After five years	41,169	39,485	37,987	37,851
Total long-term loans	**82,038**	**79,221**	**71,300**	**68,723**

At 30 June 2004, the Group and the Company had secured loans from third parties amounting to RMB 55 million (2003: RMB 103 million) and RMB 2 million (2003: RMB 9 million) respectively. All long-term other loans are unsecured.

Except for the balances disclosed in Note 39, there is no amount due to shareholders who hold 5% or more voting right of the Company included in the balance of long-term loans.

26 BONDS PAYABLE

	Interest rate and final maturity	The Group		The Company	
		At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Corporate bonds	Fixed rate at 4.6% per annum, redeemable in February 2014 (i)	3,500	—	3,500	—
Convertible bonds	Fixed rate at 2.5% per annum at 30 June 2004 and redeemable in July 2004 (ii)	1,500	1,500	—	—
Less: current portion		1,500	1,500	—	—
		3,500	**—**	**3,500**	**—**

(i) The Company issued ten years corporate bonds of RMB 3.5 billion to PRC citizens as well as PRC legal and non-legal persons on 24 February 2004 with a fixed interest rate at 4.6% per annum and annual interest payment schedule. Interest payable for the current period was included in accrued expenses.

(ii) Convertible bonds amounting to RMB 1,500 million were issued by a subsidiary of the Group on 28 July 1999. Pursuant to the subsidiary's shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting held on 23 March 2004, the subsidiary decided not to undergo an initial public offering. The bonds were repaid in July 2004.

27 OTHER LONG-TERM PAYABLES

Other long-term payables primarily represent provision for future dismantlement of oil and gas properties, the costs arising from environmental restoration and specific research and development projects.

28 SHARE CAPITAL

	The Group and the Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Registered, issued and fully paid:		
67,121,951,000 domestic state-owned A shares of RMB 1.00 each	67,122	67,122
16,780,488,000 H shares of RMB 1.00 each	16,780	16,780
2,800,000,000 A shares of RMB 1.00 each	2,800	2,800
	86,702	**86,702**

The Company was established on 25 February 2000 with a registered capital of 68.8 billion state-owned domestic shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each, which were all held by Sinopec Group Company (see Note 1).

Pursuant to the resolutions passed in an extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on 25 July 2000 and the approval from relevant authorities, the Company issued 15,102,439,000 H shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each in its initial global offering in October 2000. The shares include 12,521,864,000 H shares and 25,805,750 American Depositary Shares ("ADSs", each representing 100 H shares) at prices of HK$ 1.59 and US$ 20.645 respectively. As part of the offering, 1,678,049,000 shares were offered in placing to Hong Kong and overseas investors.

According to Sinopec Group Company's debt-to-equity arrangement, some of the Company's shares held by Sinopec Group Company were transferred to the following bank and asset management companies. Pursuant to the notice Cai Qi [2000] No. 261 issued by MOF, the Company, having made its global offer of H shares, adjusted the price of shares to be transferred to the following entities, based on the issue price of the H shares, in connection with the debt-to-equity arrangement and the proportion of its shares. As a result, shares of the Company held by the State Development Bank of China, China Cinda Asset Management Corporation, China Orient Asset Management Corporation, China Huarong Asset Management Corporation are 8,775,570,000 shares, 8,720,650,000 shares, 1,296,410,000 shares and 586,760,000 shares respectively. Shares of the Company held by Sinopec Group Company was adjusted to 47,742,600,000 shares accordingly. Such arrangement was approved by MOF in Cai Qi [2000] No. 754 "Comments on the issues relating to the management of the equity in China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation".

In July 2001, the Company issued 2,800,000,000 domestic listed A shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each at RMB 4.22.

All the domestic ordinary shares and H shares rank pari passu in all material aspects.

KPMG Huazhen had verified the above paid-in capital. The capital verification reports, KPMG-C (2000) CV No. 0007, KPMG-C (2001) CV No. 0002 and KPMG-C (2001) CV No. 0006 were issued on 22 February 2000, 27 February 2001 and 23 July 2001 respectively.

29 CAPITAL RESERVE

The movements in capital reserve are as follows:

	The Group and the Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Balance at 1 January	36,852	36,588
Government grants (i)	—	35
Premium from issuance of shares by a subsidiary (ii)	—	147
Gain from debt restructuring by a subsidiary (iii)	—	82
Balance at 30 June/31 December	**36,852**	**36,852**

(i) For the year ended 31 December 2003, the Group received subsidy on investments amounted to RMB 35 million, pursuant to Guo Jing Mao Tou Zi [2002] No. 847 "Notice on the State's Key Technology Reform on Project Fund Plan regarding the Third Batch of State Debt's Special Fund in 2002" issued by MOF. This fund is used for technology improvement projects.

(ii) For the year ended 31 December 2003, a subsidiary of the Group issued additional shares in the PRC. Independent investors used cash to subscribe for shares. The increase in the Group's consolidated net assets due to the share premium was reflected as an increase of capital reserve.

(iii) During the year ended 31 December 2003, a subsidiary of the Group carried out debt restructuring with a bank and obtained a waiver of interest payable. The gain in connection with the debt restructuring was reflected as an increase of capital reserve.

30 SURPLUS RESERVES

Movements in surplus reserves are as follows:

	The Group and the Company			
	Statutory surplus reserve RMB millions	Statutory public welfare fund RMB millions	Discretionary surplus reserve RMB millions	Total RMB millions
At 1 January 2003	4,429	4,429	7,000	15,858
Appropriation of net profit	1,901	1,901	—	3,802
At 31 December 2003	**6,330**	**6,330**	**7,000**	**19,660**
At 1 January 2004	6,330	6,330	7,000	19,660
Appropriation of net profit	1,504	1,504	—	3,008
At 30 June 2004	**7,834**	**7,834**	**7,000**	**22,668**

The Articles of Association of the Company and the following profit appropriation plans had been approved at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 25 July 2000:

(a) 10% of the net profit is transferred to the statutory surplus reserve;

(b) 5% to 10% of the net profit is transferred to the statutory public welfare fund; and

(c) after the transfer to the statutory surplus reserve, a transfer to discretionary surplus reserve can be made upon the passing of a resolution at the shareholders' meeting.

31 INCOME FROM PRINCIPAL OPERATIONS

The income from principal operations represents revenue from sales of crude oil, natural gas, petroleum and chemical products net of value added tax. The Group's segmental information is set out in Note 44.

For the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, revenue from sales to top five customers amounted to RMB 27,300 million (2003: RMB 26,700 million) which accounted for 10% (2003: 14%) of income from principal operations of the Group.

32 SALES TAXES AND SURCHARGES

	The Group Six-month periods ended 30 June		The Company Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions	**2004 RMB millions**	2003 RMB millions
Consumption tax	5,671	4,511	3,683	3,075
City construction tax	1,214	913	579	465
Education surcharge	591	433	289	223
Resources tax	221	221	55	54
Business tax	79	63	55	38
	7,776	**6,141**	**4,661**	**3,855**

33 FINANCIAL EXPENSES

	The Group Six-month periods ended 30 June		The Company Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions	**2004 RMB millions**	2003 RMB millions
Interest expenses incurred	2,379	2,482	1,447	1,323
Less: Capitalised interest expenses	(102)	(130)	(65)	(77)
Net interest expenses	**2,277**	**2,352**	**1,382**	**1,246**
Interest income	(169)	(142)	(74)	(66)
Foreign exchange losses	29	38	12	22
Foreign exchange gains	(43)	(14)	(33)	(2)
	2,094	**2,234**	**1,287**	**1,200**

34 EXPLORATION EXPENSES

Exploration expenses include geological and geophysical expenses and written off of dry hole costs.

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35 INVESTMENT INCOME

	The Group Six-month periods ended 30 June		The Company Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions	**2004 RMB millions**	2003 RMB millions
Investment income accounted for under the cost method	30	28	17	54
Investment income accounted for under the equity method	486	313	16,623	11,895
	516	**341**	**16,640**	**11,949**

36 NON-OPERATING EXPENSES

	The Group Six-month periods ended 30 June		The Company Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions	**2004 RMB millions**	2003 RMB millions
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,405	246	1,230	110
Impairment losses on fixed assets	2,763	264	1,741	264
Donations	49	56	35	33
Fines, penalties and compensation	33	20	31	20
Employee reduction expenses (i)	412	—	325	—
Others	290	182	190	141
	4,952	**768**	**3,552**	**568**

(i) In accordance with the Group's voluntary employee reduction plan, the Group recorded employee reduction expenses of RMB 412 million during the period ended 30 June 2004 (2003: RMB nil) in respect of the voluntary termination totally approximately 8,000 employees.

37 INCOME TAX

	The Group Six-month periods ended 30 June		The Company Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions	**2004 RMB millions**	2003 RMB millions
Provision for PRC income tax	8,568	5,189	7,413	4,976
Deferred taxation	(1,414)	(427)	(881)	(417)
	7,154	**4,762**	**6,532**	**4,559**

38 DIVIDENDS

(a) Dividends of ordinary shares proposed after the balance sheet date

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting on 18 May 2004, the Board of Directors was authorised to declare the interim dividends for the year ending 31 December 2004. According to the resolution passed at the Directors' meeting on 27 August 2004, an interim dividend of RMB 0.04 (2003: RMB 0.03) per share totalling RMB 3,468 million (2003: RMB 2,601 million) was declared.

(b) Dividends of ordinary shares declared during the period

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting on 18 May 2004, a final dividend of RMB 0.06 per share totalling RMB 5,202 million in respect of the year ended 31 December 2003 was declared and paid on 28 June 2004.

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting on 10 June 2003, a final dividend of RMB 0.06 per share totalling RMB 5,202 million in respect of the year ended 31 December 2002 was declared and paid on 30 June 2003.

39 RELATED PARTIES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

(a) Related parties having the ability to exercise control over the Group

The name of the company	:	China Petrochemical Corporation ("Sinopec Group Company")
Registered address	:	No. 6A, Huixin East Street, Chaoyang District, Beijing
Principal activities	:	Processing crude oil into refined products and petrochemical products, petrochemical products which include: petrochemical products made from crude oil and natural gas; production, sale and import and export of synthetic fibre and synthetic fibre monomer.
Relationship with the Group	:	Ultimate holding company
Types of legal entity	:	State-owned
Authorised representative	:	Chen Tonghai
Registered capital	:	RMB 104,912 million

There is no movement in the above registered capital for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004.

As at 30 June 2004, Sinopec Group Company held 55.1% shares of the Company and there is no change on percentage shareholdings during this reporting period.

(b) Related parties not having the ability to exercise control over the Group

Related parties under common control of a parent company with the Company:
Sinopec Finance Company Limited
Nanjing Chemical Industry Company Limited
Zhongyuan Petrochemical Company
Sichuan Vinylon Company
Nanjing Petrochemical Company
Qingjiang Petrochemical Limited Liability Company
Baoding Petrochemical Company
Luoyang Petrochemical Polypropylene Industrial Company
Baling Petrochemical Yueyang Petrochemical Company
Tianjin United Chemical Company
Zhanjiang Dongxing Petroleum Corporation Company Limited

Associates of the Company:
Sinopec Railway Oil Marketing Company Limited
Sinopec Changjiang Fuel Company Limited
China Shipping & Sinopec Suppliers Company Limited

(c) The principal related party transactions carried out in the ordinary course of business are as follows:

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June **2004** **RMB millions**	2003 RMB millions
Sales of goods	(i)	30,715	19,861
Purchases	(ii)	18,253	15,170
Transportation and storage	(iii)	979	789
Exploration and development services	(iv)	7,101	6,849
Production related services	(v)	3,831	3,921
Ancillary and social services	(vi)	906	940
Operating lease charges	(vii)	1,646	1,424
Agency commission income	(viii)	31	22
Intellectual property license fee paid	(ix)	5	5
Interest received	(x)	25	34
Interest paid	(xi)	349	318
Net deposits (withdrawn from) / placed with related parties	(xii)	(1,532)	1,063
Net loans obtained from related parties	(xiii)	921	2,323

The amounts set out in the table above in respect of the periods ended 30 June 2004 and 2003 represent the relevant costs to the Group and income from related parties as determined by the corresponding contracts with the related parties.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, there were no guarantees given to banks by the Group in respect of banking facilities to Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries.

The directors of the Company are of the opinion that the above transactions with related parties were conducted in the ordinary course of business and on normal commercial terms or in accordance with the agreements governing such transactions.

39 RELATED PARTIES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS *(Continued)*

Notes:

(i) Sales of goods represent the sale of crude oil, intermediate petrochemical products, petroleum products and ancillary materials.

(ii) Purchases represent the purchase of material and utility supplies directly related to the Group's operations such as the procurement of raw and ancillary materials and related services, supply of water, electricity and gas.

(iii) Transportation and storage represent the cost for the use of railway, road and marine transportation services, pipelines, loading, unloading and storage facilities.

(iv) Exploration and development services comprise direct costs incurred in the exploration of crude oil such as geophysical, drilling, well testing and well measurement services.

(v) Production related services represent ancillary services rendered in relation to the Group's operations such as equipment repair and general maintenance, insurance premium, technical research, communications, fire fighting, security, product quality testing and analysis, information technology, design and engineering, construction which includes the construction of oilfield ground facilities, refineries and chemical plants, manufacture of replacement parts and machinery, installation, project management and environmental protection.

(vi) Ancillary and social services represent expenditures for social welfare and support services such as educational facilities, media communication services, sanitation, accommodation, canteens, property maintenance and management services.

(vii) Operating lease charges represent the rental paid to Sinopec Group Company for operating leases in respect of land, buildings and service stations.

(viii) Agency commission income represents commission earned for acting as an agent in respect of sales of products of certain entities owned by Sinopec Group Company.

(ix) Intellectual property license fee represents reimbursement paid to Sinopec Group Company for fees required to maintain the validity of certain licenses for trademarks, patents, technology and computer software.

(x) Interest received represents interest received from deposits placed with Sinopec Finance Company Limited, a finance company controlled by Sinopec Group Company. The applicable interest rate is determined in accordance with the prevailing saving deposit rate. The balances of deposits at 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003 were RMB 2,732 million and RMB 4,264 million respectively.

(xi) Interest paid represents interest charges on the loans obtained from Sinopec Group Company and Sinopec Finance Company Limited.

(xii) Deposits were withdrawn from/placed with Sinopec Finance Company Limited.

(xiii) The Group obtained/repaid loans from/to Sinopec Group Company and Sinopec Finance Company Limited. The calculated periodic balance of average loan for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, which is based on monthly average balances, was RMB 41,884 million (2003: RMB 42,051 million).

