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ADDRESS

by

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Secretary General

**62<sup>nd</sup> FIFA CONGRESS**

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Budapest, Hungary

Mr Sepp BLATTER, FIFA President,

Mr Jérôme VALCKE, FIFA Secretary General,

Members of FIFA's Executive Committee,

Confederation Heads and Delegates from football Associations around the world,

Professor Mark PIETH and Members of FIFA's Independent Governance Committee,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon.

It is an honour for me to address FIFA's 62nd Congress as INTERPOL's Secretary General.

INTERPOL stands as the world's largest law enforcement organization, and unites police services from 190 countries to prevent, investigate and prosecute a wide range of transnational crimes. ...crimes that affect your safety, your property, the quality of your lives and even the sport that you so dearly love. INTERPOL's goal, simply stated, is to make the world a safer place for us all.

FIFA, as you know, is the ardent and passionate supporter of what makes football the beautiful game enjoyed by billions around the world.

Cooperation between our two organizations dates back to 2005-2006, when INTERPOL provided support to Germany to help secure the FIFA Confederation Cup and the FIFA World Cup.

INTERPOL deploys, at the request of organizing countries, our Major Event Support Teams, or IMESTs as we call them, to help national police secure major sporting events. We conduct threat assessments, and we equip deployed INTERPOL staff and national police with technology to run checks on individuals and passports at airports and other border crossings, in hotels and at competition sites.

We believe that your cooperation as host countries and football associations together with the dedicated officers and resources that INTERPOL provides has enabled you to deal so effectively with the huge crowds and major challenges that these competitions engender.

Deployments in support of FIFA events, complemented by specific threat assessments, also took place in the framework of the FIFA's Confederation Cup in South Africa, the Under 17 FIFA World Cup in Nigeria, the Under 20 FIFA World Cup in Egypt, and the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa.

INTERPOL's efforts to help secure so many FIFA events was led by the then-Head of INTERPOL's Command and Coordination Centre, Mr Chris Eaton, who was subsequently selected by FIFA to lead its security effort.

INTERPOL also helps to coordinate multi-country enforcement actions targeting illegal football betting schemes through a series of operations code-named SOGA for 'soccer' and 'gambling'.

So far, three SOGA operations have been conducted in South-East Asia. They resulted in nearly 7,000 arrests, the seizure of more than 26 million US dollars in cash and the closure of organized crime-controlled illegal gambling dens which handled more than two billion dollars' worth of bets.

Because of our close cooperation in the past, when corruption allegations surfaced and became a major concern undermining the integrity of football, FIFA and INTERPOL were able to put in place a robust and sustainable anti-corruption training in football programme.

It was apparent to FIFA and INTERPOL's leadership that if we acted quickly and forcefully, we could reassure football players, supporters and the public that this serious problem would be dealt with in a comprehensive and continuing manner.

What was most concerning, from a law enforcement point of view, were the links between match-fixing, illegal betting and transnational organized crime on a global scale.

As a result of the huge profit associated with illegal gambling, of the vulnerability of players, and of the ease with which matches of all levels are accessible for betting on via the Internet, corrupting matches or their outcomes has become an activity of interest to transnational organized crime groups.

On the one hand, we were seeing more and more cases of match-fixing and suspicious results, which was eroding confidence in the fairness of the game.

On the other hand, the problem of corruption in sport has worrisome consequences that go well beyond the world of sport. Match-fixing and illegal betting have been linked to murders, violent assaults and threats of harm by organized crime to collect money from football debtors and family members of debtors. The list of negative consequences goes on and on.

No region of the world is immune to the risk that one of its countries could fall victim to corruption in football. The Brazilian match-fixing scandal of 2005, the 2009 Hoyzer affair in Germany, the 2011 banning for life of 47 Korean footballers, and the fining of two of Nigeria's Premier League teams just a couple months ago represent a handful of examples that demonstrate the global nature of the problem.

The roads of FIFA and INTERPOL were thus meant to meet — for the beautiful game to stay beautiful and for citizens in all countries of the world to be safer from the actions of organized crime.

Exactly one year ago our two organizations entered into a 10-year partnership to more aggressively and more effectively tackle corruption in football.

