

CONSTITUTION OF THE GAMBIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

THE GAMBIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION FOUNDED IN 1952 – AFFILIATED TO FIFA & CAF

PREAMBLE

In exercise of the powers conferred on The Gambia Football Federation (GFF) by the GFF General Assembly, these Statutes are hereby made.

ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1 - DEFINITIONS

The terms given below denote the following:

“CAF” means the Confederation Africaine de Football;

“CAS” (TAS) means the Court of Arbitration For Sport (Tribunal Arbitral du Sport) in Lausanne (Switzerland);

“Delegate” means a representative to the General Assembly;

“Executive Committee” means the Executive body of the Federation;

“F.A Cup” means the Football Association Cup;

“Federation” means the Gambia Football Federation;

“GFF” means the Gambia Football Federation;

“General Assembly” means the Assembly of Delegates;

“FIFA” means the Federation International de Football Association;

“IFAB” means the International Football Board;

“Laws of the Game” refers to as the Laws of the Game authorised by the International Football Association Board (IFAB);

“Member” means an entity which is a member of the Federation;

“Member Club” means a National League Club which is a member of the Federation;

“National League” means the GFF Leagues, Division 1 and 2 for Men and Division 1 and 2 for Women;

“National League Clubs” means all Football Clubs eligible to participate in the GFF League;

“Nawettan football” means local football competitions played outside the GFF organised National or Regional League season;

“Officials” means all Executive Committee members, coaches, referees, candidates for Executive Committee positions, and attendants as well as other people responsible for technical, medical, medical and administrative matters at GFF, an Association or a club;

“Other competitions” means any other cup competition other than the League Championship and the F.A Cup, organised by the GFF for member clubs, Regional Leagues, or other bodies;

“Ordinary courts” means state courts which have jurisdiction to hear legal disputes;

“Player” means any player licensed by the Federation;

“Regional League” means the Regional Leagues played in the administrative regions of The Gambia and administered by the GFF in collaboration with the Regional Football Associations;

“Regional League Club” means all Football Clubs eligible to participate Regional Leagues;

“Standing Order” means the standing Order of the Federation; and

“WAFU” means the West African Football Union.

ARTICLE 2: NAME AND HEADQUARTERS

2.1 The Federation hereby constituted shall be known and called the “Gambia Football Federation” or “GFF”. The GFF is a private organisation of an associative nature formed for an unlimited period.

2.2 This document shall be called “Constitution of the GFF”.

2.3 The headquarters of the GFF shall be located at Kanifing East Layout in the Kanifing Municipality of the Republic of The Gambia.

2.4 The GFF is a member of FIFA, CAF and WAFU.

2.5 The flag of the GFF is red, white, blue, white, green.

2.6 The emblem of the GFF is the scorpion on top of the Gambian flag.

- 2.7 The logo of the GFF is the scorpion.
- 2.8 The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with the Registrar General's office of the Ministry of Justice.

ARTICLE 3: NEUTRALITY AND NON DISCRIMINATION

- 3.1 The GFF shall be neutral in matters of politics and religion.
- 3.2 All forms of political, religious, sexual, ethnic, or racial discrimination are prohibited by the GFF and shall be punishable with a suspension or expulsion.

ARTICLE 4: OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

- 4.1 The official language of the GFF shall be English.
- 4.2 All official documents sent to members shall be in the English Language.
- 4.3 All official meetings including the General Assembly shall be conducted in English Language.

ARTICLE 5: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the GFF shall be to -

- (a) Administer, develop, promote, control and regulate all forms of Association football throughout the territory of The Gambia;
- (b) Encourage the development and promotion of football at national level in a spirit of fair play;
- (c) Organise football competitions in all its forms at national level and defining precisely the areas of authority conceded to the various leagues under it;
- (d) Regulate the status of players and the provisions for their transfer, as well as questions relating to these matters, in particular the encouragement of player training by clubs;
- (e) Control and supervise all official friendly international football matches played throughout the territory of The Gambia;
- (f) Draw up regulations and ensure their enforcement;
- (g) Monitor and supervise all Nawettan football played throughout The Gambia through the Regional Football Associations;
- (h) Develop and promote friendly relations between The Gambia and sister Football Federations of CAF, FIFA and WAFU;

- (i) Assume membership and ensure effective participation in CAF, FIFA, WAFU, and similar Football Organizations created in pursuance of similar objects;
- (j) Acquire by lease or otherwise, any land, premises or property anywhere in The Gambia for use as a football Field and to build or otherwise provide recreational facilities including boarding and other conveniences therein, and to maintain the same and to permit the same to be used by members of the Federation gratuitously or for payment;
- (k) Develop and promote football as a means of fostering social integration and molding the character of the youth in The Gambia in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the spirit of fair play;
- (l) Cooperate with the educational authorities in the promotion of football in educational Institutions;
- (m) Ensure that its members comply fully with the Statutes, Regulations, Directives and Decisions of the organs of FIFA;
- (n) Prepare and ensure the participation of the various National teams in international competitions organised by FIFA, CAF and WAFU;
- (o) Fight against doping and prevent all methods or practices which might jeopardise the integrity of matches or competitions or give rise to abuse of Association football;
- (p) Formulate policies for the control, training and development of Referees, Coaches, Football Administrators and Medical Officers;
- (q) Prevent all methods or practices which might jeopardise the integrity of matches or competitions or give rise to abuse of Association Football; and
- (r) Do anything which is in the interest of football in The Gambia.

ARTICLE 6: PROMOTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS

- 6.1 The GFF shall promote friendly relations between and among its members, clubs, officials and players and society for humanitarian objectives.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 The GFF shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between members, clubs, officials and players of the GFF.

ARTICLE 7: LAWS OF THE GAME

- 7.1 Each member of the GFF shall play Association football in compliance with the Laws of the game issued by the International Football Association Board (IFAB). Only IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.
- 7.2 Each member of the GFF shall play futsal in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game issued by FIFA

ARTICLE 8: PLAYERS

- 8.1 The status of players and the provisions for their transfer shall be regulated by the Executive Committee of the GFF in accordance with current FIFA regulations for the status and transfer of players.
- 8.2 Players shall be registered in accordance with the regulations of the GFF.

ARTICLE 9: CONDUCT OF BODIES AND OFFICIALS

The bodies and officials of the GFF shall observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and Code of Ethics of FIFA, CAF, WAFU and the GFF in their activities.

ARTICLE 10: ADMISSIONS, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

- 10.1 The Generally Assembly shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member.
- 10.2 Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfils the requirements of the GFF.
- 10.3 Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of the membership does not relieve the member from its financial obligations towards the GFF or other members of the GFF, but it shall lead to the cancellation of all rights in relation to the GFF.

ARTICLE 11: MEMBERSHIP

- 11.1 The following entities shall be eligible for membership to the GFF -
- (a) The 16 Men's First division clubs;
 - (b) The 18 Men's Second division clubs;
 - (c) The 7 Regional Football Association;
 - (d) The Women's Football Associations;
 - (e) The Gambia Referees Association;

- (f) The Gambia Coaches Association;
 - (g) The Players' Association;
 - (h) The Schools Football Association;
- 11.2 An application for affiliation to GFF must be submitted in writing to its general Secretariat.
- 11.3 The application shall be accompanied with-
- a) A copy of the applicant's statutes and regulations;
 - b) A list of its officials, specifying those who are authorised signatories, with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
 - c) A declaration to the effect that it agrees to be bound by the Statutes, regulations, and directives of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, GFF and of the Leagues of which it is composed;
 - d) A declaration to the effect that it undertakes to ensure that these are respected by its own members and by any other person (player or official) with whom it has a contract;
 - e) A declaration to the effect that it recognises the exclusive authority of the GFF Arbitration Tribunal and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in respect of all legal disputes involving itself or any of its members;
 - f) A declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game in force;
 - g) A declaration to the effect that it undertakes to organise or to participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of the GFF;
 - 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 copy of the minutes of its last general assembly or constitutional meeting; and
 - j) A declaration that it will not take any dispute to the ordinary law court for redress unless specifically provided for in these Statutes or FIFA regulations.
 - k) A declaration that it is located and registered in the territory of The Gambia; and
 - l) A declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of The Gambia.

ARTICLE 12: REQUEST AND PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

- 12.1 The procedure for admission shall be regulated by the Executive Committee of the GFF;
- 12.2 The Executive Committee shall request the General Assembly either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the General Assembly.
- 12.3 The new member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted, and its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect.

ARTICLE 13: MEMBERS' RIGHTS

- 13.1 The members of the GFF have the following rights-
- a) To take part in the General Assembly of the GFF, to know its agenda in advance, to be called to the General Assembly within the prescribed time and to exercise their voting rights;
 - b) To draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly;
 - c) To nominate candidates for all bodies of the GFF to be elected;
 - d) To be informed of the affairs of the GFF through official bodies of the GFF;
 - e) To take part in competitions organised by GFF;
 - f) To take part in GFF assistance and development programmes; and
 - g) To exercise all other rights arising from these statutes and other regulations.
- 13.2 The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and the applicable regulations.

ARTICLE 14: MEMBERS' OBLIGATIONS

- 14.1 Every member of the GFF has an obligation -
- a) To comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF and the GFF at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;
 - b) To be loyal to the GFF, meaning, in particular, that the member must refrain from any actions contrary to the interests of GFF;

- c) To settle all sums due by way of subscriptions;
- d) To communicate to the GFF, any amendment of the member's statutes and regulations, and a list of its officials or persons who are authorised signatories, with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with third parties;
- e) To agree to be bound by the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of GFF and, where relevant, of the Leagues of which its is composed;
- f) To observe the Laws of the Game of the IFAB and to ensure that these are likewise observed by its members;
- g) To adopt a statutory clause specifying that all legal actions requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of the GFF or of the Leagues of which it is composed, shall be subject to the sole authority of the appropriate arbitration tribunal of FIFA, CAF or the GFF, which shall settle the legal action and that any recourse to ordinary courts is prohibited;
- h) To specify in any contract that it concludes with a player or official, a clause by which any legal actions requiring arbitration arising out of the said contract or related to it must be subject to the sole authority of the appropriate arbitration tribunal of FIFA, CAF, or the GFF, which shall settle the legal action;
- i) To elect the members of its executive organ during its general assembly;
- j) Not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with members that have been suspended or expelled;
- k) To observe the conditions specified in article 11.3 for the duration of its affiliation;
- l) To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play;
- m) To respect all other obligations arising out of these Statutes, the regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, and the GFF.

14.2 Violations of the above-mentioned obligations by a member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes or any other regulation.

