

CHINA TELECOM CORP LTD
Form 6-K
December 18, 2009

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 December 2009

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 | Circular regarding renewal of continuing connected transactions, dated December 16, 2009 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 changes in the regulatory policies of the MIIT and other relevant government authorities in China; 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: December 18, 2009

By: /s/ WANG XIAOCHU
Name: **Wang Xiaochu**
Title: **Chairman and CEO**

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China Telecom Corporation Limited

(A joint stock limited company incorporated in the People's Republic of China with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 728)

RENEWAL OF CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

SUMMARY

Reference is made to the Announcement, in which the Company has announced, among others, the renewal of certain continuing connected transactions of the Company. Such continuing connected transactions are governed by the Agreements the terms of which will expire on 31 December 2009.

The Board announces that the Agreements, which were entered into between the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation, have been renewed on 16 December 2009 for a further term of one year expiring on 31 December 2010. The annual caps applicable to the renewed Agreements are set out below.

As China Telecommunications Corporation is the Company's controlling shareholder (such term as defined under the Hong Kong Listing Rules), the transactions contemplated under the Agreements constitute continuing connected transactions of the Company for the purposes of Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules. As each of the percentage ratios (other than the profits ratio) of each of the transactions contemplated under the Agreements is, on an annual basis, above 0.1% but less than 2.5%, they therefore fall under Rule 14A.34 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules. Accordingly, the Company is subject to the reporting and announcement requirements set out under Rules 14A.45 to 14A.47 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules in respect of the Agreements, but is exempt from the requirements of independent shareholders' approval under Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

INTRODUCTION

Reference is made to the Announcement, in which the Company announced, among others, the renewal of certain continuing connected transactions which are governed by the following Agreements between the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation:

1. Centralised Services Agreement;

2. Property Leasing Framework Agreement;
 3. IT Services Framework Agreement; and
 4. Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement.
- The above Agreements will expire on 31 December 2009.

The Board announces that the Agreements have been renewed in accordance with their respective provisions on 16 December 2009, invariably for a further term of one year expiring on 31 December 2010.

AGREEMENTS

Centralised Services Agreement

The Centralised Services Agreement relates to the provision of centralised services, such as the business management and operational services (including services in relation to key corporate customers, the network management centre and business support centre), the use of international facilities and venues and other facilities or resources used in common by the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation at the same time. The Centralised Services Agreement, which was renewed on 15 December 2008 with a term expiring on 31 December 2009, can be renewed for further periods of one year unless the Company provides three months advance written notification to China Telecommunications Corporation of its intention not to renew it.

Pursuant to the Centralised Services Agreement, (i) the apportionment of the aggregate costs incurred for the provision of business management services is on a pro rata basis in accordance with the revenues generated by each of the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation; (ii) the fee for the use of venues is negotiated and determined by the parties by reference to comparable market price and payment is made with reference to the actual apportioned used areas on the venues; (iii) the fee for the use of international telecommunications facilities of China Telecommunications Corporation is negotiated and determined by the parties by reference to comparable market price and apportioned on a pro rata basis in accordance with the volume of international calls handled by each of the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation; and (iv) the fee for the use of international telecommunications facilities and services of Independent Third Parties is based on actual costs incurred and apportioned on a pro rata basis in accordance with the volume of international calls handled by each of the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation.

The Centralised Services Agreement has been renewed in accordance with its provisions on 16 December 2009 for a further term of one year expiring on 31 December 2010.

Property Leasing Framework Agreement

The Property Leasing Framework Agreement relates to the lease of properties by the Company (including its subsidiaries) to China Telecommunications Corporation (including its subsidiaries), and vice versa. The Property Leasing Framework Agreement, which was renewed on 15 December 2008 with a term expiring on 31 December 2009, can be renewed for further periods of one year unless the Company provides three months advance written notification to China Telecommunications Corporation of its intention not to renew it.

The rental charges in respect of the properties which are subject to the Property Leasing Framework Agreement are determined based on market rates, with reference to amounts stipulated by local price bureaus, taking into consideration the specific needs of each party. The rental charges are subject to review every three years.

