

CHINA TELECOM CORP LTD
Form 6-K
September 10, 2008

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the Month of September 2008

Commission File Number 1-31517

China Telecom Corporation Limited

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

31 Jinrong Street, Xicheng District

Beijing, China 100140

(Address of principal executive offices)

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(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

Form 20-F Form 40-F

(Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):)

(Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.)

Yes No

(If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-_____.)

EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number		Page Number
1.1	2008 Interim Report, dated August 28, 2008. FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	A-1

Certain statements contained in this Form 6-K may be viewed as forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual performance, financial condition or results of operations of China Telecom Corporation Limited (the Company) to be materially different from any future performance, financial condition or results of operations implied by such forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements include, without limitation, the continued growth of the telecommunications industry in China; the development of the regulatory environment; and the Company's ability to successfully execute its business strategies.

Such forward-looking statements reflect the current views of the Company with respect to future events. Actual results may differ materially from information contained in the forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors, including, without limitation, any changes in the regulatory regime and significant policies for the telecommunications industry in China, including changes in the structure or functions of the primary industry regulator, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, or the MIIT (which has assumed the regulatory functions of the former Ministry of Information Industry), or any in the regulatory policies of the MIIT and other relevant government authorities in China; any decisions by the Chinese government in relation to the technology standards and licenses of third generation mobile telecommunication; the results of the ongoing restructuring of the telecommunications industry in China; any changes in the effects of competition on the demand and price of the Company's telecommunications services; any changes in telecommunications and related technology and applications based on such technology; and changes in political, economic, legal and social conditions in China, including the Chinese government's policies with respect to economic growth, foreign exchange, foreign investment and entry by foreign companies into China's telecommunications market. Please also see the Risk Factors section of the Company's latest Annual Report on Form 20-F, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

CHINA TELECOM CORPORATION LIMITED

Date: September 10, 2008

By: /s/ Wang Xiaochu
Name: Wang Xiaochu
Title: Chairman and CEO

A-1

Chairman's Statement

Dear Shareholders,

In order to speed up the full services offering process, the Company has entered into an agreement with China Unicom on the acquisition of CDMA business, which would allow the Company to quickly enter into the mobile communications market and attain enormous development potential. This will also enhance the incorporation of mobile elements into our integrated information services, strengthening our core competitiveness. In the first half of this year, the unexpected serious natural disasters such as snowstorms and earthquake together with the intensified market competition, have given us unprecedented harsh challenges. However, with the unwavering dedication and exceptional endurance of the Company's management and all our people, the Company achieved encouraging results. In our fight against the disasters and the subsequent reconstruction works, China Telecom well-demonstrated not only its outstanding capability for ensuring communications, but also its high regards of responsibility towards the society and its shareholders. Facing intense market competition, we continuously expanded the market with customer focused to maintain the stability of the Company's fundamentals and lay a solid foundation for the full services offering in the future.

A-2

FINANCIAL RESULTS

In the first half of 2008, the Company's financial performance remained stable. Operating revenues reached RMB90,434 million, up by 0.8% from the same period last year, of which RMB1,028 million was accounted for by the amortisation of upfront connection fees. Excluding the upfront connection fees, the operating revenues were RMB89,406 million, a 1.5% growth from the same period last year. Revenue from wireline voice service was RMB50,510 million, a 11.8% decrease from the same period last year. Revenues from Internet and data services as well as value-added and integrated information application services reached RMB24,534 million and RMB11,987 million respectively, representing 27.3% and 31.6% growth from the same period last year. EBITDA^{1,2} was RMB44,268 million, a 1.9% decrease from the same period last year, and the EBITDA margin was 49.5%. Profit attributable to equity holders^{1,2} of the Company was RMB11,606 million, a 4.0% decrease from the same period last year, and basic earnings per share^{1,2} was RMB0.14. Capital expenditure was RMB18,783 million, a 9.5% decrease from the same period last year. Free cash flow³ reached RMB21,669 million, a 11.3% increase from the same period last year.

