



FECAFOOT STATUTES

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DEFINITIONS

The terms given below shall denote the following:

FECAFOOT: Cameroon Football Federation

CAF: Confederation of African Football

FIFA: “*Federation Internationale de Football Association*”

Association: a football association recognized by FIFA as member.

Professional corps: an association of referees, coaches and players recognized by FECAFOOT.

Decentralized league: a regional/provincial, divisional or sub-divisional associations under the authority of FECAFOOT.

Specialized committee: a committee created in function of the championships that it organizes.

Regional association: an organization under the authority of an association.

Confederation: a group of associations recognized by FIFA that belong to the same continent or neighbouring geographical regions.

Club: a member of a football association (itself a member of FIFA).

Official: any manager, Committee member, referee, trainer, instructor as well as any person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in FIFA, a confederation, association, league or club.

Player: any registered player of a football association.

General Assembly: the highest body of FECAFOOT.

Executive Committee: the executive body of FECAFOOT.

Member: an individual or corporate entity admitted by FECAFOOT.

Association football: the game controlled by FIFA and played in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

IFAB: International Football Association Board.

Ordinary courts of law: the courts in a State that rule on public and private legal disputes.

Court of arbitration: a private court of justice acting in place of an ordinary law-court.

CAS (TAS): Court of Arbitration for Sport (Tribunal Arbitral du Sport) at Lausanne, Switzerland.

Regulations governing the application of the Statutes: the General Regulation, Disciplinary code.

NB : The masculine gender is used for purposes of concision only and applies *mutatis mutandis* to the feminine gender. Similarly, the singular can have a plural sense and vice versa.

CHAPTER I : GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: Name, headquarters and legal form

- 1) The Cameroon Football Federation, hereinafter referred to as “FECAFOOT” or “the Federation”, founded in 1959, shall be a private association-type organization governed by Law No. 96/9 of 5 August 1996 to institute the charter of physical and sports activities and subsequent instruments, as well as by these Statutes and their accompanying regulations.
- 2) Its duration shall be indefinite.
- 3) Its headquarters shall be in Yaounde, P.O. Box 1116.
- 4) The Cameroon Football Federation was affiliated to the ‘Fédération Internationale de Football Association’ (FIFA) in 1962 and the Confederation of African Football (CAF) in 1963. It is therefore bound to respect and ensure that its members respect the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and FECAFOOT.
- 5) The flag of the Federation shall be white charged in the middle by the FECAFOOT logo.
- 6) The logo of the Federation shall be a green, red and yellow escutcheon charged with a gold star and a football on the red stripe; the name of the Federation shall be inscribed in gold letters against a black background on the border of the three-colour flag.
- 7) The acronym of the Federation shall be “FECAFOOT”.

Article 2: Supervisory authority and Obligation of Loyalty

- 1) FECAFOOT shall be under the supervisory authority of the Ministry in charge of sports, as per the provisions of section 16 of above-mentioned Law No. 96/9 of 5 August 1996. Thus:
 - a) The President of the Federation shall notify the Minister in charge of sports of any amendments of its organic instruments at most 30 (thirty) days after their adoption. He shall inform the Minister of any changes in the composition of the executive organ of the Federation, under the same conditions;
 - b) The administrative documents of FECAFOOT and accounting records concerning subsidies granted by the State shall be presented as is, at the request of the Minister in charge of sports, to any public servant assigned to FECAFOOT;
 - c) The moral review and financial report shall be forwarded each year to the Minister in charge of sports ;
 - d) The Minister in charge of sports shall have the right to be informed, at his request, of the functioning of establishments set up by the Federation.
- 2) FECAFOOT shall refrain from any acts or conduct that are contrary to the interests of Cameroon and might tarnish its image.

Article 3 : Goals

The goals of FECAFOOT shall be to:

- a) improve the game of football constantly and promote and regulate it throughout Cameroon, taking into account fair-play and its universal educative, cultural and humanitarian impact and this, through youth and development programmes;
- b) organize every type of Association Football competition at national level, while also clearly defining, where necessary, the competencies transferred to its different constituent leagues;
- c) draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
- d) safeguard the common interests of its members ;
- e) respect the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and FECAFOOT as well as the Laws of the Game in order to pre-empt any violation thereof and ensure that the latter are respected by its members;
- f) prevent all methods and practices which might jeopardize the integrity of matches or competitions or give rise to abuses in the sport of Association Football;
- g) control and supervise all friendly matches of all types of Association Football played throughout the national territory;
- h) manage international sports relations in all types of Association Football;
- i) host competitions at international and other levels;
- j) ensure the participation of clubs representing Cameroon in international competitions, in accordance with the Sports Charter and separate instruments;
- k) form and manage national teams representing Cameroon in international competitions;
- l) represent all clubs and national teams affiliated to it in world, continental or regional football organizations;
- m) maintain relations of collaboration with public authorities and with national and international sports bodies.

Article 4 : Neutrality and non-discrimination

1) FECAFOOT shall be neutral from a political and denominational stand point.

2) Any discrimination against a country, individual or group of persons on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason shall be strictly forbidden and punishable by suspension or exclusion.

Article 5 : Promoting friendly relations

- 1) FECAFOOT shall promote friendly relations between its members, clubs, officials and players as well as with the civil society, for humanitarian ends.
- 2) Any person or organization involved in football shall be bound to comply with the Statutes, regulations and principles of fair-play as well as the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.
- 3) FECAFOOT shall provide all necessary institutional means to resolve any dispute that might arise between its members, clubs, official and players.

Article 6 : Players

- 1) The status of players and the modalities for their transfer shall be regulated by FECAFOOT, pursuant to the applicable FIFA Regulation governing the status and transfer of players, as well as the regulation governing the transfer of players between clubs affiliated to FECAFOOT, which shall be specified in a separate instrument.
- 2) Players must be registered, pursuant to the General Regulations of FECAFOOT.

Article 7 : Laws of the Game

The Laws of the Game of Association Football shall apply to FECAFOOT and all its members. Only IFAB has authority to lay down or alter them.

Article 8 : Conduct of organs and officials

In carrying out their activities, the organs and officials of FECAFOOT shall respect the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and Code of Ethics of FIFA, CAF and FECAFOOT.

Article 9 : Official languages

- 1) The official languages of FECAFOOT shall be English and French. Official documents and instruments shall be drafted in these two languages.
- 2) In case of differences in the interpretation of instruments drafted in these two languages, the French version shall be considered authoritative.

CHAPTER II: MEMBERSHIP

Article 10 : Admission, suspension and expulsion

- 1) The General Assembly shall decide on the admission, suspension and expulsion of members.
- 2) Admission may be granted only if the candidate fulfils all the conditions laid down by FECAFOOT.

3) Membership shall end through resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership shall not divest a member of its financial obligations towards FECAFOOT or other members. It shall extinguish all rights in regards to FECAFOOT.

Article 11: Admission

1) The members of FECAFOOT shall be:

- a) clubs ;
- b) decentralized leagues (of the region/province, division, sub-division and district) ;
- c) professional associations. The Federation shall recognize only one association per profession;
- d) honorary members whose candidacy is approved by the General Assembly.

