

Sent by email

Members of the European Parliament -
Signatories of the letter dated 9 September
2016 to FIFA

Zurich, 16 September 2016

Re: Your letter dated 9 September 2016

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

Thank you for your letter dated 9 September 2016, the content of which has received my full attention.

The FIFA Statutes stipulate the obligation of Member Associations to adhere to principles of good governance, notably political and religious neutrality and the avoidance of any form of discrimination or political interference. In addition, FIFA's amended Statutes, entered into force in April 2016, further enhanced FIFA's commitment to respect all internationally recognised human rights and its strive to promote the protection of these rights.

Related to the specific issue raised in your letter, as you know, a Monitoring Committee for Israel-Palestine, chaired by Mr Tokyo Sexwale, was established by the 65th FIFA Congress in May 2015 to identify solutions that will enable the development of football in the region. The mandate was recently extended at the 66th FIFA Congress in Mexico. The committee includes representatives of both the Israel and Palestinian football associations.

At the beginning of July a FIFA delegation led by Mr Sexwale visited Israel and Palestine as part of the ongoing efforts of the aforementioned committee to identify solutions to issues hindering the development of football in the region. The discussions focused on the measures currently being developed regarding permit applications and security-related delays, an area where marked progress has been achieved. The pending issue of territory and the question of clubs that are affiliated to the Israel Football Association that you raised in your letter were also addressed and will continue to be discussed with all parties.

Furthermore, as you point out in your letter, the Monitoring Committee is due to make a report to the FIFA Council at its meeting on 13-14 October 2016.

PRESIDENT

FIFA[®]

FIFA will continue its efforts to promote friendly relations between our member associations in accordance with the FIFA Statutes and identify feasible solutions for the benefit of the game and everyone involved.

Yours sincerely,



Gianni Infantino

cc:

*Tokyo Sexwale, Chair of the FIFA Monitoring Committee: Israel-Palestine
FIFA Vice-Presidents and FIFA Secretary General
European members of the FIFA Council
UEFA President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary General
EU Commissioner for Sport, Mr T. Navracsics*