

## TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1748

Zurich, 3 February 2021  
SG

### **71<sup>st</sup> FIFA Congress – proposals for the positions of chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee, the Governance Committee and the judicial bodies (Disciplinary Committee, Ethics Committee and Appeal Committee)**

Dear Sir or Madam,

As informed through circular no. 1746, issued on 19 January 2021, the **71<sup>st</sup> FIFA Congress** will be held on **21 May 2021** as an online event.

The formal convocation will be made in writing at least one month before the date of the Congress, i.e. no later than **21 April 2021**. You will receive the convocation together with a copy of the agenda, the minutes of the 70<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress, the FIFA Annual Report 2020 and some practical information regarding the organisation of the Congress.

In relation to the agenda for the upcoming 71<sup>st</sup> FIFA Congress, we would like to kindly remind you that the terms of office of the current chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the below committees are due to end following the hosting of the 71<sup>st</sup> FIFA Congress:

- Disciplinary Committee
- Ethics Committee
- Appeal Committee
- Audit and Compliance Committee
- Governance Committee

Therefore, the 71<sup>st</sup> FIFA Congress agenda shall include, as a mandatory item, among others, the election of the new chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the above-mentioned committees.

For that purpose, the FIFA Council shall determine the number of seats to be assigned to each confederation in the relevant committee and shall also submit the candidate proposals for these positions to the FIFA general secretariat. These proposals may come from the member associations, confederations or the members of the FIFA Council. Nevertheless, we take note that, to date, only one proposal for the above-mentioned positions has been received.

Given that only one proposal has been made, and that one of the six confederations is engaged in an electoral process, the member associations, confederations and the members of the FIFA Council are kindly invited to submit, in writing, to the FIFA general secretariat any candidate proposals for the

aforementioned positions **by 25 March** at the latest. In order to speed up the process, any proposal must contain the respective CV of the candidate(s), a copy of their passport and the duly completed eligibility questionnaire required by the FIFA Governance Regulations (please see Annexe 1). These documents must be sent directly to the following email address: [committees@fifa.org](mailto:committees@fifa.org).

Please note that some candidates must also respect the requirement of independence, as determined by article 5 of the FIFA Governance Regulations (please see Annexe 2). Additionally, the proposed candidates shall be subject to eligibility checks and independence reviews carried out, as appropriate, by the Review Committee or the investigatory chamber of the Ethics Committee, in accordance with the FIFA Statutes and the FIFA Governance Regulations.

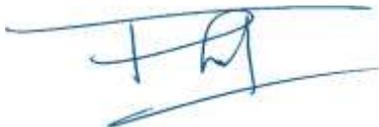
Upon receipt of the results of the eligibility checks and independence reviews carried out by the corresponding committees, the FIFA general secretariat shall submit to the FIFA Council the candidate proposals that have passed all relevant checks and, therefore, have been duly admitted to the election process.

Consequently, a meeting of the FIFA Council will be convened to assess the admitted proposals and, ensuring appropriate gender distribution, submit a final and formal proposal to the Congress for election of the aforementioned positions.

We thank you for taking note of the above.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'FS', is written over a blue horizontal line. Below the line, there are two more blue horizontal lines, one above and one below the signature.

Fatma Samoura  
Secretary General

cc: - FIFA Council  
- Confederations

List of enclosures:

- Annexe 1: Eligibility questionnaire
- Annexe 2: Independence criteria

## Eligibility questionnaire

First name(s):	
Surname(s):	
Date of birth:	
Member association:	
Nationality/nationalities:	
Profession:	

### 1.

Have you been previously convicted by a final decision of any intentional indictable offence or of any offence corresponding to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No

Yes

If yes, please specify:

### 2.

Has a sports governing body ever imposed any disciplinary or similar sanction or measure on you in the past for actions which amount to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

No

Yes

If yes, please specify:

**3.**

Are you the subject of any pending civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings or investigations?

No

Yes

If yes, please specify:

**4.**

I am fully aware that I am subject to the provisions of the FIFA Code of Ethics and to the provisions of the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA that address integrity issues, and I fully comply with such provisions. In this respect, I have in particular taken due note of the fact that the FIFA Code of Ethics also applies to conduct which occurred before it entered into force (cf. art. 3 of the FIFA Code of Ethics).

