

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Earthquakes in Emilia: the Unipol Group launches its scheme to support those affected and its customers**

BOLOGNA, 7 June 2012 – The Unipol Group expresses its sympathy and support for the people and businesses in Emilia-Romagna affected by the series of earthquakes that led to the tragic loss of life and destroyed houses and business premises. Unipol reiterates the practical support it offers through the insurance (Unipol Assicurazioni, Linear, Unisalute, Arca) and banking (Unipol Banca) arms of its business for the individuals and businesses affected and assures its customers it will do its utmost to help them.

In addition to its promise to pay policyholders' claims as quickly as possible, the Group has today launched a structured and centrally coordinated series of measures to help the various categories of its stakeholders in the region (customers, the general public, employees, agents, member organisations, suppliers), in line with its desire to support a region in which it has a particularly significant presence and with its commitment, as a leading insurance company, to social responsibility.

#### **Measures to help local people**

In concrete terms, Unipol has decided to set up a scheme whereby it expects to be able to collect at least half a million Euro in voluntary contributions from employees by the end of June, which will be supplemented by a significant voluntary contribution from senior executives and matched by the Company. It is also expected that the Group's vast network of agencies will make spontaneous contributions to the fund.

The amount collected will be allocated to one or more specific projects identified by Unipol in conjunction with the chairman of the regional council of Emilia Romagna.

#### **Measures to help policyholders**

For policyholders insured against earthquake risk Unipol has set up a dedicated claims-handling task force to provide a rapid expert valuation of the damage in order to support rescue packages and get businesses back on their feet as soon as possible. The Company is also looking into entering into agreements with local social cooperatives and other businesses in order to ensure that reconstruction work on industrial buildings will take anti-earthquake criteria into account.

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For customers who have suffered damage to buildings insured against fire but not against earthquake, Unipol Banca is offering €10m in soft loans, added to the €15m already set aside immediately after the earthquakes for those affected. Unipol is also making its building at Crespellano (BO) available to its business customers as temporary offices.

All the Group's insurance and banking customers in more than 50 local authority areas affected by the earthquakes are being granted an extension of 30 days to the deadlines for making loan repayments and paying insurance premiums; MV TPL customers will also have their premiums frozen provided they make no claims.

However, customers in the local authority areas most affected by the earthquake are granted an extension of deadlines for payment of premiums of 90 days and their local MV TPL coefficients will be reduced by 10%.

### **Measures to help employees and agents**

Employees living in the worst-affected areas will be offered accommodation in flats owned by Unipol in Cento, a small town a few miles east of Bologna, and in hotels in Bologna.

As well as help with restoring damaged premises, agencies will be offered the use of fully equipped units in portable buildings and Group premises in good condition.

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