



Statutes

**Regulations Governing the
Application of the Statutes
Standing Orders of the Congress**



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This text was approved by the 2001 Extraordinary FIFA Congress in Buenos Aires and shall apply as from 7 October 2001.

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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STATUTES OF FIFA

Interpretation clause

In interpreting these Statutes and regulations the words:

- ¹ “FIFA” or “Federation” means “Fédération Internationale de Football Association”. Federation
- ² “An association” or “the associations” refer to the national associations, except where the context denotes a different meaning. Association
- ³ “League” means an internal organisation subordinated to a national association. League
- ⁴ “British associations” refer to the four associations of the United Kingdom, i.e. The Football Association, The Scottish Football association, The Football Association of Wales, and the Irish Football Association (Northern Ireland). British associations
- ⁵ “International Board” or “the Board” refers to the International Football Association Board. International F.A. Board
- ⁶ “Confederation” is a group of national associations affiliated to FIFA and belonging to the same continent (or assimilable geographic entity). Confederation
- ⁷ The “Executive Committee” means the Executive Committee of FIFA as constituted in accordance with these Statutes. Executive Committee
- ⁸ “Member” means a national association which is in membership with FIFA or a person who is a member of a committee of FIFA. Member
- ⁹ “Officials” mean all board members, coaches, trainers and people responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in a confederation, national association, league or club. Officials
- ¹⁰ The term “association football” refers to the game specifically controlled by the Federation and as regulated by the Laws of the Game. Association football

I. Title, constitution, headquarters

Art. 1

Title and
constitution

¹ The “Fédération Internationale de Football association” (FIFA) is an association in accordance with Art. 60 ff of the Swiss Civil Code*.

² FIFA shall consist of the national associations which are affiliated to it and recognised by it as controlling association football in their respective countries.

³ Only one association shall be recognised in each country.

⁴ Each of the four British associations shall be recognised as a member of FIFA.

⁵ A football association in a region which has not yet gained independence may, with the authorisation of the national association of the country on which it is dependent, also ask to become affiliated to FIFA.

Headquarters

⁶ The location of the FIFA headquarters shall be determined by a resolution of the Congress. It shall be located in Zurich, Switzerland and may only be transferred elsewhere if the Congress passes a resolution to that effect (cf. Art. 16 §4 [d]).

* Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code

¹ Associations which have a political, religious, scientific, artistic, charitable, social or any other than an industrial object, acquire the status of a person as soon as they show by their constitution their intention to have corporate existence.

² The constitution must be drawn up in writing and state the object, the capital and the organisation of the society.

II. Objects

Art. 2

Objects

The objects of the Federation are:

¹ to promote the game of association football in every way it deems fit;

² to foster friendly relations among national associations, confederations, and their officials and players by promoting the organisation of football matches at all levels and by supporting association football by all other means which it deems appropriate;

³ to control every type of association football by taking steps as shall be deemed necessary or advisable to prevent infringements of the Statutes or regulations of FIFA or of the Laws of the Game as laid down by the International Football association Board, to prevent the introduction of other improper methods or practices in the game and to protect it from abuses;

^{3.1} there shall be no discrimination against a country or an individual for reasons of race, religion or politics;

^{3.2} a national association which tolerates, allows or organises competitions in which discrimination is practised or which is established in a country where discrimination in sport is laid down by law shall not be admitted to FIFA or shall be expelled if it is already a member. A national association, when applying to take part in a competition, or deciding to organise one, shall give assurances to the Federation that its provisions will be respected;

⁴ to provide, by means of statutory regulations, principles for settling any differences that may arise between or among national associations.

III. Membership

Art. 3

Associations shall be admitted as members by the Congress only.

Membership

Art. 4

¹ Any association applying for membership of FIFA must first have been a provisional member of a confederation for at least two years.

Application for membership

² Any association applying for membership shall address a written request to this effect to FIFA.

³ The application for membership shall contain a declaration in which the applicant association undertakes:

(a) to conform at all times to the Statutes, regulations and decisions of FIFA and the confederations;

(b) to observe the Laws of the Game in force with FIFA.

⁴ The applicant association shall enclose a copy of its own statutes and regulations with its request. These statutes must, without exception, contain a mandatory clause stipulating the restraints and obligations contained in Art. 63 of the FIFA Statutes.

⁵ The applicant association shall submit to FIFA a file containing details of its internal organisation and the sports infrastructure (facilities for playing football) in its country.

⁶ If FIFA considers the file to be complete, it shall forward it to the confederation which it considers is territorially competent to deal with it.

⁷ The confederation shall decide whether to grant provisional membership or associate membership to the applicant association. The confederation shall notify FIFA as soon as it considers a provisional member national association to be qualified to become a member of FIFA (cf. Art. 1 of the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes).

⁸ The Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes shall determine the terms and conditions.

Terms and conditions

Art. 5

¹ During the Congress session at which its application for membership is to be decided, the applicant association in question may, through its delegates, address the Congress in support of its application. These delegates must, however, leave the conference hall whilst the application is being considered and voted upon. If the application is accepted, the delegates of the association which has just been granted membership shall immediately be allowed to take part in the remaining work of the Congress.

Decision regarding application

² An association which has been granted membership must pay the annual subscription fee as laid down in Art. 51 of these Statutes for the year of its admission.

Consequences of membership

³ Payment of the subscription fee must be made within 30 days of acceptance of the association's membership by the Congress. Failing this, the provisions of Art. 51 §3 shall be applied mutatis mutandis.

⁴ Once an association has been accepted as a member, it shall be entitled to enter immediately for any of the competitions organised by FIFA, provided that the entry deadline has not passed.

Art. 6

Correspondence

¹ Each association shall inform the Federation of the name and address of the person responsible for conducting, on its behalf, official correspondence both with FIFA and the other associations on all matters including disputes among associations.

² Each association shall send to the Federation and, upon request, to the other affiliated associations, its official handbook and all communications modifying its statutes and regulations.

Art. 7

Executive
bodies

¹ The executive body of an association shall be appointed only by means of election within that association. The statutes of an association shall provide for an election procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the electorate.

² The Federation shall not recognise the executive body of an association, even on an interim basis, if it has not been appointed in accordance with §1 above.

³ Any decision taken by an outside body to suspend an association's executive body shall not be binding on the Federation.

⁴ Leagues or any other groups of clubs at association level shall only be permitted with the association's express consent and shall be subordinate to it. The association's statutes shall define the powers apportioned to any such group as well as its rights and obligations. The regulations of any such group shall be subject to the approval of the association.

⁵ Each association shall include a stipulation in its statutes that any clubs affiliated to the association shall be in a position to take their own decisions on any matters connected with their affiliation independently of any external body. In particular, each association shall direct its clubs to abide by this obligation whatever corporate structure the clubs choose. Furthermore, any association which allows its affiliated clubs to belong to an external commercial company shall enact that not more than one club affiliated to the association may belong to the same company (including holding companies and subsidiaries).

Art. 8

Honorary
President
and Honorary
Member

¹ The Congress may grant the title of Honorary President or Honorary Member to any person for meritorious services rendered to the Federation.

² Nominations for such positions shall be made by the Executive Committee.

³ An Honorary President or an Honorary Member shall be permitted to attend the Congress with the right to join in discussions, but not to vote.

Art. 9

¹ National associations affiliated to FIFA and geographically situated on the same continent may form confederations which will be recognised by FIFA.

Confederations

FIFA shall recognise the following confederations:

- (a) Confédération Africaine de Football
- (b) Asian Football Confederation
- (c) Union of European Football Associations
- (d) Confederación Norte-Centroamericana y del Caribe de Fútbol
- (e) Confederación Sudamericana de Fútbol.
- (f) Oceania Football Confederation.

² FIFA may, in exceptional circumstances, authorise a confederation to grant membership to a national association that belongs geographically to another continent and is not affiliated to the confederation on that continent. The opinion of the confederation concerned geographically is required.

³ Each of the recognised confederations shall have the following rights and duties:

Rights and duties

- (a) to comply with and enforce compliance with the FIFA Statutes, regulations and decisions;
- (b) to co-operate with FIFA in all matters relating to the organisation of international competitions and football in general;
- (c) to organise its own inter-club competitions;
- (d) to organise its own international competitions, particularly youth competitions;
- (e) to ensure that international leagues or any other such combination of clubs or leagues shall not be formed without its consent and the approval of FIFA;
- (f) to assign to associations wishing to become members of FIFA, and upon the latter's recommendation, the status of provisional member for at least two years or the status of associate member. This will give these associations the right to participate in its competitions and discussions but not the right to vote;
- (g) to elect, as the confederation's representatives, vice presidents and members to the FIFA Executive Committee in compliance with Art. 19 of the FIFA Statutes;
- (h) to maintain good relations and co-operation with FIFA by appointing two members to serve on a consultative committee with an equal number of representatives from FIFA to deal with matters of interest to the confederation and FIFA;
- (i) to ensure that the representatives it has appointed to the FIFA bodies, and elected to the Executive Committee, exercise this function with due respect and attention;
- (k) to appoint committees which will work in close co-operation with the corresponding FIFA committees;

- (l) to grant permission in exceptional circumstances, and providing FIFA approves, to an association of another confederation (or its member clubs) or to an association which is not a member of a confederation (or its member clubs) to take part in approved competitions which it organises;
- (m) generally to take all action it deems useful to encourage the development of association football on its continent (e.g. by organising courses, seminars, etc.);
- (n) to constitute all the bodies necessary to fulfil the duties incumbent upon them;
- (o) to procure the funds required to fulfil its duties adequately.

