

# Statutes of the Mauritius Football Association

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The terms given below denote the following:

**MFA:** Mauritius Football Association

**FIFA:** Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

**Association:** a football Association recognised by and a Member of FIFA.

**Premier League (Mauritius):** An internal organisation of Professional Clubs subordinate to the Association

**National First Division :** Clubs playing at national first division competitions of the Association.

**National Second Division:** Clubs playing at national second division competitions of the Association.

**Regional Football Association:** The Association of Regional Football clubs, subordinate to the MFA.

**Confederation:** a group of Associations recognised by FIFA and belonging to the same continent (or similar geographic area).

**Club:** Member of the MFA (that is itself a Member of FIFA).

**Officials:** all board members, committee members, coaches, referees and attendants as well as other people responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters at FIFA, a Confederation, Association, League or Club.

**Player:** a football player registered with an Association.

**National General Assembly:** the supreme body of the MFA.

**National Managing Committee:** the executive body of the MFA.

**Member:** a legal person that has been admitted into membership of the MFA by the National General Assembly.

**Association Football:** the game controlled by FIFA and organised in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

**IFAB:** the International Football Association Board.

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

**Arbitration Tribunal:** private court of justice acting instead of an Ordinary Court.

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

NB: References to natural persons include both genders. The singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa.

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Article **1** **Name, headquarters, legal form**

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- <sup>1</sup> The MFA is a private organisation of an associative nature in compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Mauritius and registered with the Registrar of Associations in Mauritius. It is formed for an unlimited period.
  - <sup>2</sup> The MFA headquarters are at Football House, Trianon, Quatre Bornes.
  - <sup>3</sup> The MFA is a Member of FIFA, CAF and COSAFA.
  - <sup>4</sup> The flag of the MFA has a pale blue background with the emblem in the middle.
  - <sup>5</sup> The emblem of the MFA consists of the map of Mauritius supported by olive branches with the abbreviation "MFA" at the top and a scroll with the inscription Mauritius Football Association at the bottom.
  - <sup>6</sup> The official colours of the MFA shall be "red" and "white"
  - <sup>7</sup> The abbreviation of the Mauritius Football Association is "MFA".
  - <sup>8</sup> The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
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Article **2** **Objectives**

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The objectives of the MFA are:

- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Mauritius 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 in all its forms at a national level, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various Leagues and Regional Football Associations 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, CAF and the MFA as well as the Laws of the Game and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;
- f) to prevent all methods or practices which might jeopardise the integrity of matches or competitions or give rise to abuse of Association Football;
- g) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Mauritius;
- h) to manage international sporting relations connected with Association Football in all its forms;
- i) to host competitions at international and other levels;

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Article **3** **Neutrality and non-discrimination**

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- <sup>1</sup> The MFA is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
  - <sup>2</sup> Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.
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Article **4** **Promoting friendly relations**

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- <sup>1</sup> The MFA shall promote friendly relations between its Members, Clubs, Officials and Players and in society for humanitarian objectives.
  - <sup>2</sup> Every person and organisation involved in the game of football is obliged to observe the Statutes, regulations and the principles of fair play as well as the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.
  - <sup>3</sup> The MFA shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between Members, Clubs, Officials and Players of the MFA.
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Article **5** **Players**

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- <sup>1</sup> The status of Players and the provisions for their transfer shall be regulated by the National Managing Committee of the MFA in accordance with the current FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players.
  - <sup>2</sup> Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of the MFA.
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Article **6** **Laws of the Game**

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The MFA and each of its Members play Association Football in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by IFAB. Only IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.

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Article **7** **Conduct of bodies and Officials**

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The bodies and Officials of the MFA must observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Code of Ethics of FIFA, of CAF and of the MFA in their activities.

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Article **8** **Official languages**

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- <sup>1</sup> The official language of the MFA shall be English. Official documents and texts shall be written in this language.

<sup>2</sup> The official languages at the National General Assembly and the National Managing Committee shall be English and French.

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Article **9 Admission, suspension and expulsion**

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<sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.

<sup>2</sup> Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of the MFA.

<sup>3</sup> Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from its financial obligations towards the MFA or other Members of the MFA, but leads to cancellation of all rights in relation to the MFA.

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Article **10 Admission**

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<sup>1</sup> The Members of the MFA are:

**(a) Clubs Playing at National Level:**

(Premier League, National First Division and National Second Division)

**(b) Regional Football Associations**

**(c) One Representative of each of the following Four groups;**

**Coaches, Referees, Women and Players, as ex-officio members without voting rights.**

<sup>2</sup> Any legal or natural person wishing to become a Member of the MFA shall apply in writing to the general secretariat of the MFA.

