AFGHANISTAN
FOOTBALL
FEDERATION

STATUTES OF

AFGHANISTAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION

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CONTENTS

Article		Page
DEFINITIONS		3
I. GENERAL PROVISIONS		4
1-10		
II. MEMBERSHIP		8
11-21		
III. HONORARY PRESIDENT AND HONORARY MEMBER		14
22		
IV. ORGANISATION		15
23-54		
A. Congress	16	
B.Executive Committee	23	
C.President	26	
D.General secretariat	27	
E.Standing committees	28	
F.Club licensing bodies	31	
V. INDEPENDENT COMMITTEES		28
55-60		
VI. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES		31
61		
VII. ARBITRATION		32
62-63		
VIII. FINANCE		33
64-71		
IX. COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS		35
72-75		
X. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS		36
76-78		
XI. FINAL PROVISIONS		37
79-83		
ANNEXE A – QUESTIONNAIRE FOR INTEGRITY CHECKS		

DEFINITIONS

The terms given below denote the following:

AFF: Afghanistan Football Federation

AFC: Asian Football Confederation

CAFA: Central Asian Football Association

FIFA: Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

Association: 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.

League: an organisation that is subordinate to an association.

Provincial association: an organisation that is subordinate to an association.

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

Club: 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.

Official: 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, a league or a club as well as any other persons obliged to comply with the FIFA Statutes (except players and intermediaries).

Player: a football player registered by AFF.

Congress: the supreme and legislative body of AFF.

Executive Committee: The executive body of AFF.

Member: a legal person that has been admitted into membership of AFF by the Congress.

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

Association football: the game controlled by FIFA and organised by FIFA, the confederations and/or the associations in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

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

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

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

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

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

NB: Terms referring to natural persons include both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice versa.

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1

Legal form, headquarters and trademarks

1 AFF is a private organisation of an associative nature established in compliance with the legislation of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. It is formed for an unlimited period.

2 The headquarters of AFF are in Old Makroyan, Kabul Afghanistan

3 AFF is a member of FIFA and of AFC.

4 The flag of AFF is:





5 The emblem of AFF is:



6 The logo of AFF is:



7 The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with:



ARTICLE 2

Objectives

The objectives of AFF are:

a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Afghanistan 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 AFC and of AFF 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 Afghanistan;

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 Afghanistan, in accordance with the relevant Statutes and regulations of FIFA and of AFC

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

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

b. Harassment of any nature (including sexual harassment) is forbidden.

c. The AFF shall attribute particular attention to the protection of minors throughout all types of Football and all related activities.

ARTICLE 4

Non-discrimination and equality

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 AFF is neutral in matters of politics and religion.

2 The Members of AFF shall also be neutral in matters of politics and religion and shall ensure that their own members remain neutral.

3 AFF shall remain independent and shall avoid any form of undue political interference. AFF 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 AFF shall promote friendly relations between its Members, clubs, officials and players and in society for humanitarian objectives.

2 AFF 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 AFF.

ARTICLE 8 Laws of the Game

1 AFF 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 AFF 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 AFF 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 AFF shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of AFC and of AFF in their activities.

2 Every person and organisation involved in the game of association football, futsal and beach soccer in the territory of AFF is obliged to observe the Statutes and regulations of FIFA, of AFC, of AFF 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 AFF shall be Dari, Pashtu and English. Official documents and texts shall be written in these language(s). In the event of any divergence in the interpretation of texts in different languages, the text written in English shall be authoritative.

2 The official language(s) at the Congress shall be Dari, Pashtu and English.

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 AFF 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 AFF or other Members of AFF, but leads to the loss of all rights in relation to AFF.

4 AFF 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

The Members of AFF are:

a) Provincial Associations

b) Premiere League Football Clubs

c) Amateur League Football Clubs

d) Players (as natural persons)

e) Coaches (as natural persons)

f) Referees (as natural persons)

ARTICLE 13 Admission

1 Any legal person wishing to become a Member of AFF shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of AFF.

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 AFF, FIFA and AFC and ensure that these are also respected, if applicable, by its own members, clubs, officials and players;

c) 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 AFF) any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of AFF only to CAS, which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Islamic Republic of Afghanistan;

e) a declaration that any dispute of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or of AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC;

f) a declaration that it recognises the jurisdiction of CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC, and its decisions;

g) a declaration that it is located and registered in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on the territory of AFF;

