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# FACT CHECK

of the 16 May 2020 Circular  
Replying to the Gay Mokoena  
and Dennis Mumble Reports

By Dennis A. Mumble



## RESPONSE TO THE SAFA CIRCULAR SENT TO SELECTED REGIONS DATED 16 MAY 2020

Dear SAFA Members, SAFA LFAs, and SAFA NEC Members,

Please accept my humble plea that you read carefully through this whole document and discuss it in your structures because the reports referred to herein are the main reasons why the SAFA President and the SAFA CFO find themselves on trial in a court of law right now. These reports could lead to further legal trouble if their other contents are not addressed by the leadership that you elected to address these issues.

Noam Chomsky once wrote: *"The smart way to keep people passive and obedient is to strictly limit the spectrum of acceptable opinion, but allow very lively debate within that spectrum - even encourage the more critical and dissident views. That gives people the sense that there's free thinking going on, while all the time the presuppositions of the system are being reinforced by the limits put on the range of the debate."*

Since my departure from SAFA in 2018, I have avoided meddling in its affairs, except to clarify matters related to my 2020 report and to defend myself against Jordaan's countless lies. **I am being sued by Jordaan and SAFA for saying that he is not fit to be the SAFA President. I did not criticize SAFA but SAFA must pay for his thin skin while many Regions have not received grants for two years! He is hiding behind the association's money, wasting it on something that will never succeed in a court of law!** So, I am forced to respond now to set the record straight because these lies lead to a wasting of SAFA's money.

Most NEC members I have spoken to know nothing about it because it was not placed in front of the NEC. What is clear is that SAFA's Members have been deliberately misled through a calculated pattern of lies by

those who have forgotten how to be truthful. It is time that you claim your right to the truth, and I am humbly sharing it with you today!

### "The Circular": An Unsophisticated Web of Lies

On May 16, 2020, a document — "the Circular" — was sent to a few selected Regions. It was a response to my May 2020 report to the NEC, which followed the release of another report by former Vice-President and Acting CEO, Mr. Gay Mokoena. The Circular defamed me by casting me as a liar, claiming I misled SAFA's Members. I saw that my silence has been taken as acceptance of these lies. I want to be clear: **a lie, no matter how often repeated, never becomes the truth.**

The Circular did not answer any of the specific allegations contained in my report. Instead, it attempted to confuse and distract SAFA's Members by giving the impression that my report was a complaint against SAFA itself, and it raised issues that were not in my report; it manipulated the context of the points I raised in an. The complaint was not against SAFA!

### Intimidation Tactics and Abuse of Power

Since the NEC rejected my report without reading it in 2020, the expectation was that these issues will just disappear and be swept under the carpet. This will simply not happen.

**I maintain my position that Jordaan is unfit to be SAFA President** for reasons outlined in my report and because of the lies that I point out in this document. I have filed a criminal complaint, under the *Prevention*

*and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act (PRECCA)*, against Jordaan and the lawyers who aid and abet his nonsense and who are happily leeching off SAFA, using it as a fundraising source, knowing that SAFA should not be paying these bills for Jordaan's personal battles.

I also filed a professional misconduct complaint with the Legal Practice Council against those lawyers. This is not simply about defending myself but about holding those responsible accountable for their unethical conduct. The practice of using lawyers to intimidate people with the law and spending insane amounts of SAFA's much-needed money on them has no place in an organization tasked with serving the public and promoting and developing football in South Africa.

Lawyers must not allow themselves to be used to silence debate within SAFA and to harass people with the law – and then SAFA ends up paying these costs. Lawyers have a professional code of conduct to uphold and they must also be held to account!

### **Gaslighting: A Strategy to Divide**

*Gaslighting is a form of manipulation where a person makes false statements intended to hide the truth from or manipulate their audience.*

Members have been fed stories that are designed to turn them against those who dare to criticize Jordaan. The consistent gaslighting through CEOs who don't think and willingly allow themselves to be used as stenographers, have created divisions that threaten the very foundation and unity of SAFA. This is about the collective good of South African football.

The allegations outlined in the reports of Mr. Mokoena and myself have still not been addressed. Instead, Jordaan abused his position to conduct his own investigation into Mr. Mokoena's report; to dismiss the report; to exonerate himself; and to vilify us. This was a blatant conflict of interest and a total failure of governance. It is a violation of Article 5 of the SAFA Code of Ethics and Article 35.3 of the 2018 (the applicable Statutes in this case).

Yet, these reports that have led to the SAFA President appearing in court on charges of theft and fraud. If the NEC had fulfilled its fiduciary duty, these matters would not have escalated to the point where it is now. SAFA does not deserve the kind of humiliation that it is experiencing now.

### **The Cost of Blind Loyalty**

Good governance is not a popularity contest. Yet, when confronted with truthful information, Members are regularly told a one-sided story, even if it hurts the Association. The legal costs to support Jordaan's thin-skinned reaction to criticism and the lawfare he wages against other members of the football family are exorbitant and completely unjustifiable. These funds should be directed toward Regional grants and football development, not squandered on covering up his misconduct.

### **A Call for Accountability**

SAFA's Members deserve transparency and the full truth on the issues at hand. I urge you to review the reports by Mr. Mokoena and me – which I have included alongside the Circular – and engage in open, informed discussions. Decisions based on half-truths and outright lies will only do

further damage to SAFA's reputation and hinder the growth and development of football in the country.

The consequences of Jordaan's actions are destroying the image of SAFA. Let us hold leadership to account for telling lies.

