ZIXIN GROUP HOLDINGS
紫心集团控股

(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore with Unique Entity No.: 200718683N)
Website: **www.zixingroup.com.sg**
SGX stock code: **42W**

Zixin Group enters into a joint venture agreement with ZTO Nongte to jointly develop and operate a sweet potato-themed industrial park within the Xinfa Agricultural Industrial Park in Liaocheng City, Shandong Province

- Zixin Group contends that the collaborative integration of resources with a reputable and established partner within an established agricultural park will significantly expedite the replication of its successful business model and act as a catalyst for harnessing and monetising its biotechnological assets and expertise within the sweet potato industrial chain

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SINGAPORE, 22 July 2026 – SGX Catalist-listed 42W, **Zixin Group Holdings Limited 紫心集团控股** ("**Zixin**" or the "**Company**" and together with its subsidiaries, "**Zixin Group**"), a leading biotech-focused sweet potato integrated industrial value chain operator, is pleased to inform shareholders and potential investors that, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Hainan Zixin Sweet Potato Industry Technology Co., Ltd. 海南紫心薯业科技有限公司 ("**Hainan Zixin**"), it has entered into a joint venture agreement with ZTO Agri-Specialty Food Technology (Shandong) Co., Ltd 中通农特（山东）食品科技有限公司 ("**ZTO Nongte**"). This agreement aims to jointly invest in and establish a venture to develop and operate a sweet potato-themed industrial park within the Xinfa Agricultural Industrial Park 信发农业产业园[1], located in Liaocheng City, Shandong Province, China (the "**Proposed Joint Venture**").

Proposed Joint Venture

The Proposed Joint Venture company Zhongtong Zi Xin (Shandong) Sweet Potato Industry Co., Ltd. 中通紫信（山东）薯业有限公司 ("**ZTO Zi Xin**")[2], will be incorporated with a registered capital of RMB 10.0 million (equivalent to approximately S$1.91[3] million). The capital will be contributed and fully paid in accordance with the shareholding attributed to the respective joint venture partners as follows:

Joint Venture Partners	Capital Contribution (RMB' million)	Shareholding in Proposed Joint Venture
ZTO Nongte	5.1	51.0%
Hainan Zixin	4.9	49.0%
Total	**10.0**	**100.0%**

[1] https://asianetnews.net/news/smart-green-agriculture-cee-delegation-explores-chipings-xinfa-model/
[2] The proposed company name is subject to the approval from the Chinese authority.
[3] Based on exchange rate: RMB 1.0 : SGD 0.19

Hainan Zixin's capital contribution will be funded through internal resources and the Proposed Joint Venture is not expected to have any material impact on the earnings per share or net tangible assets per share of the Group for the financial year ending 31 March 2027.

The Proposed Joint Venture aims to establish a sweet potato industrial value chain that encompasses upstream, midstream, and downstream operations[4], focusing on the sweet potato crop that is currently absent from the Xinfa Agricultural Industrial Park. This strategic alliance aims to capitalise on the core competencies of ZTO Nongte and Zixin Group, integrating their respective channels, technologies, and industrial resources. It will also leverage the competitive advantages of Xinfa Agricultural Industrial Park to develop and manage a premier hub for sweet potatoes, thereby fostering sustainable development and generating benefits both in Shandong Province and on a global scale.

In response to this Proposed Joint Venture, Mr. Liang Chengwang (梁承旺), Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Zixin Group, said, "**We are enthusiastic about the prospect of forming a joint venture with a reputable and established partner to replicate our successful closed-loop circular economy sweet potato industrial value chain within the established agricultural park in Liaocheng City, Shandong Province. We believe that this collaborative integration of resources will significantly expedite the replication of our successful business model and act as a catalyst for harnessing and monetising our biotechnological assets and expertise within our existing sweet potato industrial chain. Consequently, this initiative will accelerate Zixin Group's advancement toward our committed mission of enhancing food security and food safety, as well as improving the livelihoods of the agricultural population.**"

The Company will update shareholders on material developments of the Proposed Joint Venture, as and when they arise.

<u>About ZTO Agri-Specialty Food Technology (Shandong) Co., Ltd</u>

ZTO Agri-Specialty Food Technology (Shandong) Co., Ltd 中通农特（山东）食品科技有限公司 ("**ZTO Nongte**"), is 51% owned by ZTO (Express) Cloud Warehouse Technology Co., Ltd 中通云仓科技有限公司(https://www.ztocwst.com/) and 49% owned by ZTO Agri-Specialty Technology (Shandong) Co., Ltd 中通农特（山东）科技有限公司 (https://www.ztonongtetech.com/cn/). ZTO Nongte specialises in the food processing, delivery, and storage of agricultural produce.

