

STATUTES OF THE CONFEDERATION OF NORTH, CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

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DEFINITIONS

In interpreting these Statutes:

- 1. "Arbitration Tribunal" means a panel of arbitrators appointed to hear and decide a dispute according to the rules of arbitration.
- 2. "Association" or "Member Association" means a National Association recognized by and a member of CONCACAF. Membership shall be Full or Associate, as set forth in Article 9 of these Statutes.
- 3. "Association Football" means the game governed by FIFA and organized in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- 4. "CAS" means the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne (Switzerland).
- 5. "CFU" means the Caribbean Football Union.
- 6. "Club" means any club that participates in Leagues or competitions that are subordinate to a National Association.
- 7. "Code of Ethics" means the CONCACAF Code of Ethics as approved by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- 8. "Confederation" or "CONCACAF" means the Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football.
- 9. "Congress" means the supreme and legislative body of CONCACAF.
- 10. "Disciplinary Code" means the CONCACAF Disciplinary Code as approved by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- "Executive Committee" means the Executive Committee of CONCACAF. The terms "member of the Executive Committee" or "Executive Committee member" include: the President, vice-presidents, members and female member of the Executive Committee.
- 12. "FIFA" means the Federation Internationale de Football Association.
- 13. "Football" means, as the context requires, any or all types of football, including, without limitation, futsal and beach soccer.
- 14. "General Secretariat" means the General Secretariat of CONCACAF.

- 15. "IFAB" means the International Football Association Board.
- 16. "Laws of the Game" means the Laws of the Game as issued by IFAB from time to time.
- 17. "League" means a league that is subordinate to a National Association.
- 18. "Majority" means more than fifty per cent.
- 19. "NAFU" means the North American Football Union.
- 20. "National Association" means the controlling body for Football within a country or territory of CONCACAF.
- 21. "Official" means any executive committee or board member, committee member, referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, referee inspector, diversity officer, security/safety officer, integrity officer, coach, trainer and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in CONCACAF, Member Associations, Clubs or Leagues, as well as all other persons obliged to comply with the CONCACAF Statutes (except Players).
- 22. "Ordinary Court" means state or governmental body consisting of one or more judges who sit to adjudicate disputes and administer justice according to law.
- 23. "Paid Official" means a salaried employee of CONCACAF.
- 24. "Player" means a Football player registered with a National Association.
- 25. "Regional Association" means an association that is subordinate to a National Association.
- 26. "Regulations" means any CONCACAF rules, regulations, codes and provisions as approved by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- 27. "Statutes" means the Statutes of CONCACAF as approved by the Congress from time to time.
- 28. "UNCAF" means the Central American Football Union.
- 29. "Unions" means the Unions recognized by CONCACAF, specifically, CFU, UNCAF and NAFU.
- Note: Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa. Reference in these Statutes to days refer to calendar days.

Article 1. Name, legal form and headquarters

- The organization shall be called "The Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football" or "CONCACAF" and shall be composed of National Associations belonging to North America, Central America and the Caribbean.
- 2. CONCACAF is a Bahamian not-for-profit entity with its legal domicile in Nassau, Bahamas.
- 3. CONCACAF is a confederation recognized by FIFA.
- 4. The headquarters of CONCACAF shall be in Miami, Florida and may be transferred by a resolution of the Executive Committee.
- 5. The CONCACAF name is the exclusive property of CONCACAF. Authorization for its use for any purpose other than the Confederation's regular business should be obtained from the Executive Committee.

Article 2. Objectives

The objectives of CONCACAF are:

- a) to improve the game of Football and promote, regulate and control it in the territories of North, Central America and the Caribbean in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programs;
- b) to foster friendly relationships between and amongst FIFA, confederations, National Associations and other organizations;
- to oversee all types of Football within the North, Central America and Caribbean region, ensuring compliance with and preventing infringements of the statutes, regulations, and decisions of FIFA, CONCACAF and the Laws of the Game;
- d) to resolve Football matters common to its Member Associations;
- e) to ensure that the bodies and Officials of CONCACAF and its Member Associations observe the statutes, regulations, decisions, disciplinary code and code of ethics of FIFA and CONCACAF in their activities;
- f) to organize and manage international Football competitions in the North, Central America and Caribbean region;
- g) to draw up Regulations and ensure their enforcement;

- h) to protect the interests of its Member Associations;
- i) to prevent the introduction of improper methods and practices which might jeopardize the integrity of matches or competitions, or give rise to the abuse of Football;
- j) to institute strong measures and campaigns against racism, bribery, corruption and match-fixing in Football;
- k) to ensure that its representatives in FIFA actively represent the collective views of CONCACAF and do so in the true spirit of North, Central America and Caribbean solidarity;
- I) to disseminate information on CONCACAF activities; and
- m) to raise funds, purchase or hold any asset for the benefit of, or reinvestment at, all levels and areas of Football.

Article 3. Neutrality and non-discrimination

- 1. CONCACAF is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
- Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin color, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, language, religion, political opinion or any other opinion, wealth, birth or any other status, sexual orientation or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

Article 4. Promoting friendly relations

- 1. CONCACAF shall promote friendly relations in general and, in particular, between its Member Associations, Officials, Players and Clubs.
- 2. Every person and organization involved in the game of Football is obliged to observe the Statutes, Regulations and the principles of fair play as well as the principles of loyalty towards CONCACAF, integrity and sportsmanship.
- 3. CONCACAF shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any dispute that may arise between Member Associations, Officials, Players and Clubs.

Article 5. Laws of the Game

CONCACAF and its Member Associations shall organize and/or play:

a) Association Football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by IFAB;

- b) Futsal in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game as issued by the FIFA Executive Committee;
- c) Beach Soccer in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game as issued by the FIFA Executive Committee;
- d) Any other type of Football in accordance with the relevant Laws of the Game for that type of Football issued by the competent FIFA body.

Article 6. Conduct of bodies and Officials

The bodies and Officials of CONCACAF must observe the statutes, regulations, decisions, disciplinary code and code of ethics of FIFA and CONCACAF in their activities.

Article 7. Official languages

- 1. English, Spanish and French are the official languages of CONCACAF.
- 2. The Statutes, Regulations, decisions and correspondence of CONCACAF shall be published in the three official languages. Member Associations are responsible for translations into non-official languages.
- 3. In the event of any discrepancy or difference in interpretation between any texts (including these Statutes), the English version shall be authoritative.

Article 8. Admission, suspension and expulsion

- The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member Association, except where the authority is expressly given to the Executive Committee in accordance with these Statutes.
- 2. Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements established by CONCACAF as specified in these Statutes.
- 3. Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve an Association from its due financial and reporting obligations towards CONCACAF or its own members, but leads to the cancellation of all rights and privileges with respect to CONCACAF.
- 4. Loss of membership of an Association does not prevent CONCACAF from ensuring that the appropriable assets of such Association are not being misappropriated or misused. CONCACAF shall also arrange for the protection of files and records of an Association facing loss of membership.

