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2 May 2015

FIFA/UEFA proposals on the draft bill “Emergency measures for the confrontation of Violence in sports and other provisions”

Dear Mr Kontonis,

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 30 April 2015 and thank you for it. We have also received your letter of 1 May 2015, containing the modifications to the articles of the draft bill as discussed during the meeting held in Athens on 29 April 2015.

We acknowledge the progress that has been made with some of the adaptations to the draft bill in order to conform it to the established football principles enshrined in the Statutes of UEFA and FIFA regarding the organisational autonomy of our members. However, after consultation with FIFA, we believe that there are still three remaining points which can be easily addressed by slightly amending the articles below, in order to fully comply with the abovementioned principles.

Since we have still not received an official translation of the entire draft bill from the Ministry of Culture, Education and Religious Affairs, some of our proposals below are based on the translation provided to us by the HFF.

(i) **Article 1(3)**

1st sentence: *“In the cases of paragraph 2, the Minister responsible for Sports can also, as a precaution in order to prevent recurrence of such events and behaviors, temporarily prohibiting, for one or more sport days, the completion of specific matches, or interrupt permanently **national** championships or other **domestic** events, with a justified decision taken after opinion of the Standing Committee to Combat Violence and the relevant sports federation.; ~~he can even to prohibit with a justified decision, the participation, in the next of the above events season, Greek teams in international competitions after consultation with the international federations and their opinion.”~~”*

3rd sentence: "In case of violation of these prohibitions, in addition to any other consequences and sanctions, the Minister responsible for Sports may impose, with a justified decision and after a previous call and hearing, fines of twenty-five thousand (25.000,00) to five million (5,000,000.00) Euros; ~~particularly in respect of infringements of the prohibition of a Greek team's participation in international competitions from twenty-five thousand (25.000,00) to twenty-five million (25,000,000.00) Euros, as appropriate, for each of the above cases, taking into consideration the gravity of the infringement, the eventual recurrence, the degree and the extent of the consequences which have occurred or been threatened, and the benefit that may be gained or sought.~~"

(ii) **Article 5**

Paragraph 1: "Within five (5) months from the publication of the present, **and upon decision passed by the competent body of the Hellenic Football Federation**, all disciplinary and judicial bodies of ~~football~~ the Hellenic Football Federation are re-established, now consisting only of ordinary judges **who are selected and appointed by the Hellenic Football Federation**. ~~The decisions of these bodies are published not later than ten (10) day after the discussion of the case.~~"

Paragraph 2: "'Within the same as above time period of five (5) months, **and upon decision passed by the competent body of the Hellenic Football Federation** an ~~active public~~ **ordinary judge or a public prosecutor with the grade of first instance public prosecutor, is selected and appointed by the Hellenic Football Federation** as competent prosecutor of football offenses **within the framework of the disciplinary proceedings of the Hellenic Football Federation**, and is deputized by an **ordinary judge or a active public prosecutor also selected and appointed by the Hellenic Football Federation**. ~~with the grade of deputy first instance public prosecutor. Both are appointed by decision of the Supreme Judicial Council.~~Law"

Paragraph 5: "An administrative charge, which is a revenue of the state budget, is imposed after consulting the relevant sports federation, amounting to 1% to 3% of entry tickets for professional categories of football, basketball and volleyball, to cover government spending participation of judges in disciplinary and judicial bodies."

(iii) **New Article 15(2):** "Football's issues and organization's and operation's issues of the football federation are regulated by the Hellenic Football Federation (HFF), in the frame of its self-governing function and in accordance with its statutes and regulations, which must be harmonized with Constitution, the legislation and **provided that the Hellenic Football Federation manages its affairs independently and with no influence from third parties in accordance with** the regulations of the International and European Football Federation, whose HFF is member."

We trust that all our proposals correspond to what has been agreed during our meeting and will therefore be taken into account. In this respect, please be reminded that should the draft bill be approved and enter into force without the necessary modifications with regard to the abovementioned specific provisions, it would be considered as going against the principle of self-governance required from the FIFA/UEFA member associations. The adoption and application of the draft bill without these necessary amendments would indeed contravene the principle according to which all FIFA and UEFA member associations have to manage their affairs independently and without the influence of any third parties (as stipulated in article 13 paragraph 1 i) and art. 17 of the FIFA Statutes, as well as in article 7bis paragraph 2 of the UEFA Statutes).

We are confident that the draft bill will be adapted accordingly, before being submitted to the Parliament for approval, in order to finalise this matter in the best interest of all parties involved and, in particular, for the good of Greek football.

We would be grateful if you could confirm, at your earliest convenience and before submission of the draft bill to the Parliament, that the above changes have been implemented.

Yours sincerely,

U E F A

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gianni Infantino', written in a cursive style.

Gianni Infantino
General Secretary

Copy to: - Hellenic Football Federation (HFF)
- FIFA, Zurich