In connection with the Reorganisation, the Company and Sinopec Group Company entered into a number of agreements under which 1) Sinopec Group Company will provide goods and products and a range of ancillary, social and supporting services to the Group and 2) the Group will sell certain goods to Sinopec Group Company. These agreements impacted the operating results of the Group for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004. The terms of these agreements are summarised as follows:

(a) The Company entered into an Agreement for Mutual Provision of Products and Ancillary Services ("Mutual Provision Agreement") with Sinopec Group Company in which Sinopec Group Company has agreed to provide the Group with certain ancillary production services, construction services, information advisory services, supply services and other services and products. While each of Sinopec Group Company and the Company is permitted to terminate the Mutual Provision Agreement upon at least six months' notice, Sinopec Group Company agrees not to terminate the agreement if the Group is unable to obtain comparable services from a third party. The pricing policy for these services and products provided by Sinopec Group Company to the Group is as follows:

- the government-prescribed price;
- where there is no government-prescribed price, the government guidance price;
- where there is neither a government-prescribed price nor a government guidance price, the market price; or
- where none of the above is applicable, the price to be agreed between the parties, which shall be based on a reasonable cost incurred in providing such services plus a profit margin not exceeding 6%.

(b) The Company has entered into an Agreement for Provision of Cultural and Educational, Health Care and Community Services with Sinopec Group Company effective from 1 January 2000 in which Sinopec Group Company has agreed to provide the Group with certain cultural, educational, health care and community services on the same pricing terms and termination conditions as agreed to in the above Mutual Provision Agreement.

(c) The Company has entered into a number of lease agreements with Sinopec Group Company to lease certain land and buildings at a rental of approximately RMB 2,447 million and RMB 482 million, respectively, per annum. The Company and Sinopec Group Company can renegotiate the rental amount every three years for land and every year for buildings, such amount not to exceed the market price as determined by an independent third party. The Group has the option to terminate these leases upon six months notice to Sinopec Group Company.

(d) The Company has entered into agreements with Sinopec Group Company effective from 1 January 2000 under which the Group has been granted the right to use certain trademarks, patents, technology and computer software developed by Sinopec Group Company. The Group will reimburse Sinopec Group Company for fees required to maintain the validity of these licenses.

(e) The Company has entered into agency agreements effective from 1 January 2000 with certain entities owned by Sinopec Group Company under which the Group acts as a sole agent in respect of the sale of all the products of these entities. In exchange for the Group's sales agency services, Sinopec Group Company has agreed to pay the Group a commission of between 0.2% and 1.0% of actual sales receipts depending on the products and to reimburse the Group for reasonable costs incurred in the capacity as its sales agent.

39 RELATED PARTIES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS *(Continued)*

(f) The Company has entered into a service station franchise agreement with Sinopec Group Company under which its service station and retail stores would exclusively sell the refined products supplied by the Group.

(d) Balances with related parties

The balances with the Group's related parties at 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003 are as follows:

	The ultimate holding company		Other related companies	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Trade accounts receivable	—	—	3,642	3,125
Advance payments	—	—	1,338	463
Other receivables	3,188	3,201	3,974	6,024
Trade accounts payable	—	—	2,095	1,028
Receipts in advance	—	—	981	539
Other creditors	5,934	4,588	4,858	9,927
Short-term loans	—	—	4,147	3,896
Long-term loans (including current portion) (Note)	—	—	38,466	37,796

Note: The Sinopec Group Company had borrowed an interest free loan for 20 years amounted to RMB 35,561 million to the Group through Sinopec Finance Company Limited which was included in the long-term loans.

40 PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES

The Company's principal subsidiaries are limited companies operating in the PRC and had been consolidated into the Group's financial statements for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004. Except for Sinopec Kantons Holdings Limited, which is incorporated in Bermuda, the companies below are incorporated in the PRC. The following list contains only the particulars of subsidiaries which principally affected the results or assets of the Group:

Name of enterprise	Registered capital/paid-up capital RMB millions	Percentage of equity interest held by the Company %	Principal activities
China Petrochemical International Company Limited	1,400	100.00	Trading of crude oil and petrochemical products
Sinopec Beijing Yanhua Petrochemical Company Limited	3,374	70.01	Manufacturing of chemical products
Sinopec Sales Company Limited	1,700	100.00	Marketing and distribution of refined petroleum products
Sinopec Shengli Oilfield Company Limited	30,028	100.00	Exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas
Sinopec Fujian Petrochemical Company Limited	2,253	(i) 50.00	Manufacturing of plastics, intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Maoming Refining and Chemical Company Limited	1,064 and 1,500 convertible bonds	99.81	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Qilu Petrochemical Company Limited	1,950	82.05	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical Company Limited	7,200	55.56	Manufacturing of synthetic fibres, resin and plastics, intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Shijiazhuang Refining Chemical Company Limited	1,154	79.73	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Kantons Holdings Limited	HK$104	72.40	Trading of crude oil and petroleum products
Sinopec Wuhan Petroleum Group Company Limited	147	(i) 46.25	Marketing and distribution of refined petroleum products
Sinopec Wuhan Phoenix Company Limited	519	(i) 40.72	Manufacturing of petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Yangzi Petrochemical Company Limited	2,330	84.98	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Yizheng Chemical Fibre Company Limited	4,000	(i) 42.00	Production and sale of polyester chips and polyester fibres
Sinopec Zhenhai Refining and Chemical Company Limited	2,524	71.32	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Zhongyuan Petroleum Company Limited	875	70.85	Exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas

(i) The Company consolidated the results of these entities because the Company controlled the board of these entities and had the power to govern their financial and operating policies.

Financial Statements (PRC)

41 PRINCIPAL JOINTLY CONTROLLED ENTITIES

At 30 June 2004, the Group's principal interests in jointly controlled entities are as follows:

Name of jointly controlled entities	Registered capital/ paid-up capital	Percentage of equity interest held by the Group %	Principal activities
Shanghai Secco Petrochemical Company Limited	Registered capital USD 901,440,964	50.00	Manufacturing and distribution of petrochemical products
Yueyang Sinopec and Shell Coal Gasification Company Limited	Registered capital USD 45,588,700	50.00	Manufacturing and distribution of industrial gas
Block A Oil Field in the Western Area Chenda in Bohai Bay	—	43.00	Exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas

42 COMMITMENTS

Operating lease commitments

The Group and the Company lease service stations and other equipment through non-cancellable operating leases. These operating leases do not contain provisions for contingent lease rentals. None of the rental agreements contain escalation provisions that may require higher future rental payments.

At 30 June 2004, the future minimum lease payments of the Group and the Company under operating leases are as follows:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Within one year	3,247	3,276	3,150	3,175
Between one and two years	3,217	3,229	3,128	3,133
Between two and three years	3,204	3,200	3,114	3,114
Between three and four years	3,186	3,175	3,100	3,095
Between four and five years	3,164	3,162	3,084	3,087
After five years	98,565	99,619	96,933	98,253
	114,583	**115,661**	**112,509**	**113,857**

Capital commitments

At 30 June 2004, the capital commitments are as follows:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
The Group		
Authorised and contracted for	26,750	48,107
Authorised but not contracted for	41,835	47,716
	68,585	**95,823**
Jointly controlled entities		
Authorised and contracted for	4,966	6,923
Authorised but not contracted for	1,752	3,432
	6,718	**10,355**
The Company		
Authorised and contracted for	19,353	32,210
Authorised but not contracted for	30,386	36,029
	49,739	**68,239**

These capital commitments relate to oil and gas exploration and development, refining and petrochemical production capacity expansion projects, the construction of service stations and oil depots, and capital contributions to the Group's investments and interests in associates.

42 COMMITMENTS *(Continued)*

Exploration and production licenses

Exploration licenses for exploration activities are registered with the Ministry of Land and Resources. The maximum term of the Group's exploration licenses is 7 years, and may be renewed twice within 30 days prior to expiration of the original term with each renewal being for a two-year term. The Group is obligated to make progressive annual minimum exploration investment relating to the exploration blocks in respect of which the license is issued. The Ministry of Land and Resources also issues production licenses to the Group on the basis of the reserve reports approved by relevant authorities. The maximum term of a full production license is 30 years unless a special dispensation was given by the State Council. The maximum term of the production licenses issued to the Group is 55 years as a special dispensation was given by the State Council. The Group's production license is renewable upon application by the Group 30 days prior to expiration.

The Group is required to make payments of exploration license fees and production right usage fees to the Ministry of Land and Resources annually which are expensed as incurred. Payments incurred were approximately RMB 101 million for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 (2003: RMB 17 million).

Estimated future annual payments are as follows:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Within one year	78	87	51	69
Between one and two years	98	117	68	88
Between two and three years	82	87	45	54
Between three and four years	65	72	49	42
Between four and five years	73	65	61	52
After five years	313	361	173	212
	709	**789**	**447**	**517**

43 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

(a) The Company has been advised by its PRC lawyers that, except for liabilities constituting or arising out of or relating to the business assumed by the Company in the Reorganisation, no other liabilities were assumed by the Company, and the Company is not jointly and severally liable for other debts and obligations incurred by Sinopec Group Company prior to the Reorganisation.

(b) At 30 June 2004, guarantees given by the Group and the Company to banks in respect of banking facilities granted to the parties below are as follows:

	The Group		The Company	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Subsidiaries	—	—	173	173
Associates and jointly controlled entities	4,897	4,955	12,074	12,084
	4,897	**4,955**	**12,247**	**12,257**

The Company monitors the conditions that are subject to the guarantees to identify whether it is probable that a loss has occurred, and recognises any such losses under guarantees when those losses are estimable. At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, it is not probable that the Company will be required to make payments under the guarantees. Thus no liability has been accrued for a loss related to the Company's obligation under the guarantees arrangement.

Environmental contingencies

To date, the Group has not incurred any significant expenditure for environmental remediation, is currently not involved in any environmental remediation, and has not accrued any amounts for environmental remediation relating to its operations. Under existing legislation, management believes that there are no probable liabilities that will have a material adverse effect on the financial position or operating results of the Group. The PRC government, however, has moved and may move further towards more rigorous enforcement of applicable laws, and towards the adoption of more stringent environmental standards. Environmental liabilities are subject to considerable uncertainties which affect the Group's ability to estimate the ultimate cost of remediation efforts. These uncertainties include: i) the exact nature and extent of the contamination at various sites including, but not limited to refineries, oil fields, service stations, terminals and land development areas, whether operating, closed or sold; ii) the extent of required cleanup efforts; iii) varying costs of alternative remediation strategies; iv) changes in environmental remediation requirements; and v) the identification of new remediation sites. The amount of such future cost is indeterminable due to such factors as the unknown magnitude of possible contamination and the unknown timing and extent of the corrective actions that may be required. Accordingly, the outcome of environmental liabilities under proposed or future environmental legislation cannot reasonably be estimated at present, and could be material. The Group paid normal routine pollutant discharge fee of approximately RMB 113 million for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 (2003: RMB 85 million).

Legal contingencies

The Group is a defendant in certain lawsuits as well as the named party in other proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. While the outcomes of such contingencies, lawsuits or other proceedings cannot be determined at present, management is of the opinion that any resulting liabilities will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position or operating results of the Group.

44 SEGMENTAL INFORMATION

The Group has five operating segments as follows:

(i) Exploration and production - which explores and develops oil fields, produces crude oil and natural gas and sells such products to the refining segment of the Company and external customers.

(ii) Refining - which processes and purifies crude oil, which is sourced from the Exploration and Production Segment of the Group and external suppliers, and manufactures and sells petroleum products to the Chemicals and Marketing and Distribution Segments of the Company and external customers.

(iii) Marketing and distribution - which owns and operates oil depots and service stations in the PRC, and distributes and sells refined petroleum products (mainly gasoline and diesel) in the PRC through wholesale and retail sales networks.

(iv) Chemicals - which manufactures and sells petrochemical products, derivative petrochemical products and other chemical products to external customers.

(v) Others - which largely comprise the trading activities of the import and export companies of the Group and research and development undertaken by other subsidiaries.

The segments were determined primarily because the Group manages its exploration and production, refining, marketing and distribution, chemicals and others businesses separately. The reportable segments are each managed separately because they manufacture and/or distribute distinct products with different production processes and due to their distinct operating and gross margin characteristics. In view of the fact that the Company and its subsidiaries operate mainly in the PRC, no geographical segment information is presented.

The Group evaluates the performance and allocates resources to its operating segments on an operating income basis, without considering the effects of finance costs or investment income. The accounting policies of the Group's segments are the same as those described in the Principal Accounting Policies (see Note 2). Corporate administrative costs and assets are not allocated to the operating segments; instead, operating segments are billed for direct corporate services. Inter-segment transfer pricing is based on cost plus an appropriate margin, as specified by the Group's policy.

Reportable information on the Group's operating segments is as follows:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Income from principal operations		
Exploration and production		
External sales	7,376	7,083
Inter-segment sales	26,316	24,980
	33,692	**32,063**
Refining		
External sales	31,986	26,909
Inter-segment sales	126,904	100,690
	158,890	**127,599**
Marketing and distribution		
External sales	156,539	110,231
Inter-segment sales	1,334	1,630
	157,873	**111,861**
Chemicals		
External sales	50,946	35,554
Inter-segment sales	4,794	3,590
	55,740	**39,144**
Others		
External sales	18,862	15,065
Inter-segment sales	16,246	13,400
	35,108	**28,465**
Elimination of inter-segment sales	(175,594)	(144,290)
Income from principal operations	**265,709**	**194,842**
Cost of sales, sales taxes and surcharges		
Exploration and production	16,165	16,345
Refining	151,772	123,141
Marketing and distribution	138,914	98,271
Chemicals	45,685	35,713
Others	34,769	28,249
Elimination of inter-segment cost of sales	(173,431)	(143,275)
Cost of sales, sales taxes and surcharges	**213,874**	**158,444**
Profit from principal operations		
Exploration and production	15,568	14,784
Refining	6,914	4,377
Marketing and distribution	18,959	13,590
Chemicals	10,055	3,431
Others	339	216
Profit from principal operations	**51,835**	**36,398**

45 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

Except for disclosed in Note 38, the Board declared interim dividends for the year ending 2004 on 27 August 2004, the Group and the Company had no other post balance sheet event at 30 June 2004.

46 ITEMS UNDER NON-OPERATING PROFITS/LOSSES

Pursuant to "Questions and answers in the prepayment of information disclosures of companies issuing public shares, No.1– Extraordinary gain and loss" (2004 revised). The extraordinary gain and loss of the Group are as follows:

	Six-month period ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions
Items under non-operating profits/losses for the period:	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,405
Employee reduction expenses	412
Donations	49
Loss on disposal of long-term equity investments	2
Other non-operating income and expenses, excluding impairment losses on long-lived assets	142
Written back of provisions for impairment losses in previous years	(80)
Tax effect	(637)
Total	**1,293**

47 OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

The Group had no any other significant event required to disclose as at the approval date of these financial statements.