Article 9. Membership

- 1. Membership shall be open to National Associations in North, Central America and the Caribbean region.
- 2. A National Association that is outside of the CONCACAF geographical region may be admitted to membership provided that it is not a member of any other confederation. However, such membership to CONCACAF must be in accordance with the FIFA Statutes.
- 3. Only one National Association shall be officially recognized in each country or territory.
- 4. Membership to CONCACAF shall be Full or Associate:
 - a) Full Membership: The Executive Committee may request the Congress to grant Full Membership to a National Association. The Executive Committee shall determine whether an application for Full Membership shall be submitted to the Congress for consideration. Amongst other, the following criteria must be taken into account by the Executive Committee when deciding if an application for Full Membership shall be submitted to the Congress:
 - i. whether the applicant organizes and supervises Football in its country or territory (controlling body for Football within its country or territory);
 - ii. political, economic and social structures of the applicant's country or territory;
 - iii. administrative infrastructure and internal organization of the applicant;
 - iv. sporting infrastructure in the applicant's country or territory;
 - v. number of players and clubs in the applicant's country or territory.
 - b) Associate Membership: may be granted by the Executive Committee to a National Association which does not fulfill the criteria to be granted Full Membership. The granting of Associate Membership shall be submitted to the next Congress for ratification. Associate Membership may only be granted for a maximum period of two (2) years.
- 5. Associate Members shall be entitled to all the privileges of Full Members, except the right to vote at any Congress and to hold office on the Executive Committee.
- 6. Any National Association wishing to become a member of CONCACAF shall apply in writing to the General Secretariat.

- 7. The application for membership shall be accompanied by the following mandatory items:
 - a) a copy of the applicant's legally valid statutes and regulations;
 - b) a declaration that it will ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of the FIFA Statutes and these Statutes and that it will always comply with the statutes, regulations and decisions of FIFA and CONCACAF and ensure that these are also respected by its own members, Leagues, Clubs, Officials and Players;
 - c) a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game;
 - d) a declaration that it recognizes CAS, as specified in these Statutes;
 - e) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
 - f) a list of Officials, specifying those who are authorized signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
 - g) a declaration that it recognizes the right of CONCACAF to organize and manage competitions and matches between National Association teams and between Leagues and/or Clubs from different Member Associations within the CONCACAF territory;
 - h) a copy of the minutes of its last ordinary congress and executive committee meeting whereby the application for membership to CONCACAF was approved;
 - i) certification that the National Association is a legal entity recognized by the laws of the country of jurisdiction.
- 8. Member Associations affiliated to CONCACAF and geographically situated in the same zone may form Unions. The Congress shall approve the creation or termination of any Union and shall also authorize the admission or expulsion of Member Associations to such Union. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to issue regulations which establish the rights and obligations of the Unions. The Unions shall have the minimum obligation of holding annual meetings and submitting the minutes from such meetings to CONCACAF.
- 9. Full and Associate Members shall be divided into three Unions hereby recognized by CONCACAF: CFU, UNCAF and NAFU, as follows:

CFU	UNCAF	NAFU

Anguilla	Belize	* Bahamas
Antigua and Barbuda	Costa Rica	* Bermuda
Aruba	El Salvador	Canada
Barbados	Guatemala	Mexico
Bonaire	Honduras	United States
British Virgin Islands	Nicaragua	
Cayman Islands	Panama	* Notwithstanding their
Cuba		affiliation to NAFU,
Curaçao		Bahamas and Bermuda
Dominica		will participate in the
Dominican Republic		competitions of CFU.
French Guiana		
Grenada		
Guadeloupe		
Guyana		
Haiti		
Jamaica		
Martinique		
Montserrat		
Puerto Rico		
St. Kitts and Nevis		
St. Lucia		
St. Maarten		
St. Martin		
St. Vincent and the Grenadines		
Suriname		
Trinidad and Tobago		
Turks and Caicos Islands		
US Virgin Islands		

- 10. The Congress may include or exclude Member Associations to and from a Union at its sole discretion.
- 11. Except for par. 8 and 10 above, this Article shall not affect the status of existing Member Associations.

Article 10. Request and procedure for application

- 1. Subject to Articles 8 and 9 of these Statutes, the procedure for admission shall be established by the Executive Committee.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall request the Congress either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may be granted the opportunity to state the reasons for its application to the Congress.

3. The new Member Association shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Delegates representing Full Members are eligible to vote with immediate effect, provided that the procedure set out in Article 21 of these Statutes has been met.

Article 11. Rights of Member Associations

- 1. A Member Association has the following rights:
 - a) to take part in the Congress, to know its agenda in advance, to be called to the Congress within the prescribed time and to exercise its voting rights;
 - b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
 - c) to nominate candidates for all bodies of CONCACAF that are subject to election by the Congress;
 - d) to be informed of the affairs of CONCACAF through the official bodies of the Confederation;
 - e) to take part in competitions, through their representative teams and Clubs, and/or other activities or programs organized by CONCACAF;
 - f) to benefit from the rights and privileges granted to them by these Statutes and applicable Regulations.
- 2. The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and applicable Regulations.

Article 12. Obligations of Member Associations

- 1. A Member Association has the following obligations:
 - a) to comply fully with the statutes, regulations and decisions of FIFA and CONCACAF at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;
 - b) to ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of the FIFA Statutes and these Statutes;
 - c) to convene its supreme and legislative body at regular intervals;
 - d) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 of these Statutes;

- e) to take part in competitions and other activities or programs organized by CONCACAF;
- f) to pay its membership subscriptions and any other economic fees which it may be subject to;
- g) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB and the Beach Soccer and Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA, and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;
- to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the statutes, regulations and decisions of FIFA and CONCACAF shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the appropriate arbitration tribunal recognized by CONCACAF and that any recourse to ordinary courts is prohibited;
- i) to communicate to CONCACAF any amendment of its statutes, rules and regulations as well as the list of its Officials or persons who are authorized signatories, with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- j) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognized by FIFA and CONCACAF or with Member Associations that have been suspended or expelled;
- k) to observe the principles of loyalty towards CONCACAF, integrity and good sporting behavior as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- I) to include in its statutes the FIFA and CONCACAF provisions regarding non-discrimination and to take all necessary actions to enforce such provisions;
- m) to observe Article 9 of these Statutes for the duration of its membership;
- n) to maintain a register of Officials and members which shall regularly be updated;
- o) to apply a club licensing system according to the minimum requirements set by CONCACAF from time to time. Member Associations shall include such an obligation and define the licensing bodies in their statutes;
- p) to recognize each of the other Member Associations as the sole controlling body of Football in their respective countries or territories;
- q) not to form itself with other Member Associations into regional associations, federations or unions without the express written consent of CONCACAF;

- r) to regulate Leagues and Clubs that exist within its country or territory;
- s) to be held responsible for the good conduct and all financial commitments of its Leagues and Clubs towards FIFA and CONCACAF;
- t) to notify CONCACAF promptly of any change to its address and in the name of principal office bearers and Officials;
- u) to manage its affairs independently and with no influence from third parties;
- v) to obtain the approval from the Executive Committee in order to maintain Football relations with associations not affiliated to CONCACAF;
- w) to comply fully with all other duties arising from these Statutes and other Regulations.
- 2. Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by a Member Association may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes or the Disciplinary Code.

