

# SOMALI FOOTBALL FEDERATION CONSTITUTION

# SFF STATUTES

**2022 EDITION** 

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In this Constitution, unless the context otherwise permits:-

**Arbitration tribunal:** means an independent and duly constituted private court of justice acting instead of an ordinary court.

**Association:** means a football association recognised as such by FIFA and by the relevant confederation. It is a member of FIFA, unless a different meaning is evident from the context **Association football:** means the game controlled by FIFA and organised by FIFA, the confederations and/or the associations in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

CAF: means Confederation of African Football Associations.

CAS: means Court of Arbitration for Sport based in Lausanne (Switzerland).

**CECAFA:** means the Council of East and Central Africa Football Associations.

**Club:** means a member of an association (that is a member of FIFA and of the relevant confederation) or a member of a league recognised by an association that enters at least one team in a competition.

**Confederation:** means a group of associations recognised by FIFA that belong to the same continent (or assimilable geographic region).

Congress: means the supreme and legislative body of SFF.

**Delegate: means** a natural person validly representing a Member at the Congress.

**Executive Committee: means** the strategic and oversight body of SFF.

FIFA: means Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

**IDRC:** means Internal Dispute Resolution Committee.

**Laws of the Game: means** the laws of association football issued by The IFAB in accordance with the relevant provisions of the FIFA Statutes.

**League:** means an organisation composed of clubs that is subordinate to an association.

**Member:** means a legal person that has been admitted into membership of SFF by the Congress. **Official:** means any board member (including the members of the Executive Committee), committee member, referee and assistant referee, coach, trainer and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in FIFA, a confederation, an association, an organisation established in a region, a league or a club as well as any other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes (except players and intermediaries).

**Player:** means a football player licensed by SFF.

Ordinary courts: means state courts which hear public and private legal disputes.

**Regional association:** means an organisation established in a region and which is subordinate to SFF.

SFF": means Somali Football Federation.

The IFAB: means The International Football Association Board (IFAB).

**PART I.: GENERAL PROVISIONS** 

Article 1: Legal form, headquarters and trademarks

- 1. SFF is a private organisation of an associative nature, duly constituted under the laws of the State of Somalia. It is formed for an unlimited period.
- 2. The headquarters of SFF are located in Mogadishu, Capital City of Somalia.
- 3. SFF is a member of FIFA, CAF and CECAFA.
- 4. The flag, emblem and log of SFF are contained in Annexe B of these Statutes.
- 5. The abbreviation of the Somali Football Federation is: SFF.
- 6. The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation of SFF are the intellectual property assets of SFF, legally registered with the Copyright Office at the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education at Mogadishu, Somalia.

#### **Article 2: Objectives**

The objectives of SFF are:

- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Somalia in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;
- b) to organise competitions in association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various leagues of which it is composed;
- c) to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
- d) to protect the interests of its Members;
- e) to respect and prevent any infringement of the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of CAF and of SFF as well as the Laws of the Game, and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;
- f) to promote integrity, ethics and fair play with a view to preventing all methods or practices, such as corruption, doping or match manipulation, which might jeopardise the integrity of matches, competitions, players, officials and Members or give rise to abuse of association football, futsal or beach soccer;
- g) to promote and strengthen good governance principles and practices at national level and encourage its Members to adopt their own good governance principles;
- h) to promote the development of women's football and the full participation of women at all levels of football governance;

- i) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Somalia;
- j) to control and supervise association football, futsal and beach soccer at national level and to control and supervise all forms of international football matches played throughout the territory of Somalia, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and of the confederations;
- k) to manage international sporting relations connected with association football, futsal and beach soccer;
- l) to host competitions at international and other levels:

#### Article 3: Human rights

1. SFF is committed to respecting all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

# Article 4: Non-discrimination and equality

1. Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin colour, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, disability, 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 and/or other disciplinary measures.

# Article 5: Neutrality and institutional independence

- 1. SFF is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
- 2. The Members of SFF shall also be neutral in matters of politics and religion and shall ensure that their own members remain neutral.
- 3. SFF shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. SFF shall manage its affairs independently and shall ensure that its own affairs are not influenced by any third parties.

# Article 6: Promoting friendly relations

1. SFF shall promote friendly relations between its Members, clubs, officials and players

- and in society for humanitarian objectives.
- 2. SFF shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between the Members, clubs, officials and players.

# **Article 7: Players**

- 1. The status of players and the provisions for their registration shall be regulated by the Executive Committee in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
- 2. Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of SFF.

#### Article 8: Laws of the Game

- 1. SFF and each of its Members shall play association football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by The IFAB. Only The IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.
- 2. SFF and each of its Members shall play futsal in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Futsal Laws of the Game.
- 3. SFF and each of its Members shall play beach soccer in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game issued by FIFA. Only FIFA may lay down and alter the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

#### Article 9: Conduct of bodies, Officials and others

- 1. All bodies and officials of SFF shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of CAF and of SFF in their activities.
- 2. Every person and organisation involved in the game of association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of Somalia is obliged to observe the Statutes and regulations of FIFA, of CAF and of SFF, and any other relevant statutes, as well as the principles of fair play, loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

# Article 10: Official languages

1. The official languages of SFF shall be Somali, English and Arabic. Official documents and texts shall be written in these languages. Somali, English and Arabic

- 2. In the event of any divergence in the interpretation of texts in different languages, the text written in Somali shall be authoritative.
- 3. The official language at the Congress shall be Somali and English

#### PART II: MEMBERSHIP

# Article 11 Admission, suspension and expulsion

- 1. The Congress shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.
- 2. Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of SFF in accordance with these Statutes.
- 3. Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards SFF or other Members of SFF, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to SFF.
- 4. SFF shall ensure that all relevant stakeholders are represented within its Congress. The interests of women's football shall also be adequately represented in the Congress.

