

SANPAOLO IMI SPA  
Form 6-K  
August 24, 2006

**FORM 6-K**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**Report of Foreign Private Issuer**

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the period August 24, 2006

**SANPAOLO IMI S.p.A.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Piazza San Carlo 156  
10121 Turin, Italy**

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

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**SANPAOLO IMI GROUP**

**News Release**

**Clarification on contacts with Intesa Group**

**Turin, 24 August 2006** - CONSOB has requested this announcement, in relation to press reports of contacts between the Sanpaolo IMI Group and Intesa Group regarding merger possibilities, that the subject will be placed before the respective Boards of Directors. The meetings are scheduled for the end of the week.

**SANPAOLO IMI**

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

SANPAOLO IMI S.p.A.

By: */s/ James Ball*  
Name: James Ball  
Title: Head of International Strategy, London Branch

**Date: August 24, 2006**

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