<sup>3</sup> The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items:

- a) a copy of its legally valid statutes and regulations;
- b) a declaration that it will always comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the MFA, FIFA and CAF and ensure that these are also respected by its own Members, Clubs, Officials and Players;
- c) a declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force;
- d) a declaration that it recognises the Arbitration Court of the MFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, as specified in these Statutes;
- e) a declaration that it is located and registered in the territory of the Republic of Mauritius;
- f) a declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of the Republic of Mauritius;
- g) a declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity;
- h) a list of Officials, specifying those who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- i) a declaration that it undertakes to organise or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the MFA;
- j) a copy of the minutes of its last general assembly or constitutional meeting;

<sup>4</sup> This article shall not affect the status of existing Members.

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Article **11 Request and procedure for application**

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<sup>1</sup> The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulations approved by the National Managing Committee of the MFA.

<sup>2</sup> The National Managing Committee shall request the National General Assembly either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the National General Assembly.

<sup>3</sup> A Club promoted to the National Second Division shall acquire direct MFA membership rights and duties as soon as it has been promoted and is in compliance with the statutes of the Association. Its delegate is eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

<sup>4</sup> A Club which is relegated from the National Second Division loses its direct MFA membership and shall automatically be assigned to its region. This apply also to any club which loses its national status by any other means.

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Article **12 Members' rights**

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<sup>1</sup> The Members of the MFA have the following rights:

- a) to take part in the National General Assembly of the MFA, to know its agenda in advance, to be called to the National General Assembly within the prescribed time and to exercise their voting rights;
- b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the National General Assembly;
- c) to nominate candidates for all bodies of the MFA to be elected;
- d) to be informed of the affairs of the MFA through the official bodies of the MFA;
- e) to take part in competitions and/or other sports activities organised by the MFA;
- f) to exercise all other rights arising from the Statutes and regulations of the MFA.

<sup>2</sup> The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and the applicable regulations.

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Article **13 Members' obligations**

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<sup>1</sup> The Members of the MFA have the following obligations:

- a) to comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and the MFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;
- b) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies;
- c) to take part in competitions and other sports activities organised by the MFA;
- d) to pay their membership subscriptions;
- e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB 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 requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, the MFA or the League(s) shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the appropriate

Arbitration Tribunal of FIFA, CAF or the MFA and that any recourse to Ordinary Courts is prohibited;

- g) to communicate to the MFA any amendment of its statutes and regulations as well as the list of its office bearers and persons who are authorised signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- h) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
- i) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- j) to observe the mandatory items specified under article 10 paragraph 3 for the duration of their affiliation;
- k) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
- l) to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, CAF and the MFA.

<sup>2</sup> Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes.

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Article **14** **Suspension**

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<sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly is responsible for suspending a Member. The National Managing Committee may, however, suspend a Member that seriously violates its obligations as a Member with immediate effect. The suspension shall last until the next National General Assembly, unless the National Managing Committee has lifted it in the meantime.

<sup>2</sup> A suspension shall be confirmed at the next National General Assembly by 2/3 of the votes taken. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.

<sup>3</sup> A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Members may not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary Committee may impose further sanctions.

<sup>4</sup> Members that do not participate in the sports activities of the MFA for 2 consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the National General Assembly and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

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Article **15** **Expulsion**

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<sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly may expel a Member if:

- a) it fails to fulfil its financial obligations towards the MFA;
- b) it seriously violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, CAF and the MFA;

<sup>2</sup> The presence of 2/3 of Members entitled to vote at the National General Assembly 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.

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Article **16 Resignation**

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<sup>1</sup> A Member may resign from the MFA with effect from the end of the championship. Notice of resignation must reach the general secretariat no later than 30 June.

<sup>2</sup> The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards the MFA and the other Members of the MFA.

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Article **17 Status of Clubs, Leagues, Regional Associations and other groups of Clubs**

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<sup>1</sup> Clubs, Regional Football Associations affiliated to the MFA shall be subordinate to and recognised by the MFA. These Statutes define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of these Clubs and Regional Football Associations. Their statutes and regulations must be approved by the National Managing Committee of the MFA.

<sup>2</sup> The affiliated Clubs and Regional Football Associations of the MFA shall take all decisions on any matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.

<sup>3</sup> In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one Club or group whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

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Article **18 Honorary president and honorary member**

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<sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any persons for meritorious service to football.

<sup>2</sup> The National Managing Committee shall make these nominations.

<sup>3</sup> The honorary president or honorary member may attend the National General Assembly as observers.

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Article **19 Bodies of the MFA**

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<sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly is the supreme and legislative body.

<sup>2</sup> The National Managing Committee is the executive body.

<sup>3</sup> Standing and ad-hoc committees shall advise and assist the National Managing Committee in fulfilling its duties. Their duties, composition and function are defined in these Statutes and/or special regulations drawn up by the National Managing Committee.

<sup>4</sup> The general secretariat is the administrative body.

<sup>5</sup> The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee.

<sup>6</sup> The bodies of the MFA shall be either elected or appointed by the MFA itself without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes.



