

Statement regarding Unipol Assicurazioni's holding in Banca Nazionale del Lavoro S.p.A.

With reference to the news spread by the news agencies on 13 June, it is hereby reiterated what had already been stated to the market last week, namely that the Unipol Group disposes, in order to protect its investment in the insurance joint venture BNL Vita S.p.A., of 9.99% of the ordinary share capital of Banca Nazionale del Lavoro S.p.A..

As regards the assumptions according to which Unipol Assicurazioni S.p.A. would launch a takeover bid for the shares of Banca Nazionale del Lavoro S.p.A., it is hereby stated that the Company's administrative bodies have not studied any file on this point nor have they been convened to that end.

Bologna, 14 June 2005

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