⁴ The Executive Committee of FIFA may, in specific cases, delegate some of its duties or powers to any confederation.

⁵ The statutes and regulations of the confederations must be submitted to the Executive Committee of FIFA for approval.

IV. Legislative, executive and administrative bodies

Art. 10

Legislative,
executive and
administrative
bodies

¹ The Congress shall be the legislative body of FIFA and, as such, the supreme authority.

² The Executive Committee shall be the executive body of FIFA.

³ The general secretariat shall be the administrative body of FIFA.

⁴ The standing and ad hoc committees shall serve to assist the various bodies of FIFA in their respective duties. Their composition and functions are stipulated in Art. 23 to 42 of these Statutes.

The Congress

Art. 11

The Congress

¹ The Congress, the supreme body of FIFA, shall be held every two years.

² The Executive Committee may call an Extraordinary Congress of the Federation at any time. At the written request of one fifth of the affiliated national associations of the Federation, the Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress within three months of receipt of such a request provided that the request is submitted by affiliated national associations of at least two confederations.

Art. 12

Right to vote

¹ Each association shall have the right to one vote and be entitled to be represented by a maximum of three delegates, all of whom may take

part in the debates. The confederations shall be entitled to be represented by three observers.

² The names of the delegates must be sent to the general secretariat before the opening of the Congress. The one having the right to vote must be indicated. Should this delegate leave the conference hall at any time during the Congress, he shall be replaced by the representative next on the list of delegates drawn up by the national association concerned.

Delegates

³ Only the delegates present and entitled to vote shall decide any questions put to the vote.

⁴ No delegate shall be allowed to represent more than one association.

⁵ During their term of office, members of the Executive Committee shall not be eligible to act as delegates of their associations.

⁶ Voting by letter or proxy is not allowed.

Vote by letter

⁷ Delegates to the Congress must be “bona fide” members of the affiliated association they represent and be subjects of the country represented by that association.

⁸ The Federation shall bear the costs of travel and accommodation for three delegates from each association taking part in the Congress. The Executive Committee shall issue appropriate directives in this respect.

Art. 13

¹ The date and place of a Congress must be notified to affiliated associations by registered letter posted six months in advance.

Date and place of the Ordinary Congress

² The agenda, specifying the nature of the business to be transacted, the General Secretary’s report, the balance sheet and the auditors’ report must be sent to the associations by registered letter and posted one month before the date of the Congress.

³ All proposals and questions to be submitted to the Congress by affiliated associations must be sent in writing to the general secretariat of FIFA at least four months before the Congress. Only those proposals and questions sent in time and included in the agenda may be discussed at the Congress.

Proposals and questions

⁴ The Congress may, in emergencies, deal with matters submitted after the above closing date, provided an absolute majority of the associations affiliated to FIFA (which have not forfeited their right to vote for any reason at the time of the Congress) is present and a majority of three-fourths of the votes recorded thus decides.

⁵ The place, date and agenda of an Extraordinary Congress must be notified to the affiliated national associations at least two months before it is due to take place.

Extraordinary Congress

⁶ The names of candidates for the presidency of the Federation may be submitted by any member association and must reach the general secretariat of FIFA two months before the opening date of the Congress. A retiring president shall be eligible for re-election. The names of all candidates must be forwarded by the general secretariat of FIFA to all the national associations at least one month before the Congress.

Candidates for presidency

Art. 14

Agenda
of the Ordinary
Congress

¹ The agenda of the Ordinary Congress shall include at least the following items:

- (a) an address by the President;
- (b) appointment of five members to check the official minutes;
- (c) appointment of scrutineers;
- (d) formal approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
- (e) the report covering the period since the preceding Congress;
- (f) submission of balance sheet, receipts and expenditure account;
- (g) vote on the approval of the accounts;
- (h) submission of the budget;
- (i) admission and/or resignation of national associations;
- (k) consideration of proposals for alteration to the Statutes, Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes and Standing Orders of the FIFA Congress;
- (l) questions from national associations and any other matters the Executive Committee wishes to propose. (Such questions shall be submitted in writing in accordance with Art. 13 §3 of the Statutes.)
- (m) appointment of chartered accountants to examine and certify the accounts of the Federation;
- (n) election of the President (if necessary) and installation of the vice presidents and members of the Executive Committee.

Extraordinary
Congress

² In the case of an Extraordinary Congress, the notice of the meeting shall include the agenda. No items other than those contained in the agenda may be discussed.

Art. 15

Alterations to
the Statutes,
Regulations and
Standing
Orders

¹ The Congress alone may alter the Statutes, the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress of FIFA.

² A proposed alteration to the Statutes may be included in the agenda and put to the vote only if it has been submitted by one national association and seconded by two others or if proposed by the Executive Committee.

³ In order to be able to consider an amendment to the Statutes, a Congress must be attended by an absolute majority of the FIFA member associations, which at the time of the Congress have not forfeited their right to vote for any reason.

⁴ To be adopted, the amendment must receive the approval of three-fourths of the votes cast by the delegates present and entitled to vote.

⁵ An amendment to the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes or the Standing Orders of the Congress may be proposed by one national association or by the Executive Committee.

⁶ Proposals to amend the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes or the Standing Orders of the Congress shall be passed by a simple majority of votes cast by the delegates present and entitled to vote (cf. §5).

Art. 16

¹ Voting for the elections shall be by secret ballot.

² Other decisions, when voting is necessary, shall be taken by a show of hands. If this method of voting does not result in a definite majority in favour of a proposal, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll, countries being called in English alphabetical order.

³ For the election of the President of the Federation, two-thirds of the votes recorded in the first ballot are necessary. In a second ballot and any subsequent ballots which may be necessary, an absolute majority of the votes recorded is required. From the second ballot onwards, and if there are more than two candidates, the one obtaining the lowest number of votes will be eliminated after each ballot until only two candidates remain in the running.

⁴ Other decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of the votes recorded with the exception of the following, which can only be taken if an absolute majority of the associations affiliated to FIFA (which have not forfeited their right to vote for any reason at the time of the Congress) is present and a majority of three-fourths of the votes recorded is reached:

- (a) amendments or additions to the Statutes (cf. Art. 15 §4);
- (b) additions to the Congress agenda (cf. Art. 13 §4);
- (c) expulsion of a member from the Federation (cf. Art. 65 §2);
- (d) change of the Federation's headquarters (cf. Art. 1 §6);
- (e) dissolution of the Federation. (cf. Art. 68).

Elections
Other decisions

Necessary
majorities

Art. 17

¹ The General Secretary shall keep the official minutes of the Congress.

² The minutes shall be submitted for verification to five members specially appointed for this purpose by the Congress.

Minutes

Art. 18

¹ Decisions taken at a Congress shall come into operation and become binding on the Federation and affiliated associations three months after the closing date of the Congress.

² Decisions taken by the Congress to accept the affiliation of new member national associations shall, however, come into force immediately (cf. Art. 5). In such a case the associations shall be entitled to vote immediately upon formal acceptance of their candidature.

³ The Congress may, in emergencies, decide that decisions be enforced at a different date. In such cases, the decisions shall become operative on the date fixed by the Congress.

Implementation
of decisions

Executive Committee

Art. 19

¹ The Executive Committee of the Federation shall consist of:

1 President 7 vice presidents 16 members

Constitution

Election of president
Appointment of vice presidents and members

² The President shall be elected by the associations represented at the Congress and entitled to vote (cf. Art. 16 §3).

³ The vice presidents and members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the confederations, except for the vice president representing the four British associations, who shall be elected by the associations concerned. Each must be a member of the national association at the time of his election. The elections shall be apportioned as follows:

(a) Africa	vice president	(1)	members	(3)
(b) North and Central America and Caribbean	vice president	(1)	members	(2)
(c) South America	vice president	(1)	members	(2)
(d) Asia	vice president	(1)	members	(3)
(e) Europe	vice presidents	(2)	members	(5)
(f) the four British associations	vice president	(1)	member	(-)
(g) Oceania	vice president	(-)	member	(1)

⁴ The President and a vice president may not belong to the same national association.

