

## JOINT PRESS RELEASE

### **Banca Intesa, IFIL and Marcegaglia acquire 49% of Sviluppo Italia Turismo**

Milan, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004 - Banca Intesa Spa, Gruppo IFIL and Marcegaglia Spa have reached an agreement to acquire 49% of Sviluppo Italia Turismo's (SIT) capital stock from Sviluppo Italia Spa.

The three private stockholders will acquire SIT's stake through Turismo&Immobiliare (a new company equally held by Banca Intesa, Gruppo IFIL and Marcegaglia), that will purchase stocks and subscribe in to a capital increase of SIT with a total outlay of € 76.4 million.

The closing of the deal is subject to approval by the antitrust authority.

Under the terms of the agreement reached today, the three new private partners will have the right to take the majority control of SIT by 2009.

Thanks to the partnership with Banca Intesa, Gruppo IFIL and Marcegaglia, Sviluppo Italia will improve and develop the SIT's structures, in order to expand the offer to the market and to increase the incoming tourist streams.

As a first tangible step, SIT will start the planned investments in Puglia, Calabria e Sicily.

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