

Statement of Mr Mohamed Bin Hammam

in the

Ethics Proceedings regarding the accusation of alleged infringements to the FIFA regulations

Requests for Relief

1. The FIFA Ethics Committee shall declare the accusations of alleged infringements of the FIFA regulations by Mr Bin Hammam as unfounded.
 2. The FIFA Ethics Committee shall issue a public media release on the finding that Mr Bin Hammam has not violated any FIFA regulations. Any finding of the Ethics Committee shall be notified to Mr Bin Hammam at least one hour in advance of any written or oral communication to the public.
 3. Mr Bin Hammam shall be granted an award for costs.
 4. Mr Bin Hammam reserves the right to submit witness statements and to present witnesses at the Hearing of the Ethic Committee who confirm that no cash payments were offered at the extraordinary meeting of the CFU on 10 – 11 May 2011.
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1. Mr Mohamed Bin Hammam strictly denies the allegations as formulated by Mr John P. Collins and submitted by Mr Chuck Blazer to the FIFA Secretary General dated 22 May 2011.
 2. It is true that Mr Bin Hammam addressed the representatives of the Caribbean Football Union ("CFU") at an extraordinary meeting in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, which took place on 10 – 11 May, 2011. It is also true that Mr Bin Hammam paid for the travelling and accommodation expenses of the delegates and the administrative costs of the meeting. In contrast, Mr Bin Hamman underlines that the allegations that he directly or indirectly financed any cash payments to the delegates or officials of CFU members are completely false.
 3. It is obvious that the allegations have been submitted to discredit Mr Bin Hammam as a candidate for the upcoming elections to the FIFA presidency. Mr Bin Hammam expects the FIFA Ethics Committee to see through that paltry and phony manoeuvre and to restore Mr Bin Hammam's honour and reputation as a person of integrity to pave the ground for a fair presidential election procedure.
 4. It is a well known fact and has never been hidden by Mr Bin Hammam that he asked the CFU for an opportunity to present his candidacy to the representatives of the member associations of the CFU. Such meeting was arranged and took place on 10 -11 May 2011 in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, i.e. the hometown of the CFU.
 5. Mr Bin Hammam initially intended to attend also the CONCACAF-Congress which was held on 1 to 3 May 2011 in Miami, USA. That is why he applied for a visa at the beginning of April 2011. On 30 April and 1 May 2011, Mr Bin Hammam attended the CONMEBOL Congress in Asuncion, Paraguay. At this time, the visa

for entering the USA had still not arrived. Only on 1 May 2011 in the afternoon, he received a phone call from the U.S. embassy in Paraguay offering help in the visa matter. However, at that time, Mr Bin Hammam had already changed his plans and decided not to change them again but to see the delegates of the CFU at an extraordinary meeting. No inferences which are disadvantageous for Mr Bin Hammam may be drawn from this choice.

6. Since this was an extraordinary meeting of the CFU, Mr Bin Hammam found it correct and insisted to pay the travelling and accommodation expenses of the delegates as well as the overall costs of the conference.
7. For this purpose, Mr Bin Hammam transferred the estimated costs of USD 360,000 to the CFU prior to the meeting in Trinidad.
8. Exhibit 3 of the submission of Mr Blazer contains the invitation and the event schedule of this extraordinary meeting. Mr Bin Hammam was given a timeslot of two hours between 10 AM and noon for his presentation. He also attended the luncheon but left Port of Spain in the evening of the same day.
9. As the schedule of the extraordinary meeting demonstrates, the extraordinary meeting continued after Mr Bin Hammam's presentation. However, Mr Bin Hammam left the meeting on 10 May 2011 and has no knowledge of its further course.
10. In particular, Mr Bin Hammam has no knowledge about any cash payments which were allegedly offered or made on 10 May 2011 or any time thereafter.
11. Mr Bin Hammam strictly denies the allegation that any cash payments made by the CFU to representatives of the CFU Member Associations were made with his consent or knowledge.
12. Mr Bin Hammam runs for the presidency of FIFA for the upcoming term. When he entered the election campaign he expected a fair and correct democratic contest between eligible candidates and competitors. His goal was and still is to convince the delegates of his ideas how the FIFA should be governed and what role the associations should play in the future. He was and still is convinced that the trust of the delegates must be won by arguments. That is why he travelled to all the local meetings of the associations and delivered his message to the delegates personally. This is not different from the campaign of the incumbent.
13. He always and strictly rejected the idea of "buying votes" either directly or indirectly and he never participated in such practices, either directly or indirectly.
14. The campaign of Mr Bin Hammam is based on the principles of integrity and transparency. He has consistently announced that all efforts must be undertaken to restore the reputation of FIFA, to fight corruption and bribery. It is a negative surprise that this argument is now used against him with the obvious goal preventing him from fulfilling his mission.
15. Having this in mind, Mr Bin Hammam is shocked about, and strictly rejects the outrageous statement in Mr Blazer's submission that soon after Mr Bin Hammam had announced his candidacy for president of FIFA he "began a campaign to buy the votes needed to win the election"¹.

¹ "On March 18, 2011, Mohamed Bin Hammam, president of the Asian Football Confederation and member of the FIFA Executive Committee announced his candidacy for president of FIFA. Soon thereafter, Mr. Bin Hammam began a campaign to buy the votes needed to win the election." (page 4 of the Collins & Collins investigation report, first paragraph of "III. Factual Background")

16. In Mr Blazer's submission, Mr Lunn, Mr Sabir and Mr Blazer refer to statements of Mr Jack Warner according to which the alleged cash payments were notified to the FIFA and Mr Blatter in particular and that they "had no issue with it." That is why Mr Bin Hammam suggested including the incumbent in this ethic proceeding to investigate the accuracy of the statements of Mr Lunn, Mr Sabir and Mr Blazer. He is convinced that the FIFA Ethics Committee will come to the conclusion that such statements as well as the allegations against Mr Bin Hammam himself are unfounded.
17. The allegations refer to the extraordinary meeting in Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago of 10 May 2011. According to his own statement, Mr Blazer was notified about the alleged offers on the same day. However only a few days before the presidential election, he submitted his written report. That timing reveals the real purpose of the allegations, namely to influence the upcoming presidential election by discrediting Mr Bin Hammam and Mr Warner, the first being a candidate and the second being an influential person who has not yet taken a position as to which candidate he would support. This is a blunt abuse of the institution of the FIFA Ethics Committee.
18. Mr Bin Hammam notes that Mr Blazer never contacted him and never confronted him with his allegations but preferred to submit his allegations directly to the FIFA, which demonstrates that the very goal of his move was to influence the presidential election.
19. When reviewing the report, one must also look at the reporter and his credibility. The New York District Court judge found clear words about the credibility of Mr Blazer in her judgment of 7 December 2006 in the matter between Mastercard and Visa:

(para 213): Mr. Blazer's testimony was generally without credibility based on his attitude and demeanor and on his evasive answers on cross-examination.

(para 214): Thus, for that reason and based on his evasive answers and his attitude and demeanor, Mr. Blazer's testimony as to the March 14, 2006 Marketing & TV AG Board meeting is rejected as fabricated.²
20. The FIFA Ethics Committee is well advised to take a critical view on the content of Mr Blazer's statements and on the noble motives of his application to initiate ethics proceedings against Mr Bin Hammam.
21. Mr Bin Hammam was served of the allegations by fax sent to his office in Malaysia. Mr Bin Hammam was already on his way to the FIFA Meetings and congress in Zurich. He learned of the allegations against him only by the media!
22. When the undersigned asked for a copy of the documents, he was told that the power of attorney which was already at FIFA did not cover the proceedings before the Ethics Committee!³ This was obviously an attempt to restrict Mr Bin Hammam's defense rights since (a) the matter is well covered by the power of attorney already submitted to the FIFA since it is based on the events at a meeting which was allegedly held in connection of the presidential election, and (b) also courts accept the word of a qualified lawyer in urgency situations and transmit the file and accept a later power of attorney.

² The quoted paragraphs are attached as Exhibit 2. For the full text of the judgment see the internet page "<http://f11.findlaw.com/news.findlaw.com/hdocs/docs/sports/mastercardfifa120706opn.pdf>".

³ Copy of a letter from the secretary of the FIFA Ethics Committee to the undersigned dated 25 May 2011, Exhibit 3.

23. This manoeuvre has restricted the short response window even more. Mr Bin Hammam therefore explicitly reserves the objection of the violation of due process, especially considering the fact that it took Mr Blazer 14 days to formulate his allegations whereas Mr Bin Hammam must respond within less than 48 hours.
24. Mr Bin Hammam reserves the right to submit further evidence in his favour (including witness statements) and present witnesses at the Hearing (particularly the delegates who attended the extraordinary meeting on 10 and 11 May 2011 in Trinidad) since a time limit of less than 48 hours seriously compromises the preparation of his defence against surprising allegations.

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