⁵ No two nationals from the same country or two members of the same national association may be members of the Executive Committee simultaneously.

Mandates

⁶ The mandates for the President, the vice presidents and the members are for a term of four years. They may be renewed.

⁷ In order to guarantee continuity on the Executive Committee, no more than twelve new members may be installed simultaneously. Confederations shall therefore ensure that half of their representatives are elected to the FIFA Executive Committee by their respective Congresses to make sure that this principle of continuity is maintained.

⁸ If the President ceases to carry out or is prevented from performing his duties, the senior vice president shall undertake them until the next Congress at the latest. In such a case, the Congress shall elect a new president.

⁹ If other members of the Executive Committee relinquish their duties, they shall be replaced immediately, for the remainder of their term of office, by the confederation or national associations which appointed them.

Art. 20

Powers

¹ The Executive Committee shall be the Federation's executive body. It shall be empowered to take decisions on all matters which are not exclusive to the Congress, with the exception of matters referred by these Statutes to other bodies.

Meetings

² The Executive Committee shall, in principle, meet twice a year.

³ At the request of thirteen members of the Executive Committee, the President must convene an extraordinary meeting.

⁴ The Executive Committee shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the standing committees (cf. Art. 23).

⁵ The Executive Committee shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the Federation's judicial bodies.

⁶ The Executive Committee shall, if need be, form standing or ad hoc committees in addition to those mentioned under Art. 23 hereafter.

⁷ The Executive Committee shall appoint the delegates from FIFA to the International F. A. Board.

⁸ The Executive Committee shall appoint the General Secretary and, on his recommendation, approve the engagement of the permanent staff of the secretariat. The General Secretary shall attend the meetings of all the committees ex officio.

⁹ The Executive Committee shall fix the venue and date of the next Congress.

¹⁰ The Executive Committee shall determine the venue (cf. Art. 56 §1) and the dates of the FIFA final competitions and the number of teams permitted to take part.

Art. 21

¹ The President shall represent the Federation legally.

President

² However, for real estate transactions, the President and one other member of the Executive Committee shall represent the Federation legally by means of their joint signatures.

³ The President shall preside at the Congress, meetings of the Executive and Emergency Committees and committees of which he has been appointed chairman.

⁴ The President shall have an ordinary vote and, when votes are equal, shall have the casting vote.

⁵ If the President is absent or unavailable, the senior vice president who is available shall automatically perform his duties.

⁶ The provisions governing the business of the Congress shall be contained in the Standing Orders of the FIFA Congress.

Emergency Committee

Art. 22

¹ An Emergency Committee of eight members shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to deal with all matters requiring immediate decision between meetings of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall include the President, the chairman of the Finance Committee and one representative from each confederation chosen from among the members of the Executive Committee.

Emergency
Committee

² As a general rule, business shall be conducted at specially convened meetings. However, if in exceptional circumstances the Committee is unable to convene a meeting, decisions may be reached by means of written communication, in which case the Executive Committee shall be notified immediately.

³ All decisions taken by the Emergency Committee shall be implemented immediately and ratified by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

Ratification

⁴ If the President is unable to attend, the senior vice president who is available shall deputise. The President shall have authority to appoint a

substitute if one of the members is not available or if the national association of which he is a member is directly concerned in a case or dispute requiring urgent attention. The substitute must, however, belong to the same confederation as that to which the unavailable or ineligible member belongs.

Standing committees

Art. 23

Standing committees

¹ The standing committees shall be:

- (a) Finance Committee
- (b) Organising Committee for the FIFA World Cup
- (c) Organising Committee for the FIFA/Confederations Cup
- (d) Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments
- (e) Committee for FIFA Youth Competitions
- (f) Committee for Five-a-side (Futsal) Football
- (g) Committee for Women's Football
- (h) Referees' Committee
- (i) Technical Committee
- (k) Sports Medical Committee
- (l) Players' Status Committee
- (m) Committee for Legal Matters
- (n) Committee for Security Matters and Fair Play
- (o) Media Committee
- (p) Protocol Committee
- (q) National Associations Committee
- (r) Football Committee
- (s) Strategic Study Committee
- (t) Marketing and Television Advisory Board

Constitution

² The chairmen and deputy chairmen of the standing committees shall be designated by the Executive Committee from among its members.

The members of each committee shall be designated by the Executive Committee upon the proposal of the confederations after consultation with their national associations or upon the proposal of the President of FIFA.

The chairmen, deputy chairmen and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four years.

³ Each chairman shall represent his committee, see that its business is properly conducted, fix the date of the meetings in conjunction with the General Secretary and report to the Executive Committee on its work.

⁴ Each committee may, if deemed necessary, appoint a bureau and/or a sub-committee to deal with urgent matters. Any decision taken by a bureau or a sub-committee shall enter into force immediately but shall be subject to confirmation by the plenary committee concerned at its next meeting.

Art. 24

¹ The Finance Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and four members, each one of the six belonging to a different confederation. They shall be chosen from among the members of the Executive Committee.

Finance
Committee

² The duties of the Committee shall be

- (a) to control the financial administration of the Federation;
- (b) to advise the Executive Committee on the management of property;
- (c) to prepare the budget of the Executive Committee and to examine those of the various standing and ad hoc committees and to submit them for approval to the Executive Committee;
- (d) to supervise the financial accounts of the committees and to authorise the General Secretary to make the payments, after verification.

Art. 25

¹ The Organising Committee for the FIFA World Cup shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman, deputy chairman and at least two of the members shall be selected from among the members of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall, however, have among its members:

Organising
Committee for
the FIFA World
Cup

- (a) one member from each confederation;
- (b) one member from the national association which organised the last World Cup;
- (c) one member from the national association which has been assigned to organise the next World Cup;
- (d) one member from the national association which has been assigned to organise the subsequent World Cup.

The members mentioned under (b), (c) and (d) shall be appointed at the recommendation of the national associations concerned.

² The Committee shall be responsible for the organisation of the FIFA World Cup in accordance with the regulations governing the competition.

The Committee shall be empowered to submit to the Executive Committee proposals for amendments which it considers should be made to the competition regulations.

³ The Committee shall be responsible for the production and publication of an official report on the FIFA World Cup.

Art. 26

¹ The Organising Committee for the FIFA Confederations Cup shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. It shall, however, have among its members:

Organising
Committee
for the FIFA
Confederations
Cup

- (a) one member from each confederation;
- (b) one member from the national association which has been assigned to organise the subsequent FIFA Confederations Cup.

² The Committee shall be responsible for the organisation of the FIFA Confederations Cup in accordance with the regulations governing

the competition. The Committee shall be empowered to submit to the Executive Committee proposals for amendments which it considers should be made to the competition regulations.

³ The Committee shall be responsible for the production and publication of an official report on the FIFA Confederations Cup.

Art. 27

Organising
Committee for
the Olympic
Football
Tournaments

¹ The Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. It shall, however, have among its members:

- (a) one member from each confederation;
- (b) one member from the national association which has been assigned to organise the next Olympic Games. He shall be appointed at the recommendation of the national association concerned.

² The Committee shall be responsible for the organisation of the Olympic Football Tournaments in accordance with the special regulations governing the competition and the Olympic Charter. The Committee shall be empowered to submit to the Executive Committee proposals for amendments which it considers should be made to the tournament regulations.

³ The Committee shall be responsible for the production and publication of an official report on the Olympic Football Tournaments.

Art. 28

Committee for
FIFA Youth
Competitions

¹ The Committee for FIFA Youth Competitions shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. It shall, however, have among its members:

- (a) one member from each confederation;
- (b) one member from each of the national associations which has been assigned to organise one of the forthcoming FIFA youth competitions. They shall be appointed after nomination by the national associations concerned.

² The Committee shall be responsible for the organisation of:

- (a) the World Youth Championship
 - (b) the U-17 World Championship
- in accordance with the special regulations governing these competitions.

The Committee shall be empowered to submit to the Executive Committee proposals for amendments it considers should be made to the competition regulations.

³ The Committee shall be responsible for the production and publication of an official report for each competition it organises.

Art. 29

Committee
Futsal
(indoor football)

¹ The Futsal (indoor football) Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to draw up the Laws of the Game for this type of football;
- (b) to approve the official translation of these Laws of the Game;
- (c) to make decisions regarding the application of the Laws of the Game;
- (d) to propose to the Executive Committee any measures deemed necessary to ensure the control of indoor football;
- (e) to deal with all matters involving indoor football;
- (f) to organise an indoor football world competition from time to time.

³ The Committee shall be responsible for the production and publication of an official report for each competition it organises.