#### Article 12: Members

- **1.** *The Members of SFF are;*
- a) Twenty five (25) clubs
- b) Six (5) regional Associations with (3) votes for each
- c) Six (6) groups of interests
- d) The six groups of interest shall under (c) above shall be as follows:
  - a) Referees
  - b) Coaches
  - c) Women
  - d) Players
  - e) Futsal
  - f) Schools

#### Article 13: Admission

- 1. Any legal person wishing to become a Member of SFF shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of SFF.
- **2.** The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:
  - a) a copy of its legally valid statutes or constitutional document and, if applicable, regulations;
  - b) a declaration that it will comply at all times with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of SFF, FIFA and CAF and ensure that these are also respected, if applicable, by its own members, clubs, officials and players;
  - a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force as laid down by The IFAB, as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the Futsal Laws of the Game as laid down by FIFA;
  - d) a declaration that it will refer in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within SFF) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of SFF only to CAS in Lausanne, Switzerland, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Somalia;
  - e) a declaration that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of CAF may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of CAF;
  - f) a declaration that it recognises the jurisdiction of CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of CAF, and its decisions;
  - g) a declaration that it is located and registered on the territory of Somalia;
  - h) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
  - i) a declaration to the effect that the members of its own bodies were elected or appointed as a result of a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
  - j) a list of officials, specifying those who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
  - a copy of the minutes of its last Congress or constitutional meeting;

- l) if applicable, a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of SFF;
- m) if applicable, a declaration that it will play all official home matches on the territory of Somalia.

#### Article 14: Request and procedure for application

- 1. The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations approved by the Executive Committee.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall request that the Congress to either admit an applicant or not. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the Congress.
- 3. The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

# Article 15: Members' rights

- 1. The Members of SFF have the following rights:
  - a) to take part in the Congress, to receive its agenda in advance, to be called to the Congress within the prescribed time, to exercise their rights to participate in the debates and discussions and to exercise their voting rights;
  - b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the Congress;
  - to nominate candidates for elections and/or appointment to the relevant bodies of SFF;
  - d) to be informed of the affairs of SFF through its official bodies;
  - e) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and/or other sporting activities organised by SFF;
  - f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of SFF.
- 2. The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in the Statutes and applicable regulations of SFF.

#### Article 16: Members' obligations

- 1. The Members of SFF have the following obligations:
  - a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and SFF at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;

- b) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies at least every four years;
- to take part in competitions (if applicable) and other sporting activities organised by SFF;
- d) to pay their membership subscriptions;
- e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by The IFAB, as well as the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game and the 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 of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of SFF may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within SFF) to CAS in Lausanne, Switzerland, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Somalia;
- g) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of CAF may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and CAF;
- h) to manage their affairs independently and ensure that their own affairs are not influenced by any third parties in accordance with art. 20 of these Statutes;
- to ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;
- to communicate to SFF any amendment to its statutes and regulations as well as the list of its officials who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- k) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
- to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour
   as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- m) to observe the mandatory items specified under art. 13 par. 2 of these Statutes for the duration of their affiliation;

- n) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
- o) to ratify statutes that are in accordance with the requirements of these Statutes;
- p) to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, CAF and SFF.
- 2. Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes.
- 3. Violation of par. 1 h) above may also lead to sanctions, even if the third-party influence was not the fault of the Member concerned. Each Member of SFF is responsible towards it for any and all acts of the members of their bodies caused by the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such members.

# Article 17: Suspension

- 1. The Congress is responsible for suspending a Member. The Executive Committee may, however, temporarily suspend a Member that seriously and/or repeatedly violates its obligations as a Member with immediate effect. The suspension approved by the Executive Committee shall last until the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime.
- 2. The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote is necessary for a suspension to be valid. A suspension of a Member by the Congress or the Executive Committee shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a three-quarter majority of the valid votes cast. If it is not confirmed, the suspension shall be automatically lifted.
- 3. A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Members may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may impose further sanctions.
- 4. Members that do not participate in the sporting activities of SFF for two consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the Congress and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

# Article 18: Expulsion

1. The Congress may expel a Member if it seriously violates the Statutes, regulations directives or decisions of FIFA, CAF and SFF.

2. The presence of a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members 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 majority of the valid votes cast.

#### Article 19: Resignation

- 1. A Member may resign with effect from the end of a football season. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than six months before the end of the football season.
- 2. The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards SFF and its other Members.

# Article 20: Independence of Members and their bodies

- 1. Each Member shall manage its affairs independently and with no undue influence from third parties.
- 2. The Members' bodies shall be either elected or appointed. The Members' statutes shall provide for a democratic procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment.
- 3. Any Members' bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of par. 2 above, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by SFF.
- 4. Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with par. 2 above shall not be recognised by SFF.

