IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF HILLSBOROUGH

Dear Mr Chairman,

Twenty-five years on from this dark day in the history of the game, I would like to express my deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the 96 who so tragically lost their lives in the Hillsborough disaster, in remembrance of which the flags of FIFA’s member associations will today be flown at half-mast.

While it is above all important to honour and remember the innocent victims of 15 April 1989, today we can also reflect on the determination of the British political and football authorities to ensure that something so terrible never happens again by introducing the highest standards for stadiums and stadium safety.

The football community worldwide, whilst never forgetting the tragic circumstances that led to this change, is grateful to England for taking the lead in this area.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph S. Blatter