2) Membership shall be granted by the General Assembly.

3) Any individual or corporate entity, except for decentralized leagues, wishing to become member of FECAFOOT shall submit a written application to the FECAFOOT Secretary-General. The application must be submitted along with:

- a) a copy of the candidate's legally valid statutes and regulations;
- b) a declaration by which it not only accepts to submit, under all circumstances, to the Statutes, regulations and decisions of FECAFOOT, FIFA and CAF but also guarantees that its own members, clubs, officials and players shall also conform thereto;
- c) a declaration by which it agrees to conform to the Laws of the Game in force;
- d) a declaration by which it recognizes the FECAFOOT Court of Arbitration and the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) at Lausanne, as specified in these Statutes;
- e) a declaration by which it recognizes that it is situated in the territory of FECAFOOT ;
- f) a declaration by which it undertakes to organize all official home matches on the territory of FECAFOOT ;
- g) a declaration stipulating that its legal composition guarantees its ability to take decisions independently of any external entity;
- h) a list of its officials, specifying those who are authorized to sign legally binding agreements with third parties;
- i) a declaration by which it undertakes to organize friendly matches or participate therein only if it has received the prior agreement of FECAFOOT;
- j) a copy of the minutes of the last General Assembly or the constituent Assembly ;
- k) A certified copy of the legal approval issued by the competent administrative authorities, pursuant to the laws and regulations in force.

Article 12: Request and procedure of application

- 1) The admission procedure shall be governed by a special regulation, approved by the Executive Committee of FECAFOOT.
- 2) The Executive Committee shall recommend to the General Assembly to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may defend his application before the General Assembly.
- 3) Once admitted, the new member shall acquire the rights and obligations arising from its membership. From that moment, its delegates shall have the right to vote and to stand for election.

Article 13: Rights of members

- 1) Members of FECAFOOT shall have the following rights:
 - a) to take part in the General Assembly of FECAFOOT, to know its agenda beforehand, to be convened thereto within the stipulated time limit and to exercise the right to vote therein;
 - b) to make proposals on matters featuring on the agenda of the General Assembly;
 - c) to be informed of the affairs of FECAFOOT via the official organ of FECAFOOT ;
 - d) to take part in sports competitions and/or activities placed under the auspices of FECAFOOT ;
 - e) to exercise all other rights attached to the FECAFOOT Statutes and regulations.
- 2) The exercise of these rights shall be subject to the provisos arising from the other provisions of these Statutes and the applicable regulations.

Article 14: Obligations of members

- 1) Members of FECAFOOT shall have the following obligations:
 - a) to always respect the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and FECAFOOT and have them respected by its own members ;
 - b) to ensure the election of its decision-making organs;
 - c) to take part in competitions (where applicable) and other sports activities placed under the auspices of FECAFOOT ;
 - d) to pay its contributions;
 - e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB and have them respected by its own members by way of a statutory provision;

- f) to adopt a statutory clause providing that all arbitration disputes between itself or one of his members and concerning the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and FECAFOOT or their respective leagues composing them shall be of the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration of FIFA, CAF and FECAFOOT and that recourse to an ordinary court of law shall be prohibited;
- g) to communicate to FECAFOOT any amendment of its statutes and regulations, and the list of its officials or persons who are authorized, by their signature, to commit him legally towards third parties;
- h) to maintain only relations of a sports nature with unrecognized entities or with members who have been suspended or expelled;
- i) to, by way of a statutory provision, comply with the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship as an expression of fair-play;
- j) to observe, throughout the period of its affiliation, the mandatory conditions stipulated in article 11(3);
- k) to keep a register of members which must be updated regularly;
- l) to fully comply with the other obligations arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, CAF and FECAFOOT.

2) Any breach of obligations by a member shall be punished as provided for in these Statutes.

Article 15: Suspension

- 1) The General Assembly shall be competent to suspend a member. However, the Executive Committee may suspend a member that seriously and repeatedly violates its obligations as a member with immediate effect. If such suspension is not lifted in the meantime by the Executive Committee, it shall remain valid until the holding of the next General Assembly.
- 2) A suspension shall be confirmed during the next General Assembly by an absolute majority (50+1) of votes cast, failing which it shall be automatically lifted.
- 3) Suspension shall lead to automatic loss of the prerogatives of member. It shall be forbidden for other members to entertain sporting contact with a suspended member. The Homologation and Disciplinary Committee may impose other sanctions.
- 4) Members who do not participate in the sporting activities of FECAFOOT for one season shall be suspended from voting in the General Assembly and their representatives may not be elected nor convened for as long as they have not fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

Article 16: Expulsion

- 1) The General Assembly may expel any member:
 - a) who fails to fulfill its financial obligations towards FECAFOOT;

b) who seriously violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, CAF and FECAFOOT;

2) Any expulsion shall require the presence of an absolute majority (50%+1) of General Assembly members with voting rights and a three-quarter majority of valid votes cast.

Article 17: Resignation

1) A member may resign from FECAFOOT with effect from the end of the ongoing financial year. He shall notify his resignation by registered mail addressed to the Secretary-General at least 6 (six) months to the end of the financial year.

2) Resignation is not valid until the member has fulfilled all its financial obligations towards FECAFOOT and other members of FECAFOOT.

Article 18: Status of clubs, decentralized leagues and professional corps

1) Clubs, individuals, decentralized leagues or professional associations affiliated to FECAFOOT shall be subordinate to and recognized by FECAFOOT. The competencies, rights and obligations of these clubs and groups are specified in the Status of members. Their statutes and regulations must be approved by the Executive Committee of FECAFOOT.

2) Every association, league and club affiliated to FECAFOOT must be capable of taking all decisions regarding its affiliation, independently of any external body. This obligation shall apply regardless of its corporate structure.

3) In all cases, no individual or corporate body (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one club or group whenever the integrity of any match or competition might be jeopardized.

CHAPTER III: HONORARY PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBER

Article 19: Honorary president and honorary member

1) The General Assembly may confer the title of honorary president or honorary member to personalities for meritorious service to football.

2) Their nomination shall be proposed by the Executive Committee.

4) The honorary president or honorary member may participate in the General Assembly on an advisory capacity.

CHAPTER IV: ORGANIZATION

Section 1: GENERALITIES

Article 20: FECAFOOT Bodies

1) The bodies of FECAFOOT shall be:

- the General Assembly ;

- the Executive Committee ;
- the judicial bodies (Homologation and Disciplinary Committee, National Conflicts Resolution Board, Appeals Committee).

2) On the other hand, standing committees and specialized committees shall not have the status of body of FECAFOOT, but shall have a purely consultative role.

3) The Executive Committee may create ad hoc committees, as and when necessary.

4) Standing Committees, specialized committees and ad hoc committees shall be chaired by an Executive Committee member designated by the President of FECAFOOT. However, the President of FECAFOOT may designate any person to these duties by virtue of their competence.

5) The organization and operating rules of the committees referred to in (2) above shall be laid down by the implementing instruments of the FECAFOOT Statutes.

