



ORIGINAL: FRENCH

**INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION**

DECISION CARRYING RECOMMENDATION N° D/4/04

CASE No. 4/04

Mr Farah Addo
c/o C.A.F. – P.O. Box 23, 6 October City
ET-1258 Cairo

REFERRAL:

On 2 August 2004, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee sent the Ethics Commission a copy of the decision banning the Somali Football Federation President, Mr Farah Addo, from taking part in any football-related activity for ten years, which was notified to Mr Farah Addo on 2 August.

Attached to this decision are the documents from the inquiry by the aforesaid commission, in particular the report of the inquiry which FIFA entrusted to KPMG.

The IOC Ethics Commission has jurisdiction in this case by virtue of the fact that Mr Farah Addo is also President of the Somali NOC and is accredited in such capacity for the Olympic Games in Athens.

FACTS:

It appears from the FIFA Disciplinary Committee inquiry documents and its decision that Mr Farah Addo embezzled several hundred thousand US dollars of funds paid by FIFA to finance sports projects. Such funds were embezzled either through the Somali Football Federation (SFF) or through the NOC.

Indeed, given the absence of a banking infrastructure in Somalia, the funds were paid into bank accounts in Egypt over which Mr Farah Addo had power of attorney, and then transferred via an authorised money transfer company to Somalia. It appears from the inquiry that Mr Farah Addo took advantage of this situation to embezzle large amounts of money, either directly or by using fraudulent methods (forged invoices and non-existent companies run by friends of Mr Farah Addo). Furthermore, Mr Farah Addo also obtained reimbursement from the Somali NOC of 133,104 US dollars from funds paid by FIFA for sports projects, claiming that this was owed to him after he had personally financed the SFF between 1992 and 1999.



ANALYSIS:

All NOCs are subject to the Code of Ethics, in particular the provisions concerning resources and integrity. Clearly, engaging in fraud by organising stratagems and embezzling funds is likely to tarnish the reputation of the Olympic Movement.

However, before being able to submit a recommendation to the Executive Board, it seems necessary to conduct an inquiry, in particular to establish whether Mr Farah Addo's activities within the Somali NOC are in conformity with the ethical principles. For this reason, the Ethics Commission has decided to open an inquiry.

The Chairman of the Ethics Commission further observes that:

- the seriousness of the facts established by FIFA and the risk of tarnishing the reputation of the Olympic Movement;
- the proximity of the Olympic Games from 13 to 29 August 2004;
- the broadcast of these events by the international media and the public impact resulting from this; and
- the need to protect the image of the Olympic Movement during this particular period,

justify the recommendation that the accreditation granted to Mr Farah Addo as President of the Somali NOC be withdrawn with immediate effect.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Chairman of the Ethics Commission, pursuant to the provisions of part A of the Rules of Procedure and in view of the urgency, recommends that the Executive Board, pursuant to Rule 25.2.2.3 of the Olympic Charter, withdraw the accreditation granted to the Somali NOC President, Mr Farah Addo, immediately and for the whole of the Olympic Games in Athens.

Done in Athens, 7 August 2004

For the Chairman,
Pâquerette Girard Zappelli
Special Representative