The Property Leasing Framework Agreement has been renewed in accordance with its provisions on 16 December 2009 for a further term of one year expiring on 31 December 2010.

IT Services Framework Agreement

The IT Services Framework Agreement relates to the provision of cross-provincial information technology services, such as office automation and software adjustment, by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates to the Group and vice versa. The IT Services Framework Agreement, which was renewed on 15 December 2008 with a term expiring on 31 December 2009, can be renewed for further periods of one year unless the Company provides three months advance written notification to China Telecommunications Corporation of its intention not to renew it.

China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates have the right to participate in the bidding for the right to provide the Group with services under the IT Service Framework Agreement, and the charges payable are determined by reference to market rates as reflected by prices obtained through the tender process. Where the terms of an offer from China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates are at least as favorable as that offered by other tenderers, the Group may award the tender to China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates.

The IT Services Framework Agreement has been renewed in accordance with its provisions on 16 December 2009 for a further term of one year expiring on 31 December 2010.

Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement

The Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement relates to the provision of cross-provincial comprehensive procurement services, including the sale and resale of telecommunications supplies, the management of tenders, verification of technical specifications and installation services, by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates to the Group and vice versa. The scope of procurement services under the Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement includes (i) the import of telecommunications supplies and procurement of domestic telecommunications supplies and domestic non-telecommunications materials by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates for the Group, including the provision of related agency services, sale of telecommunications supplies manufactured by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates, resale of supplies purchased from Independent Third Parties, management of tenders, verification of technical specifications, storage, transportation and installation services; and (ii) the sale of telecommunications supplies manufactured by the Group and resale of supplies purchased from Independent Third Parties by the Group to China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates, including related agency services, storage, transportation and installation services. Payments made may be in the form of commission charges or in the case of resale, the contract value of the relevant supplies.

The Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement, which was renewed on 15 December 2008 with a term expiring on 31 December 2009, can be renewed for further periods of one year, unless the Company provides three months advance written notification to China Telecommunications Corporation of its intention not to renew it.

The charges payable for the above services are calculated at:

(1) Where payments made in relation to the agency services for the provision of supplies procurement are in the form of commission charges:

- (i) procurement services in respect of imported telecommunications supplies are provided at 1% of the contract value at the maximum;
- (ii) procurement services in respect of domestic telecommunications supplies and other domestic non-telecommunications materials are provided at 3% of the contract value at the maximum;

(2) Where payments made in relation to the sales/resale of telecommunications supplies are in the contract value of the relevant supplies: the procurement services are provided at:

- (i) the government-prescribed prices;
- (ii) where there are no government-prescribed prices but where there are government-guided prices, the government-guided prices apply;
- (iii) where there are neither government-prescribed prices nor government-guided prices, the market prices apply. The market price is defined as the price at which the same type of services are provided by Independent Third Parties in the ordinary course of business; or
- (iv) where none of the above is applicable, the prices are to be agreed between the relevant parties for the provision of the above services, which shall be the reasonable costs incurred in providing the same plus reasonable profit margin (for this purpose, reasonable costs means such costs as confirmed by both parties after negotiations).

The Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement has been renewed in accordance with its provisions on 16 December 2009 for a further term of one year expiring on 31 December 2010.

CONNECTION BETWEEN THE PARTIES

The Agreements were entered into between the Company and China Telecommunications Corporation. As China Telecommunications Corporation is the Company's controlling shareholder (such term as defined under the Hong Kong Listing Rules), holding 70.89% of the issued share capital of the Company, the transactions contemplated under the Agreements constitute continuing connected transactions of the Company for the purpose of Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

REASONS FOR THE TRANSACTIONS

The historical unique relationship and long-term cooperation between China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates and the Group has enabled China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates to gain a comprehensive and deep understanding of the Group's network features and general business needs. Compared to third parties, China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates can more aptly ensure that high quality service is provided at a competitive price, thus lowering service costs. The Group will receive high quality service and can effectively lower its operational expenses.