Article 13. Suspension

- 1. The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member Association. The Executive Committee may, however, in its absolute discretion, suspend with immediate effect a Member Association that violates its obligations. The suspension shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime.
- 2. A Member Association may in particular be suspended if government authorities interfere in its affairs in such a significant way that:
 - a) it may no longer be considered as fully responsible for the organization of Football-related matters in its country or territory;
 - b) it is no longer in a position to perform its statutory tasks in an appropriate manner;
 - c) the smooth running of a competition organized under its auspices is no longer guaranteed; or
 - d) the free and fair election of its executive organ is no longer ensured.
- 3. A suspension shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a three-quarter (3/4) majority of the Members Associations present and eligible to vote. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.
- 4. A suspended Member Association shall lose its membership rights and privileges. However, such Member Association shall comply with its obligation pursuant to Article

- 8 par 3. and 4. of these Statutes. Other Member Associations may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member Association.
- 5. A Member Association that does not participate in at least two (2) of CONCACAF's competitions over a period of four (4) consecutive years immediately prior to a Congress, shall be suspended from voting at the Congress until it has fulfilled its obligations in this respect.

Article 14. Expulsion

- 1. The Congress may expel a Member Association if:
 - a) it fails to fulfill its financial obligations towards CONCACAF; or
 - it seriously violates the statutes, regulations and decisions of FIFA or CONCACAF;
 or
 - c) it ceases to have the status of National Association in its own country or territory.
- 2. The presence of a majority of the Member Associations eligible to vote at the Congress is necessary for an expulsion to be valid, and the motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarter (3/4) majority of the valid votes cast.
- 3. Before an expulsion is executed, the Executive Committee will establish a safeguarding period in order to determine what should be done with the appropriable assets and records of the Association.

Article 15. Resignations

- 1. Subject to par. 2 below, a Member Association may resign from CONCACAF with effect from the end of a calendar year. Notice of resignation must reach the General Secretariat no later than six (6) months before the end of the calendar year and be sent by registered letter.
- 2. The resignation is not valid until the Member Association wishing to resign has fully fulfilled its financial obligations towards CONCACAF and its Member Associations.
- 3. A resigning Member Association shall be required to present:
 - a) the minutes from its executive committee and congress meetings approving the resignation;
 - b) its audited financial statements;
 - c) a confirmation that all of its liabilities have been satisfied or extinguished; and

- d) a confirmation that its faces no pending or threatening litigations.
- 4. CONCACAF is entitled to request the files and records from a resigning Member Association.

Article 16. Independence of Member Associations and their bodies

- 1. Each Member Association shall manage its affairs independently and with no influence from third parties.
- 2. The executive body of a Member Association shall be elected by its congress, even on an interim basis. The statutes of a Member Association shall provide for an election procedure that quarantees the complete independence of the election process.
- 3. CONCACAF may not recognize the executive body of a Member Association, even on an interim basis, if it has not been elected in accordance with par. 2 above, except if the executive body is established as a normalization committee by FIFA in consultation with CONCACAF.
- 4. Only decisions passed by the executive bodies that have been constituted in accordance with par. 2 above may be recognized by CONCACAF.

Article 17. Status of Clubs, Leagues and other groups

- 1. Clubs, Leagues, Regional Associations or any other groups of stakeholders affiliated to a Member Association shall be subordinate to and recognized by that Member Association. The Member Association statutes shall define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of these Clubs and groups and their statutes and regulations must be approved by the Member Association.
- 2. A Member Association shall ensure that its affiliated Clubs and groups take all decisions on matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.
- 3. In any case, a Member Association shall ensure that no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) exercise third-party control over more than one Club or group whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardized.

Article 18. Honorary appointments

1. The Congress may confer the title of honorary member to any persons for meritorious services rendered to Football.

- 2. The Executive Committee shall make these nominations.
- 3. The honorary member may attend and participate in Congress without the right to vote.

Article 19. Bodies

- 1. The Congress is the supreme and legislative body of CONCACAF.
- 2. The Executive Committee is the executive body of CONCACAF.
- 3. The General Secretariat is the administrative body of CONCACAF.
- 4. The judicial bodies of CONCACAF are the Disciplinary Committee, Appeals Committee and Ethics Committee.
- 5. The standing and ad-hoc committees shall assist the Executive Committee in the performance of its duties in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes and applicable Regulations. Their duties, composition and function are defined in these Statutes.
- 6. CONCACAF may from time to time establish ad-hoc committees as it deems necessary.
- 7. The bodies of CONCACAF shall be either elected or appointed without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes.

Article 20. Congress

- 1. The Congress is the meeting at which Member Associations convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of CONCACAF. Only a Congress that is duly convened has the authority to make decisions.
- 2. A Congress may be an Ordinary or an Extraordinary Congress.
- 3. The Executive Committee shall fix the place, date and time of Ordinary and Extraordinary Congresses, except in the case described in Article 28 par. 2 of these Statutes.
- 4. The President shall conduct the Congress business in compliance with these Statutes.

Article 21. Vote, delegates and observers

1. Each Member Association shall have one (1) vote and is entitled to be represented by a maximum of three (3) delegates in the Congress. One of the three delegates shall exercise the right to vote on behalf of the Member Association.

- 2. The names of the three delegates must reach the General Secretariat at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the Congress and should indicate the delegate authorized to vote. In case the delegate authorized to vote is unable to attend the Congress, the Member Association should notify the General Secretariat of the name of a replacement at least three (3) days before the date of such Congress.
- 3. No delegate shall be allowed to represent more than one Member Association. Only the authorized delegates who are present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- 4. Delegates must belong to the Member Association that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member Association. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request. During their term of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as delegates for their Member Association.
- 5. The Executive Committee may in its sole discretion invite any person or persons to the Congress who may attend and participate in the Congress without the right to vote.
- 6. The Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights.

Article 22. Areas of authority

The Congress has the following authority:

- a) adopt or amend the Statutes;
- b) approve official minutes of Congresses;
- c) elect the Executive Committee;
- d) elect the persons who, in accordance with the provisions of the FIFA and these Statutes, are to hold the positions of vice-president and members of the FIFA Executive Committee;
- e) appoint scrutineers;
- f) grant Full Membership or ratify the granting of Associate Membership to a National Association;
- g) suspend and expel a Member Association;
- h) approve the report of the Executive Committee;

- i) approve the audited financial statements and the report of the auditors;
- j) approve the budget;
- k) fix the membership subscriptions;
- I) decide, upon the nomination of the Executive Committee, whether to confer the titles of honorary member;
- m) ratify the appointment or dismissal made by the Executive Committee of the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the judicial bodies and of the chairman, deputy chairman and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee;
- n) consider and act upon proposals submitted by Member Associations or the Executive Committee in accordance with these Statutes; and
- o) dissolve CONCACAF.

Article 23. Quorum of the Congress

- 1. Decisions passed by the Congress shall only be valid if a majority of the Member Associations eligible to vote are present, unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes.
- 2. If a quorum is not achieved, a second Congress shall take place within twenty-four (24) hours after the first, with the same agenda.
- 3. A quorum is not required for the second meeting of the Congress unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment to the Statutes, the election of a member of the Executive Committee, the expulsion of a Member Association or the dissolution of CONCACAF.

Article 24. Decisions of the Congress

- 1. Unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes, a proposal or motion shall be passed if supported by a majority of the valid votes cast.
- 2. Abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.
- 3. A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favor of a proposal or motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll, Member Associations being called in alphabetical order from A to Z.

Article 25. Elections

- 1. The election of office-bearers at the Congress shall be by position and by show of hands, except where a candidate has no opponent for the seat he may be elected by acclamation. The vote shall be taken by calling the roll, Member Associations being called in alphabetical order from A to Z. No voting by letter or proxy is permitted.
- 2. The election of the President, vice-presidents, members and female member of the Executive Committee shall be decided in a first ballot by a majority. If, in the first ballot, no candidate obtains the majority of the votes cast, a second ballot takes place after the elimination of the candidate who has obtained the least number of votes in the first ballot; and this procedure shall continue until the required numbers of candidates have been elected. In case of a tied vote, a new voting shall be conducted with the respective candidates until the position is filled in accordance with the procedure set forth in these Statutes.
- 3. The aforementioned rules also apply to the election of the CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee.