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;

k) 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 AFF;

m) if applicable, a declaration that it will play all official home matches on the territory of Afghanistan;

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 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 AFF 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;

c) to nominate candidates for elections and/or appointment to the relevant bodies of AFF;

d) to be informed of the affairs of AFF through its official bodies;

e) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and/or other sporting activities organised by AFF;

f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of AFF;

2 The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in the Statutes and applicable regulations of AFF.

ARTICLE 16 Members' obligations

1 The Members of AFF have the following obligations:

a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC and AFF 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 (4) years

c) to take part in competitions (if applicable) and other sporting activities organised by AFF;

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;

f) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute of national dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of AFF may only be referred in the last instance (i.e. after exhaustion of all internal channels within AFF) to CAS which shall definitely settle the dispute to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in force in Kabul;

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 AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS, as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC;

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;

i) to ensure that their bodies are either elected or appointed according to a procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election or appointment;

j) to communicate to AFF 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;

l) 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, AFC and AFF.

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 AFF 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 AFF for two (2) 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 and repeatedly violates the Statutes, regulations directives or decisions of FIFA, AFC and AFF.

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 the financial year. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than three months before the end of the financial year.

2 The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards AFF 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 AFF.

4 Decisions passed by bodies that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with par. 2 above shall not be recognised by AFF.

ARTICLE 21 Status of clubs, leagues, regional associations and other groups of clubs

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

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 AFF. AFF 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.

IV. ORGANISATION

ARTICLE 22 Bodies

1 The Congress is the supreme and legislative body of the AFF.

2 The Executive Committee is the executive body of the AFF.

3 The General Secretariat is the operational and administrative body of the AFF.

4 The 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 AFF.

6 The independent committees fulfil their functions in accordance with these Statutes and applicable regulations. The independent committees are the electoral committees, the judicial bodies and the Audit and Compliance Officer.

7 The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee.

8 The bodies of the AFF shall be either elected or appointed by AFF 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 of the AFF 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.).

ARTICLE 23 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 AFF 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.

ARTICLE 24 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 AFF. 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 25 Delegates and votes

1 The Congress is composed of [53] delegates. The number of delegates is allocated as follows.

a) For each of the thirty- one (31) Provincial Associations. One delegate with one vote. Total of 31 (thirty-one) delegates with one vote each.

b) For each of the top eight (8) clubs of the Premiere League in the season preceding the Congress, one delegate with one vote;

c) For each of the top two (2) clubs of the Amateur League in the season preceding the congress one delegate with one vote;

d) First captain (if unavailable to participate, the second captain) of men´s senior national football, futsal and beach soccer and women´s senior national football and futsal as representatives of players. Total of 5 (five) delegates with one vote each.

e) The head coaches of men´s senior national football, futsal and beach soccer and women´s senior national football and futsal. Total of 6 (six) delegates with one vote each.

f) A delegate representing referees who are active in refereeing in Afghanistan and are on top of the ranking of active international referees with one vote.

2 Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request. Employees of the Provincial Associations must not be delegates representing members of art. 12 inc. b, c, d, e and f.

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 26 Areas of authority

The Congress has the following areas of authority:

a) adopting or amending these Statutes, the Standing Orders of the Congress and the electoral code;

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) ratifying the chairpersons, the deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Officer, 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 AFF 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) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;

l) dismissing a member of a body of AFF;

m) dissolving AFF;

n) 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 27 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 24 hours with the same agenda.

3 A quorum is not required for the second meeting of the Congress unless an item on the agenda proposes the amendment of these Statutes, the election of the President, vice-presidents or members of the Executive Committee, the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons or members of the independent committees, the dismissal of a member of a body, the suspension or expulsion of a Member or the dissolution of AFF.

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.

ARTICLE 28 Decisions

1 A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count, 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 29 Elections

1 Elections shall be conducted by position and by secret ballot.

2 Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the Electoral Code of AFF and shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee.

3 The election for the positions within the Executive Committee shall take place by position. At least one position shall be reserved for a female candidate. Every candidate in the election for the positions within the Executive Committee shall be proposed by at least 4 Members. Each Member shall support one candidate for each given position only. If a Member supports more than one candidate, none of its expressions of support shall be considered valid.

