

70TH **FIFA**[®]
CONGRESS 2020
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Proposal for amendments to the FIFA Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress



Organisation of virtual Congresses

As you are aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a very significant impact on the way all international organisations conduct their affairs.

For global organisations such as FIFA, there are particular challenges arising from the fact that it remains difficult to hold physical meetings of all of our members to discuss and debate football-related matters.

Consequently, like many others, we have had to develop alternative means and make use of new technologies to ensure that we maintain the ability to interact and communicate with each other around the world.

For example, the Council decided in June to amend the FIFA Governance Regulations to allow committee meetings to be held by videoconference in a virtual format. It also decided that the 2020 FIFA Congress would be held in a virtual setting, relying on a special Swiss law adopted earlier this year which allows all Switzerland-based organisations to hold their annual general meetings by this method.

As it is not clear how the situation will evolve in future regarding the practicability of holding physical meetings involving all of our members and to ensure maximum flexibility so that we can communicate with each other effectively, the Bureau of the Council proposed that the Congress approve the amendments to the FIFA Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress that would allow a FIFA Congress (whether Ordinary or Extraordinary) to be convened in a virtual format in the future. This way, it would not be necessary to rely on any specific national legislation to hold a Congress virtually: instead, this possibility would exist based on FIFA's own internal rules.

In addition to providing greater flexibility to hold plenary sessions involving all of FIFA's member associations, such amendments would also help FIFA to evolve as a modern and responsible global organisation while achieving both cost efficiencies and environmental objectives, such as by reducing the emission of greenhouse gases.

Proposed amendments to the FIFA Statutes and Standing Orders of the Congress

FIFA Statutes
Art. 25 1. A Congress may be an Ordinary or an Extraordinary Congress. <u>A Congress may be held in person, by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication.</u>
Art. 26 1. Each member association has one vote in the Congress and is represented by its delegates. Only the member associations present are entitled to vote. <u>Attendance by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication shall constitute presence.</u> Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted <u>at a Congress held in person.</u> <u>When a Congress is held by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication, voting by correspondence and/or online is permitted.</u>
Art. 75 1. These Statutes were adopted at the Congress in Paris on <u>18 September 2020</u> 5 June 2019 and come into force immediately after adoption.
Standing Orders of the Congress
Art. 9 1. Voting by secret ballot is prohibited. <u>Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted at a Congress held in person.</u> <u>When a Congress is held by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication, voting by correspondence and/or online is permitted.</u>