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TELECOM ITALIA S P A  
Form 6-K  
May 16, 2006

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER

PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15D-16  
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2006

TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.  
(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Piazza degli Affari 2  
20123 Milan, Italy  
(Address of principal executive offices)

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

FORM 20-F  FORM 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant  
is submitting the Form 6-K in paper  
as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant  
is submitting the Form 6-K in paper  
as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

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

YES  NO

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned  
to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESS RELEASE**

**TIM PARTICIPAÇÕES: FILED PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS FOR A PARTIAL OFFERING OF PREFERRED SHARES**

**THE OFFER WILL NOT EXTEND TO ITALY**

*Milan, May 16, 2006* Telecom Italia S.p.A. announces that its indirectly controlled subsidiary TIM Participações S.A. (Brazilian BOVESPA ticker TCSL4), a Brazilian wireless operator, has filed today a Preliminary Prospectus with the Brazilian Comissão de Valores Mobiliários (the Brazilian Securities Commission) and will file a shelf registration statement on Form F-3 with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (TIM Part - NYSE Ticker: TSU) for the sale of preferred shares of TIM Part.

The proposed offering of preferred shares will be comprised exclusively of the sale of a portion of the shares indirectly held by Telecom Italia S.p.A. in TIM Part through its wholly-owned subsidiary TIM Brasil. The preferred shares will be offered in the form of American depositary shares, or ADSs, in an international offering and in the form of preferred shares in a concurrent Brazilian offering.

**The Telecom Italia Group will maintain the control of TIM Participações through its current 81.19% stake of ordinary voting shares, none of which will be included in the offering.**

*This press release does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any of the ADSs or preferred shares described in the shelf registration statement to be filed, nor shall there be any sale of the ADSs and the preferred shares in Italy and in any state in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful. The ADSs and the preferred shares will be offered and sold only pursuant to the base and the prospectus supplement when such base prospectus and supplement are made available. The base prospectus and the prospectus supplement will contain detailed information about the company and management, as well as financial statements. The ADSs and the preferred shares may not be sold nor may offers to buy be accepted prior to the time the relevant prospectus supplement is made available. A written copy of the base prospectus, and the prospectus supplement when they are available, may be obtained by making a request therefor to the offices of TIM Participações, S.A. at Avenida das Américas, 3434-7º andar, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil, CEP 22.640-102, telephone: +55 (21) 4009-3742 and will be available free of charge at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).*

**Telecom Italia**

**Telecom Italia Group Press Office**

*Institutional Press Office*

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Cautionary Statement for Purposes of the "Safe Harbor" Provision of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

The Private Securities Litigation reform Act of 1995 provides a "safe harbor" for forward-looking statements. The Press Release included in this Form 6-K contains certain forward looking statements and forecasts reflecting management's current views with respect to certain future events. The ability of the Telecom Italia Group to achieve its projected results is dependant on many factors which are outside of management's control. Actual results may differ materially from those projected or implied in the forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking information involves risks and uncertainties that could significantly affect expected results and are based on certain key assumptions.

The following important factors could cause the Telecom Italia Group's actual results to differ materially from those projected or implied in any forward-looking statements:

- the continuing impact of increased competition in a liberalized market, including competition from global and regional alliances formed by other telecommunications operators in the core domestic fixed-line and wireless markets of the Telecom Italia Group;
- the ability of the Telecom Italia Group to introduce new services to stimulate increased usage of its fixed and wireless networks to offset declines in its fixed-line business due to the continuing impact of regulatory required price reductions, market share loss and pricing pressures generally;
- the ability of the Telecom Italia Group to achieve cost-reduction targets in the time frame established or to continue the process of rationalizing its non-core assets;
- the impact of regulatory decisions and changes in the regulatory environment;
- the impact of the slowdown in Latin American economies and the slow recovery of economies generally on the international business of the Telecom Italia Group focused on Latin America and on its foreign investments and capital expenditures;

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- the continuing impact of rapid changes in technologies;
- the impact of political and economic developments in Italy and other countries in which the Telecom Italia Group operates;
- the impact of fluctuations in currency exchange and interest rates;
- Telecom Italia's ability to continue the implementation of its 2002-2004 Industrial Plan, including the rationalization of its corporate structure and the disposition of Telecom Italia's interests in various companies;
- the ability of the Telecom Italia Group to successfully achieve its debt reduction targets;
- Telecom Italia's ability to successfully roll out its UMTS networks and services and to realize the benefits of its investment in UMTS licenses and related capital expenditures;
- Telecom Italia's ability to successfully implement its internet strategy;
- the ability of the Telecom Italia Group to achieve the expected return on the significant investments and capital expenditures it has made in Latin America and in Europe;
- the amount and timing of any future impairment charges for Telecom Italia's licences, goodwill or other assets; and
- the impact of litigation or decreased mobile communications usage arising from actual or perceived health risks or other problems relating to mobile handsets or transmission masts.

The foregoing factors should not be construed as exhaustive. Due to such uncertainties and risks, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the group will achieve its projected results.

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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.

Date: May 16th, 2005

TELECOM ITALIA S.p.A.

BY: /s/ Carlo De Gennaro

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Carlo De Gennaro  
Company Manager