Art. 30

¹ The Committee for Women's Football shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

Committee
for Women's
Football

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to deal with all matters regarding women's football;
- (b) to propose to the Executive Committee any measures deemed necessary to promote the development of women's football;
- (c) to organise a women's football world competition from time to time.

³ The Committee shall be responsible for the production and publication of an official report for each competition it organises.

Art. 31

¹ The Referees' Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary, with each confederation being represented.

Referees'
Committee

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to make decisions and interpretations regarding the application of the Laws of the Game;
- (b) to approve the official translation of the Laws of the Game;
- (c) to propose to the Executive Committee the amendments to the Laws of the Game to be submitted to the International Football Association Board;
- (d) to compile a list of referees qualified to supervise international matches from among the nominations submitted by the national associations;
- (e) to appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by FIFA or for any other matches or tournaments, whenever requested to do so;
- (f) to establish uniformity in methods of refereeing and implementation of the Laws for world-wide use;
- (g) to establish uniform criteria for the inspection of referees for use by every national association;
- (h) to approve the editing of the wording on the Laws of the Game in official FIFA publications;
- (i) to organise courses for international referees and referee instructors;

- (k) to draw up a list of instructors and lecturers capable of conducting courses for referees;
- (l) to prepare and produce useful didactic material on refereeing;
- (m) to ensure that each national association has a properly constituted referees' committee and ascertain that these committees function satisfactorily.

Art. 32

Technical
Committee

¹ The Technical Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to advance training methods;
- (b) to take all possible measures to improve the qualifications of coaches;
- (c) to resolve questions on the theory and practice of football;
- (d) to take all possible measures to promote familiarisation with and experience in teaching football;
- (e) to organise courses and conferences for instructors, trainers, coaches and administrators in conjunction with national associations and confederations;
- (f) to compile material on teaching and coaching techniques for players, trainers, coaches and referees;
- (g) to provide the assistance necessary for the production of didactic films;
- (h) to deal with all matters concerning the construction of installations and the availability of equipment to teach football;
- (i) to issue a memorandum from time to time regarding technical assistance and grants which have been given or are to be given towards any development project;
- (k) to be responsible for editing the technical section of official FIFA publications;
- (l) to recommend coaches, instructors or trainers to national associations at the associations' request.
- (m) to examine any problems concerning football pitches.

Art. 33

Sports Medical
Committee

¹ The Sports Medical Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary, all of whom shall be very well versed in medicine.

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to act as an advisory board for the FIFA Executive Committee on every aspect of medicine, physiology and hygiene;
- (b) to develop and use scientific experience in the fields of physiology, medical control, training theories, psychology and hygiene;
- (c) to draw up a medical guide for use by coaches, players and referees;
- (d) to draw up a guide for players to improve their athletic ability, physical fitness and performance capacity;

- (e) to prepare memoranda for trainers and coaches on the physical preparation of football players;
- (f) to prepare memoranda on diet and nourishment for players, giving appropriate recommendations;
- (g) to prepare memoranda on general aspects of sports hygiene and, in particular, the effects of certain substances on the body (alcohol, nicotine, medicaments, drugs etc.);
- (h) to issue instructions regarding medical facilities to be made available at international matches and tournaments;
- (i) to investigate types of injuries suffered during football matches and to issue recommendations for improved prevention or treatment of such injuries;
- (k) to draw up regulations on doping control in FIFA competitions for the Executive Committee and check regularly that they are being observed.

Art. 34

¹ The Players' Status Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary, with each confederation being represented.

Players'
Status
Committee

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to examine general problems regarding the status of players;
- (b) to advise the Executive Committee on the interpretation of the FIFA Statutes and the Regulations governing the Status and Transfer of players;
- (c) to ensure that the definitions drawn up by FIFA regarding the status of players are observed;
- (d) to decide the status of players for the different competitions organised at international level;
- (e) to investigate and decide upon disputed transfers submitted to FIFA in compliance with the special provisions governing this matter; in this connection, the following sanctions may be directly imposed upon clubs, officials, members, coaches, players or players' agents:
 - a caution
 - a censure
 - a fine
 - an interdiction
 - a suspension

³ The Committee shall deal, in principle, only with cases submitted via the national associations.

⁴ Coaches shall be classified as players as far as status is concerned.

⁵ An appeal may be lodged with the Executive Committee against any decision taken by the Committee as described under §2 (d) and (e) above.

Art. 35

¹ The Committee for Legal Matters shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary, all of whom shall have legal qualifications.

Committee
for Legal
Matters

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to take counsel, give advice and adopt a position on all cases, disputes or enquiries submitted to the Committee;
- (b) to follow the development of the Statutes and regulations which govern FIFA and propose to the Executive Committee any amendment which the Committee deems useful;
- (c) to check the statutes and regulations governing affiliated associations, as the case may be, and to recommend that the Executive Committee intervene to bring about any desired amendments.

Art. 36

Committee
for Security
Matters
and Fair Play

¹ The Committee for Security Matters and Fair Play shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the following members:

- (a) the chairman of each of the organising committees of FIFA competitions;
- (b) the president of each confederation;
- (c) the chairman of the Committee for Legal Matters;
- (d) the press officer of FIFA.

² Its duties shall be the following:

- (a) to examine generally every aspect of security inside the stadia and in the immediate vicinity;
- (b) to investigate every possible way of improving security at football matches;
- (c) to deal with every aspect of fair play in its widest sense;
- (d) to propose different kinds of campaigns designed to promote fair play, to ensure that they are realised and to follow up the results.

Art. 37

Media
Committee

¹ The Media Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman, the number of members deemed necessary, and the press officer of FIFA. At the suggestion of the Committee, the General Secretary may convene co-opted members for special duties for a limited period.

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to advise the general secretariat and FIFA committees on matters involving public relations and work with the news media;
- (b) to develop proposals regarding FIFA publications and, if need be, assist in their conception and preparation;
- (c) to advise the respective organising committees regarding the conditions for the organisation of work by the media at FIFA events; to draw up the terms of reference; to prepare and carry out the accreditation procedure for media representatives and to supervise the organisation of the media;
- (d) to work in conjunction with international media organisations.

Art. 38

Protocol
Committee

¹ The Protocol Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to deal with all matters of protocol during FIFA competitions and conventions or other events in which FIFA is involved;
- (b) to draw up relevant proposals for the Executive Committee.

Art. 39

¹ The National Associations Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and any number of members deemed necessary, with one representative from each confederation.

National
Associations
Committee

² The duties of the committee shall be :

- a) to co-ordinate relations between the Federation and its member associations;
- b) to devise projects for collaboration between the Federation and any member national association with special needs or problems;
- c) to examine any requests from associations affected by exceptional circumstances, for presentation to the Executive Committee;
- d) to advise the national associations, upon request, on how to improve their internal organisation, especially at administrative level;
- e) to draw up documents or organise courses/seminars designed to improve the national associations' standards of administration, in co-operation with other organisations; the Federation has the final say on any proposals submitted by these organisations;
- f) to submit to the Executive Committee procedures for the affiliation of any association applying for membership of the Federation and to process all the applications received;
- g) to assist any new member national association of the Federation to set up and organise its administration;
- h) to investigate, assess and take appropriate interim action whenever problems arise in a national association and to propose suitable measures to the Executive Committee for resolution of the situation.

Art. 40

¹ The Football Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and a selection of players, referees, coaches, administrators, medics and any other people from the world of football.

Football
Committee

² Its duties shall be:

- (a) to take cognisance of, analyse and deal with any recommendations and proposals to be submitted to the Executive Committee with a view to the technical development of football,
- (b) to promote football,
- (c) to analyse the basic aspects of football,
- (d) to observe the development of the Laws of the Game and football itself,
- (e) to combat elements posing a threat to football,
- (f) to support and extend any projects benefiting supporters.
- (g) to promote healthy conditions in the game of football.

³ The aim of this committee is to safeguard the very origins of football and to ensure that it remains a game.

Art. 41

Strategic Study
Committee

¹ The Strategic Study Committee shall be composed of the FIFA President as chairman, the FIFA Senior Vice-President, the presidents of the confederations, the FIFA General Secretary and the confederation general secretaries. The FIFA President may co-opt additional members, who shall be qualified representatives from the world of football and its business, social, cultural and political spheres, to deal with specific issues.

² The duties of the committee shall be:

- a) to address major developments in global football;
- b) to devise strategies with respect to the major issues facing football;
- c) to set up guidelines on all matters relating to the game of football, its organisation and political, economic and social structures, and to recommend methods of implementing them;
- d) to assign special missions to realise these objectives.

Art. 42

Marketing and
Television
Advisory Board

¹ The Marketing and Television Advisory Board shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and a group of marketing or television experts responsible for advising the FIFA administration with respect to the drafting and implementing of contracts between FIFA and its various marketing/television partners.

