

## **TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA**

Circular no. 1538

Zurich, 3 May 2016

ASG/mav

### **Admission of the Gibraltar Football Association (GFA) as a FIFA member at the 66<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress due to a recent CAS award**

Dear Sir or Madam,

We would like to inform you of the following recent developments with regard to the upcoming 66<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress:

As you will of course be aware, the 66<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress will take place in Mexico City on 12 and 13 May 2016. The convocation of the Congress, together with the Congress agenda, was sent to the members of FIFA on 11 April 2016.

In the meantime, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has rendered an award, on 27 April 2016, ordering the FIFA Council to submit the application of the Gibraltar Football Association (GFA) for FIFA membership to the FIFA Congress as soon as possible, within the limits of the FIFA Statutes. Moreover, CAS ruled that the FIFA Congress shall admit the GFA as a FIFA member. Please find the operative part of the relevant CAS award enclosed.

In order to fulfil its obligations arising from the CAS award, the FIFA Council is expected to decide, at its next meeting on 9 and 10 May 2016, to submit the GFA's application for FIFA membership to the 66<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress and, in compliance with the relevant CAS award and in accordance with art. 12 par. 1 of the FIFA Statutes, to request the Congress to admit the GFA as a FIFA member. At the same meeting, the FIFA Council is expected to decide to submit to the 66<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress a motion for altering the Congress agenda in order to enable the Congress to deal with the matter in accordance with the FIFA Statutes. The motion, which will presumably include a proposal to add a new agenda item 15.2 ("Admission of the Gibraltar Football Association") to the agenda of the 66<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress, is expected to be dealt with under agenda item 5 ("Approval of the agenda").

If this motion is passed, the 66<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress will then, under the new agenda item 15.2, discuss the matter of admitting the GFA as a FIFA member and vote on it.

Further information on the matters presently relevant will be provided on the occasion of the 66<sup>th</sup> FIFA Congress. For the time being, we thank you for your kind attention to the above.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Markus Kattner  
Acting Secretary General

Encl. CAS award of 27 April 2016 (operative part)

cc: - FIFA Council  
- Confederations

**CAS 2014/A/3776 Gibraltar Football Association v. FIFA**

**ARBITRAL AWARD**

rendered by the

**COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT**

Sitting in the following composition

**President:** Prof. Massimo Coccia, Professor and Attorney-at-law, Rome, Italy

**Arbitrators:** Prof. Jan Paulsson, Professor and Attorney-at-law, Miami, USA

Mr Bernhard Welten, Attorney-at-law, Bern, Switzerland

**Ad hoc clerk:** Mr Francisco A. Larios, Attorney-at-law, Florida, USA

in the arbitration between

**Gibraltar Football Association (GFA)**

[...]

**-Appellant-**

and

**Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)**

[...]

**-Respondent-**

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## **ON THESE GROUNDS**

### **The Court of Arbitration for Sports rules:**

1. The Court of Arbitration for Sport has jurisdiction to entertain the appeal filed by the Gibraltar Football Association on 17 October 2014.
2. The appeal filed by the Gibraltar Football Association on 17 October 2014 against the decision issued by the FIFA Executive Committee on 26 September 2014 is partially upheld to the extent that the FIFA Executive Committee is ordered to transmit the Gibraltar Football Association's application for FIFA membership to the FIFA Congress, which shall take all necessary measures to admit the Gibraltar Football Association as a full member of FIFA without delay.
3. The costs of the present arbitration, to be determined and served to the Parties by the CAS Court Office, shall be borne entirely by FIFA.
4. FIFA shall contribute CHF 100,000 (one hundred thousand Swiss Francs) to the Gibraltar Football Association for its legal fees and other expenses incurred in connection with these arbitration proceedings.
5. All other or further requests or motions for relief are dismissed.

Lausanne, 27 April 2016

**THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT**