



GHANA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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Our Ref:

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Dear Club Owners, RFAs & CEOs,

RE: MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY IN THE WAKE OF CORONA VIRUS

It would be recalled that on April 02, 2020, I sent you a letter with the heading: MESSAGE OF SOLIDAIRITY IN THE WAKE OF CORONA VIRUS.

In the letter, I stated among other things, challenges brought upon us by the Corona Virus pandemic and our engagement with the Government of Ghana for a stimulus package and also our continuous engagement with CAF and FIFA for our share of the FIFA COVID-19 Emergency Fund to alleviate some of the hardship on our industry.

A little over a week ago, I came back to you with an update on seven (7) important areas, including an update on the FIFA COVID-19 Emergency Fund.

I updated you that the General Secretary and his hardworking staff have been working closely with the FIFA Team by providing all the needed information (financial and non-financial) which were required of the GFA to the world governing body.

Today, the good news is that, the FIFA Council has unanimously approved the COVID-19 Emergency Fund which was designed by the FIFA administration in close cooperation with representatives of Member Association and the Confederations.

The FIFA Council yesterday approve the following financial support:

➤ **Grants:** a universal solidarity grant of USD 1 million will be made available to all member associations, and an additional grant of USD 500,000 will be allocated specifically to women's football. In addition, each confederation will receive a grant of USD 2 million.

➤ **Loans:** member associations will be able to apply for interest-free loans amounting to up to 35% of their audited annual revenues. In the interest of solidarity, a minimum loan of USD 500,000 will be available and a maximum of USD 5 million. In addition, each confederation will have access to a loan of up to USD 4 million.

Both grants and loans can be directed by member associations to the wider football community in their respective territories, including clubs, players, leagues, or others that have been affected.

➤ **Governance model:** to ensure effective oversight of the plan, there will be strict controls on the use of funds, audit requirements, as well as clear loan repayment conditions. A FIFA COVID-19 Relief Plan steering committee will also be established to supervise the administration of the scheme.

Olli Rehn, the Deputy Chairman of the FIFA Governance Committee, has been appointed to lead this committee. He is also the Governor of the Bank of Finland, a member of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank and a former Vice-President of the European Commission.

As a next step, the principles of the plan will be consolidated in a set of regulations to be put forward to the Bureau of the FIFA Council.

I want to assure all stakeholders that the Executive Council will immediately take steps to ensure that GFA reap optimum benefits from this opportunity for the development of our game.

Once again, I would like to thank all club owners, administrators, footballers, coaches, referees, the fans, and all stakeholders involved in our sport for your patience in this difficult time.

Together we will win this battle. Long live Ghana Football.

#BringBackTheLove #IgnitingPassionCreatingWealthForAll

Kurt Edwin Simeon-Okraku
(President)