MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

(hereinafter referred to as “UNOG”)

and

THE UNION OF EUROPEAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS

(hereinafter referred to as “UEFA”)

(hereinafter jointly referred to as “the Parties”)
PREAMBLE

UNOG serves as the representative office of the United Nations in Europe. The mission and work of the United Nations are guided by the purposes and principles of its founding Charter;

UEFA is the governing body for football at the European level with a membership of 55 national football associations, in accordance with its Statutes;

The Parties share a number of values and principles such as respect for human rights and dignity, democracy, non-discrimination, diversity and inclusion, tolerance, sustainability, solidarity and respect;

The Parties recall their previous successful cooperation in staging the "Match for Solidarity" in Geneva on 21 April 2018.

The Parties underline the geographic proximity of their respective headquarters and the significance of Geneva for multilateral diplomacy and as a host to UNOG and numerous programmes, funds and specialised agencies of the UN.

The Parties wish to structure their existing friendly relations by means of a Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of facilitating dialogue and future cooperation on matters of common interest in a regular and constructive manner;

Therefore, UNOG and UEFA agree to enter this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement").

1. BASIS OF COOPERATION

The Parties recognise as follows:

1.1. Sport is a vehicle for inclusion, participation and social cohesion as well as a tool for physical and mental well-being. It plays a fundamental social role as an education and training tool that allows the development of skills and abilities essential for the balanced growth of each individual.

1.2. Sport is an important driver of sustainable development and contributes to the realisation of development and peace by promoting tolerance and respect, education, health, social inclusion and the empowerment of individuals, especially women, girls and young people.

1.3. Sport should be accessible to all people, regardless of gender, race, age, disability, religion, nationality, sexual orientation and social background. Especially to young people living in the most disadvantaged territorial areas.

1.4. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and
improve, safeguard and secure the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere. Sport, and football in particular, is an important enabler and tool for positive social change to contribute to their realisation for future generations to come. UEFA is committed to promote the implementation of the SDGs in the European football context and to raise awareness among its Member Associations on how football can play an enabling role.

1.5. The importance of giving practical implementation to the Kazan Action plan which marks the commitment to link sport policy development to the 2030 Agenda of the UN.

1.6. The significance of the international day of sport for development and peace which is celebrated every year and all over the world on 6 April.

2. AREAS AND OBJECTIVES OF COOPERATION

The Parties undertake to jointly organize the following activities:

2.1. A match for solidarity in Geneva in 2022. The match will raise funds to support UEFA Foundation for children’s projects aimed at protecting children in Europe and across the world. The match will feature football legends and will be followed by a gala dinner during which official football shirts, kits and accessories will be auctioned to raise funds that will finance UEFA Foundation’s solidarity projects.

2.2. Street football tournaments to take place in three disadvantaged neighbourhoods of three different European cities in collaboration with local partners. This initiative will involve children and youngsters from different socioeconomic backgrounds with a view to promote integration and break down barriers.

2.3. Awareness campaigns on the importance of physical activity for health. These campaigns will focus on the fight against the consumption of tobacco, alcohol and heavily processed foods, and will use sport as a vehicle to convince young generations to choose a healthy lifestyle. Professional players and local grassroots clubs will be part of the outreach events that will involve children and young people across Europe.

2.4. Joint training sessions about the SDG’s involving UN and UEFA experts will be organized for the benefit of UEFA member associations. These training sessions increase the awareness of the SDG’s core objectives and on how football can contribute to their fulfilment in an appropriate manner.

3. MEANS OF COOPERATION

3.1 In order to promote cooperation and further these shared objectives, the Parties intend to:

(a) identify and participate in joint events, projects, programmes and other initiatives;

(b) facilitate regular dialogue, coordination and cooperation with relevant UN bodies;
exchange information, knowledge and best practice.

3.2 UNOG undertakes to act as a coordinating body for facilitating the implementation of actions that UEFA will carry out in cooperation with UNOG and relevant organizations of the UN.

3.3 Where appropriate, the Parties will seek opportunities to carry out activities identified in this Agreement jointly with the European Union and the Council of Europe.

3.4 The implementation of joint activities shall be subject to the availability of adequate resources to be determined by each party in accordance with their respective rules and regulations.

4. WORKING METHODS

4.1. Each Party will designate a contact person for providing overall direction for the implementation of this Agreement.

4.2. In order to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement, the parties will establish a steering group comprising an appropriate number of UNOG and UEFA representatives. The steering group will meet once every 3 months and will have the main task of monitoring and encouraging the implementation of the Agreement. In particular, the steering group will deal with the organisation of the activities described in Clause 3.1. and Clause 3.2.

4.3. The Parties aim to hold a senior-level meeting at least once every two years.

4.4. The Parties will draw a road map to monitor the implementation of this Agreement.

5. ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENTS AND TERMINATION

5.1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature by both Parties.

5.2. Amendments shall be agreed by both Parties and shall be in writing.

5.3. Either Party may discontinue this Agreement at any time but should endeavour to provide the other Party a three-month notice.

5.4. The term of the Agreement will run until 31 December 2024. In due time prior to the end of the term, the Parties may decide on an extension.

6. NO LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

The present Agreement does not create any legal rights and obligations for the Parties, nor does it create binding financial obligations.
7. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

The Parties commit to solving by good faith negotiation any issues or disputes arising out of the implementation and/or interpretation of the present Agreement.

8. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Nothing in the present Agreement may be construed, explicitly or implicitly, as a waiver of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations under the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

Signed in Nyon, on 21 January 2021 in two originals in the English language.

FOR UEFA

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Aleksander Čeferin
President

FOR UNOG

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Tatiana Valovaya
Director-General