To the NEC Members: I appeal to your consciences and ask that you remember your fiduciary duty to act in the interests of SAFA by rejecting the constant spin doctoring. Too many NEC members are telling me they are afraid to speak up because they might be removed!

SAFA does not deserve this!

This humiliation could have been avoided had the 2020 NEC applied its mind and addressed these allegations fairly and impartially when it was presented to them!

Both Mr. Mooka and I had hoped that it would not get to this point, but it did, and we have to deal with it soberly so that SAFA can recover its dignity. There is still time to deal with those allegations before it collapses SAFA completely.

We built SAFA. We cannot destroy it!

I only write about things for which I can present evidence to back it up. So, if you need the backup documentation and recordings, please let me know so that I can point you in the right direction.

**I say, enough is enough! For the sake of SAFA, the lies, the intimidation, and abuse of power must end. SAFA's integrity must be restored so that it can focus on what truly matters — developing football for all.**

## THIS IS THE REBUTTAL TO “THE CIRCULAR” TO SELECTED REGIONS DATED 16 MAY 2020

(Members are encouraged to read *The Circular* first)

CLAIMS MADE IN THE CIRCULAR	THE TRUTH
The Circular claims that the Association is under threat by people who seek to destabilise it.	<b>Nobody accused the Association of wrongdoing.</b> It was Danny Jordaan who was accused of abuse of power and unethical conduct in both reports.
Why did I not raise these matters when I was still the CEO?	<b>This statement is a blatant lie.</b> I told the NEC that I had serious concerns in a full NEC Meeting on 28 March 2018 and shared those concerns with other NEC members individually, but they ignored the warnings. Here is how I tried to address the issues. Some of the Members who were part of these meetings now deny it, but <b><i>the audio recordings will prove otherwise:</i></b>
<p>I have my own recordings mentioned here, made on my phone, but the Association must be asked to send you its recordings – not falsified minutes -- of these meetings, which are on CDs and protected digital files, which cannot be edited, and which will prove my claims to be 100% correct.</p> <p>There are some who were not even NEC Members at the time who also feel bold enough to repeat these lies!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>April 2017:</b> I spoke to numerous Executive Members who were called to an unconstitutional lekgotla in Durban to deal with administrative matters in violation of Article 34.1.1 of the SAFA Statutes;</li> <li>▪ <b>November 2017:</b> I had a few meetings with Mr. Gay Mokoena, who interacted with Jordaan on these concerns;</li> <li>▪ <b>22 December 2017:</b> I spoke to Jordaan in a one-on-one meeting in the Morningside Mall, where he denied my claim that he was trying to make himself Executive President;</li> <li>▪ <b>28 March 2018:</b> I made my dissatisfaction known in an NEC meeting. A promise was made to discuss my concerns in a meeting the following day, but it did not take place. <b><i>The recording of the meeting will confirm my statement (A);</i></b></li> <li>▪ <b>June 2018:</b> I had 2-hour discussion with Dr. Molefi Oliphant in Moscow, Russia about my problems. <b><i>Dr Oliphant can confirm this fact;</i></b></li> <li>▪ <b>August 2018:</b> I had 2 conversations about my problems with NEC Member Mzimkhulu Fina. In the second conversation, at the OR Tambo International Airport, Mr. Mokoena also joined. <b><i>Mr Fina (who thinks that coming from the same city requires blind loyalty and support for wrongdoing) and Mr. Mokoena can testify to this fact;</i></b></li> <li>▪ <b>September 2018:</b> I raised my concerns in a meeting with Jordaan and VPs Ledwaba, Mokoena and Nkompela. The President walked out of the meeting when I raised my concerns. <b><i>There is email evidence to back this up(B);</i></b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>October 2018:</b> I explained my problems to Executive Member Monde Montshiwa in text messages. <i>(C)</i>.</li> <li>▪ <b>October – November 2018:</b> I raised these concerns in follow-up meetings with the SAFA VPs. <i>There is a stack of email evidence to back this up(B);</i></li> <li>▪ <b>February 2019:</b> In a one-on-one meeting with Mr. Mokoena, who expressed doubt that the President's behaviour would change. <i>There is email evidence available (B);</i></li> </ul>
The Circular is a rebuttal of the Mokoena and Mumble Reports	<p>-SAFA's Members never received the two former CEOs' reports for them to understand the context of the response.</p> <p>-NEC Members dismissed the reports out of hand without even reading the reports.</p>
The two CEOs are trying to collapse the Association	<b>This is a lie!</b> We would not be so foolish to collapse something that we spent most of our lives helping to build. Both reports accuse Jordaan – not SAFA – of serious misconduct. None of the reports accuse SAFA itself of misconduct. But the reports were deliberately positioned as complaints against SAFA instead of against Jordaan – and some NEC Members have blindly supported that falsehood.
<p>Contractual Obligations of the CEO: This section implies that:</p> <p>i. I wanted to have another term of office</p>	<p><b>This is a blatant lie!</b> I informed the SAFA Finance Committee in early September 2016 and then the SAFA NEC on 8 October 2016 that my contract was due to expire in April 2018 and asked for a succession plan so that I can spend at least one year handing over to my successor. This request was ignored. <i>The Minutes and the recording of that meeting will reflect this fact (D). I have my own phone recording.</i></p> <p>On 28 March 2018, the SAFA NEC, at the behest of Jordaan, agreed to negotiate a new contract with me and these discussions were subsequently held with the SAFA VPs (Mokoena, Nkompela and Ledwaba) between September 2018 and February 2019). <i>I recorded the discussion where a clear indication of a contract renewal was agreed and I turned it down. eMail evidence of this fact is also available (B).</i></p> <p>Former VP Elvis Shishana chaired an off-the-record session of the SAFA Council Meeting on 28 March 2018. The Minutes of that meeting reflect the discussion about the 6-month extension of my contract after I stated that I would not discuss a new contract until the</p>

- ii. the Circular refers to the confidentiality clause in the CEO's contract.

matters with Jordaan had been sorted out. In this meeting, I was told that the NEC had full confidence in me and that a new contract would be negotiated during the course of the 6-month extension. ***The Minutes will not reflect the backstory but the recording of this meeting will reveal the intention to renew my contract (E), an action I could have challenged legally and won! But I did not.***

SAFA has had a whistle blower policy for more than 15 years and anyone is obliged by this policy to blow the whistle without fear of retribution.

