To the members of FIFA

Circular no. 1574

Zurich, 10 February 2017
SG/adb

Invitation to participate in Gazprom’s FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP programme at the FIFA Confederations Cup Russia 2017

Dear General Secretary,

I am happy to announce that the fifth season of Gazprom’s FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP programme is ready for launch on 3 March. The final events of the programme will take place in St Petersburg, Russia, from 26 June until 3 July 2017, to coincide with the FIFA Confederations Cup.

FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP (F4F) is Gazprom’s annual international children’s social programme that has been organised since 2013. The programme aims to develop youth football by championing youth sport and a healthy lifestyle as well as promoting tolerance and friendship among children from different countries. Its key values are friendship, equality, fairness, health, peace, devotion, victory, tradition and honour.

FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP 2017

For the F4F 2017 programme, young participants from 64 countries from all over the world will be divided into eight international mixed “teams of friendship”, each of which will contain kids from different backgrounds, nationalities and abilities playing together side by side. These eight teams will compete against each other at an International Street Soccer Tournament on 1 July 2017. After the tournament, young ambassadors will meet at the International Children’s Forum on 2 July, where they will discuss ways of promoting the programme’s key values around the globe.

Gazprom will randomly select 64 associations to participate in the 2017 FOOTBALL FOR FRIENDSHIP programme as the local F4F programme operators. Two children, one a young football player and the other a young journalist from the selected countries (they could be boys or girls, including children with special needs who are able to play football, aged 12 years old), will be given a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in the F4F programme as young ambassadors in St Petersburg, Russia, from 26 June to 3 July 2017. If selected, you will be contacted in the next two weeks by the Global Organising Committee of the F4F programme with the programme agenda as well as details on participation, registration and the criteria for the selection of these two children.

Key contact person of the F4F programme Global Organising Committee:
Vladimir Serov, Global F4F Programme Leader
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Please note that all travel expenses and global travel arrangements will be paid for and organised by Gazprom. We thank you for your support of the F4F programme and look forward to welcoming the children representing the associations in St Petersburg in June.

Best regards,

Fatma Samoura
FIFA Secretary General