ARTICLE 15: RESIGNATIONS

15.1 A member may resign from the GFF only at the end of the football season.

- 15.2 Notice of such resignation must reach the GFF Secretariat by registered mail or hand delivered not later than two months before the official end of the season.
- 15.3 Members who have resigned cannot be readmitted to the GFF without a General Assembly resolution and having fulfilled all their outstanding financial commitment to the GFF

ARTICLE 16: SUSPENSIONS

- 16.1 The General Assembly is responsible for the suspension of any member or official. The Executive Committee may however suspend with immediate effect, any member or official guilty of serious or repeated violations of its obligations. Such suspension shall last until the next General Assembly unless it is lifted earlier.
- 16.2 Any suspension shall be confirmed by a two thirds majority of votes cast at the General Assembly. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.
- 16.3. Suspended members shall automatically lose the rights and privileges linked with their membership. Other members shall cease sporting contacts with the suspended member.
- 16.4 Members that do not participate in the sporting activities of the GFF for two consecutive years shall be suspended from voting at the General Assembly and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they have fulfilled their obligations in this respect.
- 16.5 Suspension does not relieve the member from its financial obligations towards the GFF or other members of the GFF but leads to cancellation of all rights in relation to the GFF.

ARTICLE 17: EXPLUSION

- 17.1 The General Assembly may expel a member-
- a) If it fails to fulfill its financial obligations towards the GFF for two consecutive years inspite of three written reminders to that effect;
 - b) If it seriously violates the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU or the GFF;
 - c) The member, its players, officials, match or players` agent resort to the ordinary law court contrary to the Statutes of the GFF, WAFU CAF or FIFA;
- 17.2 The expulsion of a member can only be effected by a presence of an absolute majority (50% + 1) of members entitled to vote at the General Assembly and with a two third majority of votes cast.

ARTICLE 18: DISSOLUTION

The dissolution of the legal entity of a member may be voluntary or legal. In each case, it shall result in the loss of member`s status, even before the liquidation stage is reached.

ARTICLE 19: STATUTES OF LEAGUE AND OTHER GROUP OF CLUBS

- 19.1 Leagues or any other group affiliated to the GFF shall be subordinate to and recognised by the GFF. The member`s statutes shall define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of these groups. The Statutes and regulations of these groups shall be approved by the GFF.
- 19.2 Every member shall ensure that its affiliated bodies can take all decisions on any matter regarding membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of an affiliated club`s corporate structure.
- 19.3 A member shall ensure that neither a natural nor a legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) exercises control over more than one club whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

ARTICLE 20: HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

- 20.1 The General Assembly may confer Honorary Membership on any person in recognition of meritorious service to the GFF or special contribution to the development of football in The Gambia.
- 20.2 The Executive Committee shall make the nomination for the conferment of Honorary membership.
- 20.3 The Honorary members may take part in the General Assembly debates but shall have no right to vote

ARTICLE 21: ORGANS

- 21.1 The GFF shall have the following organs: -
 - a) The General Assembly, which is the supreme and legislative body;
 - b) The Executive Committee, which is the executive body;
 - c) Standing and ad-hoc committees, which shall advise and assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duties;
 - d) The General Secretariat, which is the administrative body; and
 - e) The Judicial Bodies (Disciplinary and Appeals Committees).

21.2 Members of the various organs shall either be elected or appointed into their respective offices through a procedure that guarantees their complete independence.

ARTICLE 22: DEFINITION AND COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

22.1 The General Assembly is the meeting at which all of the members of the GFF convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the GFF.

22.2 A General Assembly may be an Ordinary or an Extra Ordinary General Assembly

22.3 The President shall conduct the General Assembly business in compliance with the Standing Orders of the General Assembly;

22.4 The General Assembly may appoint observers to attend the meeting without the right to participate in the debate or vote.

22.5 Honorary members may attend and take part in the debate of a General Assembly, but they have no right to vote.

ARTICLE 23: DELEGATES AND VOTES

23.1 The General Assembly shall be composed of 111 Delegates, among which there are 77 voting delegates which shall consist of -

(a) Two delegates from each of the 16 Men's First Division National League Clubs; with one vote per club;

(b) Two delegates from each of the 18 Men's Second Division National League Clubs; with one vote per club;

(c) Four delegates from each of the seven Regional Football Associations (28 delegates); with each delegate having a voting right;

(d) Three delegates from the Women's Football Association; with each delegate having a voting right;

(e) Three delegates from the Refereeing Association; with each delegate having a voting right;

(f) Three delegates from the Coaches Association; with each delegate having a voting right;

(g) Three delegates from the Players' Association; with each delegate having a voting right; and

(h) Three delegates from the Schools Football Association; with each delegate having a voting right.

- 23.2 Only delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.
- 23.3 Delegates must belong to the member that they represent and have the authority of the appropriate body of that member to attend the General Assembly on its behalf. They must be able to produce evidence of this authorization upon request.
- 23.4 The members of the Executive Committee and the General Secretary shall take part in the General Assembly without voting rights. During their term of office, members of the Executive Committee shall not be appointed as delegates for their Association.

ARTICLE 24: AREAS OF AUTHORITY

The 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 General Assembly;
- b) Appointing three members to check and approve the minutes of the last meeting;
- c) Electing the President and Vice Presidents and members of the Executive Committee;
- d) Appointing Scrutineers to count the votes;
- 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 Executive Committee;
- i) Fixing the membership subscriptions;
- j) Deciding upon the nomination of the Executive Committee, whether to bestow the honorary membership on any person;
- k) Admitting, suspending or expelling a member;
- l) Revoking the mandate of one or a number of members of a body of the GFF;
- m) Dissolving the GFF;

- n) Making decisions at the request of a member in accordance with these Statutes; and
- o) Electing the members of the Electoral Committee.