# Article 21: Status of Regional associations, clubs, leagues and other groups of clubs

1. Regional associations, clubs, leagues and any other groups of clubs affiliated to SFF shall be subordinate to and recognised by SFF. There shall only be one top-tier national league on the territory of Somalia.

- 2. These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the entities mentioned in par. 1 above. Their statutes and regulations shall be in line with the requirements and obligations of the Statutes and regulations of SFF. SFF shall have the primary responsibility to regulate matters relating to refereeing, the fight against doping, the registration of players, club licensing, the imposition of disciplinary measures, including for ethical misconduct, as well as measures required to protect the integrity of competitions.
- 3. The entities mentioned in par. 1 above shall take all decisions on any matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.
- 4. In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one club or group of clubs whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

#### PART III: HONORARY PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBER

# Article 22: Honorary president and honorary member

- 1. The Congress may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any person for meritorious service to football.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall make these nominations.
- 3. The honorary president or honorary member may take part in the Congress. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

#### **PART IV: ORGANISATION**

#### Article 23: Bodies

- 1. The Congress is the supreme and legislative body.
- **2.** The Executive Committee is the strategic and oversight body.
- **3.** The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body.
- **4.** Standing and ad hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee and the general secretariat in fulfilling their duties.
- **5.** The club licensing bodies are in charge of the club licensing system within SFF.
- **6.** The independent committees fulfil their functions in accordance with these Statutes and applicable regulations. The independent committees are the Audit and Compliance

- Committee, the electoral committees and the judicial bodies.
- 7. The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, the Internal Dispute Resolution Committee as well as the Appeal Committee.
- **8.** The bodies shall be either elected or appointed by SFF itself without any undue external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes. The members of the bodies shall not have previously been found guilty of any criminal offence incompatible with the position.
- **9.** Any member of the bodies must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interest. In particular, members of the bodies shall always be aware of, and comply with, the relevant provisions of the FIFA Code of Ethics on conflicts of interest and adjust their conduct as necessary (e.g. abstain from performing their duties, notify the chairperson in cases of potential conflicts of interest, etc.).

# 10. Article 24: Dismissal of a member of a body

- 1. The Congress may dismiss a member of a body. The Executive Committee may also dismiss a member of a body provisionally, with the exception of the members of the independent committees. The provisional dismissal approved by the Executive Committee shall be confirmed by the next Congress, unless the Executive Committee has lifted it in the meantime. If the next Congress is of an elective nature, a dismissed member shall be allowed to be an elective candidate (provided that he fulfils the relevant eligibility criteria) on a conditional basis depending on the final decision of the Congress on his dismissal which shall be taken before the election.
- 2. The motion for dismissal must be justified and shall be sent to the members of the Executive Committee and/or to the Members of SFF along with the respective agenda.
- 3. The member of the body in question has the right to defend himself in front of the Executive Committee and/or the Congress.
- 4. The motion for dismissal shall be decided by means of secret ballot at the Executive Committee and/or the Congress. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds of the valid votes cast is required.
- 5. The member dismissed (provisionally or not) is relieved of his functions with immediate effect.

#### **PART V: CONGRESS**

# Article 25: Definition and composition

- 1. The Congress is a meeting at which all of the Members regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of SFF. Only a Congress that is duly convened has the authority to make decisions.
- 2. The Congress shall be constituted in accordance with the principles of representative democracy and shall take into account the importance of gender equality in football.
- 3. The Congress may be ordinary or extraordinary.
- 4. The President shall chair the Congress in compliance with these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress as well as any applicable regulations.
- 5. The Executive Committee may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

# Article 26: Delegates, votes and representation

- 1. The Congress is composed of 46 delegates. The number of delegates is allocated as follows:
  - a) One delegate from each of the 25 SFF League Clubs (i.e. 25 delegates in total), with each club having one vote.
  - b) Three delegates from each of the 5 Regional Associations, (i.e 15 delegates in total), with each Regional Association having three votes.
  - c) One delegate from each of the 6 interest groups [Referees, Coaches, Women, Players, Futsal and Schools] (i.e 6 delegates in total), with each interest group having one vote.
- 2. Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. Each delegate must be in possession of a written document issued by the relevant body of that Member attesting to his authority to represent the Member at the Congress.
- 3. Each delegate has one vote in the Congress. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- 4. The members of the Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the Congress without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as delegates to the Congress.

### Article 27: Areas of authority

- 1. The Congress has the following areas of authority:
  - a) adopting or amending these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress and the Electoral Code of SFF;
  - b) appointing 3 Members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last meeting;
  - c) electing the President, the vice-president(s) and members of the Executive Committee;
  - d)electing the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies), upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
  - e) appointing scrutineers to count the votes and to assist the General Secretary in distributing the ballot papers issued for the elections;
  - f) approving the annual audited financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements and the annual report;
  - g) approving the budget;
  - h) approving the activity report (containing the activities of SFF since the last Congress);
  - i) appointing the independent and external auditors upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
  - j) fixing the membership subscriptions upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
  - k) bestowing the title of honorary president or honorary member, upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
  - l) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
  - m) dismissing a member of a body of SFF;
  - n) dissolving SFF;
  - o) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes or passing any decision entrusted to the Congress in accordance with these Statutes.