Financial Statements (PRC)

To the Shareholders of
China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation
(Established in The People's Republic of China with limited liability)

We have audited the interim financial statements on pages 77 to 103 which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Board.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

The Company's directors are responsible for the preparation of interim financial statements which give a true and fair view. In preparing interim financial statements which give a true and fair view it is fundamental that appropriate accounting policies are selected and applied consistently, that judgements and estimates are made which are prudent and reasonable and that the reasons for any significant departure from applicable accounting standards are stated.

It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those interim financial statements and to report our opinion solely to you, as a body, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

BASIS OF OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Statements of Auditing Standards issued by the Hong Kong Society of Accountants. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the interim financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the interim financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance as to whether the interim financial statements are free from material misstatement. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the interim financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

OPINION

In our opinion, the interim financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group as at 30 June 2004 and of the Group's profit and cash flows for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 and have been properly prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Board.

KPMG
Certified Public Accountants
Hong Kong, China, 27 August 2004

(B) INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PREPARED UNDER INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS ("IFRS")

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004
(Amounts in millions except per share data)

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB	2003 RMB
Turnover and other operating revenues			
Turnover	3	265,709	197,614
Other operating revenues	4	9,733	7,721
		275,442	**205,335**
Operating expenses			
Purchased crude oil, products and operating supplies and expenses		(197,123)	(144,365)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	5	(14,212)	(11,428)
Depreciation, depletion and amortisation		(14,773)	(12,947)
Exploration expenses, including dry holes		(2,475)	(2,784)
Personnel expenses	6	(8,346)	(8,338)
Employee reduction expenses	7	(412)	—
Taxes other than income tax	8	(7,776)	(6,190)
Other operating expenses, net	9	(2,986)	(714)
Total operating expenses		**(248,103)**	**(186,766)**
Operating profit		**27,339**	**18,569**
Finance costs			
Interest expense	10	(1,986)	(2,194)
Interest income		169	145
Foreign exchange losses		(29)	(39)
Foreign exchange gains		43	14
Net finance costs		**(1,803)**	**(2,074)**
Investment income/(losses)		30	(2)
Share of profits less losses from associates		451	272
Profit from ordinary activities before taxation		**26,017**	**16,765**
Taxation	11	(7,713)	(5,264)
Profit from ordinary activities after taxation		**18,304**	**11,501**
Minority interests		(2,153)	(774)
Profit attributable to shareholders		**16,151**	**10,727**
Basic earnings per share	12	**0.19**	**0.12**
Dividends attributable to the period:			
Interim dividend declared after the balance sheet date	13	3,468	2,601

The notes on pages 82 to 103 form part of these interim financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

at 30 June 2004
(Amounts in millions)

	Note	At 30 June 2004 RMB	At 31 December 2003 RMB
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	14	251,704	256,748
Construction in progress	15	44,659	28,973
Investments	16	2,711	2,582
Interests in associates	17	8,849	8,081
Deferred tax assets	22	3,506	2,144
Lease prepayments		794	810
Other assets		2,612	2,152
Total non-current assets		**314,835**	**301,490**
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		14,273	15,221
Time deposits with financial institutions		2,755	2,184
Trade accounts receivable	19	13,621	9,284
Bills receivable	19	8,009	5,953
Inventories	20	60,631	46,112
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	21	20,813	20,574
Total current assets		**120,102**	**99,328**
Current liabilities			
Short-term debts	23	31,187	25,158
Loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	23	6,153	3,921
Trade accounts payable	24	26,277	22,704
Bills payable	24	28,531	23,958
Accrued expenses and other payables	25	41,419	42,187
Income tax payable		4,146	4,077
Total current liabilities		**137,713**	**122,005**
Net current liabilities		**(17,611)**	**(22,677)**
Total assets less current liabilities		**297,224**	**278,813**
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term debts	23	49,078	41,450
Loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	23	36,460	37,771
Deferred tax liabilities	22	5,106	4,599
Other liabilities		731	1,228
Total non-current liabilities		**91,375**	**85,048**
Minority interests		**27,440**	**25,866**
Net assets		**178,409**	**167,899**
Shareholders' funds			
Share capital	26	86,702	86,702
Reserves		91,707	81,197
		178,409	**167,899**

Approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 27 August 2004

Chen Tonghai
Chairman

Wang Jiming
Vice Chairman and President

Zhang Jiaren
Director, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

The notes on pages 82 to 103 form part of these interim financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004
(Amounts in millions)

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB	2003 RMB
Cash flows from operating activities	(a)	**19,291**	**28,649**
Cash flow from investing activities			
Capital expenditure		(26,134)	(19,156)
Capital expenditure of jointly controlled entities		(3,368)	(1,942)
Purchase of investments and investments in associates		(804)	(81)
Proceeds from disposal of investments and investments in associates		31	697
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		187	291
Increase in time deposits with financial institutions		(1,371)	(1,804)
Maturity of time deposits with financial institutions		800	442
Net cash used in investing activities		**(30,659)**	**(21,553)**
Cash flow from financing activities			
Proceeds from bank and other loans		160,356	101,970
Proceeds from bank and other loans of jointly controlled entities		1,621	1,132
Proceeds from issuance of corporate bonds, net of issuing expenses		3,472	—
Repayments of bank and other loans		(150,838)	(102,837)
Distributions to minority interests		(141)	(149)
Contributions from minority interests		92	12
Dividend paid		(2,313)	(5,202)
Cash and cash equivalents distributed to Sinopec Group Company		(1,828)	—
Net cash generated from/ (used in) financing activities		**10,421**	**(5,074)**
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		**(947)**	**2,022**
Effect of foreign exchange rate		**(1)**	**—**
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		**15,221**	**18,161**
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period		**14,273**	**20,183**

The notes on pages 82 to 103 form part of these interim financial statements.

(Amounts in millions)

(a) Reconciliation of profit from ordinary activities before taxation to cash flows from operating activities

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB	RMB
Profit from ordinary activities before taxation	26,017	16,765
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation, depletion and amortisation	14,773	12,947
Dry hole costs	764	1,238
Share of profits less losses from associates	(451)	(272)
Investment (income)/losses	(30)	2
Interest income	(169)	(145)
Interest expense	1,986	2,194
Unrealised foreign exchange (gains)/losses	(32)	7
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment, net	399	259
Impairment losses on long-lived assets	2,324	269
Increase in trade accounts receivable	(4,337)	(1,257)
Increase in bills receivable	(2,056)	(234)
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(14,519)	146
Decrease/(increase) in prepaid expenses and other current assets	506	(909)
Decrease in lease prepayments	16	12
Increase in other assets	(779)	(64)
Increase/(decrease) in trade accounts payable	3,573	(2,081)
Increase in bills payable	4,573	2,437
(Decrease)/increase in accrued expenses and other payables	(2,425)	4,308
(Decrease)/increase in other liabilities	(497)	174
Cash generated from operations	**29,636**	**35,796**
Interest received	170	143
Interest paid	(2,390)	(2,497)
Investment and dividend income received	222	274
Income tax paid	(8,347)	(5,067)
Cash flows from operating activities	**19,291**	**28,649**

The notes on pages 82 to 103 form part of these interim financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004
(Amounts in millions except per share data)

	Share capital RMB	Capital reserve RMB	Share premium RMB	Revaluation reserve RMB	Statutory surplus reserve RMB	Statutory public welfare fund RMB	Discretionary surplus reserve RMB	Other reserves RMB	Retained earnings RMB	Total RMB
Shareholders' funds at 1 January 2003, as previously reported	86,702	(18,878)	18,072	31,641	4,429	4,429	7,000	241	20,849	154,485
Adjusted for acquisition of the Acquired Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9,338	—	9,338
Shareholders' funds at 1 January 2003, as adjusted	86,702	(18,878)	18,072	31,641	4,429	4,429	7,000	9,579	20,849	163,823
Final dividend for 2002 *(Note 13)*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(5,202)	(5,202)
Profit attributable to shareholders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,727	10,727
Appropriation *(Note (a) and (b))*	—	—	—	—	977	977	—	—	(1,954)	—
Revaluation surplus realised	—	—	—	(250)	—	—	—	—	250	—
Realisation of deferred tax on land use rights	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(2)	2	—
Transfer from retained earnings to other reserves	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	(26)	—
Net assets contributed from Sinopec Group Company	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	8
Shareholders' funds at 30 June 2003	**86,702**	**(18,878)**	**18,072**	**31,391**	**5,406**	**5,406**	**7,000**	**9,611**	**24,646**	**169,356**
Shareholders' funds at 1 January 2004	86,702	(18,960)	18,072	30,341	6,330	6,330	7,000	252	31,832	167,899
Final dividend for 2003 *(Note 13)*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(5,202)	(5,202)
Profit attributable to shareholders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16,151	16,151
Appropriation *(Note (a) and (b))*	—	—	—	—	1,504	1,504	—	—	(3,008)	—
Revaluation surplus realised	—	—	—	(627)	—	—	—	—	627	—
Realisation of deferred tax on land use rights	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(2)	2	—
Impairment losses on revalued assets	—	—	—	(439)	—	—	—	—	—	(439)
Shareholders' funds at 30 June 2004	**86,702**	**(18,960)**	**18,072**	**29,275**	**7,834**	**7,834**	**7,000**	**250**	**40,402**	**178,409**

Notes:

(a) According to the Company's Articles of Association, the Company is required to transfer 10% of its net profit, as determined in accordance with the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, to statutory surplus reserve until the reserve balance reaches 50% of the registered capital. The transfer to this reserve must be made before distribution of a dividend to shareholders.

Statutory surplus reserve can be used to make good previous years' losses, if any, and may be converted into share capital by the issue of new shares to shareholders in proportion to their existing shareholdings or by increasing the par value of the shares currently held by them, provided that the balance after such issue is not less than 25% of the registered capital. During the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, the Company transferred RMB 1,504 million (2003: RMB 977 million), being 10% of the current period's net profit determined in accordance with the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, to this reserve.

(b) According to the Company's Articles of Association, the Company is required to transfer 5% to 10% of its net profit, as determined in accordance with the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, to the statutory public welfare fund. This fund can only be utilised on capital items for the collective benefits of the Company's employees such as the construction of dormitories, canteen and other staff welfare facilities. This fund is non-distributable other than on liquidation. The transfer to this fund must be made before distribution of a dividend to shareholders.

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting on 18 May 2004, the Board of Directors was authorised to determine the amount of the transfer for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004. The directors authorised the transfer of RMB 1,504 million (2003: RMB 977 million), being 10% of the current period's net profit determined in accordance with the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, to this fund.

(c) The usage of the discretionary surplus reserve is similar to that of statutory surplus reserve.

(d) According to the Company's Articles of Association, the amount of retained profits available for distribution to shareholders of the Company is the lower of the amount determined in accordance with the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations and the amount determined in accordance with IFRS. At 30 June 2004, the amount of retained profits available for distribution was RMB 26,804 million, being the amount determined in accordance with the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations. Interim dividend of RMB 3,468 million (2003: RMB 2,601 million) proposed after the balance sheet date has not been recognised as a liability at the balance sheet date.

(e) The capital reserve represents (i) the difference between the total amount of the par value of shares issued and the amount of the net assets transferred from Sinopec Group Company in connection with the Reorganisation and (ii) the difference between the considerations paid over the amount of the net assets acquired from Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical.

(f) The application of the share premium account is governed by Sections 178 and 179 of the PRC Company Law.

The notes on pages 82 to 103 form part of these interim financial statements.

1 PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES, ORGANISATION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Principal activities

China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation (the "Company") is an energy and chemical company that, through its subsidiaries (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Group"), engages in fully integrated oil and gas and chemical operations in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"). Oil and gas operations consist of exploring for, developing and producing crude oil and natural gas; transporting crude oil, natural gas and products by pipelines; refining crude oil into finished petroleum products; and marketing crude oil, natural gas and refined petroleum products. Chemical operations include the manufacture and marketing of a wide range of chemicals for industrial uses.

Organisation

The Company was established in the PRC on 25 February 2000 as a joint stock limited company as part of the reorganisation (the "Reorganisation") of China Petrochemical Corporation ("Sinopec Group Company"), the ultimate holding company of the Group and a ministry-level enterprise under the direct supervision of the State Council of the PRC. Prior to the incorporation of the Company, the oil and gas and chemical operations of the Group were carried on by oil administration bureaux, petrochemical and refining production enterprises and sales and marketing companies of Sinopec Group Company.

As part of the Reorganisation, certain of Sinopec Group Company's core oil and gas and chemical operations and businesses together with the related assets and liabilities that were to be transferred to the Company were segregated such that the operations and businesses were separately managed beginning 31 December 1999. On 25 February 2000, in consideration for Sinopec Group Company transferring such oil and gas and chemical operations and businesses and the related assets and liabilities to the Company, the Company issued 68.8 billion domestic state-owned ordinary shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each to Sinopec Group Company. The shares issued to Sinopec Group Company on 25 February 2000 represented the entire registered and issued share capital of the Company at that date. The oil and gas and chemical operations and businesses transferred to the Company related to (i) the exploration, development and production of crude oil and natural gas, (ii) the refining, transportation, storage and marketing of crude oil and petroleum products, and (iii) the production and sale of chemicals (collectively the "Predecessor Operations").

Basis of presentation

Pursuant to the resolution passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 24 August 2001, the Company acquired the entire equity interest of Sinopec National Star Petroleum Company ("Sinopec National Star") from Sinopec Group Company for a consideration of RMB 6.45 billion (hereinafter referred to as the "Acquisition of Sinopec National Star").

Pursuant to the resolution passed at the Directors' meeting on 28 October 2003, the Group acquired the equity interest of Sinopec Group Maoming Petrochemical Company ("Sinopec Maoming") from Sinopec Group Company, for a consideration of RMB 3.3 billion (hereinafter referred to as the "Acquisition of Ethylene Assets").

Pursuant to the resolution passed at the Directors' meeting on 29 December 2003, the Group acquired the equity interest of Xi'an Petrochemical Main Factory ("Xi'an Petrochemical") and Tahe Oilfield Petrochemical Factory ("Tahe Petrochemical") from Sinopec Group Company, for considerations of RMB 221 million and RMB 135 million, respectively (hereinafter referred to as the "Acquisition of Refining Assets").