Article 26. Ordinary Congress

- 1. The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year.
- 2. The Member Associations shall be notified in writing at least ninety (90) days before the date of the Congress of the place, date and time of such Congress.
- 3. The formal convocation shall be made by the General Secretariat in writing at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain:
 - a) the agenda of the Congress;
 - b) the report of the Executive Committee;
 - c) the audited financial statements and the report of the auditors;
 - d) the budget;
 - e) the names of the candidates for election (if applicable);
 - f) proposals for amendments and/or alterations to the Statutes, if any;
 - g) any other proposal submitted by Member Associations or the Executive Committee for which due notice has been given.

Article 27. Ordinary Congress agenda

- 1. The agenda of the Ordinary Congress shall comprise the following items:
 - a) a declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes;
 - b) the approval of the agenda;
 - c) an address by the President;
 - d) the appointment of three (3) Member Associations to check the official minutes;
 - e) the appointment of three (3) scrutineers to check the voting (if applicable);
 - f) suspension or expulsion of a Member Association (if applicable);
 - g) the approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
 - h) granting of Full Membership or ratification of granting of Associate Membership (if applicable);
 - i) the report of the Executive Committee;
 - j) the reports of the standing committees and bodies;
 - k) the submission for approval of the audited financial statements and the report of the auditors;
 - I) the approval of the budget (if applicable);
 - m) votes on proposals for adopting and amending the Statutes (if applicable);
 - n) consideration of proposals submitted by Member Associations or the Executive Committee in accordance with these Statutes (if applicable);
 - o) the election of the members of the Executive Committee and the CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee (if applicable);
 - the ratification of any appointment or dismissal made by the Executive Committee of the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the judicial bodies and of the chairman, deputy chairman and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee (if applicable);

2. A Congress shall not take a decision on any item not included in the agenda. The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be amended if three-quarters (3/4) of the Member Associations present at the Ordinary Congress and eligible to vote agree to such amendment.

Article 28. Extraordinary Congress

- 1. The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress whenever deemed necessary, in observance of the deadlines stipulated in these Statutes.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if three-quarters (3/4) of the Member Associations make such a request in writing to the General Secretariat. The request shall specify the items for the agenda and include any supporting documentation to be considered by the membership. In this case, the Extraordinary Congress shall be held within ninety (90) days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not held within the indicated deadline, the Member Associations who requested it may convene the Extraordinary Congress themselves setting the place, date and time for such Congress.
- 3. The Member Associations shall be notified in writing at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Extraordinary Congress of the place, date, time and agenda of such Congress.
- 4. When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary Congress is convened upon the request of the Member Associations, the agenda shall contain the points raised by those Associations.
- 5. The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress may not be altered. The Extraordinary Congress shall discuss only the items for which it has been convened.
- 6. For an Extraordinary Congress to be considered convened and duly constituted, more than three-quarters (3/4) of the Member Associations eligible to vote must be present. A proposal or motion shall be passed if approved by three-quarters (3/4) of the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.
- 7. The Extraordinary Congress shall be conducted in the same manner as the Ordinary Congress.

Article 29. Adoption of and amendment to the Statutes

- 1. Only the Congress is responsible for adopting and amending the Statutes.
- 2. Any proposals for an amendment to the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the General Secretariat by either a Member Association or by the

Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a Member Association is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least three (3) other Member Associations.

- 3. For a vote on the adoption of or amendment to the Statutes to be valid, more than three-quarters (3/4) of the Member Associations eligible to vote must be present.
- 4. A proposal to adopt or amend the Statutes shall be adopted if approved by three-quarters (3/4) of the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.

Article 30. Minutes

The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress. The draft of the minutes shall be sent to the Member Associations within ninety (90) days of the conclusion of the Congress.

Article 31. Effective dates of decisions

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect thirty (30) days after the close of the Congress, unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect or unless otherwise provided for in these Statutes.

Article 32. Executive Committee

- 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of eight (8) members, as follows:
 - a) President;
 - b) three (3) vice-presidents;
 - c) three (3) members;
 - d) one (1) female member.
- The members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by an Ordinary Congress for a term of four (4) years and are eligible for re-election. Their mandate shall begin after the end of the Congress which elected them. However, if at the end of such period the Congress cannot meet due to unforeseen circumstances or force majeure, the members of the Executive Committee shall continue in office until an Ordinary Congress is held. The election of two or more members belonging to the same National Association is not permitted.
- 3. The position of Executive Committee member shall be remunerated. However, no member of the Executive Committee shall be considered to be a Paid Official by reason of any remuneration received in his/her capacity as a member of the Executive

Committee. A member of the Executive Committee may not at the same time be a member of any of the judicial bodies.

- 4. Each Union recognized by CONCACAF (i.e. CFU, UNCAF and NAFU), shall be represented by one vice-president and one member each.
- 5. The President and female member shall be elected from any Union without affecting the quota of the Union from which they originate.
- 6. A candidate for any position in the Executive Committee shall have played an active role in Association Football (e.g. as an Official, Player or a member of FIFA, a confederation or a National Association) for two of the last five years before being proposed as a candidate. Any Member Association may only propose one (1) candidature for each position on the Executive Committee.
- 7. Only Member Associations may propose candidatures for the office of the President. A candidature for the office of the President shall only be valid if supported by at least four (4) Member Associations, which must include the support of the candidate's own National Association and of any other three (3) National Associations. Member Associations must notify the General Secretariat, in writing, of a candidature for the office of the Presidency at least sixty (60) days before the start of the Congress, together with the declarations of support of at least three (3) other Member Associations. The General Secretariat shall inform all Member Associations of the names of the candidates running for office at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Congress.
- 8. Only Member Associations may propose candidatures for the position of female member. A candidature for the position of female member shall only be valid if supported by at least three (3) Member Associations, which must include the support of the candidate's own National Association and of any other two (2) National Associations. Member Associations must notify the General Secretariat, in writing, of a candidature for the position of female member at least sixty (60) days before the start of the Congress, together with the declaration of support of at least two (2) other Member Associations. The General Secretariat shall inform all Member Associations of the names of the candidates running for office at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Congress. If no candidatures are presented within the stated period, then proposals may be taken from the floor on the day of the Congress. If only one candidature is proposed, such candidate will automatically occupy the position. If more than one candidature is proposed, the Congress shall elect the female member from among the candidates.
- 9. Only Member Associations may propose candidatures for the positions of vice-president and member (excluding Female member), to be elected as representatives of each of the Unions. Candidates must be nationals of one of the countries within the particular Union they will represent. A candidature for the position of vice-president and member shall

only be valid if supported by at least three (3) Member Associations, which must include the support of a National Association belonging to the Union the candidate will represent and of any other two (2) National Associations. Member Associations must notify the General Secretariat, in writing, of a candidature at least sixty (60) days before the date of the Congress, together with the declarations of support of at least two (2) other Member Associations. The General Secretariat shall inform all Member Associations of the names of the candidates running for office at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Congress. If no candidatures are presented within the stated period, then proposals may be taken from the floor on the day of the Congress. If only one candidature is proposed in any of the Unions, such candidate will automatically occupy the position to which he was proposed. If more than one candidature is proposed, the Congress shall elect each representative from among the candidates from each respective Union.