## **A. NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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### Article **20** Definition and composition of the National General Assembly

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- <sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly is the meeting at which all of the Members of the MFA are regularly convened. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the MFA. Only a National General Assembly that is regularly convened has the authority to make decisions.
  - <sup>2</sup> A National General Assembly may be Annual or Extraordinary.
  - <sup>3</sup> The President shall conduct the National General Assembly business in compliance with the standing orders of the National General Assembly.
  - <sup>4</sup> The National General Assembly may appoint observers who may attend the National General Assembly without the right to debate or to vote.
  - <sup>5</sup> The honorary presidents or honorary members may attend the National General Assembly as observers only.
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### Article **21** Delegates and votes

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- <sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly is composed of 39 delegates as follows:
  - a) **for each of the 10 National Premier League Clubs, one delegate with one vote;**
  - b) **for each of the 8 National First Division Clubs, one delegate with one vote;**
  - c) **for each of the 8 National Second Division Clubs, one delegate with one vote**
  - d) **for each of the 13 Regional Football Associations, one delegate with one vote;**
- <sup>2</sup> 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.
- <sup>3</sup> For a), b) and c), only an office bearer who has been in his club for a minimum of two years shall be able to represent the club as delegate at the MFA.
- <sup>4</sup> Each delegate of the same category of Member has an equal number of votes in the National General Assembly. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
- <sup>5</sup> The National Managing Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the National General Assembly without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the National Managing Committee may not be appointed as delegates for their association.

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Article **22** **Areas of authority**

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The National General Assembly has the following authority:

- a) adopting or amending the Statutes, regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the National General Assembly;
- b) appointing 3 Members to check the minutes and approving the minutes of the last meeting;
- c) electing the members of the National Managing Committee;
- d) appointing the scrutineers;
- e) approving the financial statements;
- f) approving the budget;
- g) approving the President's activity report;
- h) appointing the independent auditors upon the proposal of the National Managing Committee;
- i) fixing the membership subscriptions;
- j) deciding, upon the nomination of the National Managing Committee, whether to bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member;
- k) admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
- l) revoking the mandate of one or a number of members of a body of the MFA;
- m) dissolving the MFA;
- n) passing decisions at the request of a Member in accordance with these Statutes;

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Article **23** **Quorum of the National General Assembly**

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<sup>1</sup> Decisions passed by the National General Assembly shall only be valid if the absolute majority (50% +1) of the Members who are entitled to vote are represented.

<sup>2</sup> If a quorum is not achieved, a second National General Assembly shall take place 14 days after the first, with the same agenda.

<sup>3</sup> A quorum is not required for the second meeting unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the Statutes of the MFA, the election of the President and election of the vice-presidents and members of the National Managing Committee, the dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of the MFA, the expulsion of a Member of the MFA or the dissolution of the MFA.

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Article **24** **Decisions of the National General Assembly**

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a simple majority of the Members entitled to vote is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the majority. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other forms of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

<sup>2</sup> A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands. 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.

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Article **25 Elections**

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Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

For a person to be elected an absolute majority (50%+1) of the votes recorded and valid is necessary in the first ballot.

As from the first ballot, if non of the candidates obtained the absolute majority, the candidate/s who obtained less than 10% of the votes recorded and valid are eliminated and additional ballots shall take place with this system until a candidate obtains the absolute majority. In the event none of the candidates obtained less than 10% following a ballot, the candidates obtained less than 10% following a ballot, the candidate who obtained the lowest number of votes will be automatically eliminated.

Should all candidates except one obtained less than 10% but with the candidate above 10% obtaining less than the absolute majority, only the candidate who obtained the lowest number of votes will be eliminated and all the others will remain for an additional ballot until a candidate obtains the absolute majority.

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Article **26 Annual National General Assembly**

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<sup>1</sup> The Annual National General Assembly shall be held every year at latest Three months after the closing of the financial year of the Association.

<sup>2</sup> The National Managing Committee shall fix the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing at least one month in advance.

<sup>3</sup> The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least one week before the date of the National General Assembly. This convocation shall contain the agenda, the President's activity report, the financial statements and the auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

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Article **27 Annual National General Assembly agenda**

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<sup>1</sup> The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the National Managing Committee and the Members. Any proposal that a Member wishes to submit to the National General Assembly shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least two weeks before the date of the National General Assembly.

<sup>2</sup> The National General Assembly agenda shall include the following mandatory items:

- a) a declaration that the National General Assembly has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes of the MFA;
- 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 National General Assembly;
- h) President's activity report (containing the activities since the last National General Assembly);
- i) presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement;
- j) approval of the financial statements;

- k) approval of the budget;
- l) admission for membership (if applicable);
- m) votes on proposals for amendments to the Statutes, the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the National General Assembly (if applicable);
- n) discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the National Managing Committee In compliance with the procedure set forth in paragraph 1.
- o) appointment of independent auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the National Managing Committee;
- p) dismissal of a person or a body (if applicable);
- q) election of the President, vice-presidents and members of the National Managing Committee (if applicable);

<sup>3</sup> The agenda of an Annual National General Assembly may be altered, provided 2/3 of the Members present at the National General Assembly and eligible to vote agree to such a motion.