4 A majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is necessary for the election of the President and vice-president(s) of AFF. If there are more than two candidates for the office of President or for any of the offices of vice-presidents, whoever obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated after each ballot until only two candidates are left. In the event that during the first ballot, more than two candidates receive the highest number of votes (due to tied votes), all of them shall take part in the second ballot. In the second ballot the candidate who receives the highest number of votes is elected as President.

5 For the election of the other members of the Executive Committee, the candidate(s) who receive(s) the most votes in respect of the free seat(s) shall be elected.

6 For the election of the chairpersons, deputy chairpersons and members of the independent committees (i.e. Audit and Compliance Officer, 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 ten (10) delegates representing the Members, a separate vote for a specific candidate shall take place.

7 In case of a tied vote in any elections 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 a new elective Congress convenes to proceed with new elections according to these Statutes.

8 Blank ballot papers, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any way 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 least thirty (30) days before the relevant elective Congress. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of AFF at least seven (7) 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 Officer, electoral committees and judicial bodies) must be passed to the Members of AFF at least seven (7) days before the Congress at which the members in question shall be elected.

ARTICLE 30 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 least forty-five (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 thirty (30) days before the date of the Congress.

4 The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least seven (7) 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 31 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 the independent and external auditor´s report;

j) approval of the financial audited statements;

k) approval of the budget;

l) votes on proposals for amendments to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress (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 AFF (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 Officer, 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 that three quarter of the delegates representing the Members present at the Congress and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

ARTICLE 32 Extraordinary Congress

1 The Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary Congress at any time.

2 The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Congress if two thirds of the delegates representing the Members of AFF 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 forty-five (45) 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 AFF 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 least twenty (20) 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 must not be altered.

ARTICLE 33 Amendments to the statutes and standing Orders of the Congress

1 The Congress is responsible for amending these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress.

2 Any proposals for an amendment to these Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress 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 eight (8) delegates representing the Members.

3 For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes and to the Standing Orders of the Congress 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.

ARTICLE 34
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 35
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 36
Composition

1 The Executive Committee shall consist of seven (9) members as follows, at least one of which shall be a woman:

a) President;

b) Vice-president;

c) Seven(7) members: four from among the Provincial Associations, 1 from among the Women ´s football and 2 from among the Coaches, Players and referees.

2 The President, the vice-president(s) and the other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Congress in accordance with art. 29 of these Statutes. They shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Audit and Compliance Officer, prior to their election or re-election in accordance with the guidelines of the electoral code.

3 The mandate of the President, vice-presidents and 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.

4 President and members of the Executive Committee apart from the provisions in paragraph 8, Article 22 above, must be a citizen of Afghanistan and they must have been in an active role in Football at least two (2) years out of the last five (5) years

5 A member of the Executive Committee may not at the same time be a member of an independent committee and may not be appointed/elected as a delegate representing a Member at the Congress.

6 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.

7 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.

8 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 37 Meetings

1 The Executive Committee shall meet at least four times a year.

2 The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If three (3) of the Executive Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it so that the meeting is held within 14 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 three 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 seven days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least three 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. If the members of the Executive Committee cannot meet physically, decisions may be passed through other modern means of written communication (e.g. emails or messaging apps).

ARTICLE 38 Powers

The Executive Committee shall have the following powers:

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/dismissing 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 AFF

j) appointing the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff

k) approving and issuing the Internal Organisation Regulations of AFF.

l) ensuring that these Statutes are applied and adopting the executive arrangements required for their applications.

m) dismissing a member of a body or suspending a Member of AFF provisionally until the next Congress.

n) delegating tasks under its authority to other bodies.

o) appointing observers who may take part in the Congress without the right to debate or to vote

ARTICLE 39 Decisions

1 The Executive Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless 5 of its members are present.

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.

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 decides otherwise.

C. PRESIDENT

ARTICLE 40 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 AFF and its Members, FIFA, AFC, 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 and the Executive Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairperson.

4 The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee.

5 If the President is absent or unavailable, the longest-serving vice-president available shall deputise.

6 If the position of the President becomes vacant in the sense of art. 37 par. 8 of these Statutes, the longest-serving 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 AFF.

ARTICLE 41 Representation and signature

The President represents AFF generally. The President is entitled to sign only together with the General Secretary. The Executive Committee shall adopt special provisions in the Internal Organisation Regulations of AFF regarding the joint signature of office holders.

D. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

ARTICLE 42 General secretariat

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

ARTICLE 43
General Secretary

1 The General Secretary is the chief executive officer of AFF.

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:

a) 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;

c) 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 and AFC, 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 AFF.

5 The General Secretary shall not be a Congress delegate or a member of any other body.

E. STANDING COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 44
Standing committees

1 The standing committees are:

a) Organising Committee for AFF Competitions and Women´s football;

b) Technical, Development and Grassroots Committee;

c) Referees Committee

2 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 AFF 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.

3 Each chairperson shall represent his standing committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of AFF approved by the Executive Committee. Each Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless a majority of its members are present. Each Committee shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%).

4 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.

5 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.

6 Each standing committee may propose to the Executive Committee amendments to the relevant provisions of the Internal Organisation Regulations of AFF that concern its committee.

ARTICLE 45 Organising Committee for AFF Competitions and Women´s Football

The Organising Committee for AFF Competitions and Women´s Football shall organise AFF's competitions of association football, futsal and beach soccer at any level within AFF in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to AFF's competitions. It shall also be in charge of organise AFF'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 46 Technical, Development and Grassroots Committee

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 AFF's development programmes, devising and proposing appropriate strategies, monitoring these strategies and analysing the support and programmes provided to the Members of AFF and providing advice to the Executive Committee on development matters in general. Also, shall deal with all matter relating to amateur and grassroots within AFF and its Members. It shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and 3 members.

ARTICLE 47
Referees Committee

The Referees Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by AFF, organise refereeing matters within AFF 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, at least 2 of whom shall be ex-referees.

ARTICLE 48
Ad hoc committees

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 49
Club licensing bodies

1 The Executive Committee of AFF will set up regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of Clubs in the competitions of AFF, in compliance with the minimum requirements of the club licensing system as set up by the AFC 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 appeal body may only be appealed before an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

V. INDEPENDENT COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 50 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 AFF and in accordance with its Statutes and regulations.

ARTICLE 51 Audit and Compliance Officer

1 The Audit and Compliance Officer 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. He/she 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 AFF.

2 The Audit and Compliance Officer shall advise, assist and oversee the Executive Committee in monitoring AFF's financial and compliance matters, set up compliance mechanisms and monitor compliance with the relevant regulations of AFF. He/she shall also supervise the general secretariat in financial and compliance issues. The Audit and Compliance Officer 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 Officer shall furthermore monitor AFF'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 Officer shall, with the assistance of the general secretariat, implement a compliance programme within AFF.

3 Details on the Audit and Compliance Officer's responsibilities, its internal cooperation and other procedural matters are stipulated in the Internal Organisation Regulations of AFF.

4 The Audit and Compliance Officer shall be elected by the Congress for a period of four (4) years and may only be relieved of their duties by the Congress. He/she shall not belong to any other body of AFF and he/she shall undergo an integrity check, to be conducted by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, prior to their election or re-election and shall fulfil the independence requirements contained in par. 5 below.

5 The Audit and Compliance Officer as well as any of his/her immediate family member may not exercise or have exercised during the four years preceding their initial terms any executive function at AFF, one of AFF'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 AFF, one of AFF'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 Audit and Compliance Officer 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 52 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 AFF. The electoral committees consist of the Electoral Committee (the first instance body) and the AFF Appeal Committee (the second instance body).

2 The composition and function of the electoral committees shall be governed by the Electoral Code of AFF.

ARTICLE 53 Judicial bodies

1 The judicial bodies are:

a) the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee;

b) the Appeal 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 All members of the judicial bodies (including the chairpersons and deputy chairpersons) shall undergo an integrity check prior to their election or re-election which shall be conducted by the Audit and Compliance Officer.

4 The term of office of all members shall be four (4) 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.

5 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 AFF.

6 The chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the judicial bodies shall fulfil the independence criteria that are stipulated in art. 52 par. 5 of these Statutes.

7 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.

8 Each Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless a majority of its members are present. Each Committee shall reach decisions by a majority (more than 50%).

9 The responsibilities and function of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of AFF.

ARTICLE 54 Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

1 The function of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of AFF.

2 The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of AFF 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 AFF, which shall be in accordance with the principles laid down in the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Ethics Code.

ARTICLE 55 Appeal Committee

1 The function of the Appeal Committee shall be governed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of AFF.

2 The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee as well as the Electoral Committee that are not declared final by the relevant regulations of AFF.

