TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1554

Zurich, 6 September 2016
MAV/sco-mut

Regional workshop(s) for member associations to establish national integrity programmes

Dear Sir or Madam,

As the threat to the integrity of football from match manipulation grows worldwide, it is increasingly important that all members of the football community are fully committed to combatting these threats and to safeguard the integrity of the football in accordance with article 2 g) (Objectives) of the FIFA Statutes.

In this regard, we refer to the “call for action” to protect football and combat match manipulation that was unanimously approved (by 203 votes to 1) by the 63rd FIFA Congress in 2013, the “Specific Recommendations to Combat Match Manipulation – Guidelines for FIFA member associations” issued in May 2014 via FIFA circular no. 1424, as well as the continuation of the FIFA Integrity Initiative and extension of the radar of FIFA’s subsidiary Early Warning System ("EWS") as stated at the 64th FIFA Congress in 2014.

Furthermore, the successful FIFA Match Integrity Roundtable held in March 2016 between FIFA and the six confederations led to the reaffirmation of a common understanding that a united, pro-active approach between member associations, confederations and FIFA must be taken in order to successfully safeguard the integrity of football.

FIFA has received multiple requests from several member associations across the world for support and assistance in setting up their respective national integrity programmes, including specialised requests for investigative support and requests for “cost-free” betting monitoring of its domestic football league(s) and tournaments as specific measures to protect the integrity of football at the national level.

In this regard, FIFA would like to encourage all member associations to join those who have already successfully implemented the abovementioned measures to request assistance and guidance for their national integrity programmes. To achieve this, all member associations are invited to participate in objective-defining regional workshops aimed at enabling and empowering the associations in the development of tailored and sustainable programmes to meet the needs of each association.
These regional workshops will focus on working with each requesting association to be in line and potentially benefit from the FIFA “Forward” Programme for funding and abovementioned resource support to be made available presuming the member association runs an initiative or project related to integrity or good governance. FIFA’s decision to strengthen its investment in football development will enable member associations to build stronger foundations for the protection of their football competitions through sustainable integrity programmes.

In this regard, please provide a detailed communication request informing the following:

- Your member association’s commitment to match integrity and intent to attend and participate in one of several regional workshops;

- Your member association’s request/interest in establishing a national initiative, programme or project related to integrity or good governance with FIFA’s support and assistance; and

- If not previously communicated, the name, role, and contact details of your association’s respective “Specific Point of Contact” (“SPoC”) or “Integrity Officer” (as detailed in FIFA Circular no. 1424) to establish a point of contact for further communications on the topic and for information related to the various regional workshops dedicated to this topic.

Please submit your association’s communication request by e-mail no later than 12 October 2016 to FIFA’s Match Integrity Managers (integrity@fifa.org).

We thank you for your kind attention to this matter and for your valuable cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Marco Villiger
Deputy Secretary General (Administration)

cc: - FIFA Council
    - Confederations
    - Regional associations