South African law (the PRECCA Act) also requires anyone who becomes aware of any suspected corrupt activity to report it to the authorities. The FIFA Code of Ethics also has a similar requirement. These two requirements override SAFA's confidentiality clause in respect of suspected corrupt or unethical activities.

I directly reported my concerns to some NEC members -- who are now denying it -- and alerted the full NEC on 10/11 May 2020, through my report. The NEC rejected the report without considering a single word in it. After this rejection, only one NEC Member, in fulfilment of his fiduciary duty, filed a criminal complaint against Jordaan – not against SAFA – with law enforcement authorities and another NEC Member later joined him in reporting the matter to the FIFA Ethics Committee.

The Circular effectively covered up Jordaan's many violations by ignoring the serious charges in these reports. By referring to the obligation of myself and Mr. Mokoena to not use 'confidential' information in their whistleblowing, the Response endorses the President's unlawful interference in the work of the Secretariat, in violation of Article 34.1.1 as well as his many other violations of the SAFA Statutes.

The Circular acknowledges that I had a one-year restraint clause in my contract, but fails to note that the information had already become available publicly as a result of a leak by one

	<p>or more of the recipients of my report and that more than one year had passed since my departure anyway. My contract included the following provision:</p> <p><i>‘Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this agreement, the following information will not be regarded as confidential information for the purpose of this agreement: Any information which is, or becomes, generally available to the public so as to become a part of the public domain.’</i></p>
On me reaching retirement age	<p>On page 5, the Circular makes reference to the Association’s retirement age, which had never been a matter of concern during the discussion at the 28 March 2018 NEC Meeting or any of the negotiations with Jordaan and the Vice-Presidents on the renewal of my contract. The Circular also does not report that the retirement age was already previously waived by the SAFA NEC because I turned 60 years of age in the year that my contract was signed.</p> <p>After I left, SAFA even hired more people who were over the age of 60. My age was just another red herring, intended to divert attention from the fact that Jordaan behaved like an Executive President in violation of the Pickard Commission recommendations, and that he and the NEC on 28 March 2018 offered to negotiate a new contract and that I turned it down.</p> <p>Besides, Jordaan is not qualified to comment on my previous contract as he was never part of those discussions and he has consistently and maliciously misinterpreted it over the years.</p>
<p>The 2016 African Futsal Championship: Why did I report that the tournament was a success?</p> <p><b>What was not said in the Circular is that the SAFA Congress has a very strict agenda where matters that must reside under the NEC cannot be discussed there. The SAFA Statutes is quite clear that the agenda of the Congress cannot be altered. That is general knowledge.</b></p>	<p><b>This statement is deliberately misleading:</b> The Response wrongly refers to my POST-TOURNAMENT report as evidence of a contradiction. There is no contradiction as the post-event report was a legitimate reflection of a reality brought about by an NEC approval of the tournament.</p> <p>This doesn’t excuse the fact that I was not consulted BEFORE Jordaan agreed to host the tournament to determine if there was money for it and before springing it on us in an NEC meeting. Even the CAF marketing agent could not raise sponsorship for the tournament.</p>



<p>So, this becomes another instance where Jordaan was gaslighting members into believing something that is not possible to do in a Congress</p>	<p>Article 33.2 of the 2015 SAFA Statutes specifically stated that the CEO shall <b>convene</b> SAFA NEC Meetings <b>in consultation</b> with the President. Article 33.3 further stipulated that “<u>The Chief Executive Officer shall compile the agenda in consultation with the President</u>”. No such consultations ever took place before the matter was placed before the NEC and it was a clear sign of the disrespect for the constitutional role of the CEO.</p> <p>The complaint was also about Jordaan’s abuse of power and the poor governance practice demonstrated by the approval of an unbudgeted expenditure during a year when the Association’s margins were razor thin and whilst the Association was in the midst of trying to eliminate a long-standing cashflow deficit of approximately R30 million. The tournament cost more than R18m to stage.</p> <p>This is what I presented in the Annual Report in relation to that tournament:  <i>We continued to prepare our national teams for what promised to be an eventful Rio Olympic Games despite the fact such preparation required an investment beyond what had been budgeted. Similarly, we were also faced with hosting a very successful CAF Futsal Africa Cup of Nations in the period under review without commercial support. These two activities remain primarily responsible for the current position that we are reporting on this year.</i></p> <p>This is not evidence of me hiding the difficulty from the Members. The bottom line remains that <b>our Olympic team’s needs were sacrificed to host this tournament.</b></p>
<p>Patronage: HOD Appointments</p>	<p>The HOD appointment process is used as a patronage tool by Jordaan. The fact that certain Executive Members have come to depend on these assignments financially allow him to take advantage of this and exploit their dependence on him for these assignments. The 2017 SAFA Statutes state that the NEC shall approve the appointment of HODs, but the President usurped the role of the NEC. The NEC cannot assign an original constitutional function to another body or person.</p> <p>He has also managed that system from his office, instructing SAFA staff members directly without the CEO’s input. Since then, he oversaw the removal of that restriction in 2022 to give the power to appoint HODs exclusively to him.</p>

