

TRIBUTE: ARMANDO ZIMOLO

By AIDA President Michael Gill

at a meeting of the Presidential Council in Asuncion on 29th April 2011

The Corporate Magazine of the Generali Group published earlier this year commenced it's tribute to Armando Zimolo thus:

"When you no longer regularly see someone with whom you used to work closely together and are consequently unaware of his deteriorating health, news of his death, coming without warning, is all the sadder. The death of Armando Zimolo at the end of December, shortly before his 73rd birthday, has therefore come as a heavy blow to those who remember his unflagging energy at work and how he was still committed with enthusiasm to projects that caught his interest."

Their reference to unflagging energy, enthusiasm and commitment resonates with those in AIDA who knew him and worked with him, especially in the Motor Insurance Working Group.

The Magazine continues:

"Zimolo held many important positions, both within Generali – where, among other things, he managed the Research Department, the Rome Office and Communication Department – and outside (he was director of the Verdi Opera Theatre in Trieste from 2004 to 2006), but here we remember his time as editor in chief of *il bollettino* from 1992 to 2000."

The Motor Insurance Working Group was established at the 1978 Madrid Congress under the distinguished chairmanship of Prof. Simon Fredericq. It quickly developed a reputation for the conduct of a series of most rigorous studies on the normative and technical features of motor insurance. The next phase was a comparative international study of the legislative frameworks governing compulsory motor insurance and the management criteria prevailing in the different markets.

Armando Zimolo of the Generali was appointed to accomplish the work with the support of the Rome Office of the Company.

And it was this work through many new stages which became Armando's hallmark. Each new or updated report based on comprehensive international questionnaires was the centerpiece of the meetings of the Motor Insurance Working Party.

Far from having merely theoretical purposes, by providing a detailed comparison of the various international frameworks, the studies were meant as a spur for legislators to enact compulsory motor insurance laws in countries still lacking them and to improve existing laws by implementing more advanced rules to better protect people, policyholders and the injured.

From before he became Chairman of the Motor Insurance Working Party, Armando's commitment and enthusiasm was a major factor in the success of its work and the securing of its reputation. He was a most charming person, always showing delight on the occasions when he met or re-met his AIDA colleagues.

His work must have given him great pride and satisfaction; it was first class. But his natural modesty was always evident.

Beyond the Motor Insurance Working Group, he contributed to the meetings of the Presidential Council. He helped me in many ways including as a member of my Finance Committee for several years and as an active member of the Italian National Chapter

AIDA has lost a great contributor; we have lost a good friend.

Please stand as we observe a minutes silence for Dr. Armando Zimolo