Agreement

REGARDING THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR STANDARD PLAYER CONTRACTS IN THE PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL SECTOR IN THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND IN THE REST OF THE UEFA TERRITORY

Compromise proposal HW 24/01/2011

AGREEMENT

PARTIES:

- The Union des Associations Européennes de Football having its registered office in Nyon (Switzerland) and its principal place of business in Nyon (Switzerland), hereafter referred to as "UEFA";
- The European Professional Football Leagues having its registered office in Nyon (Switzerland) and its principal place of business in Nyon (Switzerland), hereafter referred to as "EPFL";
- The European Club Association having its registered office in Nyon and its principal place of business in Nyon (Switzerland), hereafter referred to as "ECA";
- The Federation Internationale de Footballeurs Professionels Division Europe having its registered office in Brussels (Belgium) and its principal place of business in Hoofddorp (the Netherlands), hereafter referred to as "FIFPro Division Europe".

UEFA, EPFL, ECA and FIFPro Division Europe hereafter together referred to as: "Parties".

EPFL/ECA and FIFPro Division Europe hereafter together referred to as: "Social Partners".

WHEREAS:

- a. The (associate) members of EPFL are national premier professional football leagues, major non-premier professional football leagues and associations of clubs in Europe which fulfil the relevant criteria as laid down in the constitution of the EPFL
- b. EPFL has 30 members and associate members at the moment of signing this Agreement, which members are listed in Annex 1;
- c. The members of ECA are clubs from all UEFA member associations, which have the best individual coefficient ranking(s) in their respective association, clubs that have obtained membership due to other sporting merits and clubs that play UEFA Champions League;
- d. ECA has 197 Members and Associated Members at the moment of signing this Agreement, which members are listed in Annex 2;
- e. The members of FIFPro Division Europe are national professional football players' associations in Europe;
- f. FIFPro Division Europe has 24 members at the moment of signing this Agreement, which members are listed in Annex 3;

- g. The parties recognise that FIFPro Division Europe is the representative of the players in any formal EU Social Dialogue regarding professional football players and clubs and that EPFL and the ECA are the representatives of the clubs in any formal EU Social Dialogue regarding professional football players and clubs.
- h. The European Commission has recognised the Social Partners as the European social partners in the European Union in the context of European social dialogue in accordance with Commission Decision 98/500/EC of 20 May 1998 on the establishment of Sectoral Dialogue Committees promoting the Dialogue between the social partners at European level based on Article 154 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);
- i. UEFA is a party to this agreement in accordance with: (i) the Professional Football Strategy Council agreement on (EU) social dialogue, signed by all four parties dated 14 May 2008 (attached as Annex 5); (ii) the Rules of Procedure for the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for the Professional Football Sector (attached as Annex 4) (as regards the EU aspect of this agreement) where as governing body of European football UEFA is defined an "associate party"; (iii) its role as governing body of European football; and (iv) the other relevant provisions of this Agreement.
- j. The European Professional Football Player Contract Minimum Requirements (hereafter referred to as "MRSPC") have been developed by a working group between UEFA, FIFPro and EPFL and have been sent to the members of UEFA by circular no. 032 dated 18 May 2007;
- k. The Parties agreed to transform the MRSPC in to a European autonomous agreement in the framework of the European Social Dialogue Committee in the Professional Football Sector.
- I. The Parties regard this agreement as an outcome of collective bargaining at European level between the Social Partners. The Parties, as agreed upon in the "Objectives" of the Work Programme 2008-2009 of the European Social Dialogue in the Professional Football Sector, "will promote and develop the concept of the European Professional Football Player Contract Minimum Requirements throughout the European Union Member States" and the rest of the UEFA Territory.
- m. The provisions of the EU Treaties, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and secondary EU law apply to professional football players' contracts without prejudice to more stringent and/or more specific provisions contained in this agreement. The Parties commit to further elaborate provisions regulating the employment relationship in the professional football sector, taking into account its specific nature, in future agreements. Where appropriate, agreements on matters falling into the scope of Article 153 of the TFEU may be submitted to the Commission for adoption by Council decision in line with the procedure laid down in Article 155 of the TFEU.
- n. The Parties state, represent and warrant that they each have the competence to conclude this Agreement.

ARTICLE 1 OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Agreement is the establishment on minimum requirements for professional football player contracts in Europe.

ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS

In this Agreement the following terms will have the following meaning.

2.1 <u>Agreement:</u> This agreement including all annexes.

2.2	Club:	A professional football club which participates in one of the professional football competitions/leagues mentioned in Annex 6.
2.3	<u>Player:</u>	A professional football player who is being employed by a Club on the basis of a Contract.
2.4	Contract:	The employment contract between a Player and a Club.
2.5	<u>Territory:</u>	All the countries in which a member of UEFA is domiciled.

ARTICLE 3 THE CONTRACT

- 3.1 The Contract must be in writing, duly signed by the Club and the Player with the necessary legal binding power of signature. It also includes indications with regard to place and date of when the Contract was duly signed. In the case of a minor the parent/guardian must also sign the Contract.
- 3.2 The Club and the Player each (must) receive a copy of the Contract and one copy has to be forwarded to the professional league and/or national association for registration according to the provisions of the competent football body.
- 3.3 The Contract states the name, surname, birth date, nationality(-ies) as well as the full address of the residency of the Player (only an individual

- person). In the case of a minor the parent/guardian must also be mentioned accordingly.
- 3.4 The Contract states the full legal name of the Club (incl. register number) and its full address as well as the name, surname and address of the person who is legally representing the Club. A Contract can only be concluded by a Club and its legal entity. Such entity is defined according to the national club licensing manual/regulations as license applicant. It must be a direct or indirect member of the national football association and/or professional league and be duly registered. Any other legal entity may not conclude such a Contract without the prior written consent of the competent national football body.
- 3.5 The Contract defines a clear starting date (day/month/year) as well as the ending date (day/month/year). Furthermore it defines the equal rights of Club and Player to negotiate an extension and/or a termination of the Contract earlier. Any early termination must be founded (just cause). In cases of prolonged periods of injury/illness or of permanent incapacity of the Player, the Club may serve a reasonable notice to the Player. Reference is made to the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players.
- 3.6 Regarding article 3.5 of the Agreement the Parties agree that the national implementation should define the equal rights of Club and Player to negotiate an extension and/or a termination of the Contract earlier in accordance with the legal framework as established by collective bargaining agreements, labour law, common law and case law at the national and international level.
- 3.7 If applicable, it must also indicate further persons involved in the negotiations or conclusion of the Contract (e.g. parent/guardian of a minor, name of a legal representative of the Player, a licensed players' agent, interpreter).

ARTICLE 4 DEFINITIONS OF THE CONTRACT

- 4.1 The Contract consists of terms and definitions, which are duly explained.
- 4.2 Terms not expressly defined in the Contract have meanings consistent with the definition of such terms in FIFA's and UEFA's statutes and regulations, as amended from time to time.

ARTICLE 5 RELATIONSHIP

5.1 The Contract regulates an employment contract for a professional player. The national legislation of the country where the Club is duly

registered applies, if another legislation is not explicitly otherwise agreed. National labour law may provide mandatory provisions, which cannot be amended by the Player and the Club and have to be taken into account.

- 5.2 The Contract must contain all rights and duties between the Player and the Club. No further contract should cover the employment relationship between the Player and the Club. If another contract exists or is signed at a later stage then the parties are obliged to refer to this Contract or to any subsequent employment agreement. Any additional contract related to the Contract must be sent to the professional league and/or the national association as elaborated in Article 3.2.
- 5.3 The Club employs the Player as a professional football player on the terms set out in the Contract.
- 5.4 The Contract shall be governed by the law chosen by the Club and the Player. Such a choice may not, however, have the result of depriving the Player of the protection afforded to him by provisions that cannot be derogated from by agreement under the law of the state where the Club is established.

ARTICLE 6 OBLIGATIONS CLUB

- 6.1 The Contract defines the Club's obligations towards the Player in conformity with this Article.
- 6.2 The Contract defines all the Club's financial obligations such as, for example:
 - (a) Salary (regular; monthly, weekly, performance based);
 - (b) Other financial benefits (bonuses, experience reward, international appearances);
 - (c) Other benefits (Non-financial ones such as car, accommodation, etc.);
 - (d) Medical and health insurance for accident and illness (as mandatory by law) and payment of salary during incapacity (definition to be determined including its consequences with regard to salaries paid);
 - (e) Pension fund/social security costs (as mandatory by law or collective bargaining agreement);
 - (f) Reimbursements for expenses incurred by the Player.
- 6.3 The Contract must define the currency, the amount, the due date for each amount (e.g. by the end of each month) and the manner of payment (cash, transfer on bank account etc.).
- 6.4 The Contract also regulates the financial impact in case of major changes of revenue of the Club (e.g. promotion/relegation).

- 6.5 The Council Directive 94/33/EC of 22 June 1994 on the protection of young people at work applies. The Contact ensures that every youth player involved in its youth development programme has the possibility to follow mandatory school education in accordance with national law and that no youth player involved in its youth development programme is prevented from continuing their non-football education. This may also apply to prepare a second career after football (retirement).
- 6.6 The Club and the Player agree on the payment of taxes according to national legislation.
- 6.7 The Contract defines the paid leave (holidays). The minimum is four weeks in each 12-month period. Periods of paid leave must be agreed by the Club in advance and must be taken outside the regular football season. It has to be ensured that at least two weeks are taken consecutively. The Contract defines the length of the player's normal working day or week.
- 6.8 The Contract includes provisions for protection of human rights (e.g. right of free expression of the player) and the non-discrimination against the Player.
- 6.9 The Contract explains the health and safety policy of the Club, which includes the mandatory insurance coverage for the Player for illness and accident and regular medical/dental examination as well as medical/dental treatment with qualified personnel during football duties. It also covers anti-doping prevention. The Council Directive 89/391/EEC applies, in particular provisions on risk assessment, preventive measures, as well as information, consultation, participation and training of players.
- 6.10 The Contract also regulates the keeping of proper records on injury (incl. those incurred on national team duty) whilst respecting confidentiality. If law does not provide otherwise, as a principle the records on injury are kept by the responsible team doctor.

ARTICLE 7 OBLIGATIONS PLAYER

- 7.1 The Contract defines the Player's obligations towards the Club in conformity with this Article.
- 7.2 The Contract defines all the Player's obligations to fulfil vis-à-vis the Club:
 - (a) To play matches to the best of his best ability, when selected:
 - (b) To participate in training and match preparation according to the instructions of his superior (e.g. head coach);
 - (c) To maintain a healthy lifestyle and high standard of fitness;
 - (d) To comply with and act in accordance with Club officials' instructions (reasonable; e.g. to reside where suitable for the Club);
 - (e) To attend events of the Club (sporting but also commercial ones);

- (f) To obey Club rules (including, where applicable, Club disciplinary regulations, duly notified to him before signing the Contract);
- (g) To behave in a sporting manner towards people involved in matches, training sessions, to learn and observe the laws of the game and to accept decisions by match officials;
- (h) To abstain from participating in other football activities, other activities or potentially dangerous activities not prior approved by the Club and which are not covered by Clubs' insurance;
- (i) To take care of the property of the Club and to return it after termination of the Contract;
- (j) To immediately notify the Club in case of illness or accident and to not undergo any medical treatment without prior information to the Club's doctor (except in emergencies) and to provide a medical certificate of incapacity;
- (k) To undergo regularly medical examination and medical treatment upon request of the Club's doctor;
- (l) To comply with the terms of any association, league, player's union and/or club anti-discrimination policy;
- (m) Not to bring the Club or football into disrepute (e.g. media statements);
- (n) Not to gamble or undertake other related activities within football.
- 7.3 The Player and Club agree on the payment of taxes according to national legislation.
- 7.4 The Player has a right of a second opinion by an independent medical specialist if he contests the opinion of the Club's specialist. If there are still differing opinions, the Player and the Club agree on accepting an independent third opinion, which will be binding.