#### Article 28: Quorum

1. Decisions passed by the Congress shall only be valid if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote are present.

- 2. If a quorum is not achieved, a second congress shall take place within 7 days with the same agenda;
- 3. A quorum is not required for the second meeting of the Congress unless an item on the agenda proposes:
  - a) the amendment of these Statutes;
  - b) the election of the President, vice-presidents or members of the Executive Committee;
  - c) the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons or members of the independent committees;
  - d) the dismissal of a member of a body;
  - e) the suspension or expulsion of a Member;
  - f) the dissolution of SFF.
- 4. Once it is declared that the Congress has been convened and composed in accordance with these Statutes, the quorum shall not be influenced by delegates departing.

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#### Article 29: Decisions

- 1. A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands, unless decided otherwise by the Congress. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.
- 2. Unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is sufficient for a decision to be valid. Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.

#### Article 30: Elections

- 1. Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- 2. Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the Electoral Code of SFF and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee of the SFF;
- 3. The election for the positions within the Executive Committee shall take place by list.
- 4. Every list in the election for the positions within the Executive Committee shall be proposed by at least 5 Members and shall include at least one female

- candidate. Each Member shall support one list only. If a Member supports more than one list, none of its expressions of support shall be considered valid.
- 5. For the election for the positions within the Executive Committee, a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for a list to be elected. If there are more than two lists, whichever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two lists are left.
- 6. For the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies), the candidate(s) who receive(s) the most votes in respect of the free seat(s) shall be elected. These elections may be conducted en bloc. However, at the request of at least five (5) delegates representing the Members, a separate vote for a specific candidate shall take place.
- 7. In case of a tied vote in any election of any body, two new ballots shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure set forth in this article. If the tied vote remains, the relevant position shall remain vacant until the next Congress, which shall proceed with new elections according to these statutes.
- 8. Blank ballot papers, invalid votes as well as abstentions shall be disregarded when calculating the majority.
- 9. Candidatures for any of the positions of the Executive Committee shall be sent to the general secretariat at the latest 30 days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of SFF at the latest 10 days before the Congress at which the Executive Committee shall be elected. The provisions of this paragraph shall also apply when elections take place during an Extraordinary Congress.
- 10. Candidatures for any of the positions of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies) must be passed to the Members of SFF at the least 10 days before the Congress at which the members in question shall be elected.

# Article 31: Ordinary Congress

- 1 The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year.
- 2 The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at the latest 45 days in advance.
- 3 Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the Congress shall be sent to the

general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least 30 days before the date of the Congress.

4 The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least 10 days before the date of the Congress. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the activity report, the financial statements, the independent and external auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

# Article 32: Ordinary Congress agenda

- 1. The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the Members.
- 2. The Congress agenda shall include the following mandatory items (in chronological order):
  - a) a declaration that the Congress has been convened and composed in compliance with these Statutes;
  - b) approval of the agenda;
  - c) an address by the President;
  - d)appointment of Members to check the minutes;
  - e) appointment of scrutineers;
  - f) suspension or expulsion of Members (if applicable);
  - g) approval of the minutes of the preceding Congress;
  - h) activity report (containing the activities since the last Congress);
  - i) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement as well as independent and external auditors' report;
  - j) approval of the audited financial statements;
  - k) approval of the budget;
  - l) votes on proposals for amendments to these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress and Electoral Code of SFF (if applicable);
  - m) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Committee in accordance with the procedure stipulated under art. 31 par. 3 of these Statutes;
  - n) appointment of the independent and external auditors (if applicable) upon proposal of the Executive Committee;
    - o) dismissal of a member of a body of SFF (if applicable);

- p)election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the Executive Committee (if applicable);
- q)elections of the members of the independent committees, i.e. the Audit and Compliance Committee, electoral committees and judicial bodies (if applicable);
- r) admission for membership (if applicable).
- 3 The Congress shall not take a decision on any point not included in the agenda.
- 4 The agenda of an Ordinary Congress may be altered, provided a two-third majority of the delegates representing the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

# Article 33: Extraordinary Congress

- 1 The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.
- 2 The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items to be included in the agenda. An Extraordinary Congress shall be held within 30 days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary Congress is not convened, the delegates representing the Members who requested it may convene the Congress themselves. In doing so, they shall inform all the Members of SFF and the Executive Committee of the date and location of the Extraordinary Congress, along with the items to be included in the agenda in accordance with par. 3 below.
- 3 The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at the latest 15 days before the date of an Extraordinary Congress.
- 4 When an Extraordinary Congress is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When it is convened upon the request of the Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.
- 5 The agenda of an Extraordinary Congress may not be altered.

### Article 34: Amendments to the Statutes, Standing Orders of the Congress and Electoral Code

- 1. The Congress is responsible for amending these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress and the Electoral Code.
- 2. Any proposals for an amendment to these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress and the Electoral Code must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by delegates representing a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least 10 delegates representing the Members.
- 3. For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes, to the Standing Orders of the Congress or to the Electoral Code to be valid, a majority (more than 50%) of the delegates representing the Members eligible to vote must be present.
- 4. A proposal for an amendment to these Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if three-quarters of the delegates representing the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.
- 5. SFF shall communicate to FIFA and CAF any amendments to its Statutes and Electoral Code.

