

**GLOBAL SWEETENERS RESUMED PROFITABILITY IN 2021 FIRST HALF,  
ACHIEVED SATISFACTORY PROGRESS IN DEBT RESTRUCTURING**

27 August 2021 – Global Sweeteners Holdings Limited (“Global Sweeteners” or the “Company”, stock code: 03889) together with its subsidiaries (the “Group”) reported profit for the six months ended 30 June 2021 (the “Period”) of HK\$7.2 million (2020 same period: loss for the period of HK\$151.2 million), due to the recognition of a one-off gain of approximately HK\$128.3 million as a result of the satisfactory progress in debt restructuring; basic earnings per share amounted to HK0.5 cents (2020 same period: basic loss per share HK9.9 cents). The Group’s revenue and earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) for the Period amounted to HK\$356.4 million and approximately HK\$83.2 million respectively.

During the Period, the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and high corn price in China have narrowed the profit margin of the Group’s products, especially the upstream products. As such, the Group has continued to suspend all of its upstream operation and most of its downstream operation and consolidated its resources into the Shanghai production site, which has higher operational efficiency during the Period. As a result of the aforesaid, the Group’s consolidated revenue during the Period was adjusted downward when compared with that of the same period last year.

In March 2021, each of the Group, Global Bio-chem Technology Group Company Limited (“GBT”, together with its subsidiaries, the “GBT Group”) which is the controlling shareholder of the Company, and Changchun Dajincang Corn Procurement Co., Ltd. (“Dajincang”) entered into repurchase agreements with Changchun Rudder Investment Group Co., Ltd. (“Changchun Rudder”) for the purchase of each of their respective loans owed to Changchun Rudder. After the completion of the Repurchase Agreements took effect at the end of March 2021, all the obligations of the Group as guarantor under the financial guarantee contracts in respect of the Dajincang indebtedness have been discharged.

Going forward, Global Sweeteners will strive to facilitate the implementation of the debt restructuring plan for the loans owed to its lending bank, Jilin Branch of Agricultural Bank of China Co., Ltd., which is expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

In September 2020, Changchun Dihao Foodstuff Development Co., Ltd. (“Dihao Foodstuff”), a subsidiary of Global Sweeteners, entered into a compensation agreement with the local government, for the resumption of certain properties owned by Dihao Foodstuff in Luyuan District. Dihao Foodstuff shall receive a total compensation of approximately RMB443.0 million as a result of the aforesaid resumption of properties, which has been received in full during the Period. The Group expects that the local government will resume the remaining land parcels owned by the Group with an aggregate area of approximately 100,000 square metres by the end of 2021. The proceeds from the resumption of land will help to relieve the financial and cash flow pressure of the Group during the period of suspension.

The operating environment of the Group in the second half of 2021 will continue to be challenging as the PRC corn price is expected to remain high throughout 2021. The Group will continue to monitor closely the market conditions as well as the financial conditions of the Group, and assess the viability of various business segments to determine the best timing to resume the operation of the Company's subsidiaries.

In light of consumer's health concerns, the Group is accelerating the research and development ("R&D") of high value-added products targeting this area, and plans to leverage the fully integrated advanced R&D facilities of the Shanghai base to develop other sweetener products in order to optimize product mix and enhance cost efficiency.

**About Global Sweeteners**

Global Sweeteners (stock code: 03889.HK) is listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited in September 2007 and is principally engaged in the production and sale of corn refined products (including corn starch, corn oil, gluten meal and fibre), and various corn sweeteners (including glucose and maltose syrup, HFCS and maltodextrin) for food and beverage, chemical, confectionery, daily, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products manufacturers. Global Sweeteners is a non-wholly owned subsidiary of Global Bio-chem Technology Group Company Limited (stock code: 00809.HK), the issued shares of which are listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

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(Attached with: Global Sweeteners' financial highlights for the six months ended 30 June 2021)

	For the six months ended 30 June		
	2021 (Unaudited)	2020 (Unaudited)	Change %
Revenue (HK\$ million)	356.4	434.6	(18.0)
Gross profit (HK\$ million)	13.6	48.0	(71.7)
Profit (Loss) before tax (HK\$ million)	7.2	(151.2)	N/A
Profit (Loss) for the period (HK\$ million)	7.2	(151.2)	N/A
Basic earnings (loss) per share (HK cents)	0.5	(9.9)	N/A
Interim dividend per share (HK cents)	Nil	Nil	N/A