- 10. Elections for the Executive Committee members shall be staggered and held every two (2) years as follows:
 - a) Election of the President, the vice president for North America, the vice-president for the Caribbean, the member for Central America and the female member shall be held during the calendar year following the FIFA World Cup;
 - b) Election of the vice-president for Central America, a member for the Caribbean, a member for North America shall be held during the calendar year preceding the FIFA World Cup.
- 11. If the position of President should become vacant, the most senior vice-president shall fill the position until the next Ordinary Congress. In such a case, the Congress shall elect the new President to complete the remaining term of mandate of the former President.
- If a position of vice-president, member or female member should become vacant, the Executive Committee shall fill that position until the next Ordinary Congress, where such Congress shall elect a replacement to complete the remaining term of mandate. The person selected by the Executive Committee to fill the vacant position should be a national of any of the countries of the same Union as the person who is being replaced.

Article 33. Powers and duties of the Executive Committee

- 1. The Executive Committee shall be empowered to take decisions on all matters that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the Congress or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes.
- 2. The powers and duties of the Executive Committee are, among others:
 - a) to carry out the objectives of CONCACAF;

- b) to prepare and convene the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congresses;
- c) to ensure that the Statutes are applied, and take all necessary actions required for their application;
- d) to approve regulations stipulating how CONCACAF shall be organized internally;
- e) to formulate and approve the Regulations of CONCACAF;
- f) to appoint or dismiss the General Secretary on the proposal of the President;
- g) to appoint the chairman, deputy chairman and members of the standing committees;
- h) to appoint or dismiss the chairman, deputy chairman and members of the judicial bodies and submit such appointment or dismissal to the Congress for ratification;
- to appoint auditors based on the recommendations of the Audit and Compliance Committee and inform the Congress of such appointment;
- j) to set up ad-hoc committees at any time, if necessary;
- k) to approve and submit to the Congress the following:
 - i. the reports of the Executive Committee and the various standing committees;
 - ii. the audited financial statements and the report of the auditors;
 - iii. the budget;
 - iv. all proposals for amendments to the Statutes;
 - v. other proposals submitted by the Executive Committee members or Member Associations in accordance with these Statutes.
- I) to dismiss a member of a standing committee in accordance with Article 43 par. 6 of these Statutes;
- m) to dismiss a person or suspend a Member Association provisionally until the next Congress;
- n) to issue regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organized by CONCACAF;

- o) to fix or alter at any time the remuneration of the members of the Executive Committee, CONCACAF representatives before FIFA, members of the standing committees and personnel of the General Secretariat. Such remuneration may be for services to or on behalf of the Confederation and may take any form, including but not limited to annual fees, annual retainers, per diem rates, bonuses and/or any arrangements in connection with the payment of a pension, allowance or gratuity, and/or any death, sickness or disability benefits;
- p) to approve any loan or real estate transaction, subject to article 35 of these Statutes; and
- q) to delegate tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of CONCACAF or third parties.

Article 34. Meetings

- 1. The Executive Committee shall meet at least four (4) times a year.
- 2. The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If at least fifty per cent (50%) of the members of the Executive Committee request a meeting in writing, the President shall convene it within thirty (30) days.
- 3. The General Secretariat shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion on the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee must submit items they wish to be included on the agenda for the meeting to the General Secretariat at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least seven (7) days before the meeting.
- 4. The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Executive Committee without the right to vote.
- 5. The meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held in private. The Executive Committee may, however, invite third parties to attend. Those third parties shall not have voting rights, and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Executive Committee.
- 6. Any member of the Executive Committee who is absent without a properly accepted excuse for four (4) consecutive meetings shall be provisionally suspended from the Executive Committee. A decision regarding the matter shall then be taken by the next Congress, which shall be final.
- 7. Any member of the Executive Committee may attend a meeting of the Executive Committee by teleconference, video conference or any other similar method. Members

that attend a meeting via any of the aforementioned methods shall be considered as present.

Article 35. Decisions

- 1. Decisions passed by the Executive Committee shall only be valid if a majority of its members are present.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall reach its decisions by a majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote. Voting by proxy or letter is not permitted.
- 3. A three-quarter (3/4) majority of the votes cast is required for the adoption of a decision relating to the following matters:
 - a) the modification of CONCACAF codes and regulations;
 - b) the incurrence by CONCACAF of indebtedness for borrowed money, whether in a single or multiple related transactions, in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (USD 500,000);
 - the approval of the acquisition or lease of any asset (whether real or personal property), whether solely by CONCACAF or jointly with another party, having a fair market value or contract price at the time of acquisition in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (USD 500,000);
 - d) the incurrence of guarantees by CONCACAF of any obligation, whether in a single or multiple related transactions, in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (USD 500,000); or
 - e) the approval of any litigation or arbitration settlement in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (USD 500,000).
- 4. Any member of the Executive Committee must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interests.
- 5. The decisions taken by the Executive Committee shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 6. The decisions taken by the Executive Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

Article 36. Dismissal of a person

- 1. The Congress may dismiss any person. The Executive Committee shall place the dismissal of a person on the agenda for the Congress. The Executive Committee may also dismiss a person provisionally until the next Congress. Any Executive Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for dismissal on the agenda of the Executive Committee.
- 2. The motion for dismissal must be justified. It shall be sent to the members of the Executive Committee and/or to the Member Associations along with the agenda.
- 3. The person in question has the right to speak in his own defense.
- 4. The Congress shall reach a decision by means of show of hands. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the valid votes cast is required.
- 5. The person dismissed (even if provisionally) must be relieved of his functions with immediate effect.

Article 37. The President

- 1. The President, along with the General Secretary, shall be the legal representatives of CONCACAF.
- 2. The President shall be responsible for, among others:
 - a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the General Secretariat;
 - b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies of CONCACAF in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
 - c) supervising the work of the General Secretariat;
 - d) relations between CONCACAF and its Member Associations, FIFA, political bodies, other confederations and other organizations; and
 - e) presiding at the Ordinary Congress, the Extraordinary Congress, the Executive Committee and Emergency Committee meetings and other standing committee meetings of which he is Chairman.
- 3. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees without the right to vote.

4. The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and the Emergency Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote.

Article 38. Representation and signature

The President and the General Secretary represent CONCACAF legally and are entitled to sign for CONCACAF in accordance with the Statutes and applicable Regulations. The Executive Committee may set up internal organizational regulations regarding the joint signature of officers, in particular, in case of the President's and General Secretary's absence and all important business of CONCACAF.

Article 39. Emergency Committee

- 1. The Emergency Committee shall deal with all matters requiring immediate attention between two meetings of the Executive Committee and only in circumstances when an Executive Committee meeting cannot be convened The Emergency Committee shall consist of the President and the three vice-presidents.
- 2. The President shall convene the Emergency Committee meetings. If a meeting cannot be convened within an appropriate period of time, decisions may be passed through other means of communication. Such decisions shall have immediate legal effect. The President shall notify the Executive Committee immediately of the decisions passed by the Emergency Committee.
- 3. The Emergency Committee shall reach its decisions by a three-quarter (3/4) majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote.
- 4. The President is entitled to designate a deputy for any member who is unable to attend or has a conflict of interests. The deputy shall belong to the Executive Committee and the same Union as the member who is unable to attend or has a conflict of interests.
- 5. If circumstances so require, any member of the Emergency Committee may attend a meeting of the Emergency Committee by telephone conference, video conference or any other similar method.