Taking into consideration the Company's business development needs and its cash flow position, the Board of Directors has resolved not to pay any interim dividend for the year in order to maintain adequate funding flexibility. The Board of Directors will proactively consider the final dividend proposal at the time of reviewing the full year results and propose to the shareholders' general meeting accordingly.

BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

In the first half of 2008, the Company continued to proactively and effectively implement strategic transformation. Focused on providing integrated information services to customers, we keep on innovating business model, expanding business services, and advancing customer brand management to continuously optimise subscriber base and revenue structure.

With regard to government and enterprise customers, we strengthened the specialised marketing of BizNavigator and promoted the Internet-oriented integrated information services and applications services, enhancing the penetration of businesses such as information security products, video application products and enterprise switchboard while effectively consolidating the traditional voice services. With respect to our service approach, we continued to strengthen the coordination mechanism for cross-region services. Back-end network maintenance support personnel were embedded in the front-end sales force to provide differentiated network support services and to further improve responsiveness to customers' needs. Being the Company's core value customers, the government and enterprise customer base continued to expand in the first half of 2008, resulting in a significant increase in revenue with a 13.5% growth from the same period last year.

¹ Including the amortisation of the upfront connection fees, EBITDA was RMB45,296 million, profit attributable to equity holders of the Company was RMB12,634 million and basic earnings per share was RMB0.16.

² The natural disasters such as snowstorms and earthquake cost approximately additional RMB1,700 million to the network operation costs with an after tax effect of approximately RMB1,281 million in the first half of 2008. The implementation of new income tax law resulted in a tax saving of approximately RMB706 million. Excluding the amortisation of the upfront connection fees, the impact of natural disasters such as snowstorms and earthquake and of the variation in income tax rate, EBITDA was RMB45,968 million, a 1.9% growth from the same period last year, profit attributable to equity holders of the Company was RMB12,181 million, a 0.8% growth from the same period last year and basic earnings per share was RMB0.15.

³ Free cash flow is calculated from EBITDA (excluding amortisation of the upfront connection fees) minus capital expenditure and income tax.

Chairman's Statement

With regard to household customers, we continued to increase our marketing efforts for broadband access products. In accordance with customers' demand, we also integrated various services and products to enrich the "One Home" brand contents to provide one-stop communications, wealth management, live broadcasting, information and entertainment services to household customers. By the end of June 2008, the household penetration rate of "One Home" reached 14.4%, a 5.8 percentage point growth from the beginning of the year. In the first half of the year, revenue from household customers maintained steady growth of 2.9% from the same period last year.

Due to its rapid development, the non-voice service has become the consistent driver for the revenue growth of the Company. In the first half of 2008, revenue from the non-voice service as a percentage of operating revenues reached 43.5%, a 8.5 percentage point growth from the same period last year. The Company further explored the broadband access subscribers market and maintained the rapid growth of subscriber base and service revenue. The broadband subscribers in the first half of the year increased by 4.30 million to a total number of 39.95 million. Revenue from broadband access reached RMB19,279 million, a 31.3% growth from the same period last year. At the same time, the Company adhered to the strategy of leveraging informatisation applications to drive business development and continued to promote the rapid development of "Best Tone" and ICT services (including IT services and applications as well as video applications such as "Mega Eye"). In the first half of the year, revenues from "Best Tone" and ICT services grew by 56.7% and 101.8% respectively, contributing 0.87 and 1.19 percentage point growth to the total revenue.

In the first half of 2008, there was a significant decline in the Company's wireline voice service. Revenues from local telephone services and long distance services fell 13.9% and 9.4% respectively from the same period last year. There was a net decrease of 5.44 million access lines in service in the first half of the year, mainly of low-end subscribers. As a result of continuing significant reduction in mobile tariff, the imbalanced competitive landscape has worsened with immense pressure on expanding new market shares of wireline voice service. In response, we insisted on profitable development of voice service and controlled marketing expenditure of low return. We also insisted on driving the voice services through integrated development with transformation services, and continuously enriched informatisation applications to provide differentiated services for different customers with a view to consolidating our traditional voice services.