<sup>4</sup> The National General Assembly shall not make a decision on any point not included in the agenda.

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Article **28** **Extraordinary National General Assembly**

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<sup>1</sup> The National Managing Committee may convene an Extraordinary National General Assembly at any time.

<sup>2</sup> The National Managing Committee shall convene an Extraordinary National General Assembly if 1/3 of the Members of the MFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items for the agenda. An Extraordinary National General Assembly shall be held within 21 days of receipt of the request. If an Extraordinary National General Assembly is not convened, the Members who requested it may convene the National General Assembly themselves. As a last resort, the Members may request assistance from FIFA.

<sup>3</sup> The Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least 7 days before the date of an Extraordinary National General Assembly.

<sup>4</sup> When an Extraordinary National General Assembly is convened on the initiative of the National Managing Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary National General Assembly is convened upon the request of Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.

<sup>5</sup> The agenda of an Extraordinary National General Assembly may not be altered.

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Article **29** **Amendments to the Statutes, regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the National General Assembly**

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<sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly is responsible for amending the Statutes, the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the National General Assembly.

<sup>2</sup> Any proposals for an amendment to the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the National Managing Committee. A proposal submitted by a Member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least 50% Members.

<sup>3</sup> For a vote on an amendment to the Statutes to be valid, an absolute majority (50% +1) of the Members eligible to vote must be present.

<sup>4</sup> A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes shall be adopted only if 2/3 of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

<sup>5</sup> Any proposal to amend the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the National General Assembly must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a Member or by the National Managing Committee.

<sup>6</sup> A proposal for an amendment to the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the National General Assembly shall be adopted only if a simple majority of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

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Article **30 Minutes**

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The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the National General Assembly. The minutes shall be checked by those Members designated and finally approved at the next National General Assembly.

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Article **31 Effective dates of decisions**

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Decisions passed by the National General Assembly shall come into effect for the Members the day after the close of the National General Assembly, unless the National General Assembly fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

***B. NATIONAL MANAGING COMMITTEE***

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Article **32 Composition**

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<sup>1</sup> The National Managing Committee consists of 15 members:

- **1 President**
- **1 Vice-President from Premier League**
- **1 Vice-President from National First Division**
- **1 Vice-President from National Second Division**
- **1 Vice-President from Regional Football Association**
- **10 members as follows;**
  - **3 from Premier League**
  - **2 from National First Division**
  - **2 from National Second Division**
  - **3 from Regional Football Associations**

<sup>2</sup> Each of the 15 members of the National Managing Committee shall be elected by the National General Assembly by position.

Every candidate in the election of National Managing Committee members must be proposed by at least one Member.

<sup>3</sup> The mandate of the vice-presidents and members of the National Managing Committee is for four years which shall begin after the end of the National General Assembly that has elected them. They may be re-elected.

<sup>4</sup> The members of the National Managing Committee shall be no younger than 18. They shall have already been active in football at Managerial level for at least 3 years and must not have been previously found guilty of a criminal offence and must be a citizen of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius.

<sup>5</sup> Candidatures must be sent to the general secretariat of the MFA. The official list of candidates must be passed to the Members of the MFA along with the agenda for the National General Assembly at which the National Managing Committee will be elected.

<sup>6</sup> A member of the National Managing Committee may not at the same time be a member of a judicial body of the MFA.

<sup>7</sup> If less than 50% of the positions at the National Managing Committee should become vacant, the National Managing Committee itself shall fill that/these position(s) until the next Annual National General Assembly, when a replacement will be elected for the remaining term of mandate.

<sup>8</sup> If 50% or more of the positions at the National Managing Committee should become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary National General Assembly one month from the day of the resignation at the latest in order to elect all the members of the National Managing Committee for the remainder of the term of office.

<sup>9</sup> A member of the National Managing Committee who has unreasonably absented himself from 3 consecutive meetings of the committee shall be disqualified as a member of the National Managing Committee and the National Managing Committee itself shall fill that/these position(s) until the next Annual National General Assembly, when a replacement will be elected for the remaining term of mandate.

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Article **33** **Removal of the National Managing Committee.**

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<sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly of the MFA may revoke the National Managing Committee by taking a vote to that effect with a majority of 2/3 of the total number of votes held by all members voting of the Assembly.

<sup>2</sup> Where the National Managing Committee is revoked under article 33.1, a new National Managing Committee shall be elected within a period of One month of the date of revocation of the last committee.

<sup>3</sup> The Quorum for the removal of the National Managing Committee shall be 2/3 of the total number of votes held and shall be adopted only if 2/3 of the Members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

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Article **34** **Meetings**

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<sup>1</sup> The National Managing Committee shall meet at least once a month.

