



The Saudi Arabian Football Federation
STATUTES 2015

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CHAPTER (I) DEFINITIONS

Preliminary remarks

In the interpretation of these Statutes, the following language conventions are used to denote the meanings explained in the definitions, unless otherwise they are clearly and directly explained in the text or its meaning. When referring to natural persons, singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa.

DEFINITIONS

Country: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

G.P.Y.W: The General Presidency of Youth Welfare

SAOC: Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee

SAFF: Saudi Arabian Football Federation

FIFA: Fédération Internationale de Football Association

AFC: Asian Football Confederation

League: An organization of legal personality affiliated to and recognized by the Saudi Arabian Football Federation

SPL: An independent organization of legal personality working under the umbrella of the Saudi Arabian Football Federation

Club: A sport organization of legal personality licensed by the General Presidency of Youth Welfare and recognized by the Saudi Arabian Football Federation.

Officials: All members of Executive Board, committees, coaches/referees and their assistants, as well as technical, administrative and medical affairs officials of the SAFF, SPL, leagues and clubs.

Player: A football player registered at Saudi Arabian Football Federation.

General Assembly: The supreme and legislative body of SAFF.

Executive Board: The executive body of SAFF.

Simple Majority: Votes in agreement of more than half of the present members who have voting rights.

Absolute Majority: Votes in agreement of more than half of the total number of members who have voting rights.

Stipulated Majority: Votes in agreement of a certain percentage of the total number of members who have voting rights.

General Secretariat: The administrative staff of the SAFF

Standing Committees: Committees supporting the Executive Board to fulfill its responsibilities. Their composition and terms of reference are determined by special regulations based on the SAFF Statutes.

Judicial Bodies: The Judicial Apparatus of the SAFF, in charge of ethical and disciplinary issues.

Association Football: The game controlled by FIFA and organized in accordance with the Laws of the Game as issued by the IFAB.

IFAB: The International Football Association Board

Ordinary Courts: State courts established by the government to resolute public and private legal disputes.

Sport Arbitration Tribunal: The authorized body to resolute sport disputes at national level.

CAS: Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.

CHAPTER (II) GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article (1) Name, headquarters, legal form

1. The Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) is a private independent organization of a legal personality (of an associative nature), established in compliance with the laws of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and registered on 06/9/1956 (corresponding to 01/11/1375 H) for unlimited period. SAFF shall operate and implement its activities according to these Statutes and the Kingdom's regulations.
2. The headquarters of the federation is located in the city of Riyadh. It shall not be moved out of Riyadh without General Assembly decision.
3. SAFF is a Member of FIFA, AFC and UAFA (Union of Arab Football Associations)
4. The flag of SAFF is the flag of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
5. The emblem of SAFF is composed of two swords and a palm tree
6. The logo of SAFF is a rectangle, containing the logo of Saudi Arabia (two swords and palm tree) in green and white colors and a square containing a sketch of a football player and the name of SAFF in Arabic and English.
7. The abbreviation of Saudi Arabian Football Federation is SAFF.
8. The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered at the concerned legal bodies in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Article (2) Objectives

The objectives of SAFF as follows:

1. To deepen the national pride and promote national character among Saudi youth and citizens through the game of football.
2. To constantly improve football in Saudi Arabia and to promote and develop all the aspects of football throughout the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia taking into consideration their sublime humanitarian, cultural and educational values.
3. To disseminate the practice of football and its humanitarian, cultural and educational values.
4. To develop football-related elements and guarantee respecting the laws of the games and preventing any infringement thereof.
5. To organize competitions in Association Football in all its forms at a national level, while promoting the principles of fair competition, fair play, and sportsmanship as well as humanitarian values.
6. To draw up regulations and provisions and ensure its implementation.
7. To protect the interests of its Members;
8. to respect and prevent any infringement of the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, AFC and SAFF as well as the Laws of the Game and to ensure that these are also respected by its officials and Members;

9. To prevent all methods or practices which may jeopardize the integrity of matches or competitions or give rise to abuse football game;
10. To enhance relations with all concerned organizations and establishments at national, regional, continental and international levels with a view to realizing honorable representation for Saud Arabia in the domain of football.
11. To manage international sport relations of all kinds related to the federation.
12. To host competitions at regional, continental and international levels in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
13. To campaign against and fight corruption, bribery, drugs and doping in sport and impose restrict measures in this concern.
14. To guarantee respecting the rules and regulations applicable in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
15. To promote football studies and researches and organize courses and conferences on all football aspects.

Article (3) Neutrality and Non-Discrimination

1. SAFF is neutral in all matters related to politics and religion.
2. Discrimination of all kinds and forms is strictly forbidden against any country, person or group of people on account of race, nationality, language, religion, politics or any other reason. Violators to this rule will be subject to suspension or expulsion.

Article (4) Promoting Friendly Relations

SAFF may promote friendly relations as follows:

1. SAFF shall enhance and promote friendly relations with and among its Members, Clubs, Officials, Players and communities for sublime humanitarian objectives.
2. All persons and organizations involved in football are obliged to respect Statutes, regulations and principles of fair play as well as the values of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.
3. SAFF shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise among Members, Clubs, Officials, Players, league and other bodies affiliated to SAFF.

Article (5) Players

1. Players' status and transfer shall be governed by the Executive Board in accordance with the current SAFF and FIFA Regulations on Players' Status and Transfer.
2. Players shall be registered in accordance with SAFF relevant regulations providing that they do not contradict these Statutes and FIFA concerned regulations.

Article (6) Laws of the Game

SAFF and each of its Members shall practice football game in compliance with the Laws of the Game issued by IFAB, the exclusive organization in charge of these laws. As for Futsal and Beach Soccer, FIFA Laws of the Game shall be followed.

Article (7) Conduct of Bodies and Officials

All SAFF bodies, members, officials and committees shall be committed to the Statutes, regulations, decisions and ethical codes of FIFA, AFC and SAFF.

Article (8) Official Languages

1. Arabic is the official language of SAFF and its General Assembly. Official documents, letters, minutes, correspondences and texts shall be written in this language. When necessary, they may be translated into English. In the event of any divergence between the interpretations, the Arabic text shall have precedence.

CHAPTER (III) MEMBERSHIP

Article (9) Admission, Suspension and Termination

1. The General Assembly shall decide on membership admission, suspension and termination according to the provisions of these Statutes.
2. Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfills the requirements stipulated for in these Statutes.
3. Membership is ceased by resignation or termination. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member from his/its financial obligations towards SAFF or other Members, and leads to the cancellation of all his/its rights at SAFF.