ARTICLE 25: ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING AND NOTICES

- 25.1 An Ordinary General Assembly meeting shall be held every year by giving a (2) two month-notice in writing to every person entitled to attend.
- 25.2 The Executive Committee shall fix the place and date for the meeting.
- 25.3 The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least (2) two weeks before the date of the General Assembly, and it shall contain the agenda, the President's activity report, the financial statements, the auditor's report and any other relevant documents.

ARTICLE 26: QUORUM

- 26.1 Decisions passed by the General Assembly shall only be valid if the absolute majorities (50% + 1) of the members who are entitled to vote are represented at the meeting.
- 26.2 If a quorum is not achieved, another General Assembly shall take place 24 hours after the aborted one, with the same agenda.
- 26.3 A quorum is not required for the second meeting unless any item on the agenda proposes –
 - a) The amendment of the Statutes of the GFF;
 - b) The election of the President, Vice President or members of the Executive Committee;
 - c) The dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of the GFF;
 - d) The expulsion of a member of the GFF; or
 - e) The dissolution of the GFF.

ARTICLE 27: DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 27.1 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 the valid votes counted shall decide the majority. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other form of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

27.2 A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a motion, the votes shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.

ARTICLE 28: AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

28.1 The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals from the Executive Committee and the members. Any proposal that a member wishes to submit to the General Assembly shall be sent to the general secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least one month before the date of the General Assembly.

28.2 The agenda for the Annual General Meeting must include the following agenda items-

- a) Roll call;
- b) Approval of the Agenda;
- c) Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting;
- d) Appointment of members to check the minutes;
- e) Appointment of the Electoral Committee;
- f) Suspension and expulsion of a member where appropriate;
- g) The President's report;
- h) Approval of the activities report of the Executive Committee;
- i) Presentation and Approval of the financial statements for the previous year;
- j) Approval of the report of the auditing organ and of the actions of the executive organs;
- k) Approval of the budget for the following year;
- l) Admissions for membership;
- m) Examination of proposals for amendments to the Statutes and regulations of GFF;
- n) Appointment of independent auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the Executive Committee;
- o) Dismissal of a body or person;

- p) Elections for any vacant positions;
 - q) Any items proposed by the members or the Executive Committee, provided it complies with the present provision.
- 28.3 The agenda of an Ordinary General Assembly may be altered provided two thirds of the members present and eligible to vote agree to the motion.
- 28.4 The General Assembly shall not make a decision on any point not included in the agenda.

ARTICLE 29: EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

- 29.1 The Executive Committee may convene an Extra Ordinary General Assembly at any time.
- 29.2 The Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary General Assembly Meeting if at least 40% of the members make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the items for the agenda. The Extra Ordinary General Assembly shall be held within (2) two months of receiving the request and if it is not convened, the members who requested it may convene the meeting. As a last resort, the members may request assistance from FIFA.
- 29.3 The members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least (2) two weeks before the date of an Extraordinary Meeting.
- 29.4 When an Extra Ordinary General Assembly is convened on the initiative of the Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When it is convened at the request of members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those members.
- 29.5 The agenda of an Extra Ordinary General Assembly shall not be altered.

ARTICLE 30: ELECTIONS

- 30.1 Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- 30.2 Elections shall be conducted by an electoral committee which shall be elected by the General Assembly in the AGM before the elective congress in compliance with electoral code.
- 30.3 A simple majority (50% + 1) of the votes cast and valid is required to elect a person into any position.
- 30.4 If none of the candidates in an election obtains a simple majority after a first ballot and there are more than three candidates for the position contested, the three candidates that obtain the highest number of votes will remain for the following ballot. If there are only three candidates contesting for a position, the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be eliminated and the following ballot will take place between the remaining candidates.

ARTICLE 31: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 31.1 The General Assembly is responsible for amending the Statutes.
- 31.2 Any proposal for an amendment of the Statutes 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 a member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least (5) five members.
- 31.3 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.
- 31.4 A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes shall be adopted only if two thirds of the members present and eligible to vote agree to it.

ARTICLE 32: MINUTES

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

ARTICLE 33: EFFECTIVE DATES OF DECISIONS

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

ARTICLE 34: GFF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 34.1 The GFF shall be governed by an Executive Committee consisting of the following (16) sixteen members-
 - a) The President;
 - b) The First Vice President;
 - c) The Second Vice President;
 - d) The Third Vice President;
 - e) The Fourth Vice President, who shall be the President of the Women's Football Association
 - f) Seven other members who shall represent each of the Regional Football Associations; and
 - g) Four other members, two of whom shall be women and one of whom shall be a retired referee.

34A. The Executive Committee may co-opt up to Four Members based on their technical competence and subject to them passing an “Eligibility Check” to be conducted by the Electoral Committee.

34.2 The members of the Executive Committee shall be elected individually by the General Assembly. Every candidate in the election of Executive Committee members must be proposed by at least one member. Members of the Regional Football Associations shall be elected by the Regions and confirmed by the GFF General Assembly.

34.3 Nominations for Executive Committee positions shall be sent to the general secretariat. The official list of candidates must be passed to the members of the GFF along with the agenda for the General Assembly at which the Executive Committee will be elected.

34.4 The members of the Executive Committee shall –

- a) Be no younger than 30 years old;
- b) Already have been active in football in the last five years;
- c) Not have been convicted of a felony; and
- d) Be a Gambian and resident in The Gambia.
- e) Pass an “Eligibility Check” to be conducted by the Electoral Committee.

34.5 If a position or less than 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the Executive Committee shall fill that position until the next Ordinary General Assembly, when a replacement will be elected for the remaining term of the mandate.