I take this opportunity to thank FIFA's President Sepp Blatter, its Secretary General Jérôme Valcke, and FIFA, not only for recognizing the importance of partnering with INTERPOL to fight this serious problem, but also for recognizing that INTERPOL would require independence in building its Integrity in Sport programme, while ensuring proper oversight into the activities that are carried out in this framework.

The FIFA-INTERPOL agreement recognizes that corruption in sport is a very complex

problem and that there is no quick way to correct the problem. That is why it is crucial that we put more emphasis on prevention.

The “INTERPOL-FIFA Training, Education and Prevention Initiative” aims to develop and implement a global training, education and prevention programme with a focus on illegal betting and match-fixing.

The programme’s goals are:

To educate and train key actors on how to recognize, resist and report attempts to corrupt or fix matches;

And;

To better prepare law enforcement on how to investigate and cooperate on sport corruption or match-fixing related cases.

Let me share with you our main achievements of the past twelve months:

- A dedicated INTERPOL unit has been put together, comprising experienced police officers and analysts.
- A needs assessment has been conducted through an external consultant to identify the most pressing needs in anti-corruption in sport training.
- Two Experts Meetings were organized, bringing together experts from law enforcement, the world of sports, and the betting industry.
- A first of four pilot national training workshops was conducted in Finland in April, bringing together all stakeholders in order to raise awareness and identify gaps and obstacles in combating corruption in sport.
- In October 2011, Italy and the Italian National Police became the first in the world to enter into an agreement under the joint INTERPOL-FIFA Initiative to begin a national

training programme for integrity in sports with INTERPOL.

· A website and a newsletter dedicated to Integrity in Sport have been put in place.

During this first year, we got our methodology right. We have consulted with all those involved to get a clear and concrete picture of the situation and of what needs to be done. We have started engaging law enforcement worldwide, and we have developed information platforms to ensure that the Initiative and its training and education resources reach the largest possible audience.

With these foundations in place, we are now ready to enter the implementation phase.

We are currently organizing a Kick-Off-Awareness Meeting for the European region, which should take place in Italy at the end of this year or in early 2013.

It is our intention to engage all six Confederations and to present such Kick-Off meetings in as many regions as possible.

In the months to come, trainings will be delivered to team delegations, including coaches, in the preparation of the FIFA Under 17 Women's World Cup in Japan and the FIFA Under 20 Women's World Cup in Azerbaijan. Later this year, trainings will be delivered to referees and assistants pre-selected for the FIFA Men's World Cup 2014 in Brazil.

An e-learning programme for players will soon be launched.

And, finally, several national and regional training workshops for the benefit of both the sport world and law enforcement are in preparation for the second half of 2012 and beginning of 2013.

By taking you through this long list of achievements and upcoming activities, you can see the seriousness with which INTERPOL is developing its Integrity in Sports programme.

INTERPOL will also benefit from the work of FIFA's Independent Governance Committee, headed by Prof Mark Pieth, and embracing some of the world's most knowledgeable and

respected individuals in anti-corruption and integrity issues.

INTERPOL will be able to reinforce its cooperation with FIFA after learning of the appointment of Mr Ralf Mutschke to the newly created position of Director for Security at FIFA. Mr Mutschke has 33 years' experience in Germany's Federal Police (BKA) and an impeccable reputation for dedication, determination and integrity. He also held a position of Director at INTERPOL between 2000 and 2002. I strongly believe that FIFA has found the right person to build upon the fine work begun by Chris Eaton.

With FIFA's partnership with INTERPOL, the creation of its Independent Governance Committee, the appointment of Ralf Mutschke as Director of Security and the fine work of the Transparency and Compliance Task Force, no objective person can reasonably question whether FIFA's leadership has taken serious steps to fight corruption, to foster good governance and to ensure greater transparency in football.

Dear colleagues,

For the beauty of football and for the safety of citizens at large, the INTERPOL-FIFA Initiative must be a success.

But, for this Initiative to be successful, INTERPOL and FIFA need your support. ...support from each and every one of the 209 football Associations united under the FIFA umbrella, as well as from the six Confederations. Football is a team sport. Keeping football clean is a team effort.

In a world so often filled with political, cultural and violent conflict, football offers a common and peaceful ground for people of diverse backgrounds, nationalities and cultures to come together as one. We must protect why football is appreciated by billions of players, fans and spectators worldwide. We all must work together to maintain the integrity of football. Simply stated — it is a beautiful game ...so let's do all we can to keep it that way.

Thank you very much.