ARTICLE 8 IMAGE RIGHTS

- 8.1 The Club and the Player have to agree how the Players' image rights are exploited.
- 8.2 As a recommendation and principle the individual player may exploit his rights by himself (if not conflicting with Clubs' sponsors/partners) whilst the Club may exploit the Players' image rights as part of the whole squad.

ARTICLE 9 LOAN

9.1 The Club and the Player must both agree with regard to a loan to another Club, which must comply with the relevant applicable football regulations.

ARTICLE 10

PLAYER DISCIPLINE AND GRIEVANCE

- 10.1 The Club establishes in writing appropriate internal disciplinary rules with sanctions/penalties and the necessary procedures, which the Player abides by. The Club has to explain such rules to the Player.
- 10.2 The Club fixes these rules and procedures as well as the sanctions including fines according to local agreement and standards.
- 10.3 If the Player violates any of the obligations to which he is subject under the Contract, the Club may impose a range of penalties, depending on the severity of the offence, according to these disciplinary regulations.
- 10.4 The Player has a right to appeal and the right to be accompanied/represented by the Club captain or a union representative.

ARTICLE 11 ANTI-DOPING

- 11.1 The Player and the Club comply with all relevant anti-doping regulations.
- 11.2 Doping is forbidden. Anyone who administers illegal substances or encourages doping in any way will be referred to the disciplinary bodies of the national association or the international governing bodies as appropriate.
- 11.3 The Club retains the right to also take any other measures against the Player found guilty of doping practices, whilst taking into account the principle of individual case management.

ARTICLE 12 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 12.1 The Contract fixes the process for disputes between the Player and the Club on issues not covered by the Contract.
- 12.2 Subject to national legislation and national collective bargaining agreements any dispute between the Club and the Player regarding the Contract shall be submitted to independent and impartial arbitration composed of equal representatives of each party (employer and employee) under the national association's statutes and regulations, or to CAS, where no national arbitration process which is deemed to be finale applies. Such decisions are final. Under the conditions mentioned in the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players, disputes may be settled by the Dispute Resolution Chamber, with an appeal possibility to CAS.

[Important remark: Labour issues are covered by national law and in certain countries arbitration on labour disputes is not allowed.]

ARTICLE 13 FOOTBALL REGULATIONS

- 13.1 The Football Regulations are the statutes, regulations and decisions of FIFA, UEFA, the national association and, where existing, the professional league.
- 13.2 The Club and the Player must comply with the statutes, regulations and decisions of FIFA, UEFA, the national association as well as the professional league (if existing) which form an integral part of the Contract the Player and the Club acknowledge this through their signature.
- 13.3 The Club and the Player acknowledge that the above-mentioned Football Regulations may change from time to time.

ARTICLE 14 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

- 14.1 The Club and the Player must comply with the national collective bargaining agreement if duly agreed by the national organisations representing employers and employees and the Club and the Player acknowledge this through their signature of the Contract.
- 14.2 The Club has, for example, to respect minimum wages for the Player if agreed in the national collective bargaining agreement.

ARTICLE 15 FINAL PROVISIONS OF CONTRACT

- 15.1 The Club and Player have to finalize the content of following final provisions
 - (a) The applicable law;
 - (b) The jurisdiction;
 - (c) The authoritative version if the Contract is translated (if more than one language);
 - (d) The confidentiality of the duly signed Contract (unless divulgation is required by national law or football regulations);
 - (e) The invalidity of a single clause does not affect the remaining part of the Contract;
 - (f) Interpretation of contractual clauses has to be fixed (e.g. who is responsible?);
 - (g) The number of copies of the Contract produced and to whom they are distributed:
 - (h) Definition of the annexes, which are an integral part of the Contract and distributed to the Player;

- (i) Any amendments, additions or deletions of the Contract are only valid if agreed in writing.
- 15.2 The Player and the Club agree on all relevant annexes (applicable and duly signed by both of them):

Annexes:

- Club rules (including, where applicable, Club Disciplinary Regulations).
- Football Regulations.

ARTICLE 16 ANTI-RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION

16.1 The Clubs and the Player shall contractually commit to act against racism and other discriminatory acts in football.

ARTICLE 17 MORE FAVORABLE PROVISIONS

- 17.1 The Clubs and Players as well as the members of the Social Partners have the right to agree provisions deviating from this Agreement for the benefit of the Players. This can be done both in a national collective bargaining agreement and in an individual Contract.
- 17.2 Insofar as the Clubs and Players or the members of the Social Partners have agreed or agree employment conditions which deviate from the provisions contained in this Agreement in a manner favourable for the Player those favourable employment conditions remain in force.
- 17.3 The Agreement cannot in any circumstances undermine the collective or individual benefits of the Player vested prior to its entry into force.

ARTICLE 18 IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT

18.1 In the context of article 155 of the TFEU, this Agreement commits the Parties to use best endeavours to ensure the implemention at national level where possible, using the most appropriate legal instruments as determined by the relevant parties at national level in the European Union and the rest of the Territory. The aforementioned is without prejudice to the principle of subsidiarity, including but not limited to national legislation, existing collective bargaining agreements, standard contracts and club players contracts. The implementation of this Agreement shall take into account the applicable legal environment on sporting labour law and shall be in accordance with the procedures and practices specific to management and labour in the European Union Member States and in the remaining countries of the Territory.

