

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

London, England – Sunday, April 20th, 2014 – According to the Delegate of England
Human Rights Violations In FIFA World Cup Host Nations Intolerable

The FIFA World Cup Host Nation is selected in order to provide the ideal hosting conditions for the world's most prestigious tournament; ideal conditions for spectators, players, and the affected population alike. The delegate of England believes that in hosting the World Cup in countries guilty of committing violations of basic human rights, including the Russian Federation and the State of Qatar, the FIFA Congress fails not only to provide ideal conditions, but fails to provide even adequate or humane conditions. England believes that nations, such as Russia and Qatar, that are unfit to host the World Cup should be stripped immediately of their rights to host the World Cup and be reprimanded with the possibility of appropriate sanctions to be put in place as consequences for their violations.

Since the State of Qatar won the bid to host the 2022 FIFA World Cup in 2010, during the construction of venues for the tournament, over 400 Nepalese migrant workers have died. They have been subjected to unsanitary conditions, extreme temperatures, and unsafe working conditions. According to the International Trades Union Congress, the death toll of workers in Qatar is on course to arrive at 4,000 people before the tournament is set to begin in 2022. England believes this is a blatant and gruesome violation of worker's rights, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which stated "Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, *to just and favorable conditions of work* and to protection against unemployment." With this breach of basic human rights, England believes that Qatar should be stripped of its right to host the 2022 FIFA World Cup, as the Qatari government's actions have proven categorically, that Qatar is totally unfit to host the FIFA World Cup.

The right of the Russian Federation to host the 2018 FIFA World Cup should also be revisited and revoked, as the number of violent crimes and the level of discrimination rise in Russia. In the recent past, one principal mission of FIFA has been to promote respect and eradicate racism in the sport. However, the rights to host the World Cup have been granted to a country with an extremely high regularity of racist abuse and racist actions. The director of football's anti-racism campaign "Kick It Out" has in fact stated that racism "is still the norm" at football matches in Russia. England is appalled by the fact that the World Cup could be awarded to a country whose citizen's actions directly oppose those of FIFA.

With the hosting rights of both of these countries in need of revocation, England believes more suitable hosts for these two tournaments would include England in 2018, and Australia or the United States in 2022. All of these countries did introduce bids for the tournaments, and therefore have some rightful claim to the hosting rights. Should the offending countries be replaced, England believes FIFA will have succeeded in achieving justice for the players, spectators and all involved or wronged initially.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

London, England – Sunday, April 21, 2014 – Transparency Necessary To Combat Corruption’s Threat to Football Says Delegate of England

Recently, the integrity of the sport of football and its governing body, FIFA, has been called into question. In the past twenty years, organized crime in our sport has grown to a scale which was previously unheard of. It is only in these past twenty years that we have learned of scandals involving those at the very top of the pyramid, whose job it is to ensure the integrity of the sport. Bribery, match-fixing, vote-rigging, political involvement and human rights violations have all occurred where others stand to profit. England believes that if transparency, accountability and other practices to encourage ethics and discourage corruption are not immediately imposed, the influence of organized crime will become more commonplace in our sport.

The advantages of more transparency in football’s governing bodies are massive. With better transparency, it is much more difficult for bribery and match-fixing to go unnoticed. England believes that high-ranking FIFA officials should regularly have to declare their finances to be examined by the FIFA Ethics Committee in order to ensure no bribery or illicit transfers have taken place. England also believes that FIFA’s anti-corruption branch should regularly educate and communicate with football clubs and leagues and their respective management in order to aid in the recognition and resistance of possible corruption.

England also believes that the Anti-Corruption branch of FIFA, to ensure the justice and legality of all decisions, should also review the past actions of the Executive Committee in selecting FIFA officials and World Cup Host Nations as well as future decisions made by FIFA officials to address any suspicion of bribery.

England believes with these measures, FIFA takes a step forward in discouraging all forms of corruption from manifesting themselves in Football, and furthering the integrity and fairness of the international footballing community.

Dear Foreign Secretary:

It has come to my attention that you will be attending the FIFA Congress meeting held in Vancouver from May 16-18, where you will be discussing human rights violations in host nations, as well as corruption and legislative interference. I see this as an excellent opportunity to secure the hosting rights and the economic benefits that go with them to the 2018 FIFA World Cup and gain repute as a leader of FIFA's crusade against human rights violations and corruption. Should we achieve this, England will no doubt become one of the most important and well-respected nations in the footballing community.

When the Host Nations of the 2018 and 2022 FIFA World Cups were announced, the English FA and the English people expressed their dismay and surprise to me when our bid was passed over in favor of Russia's bid. However, since one of the topics to be discussed at the FIFA Congress meeting is the human rights violations in such host nations, we have been presented a unique opportunity to regain these hosting rights. As your Prime Minister, I implore you to take such an opportunity by arguing that human rights violations committed by the Russian Government constitute that Russia is an unfit host and should be stripped of their right to host. Logically, you must also strip Qatar of their right to host the 2022 World Cup, as their human rights violations are very serious and allowing them to keep their hosting rights sends the wrong message altogether of what England believes is right.

Once you have made it obvious that neither Russia nor Qatar is fit to host, proceed to argue that since England had made a valid bid, they should be considered to host if Russia cannot. Also, make it abundantly clear that since the World Cup in 2018 is fast approaching, it would be rash to award the hosting rights to a country that does not possess adequate infrastructure to host. England does however have such infrastructure, as the Barclays Premier League has possibly the world's best venues, and we have very good transportation systems as well. As for the 2022 World Cup, I encourage you to support the claim of either Australia or the United States of America, as they are most likely to be successful, and are closely related to us. However do bear in mind that Australia's bid has been marred by accusations of bribery, and supporting them could prove problematic to our reputation.

As for the second topic, I am afraid there are fewer opportunities for England to gain. However, you should use this as an opportunity to better England's reputation as an important part of FIFA's fight against corruption. Also, use this as an opportunity to take some measure of action against corruption, as while the influence of organized crime extends itself, we all stand to lose.

Should you take these opportunities that are presented to you, England shall reap the benefits, in hosting the 2018 World Cup, and in becoming further established as one of FIFA's most valuable and important leading members in all its missions.

David Cameron,
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, First Lord of the Treasury, and Minister for Civil Service

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