

## Joint press release

# APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF BCC VITA AND BCC ASSICURAZIONI

*Milan, 20 September 2010.* **Franco Ferrarini** has been appointed, by the respective boards of directors, Chairman of **BCC Assicurazioni SpA** and of **BCC Vita SpA**, the insurance companies that implement the alliance between Cattolica Assicurazioni and Iccrea Holding.

Ferrarini, a 57-year old chartered accountant in Verona, has a long professional curriculum featuring numerous experiences in the banking world and in Credito Cooperativo (the Italian cooperative credit banking system) as Chairman of BCC Benaco Banca and, until April this year, of Banca Agrileasing SpA, the Credito Cooperativo corporate bank. He has also built up major experience in local public services and in the social responsibility sector and is Vice President of the Fondazione Tertio Millennio, a non-profit Credito Cooperativo organization.

*The **CATTOLICA ASSICURAZIONI GROUP**, a premier Italian insurance group, comprises Cattolica Assicurazioni, listed on the Milan stock exchange, and another 11 insurance companies. The group ended the first half of 2010 with consolidated net income of €31 million and total premiums, including investment contracts, of € 2,893 million. As at 30 June 2010 the group's agencies had reached a total of 1,441. Bank branches selling the group's products numbered 5,430 while there were 1,199 financial advisors and 365 pension advisors.*

***Iccrea Holding SpA** (whose capital is owned by co-operative credit banks (banche di credito cooperativo – BCC)) heads the Iccrea Banking Group, i.e. the group of companies that provides the BCC with a competitive overall offering for their 5 million customers and comprises the companies providing products and services for the operations of the BCC and rural banks (casse rurali – CR) (Institutional segment) and their elective customers – SMEs (Corporate segment) and households (Retail segment).*

*As at 30.12.2009, there were 426 co-operative credit banks (BCC) and rural banks (CR) active in Italy, with 4,192 branches. They were directly present in 2,647 municipalities and 98 provinces. In 549 municipalities they were the only bank. As at the same date the BCC-CR system had € 147 billion of direct funding (+9.1% YoY) while loans had topped € 125 billion (+7% YoY). Equity amounted to € 19.4 billion (+6.7% YoY).*

## CONTACTS

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