OPERATING MODEL

In line with the Company's strategic transformation, we continued to adjust and optimise our organisational structure, innovate operating model, and strengthen vertically-integrated operation to cater to the needs of the full services offering. We completed the organisational structure reform from headquarter with provincial subsidiaries to headquarter with provincial branches in the first half of the year to improve the execution efficiency and set a solid foundation for our upcoming full services offering. Leveraging the characteristics of the Company's resources, and our competitive edge of providing total solutions to customers while avoiding the disadvantages of single business offering, we optimised the front-end and back-end structures with the front-end operation focusing on customer segments and the back-end support to consolidate. These allowed us to bring the advantages of full services offering and focus on our target customers to enhance customer segment oriented marketing and product development. We also integrated the mobile operation management into the Company's organisational structure to establish a vertically-integrated full services operating structure. In addition, the successful acquisition of the Beijing Telecom in the first half of the year expanded the Company's geographical scope of operation. This is beneficial to providing national or transnational networking services for government and enterprise customers and further consolidates the Company's competitive edge in the high-end government and enterprise market.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

To protect the interest of our shareholders, customers and staff, we have strived to increase our corporate value by maintaining and strengthening high standards of corporate governance, continuously increasing transparency and ensuring the healthy development of the Company. Our efforts in corporate governance have been widely recognised by the capital market. In the first half of the year, we were awarded Asia's Best Managed Fixed Telecom Company by *Euromoney*. In accrediting Asia's Best Companies for the year of 2008 by *FinanceAsia*, the Company was awarded the Best Managed Company China. In addition, the Company was accredited with CAPITAL Outstanding China Enterprise Awards Telecommunications by *CAPITAL* for three consecutive years. Further, our website (www.chinatelecom-h.com) was accredited in IR Global Rankings 2008 as the Best Investor Relations Website in China.

ACQUISITION OF MOBILE BUSINESSES

The Company has entered into a detailed agreement with China Unicom based on the CDMA business acquisition framework agreement. We will launch mobile services operation by leasing the CDMA network assets to be acquired by our parent company. The lease agreement is subject to our independent shareholders' approval. We will endeavour to achieve smooth transition of CDMA network operation and its earliest independent operation. The aforesaid arrangements will enable the Company to obtain on taking over the CDMA business, relatively complete mobile network resources and customer service system with stand-alone operation and continuous service capability. This is beneficial for the Company to quickly enter into the fast-growing mobile telecommunications market in China and achieve full services offering. The Company's core competitiveness can also be strengthened continuously by proactively implementing customer-focused differentiation operation strategy.

Chairman's Statement

FUTURE OUTLOOK

Despite the various challenges for the Company, the full services offering would bring us development opportunities. The severely imbalanced competition landscape in China's telecommunications market will be gradually improved as the telecommunications sector reform and restructuring continues to deepen. However, there will be short-term downward pressure on our profit as the market share of wireline subscribers will continue to shrink in the near term while our forthcoming mobile services operation will need significant investment at the initial stage.

The Company will leverage transformation to drive full services offering. We aim to effectively converge the mobile elements with the integrated information services and implement differentiation development strategy with a focus on mid-to-high-end urban customers. Taking advantage of our customer resources, direct sales channels and multi-service operations, we will incorporate mobile elements into the brand operations of BizNavigator and One Home to provide our customers with differentiated integrated information services based on Mobile Internet and Fixed-Mobile Convergence (FMC), enhancing the brand influence and penetration. At the same time, with regards to customers' demand and experience, we will improve our network coverage and optimise our network quality. We will also coordinate the existing wireline and mobile network resources to drive synergy and improve network utilisation and economise network construction and operating costs, striving to achieve the profitable scale development of the mobile business.

We are full of passion about the future. We firmly believe that the full services offering will greatly enhance our core competitiveness. The Company's business development is going to reach a new stage of growth and together we will strive for the success to make our long time dream come true. China Telecom would thrive again and create more value for our shareholders.