<sup>2</sup> The President shall convene the National Managing Committee meetings. If 50% of the National Managing Committee members request a meeting, the President shall convene it within 7 days. In case of non-compliance, the Secretary General shall convene the meeting within 3 days.

<sup>3</sup> The President shall compile the agenda. Each member of the National Managing Committee is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the National Managing Committee must submit the points they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least 7 days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the National Managing Committee at least 4 days before the meeting.

<sup>4</sup> The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the National Managing Committee in a consultative role.

<sup>5</sup> The meetings of the National Managing Committee shall not be held in public. The National Managing 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 National Managing Committee.

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Article **35 Powers of the National Managing Committee**

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The National Managing Committee:

- a) shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the National General Assembly or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes;
- b) shall prepare and convene the Annual and Extraordinary National General Assembly of the MFA;
- c) shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the standing committees;
- d) shall appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the judicial bodies;
- e) may decide to set up ad-hoc committees if necessary at any time;
- f) shall compile the regulations for the organisation of standing committees and ad-hoc committees;
- g) shall appoint or dismiss the General Secretary on the proposal of the President. The General Secretary shall attend the meetings of all the committees ex officio;
- h) shall propose the independent auditors to the National General Assembly;
- i) shall decide the place and dates of and the number of teams participating in the competitions of the MFA;
- j) shall appoint the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff;
- k) shall approve regulations stipulating how the MFA shall be organised internally;
- l) shall ensure that the Statutes are applied and adopt the executive arrangements required for their application;
- m) may dismiss a person or body or suspend a Member of the MFA provisionally until the next National General Assembly;
- n) may delegate tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of the MFA or third parties.

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Article **36 Decisions**

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<sup>1</sup> The National Managing Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless an absolute majority (50% + 1) of its members are present.

<sup>2</sup> The National Managing Committee shall reach decisions by a simple majority of the members present. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.

<sup>3</sup> Any member of the National Managing Committee must withdraw from the debate and from taking a decision if there is any risk or possibility of a conflict of interests.

<sup>4</sup> The decisions taken shall be recorded in the minutes.

<sup>5</sup> The decisions taken by the National Managing Committee shall come into effect immediately, unless the National Managing Committee decides otherwise.

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Article **37** **Dismissal of any person or body**

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<sup>1</sup> The National General Assembly may dismiss any person or body. The National Managing Committee may place the dismissal of a person or body on the agenda for the National General Assembly. The National Managing Committee may also dismiss a person or body provisionally. Any National Managing Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for dismissal on the agenda of the National Managing Committee or National General Assembly.

<sup>2</sup> The motion for dismissal must be justified. It will be sent to the Members of the MFA along with the agenda.

<sup>3</sup> The person or body in question has the right to speak in his or its own defence.

<sup>4</sup> If the motion for dismissal is upheld, the National General Assembly or National Managing Committee shall reach a decision by means of secret ballot. For the motion to be passed a quorum of 2/3 of the total number of votes held is required and a majority of two-thirds of the valid votes is required.

<sup>5</sup> The person or body dismissed (provisionally) must be relieved of his or its functions with immediate effect.

**C. PRESIDENT**

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Article **38** **President**

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<sup>1</sup> The President represents the MFA legally.

<sup>2</sup> He is primarily responsible for:

- a) implementing the decisions passed by the National General Assembly and the National Managing Committee through the general secretariat;
- b) ensuring the effective functioning of the bodies of the MFA in order that they achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
- c) supervising the work of the general secretariat;
- d) relations between the MFA and its Members, FIFA, CAF, COSAFA, political bodies and other organisations.

<sup>3</sup> Only the President may propose the appointment or dismissal of the General Secretary.

<sup>4</sup> The President shall preside over the National General Assembly, the National Managing Committee and Emergency Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairman.

<sup>5</sup> The President shall have an ordinary vote on the National Managing Committee and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote.



<sup>6</sup> If the President is absent or unavailable, the most senior vice-president shall deputise.

<sup>7</sup> Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the internal organisation regulations of the MFA.

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Article **39** **Candidates for the office of the President**

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1 The President shall be elected by the National General Assembly for a period of four years. His mandate shall begin after the end of the National General Assembly which has elected him. A President may be re-elected only once.

2 For the election of the President, a 2/3 majority of the votes recorded and valid are necessary in the first ballot. In the second and any other requisite ballot, an absolute majority of the votes recorded (50%+1) is sufficient. If there are more than two candidates, the candidate that obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left.

3 Only Members of MFA may propose candidates for the office of President. Members shall notify the General Secretariat in writing of the name of a candidate for the presidency of the MFA at least 2 weeks before the date of the National General Assembly.

4 The General Secretariat shall notify the members of the names of the proposed candidates at least 7 days before the date of the National General Assembly.

5 If the President is permanently or temporarily prevented from performing his official function, the most senior vice-president shall represent him until the next Extraordinary National general Assembly which shall take place one month after the President is prevented from performing the official function to elect a new President for the remaining term of the mandate.