As the Group, Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical are under the common control of Sinopec Group Company, the Acquisition of Sinopec National Star, the Acquisition of Ethylene Assets and the Acquisition of Refining Assets are considered as "combination of entities under common control" which are accounted in a manner similar to a pooling-of-interests ("as-if pooling-of-interests accounting"). Accordingly, the assets and liabilities acquired from Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical have been accounted for at historical cost and the financial statements of the Group for periods prior to the combination have been restated to include the results of operations of Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical on a combined basis. In connection with these acquisitions, certain assets, primarily property, plant and equipment and construction in progress, were retained by Sinopec Group Company. The assets retained by Sinopec Group Company were reflected as a distribution in the shareholders' funds. The considerations for these acquisitions were treated as an equity transaction.

The results of operations previously reported by the Group for the six-month period ended 30 June 2003 have been restated to include the results of Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical (collectively the "Acquired Group") as set out below.

	The Group (as previously reported) RMB millions	The Acquired Group RMB millions	Combined RMB millions
Results of operation:			
Operating revenue	202,474	2,861	205,335
Profit attributable to shareholders	10,701	26	10,727
Basic earnings per share (RMB)	0.12	—	0.12

For the period presented, all significant transactions between the Group and the Acquired Group have been eliminated.

1 PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES, ORGANISATION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION *(Continued)*

The accompanying interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Board. IFRS includes International Accounting Standards ("IAS") and related interpretations. These interim financial statements also comply with the applicable disclosure provisions of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

The accompanying interim financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis as modified by the revaluation of certain property, plant and equipment (Note 14). The accounting policies described in Note 2 have been consistently applied by the Group.

The preparation of the interim financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the interim financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated interim financial statements include the interim financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries. Subsidiaries are those entities controlled by the Company. Control exists when the Company has the power, directly or indirectly, to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

The results of subsidiaries are included in the consolidated income statement from the date that control effectively commences until the date that control effectively ceases, and the share attributable to minority interests is deducted from or added to profit from ordinary activities after taxation. All significant inter-company balances and transactions and any unrealised gains arising from inter-company transactions are eliminated on consolidation.

The particulars of the Group's principal subsidiaries are set out in Note 31.

(b) Translation of foreign currencies

The functional and reporting currency of the Group is Renminbi. Foreign currency transactions during the period are translated into Renminbi at the applicable rates of exchange quoted by the People's Bank of China ("PBOC rates") prevailing on the transaction dates. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated into Renminbi at the PBOC rates at the balance sheet date.

Exchange differences, other than those capitalised as construction in progress, are recognised as income or expense in the income statement.

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of time deposits with financial institutions with an initial term of less than three months when purchased. Cash equivalents are stated at cost, which approximates fair value.

(d) Trade accounts receivable

Trade accounts receivable are stated at cost less allowance for doubtful accounts. An allowance for doubtful accounts is provided based upon the evaluation of the recoverability of these accounts at the balance sheet date.

(e) Inventories

Inventories, other than spare parts and consumables, are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost includes the cost of purchase computed using the weighted average method and, in the case of work in progress and finished goods, direct labour and an appropriate proportion of production overheads. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Spare parts and consumables are stated at cost less any provision for obsolescence.

2 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(f) Property, plant and equipment

An item of property, plant and equipment is initially recorded at cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The cost of an asset comprises its purchase price and any directly attributable costs of bringing the asset to working condition and location for its intended use. Subsequent to the revaluation (Note 14), which was based on depreciated replacement costs, property, plant and equipment are carried at revalued amount, being the fair value at the date of the revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Revaluations are performed periodically to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the balance sheet date. Expenditure incurred after the asset has been put into operation is capitalised only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the item of property, plant and equipment. All other expenditure is charged to the income statement in the period in which it is incurred.

Gains or losses arising from the retirement or disposal of property, plant and equipment, other than oil and gas properties, are determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and are recognised as income or expense in the income statement on the date of retirement or disposal. On disposal of a revalued asset, the related revaluation surplus is transferred from the revaluation reserve to retained earnings.

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost/revalued amount of each asset, other than oil and gas properties, over its estimated useful life on a straight-line basis, after taking into account its estimated residual value, as follows:

Buildings	15 to 45 years
Plant, machinery, equipment, oil depots and others	4 to 18 years
Service stations	25 years

(g) Oil and gas properties

The Group uses the successful efforts method of accounting for its oil and gas producing activities. Under this method, costs of development wells and the related support equipment are capitalised. The cost of exploratory wells is initially capitalised as construction in progress pending determination of whether the well has found proved reserves. The impairment of exploratory well costs occurs upon the determination that the well has not found proved reserves. Exploratory wells that find oil and gas reserves in any area requiring major capital expenditure are expensed unless the well has found a sufficient quantity of reserves to justify its completion as a producing well if the required capital expenditure is made, and drilling of the additional exploratory wells is under way or firmly planned for the near future. However, in the absence of a determination of the discovery of proved reserves, exploratory well costs are not carried as an asset for more than one year following completion of drilling. If, after one year has passed, a determination of the discovery of proved reserves cannot be made, the exploratory well costs are impaired and charged to expense. All other exploration costs, including geological and geophysical costs, other dry hole costs and annual lease rentals, are expensed as incurred. Capitalised costs relating to proved properties are amortised at the field level on a unit-of-production method. The amortisation rates are determined based on oil and gas reserves estimated to be recoverable from existing facilities over the shorter of the economic lives of crude oil and natural gas reservoirs and the terms of the relevant production licenses.

Gains and losses on the disposal of proved oil and gas properties are not recognised unless the disposal encompasses an entire property. The proceeds on such disposals are credited to the carrying amounts of oil and gas properties.

(h) Lease prepayments

Lease prepayments represent land use rights paid to the PRC's land bureau. Land use rights are carried at cost and amortised on a straight-line basis over the respective periods of the rights.

(i) Construction in progress

Construction in progress represents buildings, oil and gas properties, various plant and equipment under construction and pending installation, and is stated at cost less impairment losses. Cost comprises direct costs of construction as well as interest charges, and foreign exchange differences on related borrowed funds to the extent that they are regarded as an adjustment to interest charges, during the periods of construction.

Construction in progress is transferred to property, plant and equipment when the asset is substantially ready for its intended use.

No depreciation is provided in respect of construction in progress.

(j) Investments

Investments in unlisted equity securities are stated at cost less provision for impairment losses. A provision is made where, in the opinion of management, the carrying amount of the investments exceeds its recoverable amount.

(k) Interests in associates

An associate is a company, not being a subsidiary, in which the Group exercises significant influence over its management. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee but is not control over those policies.

Investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method from the date that significant influence commences until the date that significant influence ceases.

2 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(l) Jointly controlled entities

A jointly controlled entity is an entity over which the Group can exercise joint control with other venturers. Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control over an economic activity.

The Group's interests in jointly controlled entities are accounted for on a proportionate consolidation basis. Under this method, the Group combines its proportionate share of the jointly controlled entity's turnover and expenses with each major turnover and expenses caption of the Group's income statement and combines its proportionate share of the jointly controlled entity's assets and liabilities with each major asset and liability caption of the Group's balance sheet.

(m)Provisions

A provision is recognised in the balance sheet when the Group has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation.

(n) Revenue recognition

Revenues associated with the sale of crude oil, natural gas, petroleum and chemical products and ancillary materials are recorded when the customer accepts the goods and the significant risks and rewards of ownership and title have been transferred to the buyer. Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised in the income statement upon performance of the services. No revenue is recognised if there are significant uncertainties regarding recovery of the consideration due, the possible return of goods, or when the amount of revenue and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction cannot be measured reliably.

Interest income is recognised on a time apportioned basis that takes into account the effective yield on the asset.

(o) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are expensed in the income statement in the period in which they are incurred, except to the extent that they are capitalised as being attributable to the construction of an asset which necessarily takes a period of time to get ready for its intended use.

(p) Repairs and maintenance expenditure

Repairs and maintenance expenditure, including cost of major overhaul, is expensed as incurred.

(q) Environmental expenditures

Environmental expenditures that relate to current ongoing operations or to conditions caused by past operations are expensed as incurred.

Liabilities related to future remediation costs are recorded when environmental assessments and/or cleanups are probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. As facts concerning environmental contingencies become known to the Group, the Group reassesses its position both with respect to accrued liabilities and other potential exposures.

(r) Research and development costs

Research and development costs are recognised as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

(s) Operating leases

Operating lease payments are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the respective leases.

(t) Retirement benefits

The contributions payable under the Group's retirement plans are charged to the income statement as incurred and according to the contribution determined by the plans. Further information is set out in Note 29.

(u) Impairment loss

The carrying amounts of long-lived assets are reviewed periodically in order to assess whether the recoverable amounts have declined below the carrying amounts. These assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their recorded carrying amounts may not be recoverable. When such a decline has occurred, the carrying amount is reduced to the recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the greater of the net selling price and the value in use. In determining the value in use, expected future cash flows generated by the asset are discounted to their present value. The amount of the reduction is recognised as an expense in the income statement unless the asset is carried at revalued amount for which an impairment loss is recognised directly against any related revaluation reserve to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount held in the revaluation reserve for that same asset.

The Group assesses at each balance sheet date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised for an asset in prior years may no longer exist. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a favourable change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. A subsequent increase in the recoverable amount of an asset, when the circumstances and events that led to the write-down or write-off cease to exist, is recognised as income unless the asset is carried at revalued amount. Reversal of an impairment loss on a revalued asset is credited to the revaluation reserve except for impairment loss which was previously recognised as an expense in the income statement; a reversal of such impairment loss is recognised as income. The reversal is reduced by the amount that would have been recognised as depreciation had the write-down or write-off not occurred.

2 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(v) Income tax

Income tax comprises current and deferred tax. Current tax is calculated on taxable income by applying the applicable tax rates. Deferred tax is provided using the balance sheet liability method on all temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. Deferred tax is calculated on the basis of the enacted tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled.

The tax value of losses expected to be available for utilisation against future taxable income is set off against the deferred tax liability within the same legal tax unit and jurisdiction to the extent appropriate, and is not available for set-off against the taxable profit of another legal tax unit. Deferred tax assets are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised.

(w) Dividends

Dividends are recognised as a liability in the period in which they are declared.

(x) Segmental reporting

A business segment is a distinguishable component of the Group that is engaged in providing products or services and is subject to risks and rewards that are different from those of other segments.

3 TURNOVER

Turnover represents revenue from the sales of crude oil, natural gas, petroleum and chemical products, net of value-added tax.

4 OTHER OPERATING REVENUES

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Sale of materials, service and others	9,532	7,610
Rental income	201	111
	9,733	**7,721**

5 SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The following items are included in selling, general and administrative expenses:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Research and development costs	1,024	884
Operating lease charges	1,972	1,620

6 PERSONNEL EXPENSES

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Wages and salaries	6,112	6,191
Staff welfare	809	799
Contributions to retirement schemes	959	896
Social security contributions	466	452
	8,346	**8,338**

7 EMPLOYEE REDUCTION EXPENSES

In accordance with the Group's voluntary employee reduction plan, the Group recorded employee reduction expenses of RMB 412 million (2003: RMB nil) during the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 in respect of the voluntary termination of approximately 8,000 employees.

8 TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME TAX

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Consumption tax	5,671	4,529
City construction tax	1,214	925
Education surcharge	591	437
Resources tax	221	221
Business tax	79	78
	7,776	**6,190**

Consumption tax is levied on producers of gasoline and diesel based on a tariff rate applied to the volume of sales. City construction tax is levied on an entity based on its total amount of value-added tax, consumption tax and business tax.

9 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES, NET

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Fines, penalties and compensations	31	18
Donations	49	56
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment, net	399	259
Impairment losses on long-lived assets *(Note)*	2,324	269
Others	183	112
	2,986	**714**

Note:

In accordance with IAS 36, the carrying amounts of impaired oil and gas properties and long-lived assets are written down to a recoverable value.

Impairment losses recognised on long-lived assets of the chemicals segment of RMB 2,140 million (2003: RMB nil) for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 primarily relate to certain chemical production facilities that are held for use. The carrying values of these facilities were written down to their recoverable values which were based on the asset held for use model using the present value of estimated future cash flows. An amount of RMB 1,701 million was charged to the income statement with the remaining amount of RMB 439 million recognised directly against the related revaluation reserve in respect of those assets that were carried at revalued amount. The primary factor resulting in the impairment losses of the chemicals segment was due to higher operating and production costs caused by the increase in the prices of raw materials during the period.

Impairment losses recognised on long-lived assets of the marketing and distribution segment of RMB 623 million (2003: RMB nil) for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 primarily relate to certain service stations that were closed during the period. In measuring the amounts of impairment charges, the carrying amounts of these assets were compared to the present value of the expected future cash flows of the assets, as well as information about sales and purchases of similar properties in the same geographic area.

The factors resulting in the exploration and production ("E&P") segment impairment losses of RMB 269 million for the six-month period ended 30 June 2003 were unsuccessful development drilling and high operating and development costs for certain oil fields. The carrying values of these E&P properties were written down to a recoverable value which was determined based on the present values of the expected future cash flows of the assets. The oil and gas pricing was a factor used in the determination of the present values of the expected future cash flows of the assets and had an impact on the recognition of the asset impairment.

10 INTEREST EXPENSE

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Interest expense incurred	2,379	2,557
Less: Interest expense capitalised*	(393)	(363)
Interest expense	**1,986**	**2,194**
* Interest rates per annum at which borrowing costs were capitalised for construction in progress	3.1% to 5.8%	3.1% to 6.1%

11 TAXATION

Taxation in the consolidated income statement represents:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Provision for PRC income tax		
– the Group	8,416	5,120
– associates	152	68
Deferred taxation	(855)	76
	7,713	**5,264**

A reconciliation of the expected tax with the actual tax expense is as follows:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Profit from ordinary activities before taxation	26,017	16,765
Expected PRC income tax expense at a statutory tax rate of 33%	8,586	5,532
Non-deductible expenses	192	134
Non-taxable income	(232)	(107)
Differential tax rate on subsidiaries' income *(Note)*	(1,193)	(361)
Tax losses not recognised for deferred tax	360	66
	7,713	**5,264**

Note:

The provision for PRC current income tax is based on a statutory rate of 33% of the assessable income of the Group as determined in accordance with the relevant income tax rules and regulations of the PRC, except for certain subsidiaries of the Company, which are taxed at a preferential rate of 15%.

12 BASIC EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic earnings per share for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 is based on the profit attributable to shareholders of RMB 16,151 million (2003: RMB 10,727 million) and the weighted average number of shares of 86,702,439,000 (2003: 86,702,439,000) during the period.

The amount of diluted earnings per share is not presented as there were no dilutive potential ordinary shares in existence during the periods presented.