<p>Appointment of Grit Communications: The Circular states:</p> <p><i>‘SAFA has on many occasions contracted PR agencies to deal with matters that confronted the organisation. It is the case also with Grit Communications.</i></p> <p><i>In the period leading to our election <b><u>these allegations</u></b> emerged. We have noted from media reports that a counter case was to [sic] opened against Jennifer Ferguson and others. These reports SAFA noticed from media reports. This matter is not being handled by SAFA. These allegations cannot be handled by PR but by the courts.’</i></p>	<p><b><i>This matter is the subject of a criminal investigation and the appropriate evidence will be tendered in a court of law. Nothing more will be said above this, save for what is already in my 2020 report and in the public domain.</i></b></p> <p><b>This is a lie!</b> There was no need for a PR agency at the time. This was never discussed in any committee nor with the CEO, who was responsible for signing any contract in this regard – and only after implementing the relevant procurement policies. The President has no authority to override the SAFA constitution and SAFA’s policies.</p> <p><b><i>“These allegations”</i></b> had nothing to do with SAFA! The ‘allegations’ that the Circular refer to are about Jordaan’s <u>personal</u> alleged misconduct. This is evidence that Jordaan’s personality was being tied to SAFA’s personality. Why would SAFA need a PR agency when it merely <u>noted</u> these reports? The SAFA CEO was clear that SAFA did not need a PR agency at the time and a retroactive justification does not excuse the fact that the SAFA President was prohibited from signing any contracts on behalf of SAFA. It is a violation of Article 39.2 of the SAFA Statutes, which you approved on 26 September 2015. <b><i>You have the Minutes and the meeting pack of that Congress in your possession.</i></b></p>
<p>The Circular claims that SAFA has a good relationship with SA Breweries</p>	<p><b>This is a deliberate distortion.</b> The Circular deliberately conflates the 2020 relationship with SAB with the 2018 crisis and denies the crisis of confidence exhibited by the sponsors in early 2018, signalling a denial of the sponsors’ concerns.</p> <p>Jordaan’s personal issues were weighing heavily on the Association’s relationship with its sponsors in 2018 and Jordaan had agreed with us to step aside and separate his personal challenges from that of the Association. To merely point to the current relationship (2020) is <b>to intentionally mislead</b> the Members about the real crisis of that period.</p> <p>SAB had already withheld its sponsorship because of the controversies, which it said impacted its brand image. I had to ask VPs Nkompela and Ledwaba; Commercial Affairs Senior Manager, Mr Darryl Coutries; NEC Member, Mr Poobalan Govindasamy (then-</p>

	Chairman of SAFA's Ethics Committee) to accompany me to plead with SAB to release the funds it owed the Association.
<p><b>Fun Valley:</b> The Circular claims that I signed the purchase agreement as if it was my decision to purchase the property and that I should not complain about the transaction. It also implies the following:</p> <p><b><u>POINT AND COUNTER-POINT:</u></b></p> <p>(i) that an application for the funds was submitted to the Legacy Trust,</p> <p>(ii) that the "SAFA President, Mr Nematandani", Mr Mtshatsha and Mr Shishana were the SAFA reps on the Legacy Trust,</p> <p>(iii) the services of "Summore Group" were engaged "to look at the prospective sites as well",</p>	<p><b>This is a deliberate distortion of the facts!</b> The gist of the complaint on Fun Valley is in relation to the governance misconduct of the President <b>before</b> the 6 December 2014 NEC Meeting, where the NEC tacitly approved the project after the President merely announced at the end of the meeting that he secured the money from the Legacy Trust for the purchase of the property. The announcement lasted exactly 1 minute and 31 seconds. He also admitted in an NEC Meeting on 11 Dec 2015 that <b>he</b> negotiated the price, hence the seller's insistence that he will <b>not</b> change the price he had agreed with Jordaan and Valcke. <b><i>The recording of that meeting will reflect his admission (I). I have a phone recording and transcript of that discussion.</i></b></p> <p><b>It is important to note that the Fun Valley purchase is the subject of a criminal investigation, the details of which shall be argued in a court of law where the relevant evidence will be unveiled. I repeat here only what is in my report.</b></p> <p>(i) No application for the funds was submitted by SAFA to the Legacy Trust. The President unilaterally arranged for the Trust to make the allocation;</p> <p>(ii) <b>It is a lie that Mr Nematandani was the President in 2014</b> when Fun Valley was purchased. The Fun Valley purchase was never discussed during Mr. Nematandani's term of office between September 2009 and September 2013;</p> <p>(iii) <b>This is a lie and a deliberate distortion!</b> Sommore only conducted the engineering assessment and not a valuation of the property. The Circular confirms that all this work was initially done by the Legacy Trust and not by SAFA. It is further proof that Jordaan was running a parallel administration by unilaterally taking decisions, and it demonstrates the inherent conflicts of interest in holding multiple positions simultaneously;</p>