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Article **40** **Representation and signature**

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The President represents the MFA legally and is entitled to sign for the MFA. The National Managing Committee may set up internal organisation regulations regarding the joint signature of officers, in particular, in case of the President's absence and concerning all important business of the MFA.

The President, the President of the Finance Committee and the Secretary General shall sign all financial documents. In the absence of any of the above, they shall be replaced by the most senior Vice President as decided by the National Managing Committee, the deputy chairman of the Finance Committee and the Assistant Secretary General respectively.

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***D. EMERGENCY COMMITTEE***

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Article **41** **Emergency Committee**

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1 The Emergency Committee shall deal with all matters requiring immediate settlement between two meetings of the National Managing Committee. The Committee shall consist of the President of the MFA and four members chosen from amongst the National Managing Committee's Members and appointed by the National Managing Committee for a period of 1 year by rotation.

2 The President shall convene the Emergency Committee meetings. 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 notify the National Managing Committee immediately of the decisions passed by the Emergency Committee.

<sup>3</sup> All decisions taken by the Emergency Committee shall be ratified by the National Managing Committee at its next meeting.

<sup>4</sup> If the President is unable to attend a meeting, One of the vice-presidents as chosen by the National Managing Committee shall deputise.

## **E. STANDING COMMITTEES**

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### Article **42** Standing Committees

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<sup>1</sup> The standing committees of the MFA are:

- a) Finance Committee;
- b) Internal Audit Committee;
- c) Organising Committee for the MFA competitions;
- d) Technical and Development Committee;
- e) Referees' Committee;
- f) Legal Committee;
- g) Women's Football Committee;
- h) Youth Football Committee;
- i) Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee;
- j) Sports Medical Committee;
- k) Players' Status Committee;
- l) Committee for Ethics and Fair Play;
- m) Media, Marketing and Television Advisory Board Committee;
- n) Football Committee;
- o) Strategic Studies Committee;
- p) Regional Football development Committee.

<sup>2</sup> The chairmen and deputy chairmen of the standing committees shall be members of the National Managing Committee with the exception of those for the Internal Audit Committee, who may not belong to the National Managing Committee. The members of each standing committee shall be appointed by the National Managing Committee on the proposal of the Members of the MFA or the President of the MFA. The chairmen, deputy chairmen and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office of four years.

<sup>3</sup> Each chairman shall represent his committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant organisation regulations drawn up by the National Managing Committee.

<sup>4</sup> Each chairman shall fix the dates of meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are carried out and report back to the National Managing Committee.

<sup>5</sup> Each committee may propose amendments to its regulations to the National Managing Committee.

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### Article **43** Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the National Managing Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget of the MFA and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the National Managing Committee for approval. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the numbers deemed necessary.

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Article **44** **Internal Audit Committee**

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The Internal Audit Committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the external auditors' report at the request of the National Managing Committee. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **45** **Organising Committee for the MFA competitions**

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The Organising Committee for the MFA competitions shall organise the competitions of the MFA in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to the MFA competitions. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **46** **Technical and Development Committee**

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The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **47** **Referees' Committee**

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The Referees' Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by the MFA, organise refereeing matters within the MFA in collaboration with the administration of the MFA and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **48** **Legal Committee**

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The Legal Committee shall analyse basic legal issues relating to football and the evolution of the Statutes and regulations of the MFA and its Members. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **49** **Women's Football Committee**

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The Committee for Women's Football shall organise women's football competitions and deal with all matters relating to women's football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **50 Youth Football Committee**

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The Committee for Youth Football shall organise youth football competitions and deal with all matters relating to youth football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **51 Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee**

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The Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee shall organise futsal and beach soccer competitions and deal with all matters relating to futsal and beach soccer. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **52 Sports Medical Committee**

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The Sports Medical Committee shall deal with all medical aspects of football. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **53 Players' Status Committee**

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<sup>1</sup> The Players' Status Committee shall set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players and determine the status of Players for various competitions of the MFA. The National Managing Committee may draw up special regulations governing the Players' Status Committee's powers of jurisdiction. The Players' Status Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

<sup>2</sup> Players' status disputes involving the MFA, its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents shall be settled by an Arbitration Tribunal in accordance with these Statutes.

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Article **54 Committee for Ethics and Fair Play**

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The Committee for Ethics and Fair Play shall deal with everything relating to ethics in football and the promotion of fair play. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **55 Media, Marketing and Television Advisory Board**

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The Media, Marketing and Television Advisory Board shall deal with the working conditions for the media at the MFA events and maintain relations with media organisations

The Board shall also advise the National Managing Committee with regard to drafting and implementing contracts between the MFA and its marketing/television partners and analyse marketing and television strategies that have been devised. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **56 Football Committee**

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The Football Committee shall deal with general issues in football but primarily with its structure as well as relations between Clubs, Leagues, Members, CAF and FIFA. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **57 Strategic Studies Committee**

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The Strategic Studies Committee shall deal with global strategies for football and its political, economic and social status. It shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.