13 DIVIDENDS

Dividends attributable for the period represent:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Interim dividends declared after the balance sheet date of RMB 0.04 per share (2003: RMB 0.03 per share)	3,468	2,601

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting on 18 May 2004, the Board of Directors was authorised to declare the interim dividends for the year ending 31 December 2004. According to the resolution passed at the Directors' meeting on 27 August 2004, an interim dividend of RMB 0.04 (2003: RMB 0.03) per share totalling RMB 3,468 million (2003: RMB 2,601 million) was declared. Interim dividend of RMB 3,468 million (2003: RMB 2,601 million) proposed after the balance sheet date has not been recognised as a liability at the balance sheet date.

Dividends attributable to the previous financial year, approved and paid during the period represent:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Final dividends in respect of the previous financial year, approved and paid during the period of RMB 0.06 per share (2003: RMB 0.06 per share)	5,202	5,202

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting on 18 May 2004, a final dividend of RMB 0.06 per share totalling RMB 5,202 million in respect of the year ended 31 December 2003 was declared and paid on 28 June 2004.

Pursuant to the shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting on 10 June 2003, a final dividend of RMB 0.06 per share totalling RMB 5,202 million in respect of the year ended 31 December 2002 was declared and paid on 30 June 2003.

14 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

By segment:

	Exploration and production RMB millions	Refining RMB millions	Marketing and distribution RMB millions	Chemicals RMB millions	Corporate and others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Cost/valuation:						
Balance at 1 January 2004	177,962	104,295	54,482	133,475	2,508	472,722
Additions	442	200	803	99	9	1,553
Transferred from construction in progress	3,706	4,000	3,443	677	123	11,949
Disposals	(641)	(1,667)	(1,282)	(1,102)	(6)	(4,698)
Balance at 30 June 2004	**181,469**	**106,828**	**57,446**	**133,149**	**2,634**	**481,526**
Accumulated depreciation:						
Balance at 1 January 2004	84,604	50,439	10,014	70,344	573	215,974
Depreciation charge for the period	5,357	3,661	1,276	4,070	90	14,454
Impairment losses for the period	—	—	623	2,140	—	2,763
Written back on disposals	(502)	(1,360)	(728)	(775)	(4)	(3,369)
Balance at 30 June 2004	**89,459**	**52,740**	**11,185**	**75,779**	**659**	**229,822**
Net book value:						
At 30 June 2004	**92,010**	**54,088**	**46,261**	**57,370**	**1,975**	**251,704**
At 31 December 2003	**93,358**	**53,856**	**44,468**	**63,131**	**1,935**	**256,748**

By asset class:

	Buildings RMB millions	Oil and gas properties RMB millions	Oil depots, storage tanks and service stations RMB millions	Plant, machinery, equipment and others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Cost/valuation:					
Balance at 1 January 2004	39,392	158,634	46,337	228,359	472,722
Additions	85	1	623	844	1,553
Transferred from construction in progress	144	3,667	5,390	2,748	11,949
Disposals	(618)	(239)	(985)	(2,856)	(4,698)
Balance at 30 June 2004	**39,003**	**162,063**	**51,365**	**229,095**	**481,526**
Accumulated depreciation:					
Balance at 1 January 2004	16,877	77,582	8,785	112,730	215,974
Depreciation charge for the period	779	4,575	1,061	8,039	14,454
Impairment losses for the period	325	—	623	1,815	2,763
Written back on disposals	(321)	(205)	(491)	(2,352)	(3,369)
Balance at 30 June 2004	**17,660**	**81,952**	**9,978**	**120,232**	**229,822**
Net book value:					
At 30 June 2004	**21,343**	**80,111**	**41,387**	**108,863**	**251,704**
At 31 December 2003	**22,515**	**81,052**	**37,552**	**115,629**	**256,748**

As required by the relevant PRC regulations with respect to the Reorganisation, the property, plant and equipment of the Group at 30 September 1999 were valued for each asset class by China United Assets Appraisal Corporation, Beijing Zhong Zheng Appraisal Company, CIECC Assets Appraisal Corporation and Zhong Fa International Properties Valuation Corporation, independent valuers registered in the PRC, on a depreciated replacement cost basis. The value of property, plant and equipment was determined at RMB 159,788 million. The surplus on revaluation of RMB 32,320 million, net of amounts allocated to minority interests, was incorporated in the financial statements of the Group at 31 December 1999.

In connection with the Acquisition of Sinopec National Star, the property, plant and equipment of Sinopec National Star were revalued at 31 December 2000, by a firm of independent valuers and approved by the Ministry of Finance. The value of property, plant and equipment of Sinopec National Star pursuant to the valuation, based on a depreciated replacement cost basis, was determined at RMB 4,373 million, resulting in a surplus on revaluation of RMB 1,136 million, net of amounts allocated to minority interest.

In connection with the Acquisition of Ethylene Assets, the property, plant and equipment of Sinopec Maoming were revalued at 30 June 2003, by a firm of independent valuers in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations. The value of property, plant and equipment of Sinopec Maoming pursuant to the valuation, based on a depreciated replacement cost basis, was determined at RMB 5,100 million, which approximated the net historical carrying value of the assets.

In connection with the Acquisition of Refining Assets, the property, plant and equipment of the Refining Assets were revalued at 31 October 2003, by a firm of independent valuers in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations. The value of property, plant and equipment of the Refining Assets pursuant to the valuation, based on a depreciated replacement cost basis, was determined at RMB 461 million, which approximated the net historical carrying value of the assets.

15 CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS

	Exploration and production RMB millions	Refining RMB millions	Marketing and distribution RMB millions	Chemicals RMB millions	Corporate and others RMB millions	Total RMB millions
Balance at 1 January 2004	5,535	8,459	7,941	6,637	401	28,973
Additions	10,394	3,904	7,808	2,840	85	25,031
Additions of jointly controlled entities	702	—	—	2,666	—	3,368
Dry hole costs written off	(764)	—	—	—	—	(764)
Transferred to property, plant and equipment	(3,706)	(4,000)	(3,443)	(677)	(123)	(11,949)
Balance at 30 June 2004	**12,161**	**8,363**	**12,306**	**11,466**	**363**	**44,659**

The Group's proportionate share of the jointly controlled entities' construction in progress at 30 June 2004 in the E&P and the chemicals segments were RMB 7,180 million (2003: RMB 3,812 million) and RMB 5,659 million (2003: RMB 2,993 million), respectively.

16 INVESTMENTS

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Unlisted investments, at cost	3,016	2,853
Less: Provision for impairment losses	(305)	(271)
	2,711	**2,582**

Unlisted investments represent the Group's interests in PRC domiciled enterprises which are mainly engaged in non-oil and gas activities and operations. The Group has no significant investments in marketable securities.

17 INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Share of net assets	8,849	8,081

The Group's investments in associates are with companies primarily engaged in the oil and gas and chemical operations in the PRC. These investments are individually and in the aggregate not material to the Group's financial condition or results of operations for all periods presented. The principal investments in associates, all of which are incorporated in the PRC, are as follows:

Name of company	Form of business structure	Particulars of issued and paid up capital	Percentage of equity held by the Company %	Percentage of equity held by the Company's subsidiaries %	Principal activities
Shengli Oil Field Dynamic Company Limited ("Dynamic")*	Incorporated	364,027,608 ordinary shares of RMB 1.00 each	26.33	—	Exploration of crude oil and distribution of petrochemical products
Sinopec Shandong Taishan Petroleum Company Limited ("Taishan")*	Incorporated	480,793,320 ordinary shares of RMB 1.00 each	38.68	—	Trading of petroleum products and decoration of service gas stations
Sinopec Finance Company Limited	Incorporated	Registered capital RMB 2,500,000,000	32.00	8.22	Provision of non-banking financial services
Shanghai Petroleum National Gas Corporation	Incorporated	Registered capital RMB 900,000,000	30.00	—	Exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas
BASF-YPC Company Limited	Incorporated	Registered capital RMB 8,793,000,000	30.00	10.00	Manufacturing and distribution of petrochemical products
Shanghai Chemical Industry Park Development Company Limited	Incorporated	Registered capital RMB 2,372,439,000	—	38.26	Planning, development and operation of the Chemical Industry Park in Shanghai, the PRC
China Shipping & Sinopec Suppliers Company Limited	Incorporated	Registered capital RMB 876,660,000	—	50.00	Transportation of petroleum products

* Shares of Dynamic and Taishan are listed on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange. Shares held by the Company are domestic state-owned A shares which are not admitted for trading in any stock exchange in the PRC. The market value of the Company's investments in Dynamic and Taishan based on the quoted market price are RMB 693 million (2003: RMB 783 million) and RMB 2,085 million (2003: RMB 1,971 million) respectively at 30 June 2004.

18 INTERESTS IN JOINTLY CONTROLLED ENTITIES

The Group's principal interests in jointly controlled entities are as follows:

Name of company	Form of business structure	Particulars of issued and paid up capital	Percentage of equity held by the Company %	Percentage of equity held by the Company's subsidiaries %	Principal activities
Shanghai Secco Petrochemical Company Limited	Incorporated	Registered capital USD 901,440,964	30.00	20.00	Manufacturing and distribution of petrochemical products
Yueyang Sinopec and Shell Coal Gasification Company Limited	Incorporated	Registered capital USD 45,588,700	50.00	—	Manufacturing and distribution of industrial gas
Block A Oil Field in the Western Area Chengda in Bohai Bay	Unincorporated	—	—	43.00	Exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas

The Group's proportionate share of the jointly controlled entities' current and non-current assets, current and non-current liabilities, and turnover and expenses is not material to the Group's financial condition or results of operations for all periods presented.

19 TRADE ACCOUNTS AND BILLS RECEIVABLES

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Third parties	13,418	9,344
Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	3,600	3,044
Associates	42	81
	17,060	**12,469**
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(3,439)	(3,185)
	13,621	**9,284**
Bills receivable	8,009	5,953
	21,630	**15,237**

The ageing analysis of trade accounts and bills receivables (net of allowance for doubtful accounts) are as follows:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Within one year	20,646	14,118
Between one and two years	310	461
Between two and three years	209	251
Over three years	465	407
	21,630	**15,237**

Sales are generally on a cash term. Credit is generally only available for major customers with well-established trading records. Amounts due from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries are repayable under the same terms.

20 INVENTORIES

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Crude oil and other raw materials	31,929	23,541
Work in progress	8,045	6,805
Finished goods	16,729	12,268
Spare parts and consumables	4,591	4,017
	61,294	**46,631**
Less: Allowance for diminution in value of inventories	(663)	(519)
	60,631	**46,112**

At 30 June 2004, the carrying amount of the Group's inventories carried at net realisable value amounted to RMB 1,434 million (2003: RMB 1,551 million).

The cost of inventories recognised as an expense in the consolidated income statement amounted to RMB 211,548 million for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 (2003: RMB 157,853 million).

21 PREPAID EXPENSES AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Advances to third parties	2,002	2,726
Amounts due from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	8,206	9,357
Other receivables	1,774	1,679
Purchase deposits	4,089	2,451
Prepayments in connection with construction work and equipment purchases	2,057	2,675
Prepaid value-added tax and customs duty	2,391	1,355
Amounts due from associates	294	331
	20,813	**20,574**

22 DEFERRED TAX ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are attributable to the items detailed in the table below:

	Assets		Liabilities		Net balance	
	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Current						
Provisions, primarily for receivables and inventories	2,247	1,446	—	—	2,247	1,446
Non-current						
Property, plant and equipment	845	272	(1,306)	(981)	(461)	(709)
Accelerated depreciation	—	—	(3,800)	(3,618)	(3,800)	(3,618)
Land use rights	371	373	—	—	371	373
Others	43	53	—	—	43	53
Deferred tax assets/(liabilities)	**3,506**	**2,144**	**(5,106)**	**(4,599)**	**(1,600)**	**(2,455)**

A valuation allowance on deferred tax assets is recorded if it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realised through the recovery of taxes previously paid and/or future taxable income. The allowance is subject to ongoing adjustments based on changes in circumstances that affect the Group's assessment of the realisability of the deferred tax assets. The Group has reviewed its deferred tax assets at the balance sheet date. Based on this review, valuation allowances of RMB 360 million (2003: RMB 66 million) were provided for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004. The Group determined the valuation allowance based on management's assessment of the probability that taxable profit will be available over the period which the deferred tax assets can be realised or utilised. In assessing the probability, both positive and negative evidence was considered, including whether it is more likely than not that the operations will have future taxable profits over the periods which the deferred tax assets are deductible or utilised and whether the tax losses result from identifiable causes which are unlikely to recur. Based on this assessment, a valuation allowance was provided to reduce the deferred tax asset to the amount that is more likely than not to be realised.

23 SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEBTS AND LOANS FROM SINOPEC GROUP COMPANY AND FELLOW SUBSIDIARIES

Short-term debts represent:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Third parties' debts		
Short-term bank loans	22,298	16,979
Short-term other loans	—	29
	22,298	**17,008**
Current portion of long-term bank loans	7,279	6,523
Current portion of long-term other loans	110	127
Current portion of convertible bonds	1,500	1,500
	8,889	**8,150**
	31,187	**25,158**
Loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries		
Short-term loans	4,147	3,896
Current portion of long-term loans	2,006	25
	6,153	**3,921**
	37,340	**29,079**

The Group's weighted average interest rate on short-term loans was 3.3% at 30 June 2004 (2003: 3.2%).

23 SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEBTS AND LOANS FROM SINOPEC GROUP COMPANY AND FELLOW SUBSIDIARIES *(Continued)*

Long-term debts comprise:

	Interest rate and final maturity	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Third parties' debts			
Long-term bank loans			
Renminbi denominated	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 6.2% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2013	42,268	38,863
Japanese Yen denominated	Interest rates ranging from 2.6% to 5.8% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2024	2,586	2,909
US Dollar denominated	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 7.4% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2031	4,793	4,340
Hong Kong Dollar denominated	Floating rate at Hong Kong Prime Rate plus 0.3% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2006	6	7
		49,653	**46,119**
Long-term other loans			
Renminbi denominated	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 5.0% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2008	226	359
US Dollar denominated	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 4.0% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2015	124	151
Euro denominated	Interest rates ranging from 1.8% to 8.1% per annum at 31 December 2003 with maturities through 2025. Paid off as at 30 June 2004	—	21
		350	**531**
Convertible bonds			
Renminbi denominated	Interest rate at 2.5% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturity in July 2004 (a)	**1,500**	**1,500**
Corporate bonds			
Renminbi denominated	Fixed interest rate at 4.6% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturity in February 2014 (b)	**3,500**	**—**
		55,003	**48,150**
Long-term bank loans of jointly controlled entities			
Renminbi denominated	Floating rate at 90% of PBOC's base lending rate per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2021	1,350	705
US Dollar denominated	Floating rate at London Interbank Offer Rate plus 0.7% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2013	1,614	745
		2,964	**1,450**
Total third parties' long-term debts		**57,967**	**49,600**
Less: Current portion		(8,889)	(8,150)
		49,078	**41,450**
Long-term loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries			
Renminbi denominated	Interest free with maturity in 2020	35,561	35,561
Renminbi denominated	Interest rates ranging from interest free to 5.2% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2009	2,896	2,223
US Dollar denominated	Floating rate at London Interbank Offer Rate plus 1.4% per annum at 30 June 2004 with maturities through 2005	9	12
		38,466	**37,796**
Less: Current portion		(2,006)	(25)
		36,460	**37,771**
		85,538	**79,221**

(a) Convertible bonds amounting to RMB 1,500 million were issued by a subsidiary on 28 July 1999. Pursuant to the subsidiary's shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting held on 23 March 2004, the subsidiary decided not to undergo an initial public offering. The bonds were repaid in July 2004.