- 18.2 Implementation of the Agreement will follow only after it has been approved and/or ratified by the appropriate Organs of the Parties (i.e. General Assembly, Congress etc.). The respective approval/ratification procedures for the Parties are set out in Annex 7.
- 18.3 This Agreement commits all Parties to use best endeavours to ensure its implementation in the rest of the Territory in accordance with Annex 8.
- 18.4 Any disagreement concerning the implementation process at national level must be resolved by negotiations at national level involving, where appropriate, input from the Contact Committee. The Contact Committee shall comprise 2 representatives from FIFpro Division Europe; 1 representative from the EPFL; 1 representative from the ECA and 1 representative from UEFA. The members of the Contact Committee shall be drawn from the Steering Committee of the European Social Dialogue Committee. The task of the Contact Committee is to assist the parties at national level to achieve effective implementation of this Agreement.
- 18.5 Member organisations will report on the implementation of this Agreement to the European Social Dialogue Committee. Annex 8 contains detailed provisions on reporting.
- 18.6 Implementation of this Agreement does not constitute valid grounds to reduce the level of employment conditions established at national level for Players, e.g. as established in national collective bargaining agreements or in individual Contracts.

ARTICLE 19 COMPLETE AGREEMENT AND REVISION

- 19.1 The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement constitutes the complete agreement of the Parties in relation to the Agreement and the subject matter of the Agreement. A Party may not vary the terms of this Agreement without obtaining the prior written approval of the other Parties.
- 19.2 The Parties can change the terms of this Agreement by negotiations within the framework of the European Social Dialogue Committee.
- 19.3 This Agreement shall not prejudice the right of the parties at national level to conclude agreements adapting and/or complementing the provisions of this Agreement in order to take into account exceptional circumstances. Such changes must be approved by the Steering Committee of the European Social Dialogue Committee with a view to guaranteeing the coherent implementation of the Agreement in the Territory.

ARTICLE 20 LENGTH OF AGREEMENT

- 20.1 This Agreement shall take effect from the signing date, being after the approval and/or ratification of the text by all appropriate Organs of the Parties and shall remain in force for four years. The Agreement will expire without any further notice.
- 20.2 The Parties have the obligation to negotiate a renewal of this Agreement in good faith according to the Rules of Procedure. These negotiations have to start at the latest one year before the expiry of the Agreement. The Parties shall make best endeavours to have a new agreement for a new period to be signed three months prior to its expiry.

ARTICLE 21 ROLE OF UEFA

- 21.1 UEFA, as the governing body of European Football, has a seat in the Social Dialogue Committee as an associate party defined in the Rules of Procedure for the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee in the Professional Football Sector.
- 21.2 The Professional Football Strategy Council of UEFA will work together with the Social Dialogue Committee in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee in the Professional Football Sector.

ARTICLE 22 SIGNATURES

Thus drawn up and signed in Brussels, / 2011

For UEFA:		
For EPFL:	For ECA:	

For FIFPro Division Europe Division	Europe:

Members EPFL



Associate members EPFL

- CHARGE	The Football League	ENG
UCPF	Union des Clubs Professionels de Football	FRA
N.	Federatie Betaald Voetbal Organisaties	NED
TOP I	Association Professional Football Leagues	RUS
PRO	Lega Pro	ITA
ġ	Professional Football League of Ukraine	UKR

