TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1373

Zurich, 2 August 2013
SG/mav/fan

Research on third-party ownership of players’ economic rights (part 2)

Dear Sir or Madam,

We write to you to as a follow up to Circular no. 1335 on the issue of third-party ownership of players’ economic rights (hereinafter: TPO) and the relevant study that was conducted by the International Centre for Sports Studies (CIES) on the mapping of the various regulatory approaches and practices at national level. Regarding this matter, we would like to inform you of a second-part study that will be launched soon with the overall objective to further increase the understanding of this practice and the various aspects associated with it.

This second-part study will focus more on questions linked to the economic and financial impact of such practices - in particular the situation at club level – as well as on integrity considerations for clubs, players and the football sector in general. The findings of both studies should contribute to the ongoing discussions and consultations led by FIFA within the football community.

In light of the above, FIFA has mandated the Centre de Droit et d’Economie du Sport (CDES) in Limoges, France, to carry out this second-part study. As mentioned above, the primary aims of this research are to map and analyse the economic, financial, and integrity impact of TPO practices – where applicable – on professional football clubs, respectively professional football players, and the football sector in general.

Additionally, the study will address the economic impact of possible alternative regulatory approaches compared to the current international framework (cf. art. 18bis of the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players).
With this in mind, please note that the CDES research team may contact you – as well as other relevant football stakeholders in your country – for the purposes of this exercise and we would like to thank you in advance for your support and contribution.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, the FIFA administration remains, as always, at your disposal.

Thank you for your most appreciated cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Jérôme Valcke
Secretary General

cc: - FIFA Executive Committee
    - Confederations