

Media Release

Communiqué aux médias

Medien-Mitteilung

Route de Genève 46
Case postale
CH-1260 Nyon 2
Tel. +41 22 994 45 59
Fax +41 22 994 37 37
uefa.com
info@uefa.com

**Union des associations
européennes de football**



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UEFA receives strong interest in hosting EURO 2008

Six country groupings express initial interest

UEFA today announced that it has received six official letters of interest in hosting the final tournament of EURO 2008 as the deadline for countries to register their interest in acting as host(s) expired on Tuesday 20 November.

Following on from the hugely successful EURO 2000™ tournament and with preparations for EURO 2004™ in Portugal well underway, four of the six bidders have proposed joint, or regional hosting, rather than being based in just one country. The countries that have expressed their interest are Austria/Switzerland, Bosnia-Herzegovina/Croatia, Greece/Turkey, Hungary, and Denmark/Finland/Norway/Sweden (NORDIC 2008). Scotland are the sixth bidder and after reviewing the schedule of conditions will consider a joint bid with the Republic of Ireland.

Mike Lee, Director of Communications and Public Affairs, said today:

"UEFA has now received letters from six potential host country organisations for EURO 2008. We will send them a more detailed schedule of conditions at the end of the month and we then await confirmation of their intentions by the end of February 2002. So far we are very pleased with the level of interest shown in hosting EURO 2008 and it is clear that it will be a competitive bidding process."

Note to Editors:

The timetable for the overall bid procedure to host the final tournament of the European Football Championship in 2008 is as follows:

A schedule of conditions will be sent to all interested national associations at the end of November 2001. By the end of February 2002 all associations must confirm whether they intend to bid or withdraw their application.

UEFA must have received all bid documents including all the necessary annexes by the end of May 2002. Inspection trips will then follow and a thorough review of all bids will be made.

In December 2002 the UEFA Executive Committee is expected to make a final decision as to which association(s) will host EURO 2008.