EUROPEAN CLUB ASSOCIATION 2008-10

July 09 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	Ranking 1 2 3	Association England	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5
	1 2 3	England					113
27	3		Chelsea FC	Liverpool FC	Arsenal FC	Manchester United FC	Tottenham Hotspur F
27		Spain	FC Barcelona	Sevilla FC	Real Madrid CF	Villarreal CF	Valencia CF
27		Italy	AC Milan	FC Internazionale Milano	AS Roma	Juventus FC	US Città di Palermo
	4	France	Olympique Lyonnais	Olympique de Marseille	AS Monaco FC	LOSC Lille Métropole	
	5	Germany	FC Bayern München	Werder Bremen	FC Schalke 04	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	
	6	Russia	FC Zenit St. Petersburg	PFC CSKA Moskva	FC Spartak Moskva	FC Lokomotiv Moskva	
	7	Romania	FC Steaua București	FC Rapid Bucureşti	SC Dinamo 1948 București		
	8	Portugal	FC Porto	SL Benfica	Sporting Clube de Portugal		
<u> </u>	9	Netherlands	PSV Eindhoven	AZ Alkmaar	AFC Ajax		
_	10	Scotland	Rangers FC	Celtic FC	Heart of Midlothian FC		
27	11	Turkey	Fenerbahçe SK	Beşiktaş JK	Galatasaray SK		
	12	Ukraine	FC Shakhtar Donetsk	FC Dynamo Kyiv	FC Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk		
	13	Belgium	RSC Anderlecht	Club Brugge KV	R. Standard de Liège		
	14	Greece	Panathinaikos FC	Olympiacos CFP	AEK Athens FC		
	15	Czech Republic	AC Sparta Praha	SK Slavia Praha	FK Teplice		
	16	Switzerland	FC Basel 1893	FC Zürich			
L	17	Bulgaria	PFC Levski Sofia	PFC Litex Lovech			
<u> </u>	18	Norway	Rosenborg BK	Vålerenga IF			
_	19	Denmark	FC København	Brøndby IF			
22	20	Austria	FK Austria Wien	SK Rapid Wien	7		
7	21 22	Serbia Israel	FK Partizan Maccabi Haifa FC	FK Crvena Zvezda Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC			
-	23	Sweden	Helsingborgs IF	IF Elfsborg			
	24	Slovakia	MFK Petržalka	MFK Ružomberok			
-	25	Poland	Wisła Kraków SA	KSP Polonia Warszawa			
	26	Hungary	Ferencvárosi TC	Debreceni VSC			
-	27	Croatia	NK Dinamo Zagreb		4		
	28	Cyprus	Anorthosis Famagusta FC				
	29	Slovenia	NK Domžale				
	30	Finland	Tampere United				
	31	Latvia	FK Ventspils				
	32	Bosnia-Herzegovina	FK Željezničar				
L	33	Lithuania	FK Ekranas				
	34	Moldova	CSF Zimbru Chişinău				
L	35	Republic of Ireland	Derry City FC				
_	36	F.Y.R. Macedonia	FK Rabotnički				
L	37	Iceland	FH Hafnarfjörður				
-	38	Georgia	FC Vadua				
27	39	Liechtenstein Belarus	FC Vaduz				
7	40 41	Estonia	FC BATE Borisov FC Levadia Tallinn				
-	42	Azerbaijan	Olimpik-Shuvalan PFC Baku				
-	43	Albania	KS Dinamo Tirana				
<u> </u>	44	Armenia	FC Pyunik				
-	45	Kazakhstan	FK Aktobe				
	46	Northern Ireland	Linfield FC				
	47	Wales	Llanelli AFC				
	48	Faroe Islands	NSÍ Runavík				
	49	Luxembourg	F91 Dudelange				
	50	Malta	Valletta FC				
	51	Andorra	FC Santa Coloma				
	52	Montenegro	FK Budućnost Podgorica				
	53	San Marino	SS Murata				
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Associated	l Members	<u> </u>
former members	others*	
Newcastle United FC	Aston Villa FC	
RC Deportivo La Coruña	Club Atlético de Madrid	
Parma FC	ACF Fiorentina	
AJ Auxerre	FC Girondins de Bordeaux Paris Saint-Germain FC	4
AJ AUXEITE	BV Borussia Dortmund	-
	VfL Wolfsburg	
VfB Stuttgart	Hamburger SV	
	FC Rubin Kazan	
	CFR 1907 Cluj	
	FC Unirea Urziceni	
FC Boavista		
Feyenoord Rotterdam	sc Heerenveen	
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FC Slovan Liberec		i
Grasshopper-Club Zürich		
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Viking FK		
	Aalborg BK	
Grazer AK		
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Djurgårdens IF		
KP Legia Warszawa		
MTK Hungária FC		i
NK Varteks		
Apoel FC		1
Myllykosken Pallo-47		
FBK Kaunas		
1 DK Raurias		
Shelbourne FC		i
FK Vardar		
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	FC WIT Georgia	
FC Shakhtyor Soligorsk		-
FK Baku KS Elbasani		
KS EIDASAIII		
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The New Saints FC		i
B36 Tórshavn		I
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Birkirkara FC		
FC Rånger's		
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^{*} includes previous UCL winners, current UCL participants and successful applicants

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- AS OF 1 JUNE 2009

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RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE EUROPEAN SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE IN THE PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL SECTOR

Preamble

In accordance with article 1 of Commission Decision 98/500/EC of 20 May 1998,

FIFPro Division Europe (hereafter named FIFPro)

and

EPFL – ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUES

jointly submitted on 10 December 2007 a request to the Commission for the establishment of a Social Dialogue Committee in the Professional Football sector (the "Committee").

In a letter dated 13 March 2008, the Commission confirmed that the conditions for the creation of a Social Dialogue Committee in the Professional Football sector existed.

By application of article 5.1 of the aforementioned Commission Decision, which states that "each Committee shall, together with the Commission, establish its own rules of procedure", the Internal Rules of Procedure for the Committee are set out below.

FIFPro Division Europe is the representative of the players and the EPFL is the representative of the employers in the European Social Dialogue. The European Club Association (ECA) is also in the process of becoming a representative of the employers, with the full support of all the parties.

The EPFL and FIFPro, as the social partners, agree to the involvement in this Dialogue of the Union des Associations Européennes de Football (UEFA) as an associate party in the Committee, in accordance with these Rules of Procedure. The ECA shall also participate as an associate party until such time as it is formally recognised as a social partner.

Article 1 - (Objectives)

The Committee's objectives are to:

- Deliver opinions on labour matters to the Commission on initiatives with regard to social and employment policy and the development of European policy having consequences in the professional football sector;
- Reach agreements with regard to the aforementioned areas in accordance with articles 138 and 139 of the EC Treaty; and

Encourage and develop the social dialogue at sectoral level.

Article 2 - (Activities)

In order to achieve these objectives, the Committee shall:

- Work in a spirit of co-operation and consensus;
- Meet in plenary session at least once a year;
- Adopt in plenary a multi-annual work programme; the work programme for 2008 and 2009 is set out in Annex 1 to these Rules of Procedure.
- Organise the implementation of the work programme in a flexible manner, establishing a Steering Group and as necessary working groups on specific subjects;
- Promote the discussion and/or implementation, for instance, of policies, statements, recommendations and agreements adopted by the Committee;
- Regularly evaluate and update its work programme in accordance with the agreed procedure;
- Liaise closely with the Commission Secretariat and include Commission officials in its discussions as appropriate;
- Work in harmony with the Professional Football Strategy Council and submit any item for discussion in the Committee to the Strategy Council for agreement beforehand.

Article 3 - (Composition and expense of the Committee)

- The Committee will be composed by up to a maximum of 54 representatives. In the case that one side of industry is represented by more than one European social partner organisation, these organisations agree in consensus on an appropriate repartition of the 27 representatives. In the meantime, the number of additional representatives from the associate parties will be 5 per party.
- The Commission will invite the European social partner organisations and the associate parties to the meetings of the Committee.
- The European social partner organisations will coordinate respectively the employers' and workers' delegations and invite their representatives to the various meetings and activities of the Committee, Steering Group (as defined below) and Working Groups. The associate parties coordinate and invite their respective delegations.
- No remuneration shall be paid to Committee members in respect of functions exercised or as regards participation in meetings.
- Accommodation and travel expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with the Commission's rules and procedures.

