

Press release

**24 ORE Group: Benedini a candidate for the
chairmanship
Squinzi tells Cerutti: “Under your guidance we have
overcome tough challenges”**

Milan, 5 April 2013. Sole 24 Ore S.p.A. has informed Borsa S.p.A of Confindustria’s list of nominees for the new board scheduled for the general meeting on 29 April. Candidates include Valerio Ticozzi, Mario Mirarchi, Benito Benedini, Donatella Treu, Marcella Panucci, Maria Carmela Colaiacovo, Luigi Abete, Antonio Bulgheroni, Marco Venturi, Alessandro Spada and Alberto Chiesi. The major shareholder will propose Benito Benedini to the Meeting for the chair.

“My heartfelt thanks go to Giancarlo Cerutti for the quality of his commitment to steering our company for such a long, meaningful period, first as vice-president for operations, from 2001 to 2004, then as chairman, from 2007 to 2013. I’ve always appreciated the approach and loyalty characterizing his service in this important publishing company, which represent a strategic asset for Confindustria” declared Confindustria chairman, Giorgio Squinzi. “Under his leadership, the 24 ORE Group has overcome some very difficult challenges, especially in the last few years, when the editorial market has suffered a deep recession. He has been committed and dedicated to establish the foundations for stopping the company’s economic decline and, hopefully, restoring balance to its accounts. I would also like to thank him for his responsiveness in this period of corporate life and I know he will continue in this constructive spirit right until the last day of his mandate, because that is the way he is.”

“My heartfelt thanks to President Squinzi for his kind words and the respect he has shown me at this moment in time,” said Giancarlo Cerutti, adding: “I’d like to thank him and his predecessors for giving me the opportunity to guide the 24 ORE Group over the years,

implementing its listing on the stock exchange and working most recently to stem the deep recession which has affected the entire publishing industry. With company management at my side I was able to address the momentous turning point that the media world suddenly and irrevocably stumbled upon. There is still plenty to be done and I'm in no doubt that my successor and the Board that will be elected during the 29 April meeting will be continuing with this work. To Giorgio Squinzi, a dear friend for whom I feel deep respect, I extend my heartfelt best wishes as an entrepreneur for his role in leading Italian industry out of this moment of serious crisis.”

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