Article (10) Membership

1. The Members of SAFF are:
 - a) Clubs (Premier League, 1st, 2nd and 3rd division clubs)
 - b) Saudi Professional League
2. A legal personality wishing to join the SAFF membership shall submit a written application to the SAFF General Secretariat.
3. The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory documents:
 - a) A copy of the applicant's valid statutes and regulations;
 - b) A declaration that it will always comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of SAFF, AFC and FIFA and ensure that these are also respected by its own Members, officials and players and that this provision is stipulated for in its regulations.
 - c) A declaration that it will comply with the Laws of the Game published by IFAB and the Futsal and Beach Soccer Laws of the Game issued by FIFA.
 - d) A declaration that it recognizes the adjudication and arbitration bodies recognized by SAFF and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne.
 - e) A declaration that it is located and registered in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as per applicable rules and regulations;
 - f) A declaration that it will play all official matches and competitions organized by SAFF under these statutes.
 - g) A declaration that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees the independence of its decision making policies independently and freedom from all external influences.
 - h) A list of officials, specifying those who are authorized signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with other parties;
 - i) A declaration that it undertakes not to organize or participate in any official or friendly matches without prior consent of SAFF;

- j) A declaration that it will abide by all SAFF regulations and decisions.
- k) A copy of the license issued by the competent national authorities based on the Kingdom's regulations.
- l) A copy of the minutes of its last General Assembly or constitutional meeting;

Article (11) Membership Application and Procedures

1. The procedures for admission shall be governed by special regulations prepared by the Executive Board.
2. The Executive Board shall recommend to the General Assembly either to admit or reject an applicant; who has the right to brief the General Assembly on the reasons for its applying.
3. The new Member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as its membership has been accepted. Its representatives shall have an immediate right to take part in voting, election and candidature as per these statutes.

Article (12) Members' Rights

1. Members of SAFF have the following rights:
 - a) To take part in the SAFF General Assembly, to receive its agenda in advance, to be invited to the meeting within the prescribed time and to exercise their voting rights;
 - b) To submit proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly;
 - c) To nominate candidates for the membership of SAFF bodies and committees;
 - d) To elect the members of the Executive Board in accordance with the procedure stipulated in these Statutes;
 - e) To elect the members of the Electoral Committee;
 - f) To take part in competitions and/or other sports activities organized by SAFF;
 - g) To exercise all other rights provided for by SAFF Statutes and regulations;
 - h) To be informed of SAFF issue related to them.
2. Exercising these rights is subject to provisions in these Statutes and the applicable regulations.

Article (13) Members' Obligations

1. Members of SAFF have the following obligations:
 - a) Full compliance to the Statutes, regulations, instructions and decisions of SAFF, AFC and FIFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members, officials and players.

- b) To ensure election of its decision-making bodies;
 - c) To take part in competitions and other sports activities organized by SAFF;
 - d) To pay their membership subscription fees;
 - e) To respect the Laws of the Game laid down by IFAB and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through statutory provisions;
 - f) To adopt a statutory clause in the statutes stating that any dispute requiring referral to courts, involving SAFF or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, regulations, instructions and decisions of SAFF, AFC or FIFA or the Leagues shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the appropriate arbitration tribunal of SAFF or the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and that any recourse to Ordinary Courts is prohibited;
 - g) To report to SAFF any amendment of its statutes and regulations as well as the list of its officials or persons who are authorized signatories with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with other parties;
 - h) Not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognized or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
 - i) To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
 - j) To observe the mandatory items specified under article 10 (admission) specifically paragraph 3 (member's obligations) for the duration of their affiliation;
 - k) To keep a register of members, to be regularly updated;
 - l) To stress full compliance to all other duties derived by the Statutes and other regulations issued by FIFA, AFC and SAFF.
2. Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions stipulated in these Statutes.

Article (14) Suspension

1. The General Assembly has the sole authority for suspending a Member. The Executive Board may, however, suspend a Member that seriously violates its membership obligations with immediate effect. The suspension shall last until the next General Assembly, unless the Executive Board justifiably cancels it before the Assembly.
2. A suspension shall be confirmed at the next General Assembly by three-quarter majority of the casted votes. If it is not confirmed, the suspension is automatically lifted.
3. A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Members may not entertain sporting contacts with a suspended Member. The Disciplinary Committee

may impose further sanctions.

4. Members that do not participate in the SAFF sports activities for one year-continuously- shall be prevented from voting at the General Assembly and their representatives shall not be elected or appointed until they fulfill their obligations in this respect.
5. Suspension shall be lifted in the meeting following submission of the required proof to lift the suspension.

Article (15) Termination

1. The General Assembly may terminate membership of a Member if:
 - a) It fails to fulfill its responsibilities as mentioned in Article (13) of these Statutes or financial obligations towards SAFF;
 - b) It seriously violates the Statutes, regulations, instructions or decisions of SAFF, AFC or FIFA;
 - c) It lost its eligibility, is dissolved or liquidated.
2. The presence of an absolute majority of Members entitled to vote at the General Assembly is necessary as a requirement for termination. A three-quarter majority of the present casted valid votes is required for the adoption of a motion for membership termination.
3. A terminated membership can be reinstated after one year of the date of termination.
4. The terminated member shall not claim ownership of any of SAFF assets; it shall return all documents, records, correspondences or any other effects in good order to the federation.

Article (16) Resignation

1. A Member may resign from SAFF with effect from the end of the year of resignation. Notice of resignation must be sent to the General Secretariat by registered mail no later than six months prior to the end of the fiscal year.
2. The resignation is not valid until the Member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards SAFF and other Members of SAFF.
3. The resigned member shall not claim ownership of any of SAFF assets; it shall return all documents, records, correspondences or any other effects in good order to the federation.

Article (17) Status of Clubs, Leagues and other categories of Clubs.

1. All Clubs and Leagues shall be affiliated to and recognized by SAFF. These Statutes define the scope of authority, rights and obligations of these Clubs, Leagues and groups. Their statutes and regulations must be approved by the Executive Board of SAFF in accordance with SAFF Statutes, taking into consideration the state rules and laws regarding licenses.
2. All Clubs and Leagues SAFF shall make their decisions on any matter regarding their membership independently and free from external influence. This obligation applies to all clubs and leagues regardless of their corporate structure.
3. In all cases, it is not permissible for any natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) to exercise control over more than one Club or group in such a way that jeopardizes the integrity of any match or competition.

Article (18) Honorary President and Honorary Member

1. The General Assembly may bestow the title of honorary president or honorary member upon any person for meritorious service to football.
2. The Executive Board shall nominate candidates.
3. The honorary president or honorary member may take part in the General Assembly, join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

CHAPTER (IV) ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Article (19) Bodies of SAFF

1. The General Assembly; the supreme and legislative body.
2. The Executive Board; the executive body of the federation.
3. Standing and ad-hoc committees; providing advice and assistance to the Executive Board to fulfill its functions. Their duties, composition and function are defined in these Statutes. The Executive Board shall prepare their respective working regulations.
4. The Electoral Committee is the body in charge of organising and supervising the election process.
5. The Club Licensing Body is in charge of the club licensing system within the Federation.
6. The general secretariat; is administrative body SAFF.
7. The judicial bodies; comprising the Disciplinary Committee, Appeal Committee, Ethics and Values Committee and Dispute Resolution Chamber.
8. The members of the bodies of SAFF shall be elected or appointed by SAFF in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes, without any external influence.

A. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article (20) Definition and Composition of the General Assembly

1. The General Assembly is the meeting at which all Members of SAFF regularly convene in ordinary or extraordinary form. It represents the SAFF supreme and legislative authority, having the power to adopt binding and enforceable decisions. The General Assembly composition is governed by the provisions of these Statutes.
2. A General Assembly may hold an ordinary or extraordinary session.
3. The President shall conduct the General Assembly proceedings in compliance with the standing orders of the General Assembly. In case the President is absent, the Vice President shall take his place to conduct the General Assembly business. If the latter is absent too, then the longest-serving ordinary member of the Executive Board shall preside over the meeting. In case all of them are absent, the remaining members of the Executive Board select one of its members as chair of the General Assembly.
4. The General Assembly may appoint observers to attend a session without having the right to debate or vote.
5. Honorary presidents and members may take part in the General Assembly and join the debates but they are not entitled to vote.

Article (21) Delegates and Votes

1. The General Assembly is composed of (47) delegates, distributed as follows:

Delegates representing SAFF members:

- a) (14) Delegates for the premier division clubs, one for each club.
- b) (10) Delegates for the first division clubs, winners of the first 10 positions in the season preceding the General Assembly meeting.
- c) (9) Delegates for the second division clubs, winners of the first 9 positions in the season preceding the General Assembly meeting.
- d) (8) Delegates for the third division clubs which qualified for the promotion tournament in the season preceding the General Assembly meeting.
- e) (1) Delegate for the Saudi Professional League (SPL Executive Director).

Other Delegates:

- f) (5) Delegates for the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee nominated by the Chairman of the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee, subject to the transitory clause stipulated at the end of these Statutes.
2. Delegates must belong to the Member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body. They must also be able to produce evidence of this fact upon request.
3. General Assembly Delegates that represent a Club should be a Board member of their respective Club.
4. A delegate's personal record must be free from any ethical conviction distorting his honor, honesty and reputation. He must have not been dismissed, expelled or banned from service by any club, federation, sport organization or other establishment.
5. Each delegate of the General Assembly has only one vote. Only the present delegates are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by mail is not permitted.
6. Executive Board members and the General Secretary shall attend the General Assembly meeting without voting rights. During their terms of office, members of the Executive Board may not be appointed as delegates in the General Assembly for the body which they represent.

Article (22) General Assembly Authorities

The General Assembly has the following authorities:

1. Adopting or amending the Statutes, regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the General Assembly;
2. Appointing three Members to review the minutes of the General Assembly;
3. Approving the minutes of the last meeting.
4. Electing the President, Vice-President and ordinary members of the Executive Board in accordance with the procedure stipulated in these Statutes.
5. Approving the appointment of executive directors selected by the Board Chairman as members in the Executive Board.
6. Electing the members of the Electoral Committee.
7. Appointing the scrutineers;
8. Discussing and approving the budget;
9. Discussing and approving the President's activity report; covering the activities of

- the Board, committees, General Secretariat, strategic plans and implementation.
10. Discussing the Board performance against the strategic plan.
 11. Appointing the independent auditors based on recommendation of the Executive Board;
 12. Approving the re-composition of judicial and arbitration bodies as proposed by the Executive Board.
 13. Fixing the membership subscriptions;
 14. Awarding the title of honorary president or honorary member; upon the nomination by the Executive Board
 15. Admitting, suspending or expelling a Member;
 16. Withdrawing confidence from the Executive Board taking into consideration the provisions of Article (72) of these Statutes.
 17. Delegating some of the responsibilities of the General Assembly to the President or the Executive Board.
 18. Dismissal of a person or a body.
 19. Approving the Election Regulations governing the election of the Executive Board President and members.

Article (23) Quorum of the General Assembly Sessions

1. The ordinary and extraordinary General Assembly shall only be valid if the absolute majority of members with voting rights are present at the session.
2. If the quorum is not attained, another session shall take place within 24 hours with the same agenda.
3. A quorum is not required for the second session unless any item on the agenda proposes amendment to the Statutes of SAFF, elections, dismissal of a person, expulsion of a SAFF member or the dissolution of SAFF.

Article (24) Decisions of the General Assembly

1. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a simple majority of the present Members with voting rights is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the majority.
2. Voting shall be made by a show of hands or by means of an electronic system. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favor of a motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in alphabetical order.

Article (25) Elections

1. The Executive Board shall publish a special regulation under the title "SAFF Election Regulations", approved by the General Assembly. Elections shall be organized and supervised by the Electoral Committee.
2. Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot. If the candidate has no challenger he will be elected unopposed by acclamation. Voting by proxy or by mail is not permitted.
3. For a person to be elected, an absolute majority of the votes recorded and valid is necessary in the first ballot. In the second and any other requisite ballot, a simple majority of the votes recorded is sufficient.
4. If there are more than two candidates for one available position, the candidate that obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left.
5. If the two candidates keep the tie for a maximum of three rounds, the winner shall be decided by lot draw.
6. The Electoral Committee is the body in charge of organizing and supervising the election and ratification process at SAFF level in accordance with the Electoral Code of SAFF. The Electoral Committee shall be established at least two months before the electoral General Assembly is scheduled to be held.
7. The Electoral Committee shall consist of two instances, an electoral body and the electoral appeals body. Decisions of the electoral body shall be appealable before the electoral appeals body. Decisions of the electoral appeals body shall be final and binding.
8. The General Assembly shall elect the members of the Electoral Committee and adopt the Electoral Code of the Federation.

Article (26) Ordinary General Assembly

1. The Ordinary General Assembly shall be held once a year.
2. The Executive Board shall determine the place and date. The Members shall be notified in writing two months at least before the meeting.
3. The formal invitation shall be made in writing and sent out one month at least before the date of the General Assembly. The invitation shall be attached with the agenda, the President's report, financial statements, auditor's report and any other relevant documents.

Article (27) Agenda of the Ordinary General Assembly

1. The General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on proposals received from the Executive Board and Members. Any proposal a Member wishes to submit to the General Assembly shall be sent to the General Secretary in writing, with a brief explanation, (45) days at least before the date of the General Assembly.