² Its duties shall be:

- a) to ensure that the terms of the marketing/television contracts are put into effect in the spirit in which they were intended;
- b) to propose to the FIFA administration any measures deemed necessary in the existing contractual framework to enhance and protect the interests and/or image of the Federation;
- c) to deal with any specific matters in connection with the fulfilment of the terms of the marketing/television contracts;
- d) to advise the FIFA administration in a general manner on any matters in connection with the fulfilment of the terms of the marketing/television contracts;
- e) to delegate one or more representatives to the meetings of any special ad hoc subcommittees, if prescribed in the relevant contracts, so that they can inform the bodies concerned of the comments and suggestions of the Advisory Board;
- f) to draw up regular reports for the Executive Committee on the subject of the enforcement of the marketing/television contracts and the development of relations with the contractual partners.

Judicial bodies

Art. 43

The judicial bodies of FIFA shall be:

- (a) the Disciplinary Committee;
- (b) the Appeal Committee.

Judicial bodies

Art. 44

¹ The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman shall have legal qualifications.

Disciplinary
Committee

² The function of this body shall be governed by regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee, which shall also elaborate a list of disciplinary measures.

³ The Disciplinary Committee may sanction national associations, clubs, officials, members, coaches or players for any breach of FIFA Statutes, regulations and instructions, or any violation of decisions reached by a body of FIFA, or for any action violating the spirit or letter of the Laws of the Game.

⁴ The Disciplinary Committee shall base its decisions on the List of Disciplinary Measures drawn up by the Executive Committee (cf. §2).

⁵ Disciplinary powers are, however, exclusively reserved to the other competent bodies of FIFA in respect of:

- the status and transfer of players (cf. Art. 34)
- the suspension and expulsion of national associations (cf. Art. 48 and 65)

Art. 45

¹ The Appeal Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman shall have legal qualifications.

Appeal
Committee

² It shall hear appeals lodged against decisions by the Disciplinary Committee which are not irrevocable according to FIFA regulations.

³ Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee shall be irrevocable and binding on all the parties concerned.

⁴ The function of the Appeal Committee and the procedure to be followed shall be contained in special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.

General Secretariat

Art. 46

¹ The General Secretariat of the Federation shall be a permanent administrative body.

General
secretariat

² It may be called upon to carry out administrative, publicity and technical work.

Art. 47

General
Secretary

¹ The General Secretary shall be the chief executive of the permanent secretariat of the Federation.

² He shall be appointed on the basis of an individual legal agreement.

Responsibilities

³ He shall be responsible for:

- (a) managing and keeping the accounts of the Federation;
- (b) the execution of decisions taken by the Executive Committee;
- (c) the production of the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee, the standing and ad hoc committees;
- (d) the correspondence of the Federation;
- (e) relations among the Federation and the confederations, national associations, organisations and committees;
- (f) the organisation of the general secretariat;
- (g) the appointment of the staff in the general secretariat.

V. Suspension of national associations

Art. 48

Area of
jurisdiction

¹ Only the Congress shall be competent to suspend a national association. However, in emergencies, such a sanction may be imposed by the Executive Committee. The suspension may only have effect until the next Congress at the latest and may then only be prolonged by a decision taken by a three-fourths majority of the votes made at that Congress.

The provision contained in Art. 51 §3 of these Statutes is not subject to the foregoing paragraph.

² A national association that has been suspended shall forfeit its right to vote at the Congress until the sanction has been lifted.

Moreover, suspended national associations may not entertain footballing contacts with other members.

Loss of right
to vote

³ National associations must take part in FIFA competitions.

Any national association which does not participate in at least two of any FIFA competitions over a period of four consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Congress until it has fulfilled its obligations in this respect.

VI. Finance

Art. 49

Financial period

¹ The financial period of the Federation shall be four years and shall begin on 1 January in the year following the final competition of each FIFA World Cup.

² Intermediate balance sheets shall be drawn up on 31 December of every year.

Art. 50

¹ The Congress shall appoint a firm of chartered accountants to examine the accounts of the Federation after the accounts have been approved by the Finance Committee. The appointment shall be for four years.

Auditors

² The accountants' reports shall be submitted to the Congress.

Art. 51

¹ Each national association shall pay a standard annual subscription. This shall be due on 1 January each year.

Annual
subscription

² The amount of the annual subscription shall be determined by the Congress every four years following the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for every national association.

³ An association which has not paid its subscription by 1 April in any year may be suspended by the Executive Committee unless it produces a valid reason which is acceptable to the Committee. The suspension shall be confirmed by the subsequent Congress. If the subscription is paid in the meantime, the national association concerned shall be immediately reinstated.

Art. 52

¹ For every international match – including friendly matches, tournaments and all the matches of the Olympic Football Tournaments – played between two national “A” teams (cf. Art. 4 §2 of the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes) the association of the country in which the match is being played shall pay the Federation a share of the gross receipts from the match.

Levy

² The amount due and method of payment shall be laid down in the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes of FIFA. These regulations shall also prescribe the amount representing the minimum contribution due to FIFA from the proceeds of matches subjected to a levy.

Minimum
contribution

³ The confederations are authorised to levy a share in addition to that demanded by FIFA. The amount and method of payment shall be regulated by their statutes, especially if the match in question involves two national teams from different confederations.

Confederations'
rights

VII. Television and radio transmissions

Art. 53

¹ FIFA, its member associations, confederations and clubs own the exclusive rights to broadcasts and transmissions of events coming under their respective jurisdiction via any audiovisual and sound broadcasting media whatsoever – whether live, deferred or as excerpts.

Television and
radio
transmissions

² The Executive Committee shall decide on the use of the rights in accordance with the existing statutes and regulations of the respective confederations.

³ The provisions for implementation of this article are contained in special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee, which shall, in particular, settle the rights and obligations arising from the international use and broadcasting of televised pictures among the owners of the rights and other national associations.

VIII. Official languages

Art. 54

Official
languages

¹ The official languages of the Federation are English, French, Spanish and German. English is the standard language for the minutes, official correspondence and communications.

² Each national association shall be responsible for its own translation.

The Congress

³ English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Arabic and Portuguese are the official languages of the Congress. Translations shall be made by interpreters officially accredited by the Executive Committee. Delegates may address the Congress in their own language, provided they arrange for their speeches to be translated into one of the seven aforementioned languages.

⁴ The Congress may dispense with any one of these seven languages providing none of the delegates objects.

Official
decisions and
statements

⁵ Official decisions of the Congress or the Executive Committee and communications from the general secretariat shall be issued in each of the four official languages.

Authoritative
text

⁶ In the case of any divergence in the interpretation of the French, Spanish or German translation of the Federation's Statutes, regulations, decisions or communications, the English text shall be regarded as authoritative.

IX. International competitions

Art. 55

Organisation of
international
competitions

¹ The organisation of international competitions among teams representing national associations must be approved by the Executive Committee of the Federation.

² The organisation of such competitions, the rules of which must be approved by the Federation, may be left to or delegated to the confederations. These rules must contain provisions regarding disciplinary action and the levy due to the Federation in accordance with Art. 52 of these Statutes.

³ International competitions among club teams and/or teams representing leagues must be approved by the Executive Committee of the Federation, which may leave or delegate its responsibilities to the confederations. The latter shall be responsible for ensuring that such com-

petitions do not conflict with national competitions of affiliated associations.

⁴ The authorisation of the Executive Committee of the Federation is necessary for matches between representative teams of confederations (such as selected teams, champion teams) and representative teams or club teams of another confederation. Such matches may not assume the status of a competition or championship without special permission from the Executive Committee of the Federation.

⁵ International matches organised between representative teams of national associations must be notified to the secretariat of the Federation, once the date has been fixed.

Art. 56

¹ The venue of the final round of competitions organised by the Federation shall be designated by the Executive Committee so that the contests shall not be staged on the same continent on two successive occasions. Furthermore, the national associations selected must be in a position to guarantee that the competition will be organised in accordance with the sports rules and financial regulations governing it.

Final rounds
of the
Federation's
competitions

² The regulations for the FIFA World Cup competitions must provide for a certain amount of the entire gross receipts to be reserved for development purposes. They shall regulate the method of payment and allocation.

Art. 57

¹ Affiliated associations and their clubs shall not be permitted to play matches or entertain other sports contacts with associations which are not affiliated to FIFA or with clubs belonging to them, without the Federation's consent.

Prohibited
contacts

² Affiliated national associations and their clubs shall not be permitted to play matches against teams consisting of players who do not belong to a club or league affiliated to a national association.

³ National associations shall not be allowed to form groups without special permission from the Federation.

⁴ Members of the Federation may not play matches on the territory of another national association without the consent of the latter.