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| <p>(iv) that Mr. Nematandani chaired a meeting of the NEC on 6 December 2014 to discuss the purchase of Fun Valley.</p> <p>(v) <i>“A Trustees meeting was scheduled for 13 November 2014. The site walkabout was scheduled for the afternoon of the 12 November 2014. The Walkabout included included (sic) the FIFA representatives Mr. J Valcke, Mr Regenass, SAFA representatives Mr Nematandani, Mr Mtshatsha, Mr Shishana and Dr Jordaan.”</i></p> <p>(vi) On 29 September 2023, Mr. Bennett Bailey, in his capacity as SAFA VP, wrote to all SAFA Regions and NEC Members (deliberately excluding the NSL), <b>admitting the following</b>: <i>“Fun Valley - The grant agreement in respect of the Fun Valley application was signed by former SAFA CEO Dennis Mumble on 19 May 2015 on behalf of SAFA, and Joe Carrim (the General Manager) of the Trust. After this the Trust approved the</i></p> | <p>(iv) <b>This is a lie! Mr. Nematandani was <u>not</u> the President in December 2014!</b> Also, SAFA NEC Members seconded to the Trust had a primary fiduciary obligation to the Legacy Trust. Hence, the Association always submitted applications for funding, and these applications were always signed by the CEO.</p> <p>The Circular admits that Jordaan merely <b>informed</b> the NEC on 6 December 2014, in a 1 minute and 31 second presentation, that <b>he</b> had secured R82.7m to establish the National Technical Centre. The Circular also admits that it was only the Legacy Trust Board Members who visited the Centre, not the SAFA NEC – this, without informing the CEO. <b><i>This point can be proven by playing the recording of the SAFA NEC meeting of 6 December 2014 as proof (F). A transcript of that presentation is also available (G);</i></b></p> <p>(v) This statement is further admission that Jordaan had concluded the deal because the owner of the property indicated he had an agreement with Valcke and Jordaan on the price of the property.</p> <p>What is also clear is that Jordaan had earlier settled on purchasing the property and took members of the Finance Committee to the site on 3 October 2014 – more than a month earlier – and provided them with a personal tour of the site. <b><i>I have photos and a very short video of him leading the discussion that day during that visit (H).</i></b></p> <p>(vi) It is quite clear from Mr. Bailey’s statement, in addition to Jordaan’s other statements in NEC meetings, that the Legacy Trust conducted the discussions and Jordaan agreed to a price before presenting the project to SAFA, leaving us with arrangements that could not be changed because Jordaan led the NEC to declare that the project must be moved along – despite the absence of a thorough due diligence on the viability of the project.</p> <p>The Circular gives the impression that the CEO alone took the initiative to buy the Fun Valley property, but the record shows it was his unilateral decision. By presenting the 19 May 2015 signature date as the beginning of the process, the Circular <b><i>deliberately</i></b></p> |
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<p><i>project on the proposal by E Shishana and it was seconded by Prof M Katz. <b>As can be gauged by the aforementioned, all discussions and agreements were made by the 2010 FIFA Legacy Trust Fund and NOT SAFA!!!!</b> Only the Trust could approve or disapprove projects and programmes and all applications had to be submitted to the Trust. Fun Valley was one such project and a grant agreement was signed after approval. Due to this matter being in court, we shall stop here for now."</i></p>	<p><b>misleads</b> the Members because SAFA was already presented with a "done deal" by Jordaan on 6 December 2014, where he presented it as a "gift" from the Legacy Trust – without an application from SAFA.</p> <p>The CEO implements NEC decisions, and the NEC acceptance of the "gift" obliges the CEO to implement. The PR services agreement had no supporting NEC decision. But, even if the NEC had approved of the PR service at the time, it would still have been unlawful for Jordaan to sign the agreement. He actively led the debate in the 2015 Congress where this rule was passed.</p>
<p>The Circular gives the impression that I wrote a letter to FIFA in 2015 asking for money to purchase the Fun Valley property</p>	<p><b>This is a lie! The Circular contradicts itself by acknowledging that I was not involved as seen above), but still claims that I was involved.</b> My letter to FIFA in February 2015 was not for approval for the purchase of Fun Valley. The circular takes two lines out of that letter to give the impression that the letter was an application for funding to purchase the property. It was a request to FIFA to reallocate the GOAL Project funds that were already approved for an artificial turf for the SAFA-Transnet School of Excellence at Elandsfontein. It was a request to divert the grant to Fun Valley. Moreover, on 27 June 2015, the President gave an instruction in an NEC Meeting to apply for more GOAL Project funds. <b><i>The recording of this meeting will prove my point!</i></b></p> <p>Overall, the Circular is an admission that Jordaan ignored the constitution by continuing to act unilaterally on these matters.</p>
<p>Hotel Development at Fun Valley</p>	<p><b>The Circular lies about there being a dispute about the hotel being part of the Fun Valley grand design.</b> There was no application to the Legacy Trust for this hotel. Once again, Jordaan merely informed me, like he did with the NEC on 6 December 2014, that he secured another R100m for the hotel -- <b>after</b> the plans, which included the hotel, had already been commissioned. Once again, no due diligence was conducted on the viability of building a hotel on an unserviced, high risk site and where there was no market for such a facility beyond its use by the national teams. Even the architect mentioned that no due diligence</p>