#### Article 35: Minutes

The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the Congress. The minutes shall be checked by those Members designated, and finally approved at the next Congress.

#### Article 36: Effective dates of decisions

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect immediately after the close of the Congress, unless otherwise stipulated in these Statutes or unless the Congress fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

#### **B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

# Article 37: Composition

- 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of 11 (Eleven) members as follows:
  - A. One (1) President

- B. One 1st Vice-President
- C. One 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President (representing SFF members)
- D. One 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President (representing SFF Members)
- E. Seven (7) members, at least one of which shall be a Female.
- 3. The President, vice-presidents and all other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with art. 30 of these Statutes. They shall all undergo an integrity check (cf. Annexe A), to be conducted by the Electoral Committee, prior to their election or re-election.
- 4. The mandate of the President, vice-presidents and all other members of the Executive Committee shall be for four years. Their mandates shall immediately begin after the end of the Congress which has elected them and expire at the end of the Congress at which their successors are elected. No person may serve as President for more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). All other members (including any vice-president) of the Executive Committee may serve for no more than three terms of office (whether consecutive or not). Any partial term of office shall count as one full term.
- 5. All members of the Executive Committee must;
  - i. be between 25 and 75 years of age;
  - ii. must have been active in football for at least five years (i.e. as under article 12 of the SFF Statutes or within SFF members of the Executive Committee);
  - iii. must be a resident of Somalia; and
  - iv. must not have been found guilty in any criminal offence incompatible with the position.
- 6. A member of the Executive Committee may not at the same time be a member of an independent committee and may not act as a delegate representing a Member at the Congress during his mandate.
- 7. If a position or up to 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the Executive Committee shall fill the position(s) in question until the next Congress, when replacement(s) for the position(s) will be elected for the remaining period of office.

- 8. If more than 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary Congress within the prescribed period of time.
- 9. Any position within the Executive Committee shall be considered vacant in case of death, resignation or if the member concerned is permanently prevented from performing his official function.

#### Article 38: Meetings

- 1. The Executive Committee shall meet at least four times a year. The meetings of the Executive Committee may be held in person or by videoconference.
- 2. The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If a majority (more than 50%) of the Executive Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it so that the meeting is held within twenty one (21) days of the receipt of the request. If the President does not convene the requested meeting by the aforementioned deadline, the other members of the Executive Committee shall convene it themselves, but must send the agenda to all members of the Executive Committee at least seven (7) days before the meeting in line with par. 3 below.
- 3. The President, assisted by the general secretariat, shall compile the agenda. Each member of the Executive Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the Executive Committee must submit the items they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least ten (10) 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 in a consultative role and without voting rights. If the General Secretary is unable to attend a meeting, he may nominate a representative to attend the meeting on his behalf, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
- 5. The meetings of the Executive Committee shall not be held in public. 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. The President may also convene the Executive Committee on an urgent basis to deal with any matter requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. In such cases, the deadlines mentioned in par. 3 above may be either reduced or disregarded if the urgency so requires.

#### Article 39: Powers and duties

- 1. The Executive Committee shall have the following powers and duties:
  - a) passing decisions on all cases 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;
  - b) preparing, with the assistance of the general secretariat, and convening the Ordinary and Extraordinary Congress;
  - c) appointing the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees;
  - d) deciding to set up ad hoc committees if necessary at any time;
  - e) approving and issuing the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad hoc committees;
  - f) appointing the General Secretary upon proposal of the President. The General Secretary may be dismissed by the Executive Committee without prior proposal of the President;
  - g) proposing the independent and external auditors to the Congress;
  - h) appointing replacements for vacancies in the independent committees until the next Congress;
    - i. approving and issuing regulations governing the conditions of participation in and the staging of competitions organised by SFF;
    - ii. appointing the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff;
    - iii. approving and issuing the Internal Organisation Regulations of SFF;
    - iv. ensuring that these Statutes are applied and adopting the executive arrangements required for their application;
    - v. dismissing a member of a body or suspend a Member of SFF provisionally until the next Congress;
    - vi. delegating tasks under its authority to other bodies;
    - vii. appointing observers who may take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote.

#### Article 40: Decisions

- 1. The Executive Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless a majority (more than 50%) of its members are present. Attendance by videoconference shall constitute presence.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted. When a meeting of the Executive Committee is held by videoconference, voting online or through other modern means of written communication (e.g. emails, messaging apps) is permitted.
- **3.** 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.
- **4.** The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.
- **5.** The decisions taken by the Executive Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee it decides otherwise.

#### C. PRESIDENT

#### Article 42: President

- 1. The President is primarily responsible for:
  - a) implementing the decisions passed by the Congress and the Executive Committee through the general secretariat;
  - b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
  - c) supervising the work of the general secretariat;
  - d) the relations between SFF and its Members, FIFA, CAF, political bodies and other organisations.
- 2. Only the President may propose to the Executive Committee the appointment of the General Secretary. The President may however also propose to the Executive Committee the dismissal of the General Secretary.
- **3.** The President shall preside over the Congress, the Executive Committee meetings, and those committees of which he has been appointed chairperson (if applicable).
- **4.** The President shall have a casting vote in the Executive Committee.
- **5.** If the President is absent or unavailable, the 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president shall deputise and in his absence, the 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president shall deputise.