Art. 58

¹ Associations, leagues or clubs established within the territory of a national association affiliated to the Federation shall not be permitted to become members of another national association without the approval of the Federation and the national association in whose territory they were founded.

Unauthorised
membership
prohibited

² Associations, leagues or clubs established within a territory or country where there is no association affiliated to the Federation shall not be permitted to become members of a national association in another country without the consent of the Federation.

³ A club domiciled on the territory of any one association shall not be permitted to play in competitions on the territory of another association on a regular basis. Exceptions to this ruling may be made by the Federation only if extraordinary circumstances (e.g. a transborder geographic region) justify such an exception and only if the two associations concerned have given their consent.

X. Suspensions and expulsions

Art. 59

Suspensions
and expulsions

¹ Affiliated national associations shall recognise each other's suspensions and expulsions.

² The Federation is bound by this article.

³ Exceptions shall, however, be made in respect of

- the special regulations governing the transfer of players
- a suspension or expulsion imposed by a national association or a confederation on a member of a committee or sub-committee of FIFA.

Art. 60

Dispute
between a
national asso-
ciation and
a confederation

A national association which is involved in a dispute with the confederation of which it is a member may appeal at any time to the Federation to intervene.

XI. Players' status

Art. 61

Players' status

¹ Players of national associations affiliated to the Federation shall be either amateur or non-amateur.

Special
regulations

² The definitions and other provisions governing the status and transfer of players shall be contained in special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.

XII. Laws of the Game

Art. 62

Laws of
the Game

¹ Each member of the Federation shall play association football according to the Laws of the Game laid down by the International Football association Board, which alone has full authority to alter them.

Special
regulations

² The function of this Board is governed by special regulations.

XIII. Disputes

Art. 63

¹ The International Chamber for Football Arbitration (CIAF) is a foundation created by the Congress and is responsible for

- establishing and maintaining an Arbitration Tribunal for Football (TAF).
- executing arbitration regulations to be observed by TAF.
- promoting conciliatory options for resolving football disputes.

The Executive Committee will enact rules for funding CIAF so as to guarantee its independence.

² Only TAF is authorised to settle any disputes involving FIFA, the confederations, national associations, leagues, clubs, players, officials and licensed agents for which the value involved in the litigation is the same as or more than a specified value fixed from time to time by the Congress.

TAF is also responsible for settling disputes arising between a third party and any of the foregoing entities or persons provided they are covered by an arbitration agreement.

³ TAF is responsible for dealing with appeals against decisions of the last instance, after all previous stages of appeal provided for at FIFA, confederation, national association, league or club level have been exhausted.

TAF does not, however, hear appeals on:

- violations of the Laws of the Game
- suspensions of up to four matches.

⁴ The TAF proceedings are subject to the provisions of the TAF Regulations.

⁵ FIFA, acting as a fund raising agent, will ensure the funding required for CIAF to function properly by levying an amount to be determined by the FIFA Executive Committee on earnings from the marketing of FIFA World Cup™ television and marketing rights.

⁶ The confederations, national associations and leagues shall recognise TAF as the supreme jurisdictional authority. They shall agree to take every precaution to ensure that their members, players and officials observe the TAF procedure for arbitration. The same obligation applies to licensed agents.

Recourse to ordinary courts of law is prohibited, unless specifically provided for in FIFA Regulations.

The national associations shall, in order to give effect to the foregoing, insert a clause in their statutes by which their clubs and members shall not be permitted to take a dispute to courts of law but shall be required to submit any disagreement to the jurisdiction of the association or to TAF.

⁷ The confederations, national associations and leagues shall agree to comply fully with any decisions passed by the authorities responsible at FIFA which according to these Statutes are final and not subject to the right of appeal. They shall agree to take every precaution to ensure that

Creation of an arbitration system

TAF ruling as the sole authority

TAF ruling as a board of appeal

Proceedings

Funding

Observance of arbitration

Ordinary courts of law

Compliance with FIFA's decisions

their members, players and officials comply with these decisions. The same obligation applies to licensed agents.

Sanctions

⁸ Any breach of the aforementioned provisions shall be sanctioned in accordance with the FIFA List of Disciplinary Measures (cf. Art. 44 § 4). In particular, any club that contravenes the terms outlined above may be sanctioned by being suspended from all international activity (official competitions and friendly matches) in addition to receiving a ban on all international matches (involving national associations and clubs) played in its stadium.

XIV. Resignations

Art. 64

Resignation

¹ A national association wishing to resign from the Federation must notify FIFA of such resignation by registered letter. This intimation of resignation shall, however, only be recognised if it is confirmed by another registered letter within three months of receipt of the first. The association concerned shall continue to be considered as a member of FIFA until the second letter has been received.

Consequences

² A national association whose intimation of resignation has been accepted shall lose its status as member and all the privileges conferred by the Federation.

Conditions

³ A request for resignation shall only be accepted when the association has settled all its financial obligations towards the Federation and its members.

XV. Expulsion of national associations

Art. 65

Loss of membership

¹ A national association may forfeit its membership with the Federation:

- (a) for non-payment of dues or other debts to FIFA;
- (b) for any serious infraction of the Statutes and regulations of the Federation;
- (c) for any grave dishonour to FIFA or any national association affiliated to FIFA;
- (d) by ceasing to have the real status of a national football association in its own country.

² The expulsion of a national association may only be decreed by the Congress. For such a decision to be valid, the Congress must be attended by an absolute majority of the national associations affiliated to FIFA (which have not forfeited their right to vote for any reason at the time of the Congress) and the decision must be passed by a majority of three-fourths of the votes recorded.

XVI. Final provisions

Art. 66

¹ Any matters not provided for under these Statutes or cases of force majeure shall be settled by the Executive Committee, whose decisions shall be final.

Matters not provided for

² Decisions in matters of legislation shall not become operative until they have been approved by the Congress.

Art. 67

Every activity of the bodies and committees shall be subject to strict observation of the Statutes and regulations of the Federation.

Strict observation

Art. 68

In the event of the dissolution of the Federation, its funds shall not be distributed. They shall be transferred to the supreme court of the country in which the headquarters are situated, which shall invest them in gilt-edged securities until the re-establishment of the Federation.

Dissolution

Art. 69

These Statutes were adopted by the FIFA Congress in Rome on 6 June 1990 and amended by the FIFA Congresses in Zurich on 3 July 1992, in Chicago on 16 June 1994, in Zurich on 4 July 1996, in Paris on 8 June 1998, by the Extraordinary FIFA Congress in Los Angeles on 9 July 1999, by the FIFA Congress in Zurich on 5 August 2000 and by the Extraordinary FIFA Congress in Buenos Aires on 7 July 2001. They supersede those dated 28/29 September 1961 and come into force as laid down in Art. 18.

Buenos Aires, 7 July 2001

ON BEHALF OF THE FIFA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President:
Joseph S. Blatter

General Secretary:
Michel Zen-Ruffinen

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE STATUTES

I. Application for affiliation to FIFA

Art. 1

¹ A confederation granting provisional membership to an association which has applied for affiliation to FIFA shall observe the way the association is organised for at least two years, in compliance with Art. 4 of the FIFA Statutes.

Application for affiliation – provisional affiliation

² The confederation concerned shall then supply FIFA with a detailed report on the organisation of the association.

Art. 2

Based on this report and the documents mentioned in Art. 4 of the FIFA Statutes, the FIFA Executive Committee shall decide whether or not to submit the association's application for affiliation to the FIFA Congress.

Confederations – associate members

Art. 3

The FIFA Congress shall decide whether to grant definitive affiliation or not, should such be the case (cf. Art. 14, (i) of the FIFA Statutes).

II. Definition, announcement and registration of matches

Art. 4

¹ International football matches recognised by the Federation shall be those between two national associations affiliated to the Federation and for which each association fields a representative national team.

International matches

² An international "A" match shall be a match that has been arranged between two national associations affiliated to the Federation and for which both associations field their first national representative team.

International "A" matches

³ The terms used to define a match shall be those recognised as giving an appropriate political and geographical description of the countries or territories in the national associations whose teams are involved in the match and over which countries or territories they have sole control and jurisdiction.

⁴ If a national association allows one of its leagues to choose a team which bears the name of its country, the match shall be considered an international match as described in the aforementioned §1.

Art. 5

Interclub
matches

¹ An interclub match shall be a match played between two clubs. Although the clubs may belong to different national associations, such a match shall not be recognised as an international match (cf. Art. 4 §1).

Interleague
matches

² An interleague match shall be a match played between two leagues. Although the leagues may belong to different national associations, such a match shall not be recognised as an international match (cf. Art. 4 §1), subject to the provision of Art. 4 §4 above.