Section 2: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 21: Definition and composition

1) The General Assembly shall be the body to which all members of FECAFOOT are duly convened. It shall be the highest and law-making body of FECAFOOT. Only a duly convened Assembly shall have powers of decision.

2) The General Assembly may be ordinary or extraordinary.

3) The President shall chair the General Assembly.

4) The President may invite observers to the General Assembly but without the right to vote or to participate in debates.

5) The honorary president or honorary member may participate in the General Assembly on a consultative capacity.

Article 22: Delegates and votes

1) The General Assembly shall be composed as follows:

- a) the President of FECAFOOT ;
- b) 1 (one) delegate per par club of the Elite One championship;
- c) 1 (one) delegate per par club of the Elite Two championship;
- d) 2 (two) delegates of the Specialized Committee for Youth Football;
- e) 2 (two) delegates of the Specialized Committee for Women's Football;
- f) 2 (two) delegates of the Specialized Committee for Corporate and Veteran Football;
- g) 2 (two) delegates of the Futsal Committee;
- h) 2 (two) delegates of the Beach Soccer Committee;
- i) 9 (nine) delegates per provincial league, including one representative of clubs in the provincial championship;
- j) 2 (two) delegates of the Players' Association;

- k) 2 (two) delegates of the Association of Coaches;
- l) 2 (two) delegates of the Association of Referees;
- m) 5 (five) delegates designated by the Minister in charge of sports.

2) Only members affiliated and/or approved by FECAFOOT may designate delegates to the General Assembly.

3) Delegates must belong to the member association or league they represent and be elected by the competent body of such member association or league. They must be able to produce evidence thereof on request.

4) Delegates designated by the Minister in charge of sports shall be electors but shall not be eligible to the Executive Committee.

5) The representatives of National Second Division Championship clubs shall be elected by the General Assembly of the respective provincial leagues delegating them to the FECAFOOT General Assembly.

6) The representatives of professional associations shall be elected by their General Assembly delegating them to the FECAFOOT General Assembly.

7) Provincial leagues, specialized Committees not having organized competitions during the sports season, and professional associations not having held their general assembly shall forfeit their right to vote on matters tabled before the FECAFOOT General Assembly.

8) The outgoing President of FECAFOOT shall be *ex officio* member of the elective General Assembly.

9) Outgoing Executive Committee members shall be eligible by the elective General Assembly, but shall not be electors in this respect.

10) Each delegate of the same category of Member shall have the same number of votes at the General Assembly. They may not vote by correspondence.

11) Executive Committee members and the Secretary-General may participate in the General Assembly as observers.

Article 23 : Designation of delegates

1) Members shall, through election, designate the official delegates duly authorized to represent them.

2) Members shall forward to the FECAFOOT General Secretariat the list of their delegates within 48 (forty-eight) hours of the holding of their elective assembly.

3) Members shall issue their delegates a mandate justifying their powers.

4) The under-mentioned persons may not be delegated to the General Assembly :

- a) persons punished with forfeitures under section 30 of the Penal Code;

- b) persons against whom the sanction of ineligibility is meted under article 89 hereunder.

Article 24: Competencies

The General Assembly shall be competent to:

- a) adopt or amend the Statutes and its implementing regulations;
- b) designate 5 (five) members to cross-check and approve the minutes of the last session;
- c) elect the President and Members of the Executive Committee through the list system;
- d) appoint two returning officers;
- e) approve the annual accounts;
- f) approve the budget;
- g) approve the activity report of the President;
- h) designate independent auditors, on the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- i) fix the rate of contributions ;
- j) confer the title of honorary president or honorary member on any person who particularly strove or distinguished himself within FECAFOOT for the cause of football, at the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- k) admit, suspend or expel a member;
- l) cancel the mandate of one or several members of a FECAFOOT body, except for the judicial organs;
- m) dissolve FECAFOOT;
- n) take decisions at the request of a member, pursuant to the provisions of these Statutes;
- o) ratify the resignation of a member.

Article 25: Quorum of the General Assembly

- 1) The General Assembly shall validly take decisions only when the absolute majority (50% + 1) of voting members is present or represented.
- 2) If the quorum is not met, a second session of the General Assembly shall automatically take place 24 hours after the first one, with the same agenda.
- 3) No quorum shall be required for this second session unless an item on the agenda concerns the amendment of the FECAFOOT Statutes, the election of the President of the

Executive Committee, the dismissal of one or more members of a FECAFOOT body, the expulsion of a member of FECAFOOT or the dissolution of FECAFOOT.

5) Delegates to the General Assembly may be legally represented by other delegates to the same Assembly, to whom a written and legalized proxy shall be issued. No delegate shall be the bearer of more than one proxy.

Article 26. Decisions of the General Assembly

1) Decisions shall be taken on a simple majority of valid votes cast. The number of valid votes cast shall decide the majority. Absentee ballots, blank ballots or other forms of abstention shall not be taken into account while calculating the majority.

2) All other decisions subject to voting shall be taken by show of hands or with the aid of electronic voting instruments. If voting by show of hands does not return the required majority in favour of a proposal, voting shall be by roll-call, members being called in alphabetical order.

Article 27. : Elections

1) Elections shall be by secret ballot.

2) To elect a person or list, an absolute majority (50% + 1) of valid votes cast in the first round shall be necessary. For the second and possibly subsequent rounds, a simple majority of valid votes shall be sufficient.

3) In the second round, if there are more than two candidates or more than two lists, the candidate or list having obtained the least number of votes shall be eliminated progressively until there are only two contesting candidates or lists.

4) In case of a tie between the two final candidates or lists, the election shall continue until the tie is broken between the two candidates or lists.

Article 28. Ordinary General Assembly

1) The ordinary General Assembly shall be convened by the President of FECAFOOT once every year within two months after the end of the sports season, in the town in which the headquarters of FECAFOOT is found.

2) Convening notices to an ordinary General Assembly, drafted in English or French, must be dispatched to all members at least 15 (fifteen) days before the said session.

3) Convening notices shall be sent along with the agenda, the President's activity report, the annual statement of accounts, the independent auditors' report and other possible working papers.

Article 29. Agenda of the ordinary General Assembly

1) The Secretary-General shall prepare the agenda based on the proposals of the Executive Committee and members. The proposals a member intends to table before the General

Assembly shall be sent to the General Secretariat at least 7 days before the date of the General Assembly, briefly stating the rationale thereof.

- 2) The agenda of the General Assembly shall comprise the following items:
- a) Cross-checking to ensure that the convening and composition of the General Assembly are in conformity with the Statutes of FECAFOOT;
 - b) Approval of the agenda;
 - c) Short speech by the President;
 - d) Appointment of 5 (five) members to cross-check the minutes;
 - e) Designation of 2 (two) returning officers;
 - f) Suspension or expulsion of a member (if any);
 - g) Approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly;
 - h) Activity report of the President;
 - i) Presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet, and the profit and loss account;
 - j) Approval of the annual statement of accounts;
 - k) Approval of the budget;
 - l) Admission of new members (if any);
 - m) Vote concerning proposals to amend the Statutes and its implementing regulations (if any);
 - n) Designation of an independent accounts audit body (if need be), on the proposal of the Executive Committee;
 - o) Removal from office of a person or an organ (if need be);
 - q) Election of the President and members of the Executive Committee (if need be);
 - r) Any other matter proposed by the members or Executive Committee of FECAFOOT.