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Article **58 Regional Football Development Committee**

**The regional Football Development Committees shall deal with strategies for the development of Football at Regional level, including organisation of competitions at Regional levels. It shall consists of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and the number of members deemed necessary.**

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Article **59 Adhoc- Committee**

The National Managing Committee may, if necessary, create ad-hoc committees for special duties and a limited period of time. The National Managing Committee shall appoint a chairman, a deputy chairman and the members. The duties and function are defined in special regulations drawn up by the National Managing Committee. An ad-hoc committee shall report directly to the National Managing Committee.

**F. GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

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Article **60 General Secretariat**

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The general secretariat shall carry out all the administrative work of the MFA under the direction of the General Secretary. The members of the general secretariat are bound by the internal organisational regulations of the MFA and shall fulfil the given tasks in the best manner.

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Article **61 General Secretary**

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<sup>1</sup> The General Secretary is the chief executive of the general secretariat.

<sup>2</sup> He shall be appointed on the basis of an agreement governed by private law and shall have the necessary professional qualifications.

<sup>3</sup> He shall be responsible for:

- a) implementing decisions passed by the National General Assembly and National Managing Committee in compliance with the President's directives;
- b) attending the National General Assembly and meetings of the National Managing Committee, Emergency Committee and the standing and ad-hoc committees;
- c) organising the National General Assembly and meetings of the National Managing Committee and other bodies;
- d) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the National General Assembly, National Managing Committee, Emergency Committee and standing and ad-hoc committees;
- e) managing and keeping the accounts of the MFA properly;
- f) the correspondence of the MFA;
- g) relations with the Members, committees, FIFA, CAF and COSAFA;
- h) organising the general secretariat;
- i) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the general secretariat with the approval of the National Managing Committee.;
- j) proposing managerial staff to the National Managing Committee.

<sup>4</sup> The General Secretary and all MFA Staff shall not be a National General Assembly delegate or a member of any body of the MFA.

## **G. JUDICIAL BODIES**

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### Article **62** Judicial bodies

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<sup>1</sup> The judicial bodies of the MFA are:

- a) the Disciplinary Committee;
- b) the Appeal Committee.

<sup>2</sup> The responsibilities and functions of these bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary Code of the MFA, which shall comply with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

<sup>3</sup> The decision-making powers of other committees remain unaffected.

<sup>4</sup> The members of the judicial bodies shall not belong to any other body of the MFA at the same time.

### Article **63** Disciplinary Committee

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<sup>1</sup> The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and the deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.

<sup>2</sup> The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of the MFA. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of the MFA.

<sup>3</sup> The committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary Code of the MFA on Members, Officials, Players, Clubs and match and players' agents.

<sup>4</sup> These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the National General Assembly and the National Managing Committee with regard to the suspension and expulsion of Members.

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Article **64 Appeal Committee**

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<sup>1</sup> The Appeal Committee shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman and the number of members deemed necessary. The chairman and deputy chairman shall have legal qualifications.

<sup>2</sup> The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of the MFA. The committee shall pass decisions only when at least three members are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of the MFA.

<sup>3</sup> The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions from the Disciplinary Committee that are not declared final.

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Article **65 Disciplinary measures**

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The disciplinary measures are primarily:

<sup>1</sup> for natural and legal persons:

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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;
- g) a forfeit;
- h) deduction of points;
- i) relegation to a lower division.

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Article **66 Arbitration**

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The MFA shall create an Arbitration Tribunal, which shall deal with all internal national disputes between the MFA, its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents that do not fall under the jurisdiction of its judicial bodies. The National Managing Committee shall draw up special regulations regarding the composition, jurisdiction and procedural rules of this Arbitration Tribunal.

As long as within the Republic of Mauritius no National Sports Arbitration Tribunal has been installed and recognized by the National General Assembly, any dispute of national dimension may only be referred in the last instance to the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) in Lausanne.

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Article **67 Jurisdiction**

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<sup>1</sup> The MFA, its Members, Players, Officials and match and player's agents will not take any dispute to Ordinary Courts unless specifically provided for in these Statutes and FIFA regulations. Any disagreement shall be submitted to the jurisdiction of FIFA, CAF or the MFA.

<sup>2</sup> The MFA shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to the MFA. FIFA shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different Associations and/or Confederations.

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Article **68 Court of Arbitration for Sport**

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the relevant Articles of the FIFA Statutes, any appeal against a final and binding FIFA decision shall be heard by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland. CAS shall not, however, hear appeals on violations of the Laws of the Game, suspensions of up to four matches or up to three months, or decisions passed by an independent and duly constituted Arbitration Tribunal of an Association or Confederation.

<sup>2</sup> The MFA shall ensure its full compliance and that of its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents with any final decision passed by a FIFA body or CAS.

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Article **69 Financial period**

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<sup>1</sup> The financial period of the MFA shall be one year and shall begin on 1 July and end on 30 June. The revenue and expenses of the MFA shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period. The MFA's major duties in the future shall be guaranteed through the creation of reserves.