(b) The Company issued ten years corporate bonds of RMB 3.5 billion to PRC citizens as well as PRC legal and non-legal persons on 24 February 2004 with a fixed interest rate at 4.6% per annum.

Third parties' loans of RMB 55 million of the Group at 30 June 2004 (2003: RMB 103 million) were secured by certain of the Group's property, plant and equipment. The net book value of property, plant and equipment of the Group pledged as security amounted to RMB 120 million at 30 June 2004 (2003: RMB 519 million).

The aggregate maturities of long-term debts and loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries are as follows:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Within one year	10,895	8,175
Between one and two years	9,635	13,145
Between two and five years	31,234	26,591
After five years	44,669	39,485
	96,433	**87,396**

24 TRADE ACCOUNTS AND BILLS PAYABLES

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Third parties	24,182	21,676
Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	1,973	984
Associates	122	44
	26,277	**22,704**
Bills payable	28,531	23,958
	54,808	**46,662**

Amounts due to Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries are repayable in accordance with normal commercial terms.

The ageing analysis of trade accounts and bills payables are as follows:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Due within 1 month or on demand	29,404	20,616
Due after 1 month but within 6 months	25,240	25,792
Due after 6 months	164	254
	54,808	**46,662**

25 ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER PAYABLES

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Amounts due to Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries	11,773	15,054
Accrued expenditure	15,652	12,204
Taxes other than income tax	3,278	4,122
Receipts in advance	4,629	5,369
Advances from third parties	907	979
Others	5,180	4,459
	41,419	**42,187**

26 SHARE CAPITAL

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Registered, issued and fully paid		
67,121,951,000 domestic state-owned A shares of RMB 1.00 each	67,122	67,122
16,780,488,000 overseas listed H shares of RMB 1.00 each	16,780	16,780
2,800,000,000 domestic listed A shares of RMB 1.00 each	2,800	2,800
	86,702	**86,702**

The Company was established on 25 February 2000 with a registered capital of 68.8 billion domestic state-owned shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each. Such shares were issued to Sinopec Group Company in consideration for the assets and liabilities of the Predecessor Operations transferred to the Company (Note 1).

Pursuant to the resolutions passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 25 July 2000 and approvals from relevant government authorities, the Company is authorised to increase its share capital to a maximum of 88.3 billion shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each and offer not more than 19.5 billion shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each to investors outside the PRC. Sinopec Group Company is authorised to offer not more than 3.5 billion shares of its shareholdings in the Company to investors outside the PRC. The shares sold by Sinopec Group Company to investors outside the PRC would be converted into H shares.

In October 2000, the Company issued 15,102,439,000 H shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each, representing 12,521,864,000 H shares and 25,805,750 American Depositary Shares ("ADSs", each representing 100 H shares), at prices of HK$ 1.59 per H share and US$ 20.645 per ADS, respectively, by way of a global initial public offering to Hong Kong and overseas investors. As part of the global initial public offering, 1,678,049,000 domestic state-owned ordinary shares of RMB 1.00 each owned by Sinopec Group Company were converted into H shares and sold to Hong Kong and overseas investors.

In July 2001, the Company issued 2.8 billion domestic listed A shares with a par value of RMB 1.00 each at RMB 4.22 by way of a public offering to natural persons and institutional investors in the PRC.

All A shares and H shares rank pari passu in all material aspects.

27 COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Operating lease commitments
The Group leases service stations and other equipment through non-cancellable operating leases. These operating leases do not contain provisions for contingent lease rentals. None of the rental agreements contain escalation provisions that may require higher future rental payments.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, the future minimum lease payments under operating leases are as follows:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Within one year	3,247	3,276
Between one and two years	3,217	3,229
Between two and three years	3,204	3,200
Between three and four years	3,186	3,175
Between four and five years	3,164	3,162
Thereafter	98,565	99,619
	114,583	**115,661**

Capital commitments
At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, capital commitments are as follows:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
The Group		
Authorised and contracted for	26,750	48,107
Authorised but not contracted for	41,835	47,716
	68,585	**95,823**
Jointly controlled entities		
Authorised and contracted for	4,966	6,923
Authorised but not contracted for	1,752	3,432
	6,718	**10,355**

These capital commitments relate to oil and gas exploration and development, refining and petrochemical production capacity expansion projects, the construction of service stations and oil depots, and capital contributions to the Group's investments and interests in associates.

Exploration and production licenses
Exploration licenses for exploration activities are registered with the Ministry of Land and Resources. The maximum term of the Group's exploration licenses is 7 years, and may be renewed twice within 30 days prior to expiration of the original term with each renewal being for a two-year term. The Group is obligated to make progressive annual minimum exploration investment relating to the exploration blocks in respect of which the license is issued. The Ministry of Land and Resources also issues production licenses to the Group on the basis of the reserve reports approved by relevant authorities. The maximum term of a full production license is 30 years unless a special dispensation was given by the State Council. The maximum term of production licenses issued to the Group is 55 years as a special dispensation was given to the Group by the State Council. The Group's production license is renewable upon application by the Group 30 days prior to expiration.

The Group is required to make payments of exploration license fees and production right usage fees to the Ministry of Land and Resources annually which are expensed as incurred. Payments incurred were approximately RMB 101 million for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 (2003: RMB 17 million).

Estimated future annual payments are as follows:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Within one year	78	87
Between one and two years	98	117
Between two and three years	82	87
Between three and four years	65	72
Between four and five years	73	65
Thereafter	313	361
Total payments	**709**	**789**

27 COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES *(Continued)*

Contingent liabilities

(a) The Company has been advised by its PRC lawyers that, except for liabilities constituting or arising out of or relating to the business assumed by the Company in the Reorganisation, no other liabilities were assumed by the Company, and the Company is not jointly and severally liable for other debts and obligations incurred by Sinopec Group Company prior to the Reorganisation.

(b) At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, guarantees given to banks in respect of banking facilities granted to the parties below were as follows:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Associates	**4,897**	4,955

The Company monitors the conditions that are subject to the guarantees to identify whether it is probable that a loss has occurred, and recognise any such losses under guarantees when those losses are estimable. At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, it is not probable that the Company will be required to make payments under the guarantees. Thus no liability has been accrued for a loss related to the Company's obligation under these guarantee arrangements.

Environmental contingencies

To date, the Group has not incurred any significant expenditures for environmental remediation, is currently not involved in any environmental remediation, and has not accrued any amounts for environmental remediation relating to its operations. Under existing legislation, management believes that there are no probable liabilities that will have a material adverse effect on the financial position or operating results of the Group. The PRC government, however, has moved, and may move further towards more rigorous enforcement of applicable laws, and towards the adoption of more stringent environmental standards. Environmental liabilities are subject to considerable uncertainties which affect the Group's ability to estimate the ultimate cost of remediation efforts. These uncertainties include i) the exact nature and extent of the contamination at various sites including, but not limited to refineries, oil fields, service stations, terminals and land development areas, whether operating, closed or sold, ii) the extent of required cleanup efforts, iii) varying costs of alternative remediation strategies, iv) changes in environmental remediation requirements, and v) the identification of new remediation sites. The amount of such future cost is indeterminable due to such factors as the unknown magnitude of possible contamination and the unknown timing and extent of the corrective actions that may be required. Accordingly, the outcome of environmental liabilities under proposed or future environmental legislation cannot reasonably be estimated at present, and could be material. The Group paid normal routine pollutant discharge fees of approximately RMB 113 million for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 (2003: RMB 85 million).

Legal contingencies

The Group is a defendant in certain lawsuits as well as the named party in other proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. While the outcomes of such contingencies, lawsuits or other proceedings cannot be determined at present, management believes that any resulting liabilities will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position or operating results of the Group.

28 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Companies are considered to be related if one company has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the other company or exercise significant influence over the other company in making financial and operating decisions. Companies are also considered to be related if they are subject to common control or common significant influence.

The Group is part of a larger group of companies under Sinopec Group Company and has significant transactions and relationships with the Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries. Because of these relationships, it is possible that the terms of these transactions are not the same as those that would result from transactions among wholly unrelated parties. Sinopec Group Company itself is owned by the PRC government. There are also many other enterprises directly or indirectly owned or controlled by the PRC government ("state-owned enterprises"). Under IFRS, state-owned enterprises, other than Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries, are not considered related parties. Related parties refer to enterprises over which Sinopec Group Company is able to exercise significant influence.

The Group conducts business with state-owned enterprises. Furthermore, the PRC government itself represents a significant customer of the Group both directly through its numerous authorities and indirectly through its numerous affiliates and other organisations. Sales of certain products to PRC government authorities and affiliates and other state-owned enterprises may be at regulated prices, which differ from market prices. The Group considers that these sales are activities in the ordinary course of business in the PRC and has not disclosed such sales as related party transactions.

28 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS *(Continued)*

The principal related party transactions with Sinopec Group Company, which were carried out in the ordinary course of business, are as follows:

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June **2004** **RMB millions**	 2003 RMB millions
Sales of goods	(i)	30,715	17,958
Purchases	(ii)	18,253	15,061
Transportation and storage	(iii)	979	661
Exploration and development services	(iv)	7,101	6,849
Production related services	(v)	3,831	3,838
Ancillary and social services	(vi)	906	918
Operating lease charges	(vii)	1,646	1,357
Agency commission income	(viii)	31	22
Intellectual property license fee paid	(ix)	5	5
Interest received	(x)	25	46
Interest paid	(xi)	349	318
Net deposits (withdrawn from)/placed with related parties	(xii)	(1,532)	960
Net loans obtained from related parties	(xiii)	921	2,923

The amounts set out in the table above in respect of the six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 and 2003 represent the relevant costs to the Group as determined by the corresponding contracts with the related parties.

At 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003, there were no guarantees given to banks by the Group in respect of banking facilities to Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries.

The directors of the Company are of the opinion that the above transactions with related parties were conducted in the ordinary course of business and on normal commercial terms or in accordance with the agreements governing such transactions.

Notes:

(i) Sales of goods represent the sale of crude oil, intermediate petrochemical products, petroleum products and ancillary materials.

(ii) Purchases represent the purchase of material and utility supplies directly related to the Group's operations such as the procurement of raw and ancillary materials and related services, supply of water, electricity and gas.

(iii) Transportation and storage represent the cost for the use of railway, road and marine transportation services, pipelines, loading, unloading and storage facilities.

(iv) Exploration and development services comprise direct costs incurred in the exploration and development such as geophysical, drilling, well testing and well measurement services.

(v) Production related services represent ancillary services rendered in relation to the Group's operations such as equipment repair and general maintenance, insurance premium, technical research, communications, fire fighting, security, product quality testing and analysis, information technology, design and engineering, construction which includes the construction of oilfield ground facilities, refineries and chemical plants, manufacture of replacement parts and machinery, installation, project management and environmental protection.

(vi) Ancillary and social services represent expenditures for social welfare and support services such as educational facilities, media communication services, sanitation, accommodation, canteens, property maintenance and management services.

(vii) Operating lease charges represent the rental paid to Sinopec Group Company for operating leases in respect of land, buildings and service stations.

(viii) Agency commission income represents commission earned for acting as an agent in respect of sales of products of certain entities owned by Sinopec Group Company.

(ix) Intellectual property license fee represents reimbursement paid to Sinopec Group Company for fees required to maintain the validity of certain licenses, trademarks, patents, technology and computer software.

(x) Interest received represents interest received from deposits placed with Sinopec Finance Company Limited, a finance company controlled by Sinopec Group Company. The applicable interest rate is determined in accordance with the prevailing saving deposit rate. The balance of deposits at 30 June 2004 was RMB 2,732 million (2003: RMB 4,264 million).

(xi) Interest paid represents interest charges on the loans and advances obtained from Sinopec Group Company and Sinopec Finance Company Limited.

(xii) Deposits were placed with/withdrawn from Sinopec Finance Company Limited.

(xiii) The Group obtained/repaid loans from/to Sinopec Group Company and Sinopec Finance Company Limited.

28 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS *(Continued)*

In connection with the Reorganisation, the Company and Sinopec Group Company entered into a number of agreements under which 1) Sinopec Group Company will provide goods and products and a range of ancillary, social and supporting services to the Group and 2) the Group will sell certain goods to Sinopec Group Company. The terms of these agreements are summarised as follows:

(a) The Company has entered into a non-exclusive Agreement for Mutual Provision of Products and Ancillary Services ("Mutual Provision Agreement") with Sinopec Group Company effective from 1 January 2000 in which Sinopec Group Company has agreed to provide the Group with certain ancillary production services, construction services, information advisory services, supply services and other services and products. While each of Sinopec Group Company and the Company is permitted to terminate the Mutual Provision Agreement upon at least six months notice, Sinopec Group Company has agreed not to terminate the agreement if the Group is unable to obtain comparable services from a third party. The pricing policy for these services and products provided by Sinopec Group Company to the Group is as follows:

- the government-prescribed price;
- where there is no government-prescribed price, the government-guidance price;
- where there is neither a government-prescribed price nor a government-guidance price, the market price; or
- where none of the above is applicable, the price to be agreed between the parties, which shall be based on a reasonable cost incurred in providing such services plus a profit margin not exceeding 6%.

(b) The Company has entered into a non-exclusive Agreement for Provision of Cultural and Educational, Health Care and Community Services with Sinopec Group Company effective from 1 January 2000 in which Sinopec Group Company has agreed to provide the Group with certain cultural, educational, health care and community services on the same pricing terms and termination conditions as agreed to in the above Mutual Provision Agreement.

(c) The Company has entered into a series of lease agreements with Sinopec Group Company to lease certain land and buildings at a rental of approximately RMB 2,447 million and RMB 482 million, respectively, per annum. The Company and Sinopec Group Company can renegotiate the rental amount every three years for land and every year for buildings, such amount not to exceed the market price as determined by an independent third party. The Group has the option to terminate these leases upon six months notice to Sinopec Group Company.