2. The General Assembly agenda shall include the following mandatory items:
 - a) A declaration that the General Assembly is convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes of SAFF;
 - b) Approval of the agenda;
 - c) An address by the President;
 - d) Appointment of Members to check the minutes;
 - e) Appointment of scrutineers;
 - f) Suspension or termination of Members (if any);
 - g) Approval of the minutes of the preceding General Assembly;
 - h) President's report, covering activities since last General Assembly;
 - i) Presentation of the revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement;
 - j) Approval of the financial report;
 - k) Approval of the budget;
 - l) Admission for membership (if any);
 - m) Proposals for amendments to the Statutes, the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and standing orders of the General Assembly, (if any);
 - n) Discussion of proposals submitted by the Members and the Executive Board;
 - o) Appointment of independent auditors, (if any); as proposed by the Executive Board;
 - p) Election of the President, and ordinary members of the Executive Board as well as the approval of the appointment of the other members, (if any).

3. The General Assembly shall not make a decision on any item not included in the agenda, unless three-quarters of the Members present at the General Assembly eligible to vote agree to such proposal.

Article (28) Extraordinary General Assembly

1. The Executive Board may call for an Extraordinary General Assembly at any time.

2. The Executive Board shall call for an Extraordinary General Assembly if the absolute majority of the General Assembly members requested such a meeting in writing. The request shall include an agenda of the meeting. The Extraordinary General Assembly Meeting shall be convened within a period of three months as of the receipt date of the request. If the Extraordinary General Assembly couldn't be held,

the members who requested such a meeting have the right to organize the Extraordinary General Assembly on their own.

3. Members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda of the meeting one month at least before the date of an Extraordinary General Assembly; taking into consideration the provisions of Article (72) of these Statutes.
4. When an Extraordinary General Assembly is convened on the initiative of the Executive Board, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary General Assembly is convened upon the request of Members, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Members.
5. The agenda of an Extraordinary General Assembly may not be modified.

Article (29) Amendments to the Statutes, Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the General Assembly

1. The General Assembly is the party responsible for amending the Statutes, the regulations governing its application and the standing orders of the General Assembly
2. Any proposals by a Member or by the Executive Board for an amendment of the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat. A proposal submitted by a Member should be legitimate and supported in writing by an absolute majority of Members.
3. For a vote on an amendment of the Statutes to be valid, an absolute majority of the Members eligible to vote must be present.
4. A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes may be adopted only if an absolute majority of the Members eligible to vote agree to it.
5. Any proposal, by a Member or the Executive Board, to amend the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the General Assembly must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat.
6. A proposal for an amendment to the regulations governing the application of the Statutes shall be valid only if an absolute majority of the Members eligible to vote are present. Adoption of the amendment decision requires a simple majority.

Article (30) Minutes of the Meeting

1. The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting at the General Assembly. The minutes shall be checked by the appointed members and finally verified at the next General Assembly.
2. Members shall receive copy of the minutes within one month of the date of the meeting.

Article (31) Effective Dates of Decisions

Decisions passed by the General Assembly shall come into effect immediately, unless the General Assembly specified another date for a decision to take effect.

B. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Article (32) Composition

1. The Executive Board consists of eleven (11) members:
 - a) A president, a vice-president and five ordinary members all elected by the General Assembly
 - b) Four members selected by the President from amongst the Executive Directors. These members shall be highly qualified and professional executives who are specialized in the areas targeted by the SAFF for the development of football activities. The General Assembly shall approve their selection and appointment as Board members.
2. A candidate applying for the Executive Board membership must be supported by one member at least.
3. The President and elected Board members shall serve for a 4-year term. They may be reelected.
4. The age of an Executive Board member shall not be more than 65 years and not less than 30 years. He should hold a university degree or an equivalent and have an active experience of not less than 5 years in the various aspects of football. Or alternatively, he can have a secondary school certificate or equivalent in addition to an active experience of not less than 15 years in the various aspects of football at national or international level. He must be a Saudi National residing in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. A member's personal record must be free from any ethical conviction distorting his honor, honesty and reputation. He must have not been dismissed, expelled or banned from service by any club, federation, sport organization or other establishment.

As for the President, he should hold a university degree and have an active experience of not less than 15 years in leadership positions, missions and duties at national and international levels. He should be fluent in English.

5. Candidatures must be sent to SAFF General Secretariat which will in turn circulate the official list of candidates to Members of the General Assembly along with the agenda of the session at which elections will take place.
6. It is not permissible for a Board member to be a member of any judicial body of SAFF at the same time. Likewise, it is not permissible for a Board member to be a member of a General Assembly, Executive Board, to be a General Secretary of or a Delegate at the SAFF General Assembly representing any Club or other federation.
7. Subject to the positions of President and member selected by the President from amongst the Executive Directors, a vacant position shall be filled by the Executive

Board until the next General Assembly, at which a replacement shall be elected for the remaining term of mandate. If a position as member selected by the President from amongst the Executive Directors becomes vacant, the President shall fill in the position until the next General Assembly, at which the General Assembly shall decide on the approval for the remaining term of mandate.

8. Notwithstanding the foregoing article, if more than 50% of the positions of the Executive Board become vacant, the General Secretary shall convene an Extraordinary General Assembly, when a new Executive Board shall be elected for a new mandate.
9. Executive Board members shall not be paid any salaries for their Board membership. They may be compensated for attending meetings or activity expenses

Article (33) Meetings

1. The Executive Board shall meet six times at least every year.
2. The President shall convene the Executive Board meetings; If 50% of the Executive Board members request a meeting, the President shall convene such meeting within 21 days.
3. The General Secretary shall prepare the meeting agenda. Each member of the Executive Board is entitled to propose subjects for inclusion in the agenda. Such subjects should be sent to the general secretariat fourteen (14) days at least before the meeting. The provisional agenda must be circulated to the Executive Board members seven (7) days at least before the meeting.
4. The meetings of the Executive Board shall not be held in public. The Executive Board may, however, invite other parties to attend. Those parties shall not have voting rights, and may only express an opinion with the permission of the Executive Board.

Article (34) Authorities of the Executive Board

The Executive Board shall have the following authorities:

- 1) Adopt decisions on all issues that do not come within the terms of reference of the General Assembly or those which are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes;
- 2) Prepare and convene the Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assembly of SAFF;
- 3) Appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the standing committees, periodically evaluate their performance.

- 4) Appoint the chairmen, deputy chairmen and members of the judicial bodies for a term of 4 years. This mandate is renewable according to common interest.
- 5) Set up ad-hoc committees if necessary at any time;
- 6) Prepare regulations to organize the activities of standing and ad-hoc committees;
- 7) Propose the independent auditors to the General Assembly;
- 8) Select candidates for membership of GCC Football Committees as well as regional, continental and international federations. Selection shall be based on efficiency, experience and professional capability in addition to the conditions laid by those organizations.
- 9) Decide SAFF competition venues, dates and the number of participating teams.
- 10) Appoint coaches and other technical, administrative and medical staff for national teams.
- 11) Approve regulations governing the internal organization of SAFF.
- 12) Ensure that the Statutes are applied and adopt the executive measures required for their enforcement;
- 13) Suspend a membership until the next General Assembly;
- 14) Delegate tasks falling within its jurisdiction to other bodies of SAFF or a third party.
- 15) Develop the SAFF strategic plan, regularly monitor performance and issue related reports and submit them the General Assembly.
- 16) Subject to the competences of other SAFF bodies, establish the Federation's values and criteria.
- 17) Develop the plan required for the realization of SAFF strategic objectives leading to the success of national teams and improvement of participation.
- 18) Increase the SAFF revenues.
- 19) Monitor and control the performance of the General Secretariat and financial affairs.

