

To the member associations

Zurich, 1 June 2012

Dear friends,

“Actions speak louder than words” is a proverb that rang very true at the 62nd FIFA Congress in Budapest last week. The promising and ambitious rhetoric of the preceding 12 months was converted into concrete mandates and initiatives. It truly marked a milestone in FIFA’s history.

Your resolute support for the reform of FIFA’s structure and organisation has been instrumental in its timely implementation and ultimate success. It is in everyone’s best interest that FIFA can once again channel all its energy into the core activities of developing and protecting the game, organising premier competitions and bringing about positive change in society through football. To this end, I would like to take this opportunity to underline just a few of the landmark decisions we took together in Budapest:

- the approval of **amendments to the FIFA Statutes**
- the **restructuring of the Ethics Committee with a new system of two chambers** (investigatory and adjudicatory), **each with an independent chairman**
- a **new Code of Ethics** to be adopted by the Executive Committee in July
- the **creation of the Audit and Compliance Committee** with the **appointment of Mr Domenico Scala (Italy/Switzerland) as its independent chairman**
- the approval of the **Code of Conduct**
- the admission of **South Sudan as the 209th member of FIFA**
- the ratification of the co-option of **Lydia Nsekera (Burundi) as the first female member of the Executive Committee**, which was celebrated with a standing ovation
- the approval of the **FIFA Club Protection Programme** (insurance of players)

Further insight into **FIFA’s fight against match-fixing** was provided by INTERPOL Secretary General Ronald K. Noble, while our commitment to fair play was reinforced with a **new partnership between FIFA and the Nobel Peace Center under the slogan “Handshake for Peace”**. The Congress also supported the resolution from the FIFA Medical Conference that calls for **automatic external defibrillators to be mandatory equipment during matches worldwide**.

Indeed, we have come a long way in a very short space of time. You have put your faith in me and the Executive Committee and your support has been truly invaluable.

We are now at the halfway stage of our journey and I will continue to drive the reform process with the same commitment until next year’s Congress in Mauritius, where you will decide on its final destination.

Yours faithfully,



Joseph S. Blatter

cc: Executive Committee Members
Confederations