3) The admission of a member shall be the last item on the agenda of the General assembly. On the other hand, the suspension or expulsion of a member shall be the first item on the agenda of the General Assembly.

4) The agenda of an ordinary General Assembly may be modified at the request of two-thirds of voting members present at the General Assembly.

5) The General Assembly shall not pass decision on any matter not featuring on the agenda.

Article 30: Extraordinary General Assembly

- 1) The General Assembly may be convened in extraordinary session whenever necessary:
- at the initiative of the President of FECAFOOT ;
 - at the request of 2/3 of the members of the Executive Committee;
 - at the request of half of delegates to the General Assembly.

2) Items to be discussed must be stated in the said request. The extraordinary General Assembly must take place within a period of one month after receipt of the request. Otherwise, the members who requested the convening of the General Assembly may convene it themselves. As a last resort, they may refer the matter to FIFA.

3) The notices convening an extraordinary session of the General Assembly, drafted in English or French, must be sent to all members at least 8 (eight) days before the said session.

4) The venue, date and agenda must be communicated to members at least 8 (eight) days before the date of the extraordinary General Assembly.

5) When the extraordinary General Assembly is convened at the initiative of the Executive Committee, the latter shall determine the agenda. When convened at the request of members, the agenda must contain the matters raised by such members.

6) No modification may be made to the agenda of an extraordinary General Assembly.

Article 31 : Amendment to the Statutes, Regulations governing the application of the Statutes

1) The General Assembly shall be competent to amend the Statutes and the Regulations governing its application.

2) Any proposal for an amendment to the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the General Secretariat by a member of the General Assembly or Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a member may be examined only if it is in writing and is supported by at least two-thirds of the other members.

3) For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes to be adopted, the absolute majority (half of the members plus one member) of the members eligible to vote must be present.

4) To be adopted, a proposal for an amendment to the Statutes must receive the votes of at least 2/3 of members present and eligible to vote.

5) Proposals to amend the Regulations governing the application of the Statutes, submitted in writing with a short explanation, may be sent to the General Secretariat by members of the General Assembly or Executive Committee.

6) A proposal for an amendment of the Regulations governing the application of the Statutes shall be adopted if a simple majority of members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

Article 32 : Conduct of the General Assembly

1) The General Assembly shall be chaired by the President of the Executive Committee.

2) In case of the unavoidable absence of the President, it shall be chaired by the first vice president. If the latter is also absent, it shall be chaired by the oldest member of the Executive Committee.

3) The proceedings of the General Assembly that elects the President of FECAFOOT and the other members of the Executive Committee shall be coordinated by a chairman elected by the members of the Assembly.

4) The Assembly shall designate two returning officers.

5) Delegates may express themselves in English or French.

6) The session chairman shall be responsible for the proper conduct of the General Assembly. In that capacity, he may restrict the speaking time of delegates.

7) The General Assembly may set up Committees to reflect on specific issues. Such Committees shall draft a report of their deliberations which shall be adopted or amended by resolution in plenary session.

8) The minutes of the Assembly shall be drafted by the Secretary-General who shall forward them to members within 30 (thirty) days after the Assembly session.

Article 33 : Acts of the General Assembly

1) The General Assembly shall act through:

- Amendment of instruments;
- Decisions and resolutions ;
- Recommendations and exhortations.

2) The General Assembly may not act on any item that does not feature on the agenda.

3) Members shall exercise their right to vote through the intermediary of their official delegates. Each delegate shall have one vote.

4) Except otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, the General Assembly shall act on the basis of an absolute majority (50% + 1) of valid votes cast by voting official delegates. Decisions regarding a change of FECAFOOT headquarters, the modification of the agenda of an ordinary General Assembly, the dismissal of a member of an organ, the bestowal of the title of honorary president or honorary member, the expulsion of a member of FECAFOOT or the dissolution of FECAFOOT shall be taken on a of 2/3 (two-thirds) majority of the valid votes cast by delegates eligible to vote.

5) Invalid ballots, blank ballots and any other form of abstention shall not be taken into account during counting of valid votes cast.

6) Decisions shall be taken by show of hand, unless half of the official voting delegates request for a secret ballot. Elections shall be by secret ballot.

7) In case of a tie, the session chairman shall have the casting vote.

8) Voting by correspondence shall not be allowed.

9) Decisions of the Assembly shall come into force on the day following their adoption, unless the Assembly sets another date or delegates such powers to the Executive Committee.

10) Duly numbered and dated acts must bear the signature of the session chairman and the Secretary-General; otherwise, they shall be null and void.

Section 3 : EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 34 : Composition

1) The Executive Committee shall be composed of:

- 1 President,
- 1 first vice-president,
- 5 vice-presidents,
- and members.

2) It shall be composed of 33 (thirty-three) members, as follows:

- The President of FECAFOOT ;
- 5 members representing the Centre Provincial League;
- 4 members representing the Littoral Provincial League;
- 4 members representing the West Provincial League;
- 3 members representing the North Provincial League;
- 2 members representing the Adamawa Provincial League;
- 2 members representing the Far-North Provincial League;
- 2 members representing the North-West Provincial League;
- 2 members representing the South-West Provincial League;
- 2 members representing the East Provincial League;
- 2 members representing the South Provincial League;
- 1 member representing the association of players;
- 1 member representing the association of coaches;
- 1 member representing the association of referees;
- 1 member representing the association of the National First Division Championship clubs.

3) Members of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to an entertainment allowance, the amount of which is fixed in the financial regulations.

Article 35 : General eligibility requirements

1) Any candidate to the office of President or member of the Executive Committee of FECAFOOT must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be a Cameroonian citizen enjoying all his civic rights;
- Must be aged at least 30 and at most 65 years;
- Must reside in Cameroon ;
- Must not have been convicted for financial improprieties either as member of FECAFOOT or as officer responsible for the financial transactions of FECAFOOT;
- Must not have been refused a clean bill of health for his management as representative of an executive body, member of FECAFOOT or an executive body of FECAFOOT.

2) A member of the Executive Committee may not concurrently be member of a judicial body of FECAFOOT.

3) An out-going member of the Executive Committee may, in this capacity, feature on the list of one of the candidates to the office of President of FECAFOOT during the election

immediately after his term of office. He shall, however, not vote. In the event that he is not elected and if he did not have the status delegate of a member, he shall cease to be part of the General Assembly.

Article 36 : Separate eligibility requirements for the President

- 1) Any Cameroonian of either sex who has reached the age of majority may be candidate to the office of president of FECAFOOT provided he is a member of the General Assembly or is sponsored by:
 - At least 5 (five) clubs of the National First Division Championship and at least 5 (five) clubs of the National Second Division Championship, all members of the General Assembly;
 - or 20 (twenty) delegates representing at least 6 (six) provinces.
- 2) The outgoing President shall be authorized to stand for election, exclusively as incumbent, at the election immediately after the expiry of his term.