34.6 If more than 50% of the positions of the Executive Committee become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extra Ordinary General Assembly within two months in order to elect a new Executive Committee.

34.7 A member of the Executive Committee shall not serve or be a member of the judicial body of the GFF.

ARTICLE 35: TERM OF OFFICE

35.1 All members shall be elected to serve in office for a term of four years and shall be eligible for re-election only once.

35.2 The General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary and other secretariat staff shall be full-time employees appointed by the Executive Committee and subjected to annual appraisals.

ARTICLE 36: POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee –

- a) Shall pass decisions on all cases that do not come within the sphere of responsibility of the General Assembly or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes;
- b) Shall prepare and convene the Ordinary and Extra-Ordinary General Assemblies of the GFF;
- c) Shall appoint the chairman, deputy chairman and members of the standing committees;
- d) Shall appoint the chairman, deputy chairman and members of the Judicial bodies;
- e) May delegate all or any of their powers to any committee it may set up from time to time;
- f) Shall compile the regulations for the organisation of standing and ad hoc committees if necessary from time to time;
- g) Shall appoint or dismiss the General Secretary on the proposal of the President;
- h) Shall propose the independent auditors to the General Assembly;
- i) Shall decide the number of teams participating in the competitions of the GFF;
- j) Shall appoint the coaches for the representative teams and other technical staff;
- k) Shall draw up a football calendar for each year;
- l) Shall approve regulations stipulating how the GFF is internally organised;
- m) Shall ensure that the Statutes are applied and adopt the executive arrangements required for their application;
- n) May dismiss a person or body, or suspend a member of the GFF provisionally until the next General Assembly;
- o) May delegate tasks arising out of its area of authority to other bodies of the GFF or third parties; and
- p) Shall generally to do all things necessary or expedient for the due conduct of the affairs of the Federation not otherwise provided for.

ARTICLE 37: PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 37.1 The Executive Committee shall meet at least once every calendar month at any place for the disposal of its business, and shall regulate its own procedure; provided that at least (72) seventy-two hours notice has been given for the convening of a meeting.
- 37.2 The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings. If seven (7) members request a meeting, the President shall convene it within (3) three weeks. If an Executive Committee is not convened, the members who request it may convene the Executive Committee themselves.
- 37.3 The President shall compile the agenda for Executive Committee meetings. 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 points they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the general secretariat at least (7) seven days before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee at least (3) three days before the meeting.
- 37.4 The General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the Executive Committee in a consultative role.
- 37.5 The meetings of the Executive Committee shall not be held in public. The Executive Committee may however invite third parties to attend without the right to vote and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 38: DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 38.1 The Executive Committee shall not engage in a valid debate unless at least 50% of its members are present.
- 38.2 The Executive Committee shall reach decisions by a simple majority of the valid votes casted. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have a casting vote. Voting by proxy or by writing is not permitted.
- 38.3 A member of the Executive Committee shall withdraw from a debate and a vote on any issue where there is a risk or possibility of a conflict of interest.
- 38.4 The decisions of the Executive Committee shall be recorded in the minute book kept by the General Secretary.
- 38.5 The decisions of the Executive Committee shall come into effect immediately unless it decides otherwise.

ARTICLE 39: DISMISSAL OF A BODY OR A PERSON

- 39.1 The General Assembly may dismiss a person or body. The Executive Committee may place the dismissal of a person or body on the agenda of

the General Assembly. The Executive Committee may also dismiss a person or body provisionally. Any Executive Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for dismissal on the agenda of the Executive Committee or General Assembly.

- 39.2 The motion for dismissal must be justified and shall be sent to the members of the GFF along with the agenda.
- 39.3 The person or body in question has the right to speak in his own defence.
- 39.4 If the motion for dismissal is upheld, the General Assembly or Executive Committee shall reach a decision by means of a secret ballot. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two thirds of the votes cast is required.
- 39.5 The person or body dismissed shall be relieved of his or its functions with immediate effect.

ARTICLE 40: POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT

- 40.1 The President is the head and the legal representative of the GFF.
- 40.2 He shall-
- a) Implement through the secretariat, the decisions taken by the Annual General Assembly and the Executive Committee;
 - b) Be responsible for maintaining good relations between the GFF and WAFU, CAF, FIFA as well as the relevant state agencies and international organisations;
 - c) Preside over the General Assembly, the Executive Committee and Emergency Committee meetings and those committees of which he has been appointed chairman;
 - d) Supervise the work of the general secretariat; and
 - e) Ensure the effective functioning of the bodies of the GFF in order that they achieve the objectives outlined in these Statutes;
- 40.3 In the absence of the President, the First Vice President shall act on his behalf. In the event that both the President and the First Vice President are absent, the Second Vice President shall act on their behalf. In the event that the President, the First Vice President and the Second Vice President are absent, the Third Vice President shall act on their behalf.
- 40.4 If the President is permanently prevented from performing his official function, the First Vice President shall represent him until the next General Assembly, where a new election for this position shall take place.

- 40.5 Only the President may propose the appointment or dismissal of the General Secretary.
- 40.6 The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Committee and shall have a casting vote in case of equality of votes

ARTICLE 41: CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

- 41.1 The President shall be elected by the General Assembly for a period of four years. His mandate shall begin after the end of the General Assembly which has elected him. A President shall be re-elected only once.
- 41.2 For the election of the President, a simple majority (50% + 1) of the votes recorded and valid is necessary in the first ballot. If there are more than three candidates, the three candidates that obtain the highest number of votes will remain for the following ballot. If there are three candidates, the candidate that obtains the lowest number of votes will be eliminated and following ballot will take place between the two remaining candidates.
- 41.3 Only Members of the GFF may propose candidates for the office of President. Members shall notify general secretariat in writing of the name of a candidate for the presidency of GFF at least (1) one month before the date of the General Assembly.
- 41.4 The general secretariat shall notify the members of the names of the candidates at least (2) two weeks before the date of the General Assembly

ARTICLE 42: REPRESENTATION AND SIGNATURE

The President represents the GFF legally and is entitled to sign documents for the GFF. The Executive 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 GFF.

