

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

| OMB APPROVAL | |
|--|-----------|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0104 |
| Estimated average burden hours per response: | 0.5 |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>ZHANG ZHIHUA</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) GUANJIE BUILDING, SOUTHEAST 1ST FL 10# JIUXIANQIAO EAST ROAD, CHAOYANG DISTRICT (Street) BEIJING F4 100016 (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 03/17/2026 | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>VNET Group, Inc. [VNET]</u> | |
| | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) SVP, Operational Finance | 5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|
| | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | |
| Restricted Share Units (RSUs) | (1) | (2) | Class A ordinary shares | 158,400 | (I) | D |

Explanation of Responses:

- Represents RSUs granted to the reporting person pursuant to the issuer's share incentive plans, of which 79,200 RSUs will vest on October 31, 2026 and the remaining 79,200 RSUs will vest on October 31, 2027. Each RSU represents the contingent right to receive one (1) Class A ordinary share of the issuer upon vesting.
- These RSUs do not have an expiration date.

/s/ Zhihua Zhang

03/17/2026

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.