
JOINT PRESS RELEASE

**Presidency of the Council of Ministers
Department for family policies**

**Households: Hon. Giovanardi and Mr. Faissola signed an agreement on
a fund for newborns**

Carlo Giovanardi, Italian Vice Minister for Family Affairs and Corrado Faissola, President of ABI, signed a Memorandum of Understanding today at Palazzo Chigi, the Prime Minister's office. This agreement provides for loans with special terms for families with newborns or those who adopt a child this year. A 25 million euro family fund has been specifically set up to guarantee up to 75% of loans granted by banks. Loans will be granted to help families cover the typical costs associated with caring for newborns; these loans cannot exceed 5 thousand euros and will be repaid over 5 years. Particular attention is paid to children with rare diseases: an interest rate subsidy on loans will also be granted to their families, thanks to 10 million euros of additional funding.

Rome, 5 November 2009