Article 37 : Election of the President and members of the Executive Committee

- 1) The President and other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the General Assembly using the list system (29 members).
- 2) The list referred to in 1) above shall be drawn up by a candidate heading the list. It must include representatives of all provinces based on the quota mentioned in article 34 above. It shall comprise at least 23 (twenty-three) delegates of the General Assembly and at most 6 (six) non members of the Assembly.
- 3) The non members of the General Assembly referred to in 2) above shall be chosen by the candidate in view of their involvement in the management of football or by virtue of their skills deemed useful in the management of football.
- 4) The candidate heading the victorious list shall be declared President of FECAFOOT and President of the Executive Committee.
- 5) Associations of players, coaches, referees and National First Division Championship clubs shall directly elect their representative to the Executive Committee from among their delegates to the General Assembly, corresponding to 1 (one) member per association.

Article 38: Term of office

The terms of office of the President and members shall be four years, renewable.

Article 39 : Vacancy in the office of President

- 1) a) When the office of President becomes vacant for a case of *force majeure* duly ascertained by the Executive Committee, the first vice-president shall deputize until the holding of an extraordinary General Assembly;

b) If the first vice-president is absent or unavailable, the longest serving vice-president available shall deputize;

c) The extraordinary General Assembly referred to in 1(a) above shall be convened by the Executive Committee member who is the acting president within 60 (sixty) days of being commissioned in office, for the purpose of electing the new President of FECAFOOT, subject to the provisions of paragraph 2) below;

d) On expiry of the period referred to in 1(c) above, one-third of the members of the Executive Committee shall convene the Assembly referred to 1(a) above;

e) If not convened by the Executive Committee, one-third of Delegates of the General Assembly shall convene the Assembly referred to 1(a) above;

f) Candidates to the office of President must be members of the Executive Committee;

g) The new President of FECAFOOT shall be elected by the uninominal system on one round of balloting for the remainder of the current term.

2) In case the office of President falls vacant owing to a case of *force majeure* duly ascertained by the Executive Committee less than 12 (twelve) months before the end of the term of office, the first vice-president shall deputize for the remainder of the ongoing term.

Article 40 : Vacancy in the post of ordinary members

1) When an Executive Committee member dies, resigns or is expelled during his term of office, the General Assembly shall designate another member, on the proposal of the President of FECAFOOT to complete the concerned member's term.

2) The elected member shall come directly from the electoral college of the member concerned.

Article 41 : Candidatures

1) Candidatures must be sent to the FECAFOOT General Secretariat at least 30 (thirty) days before the General Assembly.

2) The official list of candidates must be sent to the members of FECAFOOT along with the agenda of the General Assembly in which the Executive Committee is to be elected.

Article 42 : Sessions

1) The Executive Committee shall meet in ordinary session at least three times a year on the convening of the President of FECAFOOT at the following periods:

- before the start of the sports season ;
- mid-way into the national first division championship;
- at the end of the sports season.

2) If so requested by at least 2/3 (two-thirds) of members, the President shall be bound to convene a session within 15 (fifteen) days following their request. If he fails to do so, the members having requested the convening may themselves convene it.

3) Members of the Executive Committee must submit to the General Secretariat any points that they wish to be included in the agenda, at least 15 (fifteen) days in advance. The agenda must reach members of the Executive Committee at least eight days before the session.

4) The Secretary-General shall attend Executive Committee meetings in an advisory capacity.

5) Sessions of the Executive Committee shall not be public. However, the President of the Executive Committee may invite third parties to attend. The invited third parties shall not be eligible to vote and may only take the floor with the consent of the said Committee.

6) Minutes of Executive Committee meetings shall be drafted by the Secretary-General who shall forward them to the members thereof within 30 (thirty) days following the session.

Article 43 : Powers of the Executive Committee

1) The Executive Committee:

a) shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the General Assembly or are not reserved for other bodies, pursuant to the law and these Statutes;

b) shall prepare and convene ordinary and extraordinary General Assembly meetings of FECAFOOT;

c) may set up new ad hoc Committees on the President's proposal, if necessary at any time;

d) shall lay down specific regulations governing ad hoc and standing Committees, upon the proposal of the President;

e) shall appoint or dismiss the Secretary-General on the proposal of the President. The Secretary-General shall attend the meetings of each Committee *ex officio*,

f) shall propose to the General Assembly the independent body responsible for the audit of accounts;

g) shall decide the place and dates of all the competitions of FECAFOOT and the number of teams taking part before the start of competitions;

h) shall create, organize and cancel official competitions at national level;

i) shall propose to the General Assembly persons on the title of honorary president or honorary member of FECAFOOT might be conferred;

j) shall approve the organization chart, status and internal regulations of the personnel of FECAFOOT, on the proposal of the Secretary General;

k) shall ensure that the Statutes are enforced;

l) may provisionally revoke any person or body or suspend a member of FECAFOOT until the next General Assembly;

m) shall recruit, appoint and dismiss senior staff on the proposal of the President;

n) may delegate tasks within its sphere of responsibility and resort to other bodies.

2) The Executive Committee shall examine any decisions taken by the elected or appointed institutions of all bodies or leagues set up within the Federation, possibly to improve them when they are contrary to the higher interests of football or the Statutes and regulations. Its decisions to improve those of the abovementioned bodies and leagues must be substantiated. It must report this to the next session of the General Assembly.

Article 44: Decisions

1) The Executive Committee may only validly deliberate in the presence of two-thirds of its members.

2) The Executive Committee shall take decisions on a simple majority of its members present. In case of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote. Voting by correspondence shall not be allowed.

3) Members of the Executive Committee shall not participate in discussions and take decisions when there is a risk or the likelihood of conflict of interest with a member of FECAFOOT.

4) Records shall be kept of all decisions taken.

5) Decisions of the Executive Committee shall take effect immediately, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

Article 45 : Dismissal of a person or body

1) The Executive Committee may include on the General Assembly agenda the dismissal of a person or body. It may also provisionally dismiss a person or body until the holding of the next General Assembly.

2) The proposal for dismissal must be substantiated. It shall be sent to members of FECAFOOT along with the agenda of the General Assembly.

3) The accused person or body shall have the right to defend himself before the General Assembly.

4) The General Assembly or Executive Committee shall decide by secret ballot or by show of hands. The decision shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of valid votes cast.

5) The dismissed person or body shall immediately leave its functions, even temporarily.