	<p>was conducted. So, there is no dispute on this point. The complaint was about Jordaan's unilateral interference in operational matters to establish himself as an Executive President – against the clear instruction of the Pickard Commission of Enquiry.</p> <p>The Circular gives the impression that the funding was approved only in May 2015, but the record (the recording and Minutes) will prove that the NEC was merely informed that the money had been <u>approved</u> by the Legacy Trust in 2014. He never mentioned any conditions during his announcement. The Circular admits that the hotel was part of the grand design of the site – designed by Ruben Reddy and Associates who was engaged by the Legacy Trust – sometime in 2014 already. The Legacy Trust disbursed the money only in 2015 but “approved” it with no application in October or November 2014, pending a “suitability assessment”, yet he announced in 2014 that NEC Members will be “<i>invited to the opening of your technical centre</i>”.</p> <p>What is clear is that, at the time the CEO became involved in the project, the Legacy Trust had already done most of the work. I therefore asked Mr. Joe Carrim, the General Manager of the Legacy Trust, to continue with what they had started because it made no sense for to pick up on a project already deep into implementation before October 2014.</p> <p><b>The NEC approved a feasibility study for the construction of a hotel at Fun Valley <u>only</u> on 19 August 2017</b> – nearly three years after the CEO was informed by Jordaan that he secured funds for it from the Legacy Trust and that he would make it a Presidential project – meaning that the SAFA Secretariat had no involvement in the hotel project.</p> <p>The Circular also states that the hotel project was discussed at an NEC Meeting on 6 December 2014. <b>This is a blatant lie.</b> Not a word was said about the hotel in that meeting. Jordaan merely informed the NEC of an R82.7m grant by the Legacy Trust – and nothing more! <b><i>The meeting recording and transcript will prove it (F).</i></b></p>
Relationship with the NSL	The Circular confirmed my allegations that <b>Jordaan undermined the NSL</b> in his dealings with it.

	<p>Another example of how Jordaan undermined the League was when he finalized the report on the \$10m bribery allegation without the input of the Chairman of the 2010 FIFA World Cup LOC, who also happened to be the Chairman of the League.</p> <p>Jordaan also deliberately avoided calling meetings of the Joint Liaison Committee, Emergency Committee or International Board for many years in order to prevent NSL participation in what he described as 'SAFA affairs' – as if the NSL was not a Member of SAFA;</p> <p>Jordaan is the chief architect of many proposals that sought to minimize the role of the NSL in what he termed "SAFA's affairs" as if the NSL was not a SAFA Member.</p> <p>subsequent moves against the NSL is contained in changes to the SAFA Statutes to prevent the NSL from nominating anyone for election to the NEC other than its own representatives. The changes also prevent any of the NSL's representatives from running for the position of President. This is simply wrong and mischievous!!!</p> <p>Jordaan also took contradictory positions on player status and club licensing matters, first agreeing to changes with Dr. Khoza, then denying behind his back that he gave such instructions. He failed to call committee meetings on which the NSL was constitutionally represented, such as the International Affairs Committee and the Joint Liaison Committee.</p>
<p>FIFA Investigation: The Circular alleges that I contradicted my statement to SAFA Members in 2017 regarding the government owing SAFA \$10m.</p>	<p><b>This is a blatant lie.</b></p> <p>There is no contradiction in my statement because it was based on Jordaan's report in the 2016-2017 Annual Report (on page 17) that <b>he</b> was following up on the matter with the State President's office. (see more below)</p> <p>The Circular deliberately distorts the truth. Jordaan refused to be interviewed by the FIFA investigators in the presence of the other people whom FIFA requested be interviewed. He unilaterally moved his interview out of SAFA House to prevent the other interviewees from</p>

	<p>witnessing his responses to the interviewers' questions. I was present in that interview, as I was for all other interviews, except that of the former Chairman of the 2010 LOC.</p> <p>Simply stated, SAFA spent more than R11m to construct a response to the \$10 million bribery matter to reflect only Jordaan's position, with absolutely no input from any of the other people involved in the FIFA investigation. Dr. Oliphant and Dr. Khoza should have been consulted on this matter. <b>The final report was never placed before the SAFA NEC nor was it shared with any of the other interviewees – on Jordaan's specific instruction.</b> It can therefore not be seen as SAFA's position on the matter. Yet, the report was sent to the <i>Mail &amp; Guardian</i> in December 2017 and that, along with over 90 attachments, is now a public document. Millions were spent on SAFA's cooperation with the FIFA investigation to reflect the views of only one person. I participated in the preparation of that report, fully expecting that it would be placed in front of the NEC, which never happened.</p> <p>Jordaan unilaterally rejected distinguished attorney, Mr Zola Majavu (who was appointed by the EMCO) for presenting a letter to the FIFA investigators that he (Jordaan) allegedly failed to declare to Dr Oliphant. Mr Majavu – a consummate professional -- was scandalously belittled for ostensibly "taking sides" between Jordaan and Dr Oliphant. Jordaan then appointed his own private attorneys (Nortons, Inc), which led to duplicate costs for counsel in the FIFA investigation. Although this expenditure was later endorsed by the Emergency Committee, it is symbolic of Jordaan's egotistical behaviour and authoritarian style.</p> <p>Jordaan also kept the Emergency Committee and the SAFA Task Team who was responsible for the cooperation with the FIFA Investigators completely in the dark on most important matters related to this investigation. <b>Mr. Lucas Nhlapo, the Convenor of the Task Team, can confirm this fact.</b></p>
<p>The Circular claims that I included the \$10m in the NEC Activity Report as if it was my idea</p>	<p><b><i>The Circular is a blatant misrepresentation of the facts and an outright lie:</i></b></p>



This is what I **actually** said in the NEC Activity Report:

*"We are happy to report that the conclusion of this investigation led to us discovering that SAFA was indeed owed the \$10 million as it had been agreed by government that it would pay that money to SAFA in exchange for FIFA deducting it from the ticketing revenue due to SAFA after the conclusion of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. **The Association is currently pursuing the payment of this money.**" [my emphasis]*