Article 40. CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee

1. Pursuant to the FIFA Statutes, CONCACAF is entitled to have three (3) representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee: one (1) vice-president and two (2) members. CONCACAF shall equally allocate the positions amongst its Unions (i.e. CFU, UNCAF and NAFU). Consequently, each one of the Unions is entitled to have one representative on the FIFA Executive Committee. The CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with these Statutes and the FIFA Statutes.

- 2. The CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee shall be elected by an Ordinary Congress for a term of four (4) years and are eligible for re-election. Their mandate shall begin upon their installation by the FIFA Congress. The election of two or more representatives belonging to the same National Association is not permitted.
- 3. The CONCACAF President shall ex-officio occupy the position of FIFA vice-president. In this case, the automatic seat of the CONCACAF President does affect the quota of the Union from which he originates.
- 4. Only Member Associations may propose candidatures for the positions of member on the FIFA Executive Committee, to be elected as representatives of each of the Unions. Candidates must be nationals of one of the countries within the particular Union they will represent and shall have played an active role in Association Football (e.g. as a Player or an Official or a member of FIFA, a confederation or a National Association) for two of the last five years before being proposed as candidates. A candidature for the position of member on the FIFA Executive Committee shall only be valid if supported by at least three (3) Member Associations, which must include the support of a National Association belonging to the Union the candidate will represent and of any other two (2) National Associations. A Member Association may only propose one (1) candidature for each position on the FIFA Executive Committee.
- 5. Member Associations must notify the General Secretariat, in writing, of a candidature at least sixty (60) days before the date of the Congress, together with the declarations of support of at least two (2) other Member Associations. The General Secretariat shall inform all Member Associations of the names of the candidates running for CONCACAF representative on the FIFA Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Congress. If no candidatures are presented within the stated period, then proposals may be taken from the floor on the day of the Congress. If only one candidature is proposed in any of the Unions, such candidate will automatically occupy the position to which he was proposed. If more than one candidature is proposed, the Congress shall elect each representative from among the candidates from each respective Union.
- 6. Only Member Associations that are affiliated to FIFA may nominate candidatures for the positions of CONCACAF representative on the FIFA Executive Committee and participate in the election of such representatives.
- 7. Elections for the CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee shall be staggered as established in the FIFA Statutes. Elections for at least one of the representatives shall be held every two years (President shall ex-officio occupy the position of FIFA vice-president).
- 8. In case any of the CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee would, for any reason whatsoever, cease to hold his position, the Executive Committee shall fill the position until the next Ordinary Congress, where such Congress shall elect a replacement to complete the remaining term of mandate. The person selected by the Executive

Committee to fill the vacant position should be a national of any of the countries of the same Union as the representative who is being replaced.

- g. If the position of President should become vacant, the most senior CONCACAF vice-president shall immediately undertake the position of FIFA vice-president until the next Ordinary Congress. In such a case and in accordance with par. 3 above, the person elected by the Congress to complete the remaining term of mandate of the former President, will occupy the position of FIFA vice-president.
- 10. The Executive Committee may, at any time and in its sole discretion, summon the CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee to its meetings. The CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee shall assist any meeting to which they are summoned. The CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee, except for the President, shall have voice but no voting rights at meetings of the Executive Committee. The CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee shall have voice but no voting power at a Congress.
- 11. The CONCACAF representatives on the FIFA Executive Committee shall submit to the Congress an annual report detailing all activities carried out in office. Also, such representatives shall submit to the Executive Committee a written report on the outcome of all attended FIFA Executive Committee meetings.

Article 41. General Secretariat

The General Secretariat shall carry out all the administrative work of CONCACAF under the direction of the General Secretary.

Article 42. General Secretary

- 1. The General Secretary is the chief executive of CONCACAF.
- 2. He shall be appointed on the basis of an agreement governed by private law.
- 3. He shall be responsible for:
 - a) implementing decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
 - b) properly managing and keeping the accounts of CONCACAF;
 - c) administrating and organizing the General Secretariat;
 - d) hiring and dismissing CONCACAF staff;

- e) assisting and participating in the Congress, Executive Committee, Emergency Committee and standing and ad-hoc committees meetings;
- f) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Committee, Emergency Committee and standing and ad-hoc committees;
- g) all correspondence of CONCACAF;
- informing the Executive Committee of the commercialization of any media or other intellectual property rights owned or licensed by CONCACAF, relating to any official competitions of CONCACAF;
- i) relations with FIFA, confederations, Member Associations and any other organizations in the promotion of the objectives of CONCACAF;
- j) proposing managerial staff appointments to the President;
- k) signing decisions on behalf of any CONCACAF Committee, provided that no other ruling exists in the respective regulations.
- 4. The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any body of CONCACAF.

Article 43. Standing committees

- 1. The standing committees of CONCACAF are:
 - a) Administration Committee;
 - b) Associated Championships Committee;
 - c) Audit and Compliance Committee;
 - d) Beach Soccer Committee;
 - e) Club Championships Committee;
 - f) Finance Committee;
 - g) Futsal committee;
 - h) Gold Cup Committee;
 - i) Legal Committee;

- j) National Associations Committee;
- k) National Team Events Committee;
- I) Referees Committee;
- m) Security/Fair Play Committee;
- n) Sports Medicine Committee;
- o) Technical Committee;
- p) Women's Football Committee;
- q) Youth Championships Committee.
- 2. The chairman and deputy chairman of the standing committees shall be members of the Executive Committee, unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee. However, the chairman and deputy chairman of the Audit Compliance Committee may not belong to the Executive Committee.
- 3. Based on the proposals made by the President and the General Secretary, the Executive Committee shall appoint the chairman, deputy chairman and members of each standing committee. The standing committees shall comprise a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. The chairmen, deputy chairmen and the members of the standing committees shall be appointed for a term of office of two (2) years and shall have an active role in Association Football within the CONCACAF region. Members may be re-appointed and may also be relieved of their duties at any time.
- 4. Each chairman shall conduct business in compliance with these Statutes and applicable Regulations. The dates and the agenda of meetings of each standing committee shall be fixed by the General Secretariat in consultation with the relevant chairman. The meetings of the standing committees shall be held in private. The President and/or General Secretary, in consultation with the relevant chairman, may, however, invite third parties to attend and participate.
- 5. Meetings of the standing committees shall only take place if at least half (1/2) of the total members of each respective committee are present. In case of absence of the chairman, the deputy chairman shall chair the meetings.
- 6. Any member of a standing committee who is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings or any five (5) meetings during their term without a valid excuse, is automatically suspended from such committee. A decision shall then be made by the Executive Committee whether or not to dismiss the member. Such decision shall be final. Any

member of a standing committee may, subject to the presentation of a valid medical excuse and agreement of the respective chairman of a committee and the General Secretary, attend a meeting by telephone conference, video conference or any other similar method.

- 7. Each standing committee may, if necessary, set up a sub-committee and/or task force from among its members to settle urgent or specialized matters.
- 8. The terms of reference for each of the above-mentioned committees are described in a separate document (Appendix) attached to these Statutes.

