

NOTE FOR THE PRESS

“Common Announcement”: Faissola, from October, an extra € 2 billion of liquidity for SMEs

New figures are available on the monitoring of the suspension of SME debts: 46,239 applications have been received. Debts suspended for 3/4 of admissible requests. Only just over 1% have not been approved. The most popular sectors are industry, retail/hotel and other services. 573 banks have joined the scheme, (98.2% of branches in Italy)

The official figures of the monitoring exercise envisaged by the Common Announcement on the suspension of SME debts show that as at 30 October 2009, namely in the first few weeks of implementation of the Agreement, 46,239 applications have been received from companies, corresponding to a total value of loans of € 16 billion.

The banking system has examined 38,954 applications (€ 13.4 billion) with the following results: 75% of applications have been approved (27,021 corresponding to 9.9 billion), 9,191 are still being examined (2.8 billion), while only 1% have not been approved (590 corresponding to € 137 million).

At the Senate hearing on the results achieved for the suspension of SME debts, ABI Chairman, Corrado Faissola, emphasised that “since October, the banks have provided enterprises with over € 2 billion in funds relating to suspended loan principal payments”. The macroeconomic scenario remains difficult, despite initial positive signs. The level of non-performing loans has increased for the banks. This highlights the importance of a review of the overall tax treatment of banks, and in this regard, we need a structural provision that regards IRAP, IRES and infragroup VAT”.

COMMON ANNOUNCEMENT SUSPENSION OF SME DEBTS: MONITORING OF OPERATIONS AS AT 31/10/2009						
	Number	Residual debt (€ millions)	As % of applications received		As % of applications admitted	
			Share of number	Share of Residual debt	Share of number	Share of Residual debt
Applications received	46,239	15,940	100.0%	100.0%		
Applications received not examined yet	7,285	2,543	15.8%	16.0%		
Applications examined	38,954	13,397	84.2%	84.0%		
Applications not admitted	2,152	533	4.7%	3.3%		
Applications admitted	36,802	12,863	79.6%	80.7%	100.0%	100.0%
Applications approved*	27,021	9,895	58.4%	62.1%	73.4%	76.9%
Applications under examination	9,191	2,831	19.9%	17.8%	25.0%	22.0%
Applications not approved	590	137	1.3%	0.9%	1.6%	1.1%

* Suspended principal payments corresponds to over € 2 billion

As regards applications referring to individual business sectors, the most popular were industry, retail/hotel and other services.

An analysis regarding the geographic distribution of the applications approved, by registered office of the applicant, shows that 58.2% of applications (57% of the amounts suspended) refer to enterprises based in Northern Italy. The remaining share regards the central South.

As reported in previous months, the adhesion of banks to the Common Announcement, and therefore the will to further sustain the business system at this difficult time, has been impressive: as at 30 November, 573 banks and financial institutions has joined the scheme, corresponding to 33,543 branches (98.3% of the total number of branches in Italy).

**AVVISO COMUNE SOSPENSIONE DEBITI PMI:
MONITORAGGIO OPERAZIONI AL 31/10/2009**

N° Aderenti (al 30 novembre 2009)	573
N° sportelli	33.543
Quota sportelli sul totale Italia	98,2%
Segnalanti	518
Grado di copertura dei segnalanti sul totale aderenti (totale attivo)	99,3%

COMMON ANNOUNCEMENT SUSPENSION OF SME DEBTS: MONITORING OF OPERATIONS AS AT 31/10/2009
No. Members (as at 30 November 2009)
No. branches
Percentage of total branches in Italy
Reporting
Percentage of coverage of reporting on total members (active total)

Rome, Palazzo Altieri, 9 December 2009