3 Decisions pronounced by the Appeal Committee may only be referred to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal in accordance with the provisions in these Statutes.

VI. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

ARTICLE 56 Disciplinary measures

The disciplinary measures are primarily:

1 for natural and legal persons:

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

2 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.

3 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;
- **j)** replaying a match.

VII. ARBITRATION

ARTICLE 57 Arbitration

1 Disputes within AFF or disputes affecting Members of AFF, 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 AFF) to CAS, which shall settle the dispute definitively to the exclusion of any ordinary court, unless expressly prohibited by the legislation in Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

2 Disputes of international dimension arising from or related to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA or AFC may only be submitted in the last instance to CAS as specified in the Statutes of FIFA and of AFC.

ARTICLE 58 Jurisdiction

1 AFF shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging or affiliated to AFF.

2 FIFA and/or AFC 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 AFF shall ensure its full compliance and that of all those subject to its jurisdiction with any final decision passed by a FIFA body, a AFC body, the arbitration tribunal recognised by AFF or CAS.

VIII. FINANCE

ARTICLE 59 Financial period

1 The financial period of AFF shall be one year and shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December 31 December.

2 The revenue and expenses of AFF shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. AFF's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.

3 The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of AFF with its subsidiaries as at 31 December

ARTICLE 60 Revenue

The revenue of AFF comprises:

a) Members' annual subscriptions.

b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which AFF is entitled;

c) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;

d) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by AFF;

e) donations;

f) any other revenue related to football activities;

g) funding from FIFA and from AFC.

ARTICLE 61 Expenses

AFF 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 AFF.

ARTICLE 62 Independent and external auditors

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 2 years): Their mandate may be renewed.

ARTICLE 63 Membership subscriptions

1 Membership subscriptions are due on January. 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 2 years on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for every Member.

ARTICLE 64 Settlement

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

ARTICLE 65 Levies

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

IX. COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

ARTICLE 66 Competitions

1 AFF shall organise and coordinate the following official competitions held within its territory:

a) Premier League

b) Champions League

2 The Executive Committee may delegate to AFF'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 AFF. Competitions organised by AFF shall take priority.

3 The Executive Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

ARTICLE 67 Club licensing

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

ARTICLE 68 Rights

1 AFF 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, audiovisual 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. AFF shall ensure that the sale of such rights is carried out in a transparent manner and in compliance with the Statutes and regulations of AFF as well as mandatory national laws.

ARTICLE 69 Authorisation to distribute

1 AFF 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.

X. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

ARTICLE 70 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 AFF is bound by the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

ARTICLE 71 Contacts

AFF, 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 72 Approval

1 Clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs that are affiliated to AFF may only join another association with the authorisation of AFF, the other association, the respective confederation(s) and FIFA.

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

XI. FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 73 Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure

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 AFC, as well as any applicable mandatory laws.

ARTICLE 74 Publication of corporate documents

AFF shall make available on its official website the following documents and information:

a) Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress;

b) Electoral Code;

c) Disciplinary and Ethics Code;

d) Internal Organisation Regulations;

e) most important/key decisions.

f) its strategy.

g) agenda for Executive Committee and Congress meetings;

h) circular letters.

ARTICLE 75 Dissolution

1 Any decision relating to the dissolution of AFF requires a majority of two thirds of all of the Members of AFF, which must be obtained at a Congress specially convened for the purpose.

2 If AFF is disbanded, the Congress shall choose the recipient for the assets on the basis of a two- thirds majority.

ARTICLE 76 Enforcement

These Statutes were adopted at the Congress in Kabul, Afghanistan on 23- December-2020 and come into force on 23-December-2020 The former Statutes of AFF are hereby repealed.

ARTICLE 77

Transitional provisions

1 Upon the elections of the new AFF Executive Committee in 2021, the Executive Committee shall appoint the members of the Standing Committees as defined under art. 46 to 48 of these Statutes.

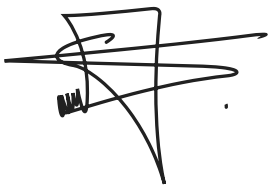
2 Within 12 months upon the elections of the new AFF Executive Committee in 2021, the Congress shall elect the relevant members of the independent committees as defined under art. 52 to 56 of the Statutes that are not already in office. Within this same period, the Congress shall also dismiss the relevant members of the independent committees that do not comply with the independence criteria mentioned under art. 52 par. 5 of these Statutes and elect the relevant number of members to fill the positions.

