

2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™ Preliminary Competition Format & Draw Procedures



AFRICAN ZONE

BASIC CONDITIONS	
Member Associations (MA's):	54
Participating Member Associations (PMAs):	53
Qualification Slots:	5

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algeria • Angola • Benin • Botswana • Burkina Faso • Burundi • Cameroon • Cape Verde Islands • Central African Republic • Chad • Comoros • Congo • Congo DR • Côte d'Ivoire • Djibouti • Egypt • Equatorial Guinea • Eritrea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethiopia • Gabon • Gambia • Ghana • Guinea • Guinea-Bissau • Kenya • Lesotho • Liberia • Libya • Madagascar • Malawi • Mali • Mauritania • Mauritius • Morocco • Mozambique • Namibia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Niger • Nigeria • Rwanda • São Tomé e Príncipe • Senegal • Seychelles • Sierra Leone • Somalia • South Africa • South Sudan • Sudan • Swaziland • Tanzania • Togo • Tunisia • Uganda • Zambia • Zimbabwe *
<p>*NB: Excluded from Preliminary Competition: Zimbabwe</p>		

2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™

Preliminary Competition Format & Draw Procedures



AFRICAN ZONE

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION FORMAT & DRAW PROCEDURES

ROUND ONE

- The 26 lowest-ranked PMAs, PMA Rank 28 through to PMA Rank 53 (based on the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of July 2015), will contest Round One.
- The 26 teams will be paired into 13 home-and-away series.
- The matches are foreseen to be played in the period 5-13 October 2015.
- The 13 series winners advance to Round Two.

ALLOCATION TO POTS:

- The 26 Round One teams will be allocated to two pots of 13 teams based on the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of July 2015.
- The top 13 teams will be placed in Pot 4; the remaining 13 teams will be placed in Pot 5.

Pot 4

1. Niger
2. Ethiopia
3. Malawi
4. Sierra Leone
5. Namibia
6. Kenya
7. Botswana
8. Madagascar
9. Mauritania
10. Burundi
11. Lesotho
12. Guinea-Bissau
13. Swaziland

Pot 5

1. Tanzania
2. Gambia
3. Liberia
4. Central African Republic
5. Chad
6. Mauritius
7. Seychelles
8. Comoros
9. São Tomé e Príncipe
10. South Sudan
11. Eritrea
12. Somalia
13. Djibouti

2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™

Preliminary Competition Format & Draw Procedures



AFRICAN ZONE

ROUND TWO

- The 13 Round One winners will then join the remaining 27 PMAs in Round Two.
- The 40 teams will be paired into 20 home-and-away series.
- The matches are foreseen to be played in the period 9-17 November 2015.
- The 20 series winners advance to Round Three.

ALLOCATION TO POTS:

- The 27 PMAs who did not contest Round One will be allocated to three pots, one of 13 teams and two of 7 teams based on the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of July 2015.
- The top 13 teams will be placed in Pot 1; the next highest 7 teams will be placed in Pot 2 with the final 7 teams placed in Pot 3.

Pot 1	Pot 2	Pot 3
1. Algeria	1. Equatorial Guinea	1. Togo
2. Côte d'Ivoire	2. Gabon	2. Morocco
3. Ghana	3. South Africa	3. Sudan
4. Tunisia	4. Zambia	4. Angola
5. Senegal	5. Burkina Faso	5. Mozambique
6. Cameroon	6. Uganda	6. Benin
7. Congo	7. Rwanda	7. Libya
8. Cape Verde Islands		
9. Egypt		
10. Nigeria		
11. Guinea		
12. Congo DR		
13. Mali		

2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™

Preliminary Competition Format & Draw Procedures



AFRICAN ZONE

DRAW PROCEDURE FOR ROUND ONE AND ROUND TWO:

- The draw starts with a ball from Pot 5. This team will play in Series 1 and will play at home in the first leg of the series. The draw continues with a ball from Pot 4. This team will complete the pairing of Series 1 for Round One and will play at home in the second leg of the series. The winner of the series advances to Series 1 of Round Two and will play at home in the first leg of the series. The draw then continues with a ball from Pot 1. This team will play the winner of Series 1 from Round One and will play at home in the second leg of the series for Round Two.
- The draw then continues by alternating between Pot 5, Pot 4 and Pot 1 until all balls have been drawn from Pot 5, Pot 4 and Pot 1 completing the 13 pairings for Round One as well as who the series winner will face in Round Two.
- The draw then continues with the drawing of a ball from Pot 3. This team will play at home in the first leg of their series for Round Two. The draw continues with the drawing of a ball from Pot 2. This team will complete the pairing for Series 14 for Round Two and will play at home in the second leg of the series.
- The draw then continues by alternating between Pot 3 and Pot 2 to determine Series 15 through 20 for Round Two.

2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™

Preliminary Competition Format & Draw Procedures



AFRICAN ZONE

ROUND THREE:

- The 20 Round Two winners will take part in Round Three.
- The 20 teams will be drawn into five round-robin, home-and-away groups of four teams each.
- The matches are foreseen to be played in the period 3 October 2016 to 14 November 2017.

- **The five group winners will qualify for the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™.**

DRAW PROCEDURE:

The draw date, location and procedure for Round Three will be confirmed by the end of Round Two by the Organising Committee for the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™.