- **6.** If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 37 par. 8 of these Statutes, the 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president shall deputise until the next Congress. This Congress shall elect a new President for the remaining period of office.
- **7.** Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the Internal Organisation Regulations of SFF.

# Article 43: Representation and signature

1. The President represents SFF generally. The Executive Committee shall adopt special provisions in the Internal Organisation Regulations of SFF regarding the joint signature of office holders.

#### D. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

#### Article 44 General secretariat

 The general secretariat is the executive, operational and administrative body and shall carry out the work of SFF under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the general secretariat are bound by the Internal Organisational Regulations of SFF and shall fulfil the given tasks in good faith.

# Article 45: General Secretary

- 1. The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of SFF.
- 2. The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee upon proposal of the President on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications and/or experience.
- 3. The General Secretary shall be responsible for:
  - implementing decisions passed by the Congress and Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
  - b) attending the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and the standing and ad hoc committees;
  - organising the Congress and meetings of the Executive Committee and other bodies;
  - d) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the Congress, Executive Committee and standing and ad hoc committees;

- e) managing and keeping the accounts;
- f) correspondence;
- g) the relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, CAF and COSAFA, under the direction of the President;
- h) organising the general secretariat;
- i) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat;
- j) providing the electoral committees with logistic and operative support for the elections.
- 4. Any additional responsibilities and duties assigned to the General Secretary shall be stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of SFF.
- 5. The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any other body.

# E. STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Article 46: Standing committees

- 1. The standing committees are:
  - a) Finance Committee;
  - b) Organising Committee for SFF Competitions;
  - c) Technical and Development Committee;
  - d) Referees Committee;
  - e) Committee for Women's Football;
  - f) Players' Status Committee;
  - g) Medical Committee;
  - h) Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.
- 2. The standing committees shall be composed in such a way that the members, together, have the knowledge, abilities and specialist experience that is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties.
- 3. Chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the standing committees may be members of the Executive Committee with the exception of those of the Referees Committee, who may not belong to the Executive Committee. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee upon proposal of the Members of SFF or the President. The Executive Committee shall ensure appropriate female representation on standing committees. The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four years.

- 4. Each chairperson shall represent his standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of SFF approved by the Executive Committee.
- 5. Each chairperson shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the Executive Committee.
- 6. The Executive Committee and each standing committee, the latter with the approval of the Executive Committee, may, if necessary, set up a bureau and/or sub-committee to settle urgent matters. Any discussions and decisions of the bureau and/or sub-committee shall be reported to the relevant standing committee as soon as it is practicable to do so.
- 7. Each standing committee may propose to the Executive Committee amendments to the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of SFF that concern its committee.

#### Article 47: Finance Committee

1. The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Executive Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and up to three (3) members.

# Article 48: Organising Committee for SFF Competitions

1. The Organising Committee for SFF Competitions shall organise SFF's competitions of association football, futsal and beach soccer at any level within Somalia in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to SFF's competitions. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members.

#### Article 49: Technical and Development Committee

1. The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development in football. It shall also be in charge of SFF's development programmes, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analysing the support and programmes provided to the Members of SFF and providing advice to the Executive Committee on development matters in general. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members.

#### Article 50: Referees Committee

1. The Referees Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by SFF, organise refereeing matters within SFF in collaboration with the administration and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members, a majority of whom shall be ex-referees. The members of this committee cannot be at the same time members of the Executive Committee or any other body of the SFF.

# Article 51: Committee for Women's Football

1. The Committee for Women's Football shall organise SFF's women's football competitions and deal with all matters relating to women's football. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members.

# Article 52: Players' Status Committee

- 1. The Players' Status Committee shall set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players and determine the status of players for the various competitions of SFF. The Executive Committee may approve special regulations governing the Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction. The Players' Status and Legal Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members.
- 2. Players' status disputes involving SFF, its Members, clubs, players, officials, intermediaries and licensed match agents shall be settled in the last instance by CAS.

#### Article 53: Medical Committee

1. The Medical Committee shall deal with all medical aspects of football including doping control. It shall encourage medical research in football. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members.

#### Article 54: Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee

1. The Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall organise futsal and beach soccer competitions and deal with all matters relating to futsal and beach soccer. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members.

#### Article 55: Ad hoc committees

1. The Executive Committee may, if necessary, create ad hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The Executive Committee shall appoint a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and the appropriate number of members. The duties and function of ad hoc committees are defined in special regulations approved by the Executive Committee. An ad hoc committee shall report directly to the Executive Committee.

# F. CLUB LICENSING BODIES

#### Article 56

- 1. The *Executive Committee* of SFF will set up regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of Clubs in competitions of SFF, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by CAF in conformity with the FIFA Club Licensing Regulations.
- 2. The Club Licensing bodies consist of a first-instance body and an appeal body;
- 3. Decisions passed by the club licensing body may only be appealed before CAS.

#### V. INDEPENDENT COMMITTEES

# Article 57: Institutional independence.

The independent committees as well as their individual members shall conduct their activities and perform their duties entirely independently but always in the interests of SFF and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.

### Article 58: Audit and Compliance Committee

- 1. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the financial statements, the consolidated financial statement and the independent and external auditors' reports. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, a deputy Chairperson and up to 3 members. ITS members shall be knowledgeable and experienced in financial and/or regulatory and legal matters and may not be involved in any decision affecting the operations of SFF.
- 2. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall advise, assist and oversee the Executive Committee in monitoring SFF's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of SFF. It shall also supervise the general secretariat in financial and compliance issues. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the consolidated financial statements and the independent and external auditor's report.

