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‘Decade of Disasters’ to be focus of Philadelphia Reinsurance Symposium

Annual CPCU Society Event to Examine Catastrophes’ Enormous Impact on the Industry

MALVERN, Pa., March 10, 2011 — History could refer to the first 10 years of this century as the “Decade of Disasters” because of 9/11, hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, economic crises and the Gulf of Mexico oil spill. These catastrophic events, with the enormous property claims they have generated, have had a tremendous and lasting impact on the reinsurance industry — with myriad implications, from financial and rating to legal and regulatory. To compete in this new environment, all reinsurance professionals — and others who work with or are impacted by reinsurance — need to understand how these disasters have reshaped the industry and are impacting its future.

On **March 30–31**, the CPCU Society and the Society’s Reinsurance Interest Group will present a symposium, “Decade of Disasters — Impact on the Reinsurance Industry.” **The symposium will take place at the Union League of Philadelphia, 140 South Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa.**

The symposium, highly acclaimed for its valuable learning and networking opportunities, typically attracts reinsurance experts, executives and other professionals from around the country. The event will feature a networking reception, six educational sessions and a luncheon honoring completers of the Associate in

Reinsurance (ARe) program. **Anita Z. Bourke, CPCU, CPIW**, executive vice president of The Institutes, and a former president of the CPCU Society, will be the keynote luncheon speaker. The luncheon will be sponsored by Munich Re.

Symposium speakers will include CPCU Society President-Elect **Steve McElhiney, CPCU, MBA, ARe, AIAF**, president, EWI Risk Services Inc.; **Pina C. Albo**, president, reinsurance division, Munich Reinsurance America, Inc. (“Munich Re”); **John Bender**, president, Allied World Reinsurance Company; **Sharon A. Binnun, CPA**, senior vice president of finance and accounting/chief financial officer, Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; **Laline Carvalho**, director, Financial Services Rating Group, Standard & Poor’s; **Wayne Keebler, CPCU, ARe**, vice president, underwriting, Wright Risk Management; **Franklin W. Nutter, CPCU, ARe**, president, Reinsurance Association of America; **William O’Farrell**, chief reinsurance officer, ACE Group; **H. Wesley Sunu, J.D.**, director, Tribler, Orpett & Meyer, PC; and **Tom Toth**, vice president, Munich Re Claims.

The cocktail and networking reception will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday. The reception is being sponsored by Swiss Re.

Educational sessions will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, with registration from 8 to 8:30 a.m. The day will kick off with an executive panel discussion on “What Happened and Where Do We Go from Here?” After a short break, the second session will delve into “Financial and Rating Implications of the Decade — Rating Agencies and Their Views.”

After the luncheon and ARe Designation Ceremony, attendees will reconvene for “9/11 — Insights of a Tower Witness,” followed by sessions on “Legal and Regulatory Implications of the Decade,” “Atlantic Tropical Storms and Other Disasters — A Florida Case Study” and “Property Claims Implications.”

The symposium registration fee is \$325 for CPCU Society members; \$350 for ARe designation holders; and \$399 for all others. The registration fee includes all refreshment breaks, a cocktail reception and a luncheon. A block of sleeping rooms has been reserved for symposium registrants at The Inn at the Union League at a discounted group rate of \$189, which includes full breakfast and Internet access.

CPCUs will be awarded 6.5 continuing professional development (CPD) points for attending this symposium.

Registration and detailed content descriptions are available on the CPCU Society's website, www.cpcusociety.org <<http://www.cpcusociety.org/>> , under "Professional Development."

About the Society

The CPCU Society is a community of credentialed insurance professionals who promote excellence through ethical behavior and continuing education. The Society's nearly 28,000 members hold the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU®) designation, which requires passing eight rigorous undergraduate- and graduate- level examinations, meeting experience requirements, and agreeing to be bound by a strict code of professional ethics. The CPCU designation is conferred by The Institutes. More information about the CPCU Society is available at www.cpcusociety.org.

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