Section 4 : PRESIDENT

Article 46 : President

- 1) The President shall legally represent FECAFOOT.
- 2) He shall primarily be responsible for:
 - a) implementing the decisions of the General Assembly and Executive Committee through the Secretary General;
 - b) checking the actual functioning of the bodies of FECAFOOT, so that they achieve the goals set in these Statutes;
 - c) supervising the activities of the General Secretariat;
 - d) relations between FECAFOOT and its members, FIFA, CAF, political institutions and other organizations;
 - e) appointing the chairmen and members of standing, ad hoc and specialized Committees;
 - f) appointing the chairmen and members of judicial organs;
 - g) recruiting the national technical director, trainers of national teams, other members of the technical supervisory staff and members of the medical staff;
 - h) recruiting and dismissing the non managerial staff of FECAFOOT;
 - i) opening the bank accounts of FECAFOOT ;
- 3) Only the President may propose the appointment or dismissal of the Secretary-General.
- 4) The President shall chair all sessions of the General Assembly, Executive Committee, Emergency Committee and other Committees in which he is appointed chairman.
- 5) The President shall vote in the Executive Committee and in case of a tie, he shall have the casting vote.
- 6) If the President is absent or unavailable, his duties shall devolve on the first Vice President who shall receive delegation of powers for that purpose in areas determined by the President. If the first Vice President is absent, such duties shall devolve on the longest serving of the other vice presidents.
- 7) The other powers of the President shall be specified by the Regulations governing the application of the Statutes.

Article 47 : Representation and signature

- 1) The President of the Executive Committee shall represent FECAFOOT in all civil and legal matters.
- 2) The President of the Executive Committee shall commit FECAFOOT through his signature.
- 3) The President may delegate powers and/or signature to the first Vice President in specific areas falling within his competence.
- 4) The President may, on a one-time basis, delegate a vice-president to discharge a specific duty.

CHAPTER VIII: EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Article 48: Emergency Committee

1) The Emergency Committee shall deal with all matters requiring settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. It shall be composed of 10 members as follows:

- the President of FECAFOOT ;
- the first Vice-President ;
- the Vice-Presidents ;
- members.

2) The members of the Emergency Committee shall be elected by the Executive Committee for a term of 4 (four) years, on the proposal of the President of FECAFOOT.

3) Emergency Committee meetings shall be convened by the President. If a meeting cannot be convened within an appropriate period of time, decisions may be passed through other means of communication. Such decisions shall have immediate legal effect. The President shall immediately notify the Executive Committee of the decisions passed by the Emergency Committee.

4) All decisions taken by the Emergency Committee shall be ratified by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

5) If the President is unable to attend a meeting, he shall be represented by the first vice-president, and failing which, the longest-serving vice-president available shall deputize.

Section 5: STANDING COMMITTEES AND SPECIALIZED COMMITTEES

I- ENUMERATION

Article 49 : Standing Committees

The standing Committees of FECAFOOT are:

- a) the Finance Committee;
- b) the Internal Audit Committee;
- c) the National Championships Organizing Committee;
- d) the Cup of Cameroon Organizing Committee;
- e) the International Competitions Committee;
- f) the Central Referees Committee;
- g) the Legal Affairs Committee;
- h) the Infrastructure and Facilities Committee;
- i) the Sports Medicine Committee;
- j) the Players' Status Committee;
- k) the Ethics and Fair-play Committee;
- l) the Football and Strategic Studies Committee;
- m) the Marketing and Promotion Committee;
- n) the Media Committee;
- o) the Security Committee;
- p) the Committee for supervision of the management of clubs.

Article 50 : Specialized Committees

The specialized Committees are:

- a) the Committee for Women's Football;
- b) the Committee for Youth Football;
- c) the Beach Soccer Committee;
- d) the Futsal Committee;
- e) the Corporate and Veterans Football Committee.

II- DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 51 : Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall advise the Executive Committee on matters dealing with finances and property management. It shall analyze the FECAFOOT budget and annual financial statements prepared by the Secretary General and submit them before the Executive Committee for approval. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice-chairman and 5 (five) members. A representative of the Minister in charge of sports shall be appointed member of the Finance Committee.

Article 52 : Internal Audit Committee

The Internal Audit Committee shall ensure the conformity and reliability of the financial accounting and review the external auditors' reports on behalf of the Executive Committee. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 53 : National Championships Organizing Committee

1) The National Championships Organizing Committee shall design and organize national championships as well as draw up fixtures of the First Division Championship, pursuant to the provisions of these Statutes, the General Regulations and FECAFOOT regulations governing competitions. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

2) It shall meet:

- to make preparations for the launch of the sports season;
- to evaluate the sports season;

Article 54 : Cup of Cameroon Organizing Committee

The Cup of Cameroon Organizing Committee shall organize draws for Cup of Cameroon matches as from the 16th finals and make preparations for the Cup of Cameroon final, in conjunction with the Secretary General and the Ministry in charge of sports. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 55 : International Competitions Committee

The International Competitions Committee shall liaise with the Ministry in charge of sports and the Secretary-General of FECAFOOT in the organization of international competitions. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 56: Central Referees Committee

The Central Referees Committee shall enforce the Laws of the Game. It shall designate referees for competitions organized by FECAFOOT in collaboration with the FECAFOOT administration and manage the training and supervision of referees. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 57 : Legal Affairs Committee

The Legal Affairs Committee shall analyze all legal matters pertaining to football and changes in the FECAFOOT Statutes and regulations and in its membership. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 58 : Infrastructure and Facilities Committee

The Infrastructure and Facilities Committee shall examine all issues dealing with stadiums, fields of play and other sports infrastructure and facilities. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 59 : Sports Medicine Committee

The Sports Medicine Committee shall handle all medical questions related to football. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 60 : Players' Status Committee

1) The Players' Status Committee shall lay down and monitor compliance with the rules of transfer, pursuant to FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. It shall determine the status of players for various FECAFOOT competitions. The Executive Committee may lay down specific regulations on the judicial competence of the Players' Status Committee. The Players' Status Committee shall be composed of a chairman, a vice-chairman and 5 (five) members.

2) Disputes regarding the status of players, and involving the association, its members, players, officials, player's agents and match agents shall be settled by the National Conflicts Resolution Board.

Article 61 : Ethics and Fair-play Committee

The Ethics and Fair-play Committee shall handle all ethical questions in football and shall promote fair-play. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 62 : Football and Strategic Studies Committee

The Football and Strategic Studies Committee shall deal with matters of football, especially its structure, relations between clubs, leagues, members, CAF and FIFA, as well as with the overall strategies and the political, economic and social situation of football. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 63 : Marketing and Promotion Committee

The Marketing and Promotion Committee shall advise the Executive Committee with regard to drafting and implementing contracts between FECAFOOT and its various marketing/promotion partners and analyze marketing and promotion strategies. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 64 : Media Committee

The Media Committee shall be responsible for the working conditions of the media at FECAFOOT events and for collaboration with media groups. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 65 : Security Committee

1) The Security Committee shall:

- ensure the protection of persons and property during football matches;
- ensure conformity of the number of places available;
- forbid entry into the stadium to persons in possession of objects that might be used as projectiles or pyrotechnical articles such as crackers, rockets or fireworks which, when set alight, set off or exploded, may cause serious accidents;
- prohibit the sale within the premises of drinks packaged in materials other than plastic or carton.

2) It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 66: Committee for supervision of the management of clubs

The Committee for supervision of the management of clubs shall be governed by a separate instrument.

III- DUTIES OF SPECIALIZED COMMITTEES

Article 67 : COMMITTEE for Women's Football

The Committee for Women's Football shall organize women's football competitions and deal with all matters pertaining to women's football.

