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ANTI-MINE CAMPAIGN AND OMNITEL VODAFONE

Rome, March 26, 2002 - The Italian Anti-Mine Campaign has for many years lobbied against the use of anti-personnel mines. It has recently joined forces with the Loups-Garoux association to produce a theatre piece that aims to draw the attention of government institutions, foreign diplomats based in Italy, journalists and society as a whole to the need to make further progress in implementing a universal ban on the use of this type of weapon. The project has received the backing of the Municipality of Rome, Lazio Regional Authority and Omnitel Vodafone.

The show has been organised to mark the anniversary of the Ottawa Convention that introduced a Treaty banning the production and use of mines, signed by 142 countries. The event also aims, however, to spur the remaining 50 countries who have yet to sign up to the Treaty to do so.

The show will involve various personalities from the entertainment world, including an extraordinary appearance by Carla Fracci. The funds raised by this important initiative will be entirely used to buy an ambulance to be sent to Afghanistan.

Omnitel Vodafone has again responded to a request for help from the Italian Anti-Mine Campaign, by putting its know-how, technology and services at the organisation's disposal. The first task involved the design and creation of a web site, www.campagnamine.org, dedicated to the Campaign's initiatives, and to the need to raise money in order to support the numerous activities needed to keep the issue of anti-personnel mines under the spotlight. Visitors to the site can also effect donations via Omnitel Vodafone' Omnipay platform.