Due to a long-standing and cooperative relationship in the past, China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates are more able to meet the needs of the Group and to provide responsive support services in a speedy and stable manner, thereby achieving effective business cooperation and synergies. China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates have set up specialised teams dedicated to serving the Group, and made proactive initiatives and technical preparations customized for the development of the Group, with a view to providing the Group with more systematic and efficient services.

ANNUAL CAPS

The maximum aggregate annual values for the year ending 31 December 2009 and 2010 (the Annual Caps), for each of the transactions contemplated under the Agreements are set out below:

| | Unaudited historical | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | amount for the period | Annual Caps | Annual Caps |
| | from 1 January to | for the year ending | for the year ending |
| Agreements | 30 September 2009 | 31 December 2009 | 31 December 2010 |
| Centralised Services Agreement | RMB450 million (equivalent to HKD510 million) | RMB800 million (equivalent to HKD910 million) | RMB800 million (equivalent to HKD910 million) |
| Property Leasing Framework Agreement | RMB290 million (equivalent to HKD330 million) | RMB510 million (equivalent to HKD580 million) | RMB510 million (equivalent to HKD580 million) |
| IT Services Framework Agreement | Amount payable by the Group: | Amount payable by the Group: | Amount payable by the Group: |
| | RMB280 million (equivalent to HKD320 million) | RMB850 million (equivalent to HKD970 million) | RMB850 million (equivalent to HKD970 million) |
| | Amount payable by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates: | Amount payable by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates: | Amount payable by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates: |
| | RMB80 million (equivalent to HKD90 million) | Not applicable | RMB300 million (equivalent to HKD340 million) |

| Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement | Amount payable by the Group: | Amount payable by the Group: | Amount payable by the Group: |
|---|---|---|---|
| | RMB1,220 million (equivalent to HKD1,390 million) | RMB3,300 million (equivalent to HKD3,750 million) | RMB2,600 million (equivalent to HKD2,950 million) |
| | Amount payable by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates: | Amount payable by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates: | Amount payable by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates: |
| | RMB560 million (equivalent to HKD640 million) | RMB1,650 million (equivalent to HKD1,880 million) | RMB1,150 million (equivalent to HKD1,310 million) |

As far as the Company is aware, none of the Annual Caps for the year ending 31 December 2009 has been exceeded as at the date of this announcement. Each of the Annual Caps for the year ending 31 December 2010 has been determined by reference to the nature of the transactions contemplated under the Agreements, the existing scale and operations of the Company's business, and the business plan of the Company for the year ending 31 December 2010. The consideration under each of the Agreements will be satisfied in cash and no payment will be made on a deferred basis. The annual caps for the Centralised Services Agreement and the Property Leasing Framework Agreement for the year ending 31 December 2010 have been determined, taking into account the expected increases in the demand in relevant services resulting from the expansion of the Company's business scale in the year of 2010, the details of which are set out under the headings Agreements Centralised Services Agreement and Agreements - Property Leasing Framework Agreement above. The maximum aggregate annual value for the amount payable by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates to the Group under the IT Services Framework Agreement for the year ending 31 December 2009 was below the 0.1% de minimis threshold under Rule 14A.33(3) of the Listing Rules, and therefore no annual cap was set for such transaction. As a result of the Company's efforts to deepen its business transformation and expand its informatisation services, which includes the provision of, among others, information technology services by the Group to China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates and vice versa, the Company expects an increase in the demand for information technology services, especially those received by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associate from the Group pursuant to the IT Services Framework Agreement. The amount payable by China Telecommunications Corporation and/or its associates under the IT Services Framework Agreement for the year ending 31 December 2010 is expected to exceed the 0.1% threshold under Rule 14A of the Listing Rules and an annual cap has been set to be RMB300 million. The annual caps for the Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement for the year ending 31 December 2010 have been determined, taking into account the expected increase in the demand in the relevant procurement services resulting from expected expansion in its full service offerings and mobile telecommunications service, the details of which are set out under the heading Agreements - Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement above.