Wang Xiaochu
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Beijing, PRC

28 August 2008

Independent Review Report of the International Auditor

To the Board of Directors of

China Telecom Corporation Limited

INTRODUCTION

We have reviewed the interim financial statements set out on pages 8 to 33 which comprises the consolidated balance sheet of China Telecom Corporation Limited as at 30 June 2008, the consolidated income statement, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated cash flow statement for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008 and explanatory notes. The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited require the preparation of interim financial statements to be in compliance with the relevant provisions thereof and International Accounting Standard 34 Interim financial reporting issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. The directors are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the interim financial statements in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34.

Our responsibility is to form a conclusion, based on our review, on the interim financial statements and to report our conclusion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with our agreed terms of engagement, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

We conducted our review in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410, Review of interim financial information performed by the independent auditor of the entity issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A review of interim financial statements consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly we do not express an audit opinion.

CONCLUSION

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the interim financial statements as at and for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008 are not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 Interim financial reporting .

KPMG

Certified Public Accountants

8th Floor, Prince s Building

10 Chater Road

Central, Hong Kong

28 August 2008

Consolidated Balance Sheet (Unaudited)

at 30 June 2008

(Amounts in millions)

		30 June 2008 RMB	31 December 2007 RMB (restated)
	Note		
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment, net		314,168	329,292
Construction in progress		19,530	13,626
Lease prepayments		5,395	5,451
Interests in associates		826	800
Investments		221	274
Deferred tax assets	10	9,126	9,281
Intangible assets		2,651	2,814
Other assets		6,968	7,683
Total non-current assets		358,885	369,221
Current assets			
Inventories		2,097	2,665
Accounts receivable, net	6	18,358	16,979
Prepayments and other current assets		3,346	2,817
Time deposits with maturity over three months		203	222
Cash and cash equivalents	7	29,204	21,427
Total current assets		53,208	44,110
Total assets		412,093	413,331
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Current liabilities			
Short-term debt	8	54,352	67,767
Current portion of long-term debt	8	1,106	3,811
Accounts payable	9	27,654	29,013
Accrued expenses and other payables		34,182	30,670
Amount due to China Telecom in connection with the Fourth Acquisition	2	5,557	
Income tax payable		2,243	3,314
Current portion of finance lease obligations		4	24
Current portion of deferred revenues		4,922	5,646
Total current liabilities		130,020	140,245
Net current liabilities		(76,812)	(96,135)
Total assets less current liabilities		282,073	273,086
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term debt	8	44,341	34,148
Finance lease obligations		3	5
Deferred revenues		8,482	9,840
Deferred tax liabilities	10	2,964	3,121

Total non-current liabilities	55,790	47,114
Total liabilities	185,810	187,359

The notes on pages 15 to 33 form part of these interim financial statements.

A-8

China Telecom Corporation Limited Interim Report 2008

Consolidated Balance Sheet (Unaudited) (Continued)

at 30 June 2008

(Amounts in millions)

	30 June	31 December
	2008	2007
	RMB	RMB
		(restated)
Equity		
Share capital	80,932	80,932
Reserves	143,865	143,589
Total equity attributable to equity holders of the Company	224,797	224,521
Minority interests	1,486	1,451
Total equity	226,283	225,972
Total liabilities and equity	412,093	413,331

The notes on pages 15 to 33 form part of these interim financial statements.

Consolidated Income Statement (Unaudited)

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008

(Amounts in millions, except per share data)

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
		2008 RMB	2007 RMB (restated)
Operating revenues	11	90,434	89,757
Operating expenses			
Depreciation and amortisation		(26,544)	(26,089)
Network operations and support		(16,670)	(14,725)
Selling, general and administrative		(11,103)	(11,157)
Personnel expenses	12	(13,857)	(13,667)
Other operating expenses	13	(3,508)	(3,434)
Total operating expenses		(71,682)	(69,072)
Operating profit		18,752	20,685
Net finance costs	14	(2,289)	(2,013)
Investment loss		(4)	
Share of profit from associates		34	9
Profit before taxation		16,493	18,681
Income tax	15	(3,816)	(4,898)
Profit for the period		12,677	13,783
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the Company		12,634	13,756
Minority interests		43	27
Profit for the period		12,677	13,783
Basic earnings per share	17	0.16	0.17
Weighted average number of shares	17	80,932	80,932

The notes on pages 15 to 33 form part of these interim financial statements.