- i. Jordaan said in the 2016-2017 NEC Activity Report that **"We have also finalized and submitted our claim for \$10m to the South African Government in relation to the Diaspora Legacy funding during the 2010 FIFA World Cup™."** (on page 17). My mention of the \$10m in the 2016-2017 Activity Report is based on Jordaan's report that he was dealing with the State President's Office in regard to this money [see further elaboration below in (iv)].
- ii. **Jordaan conveniently leaves out the last sentence of this paragraph**, which reads: *"The Association is currently pursuing the payment of this money."* It was in the process of *"pursuing the payment of this money"* that the DG of SRSA said clearly that Government had no record of that so-called "debt".
- iii. The Circular states that I mentioned this debt in the 2017-2018 Activity Report. **This is a lie! I did not sign the 2017-2018 Annual Financial Statement**, even though the year was concluded under my watch! That report and the NEC Activity Report were presented by Russell Paul, the Acting CEO at the time!
- iv. All previous references to the \$10m "owed" by government was based entirely on reports from Jordaan that he made arrangements with the State President's Office for the "reimbursement" of the \$10 million. He repeatedly belittled the status of the former SRSA DG, Mr Alec Moemi, describing him as unimportant because, in his words, the 2010 FIFA World Cup was a Presidential project and not a project of the Sport and Recreation Department.
- v. The Circular correctly states that Government (Minister Fikile Mbalula) said in 2016 that nobody should deal with the \$10 million matter.. However, it does not tell the full story about how Jordaan himself violated this directive:
  - a. He insisted on the inclusion of the \$10 million "government debt" in the financial statements;
  - b. He promised to retrieve the money from the State President's Office and subsequently met the Minister of Finance on the matter (I was present in that meeting) where the Minister recommended that SAFA should rather apply to Government for specific projects through the normal channels;

	<p>c. In May 2017, he brought two people to me who promised to retrieve the money from the National Treasury. When I refused to entertain this because they wanted a “finder’s fee” of 20%, he asked the Chairperson of the Finance Committee to finalize the matter with them. I also reported my disagreement to the Finance Committee;</p> <p>d. He initiated a trip to New York to speak to the American Government about their investigation into the \$10 million matter – in direct contravention of Minister Mbalula’s directive;</p> <p>e. He continued to lie in the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 SAFA Annual Financial Statements, long <b>after</b> I had already left SAFA;</p> <p>My statement (on pages 31, 33, and 44) makes it clear that Government denied they owed this debt after that initial report by the President which led to its inclusion in the 2016-2017 Activity Report. So, my statement is not contradictory.</p> <p>Also, <b>the <i>Going Concern Statement</i> in the Audited Financial Statement is not the statement of the CEO. It is the statement of the National Executive Committee.</b> The NEC approves the statement on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committees and it is thereafter presented to Congress by the Finance and Audit Committee chairs for adoption – not by the CEO. <b><i>It is common knowledge and to claim otherwise is therefore another blatant lie and a distortion of the facts.</i></b></p>
<p>On the Siyaya Matter:</p> <p>The Circular claims – in retrospect – that Siyaya was not going to be able to broadcast SAFA matches and implied that SAFA’s debt to Siyaya was equal to Siyaya’s debt and therefore worth entering into a mutual cancellation agreement.</p>	<p>The Circular admits that SAFA lost R450m in potential revenue from the Siyaya deal through a unilateral decision taken by Jordaan.</p> <p><b>This is a complete distortion of the facts of the time period of this matter!</b></p> <p>Siyaya ceded the rights back to SAFA in order to sub-license it to the SABC until April 2018. I spent four long days and nights driving between Melrose Arch and Hyde Park Shopping Centre Office Block trying to convince Siyaya’s board members to agree to the sub-licensing deal, until a deal was struck to pay them R10m a year to do so.</p>

The Circular also claims that Siyaya “ceded” their broadcast rights to the SABC.

This whole process was done in cloak and dagger style in the same manner that the Siyaya deal was pushed through in 2014 – via a round-robin resolution because Jordaan wanted to avoid a debate around the adoption of the agreement.

Eventually, Siyaya asked that the arrangement not be made public, but that the R10m p.a. compromise be paid to them until the SABC deal expired, whereupon the rights would revert to them.

Article 39.2 of the October 2017 Statutes reads:

*The Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer are duly authorized and are entitled to sign for and on behalf of the Association, in terms of the SAFA Schedule of Delegated Authority (SODA) all contractual agreements concerning important business of SAFA along with the joint signature of the Chief Operations Officer or his / her Divisional General Manager responsible for the implementation of the contractual agreement.*

The Circular states on p18 that:

*‘At that point, both parties, SIYAYA and SAFA, concluded that SIYAYA would not be able to execute the broadcast contract that we signed with them. We then commenced negotiations to cancel the existing contract with [sic] terminates 1 May 2020.’*

**No such agreement was struck during my tenure as CEO! I refused to sign such a write-off when asked to do so. Jordaan met with Siyaya alone. The question to be asked is who is ‘we’, since this cancellation has still not been presented to the SAFA Executive or the SAFA Congress for approval?**

R450 million was an extraordinarily large amount of money which, in my view, should have been referred to the SAFA NEC as it approved the original contract signed with Siyaya in May 2014. **This write-off is the root cause of the Association’s current poor financial condition.**

I only learned about the ‘agreement’ through a third party (an email from Mr. Noah Greenhill of Siyaya, forwarded to me by the CFO) and not through Jordaan, which was further proof of his abuse of power and of his running **a parallel administration.**

Article 39.2 of the 2017 SAFA Statutes specifically restricted the powers to sign commercial contracts to the SAFA CEO, CFO, COO and the General Manager of the Division responsible for the contract in question. Jordaan had no right to agree unilaterally to an arrangement with Siyaya. He was fully aware of that since he chaired that Congress on 26 September 2015 where Norman Arendse presented the changes to the Members for approval. I had nothing to do with the creation of that Article. Ostensibly, it came from the SAFA Members themselves during the workshop or through the changes brought about by the alignment with the Tax Act.