The Board (including the independent non-executive directors of the Company) is of the view that the Agreements have been entered into in the ordinary and usual course of business of the Group, that they are on normal commercial terms, that they have been implemented in accordance with the terms contained therein, and that they, as well as the Annual Caps applicable thereto, are fair and reasonable and are in the interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole.

HONG KONG LISTING RULES IMPLICATIONS

As each of the percentage ratios (other than the profits ratio) of each of the transactions contemplated under the Agreements is, on an annual basis, above 0.1% but less than 2.5%, they therefore fall under Rule 14A.34 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules. Accordingly, the Company is subject to the reporting and announcement requirements set out under Rules 14A.45 to 14A.47 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules in respect of the Agreements, but is exempt from the requirements of independent shareholders' approval under Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules. Details of the Agreements will be disclosed in the Company's next published annual report and accounts, as required under Rule 14A.46 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

DEFINITIONS

In this announcement, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Agreements | the Centralised Services Agreement, the Property Leasing Framework Agreement, the IT Services Framework Agreement and the Supplies Procurement Services Framework Agreement, as amended by their respective supplemental agreements from time to time (as applicable). |
| Announcement | the announcement dated 15 December 2008 issued by the Company in relation to, among others, renewal of certain continuing connected transactions of the Company |
| Board | the board of directors of the Company |
| China Telecommunications Corporation | China Telecommunications Corporation (), a state-owned enterprise established under the laws of the PRC on 17 May 2000 and the controlling shareholder of the Company, with its principal business being the investment holding of companies primarily involved in the provision of telecommunications services in the PRC, the provision of specialised telecommunication support services and other businesses |
| Company | China Telecom Corporation Limited (), a joint stock limited company, listed on the main board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, incorporated in the PRC with limited liability on 10 September 2002 and whose principal business includes basic telecommunications businesses such as the provision of fixed telecommunications services and mobile telecommunications services, and value-added telecommunications businesses such as Internet connection services business and information services business |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| connected person | as defined in the Hong Kong Listing Rules |
| Group | the Company, together with all of its subsidiaries |
| HKD | Hong Kong Dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong. For reference only, the amounts in Hong Kong Dollars set out in this announcement are translated from Renminbi at HK\$1.00 = RMB0.88. Such translation should not be construed as representations that the amounts in one currency actually represent, or could be converted into, the amounts in another currency at the rate indicated, or at all |
| Hong Kong | Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC |
| Hong Kong Listing Rules | the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited |
| Independent Third Party | an entity which is independent of and not connected to the Company or its connected persons, and which is not a connected person of the Company |
| PRC | the People's Republic of China (excluding, for the purposes of this announcement, Hong Kong, Macau Special Administrative Region, and Taiwan) |
| RMB | Renminbi, the lawful currency of the PRC |

By Order of the Board
China Telecom Corporation Limited

Wang Xiaochu
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Beijing, PRC, 16 December 2009

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this announcement may be viewed as forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 (as amended) and Section 21E of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (as amended). Such forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual performance, financial condition or results of operations of the Company to be materially different from any future performance, financial condition or results of operations implied by such forward-looking statements. In addition, we do not intend to update these forward-looking statements. Further information regarding these risks, uncertainties and other factors is included in the Company's most recent Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) and in the Company's other filings with the SEC.

As of the date of this announcement, the Board of directors of the Company consists of Mr. Wang Xiaochu as the chairman and chief executive officer, Mr. Shang Bing as the president and chief operating officer, Madam Wu Andi as the executive vice president and chief financial officer, Mr. Zhang Jiping, Mr. Zhang Chenshuang, Mr. Yang Xiaowei, Mr. Yang Jie, and Mr. Sun Kangmin as the executive vice presidents, Mr. Li Jinming as the non-executive director, and Mr. Wu Jichuan, Mr. Qin Xiao, Mr. Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius, Madam Cha May Lung, Laura, Mr. Xu Erming as the independent non-executive directors.

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