Art. 6

International
"A" matches –
notification

¹ Every international "A" match (cf. Art. 4 §2) including friendly matches and those played in tournaments or in games comprising football shall be made known to the Federation's general secretariat by the national associations organising them within 14 days of their being agreed upon. In any case, such notification must reach the Federation at least 48 hours before the planned date of the match.

Sanctions

² Failure to give notification of a match within this prescribed period shall incur a fine of SFr. 1,000 to be paid to the Federation. Failure to provide any notification whatsoever shall incur a fine of SFr. 2,000. These fines shall be paid within 10 days of receipt of the Federation's decision.

Art. 7

International
"A" matches –
report

¹ The secretary of the national association on whose territory the match is being played shall, within 14 days of each international "A" match, notify the Federation's general secretariat of the result of the match, the surnames and first names of the referee and assistant referees who officiated and the surnames, first names and status of the players and substitutes of each team, using the official form for this purpose. This form shall be filled in completely and signed.

Sanctions

² If the aforementioned form is sent in belatedly, a fine of SFr. 100 shall be paid to the Federation. If the form is not sent in at all, the amount of the fine due shall be SFr. 1,000, payable within 10 days of receipt of the Federation's decision. In case of repeated dilatoriness the amount of the fine may be increased by the Executive Committee.

Art. 8

Official list

¹ Every international "A" match (cf. Art. 4 §2) shall be recorded with its results on an official list kept up to date by the Federation.

² Such a match shall, however, not be registered on the official list of international matches involving two affiliated national associations if either of the associations so desires and informs the Federation and the other association to this effect at least 48 hours before the match takes place. The levy due to the Federation for international "A" matches in virtue of Art. 52 §1 of the FIFA Statutes must still be paid in such a case.

III. Interclub and interleague matches

Art. 9

¹ No interclub or interleague matches between teams from different national associations shall be played without the express authorisation of the national associations concerned. The national associations shall include a provision in their regulations stipulating at what point of time the clubs are required to seek authorisation and, in addition, the sanctions to be imposed if this rule is breached.

Interclub and
interleague
matches –
authorisation

² A national association shall inform the national associations concerned of every match which it knows has been arranged and played in their area of jurisdiction and for which permission was either not sought or given.

³ Scratch teams consisting of players not belonging to the same club or association shall not be permitted to play clubs or teams representing associations or similar teams unless authorisation has been granted by the national associations concerned and the confederation on whose territory the match is planned.

If the players belong to clubs or associations from different confederations, the authorisation of FIFA shall be required.

IV. Tournaments

Art. 10

¹ All tournaments involving more than two local or national teams (clubs or representative teams) which belong to different national associations must be authorised by the confederation on whose territory the tournament is planned.

Tournaments –
authorisation

If any of the teams involved belong to different confederations, the authorisation of FIFA is required.

² The request for authorisation shall be submitted by the national association on whose territory the tournament is planned at least two months before the earliest of the proposed dates.

³ The request for authorisation shall be accompanied by a list of the teams who are planning to take part in the tournament and the tournament regulations drawn up by the organising body.

⁴ If a tournament is played on the territory of a national association without prior permission, the national association in question shall be sanctioned in compliance with the disciplinary regulations of the confederation concerned and, if necessary, by FIFA.

Sanctions

V. Financial Arrangements

Art. 11

¹ The levy to be paid to the Federation for each match played between two national 'A' teams (cf. Art. 52 §1 of the FIFA Statutes), including the

Levy

matches played in tournaments or in games comprising football (except for junior tournaments) shall amount to 2% (two per cent).

Calculation

² The amount shall be based on the gross receipts (ticket sales, advertising rights, rights for television and radio broadcasts, and film and video rights etc.) derived from matches subject to levies.

Deductions

³ The only deductions that may be made from the gross income are state or local taxes actually paid (but not bank charges or differences in exchange rates) and any charges for the hire of the stadium. The total amount deducted shall not exceed 30% of the entire gross income.

Confederations

⁴ National associations affiliated to a recognised confederation are governed by the provisions of §1 of this article subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the levy due to the Federation in respect of matches played on the territory of a confederation between national associations belonging to that confederation is only 1%, the remaining 1% being payable directly to the confederation involved;
- (b) the 2% levy due in respect of matches played between national associations affiliated to different confederations, on the territory of one of these confederations, is payable to the Federation, which will retrocede ½% to each of the confederations involved.

Art. 12

Statement of account

¹ For each match subject to a levy a detailed statement of account shall be drawn up by the national association of the country in which the match has been played.

² This statement shall contain all the requisite figures reflecting the entire income and any taxes or charges deducted therefrom (cf. Art. 11 §3).

Term of payment

³ The statement of account and the amount due from the levy shall be sent to the Federation within 60 days of the date the match was held.

Sanctions

⁴ Failure to conform with these requirements shall be punished with one of the sanctions provided for under Art. 44 of the FIFA Statutes.

Art. 13

Minimum contribution

Whatever the financial outcome of the match, the minimum contribution to be paid to FIFA is SFr. 500 (cf. Art. 52 §2 of the FIFA Statutes).

VI. Special provisions

Art. 14

A club affiliated to one of the Federation's associations may not be a source of profit for its officials or for those who have lent funds to it, whatever the status of its players.

Art. 15

Any person receiving remuneration in virtue of a contract from a national association or one of its clubs shall not be entitled to accept work in return for remuneration with another association at the same time.

VII. Match agents and players' agents

Art. 16

¹ The employment of agents or intermediaries in the arrangement of matches shall be permitted.

Match agents

² Agents or intermediaries who arrange matches between teams from the same confederation must be officially recognised by the confederation in question.

³ Agents or intermediaries who arrange matches between teams belonging to different confederations must possess an agent's licence issued by FIFA. The FIFA Executive Committee shall draw up regulations governing the award of this licence and the concomitant rights and responsibilities.

Special regulations

⁴ FIFA shall be entitled to intervene to enforce the agreements concluded between agents or intermediaries and teams with which they are contractually bound only in the following cases:

- (a) if the match or tournament at the source of the dispute involves teams from different confederations;
- (b) if the agent or intermediary in question holds a FIFA licence.

Art. 17

¹ The use of agents or other intermediaries in the transfer of players is prohibited.

Players' agents

² The Executive Committee shall, however, if it deems necessary, draw up stringent regulations authorising the licensing of players' agents under certain conditions.

VIII. Nationality of players

Art. 18

¹ Any player who is a naturalised citizen of a country in virtue of that country's laws shall be eligible to play for a national or representative team of that country.

Eligibility for national teams

² If a player has been included in a national or representative team of a country for which he is eligible to play pursuant to §1, he shall not be permitted to take part in an international match for another country. Accordingly, any player who is qualified to play for more than one national association (i.e. who has dual nationality) will be deemed to have committed himself to one association only when he plays his first inter-

national match in an official competition (at any level) for that association.

³ The only players exempt from this provision are those whose nationality has been changed not voluntarily but as the result of an international decree either granting independence to a region or ceding part of one country to another.

IX. Disciplinary measures within the competence of the national associations

Art. 19

¹ Any disciplinary measures required as a result of incidents that have occurred at international friendly matches, international friendly tournaments and interclub friendly matches (cf. Art. 4, 5 and 21 to 23) shall come under the jurisdiction of the national association to which the player, the official or the club to be sanctioned belongs.

² National associations shall apply the List of Disciplinary Measures drawn up by the Executive Committee (cf. Art. 44 §2 of the Statutes) and comply with Art. 21 to 23 below.

³ The following cases shall be exempt from the foregoing clauses:

- serious infringements, in which case the FIFA Disciplinary Committee shall be entitled to intervene on its own initiative;
- cases whereby a national association expressly requests the FIFA Disciplinary Committee to intervene.

⁴ Any sanctions imposed by a national association under the terms of this article may be subject to appeal, in compliance with Art.13 ff. of the Regulations governing the FIFA Appeal Committee's function and procedure.

The following sanctions shall, however, be final:

- (a) a caution or censure imposed on a player, official or club;
- (b) a suspension from up to three matches of a player or ban for up to three months on an official or club;
- (c) a fine imposed on a player or official not exceeding SFr. 10,000 or on a club not exceeding SFr. 30,000.

Art. 20

¹ Any decision taken by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee with respect to incidents at matches not organised by the Federation may be subject to appeal and shall be dealt with by the FIFA Appeal Committee in compliance with Art. 13 ff. of the regulations governing the function and procedure of that committee.

² The following sanctions shall, however, be final:

- (a) a caution or censure imposed on a national association, club, player, or official;
- (b) a ban for up to three month on a national association from taking part in a competition;

- (c) a suspension from up to three matches of a player and ban for up to three months on an official or club;
- (d) a fine imposed on a player or official not exceeding SFr. 10,000 or on a national association or club not exceeding SFr. 30,000.