China Telecom Corporation Limited Interim Report 2008

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity (Unaudited)

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008

(Amounts in millions)

Note	Attributable to equity holders of the Company							Retained earnings RMB	Total RMB	Minority interests RMB	Total equity RMB
	Share capital RMB	Capital reserve RMB	Share premium RMB	Revaluation reserve RMB	Statutory reserves RMB	Other reserves RMB	Exchange reserves RMB				
Balance as at 1 January 2007, as previously reported	80,932	(2,804)	10,746	7,357	49,818	11,656	(479)	48,975	206,201	1,448	207,649
Adjusted for the Fourth Acquisition	2					3,148			3,148		3,148
Balance as at 1 January 2007, as restated	80,932	(2,804)	10,746	7,357	49,818	14,804	(479)	48,975	209,349	1,448	210,797
Gains and losses recognised directly in equity:											
Effect of change in tax rate						(1,581)			(1,581)		(1,581)
Change in fair value of available-for-sale equity securities (net of deferred tax of RMB24 million)						48			48		48
Exchange difference on translation of financial statements of subsidiaries outside mainland PRC							(60)		(60)		(60)
						(1,533)	(60)		(1,593)		(1,593)
Profit for the six-month period ended 30 June 2007, as restated								13,756	13,756	27	13,783
Total recognised income and expenses						(1,533)	(60)	13,756	12,163	27	12,190
Deferred tax on revaluation surplus of property, plant and equipment realised						14		(14)			
Revaluation surplus realised				(46)				46			
Deferred tax on land use rights realised						(89)		89			
Distribution to minority interests										(14)	(14)
Dividends	16							(6,741)	(6,741)		(6,741)
						(2,897)			(2,897)		(2,897)

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Distribution to China Telecom												
Transfer from retained earnings to other reserves						430		(430)				
Adjustment to surplus reserves				(306)				306				
Consideration for the acquisition of the Third Acquired Group						(1,408)		(1,408)		(1,408)		(1,408)
Balance as at 30 June 2007, as restated	80,932	(2,804)	10,746	7,311	49,512	9,321	(539)	55,987	210,466	1,461	211,927	
Gains and losses recognised directly in equity:												
Effect of change in tax rate						4			4		4	
Surplus on revaluation of property, plant and equipment				4,809					4,809		4,809	
Deferred tax on revaluation surplus						(1,136)			(1,136)		(1,136)	
Change in fair value of available-for-sale equity securities (net of deferred tax of RMB10 million)						16			16		16	
Exchange difference on translation of financial statements of subsidiaries outside mainland PRC								(43)	(43)		(43)	
				4,809		(1,116)		(43)	3,650		3,650	
Profit for the six-month period ended 31 December 2007, as restated								10,439	10,439	70	10,509	

The notes on pages 15 to 33 form part of these interim financial statements.

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity (Unaudited) (Continued)

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008

(Amounts in millions)