Article (35) Decisions

1. The Executive Board shall not engage in valid debate unless an absolute majority of its members are present.
2. The Executive Board decisions shall not be valid and binding without the approval of the Board simple majority. When votes are tied, the President vote shall determine the decision. Voting by proxy or mail is not allowed.
3. A member of the Executive Board must withdraw from the debate and decision making process if there is any possibility of a conflict of interests.
4. Decisions shall be recorded in the minutes of meeting.
5. Decisions taken by the Executive Board shall come into effect immediately, unless otherwise decided by the Executive Board.

Article (36) Dismissal of a Person or Body

1. The General Assembly may dismiss a person or body, within its jurisdiction, from SAFF.
2. The Executive Board may provisionally dismiss a person or body, within its jurisdiction, from SAFF (i.e. General Secretariat, standing committees...etc). The Executive Board may however not dismiss a judicial body, as this competence falls under the sole authority of the General Assembly.
3. The proposal of dismissing a person or a body from SAFF should be placed on the agenda of the next General Assembly where a decision is made by secret ballot.
4. Justifications for the dismissal of a person or a body from SAFF should be stated, attached with the proposal itself and circulated to General Assembly members along with the agenda.
5. The person or body in question has the right to defend himself/itself in front of the General Assembly.
6. Upholding the decision of dismissal requires the presence of an absolute majority. Voting shall be made by secret ballot. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds of the valid votes of members who have the right to vote is required. Invalid, damaged and blank balloting cards shall be excluded when calculating the majority.
7. The person or body dismissed must be relieved of his or its functions with immediate effect.
8. The dismissed members doesn't have the right to claim any part of the federation's properties, he shall return all documents, correspondences and records to the federation in good order.

C. PRESIDENT

Article 37: President

1. The President represents SAFF legally.
2. He is primarily responsible for:
 - a) Implementing the decisions passed by the General Assembly and the Executive Board through the general secretary and secretariat;
 - b) Ensuring the effective performance of the bodies of SAFF in order to achieve the objectives described in these Statutes;
 - c) Supervising the work of the general secretariat;
 - d) Maintaining good relations among SAFF and its Members, FIFA, AFC, SAOC, governmental bodies and other organizations.
 - e) Supervising the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretary General for the General Assembly and Executive Board meetings.
 - f) Signing contracts and agreements as approved by the Board.
3. The President shall preside over the General Assembly, Executive Board and other committees for which he has been appointed as chairman.
4. The President shall have an ordinary vote on the Executive Board and, whenever votes are equal, shall have a casting vote.
5. If the President is absent or unavailable, the vice president shall preside.
6. Any additional powers of the President shall be contained in the internal organizational regulations of SAFF.

Article (38) Candidates for the office of the President

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 that elected him. He may be re-elected for another term.
2. For the election of the President, two-thirds of the registered and valid votes are necessary in the first ballot. In the second or any other requisite ballot, an absolute majority of the registered votes is sufficient. If there are more than two candidates, the candidate that obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left.
3. The general secretary shall notify the Members of the names of the proposed

candidates 30 days at least before the date of the electoral General Assembly.

4. If the President is permanently or temporarily unable to perform his official functions, the Vice-President shall represent him until the next General Assembly. The General Assembly shall elect a new President for the remaining term of office, who shall replace the 4 members chosen from amongst the Executive Directors in accordance with the procedure stipulated in these statutes.

Article (39) Representation and Signature

The President legally represents SAFF and is entitled to sign for SAFF. The Executive Board may set up internal organizational regulations regarding the joint signature by SAFF officials particularly when the President is absent and in cases of great importance for SAFF.

D. STANDING COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

Article (40) Standing Committees

- 1) SAFF has three standing committees:
 - a) The Commercial Committee
 - b) Football Committee
 - c) Public Contribution Committee
 - d) Referees Committee
- 2) Chairmen of the standing committees must be specialized in the general subjects and responsibilities related to their respective committees.
- 3) Each chairman shall represent his committee and conduct business in compliance with the relevant regulations issued by the Executive Board.
- 4) Each chairman shall determine the dates of his committee meetings in collaboration with the General Secretary, ensure that all tasks are implemented and report back to the Executive Board.
- 5) In order to be valid and binding, all decisions and policies made by a standing committee require authorization or approval from the Executive Board.
- 6) In cases of interest conflict, the concerned member of committee must not take part in the deliberations related to his interests.
- 7) The quorum required for the committee meetings should not be less than half the number of members provided that the chairman or his representative is present. Provision of point (6) above shall be taken into consideration.
- 8) All the standing committees' regulations must determine the responsibilities and functions related to their respective activities and programs. However, a committee may submit proposals for the amendment of its regulations.

Article (41) Commercial Committee

The Commercial Committee shall provide advice, consultancy and support on the commercial issues related to the SAFF activities, i.e. revenue increase and the likes. The committee shall be composed of a chairman, selected by SAFF President from amongst the Executive Directors (Commercial Director), and four members from the General Assembly delegates if the specialization is available; if not, the chairman may invite persons from outside the SAFF to join the committee. They must have well established record in active business.

Article (42) Football Committee

1. The Football Committee shall provide advice, consultancy and support on the following issues:
 - a) The organization of SAFF competitions, including the establishment of communication channels with clubs to receive reactions, ideas, comments...
 - b) Questions related to the laws of the game, referees appointment for matches, criteria for practices, referees affairs management, recommendations for referee training and qualifications, referee development for good participation and representation.
 - c) Professional football and players' Status, development of TMS, obligations of players transfer under FIFA regulations, the conditions of players' status through all the SAFF competitions.
2. The committee shall be composed of a chairman, selected by SAFF President from amongst the executive directors (Football Director), and four members from the General Assembly delegates or Football Director may invite persons from outside the SAFF to join the committee. They must have well established experiences in all the aspects related to the organization of football competitions, professional football regulations and systems and refereeing.

Article (43) Public Contribution Committee

This Committee shall provide advice, consultancy and support on issues related to the development of the scope of football participation in Saudi Arabia. The committee shall be composed of a chairman and four members: One from the Ministry of Education; who is experienced in the development of sport activities through the Ministry, the second: a corporate representative from one of the major companies in Saudi Arabia, the third: a religion scholar or counselor and the fourth: a SAFF representative chosen by the Executive Board.