## CONCLUSION

### A Call for Accountability and the Restoration of Integrity in SAFA

In addition to my report and that of Mr. Gay Mokoena, another NEC Member, Mr. Gladwyn White, has raised serious concerns about Jordaan's conduct. In 2023, Mr. White filed a complaint with the SAFA Ethics Committee, yet to my knowledge, it has not been addressed. Then, in 2024, he sent another letter to all Regions highlighting the same troubling issues of unilateralism and abuse of power. In December 2024, he filed a complaint with the FIFA Ethics Committee. These ongoing complaints suggest a pattern of behaviour that remains unchecked, even as SAFA's rules are routinely disregarded. This information is in the public domain and I don't know if Mr. White has taken any other action in addition to what is in the public domain.

All three of the reports further reveal a troubling trend. It details allegations of overreach; operational interference; unilateral decision-making (including the improper appointment of a CEO); alleged violations of South African law; and questionable staff contract negotiations. Alarming, these decisions, taken in the name of the Association, are the reasons for the serious reputational and financial problems of the association.

This behaviour has chased away many football administrators who have dedicated their lives to building up South African football, only to be painted as enemies of the sport through a divisive narrative. So far, Members have always been subjected to a one-sided story, by silencing dissenting voices and a culture of bullying and intimidation. **It stops now.**

The 16 May 2020 Circular and this rebuttal is an exposé of Jordaan's consistent abuse of power, marked by unilateral decisions that governance

structures are expected to just rubber-stamp without question. When challenged, he resorts to legal threats, using SAFA's money to intimidate the whistleblowers, which further drains resources meant for football development.

This overreach is possible only when one individual wields too much power. Danny Jordaan has entrenched himself across a web of critical roles: President of SAFA, Chairperson of the Legacy Trust, Chairperson of the SAFA Development Agency, Chairperson of the Emergency Committee, Chairperson of the International Affairs Committee, and Chairperson of the Joint Liaison Committee. These overlapping positions create a troubling dynamic, enabling him to make decisions in one capacity that ripple through another — meaning he reports to himself. This flagrant disregard for the foundational principles of governance diminishes the credibility of the Association. Yet, ironically, Jordaan was once the loudest critic of his predecessors whom he accused of doing the same thing.

It is crucial to separate Jordaan's unauthorized actions from the organization itself. SAFA is governed by rules promoting accountability and transparency, but these are meaningless if disregarded or manipulated. Sadly, Jordaan and his supporters have blurred the lines, conflating his identity with the Association's, as though he owns it rather than serving as a custodian of its policies. This distortion has deeply undermined the integrity of the Association, betraying the very principles it stands for.

## URGENT FINAL NOTE: The SAFA Congress' Constitutional Powers Have Been Removed from the Statutes!

Article 15(h) of the FIFA Statutes require that all FIFA members must define the competencies of all their decision-making bodies in their statutes. Yet, the SAFA Congress' powers and its authority to approve the Audited Financial Statement and pass resolutions were removed in the 2022 Congress and unlawfully before the April 2024 Congress. **You no longer have the constitutional power to hold the NEC to account!**

During that 26 March 2022 Congress, Jordaan ruled that you could not debate the proposed amendments when Nelson Mandela Bay proposed an amendment to help him qualify for re-election without him having to be nominated by his home Region. By rejecting any debate on, and amendments to, the draft Statutes, he ruled himself out of contention for re-election. But a mindless Governance Committee nevertheless declared him eligible to stand!

These changes created an unhealthy balance of powers in the governance structure that centralizes power in one body (the NEC/President). It makes SAFA an illiberal democracy!

It was therefore also no surprise that you were simply told in the 2022 Congress that the NEC rejected some proposed amendments as if it was the NEC's role to do so! The NEC has no powers to reject a proposal from a Member. It is up to the Congress to make its own decisions.

These lopsided changes violate the principles of competitive balance, checks and balances, and equitable power distribution, which are fundamental pillars of democracy. They also stand in sharp contrast to FIFA's evolving standards for global football governance.

On top of that, the CEO and the President committed fraud by including a provision, Article 30.4(f) that was never discussed in the 2022 Congress nor circulated in the draft Statutes you received before that Congress. The fraud goes so deep that there are at least three, possibly four, versions of the SAFA Statutes in circulation since that last constitutional Congress.

Someone also changed the ***Standing Orders of the Congress*** in violation of Article 29 of the 2022 Statutes by removing Congress' right to approve its own resolutions, among other changes to the approved Regulation.

I can provide much more detail on how these changes have removed your rights as SAFA Members. It is important that you take back your powers and restore a governance model that respects the balance of powers; the rule of law; accountability; and the powers of Members, including the NSL, to act as the true stewards of South African football's future.

### The Way Forward

The time for blind support has passed. The repeated abuses of power, manipulation of governance structures, and erosion of the authority of Members are threats to the future of South African football. It is the duty of Members to demand accountability, transparency, and a return to the principles that should guide all SAFA's actions.

**Bold action can restore the integrity and promise of our beloved sport. The future of football in South Africa depends on you asserting your rights!**

Thank you, Ngiyabonga, Ke a leboga, Ke a leboha, Ndza Nkhensa, Ndo Livhuwa, Enkosi, Dankie.