TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1296

Zurich, 9 March 2012
SG/cst

FIFA and environmental protection/Earth Hour 2012 on 31 March

Dear Sir or Madam,

In recent years, FIFA has taken its environmental responsibility more seriously than ever before and has become increasingly active in environmental protection. Issues such as climate change, environmental conservation and sustainable management are a concern for FIFA, not only with regard to FIFA World Cups™, but also to FIFA as an organisation.

Together with the Local Organising Committee for the 2006 FIFA World Cup™, FIFA launched an environmental programme called Green Goal to reduce the negative environmental impact of preparing and staging the tournament. This initiative was continued successfully for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™, the FIFA Women’s World Cup Germany 2011™ and the FIFA U-20 World Cup Colombia 2011. The insights gained from these tournaments led us to add a chapter on environmental protection in the bidding process for 2018 and 2022.

FIFA is currently working closely with the 2014 FIFA World Cup Organising Committee and the Brazilian government to develop and implement environmental protection measures. Discussions with the Organising Committee for the 2018 FIFA World Cup™ concerning sustainable event management have been ongoing since mid-2011.

As an organisation, we have also been taking steps towards reducing our ecological footprint. Our Home of FIFA headquarters fully meet the requirements of a zero-emission building, and FIFA has also been offsetting the carbon emissions of all its flights through certified compensation projects around the world from 1 January 2012.

Since 2010, FIFA has supported Earth Hour, WWF’s global campaign to raise awareness of climate change, by turning off the lights at the Home of FIFA for one hour. On 31 March 2012, lights will again go off across the world and FIFA is inviting its member associations to join the campaign. For more information on how to be part of Earth Hour, please visit www.earthhour.org.
We hope this information about FIFA's commitment to environmental responsibility is helpful to your work. Thank you very much in advance for your support and contribution to building a better future.

Yours faithfully,

Jérôme Valcke
Secretary General

cc: - FIFA Executive Committee
    - Confederations