

## **NOTE**

**The Judge for Preliminary Hearings in the Bologna Court has dismissed proceedings for extortion brought against UGF's Chairman, Pierluigi Stefanini, as a result of the complaint submitted by Giovanni Consorte, because of the total lack of evidence of any offence.**

The Judge for Preliminary Hearings in the Bologna Court has dismissed proceedings for extortion brought against the Chairman of Unipol Gruppo Finanziario, Pierluigi Stefanini, as a result of the complaint submitted in June 2007 by Giovanni Consorte. The Judge for Preliminary Hearings has in fact stated that there is no evidence whatsoever of an offence having been committed, as has the Public Prosecutor, who requested that proceedings be dismissed in September 2007.

The upholding of the decision by the Judge for Preliminary Hearings clarifies once and for all, if ever it were needed, that Mr Stefanini has never attempted to coerce nor blackmail Mr Consorte into resigning from the managerial posts he holds in the Company.

Bologna, 25 September 2008

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