Note	Attributable to equity holders of the Company								Total RMB	Minority interests RMB	Total equity RMB
	Share capital RMB	Capital reserve RMB	Share premium RMB	Revaluation reserve RMB	Statutory reserves RMB	Other reserves RMB	Exchange reserves RMB	Retained earnings RMB			
Total recognised income and expenses				4,809		(1,116)	(43)	10,439	14,089	70	14,159
Deferred tax on revaluation surplus of property, plant and equipment realised							17	(17)			
Revaluation surplus realised				(148)				148			
Deferred tax on land use rights realised							(80)	80			
Distribution to minority interests										(80)	(80)
Appropriations					5,388			(5,388)			
Distribution to China Telecom							(34)		(34)		(34)
Transfer from retained earnings to other reserves							219	(219)			
Adjustment to statutory reserves					(2,533)			2,533			
Balance as at 31 December 2007, as restated	80,932	(2,804)	10,746	11,972	52,367	8,327	(582)	63,563	224,521	1,451	225,972
Gains and losses recognised directly in equity:											
Change in fair value of available-for-sale equity securities (net of deferred tax of RMB21 million)							(62)		(62)		(62)
Exchange difference on translation of financial statements of subsidiaries outside mainland PRC								(79)	(79)		(79)
							(62)	(79)	(141)		(141)
Profit for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008								12,634	12,634	43	12,677
Total recognised income and expenses							(62)	(79)	12,634	43	12,536
Deferred tax on revaluation surplus of property, plant and equipment realised							62	(62)			
Revaluation surplus realised				(296)				296			

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Deferred tax on land use rights realised						(65)		65				
Distributions to minority interests											(8)	(8)
Dividends	16							(6,125)	(6,125)			(6,125)
Transfer from retained earnings to other reserves						425		(425)				
Distribution to China Telecom						(535)			(535)			(535)
Adjustment to statutory reserves						3,718		(3,718)				
Consideration for the acquisition of the Fourth Acquired Company	2					(5,557)			(5,557)			(5,557)
Balance as at 30 June 2008	80,932	(2,804)	10,746	11,676	56,085	2,595	(661)	66,228	224,797	1,486		226,283

The notes on pages 15 to 33 form part of these interim financial statements.

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement (Unaudited)

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008

(Amounts in millions)

	Note	Six-month periods ended 30 June 2007	
		2008 RMB	RMB (restated)
Net cash from operating activities	(a)	40,010	37,574
Cash flows from investing activities			
Capital expenditure		(20,126)	(22,454)
Purchase of investments		(34)	
Lease prepayments		(79)	(121)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		156	432
Proceeds from disposal of investments		8	
Purchase of time deposits with maturity over three months		(203)	(195)
Maturity of time deposits with maturity over three months		222	379
Net cash used in investing activities		(20,056)	(21,959)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Capital element of finance lease payments		(22)	(48)
Proceeds from issuance of medium-term note, net of issuing costs		9,912	
Proceeds from bank and other loans		35,218	51,108
Repayments of bank and other loans		(51,031)	(62,387)
Payment of dividends		(6,167)	(6,273)
Distribution to China Telecom			(2,897)
Net cash distributions to minority interests		(8)	(14)
Net cash used in financing activities		(12,098)	(20,511)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		7,856	(4,896)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		21,427	23,113
Effect of changes in foreign exchange rate		(79)	(58)
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June		29,204	18,159

The notes on pages 15 to 33 form part of these interim financial statements.

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement (Unaudited) (Continued)

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008

(Amounts in millions)

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

	Six-month periods ended 30 June	
	2008 RMB	2007 RMB (restated)
Profit before taxation	16,493	18,681
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	26,544	26,089
Impairment losses for doubtful debts	793	666
Investment losses	4	
Share of profit from associates	(34)	(9)
Interest income	(217)	(212)
Interest expense	2,512	2,388
Unrealised foreign exchange gains	(32)	(77)
Loss on retirement and disposal of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	1,492	742
Operating profit before changes in working capital	47,555	48,268
Increase in accounts receivable	(2,179)	(3,609)
Decrease in inventories	568	291
Increase in prepayments and other current assets	(502)	(406)
Decrease in other assets	715	805
Increase/(decrease) in accounts payable	277	(170)
Increase in accrued expenses and other payables	2,139	2,533
Decrease in deferred revenues	(2,082)	(2,843)
Cash generated from operations	46,491	44,869
Interest received	214	214
Interest paid	(1,827)	(2,640)
Investment income received		13
Income tax paid	(4,868)	(4,882)
Net cash from operating activities	40,010	37,574

The notes on pages 15 to 33 form part of these interim financial statements.