The Audit and Compliance Committee shall furthermore monitor SFF's financial and compliance matters and suggest to the appropriate bodies any action that it deems necessary as a result of such monitoring. The Audit and Compliance Committee shall, with the assistance of the general secretariat, implement a compliance programme within SFF.3.Details on the Audit and Compliance Committee's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of SFF.

4. The chairperson, deputy chairperson and members of the Audit and Compliance Committee shall be elected by the Congress for a period of four years and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. They shall not belong to any other body of SFF and shall fulfil the independence requirements contained in par. 5 below.

- 5. The chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Audit and Compliance Committee as well as any of their immediate family members may not exercise or have exercised during the four years preceding their initial terms any executive function at SFF, one of SFF's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations), nor have or have had in the four years preceding their initial term any material business relationship with SFF, one of SFF's Members, a league or a club (including any of their affiliated companies/organisations). "Immediate family member" shall mean, with respect to a person, such person's spouse or domestic partner, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, children (including any stepchild or adopted child), grandchildren, son-, daughter-, father-or mother-in-law, and including anyone else, whether by blood or otherwise, with whom the individual has a relationship akin to a family relationship for which such person provides financial support.
- 6. If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of the Audit and Compliance Committee permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress.

#### Article 59: Electoral committees

- 1. The electoral committees are the bodies in charge of organising and supervising the election process in accordance with the Electoral Code of SFF. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the Appeals Committee (the second instance body).
- 2. The composition and function of the electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of SFF. The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the electoral committees shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee.
- 3. The term of office of all members of the electoral committee shall be four years. The members may be re-elected once or relieved of their duties at any time, although they may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress.

# Article 60: Judicial bodies

- 1. The judicial bodies are:
  - a) the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee;
  - b) National disputes resolution Chamber
  - 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 is necessary for the due completion of their tasks and duties. The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall be qualified to practise law.
- 3. The term of office of all members shall be four years. The members may be re-elected or relieved of their duties at any time, although they may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress.
- 4. The chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and other members of the judicial bodies shall be elected by the Congress upon proposal of the Executive Committee and shall not be members of any other body of SFF.
- 5. The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall fulfil the independence criteria that are stipulated in art. 56 par. 5 of these Statutes.
- 6. If the chairperson, the deputy chairperson or a member of a judicial body permanently ceases to perform his official function during his term of office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next Congress, in which the Congress shall appoint a new member of the respective judicial body for the remaining period.
- 7. The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of SFF.

# Article 61: Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

- 1. The function, composition and duties of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of SFF.
- 2. The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of SFF on Members, officials, players, clubs, licensed match agents and intermediaries.
- **3.** These provisions do not affect the powers of the Congress and the Executive Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.
- 4. The Executive Committee shall issue the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of SFF, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Code of Ethics.

### Article 62: The Internal Dispute Resolution Committee

- 1. The function, composition and duties of the Internal Dispute Resolution Committee shall be governed by the Internal Dispute Resolution Code of SFF.
- 2. The IDRC members shall serve for a period of Four (4) years subject to extension by the Executive Committee.
- 3. The IDRC shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine disputes between members of the SFF.
- 4. The IDRC shall perform such other duties as may be delegated by the Congress from time to time.

# Article 63: Appeal Committee

- The function and duties of the Appeal Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of SFF.
- 2. The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and IDRC that are not declared final by the relevant regulations of SFF.
- 3. Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be referred to CAS in Lausanne, Switzerland, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Somalia.

#### Disciplinary measures

#### Article 64: Disciplinary measures

- 1. The disciplinary measures are primarily:
- e) for natural and legal persons:
  - a) a warning;
  - b) a reprimand;
  - c) a fine;
  - d) the return of awards.

# ii) 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;
- h) compliance training.
- iii) 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 the match;
- f) expulsion from a competition;
- g) a forfeit;
- h) deduction of points;
- i) relegation to a lower division; and (J) replaying a match

#### PART VII. Arbitration

#### Article 65: Arbitration

- 1. Disputes within SFF or disputes affecting Members of SFF, leagues, members of leagues, clubs, members of clubs, players and officials may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within SFF) to CAS in Lausanne, Switzerland, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Somalia.
- 2. Disputes of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or CAF may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and CAF.

# Article 66: Jurisdiction

- 1. SFF shall have jurisdiction on internal disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging or affiliated to SFF.
- 2. FIFA and/or CAF shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different associations and/or confederations, in accordance with the relevant regulations.
- 3. SFF shall ensure its full compliance and that of all those subject to its jurisdiction with any final decision passed by a FIFA body, a CAF body or CAS.

# VIII. FINANCE

#### Article 67 Financial Period

- 1. The Financial Period of SFF shall be one year and shall begin on 1st January and end on 31st December
- Revenue and expenses of SFF shall be managed so that the balance over the financial period SFF's major duties of the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.
- 3. The general secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of SFF with subsidiaries as at 31st December.