**5.**

I currently hold the following positions in football:

**6.**

The following facts and circumstances may give rise to potential conflicts of interest regarding me (cf. in particular art. 19 of the FIFA Code of Ethics and the FIFA Governance Regulations in this respect):

**7.**

Remarks and observations which may be of potential relevance in the present context:

**8.**

I am fully aware and agree that this questionnaire is made available to the members of the appropriate FIFA bodies.

**9.**

I am fully aware and confirm that I must notify the body conducting the eligibility check of any relevant facts and circumstances arising after the eligibility check has been completed, and that failure to do so may be subject to sanctions by the appropriate body.

**10.**

I am fully aware and confirm that I am obliged to collaborate to establish the relevant facts with regard to the eligibility check I am subject to. In particular, I will comply with requests for any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by me. In addition, I will comply with the procurement and provision of documents, information or any other material of any nature not held by me but which I am entitled to obtain. I am fully aware and confirm that non-compliance with such requests may lead to sanctions imposed by the appropriate body.

**11.**

I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the eligibility check may also request information on possible sanctions (questions 1 and 2 above) directly from the relevant confederation or FIFA member association as well as from other institutions such as the Court of Arbitration for Sport or the International Olympic Committee. In this regard, I hereby release the relevant institutions from any obligation of confidentiality relating to the information concerned.

**12.**

I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the eligibility check may collect further information on me in accordance with art. 2 par. 3 of Annexe 1 to the FIFA Governance Regulations.

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(Place and date)

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(Signature)

## Independence criteria

	Chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the Governance Committee <sup>1</sup>	Chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of Audit and Compliance Committee and judicial bodies <sup>2</sup>	Other members of Audit and Compliance Committee and judicial bodies <sup>3</sup>
Other official function in FIFA	<b>Not permitted</b> for members themselves and their immediate family members including during the four years preceding initial term	<b>Not permitted</b> for members themselves and their immediate family members including during the four years preceding initial term	<b>Not permitted</b> for members themselves and their immediate family members including during the four years preceding initial term
Other official function in a confederation or a member association	<b>Not permitted</b> for members themselves and their immediate family members including during the four years preceding initial term	<b>Not permitted</b> for members themselves and their immediate family members including during the four years preceding initial term	
Material business relationship with FIFA, a confederation or a member association	<b>Not permitted</b> for members themselves and their immediate family members including during the four years preceding initial term	<b>Not permitted</b> for members themselves and their immediate family members including during the four years preceding initial term	

- “Immediate family” or “immediate family member” means, with respect to any person, such person’s spouse or domestic partner, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, children (including any stepchild or adopted child), grandchildren, son-, daughter-, father- or mother-in-law and the spouses of such persons, and including anyone else, whether by blood or otherwise, with whom the individual has a relationship akin to a family relationship for which such person provides financial support.
- “Material business relationship” means, with respect to any person, that (i) such person has been, or (ii) such person is a current director or executive officer or employee of or owns, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the equity of any entity that has made payments to or received payments from FIFA, any confederation, any member association or any sponsor, auditor, outside counsel or other paid adviser or contractor of any of FIFA, any confederation or any member association for property or services in an amount which, in any single year, exceeds USD 125,000. Any compensation or other amounts paid to any such person in their capacity as a member of the Council or of an independent FIFA body shall not constitute a material business relationship within the meaning of this provision.

<sup>1</sup> Please note that, according to art. 40 par. 1 of the FIFA Statutes and art. 27 par. 1 of the FIFA Governance Regulations: “[...] No fewer than half of the committee’s members, including the chairperson and the deputy chairperson, shall fulfil the independence criteria [...]”

<sup>2</sup> Additional criteria applies to the members of the Ethics Committee (cf. art. 34 paras 2 and 3 of the FIFA Code of Ethics): “The members of the Ethics Committee and their immediate family members shall not belong to any other judicial body within FIFA, to the FIFA Council or to any standing committee of FIFA.[...] The members of the Ethics Committee shall not belong to any other body or carry out any position with regard to FIFA, a confederation or a member association, other than being member of a judicial body at FIFA, confederation or national level.”

<sup>3</sup> Footnote 2 also applicable.