



Union des associations européennes de football



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UEFA Executive Committee decisions from Vienna

Co-opted members Friedrich Stickler and Giangiorgio Spiess complete Exco. role

The UEFA Executive Committee completed its meeting today in Vienna, ahead of the UEFA EURO 2008™ Final on Sunday 29 June, and bade farewell to its two co-opted members; Friedrich Stickler, President of the Austrian FA, and Giangiorgio Spiess, representing the Swiss FA.

Both members of the UEFA Executive Committee were used as active representatives on European football's ultimate decision making body, in order to keep the Executive Committee updated on the two host countries progress in their preparations for this year's UEFA European Football Championship in Austria/Switzerland. As UEFA EURO 2008™ will finish on Sunday 29 June with the Final in Vienna between Germany and Spain, their time on the Executive Committee will now come to an end.

The UEFA Executive Committee wishes to place on record its appreciation to Friedrich Stickler, who has played a crucial part in making UEFA EURO 2008™ the big success it has been. His role, along with that of the Swiss co-hosting President, Ralph Zloczower, has been invaluable and can not be underestimated.

Giangiorgio Spiess has been a member of the UEFA Executive Committee since 1996 and has served a long and distinguished career with the committee. The Executive Committee therefore thanks him for his work over the years and wishes him all the best for the future.

In an update on EU matters the Executive Committee approved a document, to be presented by the European team sport federations to the French Presidency of the EU, to request the European Commission to finally implement, together with the European team sports federations the most effective means to recognise the specificity of sport within a clear legal framework in accordance with the principles set out in this paper.

The document conclusion also stated that the European Council should, as a first step, confirm its commitment to implement a definition of the specificity of sport in concrete terms and declare its unanimous support, amongst other things, for:

- i. the principle of "dual career" training for young sportspersons;
- ii. the concept of minimum numbers of home grown (local trained) players, or similar policies, in professional teams sports' squads;
- iii. the more effective protection of young players and training clubs and, where appropriate, stricter regulation of the international movement of minors;
- iv. the establishment of an appropriate European licensing framework and financial management body, to be administered by relevant European sports federations;
- v. strict adherence to the principles of good governance by all team sports federations.

In addition the Executive Committee took the following decisions:

- Approved the 2009/10 UEFA European Futsal Championship Regulations
- Approved the consolidated operational budget for the 2008/09 financial season

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