

Redacted version of an application of a Disciplinary Measure to the Swiss Football League

In November 2017, the Chief Investigator of the UEFA Club Financial Control Body ("CFCB") opened an investigation (the "Investigation") into the **Swiss Football League's** ("SFL" or "the Licensor") compliance with the provisions of the *UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations – Edition 2015* ("CL&FFP Regulations") in accordance with Article 12 (2) of the *Procedural rules governing the UEFA Club Financial Control Body – Edition 2015*.

The Investigation concluded that the Licensor had failed to comply with the CL&FFP Regulations due to the **breach of the club licensing criteria** with regard to its affiliated club, Olympique des Alpes S.A. ("FC Sion"). Indeed, FC Sion had failed to fulfil all club licensing criteria that had to be met in order to be granted the licence necessary to enter the 2017/18 UEFA club competitions and should therefore have not been granted this licence by the Licensor. The latter thus breached its obligations under the CL&FFP Regulations.

The CFCB Investigatory Chamber took note that the Licensor took steps to bring itself into compliance with the *UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations*. The following corrective actions were indeed implemented by the Licensor with regard to its licensing process to enter the 2019/20 UEFA club competitions:

- amendment of the national club licensing regulations;
- implementation of additional assessment procedures;
- amendment of the overall core process in order to give the SFL decision-making bodies more time to assess the club licensing files;
- amendment of various templates to improve the quality and reliability of the club licensing documentation;
- training of all persons involved in the club licensing process;
- regular support and assistance to the clubs;
- implementation of an electronic system for the club licensing process; and
- improvement of the internal communication between the SFL and the Swiss Football Association.

At the end of the Investigation and pursuant to Article 14 (1) (c) of the *Procedural rules governing the UEFA Club Financial Control Body – Edition 2019* (“Procedural Rules”), the CFCB Chief Investigator, having consulted with the other members of the CFCB Investigatory Chamber, decided that the above-mentioned circumstances of the present case justified the non-referral of the case to the CFCB Adjudicatory Chamber, but instead the application of a disciplinary measure in the form of a fine imposed to the Licensor.

1. The Licensor and the UEFA Club Licensing System

The Licensor acknowledged that it wrongly granted, in May 2017, FC Sion with the licence necessary to enter the 2017/18 UEFA club competitions. As such, the Licensor did not properly apply the requirements of the UEFA Club Licensing System.

2. Application of a fine

The Licensor consented to pay a **fine of € 50'000**.

3. Varia

The Licensor is aware that the decision of the CFCB Chief Investigator to apply the above fine may be reviewed by the CFCB Adjudicatory Chamber in accordance with Article 16 of the Procedural Rules.

This decision was received by the Swiss Football League on 5 September 2019.