Article (44) The Referees Committee

The Referees Committee shall provide assistance, support and advice on all issues related to the Laws of the Game, appointment of referees for matches, criteria of the practices, management of referees' board, selection of referees who need more training or education and development of referees' contribution and representation. The committee shall consist of a chairman and four (4) members who possess the experiences, skills and capabilities required for refereeing and the associated aspects.

Article (45) Ad-hoc committees

1. The Executive Board may create ad-hoc committees for special duties and limited periods.
2. The Executive Board shall appoint chairmen and members for such committees.
3. The duties and functions of these committees shall be governed with special regulations drawn up by the Executive Board.
4. An ad-hoc committee shall report directly to the Executive Board.

E. SAUDI PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE

Article (46) Professional League

1. Saudi Professional League (SPL) is a permanent legal entity made up of clubs participating in the Professional League. The SPL is independent in all its administrative, organizational and financial aspects and operates under the umbrella of the federation.
2. The SPL President is elected in compliance with the election provisions of SPL Statutes.
3. Every SAFF member club, registered in the premier or first division, has the right to become an SPL member in accordance with the mandatory criteria stipulated for in the SPL Statutes and the requirements of FIFA and AFC in this regard.
4. SPL shall prepare its own rules and regulations in accordance with the regulations of SAFF, AFC and FIFA.
5. SPL members and officials shall abide by all its statutes, regulations, decisions and agreements of which SPL is a party with a view to realizing the criteria and requirements of the best administrative, organizational and marketing standards.
6. SPL is in charge of the organization, administration and marketing all national competitions of professional leagues according to these statutes and competitions regulations ratified by SAFF Executive Board.
7. The SPL Statutes shall determine the commercial, financial and all other rights owned by the SPL.
8. SPL shall submit a biannual report on its financial, administrative and marketing performance to the SAFF Executive Board.

F. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article (47) General secretariat

The general secretariat shall carry out all the administrative work of SAFF under the direction of the General Secretary. Members of the general secretariat are bound by the SAFF internal regulations and shall fulfill their given tasks in the best possible way.

Article (48) General Secretary

1. The General Secretary is the executive director of the general secretariat.
2. He shall be appointed according to the laws of private sector and shall have the necessary professional qualifications.
3. He shall be responsible for:
 - a) Executing decisions passed by the General Assembly and Executive Board in compliance with the President's directives.
 - b) Implementing the strategic plan aimed at the success of national teams and development of participation.
 - c) Promoting the SAFF in commercial terms and probing ways of revenue increase in order to secure the finance required for the strategic plan.
 - d) Building a strong administrative working team who is capable of effectively managing the SAFF affairs and carrying out the strategic plan
 - e) Attending the meetings of General Assembly, Executive Board and standing and ad-hoc committees without voting rights
 - f) Organizing the meetings of General Assembly, Executive Board and other bodies
 - g) Recording the minutes of meetings of the General Assembly, Executive Board and standing and ad-hoc committees
 - h) Managing and keeping the SAFF financial accounts.
 - i) Conducting communications of SAFF
 - j) Supervise relations with members, committees, FIFA and AFC.
 - k) Leading and organizing the required SAFF change operation.
 - l) Encouraging the creation of a sound environment for group work inside SAFF
 - m) Promoting the culture of transparent networking, harmony and team spirit inside the General Secretariat
 - n) Leading the administrative team, drawing up goals and priorities and evaluating the staff performance

- o) Applying the principles and criteria of quality control in the SAFF
 - p) Submitting the annual budget prepared by the administrative team and the Executive Board.
 - q) Organizing the general secretariat affairs
 - r) Proposing managerial staff to the President
4. The General Secretary shall not be a delegate of General Assembly, a member of any SAFF body, AFC and FIFA with the exception of works and committees in which he is an ex-officio member.

G. JUDICIAL BODIES

Article (49) Judicial Bodies

1. The judicial bodies of SAFF are:
 - a) Disciplinary Committee;
 - b) Ethics and Values Committee
 - c) Appeal Committee.
2. Responsibilities and functions of these bodies shall be based on these Statutes and in compliance with FIFA regulations.
3. The Judicial Bodies terms of reference shall not affect the decision-making powers and responsibilities of the other SAFF committees.
4. Members of the judicial bodies may not be members of the Executive Board, standing/ad-hoc committees or any other SAFF bodies or clubs.
5. Provisions related to members suspension, expulsion and dismissal fall within the disciplinary responsibilities of the General Assembly and the Executive Board.

Article (50) Disciplinary Committee

1. The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman and three members. The chairman and the vice-chairman shall be holders of legal qualifications with reliable knowledge, capabilities and experiences on football.
2. The performance of this committee shall be subject to the SAFF Disciplinary Code. The committee shall pass decisions only when three members at least are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the SAFF Disciplinary Code.
3. The committee shall apply sanctions as stipulated for in these Statutes and the SAFF Disciplinary Code on members (clubs and leagues), officials, players, clubs, match agents and intermediaries.
4. Decisions of the Disciplinary Committee can be appealed against before the Appeal Committee according to the Disciplinary Code.

Article (51) Ethics and Values Committee

1. The Ethics and Values Committee shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman and three members. The chairman and the vice-chairman shall be holders of legal qualifications. One of them shall have experience in the area of investigations.
2. Responsibilities and functions of the Ethics and Values Committee include:
 - i. Matters related to football ethics, values and conducts. It shall protect football from risks, means and practices that are unacceptable on ethical, social and sport grounds when committed by members and officials.
 - ii. Investigation of issues of corruption, fraud, bribery, forgery and cheating as well as manipulating match results, football integrity and reputation.
 - iii. Protection of the rights of persons covered by these statutes.
3. The performance of this committee shall be subject to the SAFF Ethics and Values Code as well as the FIFA and AFC respective regulations. The committee shall pass decisions only when three members at least are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the SAFF Ethics and Values Code.
4. The committee shall apply sanctions as stipulated for in these Statutes and the Ethics and Values Code issued by SAFF and FIFA on clubs, leagues, officials, SAFF committees and bodies, players, referees, match agents and intermediaries.
5. Decisions of the Ethics and Values Committee can be appealed against before the Appeal Committee according to the Ethics and Values Code.

Article (52) Appeal Committee

1. The Appeal Committee shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman and three members. The chairman and the vice-chairman shall be holders of legal qualifications with reliable knowledge, capabilities and experiences on football.
2. The performance of this committee shall be subject to the SAFF Disciplinary Code. The committee shall pass decisions only when three members at least are present. In certain cases, the chairman may rule alone in accordance with the SAFF Disciplinary Code.
3. The Appeal Committee is responsible for hearing appeals against decisions of the Disciplinary Committee and Ethics and Values Committee, DRC.

