

Sent in advance by email
FIFA Member Associations Committee
Mr Ahmad, Chairman
FIFA-Strasse 20
8022 Zurich
Switzerland

27 March 2018

Dear Chairman of the FIFA Member Associations Committee,

Following the decision of your committee taken on 4 July 2017 to install a FIFA Monitoring Committee (MoCo) and in accordance with the respective Terms of Reference (ToR) given by FIFA, the MoCo shall, *inter alia*, monitor the overall situation of the Hellenic Football Federation (HFF) and report accordingly to FIFA/UEFA on its own initiative at any time.

In this respect, in view of the difficult situation that Greek football is currently undergoing we decided to address you this letter with a recommendation to submit the case to the FIFA Council based on the points below:

- During the last months, there have been repeated incidents of violence in the stadiums which have even led to some matches being abandoned or not played at all. The negative images of the latest events have been broadcast internationally and we are sure you have also been informed accordingly.
- As you are aware, on 12 March 2018, in view of the events that took place at a match between PAOK-AEK, where the owner of one of the clubs invaded the pitch armed, the Greek Deputy Minister of Sport decided to suspend the 2017/18 Greek Super League and Greek Cup until all first division clubs sign a declaration condemning violence and undertake to amend the HFF Disciplinary Code in order to strengthen the sanctions in case of episodes of violence in stadia. This is the second time in the last two years that a national competition has been suspended for reasons related to violence.
- Meanwhile, following the events that took place at the abovementioned match, the Executive Board of the European Club Association (ECA) decided to suspend one of its members (i.e. PAOK FC) with immediate effect.
- As a consequence of the various episodes of violence, there are currently many cases pending before the various instances of the HFF's judicial organs. We have noticed that the judiciary system is quite slow and many decisions have been postponed several times. We believe that at the end of the championship, many cases will be still pending and that the winner of the 2017/18 Greek Super League will be decided in the courts and not on the pitch.

- On 1 February 2018, in its effort to help in the overall development of football in Greece, the MoCo issued a series of recommendations to the HFF and asked for their full implementation (see annexe). Up to date, the majority of them have not been taken into consideration.

Following the abovementioned suspension of the 2017/18 Greek Super League, the MoCo issued a statement (see annexe) urging the HFF to rapidly take appropriate measures in order to eradicate all sorts of violence so as to guarantee the smooth running of the national competitions.

Regretfully, and independently of whether or not the suspension decided by the Deputy Minister of Sport has been lifted, the MoCo is of the opinion that the current situation of Greek football with its repeated episodes of violence does not allow the HFF to guarantee a smooth running of the national competitions.

Against this background, the MoCo urges the FIFA Member Associations Committee to analyse the current situation of the HFF without delay and to refer the case to the FIFA Council for consideration. The MoCo unanimously recommends an immediate suspension of the HFF from FIFA membership.

We trust in your immediate action and remain at your complete disposal.

Yours faithfully,


Herbert Hübel
Chairman of the FIFA Monitoring Committee

Encl. as mentioned

Cc

- Hellenic Football Federation
- Mr Eduard Dervishaj, Member of the FIFA Monitoring Committee
- Mr Ivan Vella, Member of the FIFA Monitoring Committee
- FIFA, UEFA