ARTICLE 43: EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

- 43.1 The Emergency Committee shall deal with all matters requiring immediate Settlement between two meetings of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall consist of the President, the First Vice president and (3) three members chosen from amongst the Executive Committee for a period of (4) four years.
- 43.2 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 Executive Committee immediately of the decisions passed by the Emergency Committee. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote.

- 43.3 All decisions taken by the Emergency Committee shall be ratified by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.
- 43.4 If the President is unable to attend a meeting, the First Vice President shall chair the meeting. A decision from the Emergency Committee shall be deemed valid if three members voted it.

ARTICLE 44: THE GFFSECRETARIAT

- 44.1 The GFFsecretariat is the permanent administrative organ of the GFF.
- 44.2 It shall be responsible for all the administrative work of the GFF which shall be carried out under the direction of the General Secretary.

ARTICLE 45: THE GENERAL SECRETARY

- 45.1 The General Secretary is the Chief Executive of the general secretariat.
- 45.2 The General Secretary shall be appointed on the basis of a written contract of employment.
- 45.3 The General Secretary shall hold a minimum qualification of a University degree.
- 45.4 The General Secretary shall-
- a) be responsible for the implementation of all of the functions of the general secretariat and decisions passed by the General Assembly and the Executive Committee;
 - b) take part in the meetings of the General Assembly, the meetings of the Executive Committee but without the right to vote, and in those of the Standing Committees in a consultative role. If he is unable to attend, he shall designate one of his assistants;
 - c) Provide secretarial support for the Standing Committees.
 - d) prepare the agenda of meetings of the General Assembly, Executive Committee and Standing Committees in consultation with the President;
 - e) be responsible for compiling the minutes of the meetings of the General Assembly, Executive Committee and Standing Committees;
 - f) be responsible for the GFF correspondence;
 - g) be responsible for the recruitment and dismissal of Secretariat staff, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee;

- h) submit to the Executive Committee, proposals concerning the appointment and dismissal of the Deputy General Secretary and other staff of the Secretariat.
- i) be responsible for managing the finances of GFF and keeping proper accounts. To this end, he shall-
 - (i) cooperate with the Finance Committee in the preparation of the financial statements and the annual budget for submission to the Executive Committee, and
 - (ii) certify all documents relating to expenses and income.

ARTICLE 46: STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE FEDERATION

46.1 There shall be the following Standing Committees of the GFF-

- a) The Organising/Competitions Committee;
- b) The Finance Committee;
- c) The Audit Committee;
- d) The Technical and Development Committee;
- e) The Refereeing Committee;
- f) The Marketing Committee;
- g) The Female Football Committee;
- h) The Medical Committee;
- i) The Protocol Committee;
- j) The Press and Publicity Committee;
- k) Legal Committee;
- l) Players' status Committee;
- m) Security Committee,
- n) Beach Soccer Committee,
- o) Futsal Committee.

46.2 The Chairman and deputy Chairman of a standing committee shall be members of the Executive Committee with the exception of those for the Audit Committee, who shall not belong to the Executive Committee. The members

of each standing committee shall be appointed on the proposal of the Members of the GFF or the President of the GFF. The chairmen, deputy chairmen and the members of the standing committees shall be designated for a term of office for four years.

46.3 Each Chairman shall represent his committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant organization regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.

46.4 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 Executive Committee.

46.5 Each Committee may propose amendments to its regulations to the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 47: THE ORGANISING/COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE

The Organising Committee shall organise the competitions of the GFF in compliance with the provisions of these Statutes and the regulations applicable to the GFF competitions. It shall consist of a Chairman, deputy Chairman and nine members.

ARTICLE 48: THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee shall monitor the financial management and advise the Executive Committee on financial matters and asset management. It shall analyse the budget of the GFF and the financial statements prepared by the General Secretary and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval. It shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (3) three members.

ARTICLE 49: THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit committee shall ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the external auditors' report at the request of the Executive Committee. It shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (3) three members.

ARTICLE 50: THE TECHNICAL AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Technical and Development Committee shall primarily analyse the basic aspects of football training and technical development. It shall consist of Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (3) three members.

ARTICLE 51: THE REFEREEING COMMITTEE

The Refereeing Committee shall implement the Laws of the Game. It shall appoint the referees for matches in competitions organised by the GFF, organise refereeing matters in collaboration with the administration of the GFF and monitor the education and training of referees. It shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (3) three members.

ARTICLE 52: THE MARKETING COMMITTEE

The Marketing Committee shall advise the Executive Committee with regard to negotiating and implementing contracts between the GFF and its marketing partners and analyse marketing strategies that have been devised. It shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (3) three members.

ARTICLE 53: THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

The Women's Football Committee shall organise women's football competitions and deal with all matters relating to women's football. It shall consist of a Chairman, deputy Chairman and (3) three members.

ARTICLE 53A: BEACH SOCCER COMMITTEE

The Beach Soccer Committee shall organise the GFF Beach Soccer Competitions in compliance with the provisions of these statutes and regulations applicable to the GFF Competitions. It shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman and six (6) members.

