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# **UEFA publishes 10 point plan on racism**

## **Letter to European football family urges action**

UEFA have today published a Ten Point Plan to encourage action against racism within European football.

The plan, designed in particular to guide steps at club level, has been drawn up in conjunction with FARE (Football Against Racism in Europe) and is being circulated to national associations, leagues and clubs throughout Europe with a letter of support from UEFA President, Lennart Johansson, and UEFA Chief Executive, Gerhard Aigner.

Details of the plan of action and the recommended steps are attached.

In their letter of support, Mr Johansson and Mr Aigner, write:

“UEFA is once again dealing with allegations of racism, following the most recent round of games in the UEFA Champions League and the UEFA Cup. The specific incidents are being investigated and where appropriate will be dealt with by the Control and Disciplinary Body.

“However, these events serve to remind us all that the problem of racism is a real issue for the European football family and for the image of football in general.

“Of course racism at our games is a sad reflection of society in general, but, because of the high profile nature of football on our continent, we have a particular responsibility to take steps to stamp it out and prevent it occurring in the future.

“UEFA’s policy of total opposition to all forms of racism and xenophobia has been known for some time and we continue to urge all member associations, leagues and clubs to develop their own initiatives to raise awareness and oppose racism at a national and local level.

“Of course no one organisation can solve this problem. Everyone involved, including the clubs, fans, players, police and those responsible for stewarding, has a responsibility here. That is why UEFA is supporting and recommending to you the enclosed Ten Point Plan of Action which has been presented to us by FARE and which represents sensible steps that can be taken, particularly at club level, to help tackle this issue.

“Racism is a problem for all of us, which must be faced. We hope that all parts of European football can come together to unite against racism and do all we can to eradicate it from our game both on and off the field.”

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**For further information:**

Mike Lee, Director of Communications and Public Affairs: ++41-79 250 53 71  
UEFA Media Services: ++41-22 99 44 55 9

## **Ten Point Plan of Action for Professional Football Clubs**

1. Issue a statement saying the club will not tolerate racism, spelling out the action it will take against those engaged in racist chanting. The statement should be printed in all match programmes and displayed permanently and prominently around the ground.
2. Make public address announcements condemning racist chanting at matches.
3. Make it a condition for season ticket holders that they do not take part in racist abuse.
4. Take action to prevent the sale of racist literature inside and around the ground.
5. Take disciplinary action against players who engage in racial abuse.
6. Contact other clubs to make sure they understand the club's policy on racism.
7. Encourage a common strategy between stewards and police for dealing with racist abuse.
8. Remove all racist graffiti from the ground as a matter of urgency.
9. Adopt an equal opportunities policy in relation to employment and service provision.
10. Work with all other groups and agencies, such as the players union, supporters, schools, voluntary organisations, youth clubs, sponsors, local authorities, local businesses and police, to develop pro-active programmes and make progress to raise awareness of campaigning to eliminate racial abuse and discrimination.