Article (53) Tribunals

1. National Dispute Resolution Chamber (NDRC)

- a) A National DRC shall be composed according to the provisions of the DRC Regulations issued by SAFF and the NDRC Standard Regulations published by FIFA.
- b) The NDRC shall deal with all national disputes that may involve clubs, players, match agents or intermediaries and disputes regarding professionals' contracts, training compensation, solidarity mechanism, contracts of match agents and intermediaries.
- c) Decisions of the NDRC can be appealed against before the competent arbitration tribunal.

2. National Sport Arbitration Board / Center

The National Sport Arbitration Board / Center shall specialize in settling sport disputes based on the nature and circumstances of the issue in relation to these Statutes and SAFF regulations at the time of establishing the center. The National Sport Arbitration Board/Center shall deal with decisions that are not declared final and binding and are related to internal national disputes between the Federation, its Members, Players, Officials, intermediaries and match agents and any other subordinated entity.

The seat of the National Sport Arbitration Board/Center of the Federation shall be in the territory of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The General Assembly shall recognize the National Sport Arbitration Board/Center together with the relevant arbitration code upon proposal of the Executive Board. The arbitration code drawn up by the Executive Board shall include provisions regarding the composition, jurisdiction and procedural rules of the National Sport Arbitration Board/Center.

Article (54) Disciplinary Measures

The primary disciplinary measures are:

1. For natural and legal persons:
 - a. A warning;
 - b. A reprimand;
 - c. A fine;
 - d. The return of awards.
2. For natural persons:
 - a. A caution;
 - b. An expulsion;
 - c. A match or number of matches' suspension;
 - d. A ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;

- e. A ban from entering a stadium;
 - f. A ban on taking part in any football-related activity.
3. For legal persons:
- a. A transfer ban;
 - b. A registration ban;
 - c. Playing a match without spectators;
 - d. Playing a match on neutral territory;
 - e. A ban on playing in a particular stadium;
 - f. Annulment of the result of the match;
 - g. A match replay;
 - h. A forfeit;
 - i. Deduction of points;
 - j. Relegation to a lower division.

Article (55) Arbitration

1. SAFF members, officials, players, match agents and intermediaries are obliged to read, observe and comply with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the SAFF and its standing committees, judicial bodies and tribunals.
2. SAFF judicial bodies and tribunals shall have legal jurisdiction on internal national disputes while FIFA and AFC shall have jurisdiction on international disputes involving parties affiliated to different associations and/or Confederations in accordance with these Statutes as well as those of FIFA and AFC.
3. All disputes involving SAFF, members, officials, players and their agents, match agents, intermediaries, other organs and persons are subject to the provisions of SAFF Statutes. Dispute files shall be submitted to the CAS - until a National Sport Arbitration Board / Center has been established - provided that all means of cordial internal reconciliation have been exhausted, unless there is a special arbitration agreement between the concerned parties.
4. National Sport Arbitration Board/Center shall have no jurisdiction over disputes related to decisions made by the SAFF Judicial Bodies, particularly the following cases:
 - a. Disputes related to the application of the Laws of the Games;
 - b. Penalty against a club imposing the obligation to play a match or organize a sport event without entire or part of spectators, or play on a neutral ground;
 - c. Penalty of suspension against a natural person for less than four (4) months or less than eight (8) matches;

- d. Penalty against a club or a natural person with a warning, a reprimand or a fine of less than SR300,000 (Three Hundred Thousand Saudi Riyals)
5. Jurisdiction concerning anti-doping decisions and all related issues must be governed by the applicable anti-doping code in accordance with WADA regulations and FIFA Statutes.
6. SAFF, members, players, officials, match agents and intermediaries are bound by the obligation not to take any sport dispute to Ordinary Courts unless specifically provided for in these Statutes or in FIFA regulations.

Article (56) Court of Arbitration of Sport (CAS)

1. In accordance with the relevant articles of FIFA Statutes, any appeal against a final and binding FIFA decision shall be heard by the Court of Arbitration of 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 within SAFF or recognized by SAFF at national level.
2. SAFF shall ensure its full compliance and that of its members, players, officials, match agents and intermediaries with all final decisions passed by FIFA bodies or CAS.

CHAPTER (V) FINANCE

Article (57) Financial Period

1. The SAFF fiscal year shall start on 1st July and closes on 30th June of every year. The SAFF financial report covers this period.
2. The SAFF annual budget shall be prepared with a view to covering the fiscal year with revenues and expenses. It is important to ensure that the SAFF can fulfill its future basic obligations by securing sufficient reserves for those obligations.
3. The Finance Director in cooperation with the General Secretary is responsible for preparing the annual balance sheets and their annexes up to 30th June. The balance sheet shall reflect the current standing of income and expenditure.
4. The Finance Director shall properly keep the accounting registers under the supervision of General Secretary.
5. A bank account in the name of SAFF shall be created in one of Saudi Arabia's banks where all SAFF reserves are deposited. Transactions shall be carried out according to SAFF financial regulations.
6. At the fiscal year end, the Finance Director shall prepare the closing financial statements of the ending year. The External Auditors shall submit the statement to the Executive Board for approval. They will also prepare a financial report to present to the General Assembly.
7. The Executive Board shall develop the financial regulations which will establish the procedures for revenue collection, disbursement channels and aspects, persons who have signature rights and rules of money transfer inside the budget.
8. SAFF shall appoint an internal financial controller whose responsibilities are outlined in the financial regulations.

Article (58) Revenues

The revenues of SAFF shall generally be generated from:

1. Funds allocated by the state to support SAFF.
2. Members' annual subscriptions;
3. Income from marketing SAFF rights;
4. Properties and investments
5. Fines imposed by SAFF bodies;
6. Other subscriptions and payments received within the objectives pursued by SAFF.
7. Donations and grants collected with approval of SAFF Executive Board within the pursued objectives

8. Revenues generated through SAFF financial investments as approved by the Executive Board.

Article (59) Expenditure

SAFF covers the following expenses:

1. The expenses stipulated for in the budget;
2. Expenses approved by the General Assembly as well as those permitted for the Executive Board within the scope of its authority;
3. All expenses that are in line with the objectives pursued by SAFF.

Article (60) Independent Auditors (External)

1. The independent auditors are appointed by the Executive Board for one year, renewable for a maximum of three years. Such appointment shall be approved by the General Assembly. The Executive Board may submit a recommendation to the General Assembly requesting the change of independent auditors.
2. The Certified Accountants shall audit the accounts prepared by the Finance Director, in cooperation with the General Secretary, according to well established accounting principles and criteria applicable in Saudi Arabia, before submitting them to the Executive Board and General Assembly for due approval.
3. The Certified Accountants are appointed for a renewable one year, by General Assembly decision. The Executive Board may submit a recommendation to the General Assembly requesting the change of auditors for general interests.
4. The auditor shall audit and revise the accounts prepared by the Finance Director, in cooperation with the General Secretary, according to well established accounting principles and criteria applicable in Saudi Arabia, before submitting them to the General Assembly for due approval.
5. The Finance Director and General Secretary shall ensure that the Auditor has access to all information, details, reports and documents he requires to complete his assignment.