Article 4 - (Chairperson and Vice Chairperson)

- The Committee will agree a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. The social partners
 agree to invite the UEFA President to chair the Committee. The Vice-Chairperson will
 alternate between the social partners at yearly intervals.
- The Chairperson and, in his/her absence, the Vice-Chairperson will conduct the meetings of the Committee and present the agenda.

• In the event that the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson become no longer engaged in the work of his or her organisation or the Committee, a successor will be appointed by the respective organisation for the remainder of the term.

Article 5 - (Steering Group)

- The Committee will establish a Steering Group whose function shall be to prepare and coordinate the meetings of the Committee in liaison with the Commission's services.
 This Group shall be comprised of members appointed by both the social partners and the associated parties. The Steering Group will agree its detailed working methods.
- The Steering Group will comprise of up to 6 representatives from each side. The number of additional representatives from the associate parties will be 2 per party.
- The Steering Group will meet at least three times a year in accordance with the requirements of the Committee.

Article 6 - (Secretariat)

- The Commission shall provide the Secretariat for the Committee, the Steering Group and the Working Groups.
- The Secretariat shall inform the social partners as well as the associate parties of documents relating to the sector and forward texts adopted by the Committee to relevant Commission services

Article 7 - (Confidentiality)

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 287 of the Treaty, if the Commission informs the Committee that the opinion requested relates to a subject that is confidential, members undertake not to disclose information they may receive through their work in the Committee, working groups or in the Steering Group.

Article 8 - (Entry into force of Rules)

The Internal Rules of Procedure will enter into force on adoption by the Committee.

Article 9 - (Operation of the Committee)

- It shall be the responsibility of the Steering Group to agree agendas for Committee meetings after due consultation with the Professional Football Strategy Council.
- It shall be the joint responsibility of the Chairperson, the Secretariat and the Steering Group to ensure that all necessary documentation (including, without limitation, agreed agendas) are remitted to the members of the Committee, Steering group and/or Working Groups at least 10 days prior to the respective meetings.
- As soon as practicable after each meeting of the Committee and/or Steering Group and/or Working Group, the Secretariat will draft the minutes of the respective meeting, and send them, together with any documentation agreed upon at the meeting, to the respective secretariats of the European social partners and the associate parties for internal approval.

- The Secretariat shall make the minutes and other related documentation available to signatory parties and to the public, unless decided otherwise by the social partners on a case-by-case basis.
- Decisions shall be taken by consensus.

Article 10 - (Review)

These Internal Rules of Procedure may be reviewed as appropriate. Any changes shall be made by consensus of the social partners and in agreement with the Professional Football Strategy Council.

Emanuel Macedo de Medeiros

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

nberto Gandini

Member of the Board

Adopted on 1 July 2008, in Paris, France

On behalf of the EPFL:

Frédéric Thiriez Vice Chairman

On behalf of ECA:

Jean Michel Aulas Member of the Board

On behalf of FIFPro-Division Europe:

President

Philippe Piat

On behalf of UEFA:

Gianni Infantino

Deputy Secretary General









Annex:

European Social Dialogue Committee in the Professional Football Sector

Work Programme 2008-2009

Introduction

Under the rules of procedure of the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee in the Professional Football Sector this work program sets the framework for the coming two years.

This work program sets out the strategy and goals we want to achieve and the themes to jointly react on.

The Committee may address, however, other issues of relevance to the sector that are not included in this work programme, as agreed by the EPFL, FIFPro-Division Europe, ECA and UEFA from time to time.

EPFL, FIFPro Division Europe, ECA and UEFA accept the social dialogue as a valid instrument for the implementation of agreements on labour matters reached within the Professional Football Strategy Council.

Objectives

The EPFL, FIFPro-Division Europe, ECA and UEFA shall aim to strengthen the possibilities of social partners to shape the future developments regarding employment in the professional football sector and to articulate European levels of social dialogue.

The EPFL, FIFPro-Division Europe, ECA and UEFA shall in particular:

- Discuss and, where agreed, promote and develop the concept of "the European Professional Football player contract minimum requirements" (hereafter called MRSPC) throughout the European Union Member States. It is not the intention to reduce the existing level of minimum employment conditions put already in place in different European Member States. It is noted that implementation has to take into account the principle of subsidiarity and the legal environment on labour law, which differs from country to country.
- Conduct studies and hold conferences, workshops and round tables in the year 2008 in new member states or candidate countries.

EPFL, FIFPro Division Europe, ECA and UEFA agree on the following procedure for additional items for discussion within (EU) social dialogue:

- a) the item is submitted to the European football dialogue within the Professional Football Strategy Council;
- b) once agreed by the Professional Football Strategy Council the item may proceed to any formal (EU) social dialogue.

Who is doing what?

Issues	Methodology/who	Output
Players' Contract Minimum Requirements	Working Group / Steering Group	Discussion and approval of the Players' Contract Minimum Requirements and implementation at the EU and national level

Professional Football Strategy Council agreement on (EU) social dialogue

With reference to the relevant articles of the existing Memorandums of Understanding between UEFA and the clubs, leagues and players, the following agreement is made between the ECA, EPFL, FIFPro Division Europe and UEFA regarding social dialogue.