ARTICLE 53B: FUTSAL COMMITTEE

The Futsal Committee shall organise the GFF Futsal Competitions in compliance with the provisions of these statutes and regulations applicable to the GFF Competitions. It shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman and six (6) members.

ARTICLE 54: THE MEDICAL COMMITTEE

The Medical Committee shall deal with all medical aspects of football. It shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (2) two members.

ARTICLE 55: THE PROTOCOL COMMITTEE

The Protocol Committee shall advise the Executive Committee on all Protocol matters, provide protocol coverage for all dignitaries, local and international associated with Gambia Football Federation and do all other things within their area of competence assigned by the Executive Committee. It shall consist of a Chairperson and (3) three other members appointed by the Executive Committee from amongst its members. The Chairperson shall be a qualified protocol Officer.

ARTICLE 56: THE PRESS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

The Press and Publicity Committee shall deal with the working conditions for the media at GFF events and maintain relations with media organisations. It shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (3) three members.

ARTICLE 57: THE LEGAL COMMITTEE

The Legal Committee shall analyse basic legal issues relating to football and the evolution of the Statutes and regulations of the GFF and its Members. It shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (3) three members.

ARTICLE 58: PLAYERS STATUS COMMITTEE

58.1 The Players' Status Committee shall set up and monitor compliance with transfer regulations in accordance with FIFA Regulations for the status, transfer and determination of the status of players for various competitions of the GFF. The Executive Committee may draw up special regulations governing the Committee's powers or jurisdiction. The Players' Status committee shall consist of a Chairman, a deputy Chairman and (6) six members.

58.2 Players' status disputes involving the GFF, its Members, Players, Officials and match and players agents shall be settled by an Arbitration Tribunal

ARTICLE 59: AD-HOC COMMITTEES

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

ARTICLE 60: JUDICIAL ORGANS

60.1 The Judicial Organs of the GFF shall be-

- a) The Disciplinary Committee; and
- b) The Appeals Committee.

60.2 The responsibilities and functions of these bodies shall be stipulated in the Disciplinary Code of the GFF, which shall comply with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

60.3 The members of the judicial bodies shall not belong to any other body of the GFF at the same time.

ARTICLE 61: THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

61.1 The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of not more than (5) five persons to be appointed by the Executive Committee. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall have legal qualifications.

61.2 The function of this body shall be governed by the Disciplinary Code of the GFF. The quorum for a Disciplinary Committee meeting shall be (3) three. In certain cases, the Chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of the GFF.

61.3 The Committee may pronounce the sanctions prescribed in these Statutes and the Disciplinary Code of the GFF on Members, Officials, Players, Clubs and match and players agents.

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

ARTICLE 62: THE APPEALS COMMITTEE

62.1 The Appeal Committee shall consist of a Chairman, deputy Chairman and (7) seven members to be appointed by the Executive Committee. The Chairman and deputy Chairman shall have legal qualifications.

62.2 The function of this body shall be government by the Disciplinary Code of the GFF. The quorum for the Appeals Committee shall be (5) five members. In certain cases, the Chairman may rule alone in accordance with the Disciplinary Code of the GFF.

62.3 The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions of the Disciplinary Committee that are not declared final.

ARTICLE 63: DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

The GFF may impose the following penalties against natural and legal persons-

1. For natural and legal persons-

- a) Warning;
- b) Reprimand;
- c) Fine;
- d) Return of prize.

2. For natural persons-

- a) Caution;
- b) Expulsion;
- c) Match suspension;
- d) Ban from dressing room or the substitutes bench;
- e) Ban from entering a stadium;
- f) Ban on taking part in any football-related activity,

3. For Legal persons-

- a) Ban on registering new players;

- b) Playing a match behind closed doors;
- c) Playing a match on a neutral venue;
- d) Annulment of the result of a match;
- e) Expulsion;
- f) Forfeiture;
- g) Deduction of points;
- h) Relegation to a lower division;
- i) Fine;
- j) Suspension.

ARTICLE 64: ARBITRATION

- 64.1 The GFF shall create an Arbitration Tribunal, which shall deal with all disputes between the GFF, its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents that do not fall under the jurisdiction of its Judicial Bodies. The Executive Committee shall draw up special regulations regarding the composition, jurisdiction and procedural rules of the Arbitration Tribunal.
- 64.2 Where an Arbitration Tribunal has not been created and recognised by the General Assembly of GFF, any dispute of national dimension may only be referred in the last instance to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne (Switzerland).

ARTICLE 65: JURISDICTION

- 65.1 The GFF, its Members, Players, Officials and match and player's agents shall not take any dispute to the ordinary courts unless specifically provided for in these Statutes and FIFA regulations. Any disagreement may be submitted to the jurisdiction of GFF, FIFA, CAF, or WAFU.
- 65.2 The GFF shall have jurisdiction on internal disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to the GFF. FIFA shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different Associations or Confederations.
- 65.3 A member of the GFF who or that violates this provision shall be suspended from the GFF pending the withdrawal of the matter before the courts. If the matter is not withdrawn from the court before judgement is delivered, the member shall be expelled from the GFF.

ARTICLE 66: COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT

- 66.1 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 the GFF.