Article 44. Ad-hoc Committees

The Executive Committee may create ad-hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The Executive Committee shall decide on the composition, duties and functions of such Committees. An ad-hoc committee shall report directly to the Executive Committee.

Article 45. Judicial Bodies

- 1. The judicial bodies of CONCACAF are:
 - a) the Disciplinary Committee;
 - b) the Ethics Committee;
 - c) the Appeals Committee.
- 2. The judicial bodies are to be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that are necessary for the due completion of their tasks. The chairmen and deputy chairmen of the judicial bodies shall be qualified to practice law. The term of office of the chairmen, deputy chairmen and the members of the judicial bodies shall be two (2) years. The members may be re-appointed and may also be relieved of their duties at any time.
- 3. The members of the judicial bodies may not belong to any other body or committee of CONCACAF at the same time.
- 4. The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary Code and the Code of Ethics.

Article 46. Disciplinary Committee

1. The responsibilities and functions of the Disciplinary Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code.

- 2. The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary by the Executive Committee for the Disciplinary Committee to function properly.
- 3. The Disciplinary Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes, the Disciplinary Code and all other Regulations, as well as the FIFA Disciplinary Code. The Disciplinary Committee may subsidiarily apply the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
- 4. These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the Congress and the Executive Committee with regards to suspensions and expulsions.
- 5. The Executive Committee shall issue the Disciplinary Code.

Article 47. Ethics Committee

- 1. The responsibilities and functions of the Ethics Committee shall be governed by the Code of Ethics.
- 2. The Ethics Committee is divided into an investigatory chamber and an adjudicatory chamber. The composition of each of the chambers shall be established in the Code of Ethics.
- 3. The Ethics Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes, the Code of Ethics, the Disciplinary Code and all other Regulations, as well as the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
- 4. The Executive Committee shall issue the Code of Ethics.

Article 48. Appeals Committee

- 1. The responsibilities and functions of the Appeals Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code.
- 2. The Appeals Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary by the Executive Committee for the Appeals Committee to function properly.
- 3. The Appeals Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee and the Ethics Committee that are not declared final by the relevant Regulations.
- 4. The Appeals Committee may subsidiarily apply the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

Article 49. Disciplinary measures

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

1.	For	For natural and legal persons:	
	a)	a warning;	
	b)	a reprimand;	
	c)	a fine;	
	d)	the return of awards.	
2.	For	natural persons:	
	a)	a caution;	
	b)	an expulsion;	
	c)	a match suspension;	
	d)	a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;	
	e)	a ban from entering a stadium;	
	f)	a ban on taking part in any Football-related activity;	
	g)	social work.	
3.	For legal persons:		
	a)	a transfer ban;	
	b)	playing a match without spectators;	
	c)	playing a match on neutral territory;	
	d)	a ban on playing in a particular stadium;	
	e)	annulment of the result of a match;	
	f)	expulsion;	
	a)	a forfeit;	

- h) deduction of points;
- i) relegation to a lower division;
- j) replaying a match.

Article 50. Recognition of the CONCACAF Statutes

- 1. Each Member Association shall include in its statutes a provision whereby it, its Leagues, Clubs, Players and Officials agree to respect at all times these Statutes, Regulations and decisions of CONCACAF, and to recognize the jurisdiction of CAS, as provided in these Statutes.
- 2. Each Member Association shall ensure that its Leagues, Clubs, Players and Officials acknowledge and accept these obligations.
- 3. Each participant in a CONCACAF competition shall, when registering its entry, confirm to CONCACAF in writing that it, its Players and Officials have acknowledged and accepted these obligations.

Article 51. Disputes

- 1. Member Associations shall insert a clause in their statutes or regulations, stipulating that it is prohibited from taking disputes in the Association or disputes affecting Leagues, Clubs, Players and Officials to ordinary courts of law, unless specifically provided for in these Statutes or FIFA regulations, or if laws of the respective country or territory specifically provide for or stipulate recourse to ordinary courts of law. Instead of recourse to ordinary courts of law, provision shall be made for arbitration. Such disputes shall be taken to an independent and duly constituted Arbitration Tribunal recognized by CONCACAF and the Member Association or to CAS.
- 2. The Associations shall impose sanctions on any party that fails to respect this obligation and ensure that any appeal against such sanctions shall likewise be strictly submitted to arbitration, and not to ordinary courts of law.

Article 52. Court of Arbitration for Sports

- CONCACAF recognizes the jurisdiction of CAS.
- 2. Recourse may only be made to CAS after all other internal procedures and remedies have been exhausted.
- 3. All decisions taken by CAS shall be deemed to be final and binding upon all parties.

4. Proceedings before CAS shall take place in accordance with the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration.

Article 53. Jurisdiction of CAS as an ordinary court of arbitration

- CAS shall have jurisdiction, to the exclusion of any ordinary court or any other court of arbitration, to deal with the following disputes in its capacity as an ordinary court of arbitration:
 - a) disputes between CONCACAF and Member Associations, Leagues, Clubs, Players and Officials;
 - b) disputes between Member Associations, Leagues, Clubs, Players and Officials.
- 2. CAS shall only intervene in its capacity as an ordinary court of arbitration if the dispute does not fall within the competence of a CONCACAF or FIFA body.

Article 54. Jurisdiction of CAS as an appeals arbitration body

- 1. As an appeals arbitration body, CAS shall be entitled to hear appeals against final decisions passed by CONCACAF.
- 2. Only parties directly affected by a decision may appeal to CAS. However, where doping-related decisions are concerned, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) may appeal to CAS.
- 3. The time limit for appeal to CAS shall be twenty-one (21) days from the receipt of the decision in question.
- 4. An appeal before CAS may only be brought after CONCACAF's or FIFA's internal procedures and remedies have been exhausted.
- 5. An appeal shall not have any suspensory effect as a stay of execution of a disciplinary sanction, subject to the power of CAS to order that any disciplinary sanction be stayed pending the arbitration.
- 6. CAS shall not take into account facts or evidence which the appellant could have submitted to an internal CONCACAF body by acting with the diligence required under the circumstances, but failed or chose not to do so.

Article 55. Common provisions

CAS is not competent to deal with:

- a) matters related to the application of a purely sporting rule, such as the Laws of the Game or the technical modalities of a competition;
- b) decisions through which a natural person is suspended for a period of up to four matches or up to three months;
- c)awards issued by an independent and impartial court of arbitration in a dispute of national dimension arising from the application of the statutes or regulations of a Member Association.

Article 56. Finances

- 1. The financial period of CONCACAF shall be one (1) year and shall commence on January 1st of every year.
- 2. The revenue and expenditure of CONCACAF shall be responsibly managed, including where appropriate the creation of reserves.
- 3. The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of CONCACAF with its subsidiaries as of December 31st of every year.

Article 57. Revenue

The revenue of CONCACAF arises specifically from:

- a) Member Associations' annual subscriptions;
- b) income generated by the marketing of rights to which CONCACAF is entitled;
- c) income generated from the organization of competitions and events;
- d) fines imposed by the authorized bodies;
- e) other subscriptions and income from any other lawful sources in keeping with the objectives pursued by CONCACAF.

Article 58. Expenses

CONCACAF bears:

- a) the expenses stipulated in its budget;
- b) other expenses approved by the Congress and expenses that the Executive Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;

c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by CONCACAF.