- 1. ECA, EPFL, FIFPro Division Europe and UEFA accept the social dialogue as a valid instrument for the implementation of agreements on labour matters reached by the Professional Football Strategy Council.
- 2. ECA, EPFL and FIFPro Division Europe recognise UEFA's involvement (with the UEFA President as chairperson) in any formal EU Social Dialogue even though UEFA's primary role is not that of a social partner.
- 3. The parties recognise that FIFPro Division Europe is the representative of the players in any formal EU Social Dialogue and that the EPFL and the ECA are the representatives of the employers in any formal EU Social Dialogue. It is noted that the ECA, as an organisation of employers, is still in the process of achieving formal status as a social partner with the full support of all the parties.
- 4. The Player Contract Minimum Requirements (as agreed) shall be the item to be discussed within the European social dialogue in football.
- 5. ECA, EPFL, FIFPro Division Europe and UEFA agree on the following procedure for additional items for discussion within (EU) social dialogue:
 - a) the item is submitted to the European football dialogue within the Professional Football Strategy Council;
 - b) once agreed by the Professional Football Strategy Council the item may proceed to any formal (EU) social dialogue;
 - c) any necessary additional documents or agreements (for example any Rules of Procedure, working plan, working program, etc for any European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee) will be agreed by all four parties in due course.
- 6. Under the above conditions ECA, EPFL, FIFPro Division Europe and UEFA agree to start the "European Sectoral Social Dialogue in the Professional Football Sector", in accordance with rules of procedure to be agreed between the four parties and approved by the European Commission.
- 7. Finally, ECA, EPFL, FIFPro Division Europe and UEFA encourage the development of collective bargaining agreements on a national level, where appropriate, and with respect to the general principles of subsidiarity.

European Club Association (ECA)

Q.

European Professional Football

Leagues (EPFL)

UEFA

FIFPro Division Europe

Manchester, 14 May 2008

ANNEX 6

Definition of football levels/leagues and contracts covered by Agreement on MRSPC

This Annex defines the football levels/leagues and the contracts which will be covered by the Agreement on MRSPC.

All contracts that are covered by a national collective bargaining agreement are also covered by the Agreement.

The Agreement will in addition apply to all contracts in the clubs in football levels/leagues in the Territory with full-time professional players; with partially full-time and partially part-time professional players; or a majority of partially part-time professional players before amateur players. These three levels are indicated with green, yellow and white.

Green = football levels/leagues containing only all full-time professional players

Yellow = **football levels/leagues** containing partially full-time and partially part-time professional players

White = football levels/leagues containing partially part-time professional players

In the current form, this annex 6 is not complete. The Parties undertakes <u>country-by-country</u> to finalize the list of levels/leagues covered in accordance with the intentions indicated above.

The Parties will revise the list from time to time during the course of the Agreement.

* * *

COUNTRY	D1	D2	D3	NAME OF LEAGUE	D1	D2	D3	D4	D1	D2	D3
				ORGANISATION							
ALB				NO LEAGUE							
AND				NO LEAGUE							
ARM				NO LEAGUE							
AUT				Österreichische Fussball Bundesliga	20	10	12 (2009/10) 10 (from 2010/11)		All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	
AZE				Premier Football League	12	14 (really 12)	8		All full-time professional players		
BLS				NO LEAGUE							
BEL				Pro League	16	16			All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	Partially part-time, partially amateur players
BEL				Ligue Nationale de Football	11					Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	
BIH				NO LEAGUE							

BUL		Bulgarian Professional Football League	48	A = 16	B EAST = 16 B WEST = 16		All full-time professional players	All full time professional players	Partially part-time, partially amateur players
CRO		Association of Professional Clubs of the First Croatian Football League	16	16			All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	Partially part-time, partially amateur players
CYP		NO LEAGUE							
CZE		Gambrinus Liga	32	16	16		All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players	
DEN		Divisionsforeningen	56	12	16	Two groups of 14 each	All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	Partially part-time, partially amateur players
ENG		The FA Premier League	20	20			All full-time professional players		
ENG		The Football League	72	24	24	24	All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players
ESP		Liga Nacional de Fútbol Profesional	42	20	22		All full-time professional players	All full time professional players	
EST FRO		NO LEAGUE NO LEAGUE							

FIN		Finnish Football League	14	14			Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players		
FRA		Ligue de Football Professionnel	40	20	20		All full-time professional players	All full time professional players	
GEO		Georgian Professional Football League	12	10	15		All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	
GER		Deutsche Fussball- Liga	36	18	18		All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players	Partially full-time, partially part-time professional players
GRE		Super League Greece	16	16			All full-time professional players		
GRE		Professional Football League B - C Division	54	18	18	18	No answer	No answer	No answer
HUN		NO LEAGUE							

IRL		Football Association of Ireland	22	10	12	5 clubs are with All full-time professional players; 2 clubs have partially part-time; 3 clubs have partially part-time and partially part-time and partially amateur players
ISL		NO LEAGUE				
ISR		NO REPLY				
ITA		Lega Nazionale Professionisti	42	20	22	All full-time All full time professional professional players players
ITA		Lega Italiana Calcio Professionistico (Lega Pro)	90	36	54	Partially Partially professional, partially partially amateur
KAZ		National Football League	28	14	14	All full-time professional players players
LAT		NO LEAGUE				
LIE	-	NO LEAGUE				
LTU		NO LEAGUE				
LUX		NO LEAGUE				
MKD		NO REPLY				
MLT		NO REPLY				

MDA		NO LEAGUE							
MNE		NO LEAGUE	12				Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	partially part-time, partially amateur players	
NED		Eredivisie CV	18	18			All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	
NIR		NO REPLY							
NOR	 	Norsk Toppfotball	32	16	16		All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players	
POL		Ekstraklasa SA	16	16			All full-time professional players		
POR		Liga Portuguesa de Futebol Profissional	32	16	16		All full-time professional players	All full time professional players	
ROM		Ligue Professionnel de Football	18	18	2 x 18 clubs	6 x 18 clubs	All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	Partially part-time, partially amateur players
RUS		Russian Premier Football League	16				No answer	No answer	No answer