(d) The Company has entered into agreements with Sinopec Group Company effective from 1 January 2000 under which the Group has been granted the right to use certain trademarks, patents, technology and computer software developed by Sinopec Group Company. The Group will reimburse Sinopec Group Company for fees required to maintain the validity of these licenses.

(e) The Company has entered into agency agreements effective from 1 January 2000 with certain entities owned by Sinopec Group Company under which the Group acts as a sole agent in respect of the sale of all the products of these entities. In exchange for the Group's sales agency services, Sinopec Group Company has agreed to pay the Group a commission of between 0.2% and 1.0% of actual sales receipts depending on the products and to reimburse the Group for reasonable costs incurred in the capacity as its sales agent.

(f) The Company has entered into a service stations franchise agreement with Sinopec Group Company effective from 1 January 2000 under which its service stations and retail stores would exclusively sell the refined products supplied by the Group.

29 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PLAN

As stipulated by the regulations of the PRC, the Group participates in various defined contribution retirement plans organised by municipal and provincial governments for its staff. The Group is required to make contributions to the retirement plans at rates ranging from 17.0% to 30.0% of the salaries, bonuses and certain allowances of its staff. A member of the plan is entitled to a pension equal to a fixed proportion of the salary prevailing at his or her retirement date. The Group has no other material obligation for the payment of pension benefits associated with these plans beyond the annual contributions described above. The Group's contributions for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 were RMB 959 million (2003: RMB 896 million).

The Company implemented a plan of share appreciation rights for members of its senior management in order to provide further incentives to these employees. Under this plan, share appreciation rights were granted in units with each unit representing one H share. No shares will be issued under the share appreciation rights plan.

Under the plan, all share appreciation rights have an exercise period of five years. A recipient of share appreciation rights may not exercise the rights in the first 3 years after the date of grant. As at each of the third, fourth and fifth anniversary of the date of grant, the total number of share appreciation rights exercisable may not in aggregate exceed 30%, 70% and 100%, respectively, of the total share appreciation rights granted to such person.

During 2003, the Company granted 258.6 million share appreciation right units to eligible employees accordingly.

The exercise price of share appreciation rights initially granted is the initial public offering price of the Company's H shares. Upon exercise of the share appreciation rights, a recipient will receive, subject to any applicable withholding tax, a cash payment in RMB, translated from the Hong Kong dollar amount equal to the product of the number of share appreciation rights exercised and the difference between the exercise price and average market price of the Company's H shares for the exercise period based on the applicable exchange rate between RMB and Hong Kong dollar at the date of the exercise.

The Company recognises compensation expense of the share appreciation rights over the applicable vesting period. For the six-month period ended 30 June 2004, compensation expense recognised was RMB 144 million.

30 SEGMENTAL REPORTING

The Group has five operating segments as follows:

(i) Exploration and production, which explores and develops oil fields, produces crude oil and natural gas and sells such products to the refining segment of the Group and external customers.

(ii) Refining, which processes and purifies crude oil, which is sourced from the exploration and production segment of the Group and external suppliers, and manufactures and sells petroleum products to the chemicals and marketing and distribution segments of the Group and external customers.

(iii) Marketing and distribution, which owns and operates oil depots and service stations in the PRC, and distributes and sells refined petroleum products (mainly gasoline and diesel) in the PRC through wholesale and retail sales networks.

(iv) Chemicals, which manufactures and sells petrochemical products, derivative petrochemical products and other chemical products mainly to external customers.

(v) Corporate and others, which largely comprise the trading activities of the import and export companies of the Group and research and development undertaken by other subsidiaries.

The segments were determined primarily because the Group manages its exploration and production; refining; marketing and distribution; chemicals; and corporate and others businesses separately. The reportable segments are each managed separately because they manufacture and/or distribute distinct products with different production processes and due to their distinct operating and gross margin characteristics. In view of the fact that the Company and its subsidiaries operate mainly in the PRC, no geographical segment information is presented.

The Group evaluates the performance and allocates resources to its operating segments on an operating income basis, without considering the effects of finance costs or investment income. The accounting policies of the Group's segments are the same as those described in the principal accounting policies (see Note 2). Corporate administrative costs and assets are not allocated to the operating segments; instead, operating segments are billed for direct corporate services. Inter-segment transfer pricing is based on cost plus an appropriate margin, as specified by the Group's policy.

Reportable information on the Group's business segments is as follows:

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2004	2003
	RMB millions	RMB millions
Turnover		
Exploration and production		
External sales	7,376	7,083
Inter-segment sales	26,316	24,980
	33,692	**32,063**
Refining		
External sales	31,986	26,287
Inter-segment sales	126,904	102,765
	158,890	**129,052**
Marketing and distribution		
External sales	156,539	110,231
Inter-segment sales	1,334	1,630
	157,873	**111,861**
Chemicals		
External sales	50,946	38,133
Inter-segment sales	4,794	3,923
	55,740	**42,056**
Corporate and others		
External sales	18,862	15,880
Inter-segment sales	16,246	13,419
	35,108	**29,299**
Elimination of inter-segment sales	(175,594)	(146,717)
Turnover	**265,709**	**197,614**
Other operating revenues		
Exploration and production	3,544	2,952
Refining	2,367	2,033
Marketing and distribution	362	202
Chemicals	2,645	2,013
Corporate and others	815	521
Other operating revenues	**9,733**	**7,721**
Turnover and other operating revenues	**275,442**	**205,335**

30 SEGMENTAL REPORTING *(Continued)*

	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
Result		
Operating profit		
By segment		
– Exploration and production	10,520	10,298
– Refining	4,251	2,644
– Marketing and distribution	8,569	5,461
– Chemicals	4,924	858
– Corporate and others	(925)	(692)
Total operating profit	**27,339**	**18,569**
Share of profits less losses from associates		
– Exploration and production	223	181
– Refining	29	4
– Marketing and distribution	177	40
– Chemicals	(37)	(26)
– Corporate and others	59	73
Aggregate share of profits less losses from associates	**451**	**272**
Finance costs		
Interest expense	(1,986)	(2,194)
Interest income	169	145
Foreign exchange losses	(29)	(39)
Foreign exchange gains	43	14
Net finance costs	**(1,803)**	**(2,074)**
Investment income/(losses)	30	(2)
Profit from ordinary activities before taxation	**26,017**	**16,765**
Taxation	(7,713)	(5,264)
Profit from ordinary activities after taxation	**18,304**	**11,501**
Minority interests	(2,153)	(774)
Profit attributable to shareholders	**16,151**	**10,727**

Assets and liabilities dedicated to a particular segment's operations are included in that segment's total assets and liabilities. Assets which benefit more than one segment or are considered to be corporate assets are not allocated. "Unallocated assets" consists primarily of cash and cash equivalents, time deposits with financial institutions, investments and deferred tax assets. "Unallocated liabilities" consists primarily of short-term and long-term debts, loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries, income tax payable, deferred tax liabilities and other liabilities.

Interests in and earnings from associates are included in the segments in which the associates operate. Information on associates is included in Note 17. Additions to long-lived assets by operating segment are included in Notes 14 and 15.

30 SEGMENTAL REPORTING *(Continued)*

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Assets		
Segment assets		
– Exploration and production	107,179	101,303
– Refining	106,227	96,460
– Marketing and distribution	83,388	73,942
– Chemicals	89,235	85,740
– Corporate and others	15,458	12,980
Total segment assets	**401,487**	**370,425**
Interests in associates		
– Exploration and production	1,274	1,233
– Refining	139	136
– Marketing and distribution	1,970	1,815
– Chemicals	3,904	3,477
– Corporate and others	1,562	1,420
Aggregate interests in associates	**8,849**	**8,081**
Unallocated assets	**24,601**	**22,312**
Total assets	**434,937**	**400,818**
Liabilities		
Segment liabilities		
– Exploration and production	15,134	15,773
– Refining	29,182	25,743
– Marketing and distribution	21,405	21,091
– Chemicals	17,821	16,857
– Corporate and others	12,685	9,384
Total segment liabilities	**96,227**	**88,848**
Unallocated liabilities	**132,861**	**118,205**
Total liabilities	**229,088**	**207,053**

Segment capital expenditure is the total cost incurred during the period to acquire segment assets that are expected to be used for more than one period.

	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
Capital expenditure		
Exploration and production	10,072	8,645
Refining	4,104	4,763
Marketing and distribution	8,611	2,732
Chemicals	2,939	2,361
Corporate and others	94	222
	25,820	**18,723**
Capital expenditure of jointly controlled entities		
Exploration and production	702	—
Chemicals	2,666	2,068
	3,368	**2,068**
Depreciation, depletion and amortisation		
Exploration and production	5,372	4,392
Refining	3,669	3,196
Marketing and distribution	1,358	1,180
Chemicals	4,273	4,006
Corporate and others	101	173
	14,773	**12,947**
Impairment losses on long-lived assets recognised in income statement		
Exploration and production	—	269
Marketing and distribution	623	—
Chemicals	1,701	—
	2,324	**269**
Impairment losses on long-lived assets recognised in shareholders' funds		
Chemicals	**439**	—

31 PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES

At 30 June 2004, the following list contains the particulars of subsidiaries which principally affected the results or assets of the Group.

Name of company	Particulars of issued capital and debt securities (millions)	Type of legal entity	Percentage of equity held by the Company %	Percentage of equity held by Subsidiary %	Principal activities
China Petrochemical International Company Limited	RMB 1,400	Limited company	100.00	—	Trading of crude oil and petrochemical products
Sinopec Beijing Yanhua Petrochemical Company Limited	RMB 3,374	Limited company	70.01	—	Manufacturing of chemical products
Sinopec Sales Company Limited	RMB 1,700	Limited company	100.00	—	Marketing and distribution of refined petroleum products
Sinopec Shengli Oilfield Company Limited	RMB 30,028	Limited company	100.00	—	Exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas
Sinopec Fujian Petrochemical Company Limited (i)	RMB 2,253	Limited company	50.00	—	Manufacturing of plastics, intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Maoming Refining and Chemical Company Limited	RMB 1,064 and RMB 1,500 convertible bonds	Limited company	99.81	—	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Qilu Petrochemical Company Limited	RMB 1,950	Limited company	82.05	—	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical Company Limited	RMB 7,200	Limited company	55.56	—	Manufacturing of synthetic fibres, resin and plastics, intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Shijiazhuang Refining-Chemical Company Limited	RMB 1,154	Limited company	79.73	—	Manufacturing of intermediate company petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Kantons Holdings Limited	HK$ 104	Limited company	—	72.40	Trading of crude oil and petroleum products
Sinopec Wuhan Petroleum Group Company Limited (i)	RMB 147	Limited company	46.25	—	Marketing and distribution of refined petroleum products
Sinopec Wuhan Phoenix Company Limited (i)	RMB 519	Limited company	40.72	—	Manufacturing of petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Yangzi Petrochemical Company Limited	RMB 2,330	Limited company	84.98	—	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Yizheng Chemical Fibre Company Limited (i)	RMB 4,000	Limited company	42.00	—	Production and sale of polyester chips and polyester fibres
Sinopec Zhenhai Refining and Chemical Company Limited	RMB 2,524	Limited company	71.32	—	Manufacturing of intermediate petrochemical products and petroleum products
Sinopec Zhongyuan Petroleum Company Limited	RMB 875	Limited company	70.85	—	Exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas

Except for Sinopec Kantons Holdings Limited, which is incorporated in Bermuda, all of the above principal subsidiaries are incorporated in the PRC.

(i) The Group consolidated the results of the entity because the Group controlled the board of this entity and had the power to govern its financial and operating policies.

32 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial assets of the Group include cash and cash equivalents, time deposits with financial institutions, investments, trade accounts receivable, bills receivable, amounts due from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries, advances to third parties, amounts due from associates, and other receivables. Financial liabilities of the Group include bank and other loans, loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries, trade accounts payable, bills payable, amounts due to Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries, receipts in advance, and advances from third parties. The Group has no derivative instruments that are designated and qualified as hedging instruments at 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003.

Credit risk

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, time deposits with financial institutions, trade accounts and bills receivables, and other current assets, except for prepayments and deposits, represent the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to financial assets.

The majority of the Group's trade accounts receivable relate to sales of petroleum and chemical products to related parties and third parties operating in the petroleum and chemical industries. The Group performs ongoing credit evaluations of its customers' financial condition and generally does not require collateral on trade accounts receivable. The Group maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts and actual losses have been within management's expectations. No single customer accounted for greater than 10% of total revenues.

No other financial assets carry a significant exposure to credit risk.

Currency risk

Substantially all of the revenue-generating operations of the Group are transacted in Renminbi, which is not fully convertible into foreign currencies. On 1 January 1994, the PRC government abolished the dual rate system and introduced a single rate of exchange as quoted by the People's Bank of China. However, the unification of the exchange rate does not imply convertibility of Renminbi into United States dollars or other foreign currencies. All foreign exchange transactions continue to take place either through the People's Bank of China or other banks authorised to buy and sell foreign currencies at the exchange rates quoted by the People's Bank of China. Approval of foreign currency payments by the People's Bank of China or other institutions requires submitting a payment application form together with suppliers' invoices, shipping documents and signed contracts.

Interest rate risk

The interest rates and terms of repayment of short-term and long-term debts of the Group are disclosed in Note 23.

The disclosures of the fair value estimates, methods and assumptions, set forth below for the Group's financial instruments, are made to comply with the requirements of IAS 32 and IAS 39 and should be read in conjunction with the Group's consolidated financial statements and related notes. The estimated fair value amounts have been determined by the Group using market information and valuation methodologies considered appropriate. However, considerable judgment is required to interpret market data to develop the estimates of fair value. Accordingly, the estimates presented herein are not necessarily indicative of the amounts the Group could realise in a current market exchange. The use of different market assumptions and/or estimation methodologies may have a material effect on the estimated fair value amounts.

The Group has not developed an internal valuation model necessary to make the estimate of the fair value of loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries as it is not considered practicable to estimate their fair value because the cost of obtaining discount and borrowing rates for comparable borrowings would be excessive based on the Reorganisation of the Group, its existing capital structure, and the terms of the borrowings.

The following table presents the carrying amount and fair value of the Group's long-term indebtedness other than loans from Sinopec Group Company and fellow subsidiaries at 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2003:

	At 30 June 2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Carrying amount	57,967	49,600
Fair value	58,082	49,698

The fair value of long-term indebtedness is estimated by discounting future cash flows thereon using current market interest rates offered to the Group for debts with substantially the same characteristics and maturities.

Investments in unlisted equity securities have no quoted market prices in the PRC. Accordingly, a reasonable estimate of fair value could not be made without incurring excessive costs.

The fair values of all other financial instruments approximate their carrying amounts due to the nature or short-term maturity of these instruments.

