

Refined CAF Dossier: Governance Challenges at SAFA

Fiduciary Responsibility Under the FIFA Code of Ethics

According to the FIFA Code of Ethics (2023 Edition), Article 13 outlines the General Duties of officials, mandating integrity, loyalty, and responsible stewardship of resources in all football-related activities. Article 15 emphasizes the Duty of Loyalty, requiring officials to act in the best interest of the association. Further, Article 19 focuses on Conflict of Interest, which prohibits decisions influenced by personal benefit over the organization's welfare.

As an NEC member, I am obligated under these articles to ensure SAFA operates within ethical boundaries, safeguarding its mission to develop football in South Africa. The documented governance lapses, collapse of the Ethics Committee, and failure of the NEC to convene violate Article 13, placing an additional fiduciary duty on me to refer this matter to FIFA for urgent attention.

Amendments to the Dossier

1. Collapse of the SAFA Ethics Committee

The resignation of former chairperson Judge Sisi Khampepe, the Integrity Officer Advocate Abercrombie, and other members has left SAFA without an effective mechanism for ethical oversight. This absence violates Article 8 (Responsibility) of the FIFA Code of Ethics, which mandates that associations must establish and maintain mechanisms for ethical governance.

2. Judicial Process Manipulation

Violations of Articles 13 and 19 are evident in SAFA's failure to address fraudulent court orders, misuse of resources, and attempts to obstruct judicial processes. These actions undermine the principles of transparency and fair play enshrined in FIFA's statutes.

3. Responsibilities of NEC Members

The NEC's failure to convene undermines Article 15 (Duty of Loyalty), which requires that governance issues, particularly criminal allegations involving the President, be addressed decisively to maintain the association's credibility. As such, I am compelled to act independently to fulfil my fiduciary responsibilities and bring this matter to FIFA's attention.

Request for FIFA Intervention (Immediate Requests)

1. Suspension of Implicated Officials

Suspend the SAFA President and implicated NEC members to allow unbiased investigations.

2. Appointment of Independent Investigators

Commission a FIFA-led inquiry into governance violations and financial mismanagement.

3. Restoration of the Ethics Committee

Mandate the reconstitution of SAFA's Ethics Committee with qualified, independent members.

4. Regular NEC Meetings

Enforce compliance with SAFA statutes requiring quarterly NEC meetings to address pressing governance issues.