RUS		Association of Professional Football Leagues	101	20	WEST: 19 EAST: 10 CENTER: 17 SOUTH: 19 URALS: 16		All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players
SMR		NO LEAGUE							
SCO		The Scottish Premier League	12				All full-time professional players		
SCO		The Scottish Football League	30	10	10	10	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	Partially full-time, partially part-time professional players
SRB		Union of Football Clubs of Super League	16				All full-time professional players		
SVK		League Clubs Union	23	12	12		All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	
SVN		The Union of the First Slovenian Football League	10				All full-time professional players		
SWE		Föreningen Svensk Elitfotboll	32	16	16		All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially	

								part-time professional players	
SUI		Swiss Football League	26	10	16		All full-time professional players	Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players	
TUR		Association of Turkish Super League Clubs	18	18			All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players
UKR		Union of Professional Football Clubs of Ukraine "Premier League"	16	16			All full-time professional players		
UKR		Professional Football League of Ukraine	43 clubs represented by 44 teams		1 liga = 18 teams	2 liga = 26 teams (12 in Group A & 12 in Group B)		All full-time professional players	All full-time professional players
WAL		The Football League of Wales Limited	18	18			Partially full- time, partially part-time professional players		

Annex 7 – Approval/Ratification procedures

Whereas the Rules of Procedure for the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee in Professional Football provide that the Committee's objectives are, *inter alia*, to reach agreements regarding social and employment policy matters in the sphere of professional football and to work in harmony with, and submit proposals to, the Professional Football Strategy Council for these purposes;

Whereas any such agreements should be approved and or ratified by the appropriate Organs of the Parties;

Whereas the respective approval/ratification procedures for the Parties are as follows:

FIFpro Division Europe

[INSERT procedures]

EPFL

[INSERT procedures]

ECA

[INSERT procedures]

UEFA

Review in relevant Committees

- Legal Committee
- Players' Status Committee
- National Associations Committee
- Club Licensing Committee
- HatTrick Committee

Approval by UEFA Executive Committee Approval by UEFA Congress

Annex 8 – Implementation and enforcement

Compromise proposal HW 24 January 2011 based on comparison of "employers November 2010 and FIFPro January 2011"

In accordance with article 18 of the Agreement, the Parties will severally and jointly use best endeavours to ensure the implementation of this Agreement as follows:

- 1.1 In particular, the members of the Social Partners will implement this Agreement in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, England, N.Ireland, Wales, Scotland, as well as in Switzerland and Norway within one year after the date of signature of the Agreement.
- 1.2 In particular, the members of the Social Partners will implement this Agreement in Bulgaria, Greece/Cyprus, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovenia within 2 (or 3) years after the date of signature of the Agreement.
- 1.3 In the remaining countries the Agreement should be implemented no later than three years after the date of signature of the Agreement.
- 1.4 The Parties have individually the right to postpone the deadline for all countries mentioned in articles 1.2 and 1.3. A party doing this has to consult the rest of the Parties to the Agreement before effecting the postponement. All Parties to this Agreement have to agree on the duration of the postponement.
- 1.5 While implementing the Agreement the members of the Social Partners shall take into account the role of other relevant parties if applicable. In case a national collective bargaining agreement exists, the Agreement shall be implemented in the national collective bargaining agreement.

In case no national collective bargaining agreement exists at national level, then the parties at national level will evaluate the most appropriate and effective implementation method. In many countries this could be the creation of a national collective bargaining agreement, and it is recognised that the establishment of credible and effective social partner organisations and collective bargaining structures is, all things being equal, a desirable method, although not necessarily suitable for all countries. Alternatively, other methods may be more effective and/or appropriate and the parties at national level will use best endeavours to find and use the most effective implementation method, for example, implementation by agreement or by football regulations. The most effective implementation method will be analysed in detail during the visits mentioned in article 2.1 below.

2.1 A <u>"European Professional Football **Social Dialogue Taskforce**"</u> (the Taskforce) will be formed. This taskforce would comprise experts from each of the four

parties, plus FIFA (if FIFA as expected will accept an invitation to join this taskforce). This taskforce will refer to the Steering Committee and the Professional Football Strategy Council and have the assignment to coordinate the promotion and implementation of the Agreement in close cooperation with the Parties on a <u>country-by-country</u> basis.

The taskforce will visit selected individual countries to meet with national representatives from each of the four parties (where existing). The composition of the taskforce would be flexible in order to allow FIFPro, ECA, EPFL, FIFA or UEFA to appoint the most appropriate person(s) for each visit. In principle, the social partners and the local national association would be responsible for coordinating the meetings at national level.

In principle, the meetings would be attended by each of the following organisations:

- 1.FIFA
- 2. UEFA
- 3. National association
- 4. FPFI
- 5. National league (where existing)
- 6. FIFPro Division Europe
- 7. National players' union (where existing)
- 8.ECA
- 9. Local ECA member club(s)

The purpose of these visits would be to discuss and agree the best way, on a national level, to implement the player contract minimum requirements in that particular country in accordance with this Agreement. The group will use best endeavours to convince the national parties to buy in to the Agreement. The visits would also be able to address other key issues of importance for professional football in Europe such as the national dispute resolution chambers.

- 2.2 The Taskforce can chose as an alternative to organise regional meetings, with 2 or more countries involved at the same time/location.
- 2.3 Indicative programme of visits:

Timescale (2011)	Visit
March	3
April	3
May	3
June	3
September	3
October	3

November	3
December	3

2.4 Based on the results of the Social Dialogue Working Group "Implementation" the European Professional Football Social Dialogue Taskforce will as a priority hold joint meetings in the following countries:

Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece/Cyprus, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia Serbia/Croatia, Turkey, Ukraine

Hereafter the rest of the countries in the UEFA Territory will be addressed, being the following countries:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herz., Belarus, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Latvia, Moldova, Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, San Marino, Slovakia

2.5 The European Professional Football Social Dialogue Taskforce will prepare and adopt a quarterly table summarising the on-going implementation of the Agreement. This will be done for the first time in May 2012. A full report on the implementation actions taken will be prepared to the Steering Committee and the Professional Football Strategy Council and discussed and adopted by the Social Dialogue Committee ultimo 2012 and again ultimo 2013.