66.2 The GFF 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.

ARTICLE 67: FINANCIAL PERIOD

67.1 The financial period for the GFF shall cover the period of 1st January to 31st December each year.

67.2 The revenue and expenditure of the GFF shall be managed so that they balance out over the financial period.

67.3 The General Secretary is responsible for drawing up the annual accounts of the GFF by 31st December each year.

ARTICLE 68: REVENUE

68.1 The sources of revenue for the GFF shall include, but not limited to-

- (a) Annual subscription fees paid by members;
- (b) National competition entry fees;
- (c) Player registration fee;
- (d) Gate shares from matches;
- (e) Sponsorships;
- (f) Donations;
- (g) Loans;
- (h) State grants;
- (i) Returns on investments;
- (j) Broadcast rights;
- (k) Advertising;
- (l) Royalties; and
- (m) Grants from WAFU, CAF and FIFA.

ARTICLE 69: EXPENSES

The GFF shall bear-

- (a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;

- (b) other expenses approved by the General Assembly;
- (c) the expenses that the Executive Committee is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority; and
- (d) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives of the GFF.

ARTICLE 70: ANNUAL AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND REPORT

The Executive Committee shall lay before the General Assembly, annual audited accounts of the Federation, and the annual report of the previous year at least (4) four weeks before the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 71: ANNUAL BUDGET

71.1 The Executive Committee shall prepare, submit and defend an annual budget to the General Assembly for adoption, provided it is circulated to members at least (2) two weeks before the General Assembly meeting.

71.2 All funds of the Federation shall be kept at banks appointed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 72: INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

72.1 The Accounts of the GFF shall be audited by a qualified external auditor who shall be independent of the GFF. The external auditor shall present his findings and opinions to the GFF General Assembly.

72.2 Auditors shall be engaged annually by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee from not less than two auditing firms.

ARTICLE 73: MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

73.1 Membership subscriptions are due on 1st December each year. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within (30) thirty days of the close of the General Assembly at which they are admitted.

73.2 The General Assembly shall fix the amount of the annual subscription every year on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It shall be the same for every member.

ARTICLE 74: SETTLEMENT

The GFF may debit any member's assets to settle claims.

ARTICLE 75: LEVIES

A levy of an amount to be agreed shall be paid by the members of the GFF for matches where the gate takings are collected by the clubs and vice versa.

ARTICLE 76: COMPETITIONS

76.1 The GFF shall organise and coordinate the following official competitions held within The Gambia,

- (a) the League Championship;
- (b) the FA Cup; and
- (c) any other competition.

76.2 The Executive Committee may delegate to the GFF's subordinate Leagues the authority to organise competitions. The competitions organised by the Leagues shall not interfere with those competitions organised by the GFF. Competitions organised by the GFF shall take priority.

76.3 The Executive Committee may make special regulations to this end.

ARTICLE 77: CLUB LICENSING

77.1 The GFF shall operate a Club Licensing system in accordance with the principles of the Club licensing regulations of CAF and FIFA.

77.2 The objectives of the Club licensing system are to –

- a) safeguard the credibility and integrity of Club competitions;
- b) improve the level of professionalism of the GFF;
- c) promote sporting values in accordance with the principles of fair play; and
- d) secure match environments and to promote transparency in the finances, ownership and control of Clubs.

77.3 The Executive Committee of the GFF shall issue Club Licensing regulations governing the Club Licensing system. The Club Licensing regulations shall stipulate the Clubs to which the system applies. As a minimum, the Club Licensing system must be implemented in respect of top-division clubs which qualify for GFF club competitions on sporting merit.

ARTICLE 78: RIGHTS

78.1 The GFF and its Members are the original owners of all 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.

78.2 The Executive Committee shall decide how and to what extent these rights are utilized and draw up special regulations to this end. The Executive Committee shall alone decide whether these rights shall be utilized exclusively or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

ARTICLE 79: AUTHORISATION

The GFF 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 and technical and legal aspects.

ARTICLE 80: INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

80.1 The authority for organizing international matches and competitions between Association teams lies solely with FIFA and the Confederation(s). Matches and competitions shall take place in accordance with the FIFA Regulations governing international matches. In addition, permission from the relevant Confederation may be required in accordance with the FIFA regulations governing international matches.

80.2 The GFF shall comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

ARTICLE 81: CONTACTS

The GFF 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.

ARTICLE 82: APPROVAL

Any Association, League or Club that is affiliated to the GFF cannot belong to another Federation or participate in competitions on the territory of another Federation without the authorisation of the GFF, the other Federation and of FIFA, except in exceptional circumstances.

ARTICLE 83: UNFORSEEN CONTINGENCIES AND FORCE MAJEURE

The Executive Committee shall have the final decision on any matter not provided for in these Statutes or in case of force majeure.

ARTICLE 84: DISSOLUTION

84.1 Any decision relating to the dissolution of the GFF requires a majority of two-thirds of all of the Members of the GFF, which must be obtained at a General Assembly specially convened for the purpose.

84.2 If the GFF is disbanded, its assets shall be transferred to the Ministry of Youth and Sports of The Gambia. It shall hold this asset in trust as “bonus pater familias” until the GFF is re-established. The final General Assembly may however choose another recipient for the assets on the basis of a two-thirds majority.

ARTICLE 85 – TRANSITIONAL CLAUSE

The members of the GFF as defined in art. 11 para. 1 of the present Constitution have one year as from the adoption of this Constitution to establish themselves in compliance with the provisions of this Constitution. Where the aforementioned members fail to comply with the provisions of the Constitution within the deadline of one year, their membership of the GFF will be automatically deemed lost

These Statutes were amended and adopted at the General Assembly of the GFF in BANJUL on the 27 Day of August, 2022.

Lamin Kaba Bajo
President
GFF



Lamin M. Jassey
General Secretary
GFF