33 ULTIMATE HOLDING COMPANY

The directors consider the ultimate holding company of the Group at 30 June 2004 to be Sinopec Group Company, a state-owned enterprise established in the PRC.

(C) DIFFERENCES BETWEEN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PREPARED UNDER THE PRC ACCOUNTING RULES AND REGULATIONS AND IFRS

Other than the differences in the classifications of certain financial statements captions and the accounting for the items described below, there are no material differences between the Group's financial statements prepared under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations and IFRS. The major differences are:

(i) Disposal of oil and gas properties

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, gains and losses arising from the retirement or disposal of an individual item of oil and gas properties are recognised as income or expense in the income statement and are measured as the difference between the estimated net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset.

Under IFRS, gains and losses on the retirement or disposal of an individual item of proved oil and gas properties are not recognised unless the retirement or disposal encompasses an entire property. The costs of the asset abandoned or retired are charged to accumulated depreciation with the proceeds received on disposals credited to the carrying amounts of oil and gas properties.

(ii) Impairment losses on revalued assets

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, impairment losses on fixed assets are recognised as expense in the income statement. Under IFRS, impairment loss on a revalued asset is recognised directly against any related revaluation reserve to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount held in the revaluation reserve for that same asset.

(iii) Depreciation of oil and gas properties

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, oil and gas properties are depreciated on a straight-line basis. Under IFRS, oil and gas properties are depreciated on the unit of production method.

(iv) Capitalisation of general borrowing costs

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, only borrowing costs on funds that are specifically borrowed for construction are capitalised as part of the cost of fixed assets. Under IFRS, to the extent that funds are borrowed generally and used for the purpose of obtaining a qualifying asset, the borrowing costs should be capitalised as part of the cost of that asset.

(v) Acquisition of Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, the acquisition of Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical (the "Acquisitions") are accounted for by the acquisition method. Under the acquisition method, the income of an acquiring enterprise includes the operations of the acquired enterprise subsequent to the acquisition. The difference between the cost of acquiring Sinopec National Star and the fair value of the net assets acquired is capitalised as an exploration and production right, which is amortised over 27 years. The costs of acquiring Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical approximated the fair value of the net assets acquired.

Under IFRS, as the Group, Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical are under the common control of Sinopec Group Company, the Acquisitions are considered "combination of entities under common control" which are accounted in a manner similar to a pooling-of-interests ("as-if pooling-of-interests accounting"). Accordingly, the assets and liabilities of Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical acquired have been accounted for at historical cost and the financial statements of the Group for periods prior to the Acquisitions have been restated to include the financial condition and results of operations of Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical on a combined basis. The considerations paid by the Group are treated as an equity transaction.

(vi) Revaluation of land use rights

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, land use rights are carried at revalued amount. Under IFRS, land use rights are carried at historical cost less amortisation. Accordingly, the surplus on the revaluation of land use rights, credited to revaluation reserve, was eliminated.

(vii) Unrecognised losses of subsidiaries

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, the results of subsidiaries are included in the Group's consolidated income statement to the extent that the subsidiaries' accumulated losses do not result in their carrying amount being reduced to zero, without the effect of minority interests. Further losses are debited to a separate reserve in the shareholders' funds.

Under IFRS, the results of subsidiaries are included in the Group's consolidated income statement from the date that control effectively commences until the date that control effectively ceases.

(viii) Pre-operating expenditures

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, expenditures incurred during the start-up period are aggregated in long-term deferred expenses and charged to the income statement when operations commence. Under IFRS, expenditures on start-up activities are recognised as an expense when they are incurred.

(ix) Impairment losses on long-lived assets

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations and IFRS, impairment charges are recognised when the carrying value of long-lived assets exceeds the higher of their net selling price and the value in use which incorporates discounting the asset's estimated future cash flows. Due to the difference in the depreciation method of oil and gas properties discussed in (iii) above, the provision for impairment losses and reversal of impairment loss under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations are different from the amounts recorded under IFRS.

(x) Government grants

Under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations, government grants should be credited to capital reserve. Under IFRS, government grants relating to the purchase of equipment used for technology improvements are initially recorded as long term liabilities and are offset against the cost of assets to which the grants related when construction commences. Upon transfer to property, plant and equipment, the grants are recognised as an income over the useful life of the property, plant and equipment by way of reduced depreciation charge.

Effects of major differences between the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations and IFRS on net profit are analysed as follows:

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June **2004** **RMB millions**	2003 RMB millions
Net profit under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations		15,039	9,765
Adjustments:			
Disposal of oil and gas properties, net of depreciation effect	(i)	879	—
Impairment losses on revalued assets	(ii)	439	—
Depreciation of oil and gas properties	(iii)	370	1,270
Capitalisation of general borrowing costs	(iv)	247	203
Acquisition of Sinopec National Star	(v)	58	58
Acquisition of Sinopec Maoming, Xi'an Petrochemical and Tahe Petrochemical	(v)	—	26
Revaluation of land use rights	(vi)	9	9
Unrecognised losses of subsidiaries	(vii)	(236)	—
Pre-operating expenditures	(viii)	(95)	(100)
Impairment losses on long-lived assets	(ix)	—	(5)
Effects of the above adjustments on taxation		(559)	(499)
Net profit under IFRS*		**16,151**	**10,727**

Effects of major differences between the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations and IFRS on shareholders' funds are analysed as follows:

	Note	**At 30 June 2004 RMB millions**	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Shareholders' funds under the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations		172,276	162,946
Adjustments:			
Disposal of oil and gas properties	(i)	2,139	1,260
Depreciation of oil and gas properties	(iii)	11,255	10,885
Capitalisation of general borrowing costs	(iv)	1,372	1,125
Acquisition of Sinopec National Star	(v)	(2,754)	(2,812)
Revaluation of land use rights	(vi)	(861)	(870)
Effect of minority interests on unrecognised losses of subsidiaries	(vii)	332	61
Pre-operating expenditures	(viii)	(264)	(169)
Impairment losses on long-lived assets	(ix)	(113)	(113)
Government grants	(x)	(326)	(326)
Effects of the above adjustments on taxation		(4,647)	(4,088)
Shareholders' funds under IFRS *		**178,409**	**167,899**

* The above figure is extracted from the financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS which have been audited by KPMG.

(D) SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR NORTH AMERICAN SHAREHOLDERS

The Group's accounting policies conform with IFRS which differ in certain significant respects from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("US GAAP"). Information relating to the nature and effect of such differences are set out below. The US GAAP reconciliation presented below is included as supplemental information, is not required as part of the basic financial statements and does not include differences related to classification, display or disclosures. Such information has not been subject to independent audit or review.

(a) Foreign exchange gains and losses

In accordance with IFRS, foreign exchange differences on funds borrowed for construction are capitalised as property, plant and equipment to the extent that they are regarded as an adjustment to interest costs during the construction period. Under US GAAP, all foreign exchange gains and losses on foreign currency debts are included in current earnings. Accordingly, the US GAAP adjustments represent the amortisation effect of such originating adjustments described above.

(b) Capitalisation of property, plant and equipment

In the periods prior to those presented herein, certain adjustments arose between IFRS and US GAAP with regard to the capitalisation of interest and pre-production results under IFRS that were reversed and expensed under US GAAP. For the periods presented herein, there were no adjustments related to the capitalisation of interest and pre-production results. Accordingly, the US GAAP adjustments represent the amortisation effect of such originating adjustments described above.

(c) Revaluation of property, plant and equipment

As required by the relevant PRC regulations with respect to the Reorganisation, the property, plant and equipment of the Group were revalued at 30 September 1999. In addition, the property, plant and equipment of Sinopec National Star, Sinopec Maoming and Refining Assets were revalued at 31 December 2000, 30 June 2003 and 31 October 2003 respectively in connection with the Acquisitions. Under IFRS, such revaluations result in an increase in shareholders' funds with respect to the increase in carrying amount of certain property, plant and equipment above their historical cost bases and a charge to income with respect to the reduction in carrying amount of certain property, plant and equipment below their historical cost bases.

Under US GAAP, property, plant and equipment are stated at their historical cost less accumulated depreciation. However, as a result of the tax deductibility of the net revaluation surplus, a deferred tax asset related to the reversal of the revaluation surplus is created under US GAAP with a corresponding increase in shareholders' funds.

In addition, under IFRS, on disposal of a revalued asset, the related revaluation surplus is transferred from the revaluation reserve to retained earnings. Under US GAAP, the gain and loss on disposal of an asset is determined with reference to the asset's historical carrying amount and included in current earnings.

(d) Exchange of assets

During 2002, the Company and Sinopec Group Company entered into an asset swap transaction. Under IFRS, the cost of property, plant and equipment acquired in an exchange for a dissimilar item of property, plant and equipment is measured at fair value. Under US GAAP, as the exchange of assets was between entities under common control, the assets received from Sinopec Group Company are measured at historical cost. The difference between the historical cost of the net assets transferred and the net assets received is accounted for as an equity transaction. Accordingly, the US GAAP adjustments represent the amortisation effect of such originating adjustments described above.

(e) Impairment of long-lived assets

Under IFRS, impairment charges are recognised when a long-lived asset's carrying amount exceeds the higher of an asset's net selling price and value in use, which incorporates discounting the asset's estimated future cash flows.

Under US GAAP, determination of the recoverability of a long-lived asset is based on an estimate of undiscounted future cash flows resulting from the use of the asset and its eventual disposition. If the sum of the expected future cash flows is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised. Measurement of an impairment loss for a long-lived asset is based on the fair value of the asset.

In addition, under IFRS, a subsequent increase in the recoverable amount of an asset is reversed to the consolidated income statement to the extent that an impairment loss on the same asset was previously recognised as an expense when the circumstances and events that led to the write-down or write-off cease to exist. The reversal is reduced by the amount that would have been recognised as depreciation had the write-off not occurred. Under US GAAP, an impairment loss establishes a new cost basis for the impaired asset and the new cost basis should not be adjusted subsequently other than for further impairment losses.

The US GAAP adjustment represents the effect of reversing the recovery of previous impairment charges recorded under IFRS.

(f) Capitalised interest on investment in associates

Under IFRS, investment accounted for by the equity method is not considered a qualifying asset for which interest is capitalised. Under US GAAP, an investment accounted for by the equity method while the investee has activities in progress necessary to commence its planned principal operations, provided that the investee's activities include the use of funds to acquire qualifying assets for its operations, is a qualifying asset for which interest is capitalised.

(g) Goodwill amortisation

Under IFRS, goodwill and negative goodwill are amortised on a systematic basis over their useful lives.

Under US GAAP, with reference to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No.142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets" ("SFAS No.142"), goodwill is no longer amortised beginning 1 January 2002. Instead, goodwill is reviewed for impairment upon adoption of SFAS No.142 and annually thereafter.

The effect on profit attributable to shareholders of significant differences between IFRS and US GAAP is as follows:

	Reference in note above	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2004 US$ millions	2004 RMB millions	2003 RMB millions
Profit attributable to shareholders under IFRS		1,951	16,151	10,727
US GAAP adjustments:				
Foreign exchange gains and losses	(a)	4	29	38
Capitalisation of property, plant and equipment	(b)	1	6	6
Reversal of deficit on revaluation of property, plant and equipment, net of depreciation effect	(c)	(1)	(4)	—
Depreciation on revalued property, plant and equipment	(c)	231	1,913	2,007
Disposal of property, plant and equipment	(c)	76	627	250
Exchange of assets	(d)	1	12	12
Reversal of impairment of long-lived assets, net of depreciation effect	(e)	3	21	28
Capitalised interest on investments in associates	(f)	13	108	129
Goodwill amortisation for the period	(g)	1	4	(3)
Deferred tax effect of US GAAP adjustments		(108)	(892)	(756)
Profit attributable to shareholders under US GAAP		**2,172**	**17,975**	**12,438**
Basic and diluted earnings per share under US GAAP		**US$0.03**	**RMB0.21**	**RMB0.14**
Basic and diluted earnings per ADS under US GAAP*		**US$2.51**	**RMB20.73**	**RMB14.35**

* Basic and diluted earnings per ADS is calculated on the basis that one ADS is equivalent to 100 shares.

The effect on shareholders' funds of significant differences between IFRS and US GAAP is as follows:

	Reference in note above	At 30 June 2004 US$ millions	2004 RMB millions	At 31 December 2003 RMB millions
Shareholders' funds under IFRS		21,556	178,409	167,899
US GAAP adjustments:				
Foreign exchange gains and losses	(a)	(39)	(323)	(352)
Capitalisation of property, plant and equipment	(b)	(1)	(6)	(12)
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment	(c)	(1,204)	(9,968)	(12,943)
Deferred tax adjustments on revaluation	(c)	365	3,020	4,004
Exchange of assets	(d)	(66)	(543)	(555)
Reversal of impairment of long-lived assets	(e)	(65)	(540)	(561)
Capitalised interest on investments in associates	(f)	52	429	321
Goodwill	(g)	3	21	17
Deferred tax effect of US GAAP adjustments		42	345	398
Shareholders' funds under US GAAP		**20,643**	**170,844**	**158,216**

Note: United States dollar equivalents

For the convenience of readers, amounts in Renminbi have been translated into United States dollars at the rate of US$1.00 = RMB 8.2766 being the noon buying rate in New York City on 30 June 2004 for cable transfers in Renminbi as certified for customs purposes by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. No representation is made that the Renminbi amounts could have been, or could be, converted into United States dollars at that rate.

DOCUMENTS FOR INSPECTION

The following documents will be available for inspection during normal business hours at the legal address of Sinopec Corp. from Friday, 27 August 2004 by the relevant regulatory authorities and shareholders in accordance with the Articles of Association of Sinopec Corp. and the laws and regulations of the PRC:

1 The original interim report for the first half of 2004 signed by the Chairman of Sinopec Corp.;

2 The original audited financial statements and audited consolidated financial statements of Sinopec Corp. prepared in accordance with IFRS and the PRC Accounting Rules and Regulations for the six-month period ended 30 June 2004 signed by Mr. Chen Tonghai (Chairman), Mr. Wang Jiming (Vice Chairman and President), Mr. Zhang Jiaren (Director, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer), Mr. Liu Yun (Head of the Accounting Department) of Sinopec Corp.;

3 The original auditors' reports on the above financial statements signed by the auditors;

4 All original documents and announcements published by Sinopec Corp. in the newspapers specified by the China Securities Regulatory Commission during the reporting period;

5 The latest Articles of Association of Sinopec Corp. and its appendices which were amended at the General Meeting of Sharehoders held on 18 May 2004.

By Order of the Board
Chen Tonghai
Chairman

Beijing, PRC, 27 April 2004

This annual report is published in both English and Chinese languages. The Chinese version shall prevail.