Notes to the Unaudited Interim Financial Statements

*for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008***1. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

China Telecom Corporation Limited (the Company) and its subsidiaries (hereinafter, collectively referred to as the Group) are engaged in the provision of wireline telecommunications and related services in Shanghai Municipality, Guangdong Province, Jiangsu Province, Zhejiang Province, Anhui Province, Fujian Province, Jiangxi Province, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Chongqing Municipality, Sichuan Province, Hubei Province, Hunan Province, Hainan Province, Guizhou Province, Yunnan Province, Shaanxi Province, Gansu Province, Qinghai Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region and Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China (the PRC). Following the Fourth Acquisition (see Note 2), the Group began to provide wireline telecommunications and related services in Beijing Municipality in July 2008. The Group offers a comprehensive range of wireline telecommunications services to residential and business customers, including local, domestic long distance (DLD) and International, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan long distance telephone services, Internet and managed data, leased line, and other related services. The Group also provides leased line and other related services in the Asia Pacific region and certain countries of South and North America.

2. ACQUISITION

Pursuant to an acquisition agreement entered into by the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation (China Telecom) and together with its subsidiaries other than the Company are referred to as China Telecom Group) on 31 March 2008, the Company acquired the entire equity interest in China Telecom Group Beijing Corporation (Beijing Telecom) or the Fourth Acquired Company) from China Telecom for a total purchase price of RMB5,557 million (hereinafter, referred to as the Fourth Acquisition). The Fourth Acquisition was completed in June 2008.

3. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Since the Group and the Fourth Acquired Company are under common control of China Telecom, the Fourth Acquisition has been accounted for as a combination of entities under common control. Accordingly, the assets and liabilities of the Fourth Acquired Company have been accounted for at historical amounts and the consolidated financial statements of the Company prior to the Fourth Acquisition have been restated to include the results of operations and assets and liabilities of the Fourth Acquired Company on a combined basis. The accumulated profits of the Fourth Acquired Company prior to 30 June 2008 were distributed to China Telecom and have been reflected as a distribution to China Telecom in the consolidated statement of changes in equity for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008. The purchase price payable by the Company for the acquisition of the Fourth Acquired Company has been accounted for as an equity transaction in the consolidated statement of changes in equity.

Notes to the Unaudited Interim Financial Statements (Continued)

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008

3. BASIS OF PRESENTATION (CONTINUED)

The results of operations for the six-month period ended 30 June 2007 and the financial condition as at 31 December 2007 previously reported by the Group have been restated to include the results and assets and liabilities of the Fourth Acquired Company as set out below:

	The Group (as previously reported) RMB millions	The Fourth Acquired Company RMB millions	The Group (as restated) RMB millions
Result of operations for the six-month period ended 30 June 2007:			
Operating revenues	88,624	1,133	89,757
Net profit	13,509	274	13,783
Financial condition as at 31 December 2007:			
Total assets	408,004	5,327	413,331
Total liabilities	185,632	1,727	187,359
Total equity	222,372	3,600	225,972

4. BASIS OF PREPARATION

These interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 (IAS 34) Interim Financial Reporting promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Board and the applicable disclosure requirements of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. These interim financial statements, which were authorised for issuance by the Board of Directors on 28 August 2008, reflect the unaudited financial position of the Group as at 30 June 2008 and the unaudited results of operations and cash flows of the Group for the six-month period then ended, which are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations and cash flows expected for the year ending 31 December 2008.

These interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the same accounting policies adopted in the 2007 annual financial statements.