It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 68 : Committee for Youth Football

The Committee for Youth Football shall organize youth football competitions and handle all matters pertaining to under-20 football. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 69 : Beach Soccer Committee

The Beach Soccer Committee shall organize Beach Soccer competitions and handle all matters pertaining to Beach Soccer. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 70 : Futsal Committee

The Futsal Committee shall organize Futsal competitions and handle all matters pertaining to Beach Soccer. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

Article 71 : Corporate and Veterans Football Committee

The Corporate and Veterans Football Committee shall organize corporate and veterans football competitions and handle all matters pertaining to corporate and veterans football. It shall be composed of a chairman, a vice chairman and 5 (five) members.

IV- TERM OF OFFICE AND FUNCTIONING OF SPECIALIZED AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Article 72: Term of office

The chairmen and members of standing and specialized committees shall be appointed by the President of FECAFOOT for a two-year term of office.

Article 73: Functioning

- 1) Each chairman shall set the date of meetings in collaboration with the Secretary-General and ensure that tasks are properly carried out.
- 2) Committees may suggest to the Executive Committee amendments to their operating rules.

V- AD HOC COMMITTEES

Article 74: Ad hoc Committees

If necessary, the Executive Committee may, at the proposal of the FECAFOOT President, set up ad hoc committees for a well-defined purpose and a limited period of time. The President of FECAFOOT must designate a chairman, a vice-chairman and members of the ad hoc committee. Its obligations and duties shall be specified in a specific regulation laid down by the Executive Committee. An ad hoc committee shall report directly to the Executive Committee.

Section 6 : GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article 75 : General Secretariat

The General Secretariat shall carry out all the administrative work of FECAFOOT under the direction of the Secretary General. Its staff shall be bound to comply with the internal Rules and Regulations of FECAFOOT and to discharge assigned duties to the best of their ability.

Article 76 : Secretary General

- 1) The Secretary General shall direct the administration of FECAFOOT.

2) His recruitment shall be based on a private contract and he must possess the required professional qualifications.

3) His duties shall be to:

a) implement decisions passed by the General Assembly and Executive Committee in compliance with the FECAFOOT President's directives;

b) participate in an advisory capacity in the General Assembly and meetings of the Executive Committee, Emergency Committee, standing committees, specialized committees and ad hoc committees;

c) organize the General Assembly as well as meetings of the Executive Committee and different Committees in conjunction with their chairmen;

d) take down minutes of the General Assembly, Executive Committee and Emergency Committee;

e) manage and keep the accounts of FECAFOOT;

f) handle the correspondence of FECAFOOT ;

g) maintain relations with members, Committees, FIFA and CAF ;

h) organize the General Secretariat;

i) propose to the FECAFOOT President the recruitment and dismissal of the non managerial staff of the General Secretariat;

j) administer and manage national competitions;

k) participate in the administration of international competitions in collaboration with the competent bodies;

l) coordinate and supervise the services of the provincial leagues of FECAFOOT ;

m) publish decisions passed by the General Assembly, Executive Committee, judicial bodies, standing committees and specialized Committees.

4) The Secretary-General may be neither a delegate of the General Assembly nor member of a body of FECAFOOT.

Section 7: JUDICIAL BODIES

Article 77 : Judicial Bodies

1) The judicial bodies of FECAFOOT are:

a) the Homologation and Disciplinary Committee;

b) the National Conflicts Resolution Board

b) the Appeals Committee.

2) The responsibilities and function of the Homologation and Disciplinary Committee and the Appeals Committee shall be stipulated in the FECAFOOT Disciplinary Code which is compliant with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

3) The National Conflicts Resolution Board shall be governed by a separate instrument.

4) The members of judicial bodies may not be members of other bodies of FECAFOOT.

Article 78 : Homologation and Disciplinary Committee

1) The Homologation and Disciplinary Committee shall be composed of a chairman, a vice-chairman, a rapporteur and 4 (four) members. Its chairman and rapporteur must have legal training.

2) The functioning of the Committee shall be specified in the FECAFOOT Disciplinary Code. The Committee shall meet only when at least 3 (three) members are present.

3) The Homologation and Disciplinary Committee may punish club officials, trainers, officials, players as well as match agents as provided for under these Statutes and the FECAFOOT Disciplinary Code.

4) These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the General Assembly and Executive Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of members.

Article 79: Appeals COMMITTEE

1) The Appeals COMMITTEE shall be composed of a chairman, a vice-chairman, a rapporteur and 4 (four) members. Its chairman and rapporteur must have legal training.

2) The functioning of the COMMITTEE shall be governed by the FECAFOOT Disciplinary Code. The COMMITTEE shall meet only when at least 3 (three) members are present.

3) The Appeals COMMITTEE shall hear appeals against decisions of the Homologation and Disciplinary COMMITTEE.

Article 80: Disciplinary measures

Disciplinary measures shall be as follows:

1) for individuals and corporate entities:

- a) a warning;
- b) a reprimand;
- c) a fine;
- d) the return of awards.

2) for individuals:

- a) a caution;
- b) an expulsion ;
- c) a match suspension;
- d) a ban from the dressing room and/or substitutes' bench;
- e) a ban from entering a stadium;
- f) a ban on taking part in any football-related activities.

3) for corporate entities:

- 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) cancellation of the result of a match;
- f) expulsion ;
- g) forfeiture;
- h) deduction of points ;
- i) loss of match ;
- j) relegation to a lower division.

Article 81: Arbitration

FECAFOOT may set up a court of arbitration to try all internal national disputes between FECAFOOT, its members, players, officials, players' agents and match agents which do not fall within the jurisdiction of its judicial organs. The Executive Committee shall enact a specific regulation to lay down the composition, jurisdiction and rules of procedure of the court of arbitration.

Article 82 : Competence

1) FECAFOOT, its members, players, officials as well as players' agents and match agents shall not take any dispute before the ordinary courts of law unless otherwise explicitly stated in the Statutes and regulations of FIFA. Disputes shall be subject to the jurisdiction of FECAFOOT, CAF or FIFA.

2) FECAFOOT shall have jurisdiction for internal national disputes, that is, disputes between the different parties of FECAFOOT, whereas FIFA shall have jurisdiction for international disputes, that is, disputes arising between parties belonging to different Federations and/or confederations.

Article 83: Court of Arbitration for Sports

1) As per articles 59 and 60 of the FIFA Statutes, the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) at Lausanne, Switzerland, shall hear appeals against a final and binding decision. However, CAS shall not hear appeals lodged in respect of violations of the Laws of the Game, suspension from four or less matches or a decision of an independent and duly constituted court of arbitration of an association or confederation.

2) FECAFOOT shall fully comply with and have its members, players, officials, players' agents and match agents comply with all final decisions passed by a FIFA body or CAS.

CHAPTER V: FINANCE

Article 84: Financial year

1) The financial year of FECAFOOT shall run for one year, beginning from 1 January and ending on 31 December.

2) FECAFOOT revenue and expenditure in one year must be balanced. Reserves must be set aside for the realization of the main activities of FECAFOOT.