Art. 21

¹ A player who has been sent off during an international match (cf. Art. 4 §1) shall remain automatically suspended from all future matches until either the national association to whom the player belongs or, in the case of a tournament, the appropriate disciplinary committee, if existent, has imposed the necessary sanctions.

Disciplinary measures at international matches

² A disciplinary committee which is operative during a tournament shall only be entitled to prohibit a player who has been sent off from playing in the matches in that tournament. If more severe sanctions are necessary, they shall be imposed by the national association to which the player belongs.

³ If any disciplinary measures (expulsions, cautions etc.) have been imposed by a referee during an international match (cf. Art. 4 §1), the national association under whose jurisdiction the match was played shall send a copy of the referee's report (cf. Art. 26 §1) to the national association of the offending player. The latter national association shall inform both the national association under whose jurisdiction the match was played and the FIFA general secretariat what measures have been taken against the player concerned.

⁴ Any disciplinary measures that need to be taken with regard to expulsions or cautions imposed during international matches organised by FIFA are solely within the competence of the Federation.

Art. 22

¹ If an expulsion has been imposed by a referee during an interclub match (cf. Art. 5) involving clubs from different national associations, the association in whose country the match was played shall inform the other association immediately of the expulsion.

Disciplinary measures at interclub matches

² The national association to whom the offending player belongs shall subsequently inform the association which notified it of the expulsion of the measures it has taken against the offending player.

Art. 23

¹ A player whom the referee has declared guilty of assault on him during or immediately after a match shall automatically be suspended until the first disciplinary body has decided upon appropriate sanctions.

Assault on referee – sanctions

² In this connection, spitting at the referee is regarded as an assault.

³ These provisions apply both to international matches and to matches in competitions organised by national associations.

X. Laws of the Game

Art. 24

Laws of the
Game –
amendments

Implementation

¹ The Federation shall inform the national associations of the amendments and decisions made by the International F. A. Board (cf. Art. 62 of the FIFA Statutes) with respect to the Laws of the Game within one month of the Board's annual meeting.

² The national associations shall be obliged to enforce these amendments and decisions at the latest by 1 July after the Board's annual meeting. Exceptions may, however, be made by national associations whose football season is still in progress at the time of receipt of the notification.

³ The national associations shall be entitled to apply the amendments and decisions as soon as they have been issued by the International Board.

XI. Referees

Art. 25

Referees

¹ Each referee of an international match (cf. Art. 4 §1) shall belong to a neutral national association unless otherwise previously agreed by the national associations concerned.

² The referee chosen to officiate at an international match shall be a member of the official FIFA List of International Referees.

Art. 26

Referee's report

¹ The referee of every international "A" match shall send a report within 48 hours of the match both to FIFA and the national association on whose territory the match was played.

² This report shall be made on the official form given to the referee by the national association under whose jurisdiction the match was played.

³ The report shall record all the disciplinary measures taken and the reasons for these measures.

Art. 27

Reimbursement
of expenses

Referees at international matches (cf. Art. 4 §1) shall be entitled to:

- (a) a daily allowance
- (b) reimbursement of travel expenses.

The Federation's expense regulations shall determine the amounts, travel category and number of days due for reimbursement to which the referees are entitled.

² The amount owing to the referees shall be paid to them in easily convertible currency on the same day as the match by the national association which has organised the match.

³ The expenses for hotel and board incurred by referees of international matches shall be settled by the national association organising the match.

Art. 28

The Executive Committee shall, in conjunction with the FIFA Referees' Committee, define the regulations governing the List of International Referees of FIFA.

Regulations

XII. Matters not provided for

Art. 29

Any matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

XIII. Final provision

Art. 30

These Regulations were adopted by the FIFA Congress in Rome on 6 June 1990 and amended by the FIFA Congresses in Zurich on 3 July 1992, in Chicago on 16 June 1994 and in Zurich on 4 July 1996. They supersede those dated 14/15 November 1953 and come into force as laid down in Art. 18 of the Statutes.

Zurich, 4 July 1996

ON BEHALF OF THE FIFA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President:
Dr. João Havelange

General Secretary:
Joseph S. Blatter

STANDING ORDERS OF THE FIFA CONGRESS

Art. 1

¹ The President of FIFA shall take the chair at the Congress or, if he is not available, one of the vice presidents, in order of seniority of appointment.

Chairmanship

² The President shall ensure the strict application of these Standing Orders. He shall open and adjourn the sessions and debates, unless the Congress decides otherwise, give permission to speak and conduct the proceedings.

Duties

³ He shall maintain order at the Congress and may propose penalties against anyone who interferes with the proper procedure of the discussions or is guilty of misconduct towards other participants at the Congress. The penalties shall be:

- (a) a call to order;
- (b) a censure;
- (c) exclusion from one or more sessions.

⁴ In the case of an appeal, the Congress shall decide immediately and without debate.

Art. 2

The General Secretary shall be responsible for the minutes.

Minutes

Art.3

At the beginning of the first session, the Congress shall appoint an adequate number of scrutineers to count the votes given for and against whenever a vote is taken and to assist the General Secretary in distributing and counting voting papers issued for the elections.

Scrutineers

Art. 4

Official interpreters shall be appointed to make translations into the official languages of the Congress.

Interpreters

Art. 5

The General Secretary shall be responsible for a correct record of the debates.

Art. 6

Order of
proceedings

- ¹ Each discussion shall be opened by a statement:
- (a) by the President or by the member designated by the Executive Committee for this purpose;
 - (b) by the representative of a committee specially appointed to make a report;
 - (c) by the representative of the association responsible for the inclusion of an item in the agenda.
- ² The general discussion shall then be opened.

Art. 7

Speakers

- ¹ The right to speak shall be granted in the order in which it is requested. No speaker shall start speaking before he has obtained permission to do so. Speakers shall speak from the rostrum reserved for this purpose.
- ² A speaker cannot obtain permission to speak a second time if a member who has not yet spoken requests permission.

Art. 8

Proposals

- ¹ All proposals shall be submitted in writing. Proposals which are not relevant to the subject under discussion shall be withdrawn from the debate.

Amendments

- ² Any amendment shall be drawn up in writing and passed to the chairman before being put to the debate.

Art. 9

Motion for
adjournment

- ¹ If a motion for adjournment is proposed, discussion on the main question shall be suspended until a vote has been taken on the motion.

Closing of
discussions

- ² If a proposal is made to close the discussion, it shall immediately be put to the vote without debate. If the motion is approved, permission to speak shall, however, only be granted to those members who have requested the right to speak before the vote was taken.

- ³ As a general rule, the chairman shall close the discussion unless the Congress decides otherwise by a simple majority of those voting.

Art. 10

Voting

- ¹ No vote can be taken by secret ballot.
- ² Voting can be taken by roll call, provided a request to this effect is supported by at least 15 of the associations present and entitled to vote.
- ³ No-one shall be compelled to vote.
- ⁴ The vote shall be taken by a show of hands (voting cards).
- ⁵ Before each vote, the chairman, or the person designated by him, shall read the text of the proposal aloud and explain the method of voting (quorum) to the Congress. If an objection is raised, the Congress shall decide immediately.

⁶ Proposals shall be put to the vote in the order in which they are submitted. If there are more than two main proposals, they shall be put to the vote in succession and no member of the Congress may vote for more than one of the proposals.

⁷ Alterations to amendments shall be put to the vote before the amendments proper, and amendments before the main proposal.

⁸ Proposals which are not contested shall be considered as passed.

⁹ The chairman shall verify the results of the voting and announce them to the Congress.

¹⁰ No-one may obtain permission to speak during voting until the result has been announced by the chairman.

Art. 11

¹ All elections shall be carried out by secret ballot, by means of ballot papers. The distribution and count of the ballot papers shall be conducted by the General Secretary assisted by scrutineers.

Elections

² The number of ballot papers issued shall be announced by the chairman of the session before the count.

³ If the number of ballot papers returned is equal to or less than that of the ballot papers issued, the vote shall be valid. If the number exceeds that of the ballot papers issued, the vote shall be declared null and void and another vote shall be taken.

⁴ The absolute majority is based on the number of valid ballot papers returned. Blank or cancelled papers shall not be included in the count. If two or more votes are given in support of one candidate on one ballot paper, only one vote shall be valid.

⁵ The chairman shall announce the result of each vote to the Congress.

⁶ The ballot papers returned shall be retained until the last count has been verified and then destroyed immediately afterwards.

Art. 12

These Standing Orders of the FIFA Congress were adopted by the FIFA Congress in Rome on 6 June 1990. They supersede those dated 14/15 November 1953 and come into force as laid down in Art. 18 of the Statutes.

Rome, 6 June 1990

ON BEHALF OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FIFA

President:
Dr. João Havelange

General Secretary:
Joseph S. Blatter

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