The preparation of interim financial statements in conformity with IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses on a year to date basis. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

These interim financial statements contain consolidated financial statements and selected explanatory notes. The notes include an explanation of events and transactions that are significant to an understanding of the changes in financial position and performance of the Group since the 2007 annual financial statements. The condensed consolidated interim financial statements and notes thereon do not include all of the information required for full set of financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Notes to the Unaudited Interim Financial Statements (Continued)

*for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008***4. BASIS OF PREPARATION (CONTINUED)**

These interim financial statements are unaudited, but have been reviewed by the Audit Committee of the Company. These interim financial statements have also been reviewed by the Company's international auditors in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Review Engagements 2410 Review of interim financial information performed by the independent auditor of the entity issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

The financial information relating to the financial year ended 31 December 2007 that is included in these interim financial statements as being previously reported information does not constitute the Group's statutory financial statements for that financial year but is derived from those financial statements. The statutory financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2007 are available from the Company's registered office. The Company's international auditors have expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements in their report dated 31 March 2008.

5. 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. For the periods presented, the Group has one business segment which is the provision of wireline telecommunications services. No analysis of the Group's operating revenues and profit before taxation by geographical segment has been presented as the majority of the Group's operating activities are carried out in the PRC and less than 10 percent of the Group's operating revenues and profit before taxation were derived from activities outside the PRC. A majority of the Group's assets are located in the PRC and less than 10 percent of the Group's total assets are located outside the PRC.

6. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, NET

Accounts receivable, net, are analysed as follows:

	30 June 2008 RMB millions	31 December 2007 RMB millions
Third parties	18,350	16,796
China Telecom Group	291	248
Other state-controlled telecommunications operators in the PRC	1,674	1,378
	20,315	18,422
Less: Allowance for impairment of doubtful debts	(1,957)	(1,443)
	18,358	16,979

Amounts due from the provision of wireline telecommunications services to residential and business customers are due within 30 days from the date of billing.

Notes to the Unaudited Interim Financial Statements (Continued)

for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008

6. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, NET (CONTINUED)

Ageing analysis of accounts receivable from telephone and Internet subscribers is as follows:

	30 June 2008 RMB millions	31 December 2007 RMB millions
Current, within 1 month	11,103	11,016
1 to 3 months	2,706	2,408
4 to 12 months	1,300	1,009
More than 12 months	568	304
	15,677	14,737
Less: Allowance for impairment of doubtful debts	(1,876)	(1,313)
	13,801	13,424

Ageing analysis of accounts receivable from other telecommunications operators and customers is as follows:

	30 June 2008 RMB millions	31 December 2007 RMB millions
Current, within 1 month	1,570	1,645
1 to 3 months	1,387	1,042
4 to 12 months	1,123	498
More than 12 months	558	500
	4,638	3,685
Less: Allowance for impairment of doubtful debts	(81)	(130)
	4,557	3,555

7. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	30 June 2008 RMB millions	31 December 2007 RMB millions
Cash at bank and in hand	20,627	17,002
Time deposits with maturity within three months	8,577	4,425

29,204 21,427

A-18

Notes to the Unaudited Interim Financial Statements (Continued)

*for the six-month period ended 30 June 2008***8. SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEBT**

Short-term debt comprises:

	30 June 2008	31 December 2007
	RMB	RMB
	millions	millions
Loans from state-controlled banks unsecured	16,996	29,326
Loans from China Telecom Group unsecured	37,356	38,441
Total short-term debt	54,352	67,767

Weighted average interest rate of the Group's total short-term debt as at 30 June 2008 was 5.5% (31 December 2007: 4.4%). As at 30 June 2008, the loans from state-controlled banks bear interest at rates ranging from 3.0% to 8.0% (31 December 2007: 4.2% to 5.5%) per annum and are repayable within one year; the loans from China Telecom Group bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 2.6% to 6.6% (31 December 2007: 2.6% to 5.3%) per annum and are repayable within one year.

Long-term debt comprises:

		30 June 2008	31 December 2007
		RMB	RMB
	Note	millions	millions
Loans from state-controlled banks unsecured	(i)	5,378	7,803
Other loans		1	6
Medium-term note unsecured	(ii)	9,918	
Amount due to China Telecom in connection with the First Acquisition unsecured	(iii)	15,000	15,000
Amount due to China Telecom in connection with the Se			