3) The Secretary General shall be responsible for preparing the annual consolidated statements of accounts of FECAFOOT and its leagues as on 31 December.

Article 85: Revenue

FECAFOOT revenue shall come mainly from:

- a) annual contributions of members;
- b) income from the sale of rights FECAFOOT holds exclusively or in partnership;
- c) fines imposed by the competent bodies;

d) other subsidies and earnings, in accordance with the objectives of FECAFOOT.

Article 86 : Expenditure

FECAFOOT shall take charge of:

- a) expenditure listed in the budget ;
- b) other expenditure approved by the General Assembly and those the Executive Committee is authorized to make within its competence;
- c) other expenses incurred in pursuance of the goals of FECAFOOT.

Article 87 : Funds of FECAFOOT

1) Funds and share certificates shall be deposited in a bank account opened in the name of FECAFOOT.

2) These funds and share certificates shall, regardless of the amount, be withdrawn by two signatories: the FECAFOOT President and Secretary General. In case of the duly ascertained absence of the Secretary-General, the chairman of the Finance COMMITTEE shall co-sign with the FECAFOOT President.

3) Fund needed for the running of FECAFOOT shall be deposited in a special account managed by the Secretary General. Withdrawals of whatever amount shall be subject to two signatures: the Secretary-General and the officer in charge of finance at the FECAFOOT General Secretariat.

4) The property of FECAFOOT shall be considered as corporate property. In case of embezzlement, legal action shall be taken against the managers for serious breach of trust.

Article 88 : Subsidies

FECAFOOT shall be accountable to the State for funds received from it.

Article 89 : Accounting principles

FECAFOOT accounts shall be kept in accordance with the OHADA accounting plan.

Article 90 : Legal action

1) Any member of a FECAFOOT body or a standing, specialized or ad hoc COMMITTEE responsible for a financial transaction at FECAFOOT and found guilty of misappropriation of funds shall immediately be suspended by the Executive Committee until the holding of the next General Assembly, without prejudice to criminal action that may be taken against him by the Executive Committee.

2) Executive Committee members found guilty of misappropriation of funds or to whom a clean bill of health for his management is denied or are suspended by a General Assembly shall be ineligible.

3) These provisions shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to provincial, divisional, sub-divisional and district leagues.

Article 91: Independent audit body

The independent audit body, designated by the General Assembly, shall audit the accounts approved by the Finance COMMITTEE according to accounting principles and present a report to the General Assembly. It shall be appointed for a two-year term, renewable.

Article 92 : Annual contribution

1) The annual contribution shall fall due on 31 March. The contributions of new members for the ongoing year must be paid within 30 days after the end of the General Assembly at which they were admitted.

2) The amount of annual contribution shall be fixed every year by the General Assembly, on the proposal of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for all members and may not exceed CFAF 200,000.

Article 93 : Set-off

FECAFOOT may set off its claims towards its members with their assets.

Article 94 : Percentage

FECAFOOT may request that its members pay it a fee for any match.

CHAPTER VI: COMPETITIONS AND FEES FOR COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

Article 95 : Competitions

1) FECAFOOT shall organize and coordinate official competitions taking place on its territory. It shall organize the following competitions:

- championships ;
- cups;
- tournaments and other types of events.

2) The Executive Committee of FECAFOOT may delegate powers to its leagues to organize their own competitions. Competitions organized by subordinate leagues shall not interfere with those set up by FECAFOOT. Otherwise, the latter shall be given priority. The Executive Committee may lay down a specific regulation in this regard.

Article 96 : Licences

The licences system governing the participation of clubs in competitions shall be stipulated in the FECAFOOT General Regulations.

Article 97: Rights

1) FECAFOOT and its members shall be the original owners of all the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdictions, without any

restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights shall include, among others, every kind of proprietary rights, registration fees, audiovisual recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights as well as intellectual property rights as emblems and rights arising under copyright law.

2) The President of FECAFOOT shall, after the opinion of the Executive Committee, determine how these rights are to be managed and to what extent they shall be utilized and lay down special provisions for that end. He shall be free to decide whether FECAFOOT will manage these rights exclusively or jointly with a third party, or will delegate management thereof to third-parties.

Article 98: Authorization

FECAFOOT and its members shall alone be competent to authorize the broadcast of matches and events coming under their jurisdiction on any media, especially audio-visual, and this, without any restrictions as to place, content, date, technique and law.

CHAPTER VII: INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

Article 99: International Matches and Competitions

1) The organization of international matches and competitions involving national teams and clubs shall fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of FIFA. No match or competition can take place without the prior authorization of the Executive Committee of FIFA. Furthermore, the authorization of the confederation concerned may be requested, pursuant to the regulations of FIFA

2) FECAFOOT shall respect the international fixtures of FIFA.

Article 100 : Contacts

Any match or sports contact of FECAFOOT with a non-member association of FIFA or with the interim members of confederations or their clubs shall require the agreement of FIFA.

Article 101 : Authorization

Any association, league or club affiliated to FECAFOOT may not take part in competitions organized by another Federation on the latter's territory without the authorization of FECAFOOT, the Federation concerned and FIFA.

Article 102 : Management of national teams

1) FECAFOOT shall manage national teams.

2) In discharging this duty, FECAFOOT may receive the support of the State. The modalities of such support shall be specified in a convention.

CHAPTER VIII: MISCELLANEOUS, TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 103 : Incompatibilities

1) The following functions shall be incompatible with those of President of the Executive Committee or Secretary General of FECAFOOT:

- manager of a football club, holder of a valid licence;
- football player, holder of a valid licence ;
- football referee or trainer, holder of a valid licence.

2) The duty of President of FECAFOOT or any of its subordinate leagues shall be incompatible with those of member of an executive body of another national sports federation, because of the likelihood of conflict of interests.

3) Members of the Executive Committee may not concurrently serve on the bureau of a provincial, divisional or sub-divisional league.

4) The member who falls under an incompatibility shall have thirty days to resign from his previous post; otherwise, he shall be disqualified by the Executive Committee.

Article 104 : Unforeseen contingencies and *force majeure*

The Executive Committee shall have the final decision on any matters not provided for in these Statutes and in cases of *force majeure*.

Article 105 : Dissolution

1) The decision to dissolve FECAFOOT shall require the two-thirds majority of all FECAFOOT members, at a General Assembly convened specially for that purpose.

2) If FECAFOOT is dissolved, its assets shall be transferred to national sports organizations. This institution shall manage such assets as a “reasonable administrator” until the reconstruction of FECAFOOT.

However, the last General Assembly may allocate it to other uses on a two-thirds majority vote.

Article 106 : Entry into force

1) These Statutes were adopted during the session of the General Assembly of FECAFOOT of 10 March 2007.

2) The provisions of articles 22, 34(2), 35, 36 and 37 of these Statutes shall come into force on 15 April 2009.

3) The other provisions of these Statutes shall come into force on 10 March 2007.

Prince NDOKI MUKETE,
RAPPORTEUR

IYA MOHAMMED,
PRESIDENT