These companies are part of the group of companies under ZTO Express (Cayman) Inc. ("**ZTO Express Group**"), a leading player in the logistics supply chain industry in the PRC, focusing on technological-driven solutions and providing comprehensive supply chain solutions through a nationwide

[4] Upstream operations refer to cultivation and supply segment, midstream operations refer to product innovation and food production, and downstream operations refer to brand building, marketing and distribution, and channel building segment.

warehousing and distribution network. ZTO Express (Cayman) Inc. is listed on both the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (2057) and New York Stock Exchange (ZTO).

<u>About Xinfa Agricultural Industrial Park</u>

The Xinfa Agricultural Industrial Park is a state-of-the-art farming facility located in the Chiping District of Liaocheng City, Shandong Province, China. Developed by the Xinfa Group Co., Ltd. (信发集团有限公司), it has automated climate control and smart vertical hydroponic greenhouses and utilises industrial waste heat and carbon dioxide emissions from nearby manufacturing facilities to support sustainable farming. Its smart farming involves employing intelligent control technologies, big data analysis, and high-precision sensors to precisely regulate the conditions for plant growth. Currently, the agricultural industrial park focuses on the year-round production of high-yield crops, including smart-cultivated cherries and vertical-farmed strawberries.

<u>Cautionary Note:</u>

Shareholders and potential investors are advised to exercise caution when dealing with the shares of the Company. Persons who are in doubt as to the action they should take should consult their stockbrokers, bank managers, solicitors, accountants, or other professional advisers before trading in or making any investment decision regarding the Company's shares.

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This press release is to be read in conjunction with the Company's announcement posted on the SGX Website on 22 July 2026.

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(Stock code – SGX: **42W** | Bloomberg: **ZXGH SP** | Reuters: **42W.SI**)

Zixin Group Holdings Limited ("**Zixin**" or the "**Company**" and together with its subsidiaries, "**Zixin Group**") is a leading biotech-focused sweet potato integrated industrial value chain operator. Through its subsidiaries in Singapore and China, the Group harnesses its biotechnology capabilities to strengthen and support its core business areas: **(1) cultivation and supply** – (i) sales of fresh sweet potatoes, (ii) sales of sweet potato seedlings, (iii) research and development of sweet potato varieties to cultivate sweet potato seedlings, and (iv) sweet potato cultivation techniques and solutions to improve the quality and yield for farmlands, (**2) product innovation and food production** – (i) sale of sweet potato processed products, and (ii) food processing techniques to maximise nutrient retention in proprietary branded products, **(3) brand building, marketing and distribution channel building** – building of proprietary brands of healthier sweet potato related products through targeted marketing campaigns and various distribution platforms (traditional and e-commerce) in China and internationally, and **(4) recovery and recycling** – (i) sales of probiotic-infused fermented sweet potato agricultural waste, (ii) recovering nutritional content from sweet potato peels, and (iii) converting agricultural waste, such as sweet potato peels, stems and leaves into probiotic-infused fermented feedstock for poultry and animal feed.

Zixin Group aims to be a leading global biotech-focused sweet potato agritech operator, leveraging smart ecological agriculture and utilising biotech capabilities throughout its integrated sweet potato industrial value chain. With the support from complementary industries such as smart warehousing and agricultural waste fermentation, Zixin Group intends to utilise its biotech capabilities to strengthen its circular economy business model, thereby enhancing operational effectiveness and fostering economies of scale.

Zixin Group has initiated the replication of its sweet potato circular economy industrial value chain in Lingao County, Hainan Province, China. Zixin Group is undergoing rapid expansion in both the Chinese and international markets, and Zixin Group has started expanding its international distribution network through its operations in Singapore.

Please visit the Company's website at www.zixingroup.com.sg for more information.

Issued for and on behalf of **ZIXIN GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED** by:

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OCTAVE

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*This media release has been reviewed by the Company's sponsor, RHB Bank Berhad (the "**Sponsor**") in compliance with Rule 226(2)(b) of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited (the "**SGX-ST**") Listing Manual Section B: Rules of Catalist (the "**Catalist Rules**").*

This media release has not been examined or approved by the SGX-ST and the SGX-ST assumes no responsibility for the contents of this media release, including the correctness of any of the statements or opinions made or reports contained in this media release.

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