



## **DECLARATION OF THE UEFA CONGRESS ON THE SUBJECT OF LOCAL TRAINING OF PLAYERS**

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1. The training and development of young players is of crucial importance to the future of football. Every football club in every national football association should play a part in this process.
2. Football clubs have an important social and educational role in their local communities, in their regions, and in their countries. In this context, the nurturing of local talent is not only beneficial for football as a sport. It is also beneficial for society as a whole.
3. UEFA recognises that finance plays an important part in football today. But football should not be a mere financial contest. It should above all be a sporting contest. This sporting element means that every club must accept some responsibility for training, and not rely solely on acquiring those players who were trained by others.
4. Training should be encouraged in every national member association of UEFA. This will, in turn, help to provide a pool of playing talent in every European country and can also help to increase the quality of, and competition between, national teams.
5. For all these reasons, on 2 February 2005, the UEFA Executive Committee adopted a rule which will, starting from the season 2006/07, require clubs playing in UEFA club competitions to have a minimum number of local trained players within their overall squad limit.
6. We, the Presidents of the 52 member associations of UEFA, take the opportunity of this Congress to endorse this new rule, and the sporting principles which underlie it.