Kabul. Afghanistan – 23-12/2020



Mohammad Yosuf KARGAR

President



Fazil Mohammad Shahab

General Secretary

ANNEXE A – QUESTIONNAIRE FOR INTEGRITY CHECKS

Part 1: General provisions

1 The integrity checks with regard to candidates for, and holders of, official positions within AFF that are subject to such checks ("candidates or holders") shall be conducted by the relevant body in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes and this annexe.

2 Candidates or holders are obliged to comply with the screening and self-disclosure process as outlined in parts 2 and 3 below. Prior to the screening process, every candidate or holder shall give his written consent to said process through a form provided by the relevant body conducting the integrity check. If such written consent is not provided, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.

3 Candidates or holders shall act in good faith at all times and shall fully collaborate to establish the relevant facts upon reasonable notice. If the candidate or holder concerned does not cooperate with the body competent to conduct the integrity check, the candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check.

4 The candidate or holder shall be deemed not to have passed the integrity check, if he:

a) has been subject to criminal convictions or disciplinary sanctions by a state court, in particular if the offence in question was a substantive issue and not a minor infraction or procedural misconduct;

b) has been found guilty and/or sentenced by the FIFA Ethics Committee or any other sporting body with a sanction that would seriously put into question the discharge of the office concerned.

5 Subject to the relevant provisions regarding disclosure and forwarding of the information and related data obtained in the context of integrity checks in accordance with this annexe, all such information and related data must be treated as strictly confidential by the body conducting the integrity check concerned.

Part 2: Screening process

1 At the beginning of the screening process, every candidate or holder shall undergo an identification check ("ID check"). In this context, the candidate or holder shall submit a valid copy of his passport to the body in charge of performing the integrity check. The ID check shall include verification/identification of the following elements:

a) name(s) and surname(s);

b) address of residence;

c) date and place of birth;

d) nationality/nationalities.

2 Every candidate or holder shall complete the questionnaire contained in part 3 below.

3 The body in charge of performing the integrity check may conduct independent research and/or investigations in order to obtain further relevant information on a particular candidate or holder, which may include information on intermediaries and related parties, mandates, potential conflicts of interest and significant participations as well as civil and criminal proceedings/investigations.

Part 3: Questionnaire

First name(s):	
Surname(s):	
Address of residence:	
Date and place of birth:	
Nationality/nationalities:	
Profession:	

1 Have you previously been convicted by a final decision of any intentional indictable offence or of any offence corresponding to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

If yes, please specify: No ☐ Yes ☐

2 Has a sports governing body ever imposed any disciplinary or similar sanction or measure on you in the past for actions which amount to a violation of the rules of conduct set out in part II section 5 of the FIFA Code of Ethics?

If yes, please specify: No ☐ Yes ☐

3 Are you the subject of any pending civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings or investigations?

If yes, please specify: No ☐ Yes ☐

4 I am fully aware that I am subject to the provisions of the Disciplinary and Ethics Code of AFF and to the provisions of the Statutes and other regulations of AFF that may address integrity issues, and I fully comply with such provisions.

5 I currently hold the following positions in football:

6 The following facts and circumstances may give rise to potential conflicts of interest regarding me (cf. in particular art. 23 par. 9 of these Statutes):

7 Remarks and observations which may be of potential relevance in the context of the integrity check:

8 I am fully aware and agree that this questionnaire is made available to the members of the appropriate body of AFF.

9 I am fully aware and confirm that I must notify the body conducting the integrity check of any relevant facts and circumstances arising after the integrity check has been completed.

10 I am fully aware and confirm that I am obliged to collaborate fully to establish the relevant facts with regard to the integrity check to which I am subject. In particular, I will comply with requests for any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by me. In addition, I will comply with the procurement and provision of documents, information or any other material of any nature not held by me but which I am entitled to obtain.

11 I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may also request information on possible sanctions (questions 1 and 2 above) directly from FIFA or the relevant confederation as well as from other institutions such as the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, or the International Olympic Committee. In this regard, I hereby release the relevant institutions from any obligation of confidentiality relating to the information concerned.

12 I am fully aware and confirm that the body conducting the integrity check may collect further information on me in accordance with part 2 par. 3 of this annexe.

_____ _____

(Date) **(Signature)**