Article (61) Membership Subscriptions

1. Membership subscriptions are due on the first of July each year. The annual subscription for new Members for the year in question shall be paid within 30 days after the General Assembly at which they are admitted.
2. The General Assembly shall determine the amount of the annual subscription every four years based on the recommendations of the Executive Board. It shall be the same for all Members, amounting to a maximum of SR10.000 (Ten Thousand Saudi Riyals).

Article (62) Settlement

SAFF may deduct payments from members' accounts at the federation in order to settle any outstanding payments claimed by other parties from those members. SAFF shall include the issue of account settlement in its financial regulations.

Article (63) Levies

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

CHAPTER (VI) COMPETITIONS AND RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

Article (64) Competitions

1. SAFF shall organize and coordinate the following official competitions in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:
 - a) The King's Cup
 - b) The Crown Prince Cup.
 - c) Prince Faisal Bin Fahad Cup for Premier League Clubs.
 - d) Professional League Championship.
 - e) Super Cup Championship.
 - f) 1st Division Club League.
 - g) 2nd Division Club League.
 - h) 3rd Division Club Championship.
 - i) Premier Division Club Championship for Youth.
 - j) Premier Division Club Championship for Juniors
 - k) Federation's Premier Division Cup for Youth
 - l) Federation's Premier Division Cup for Juniors
 - m) 1st Division Club Championship for Youth
 - n) 1st Division Club Championship for Juniors
 - o) Kingdom's Cup Championship for Grassroots.
 - p) Additional competitions or events created by SAFF according to these Statutes
2. The Executive Board may delegate to SAFF's Leagues or Regional Offices the authority to organize competitions. The competitions organized by the Leagues and Regional Offices shall not interfere with those competitions organized by SAFF. Competitions organized by SAFF shall take priority.
3. The Executive Board may issue the regulations required for this matter.

Article (65) Licensing of Football Activity

1. SAFF shall issue the Club licensing regulations in accordance with the principles and requirements of FIFA and AFC Club licensing regulations. The Club Licensing Body is in charge of the club licensing system within SAFF.
2. The objective of the Club licensing system is to safeguard the credibility and integrity of Club competitions, improve the level of professional work of SAFF, promote sportsmanship values based on the principles of fair play, secure match environment and enhance transparency in terms of Club financing, ownership and administration.

3. The Executive Board of SAFF shall publish the Club licensing regulations governing the licensing system. The Club licensing regulations shall, inter alia, determine which Clubs the system applies to. As a minimum, the Club licensing system must be applied to premier division Clubs which qualify for AFC competitions. Within this context, SAFF and clubs shall work together for the promotion of healthy environment for environment for the first division professional football and organizational criteria.

Article (66) Rights

1. SAFF and affiliate clubs are the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events falling under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, but not limited to, all kinds of financial rights, audiovisual recordings, reproduction, broadcasting, multimedia, marketing, publicity and incorporated rights such as emblems, logos, copyright and authors' rights. SPL and its members are the exclusive owners of the competitions and events according to the provisions of these Statutes.
2. The Executive Board shall decide on how and to what extent these rights, falling under its jurisdiction, are exploited and draw up special regulations to this effect. It will also determine the rules elaborating how these rights shall be distributed to the concerned clubs and whether these rights shall be exploited exclusively, jointly with other parties or entirely through a third party according to the provisions of these Statutes.

Article (67) Authorization

SAFF and its Members are exclusively responsible for authorizing the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of football matches and events coming under their respective jurisdiction without any restrictions as to content, time, place, technical and legal liability.

CHAPTER (VII) INTERNATIONAL MATCHES AND COMPETITIONS

Article (68) International Matches and Competitions

1. The authority for organizing international matches and competitions between representative teams, Clubs, and between Leagues, Club teams and/or scratch teams lies solely with FIFA, the Confederation(s) and the other FIFA Member Association concerned. No such match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of FIFA, the relevant Confederation(s) and/or the FIFA Member Association concerned in accordance with the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.
2. The Federation is bound to comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.

Article (69) Contacts

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

Article (70) Approval

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

CHAPTER (VIII) FINAL PROVISIONS

Article (71) Unforeseen Contingencies and Force Majeure

1. The Executive Board shall decide upon any matters not provided for in these Statutes (or any other SAFF regulations) and in cases of force majeure. In case that such matter would normally fall under the authority of the General Assembly, the relevant report thereof shall be submitted for approval at the next General Assembly meeting. Such approval requires two thirds of the present members' votes.
2. Other than cases provided for in para (1) above, the Executive Board may submit non-urgent issues, which are not provided for in these Statutes, to the next General Assembly or an Extraordinary General Assembly meeting especially held for such issues. A majority of two thirds of the present members' votes is required to pass a decision.

Article (72) Withdrawal of Confidence and Dissolution

1. In the following cases, the General Assembly may decide to withdraw confidence from the Executive Board:
 - a) In case of proven corruption and serious financial violations
 - b) Lack of quorum for Executive Board meetings for four consecutive times or eight dispersed times in one year.
 - c) Not holding the ordinary General Assembly meeting for two times without justification.
 - d) FIFA or AFC nullifying recognition of SAFF, suspending its activities or banning its participations.
 - e) Resignation or expulsion of more than half of the Executive Board members.
2. Any decision relating to the dissolution of SAFF requires a majority of three quarters of all of the Members of the General Assembly, which must be obtained at a General Assembly specially convened for this purpose.
3. If SAFF is dissolved, its assets, funds and properties shall be transferred to General Presidency for Youth Welfare. It shall hold such assets in trust and return it to the SAFF after its re-instatement.

Article (73) Transitional clause

1. The number of the Delegates for the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee has been increased to 5 Delegates with a view to the major commitment and undertaking Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee to assist SAFF with its expert knowledge as well as its best of its ability, utmost diligence and care. Notwithstanding the foregoing, SAFF and the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee have agreed that the aforementioned increase will only last for the time between the Ordinary General Assemblies of the years 2015 to 2018. Thereafter, the number of Delegates for the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee shall automatically be reduced to 3 Delegates.
2. The provision regarding the composition, election and appointment of the Executive Board shall come into effect with a view to the SAFF board elections in the year 2016; until then, the provisions contained in the previous SAFF statutes (as adopted by the SAFF General Assembly on 04.11.2012) shall be mandatory.

Article (74) Enforcement

1. These Statutes were adopted at the Extraordinary General Assembly on 23/8/1436H corresponding to 10/6/2015. It shall be valid as of such date according to Articles 29-31 of the modified Statutes.
2. These Statutes nullify and supersede all past regulations and rules and those contradicting their provision. It is not permissible to refer to any contradictory provisions.