#### Article 68: Revenue

- 4. The revenue of SFF comprises:
  - i. Members' annual subscriptions;
  - ii. receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which SFF is entitled;
  - iii. fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
  - iv. other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by SFF;
  - v. donations;
  - vi. any other revenue related to football activities;
  - vii. funding from FIFA and from CAF.

#### Article 69: Expenses

- 1. SFF shall bear:
  - a) the expenses stipulated in the 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 SFF.

#### Article 70: Independent and external auditors

1. The independent and external auditors appointed by the Congress shall audit on a yearly basis the accounts approved by the Finance Committee in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the Congress. The independent and external auditors shall be appointed for a period of three years. Their mandate may be renewed

### Article 71: Membership subscriptions

- 1. Membership subscriptions are due on 31<sup>st</sup> of December every year. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days of the close of the Congress at which they are admitted.
- 2. The Congress shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every four years on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for every Member and amount to no more than USD 500.

#### Article 72: Settlement

SFF may debit any Member's assets and accounts to settle claims.

#### Article 73: Levies

SFF may demand that a levy be paid by its Members for matches.

# Article 74: Publication of financial data

- 1. SFF shall publish on its official website the financial documents referred to under art. 32 par. 2 i), j) and k) of these Statutes once the relevant items have been approved by the Congress.
- 2. The remuneration of the members of the Executive Committee (including its President), the General Secretary and the members of the independent committees shall also be made publicly available (e.g. through the official website of SFF) on a regular basis.

# IX. COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

#### Article 75: Competitions

- 1. SFF shall organise and coordinate the following official competitions held within its territory:
- a) Somali Premier League
- b) Somali Division One
- c) Somali Division Two
- d) General Da'ud Cup (Somali FA Cup)
- e) Inter-State Club tournament
- f) District Municipality tournament

- g) Youth Domestic Championship
- h) Schools Competition
- 2. The Executive Committee may delegate to SFF's subordinate leagues the authority to organise competitions (e.g. by means of a proper and comprehensive agreement for elite football). The competitions organised by the leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organised by SFF. Competitions organised by SFF shall take priority.
- 3. The Executive Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

# Article 77: Club licensing

1. The Executive Committee shall issue regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of clubs in the competitions of SFF and CAF, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by CAF and FIFA.

#### Article 78: Rights

- 1. SFF and its Members are 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 and place. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audio-visual 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.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and shall draw up special regulations to this end. SFF shall ensure that the sale of such rights is carried out in a transparent manner and in compliance with the statutes and regulations of SFF as well as mandatory national laws.

#### Article 79: Authorisation to distribute

- 1. SFF and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall issue special regulations to this end, which shall be approved by the Congress.

#### X. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

# Article 80: International matches and competitions

- 1. The authority for organising international matches and competitions between representative teams and between leagues, club teams and/or scratch teams lies solely with FIFA, the confederation(s) and/or the association(s) concerned. No such match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of FIFA, the confederation(s) and/or the association(s) concerned in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.
- 2. SFF is bound by the international match calendar compiled by FIFA

#### Article 81: Contacts

1. SFF, its Members, players, officials, licensed match agents and intermediaries may not play matches or make sporting contacts with associations that are not members of FIFA or provisional members of a confederation without the approval of FIFA.

# Article 82: Approval

- 1. Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to SFF may only join another association with the authorisation of SFF, the other association, the respective confederation(s) and FIFA.
- 2. Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to SFF cannot participate in competitions on the territory of another association without the authorisation of SFF, the other association, FIFA and the respective confederation(s) according to the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

#### XI. FINAL PROVISIONS

# Article 83: Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure

1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to decide on all cases of force majeure and on all matters not provided for in these Statutes; such decisions shall take into account the relevant regulations of FIFA and of CAF, as well as any applicable mandatory laws.

### Article 84: Publication of corporate documents

- 1. SFF shall make available on its official website the following documents and information:
  - a. Statutes of SFF
  - b. Standing Orders of the Congress;
  - c. Electoral Code of SFF;
  - d. Disciplinary Code of SFF
  - e. Ethics Code of SFF;
  - f. Internal Organisation Regulations;
  - g. most important/key decisions;
  - h. SFF's strategy;
  - i. agendas for Executive Committee and Congress meetings;
  - j. circular letters.

# Article 85 Dissolution

- Any decision relating to the dissolution of SFF requires a majority of two thirds of all
  of the Members of SFF, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for
  the purpose.
- 2. If SFF is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to the NOC (National Olympic Committee) It shall hold these assets as a trustee in accordance with the relevant professional duties until SFF is re-established. The final Congress may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a two-thirds majority.

# Article 86 Transitional provisions

- 1. These statutes come into effect immediately at the Congress in which it is approved.
- 2. That changes in all the other clauses other than those in Article 85 (1) above come into effect as per Article 36 (Effective Dates of Decisions) of the Statutes.
- 3. The new and existing Members of SFF as described in art. 11 para. 1 shall provide the General Secretariat of the SFF with the documents and information stipulated under art. 13 par. 3 and art. 16 par (1) letter m) and o) as specified in this Constitution.

# Article 87: Enforcement

These Statutes were adopted at the Congress in Mogadishu on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and come into force on 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2022. The former Statutes of SFF are hereby repealed.

MOGADISHU,

For SFF

Ali Abdi Mohamed.

Acting President

Yusuf Mohudin Ahmed

General Secretary

SFF STATUTES