Article 59. External auditors

- 1. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall recommend a firm of independent external auditors who meet high standards of integrity for the approval of the Executive Committee. The external auditors shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year. This mandate may be renewed.
- 2. The external auditors shall examine and certify the accounts before they are presented to the Audit and Compliance Committee.
- 3. The report of the external auditors shall be submitted to the Executive Committee, Congress and the Audit and Compliance Committee.

Article 6o. Membership subscription

- 1. Each Member Association shall pay a standard annual subscription within thirty (30) days after being billed by CONCACAF. The annual subscription for new Member Associations, including Associate Members, for the year in question shall be paid within thirty (30) days after being billed by CONCACAF.
- 2. The Congress shall fix the amount of annual subscription every two years on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for every Member Association and amount to no more than one thousand dollars (USD 1,000).

Article 61. Settlement

CONCACAF may debit any accounts of Member Associations to settle amounts due to the Confederation.

Article 62. Levies

The Executive Committee may establish levies on international matches and competitions.

Article 63. Competitions

- 1. CONCACAF shall have the sole jurisdiction to organize and sanction international competitions in North, Central America and the Caribbean in which Member Associations and/or their Clubs participate. FIFA competitions shall not be affected by this Article.
- 2. The Executive Committee may delegate to the Member Associations the authority to organize competitions.

- 3. The Executive Committee shall set up regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of CONCACAF competitions.
- 4. By the act of entering a team in a competition organized by CONCACAF, each Member Association and/or Club affiliated to a Member Association agrees to fully comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of CONCACAF and FIFA, and their bodies.
- 5. The admission to a CONCACAF competition of a Member Association or Club directly or indirectly involved in any activity aimed at arranging or influencing the outcome of a match at national or international level can be refused with immediate effect, without prejudice to any possible disciplinary measures.

Article 64. Club licensing

The Executive Committee shall define a club licensing system governing:

- a) The minimum criteria to be fulfilled by Clubs in order to be admitted to CONCACAF Club competitions;
- b) The licensing process (including the minimum requirements for the licensing bodies);
- c) The minimum requirements to be observed by the licensors.

Article 65. Rights

- 1. CONCACAF and its Member Associations are respectively the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audiovisual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.
- The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent the CONCACAF rights are
 utilized. The Executive Committee shall alone decide whether CONCACAF rights shall be
 utilized exclusively, or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

Article 66. Authorization

CONCACAF and its Member Associations are exclusively responsible for authorizing the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of Football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and technical and legal aspects.

Article 67. International matches and competitions

- The authorization and organization of international matches and competitions between National Association teams and between Leagues and/or Club teams in North, Central America and the Caribbean shall be in accordance with the FIFA and CONCACAF statutes and regulations.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall compile a CONCACAF competitions calendar that shall be binding upon Member Associations, Leagues and Clubs.
- 3. CONCACAF is bound to comply with the International match calendar compiled by FIFA.

Article 68. Approval

Member Associations cannot belong to another confederation or participate in competitions on the territory of another confederation without the authorization of CONCACAF, the other confederation and FIFA.

Article 69. Matters not provided for

The Executive Committee shall have the final decision on any matter not provided for in these Statutes or Regulations or in cases of force majeure or in the event of ambiguity or conflict Articles.

Article 70. Dissolution

CONCACAF may be dissolved by a resolution to that effect passed by not less than three-fourths (3/4) of the Member Associations eligible to vote.

Upon the dissolution of CONCACAF, all its funds and assets shall be entrusted with FIFA as trustee until such time CONCACAF is re-established.

Article 71. Adoption of Statutes

These Statutes were adopted by the XXI CONCACAF Extraordinary Congress on April 16, 2015 in The Bahamas. They supersede all previous texts and come into force on April 16, 2015.

On behalf of the CONCACAF Congress:

Jeffrey Webb President Enrique Sanz General Secretary

Appendix

Administration Committee

The Administration Committee serves as a good governance safeguard for the proper administrative functioning of the Confederation as a whole and in its various administrative parts. Among its diverse functions, the Administration Committee focuses on business matters pertaining to the administration and human resources of the Confederation.

Associated Championships Committee

The Associated Championships Committee shall assist in discussions involving the organization of the Associated Championships and Olympic Football Tournaments in compliance with the provisions of the regulations applicable to such tournaments.

Audit and Compliance Committee

The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting; recommend the appointment of external auditors to the Executive Committee; review the report of the external auditors at the request of the Executive Committee; and, assess and provide recommendations on CONCACAF's internal control systems and risk management policies.

Beach Soccer Committee

The Beach Soccer Committee shall exchange views on current beach soccer topics within the Confederation and make recommendations in areas such as beach soccer competitions and the regulations governing such competitions as well as development courses and programs.

Club Championships Committee

The Club Championships Committee shall exchange views on the Confederation's current club championships and draw up recommendations regarding possible modifications to the existing club championships and to the regulations governing such competitions.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall ensure the organization's financial stability by providing oversight on its budget and investments.

Futsal Committee

The Futsal Committee shall exchange views on current futsal topics within the Confederation and make recommendations in areas such as futsal competitions and the regulations governing such competitions as well as development courses and programs.

Gold Cup Committee

The Gold Cup Committee shall exchange views on the current Gold Cup tournaments and draw up recommendations regarding possible modifications to the existing Gold Cup competition and to the regulations governing such competition.

Legal Committee

The Legal Committee shall analyze legal issues relating to football and the evolution of the Statutes and Regulations of the Confederation. The Committee will suggest revisions and updates to the Statutes and Regulations of the Confederation to the Executive Committee as required, assuring alignment with the mission and vision of the organization as a whole.

National Associations Committee

The National Associations Committee shall deal with relations between the Confederation and its Member Associations and draw up proposals for optimum cooperation.

National Team Events Committee

The National Team Events Committee is concerned with the range of activities pertaining to national teams taking place outside of formal regional tournaments such as the Gold Cup and FIFA World Cup Qualifiers including, but not limited to, relationships with the teams and team officials themselves, support in supervising friendly matches played under the auspices of the Confederation, and assuring that the Confederation's best interests are kept in mind during the execution of the same.

Referees Committee

The Referees Committee shall exchange views on current referee topics and make recommendations on referee development programs and courses. The Referees Committee will assist the CONCACAF Refereeing Department in the identification and appointment of referees for competitions organized by the Confederation and the evaluation and ranking of referees and referees observers. The Referees Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game.

Security/Fair Play Committee

The Security/Fair Play Committee shall monitor adherence to fair play, evaluate issues of security and risk reduction relating to competitions and regional events, and support and supervise the conduct of everyone involved in Football within the CONCACAF region.

Sports Medicine Committee

The Sports Medicine Committee shall deal with all medical aspects of Football within the CONCACAF region and advise the Confederation on health-related issues, policies, research and programs.

Technical Committee

The Technical Committee shall exchange views on technical matters pertaining to the practice of the sport throughout the Confederation. The Technical Committee shall send a representative(s) to important regional events and championships, and support the flow of information regarding training, education, and Technical Study Group reports.

Women's Football Committee

The Women's Football Committee shall exchange views on current women's football topics and make recommendations in areas such as girls and women's competitions and the regulations governing such competitions as well as development courses and programs.

Youth Championships Committee

The Youth Championships Committee shall exchange views on the current CONCACAF youth championships and draw up recommendations regarding possible modifications to the existing CONCACAF youth championships and to the regulations governing such competitions. The Youth Championships Committee shall make recommendations regarding youth development training and courses as well as assist in the implementation of youth and amateur Football development programs.