

PRESS RELEASE

Milan, 6th October 2011. After being convened by its Chairman Mauro Maia, the senior partner of F2i - *Fondi italiani per le infrastrutture*, the Board of Metroweb SpA, the company which was acquired by Intesa Sanpaolo and F2i in May, met today.

The Managing Director, Alberto Trondoli, began the agenda by illustrating the Company's economic-balance sheet position at the 31st July 2011.

For the first seven months of the year the proceeds from sales and services were equal to 32.3 million euro – an increase of 2.8 million euro (+9.5%) for the same period in the previous year – on the basis of greater proceeds for the rental of fibre optics, from both Fastweb SpA, and other telecommunication operators.

EBITDA, net of some extraordinary costs connected to the operation which led to the Company's change of control were equal to 26.2 million – 2.7 million euro more (+11.5%) than for the same period in 2010.

The Managing Director also informed the Board that A2A SpA carried out the conversion of the shares in its possession and therefore represents 19.4 % of the Company's share capital.

Finally, the Board accepted the resignation of Mauro Maia from his role as Chairman and appointed him as deputy Chairman, after thanking him for his diligent work. The Board then co-opted Franco Bassanini (*) as the Company's new Chairman.

The appointment of Bassanini – who is the current Chairman of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti – is part of the strategy backed by the Italian government to strengthen the development of broadband connections in Italy, in which F2i – that was in the past promoted by Cassa Depositi e Prestiti – intends to play a leading role along with the local Authorities and the sector's industrial operators.

Metroweb has the largest fibre optics network in Europe (with a total of 330,000 kilometres of fibres) and can support this development by exercising its role as a key player thanks to its consolidated experience and professional and technological know-how.

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there follows the profile of Bassanini

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Franco Bassanini, professor of constitutional law, member of the Italian Parliament from 1979 to 2006, was Minister in the Prodi I, D'Alema and Amato II governments (1996-2001). Born in Milan in 1940, he taught at the Universities of Rome, Milan, Florence, Trento and Sassari. He is Chairman of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and the ASTRID Foundation, a think tank which specialises in research and studies on institutional reforms, public policies, European institutions, public finance and e-government, and is made up of about 300 academics, members of parliament and experts (www.astrid.eu). He is Chairman of the Investment Board of the Inframed Fund (Equity fund for Infrastructure in the Mediterranean region) and a member of the Supervisory Board of the European Fund "Marguerite" (2020 Equity Fund for Infrastructure, Energy and Environment) and the Committee of Assonime.

Between 1996 and 1998 he was Minister of Public Function and Regional Affairs in the first Prodi Government. From 1998 to 1999 he was the under-secretary to the Prime Minister's Office in the first D'Alema Government. From December 1999 to June 2001 he was Minister for the Civil Service in the second D'Alema government and in the subsequent Amato government. In this role he designed and created a general reform of Italian government, based on the principles of decentralisation, streamlining of procedures, self-certification, computerisation, performance assessment and contractualisation of public work, known as the "Bassanini Reform".

He is a member of the Commission pour la libération de la croissance française (Attali Committee) and the Commission pour la coopération financière euro-méditerranéenne (Milhaud Committee) which were set-up by Nicolas Sarkozy. He was a Board member of ENA (Ecole nationale d'Administration) (2001-2005), the Comité d'évaluation des stratégies ministérielles de réforme (2003-2005), and the Advisory Board of the General Secretary of the UN for the ICT (2001-2006).

He has published 18 books and about 300 articles on issues including constitutional law, economic law, institutional policies, EU law and administrative law.

FONTE: www.cassaddpp.it