



Press Release

“WE’LL STRENGTHEN THE BANK’S PRESENCE IN EMILIA ROMAGNA”

FILIPPO CAVAZZUTI CHAIRMAN OF CARISBO

Sergio Iovino coopted to the Board

Bologna, 24th June 2005. Filippo Cavazzuti is the new Chairman of Carisbo, the Sanpaolo Imi Group bank operating in Emilia Romagna.

The resolution was taken by the Board of Directors of the financial institution which met this morning in Bologna and also passed the resolution relating to the co-option of Sergio Iovino to the Board.

After having paid tribute once again to Emilio Rubbi, the bank’s former Chairman who passed away on 1st June 2005, the Board proceeded with the appointments, also taking into account the recommendations of the Parent Company Sanpaolo Imi, sole shareholder of the Emilia Romagna financial institution.

Filippo Cavazzuti, who was Under-Secretary of the Treasury with Ciampi and CONSOB Commissioner in the 1999-2003 period, had been Deputy-Chairman of the bank since 30th April 2004.

Sergio Iovino was Prefect of Bologna and Government Commissioner for Emilia –Romagna, after having enjoyed a long career in the civil service.

“We shall work towards strengthening Carisbo’s presence in the financial market of Emilia Romagna – declared the newly elected Chairman Filippo Cavazzuti – continuing a centuries-long tradition which has seen our bank develop and deepen its roots throughout the territory.

“At the same time Carisbo shall also be the gateway to the global market for the region’s families and businesses – continued Cavazzuti – offering the most innovative financial instruments and the international operating capacity that membership of the Sanpaolo Imi Group guarantees”.