<sup>2</sup> The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual consolidated accounts of the MFA as at 30 September.

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Article **70 Revenue**

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The revenue of the MFA arises specifically from:



- a) Members' annual subscriptions;
  - b) receipts generated by the marketing of rights to which the MFA is entitled;
  - c) fines imposed by the authorised bodies;
  - d) other subscriptions and receipts in keeping with the objectives pursued by the MFA.
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Article **71 Expenses**

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The MFA bears:

- a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;
  - b) other expenses approved by the National General Assembly and expenses that the National Managing Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority;
  - c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by the MFA.
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Article **72 Independent auditors**

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The independent auditors appointed by the National General Assembly shall audit the accounts approved by the Finance Committee in accordance with the appropriate principles of accounting and present a report to the National General Assembly. The auditors shall be appointed every year. This mandate may be renewed.

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Article **73 Membership subscriptions**

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<sup>1</sup> Membership subscriptions are due at least two months before the Annual General Assembly. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days of the close of the National General Assembly at which they are admitted.

<sup>2</sup> The National General Assembly shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every year on the recommendation of the National Managing Committee. It shall be the same for every Member.

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Article **74 Settlement**

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The MFA may debit any Member's assets to settle claims.

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Article **75 Levies**

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

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Article **76 Competitions**

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<sup>1</sup> The MFA organises and coordinates the following official competitions held within its territory:

- The Premier League
- The National First Division League
- The National Second Division League
- The Republic Cup
- The MFA Cup
- The Inter-Regional Competition
- The Women's First Division League
- The Women's Second Division League
- Any other competition at National/International regional level as the NMC may deem fit.

<sup>2</sup> The National Managing Committee may delegate to the MFA's subordinate Leagues and Regional Football Associations the authority to organise competitions. The competitions organised by the Leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organised by the MFA. Competitions organised by the MFA shall take priority.

<sup>3</sup> The National Managing Committee may issue special regulations to this end.

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Article **77 Club licensing**

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<sup>1</sup> The MFA shall operate a Club licensing system in accordance with the principles of the Club licensing regulations of the CAF and FIFA.

<sup>2</sup> The objective of the Club licensing system is to safeguard the credibility and integrity of Club competitions, to improve the level of professionalism of the MFA, to promote sporting values in accordance with the principles of fair play as well as safe and secure match environments and to promote transparency in the finances, ownership and control of Clubs.

<sup>3</sup> The National Managing Committee of the MFA shall issue Club licensing regulations governing the Club licensing system. Inter alia, the Club licensing regulations shall stipulate to which Clubs the system applies. As a minimum, the Club licensing system must be implemented in respect of top-division Clubs which qualify for the CAF Club competitions on sporting merit.

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Article **78 Rights**

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<sup>1</sup> The MFA 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, place and law. 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.

<sup>2</sup> The National Managing Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilised and draw up special regulations to this end. The National Managing Committee shall alone decide whether these rights shall be utilised exclusively, or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

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Article **79 Authorisation**

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The MFA 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 as to content, time, place and technical and legal aspects.

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Article **80 International matches and competitions**

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<sup>1</sup> The authority for organising international matches and competitions between Association teams and between Leagues and/or Club teams lies solely with FIFA. No match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of the FIFA Executive Committee. In addition, permission from the relevant Confederation may be required in accordance with the FIFA regulations.

<sup>2</sup> The MFA is bound to comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

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Article **81 Contacts**

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The MFA shall not play matches or make sporting contacts with Associations that are not members of FIFA or with provisional members of a Confederation without the approval of FIFA.

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Article **82 Approval**

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Clubs, Leagues or any other group of Clubs that are affiliated to the MFA cannot belong to another Association or participate in competitions on the territory of another Association without the authorisation of the MFA and the other Association and of FIFA, except in exceptional circumstances.

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Article **83 Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure**

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The National Managing Committee shall have the final decision on any matters not provided for in the Statutes or in cases of force majeure.

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Article **84 Dissolution**

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<sup>1</sup> Any decision relating to the dissolution of the MFA requires a majority of three quarter (3/4) of all of the Members of the MFA, which must be obtained at a National General Assembly specially convened for the purpose.

<sup>2</sup> If the MFA is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to Mauritius National Olympic Committee. It shall hold these assets in trust as "bonus pater familiae" until the MFA is re-established. The final National General Assembly may, however, choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a two-thirds majority.

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Article **85 Enforcement**

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These Statutes were adopted at the National General Assembly in Trianon on 28 August 2012 and will come into force on 29 August 2012.

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Article **86** **Transitory Clause**

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The provisions related to the National Managing Committee will come into effect in **September 2013**.  
Meaning election of a new National Managing Committee will take place in the month of September 2013.

Dinnanathlall Persunoo  
President

Pathak Ballgobin  
Acting General Secretary