

Date: 17 May 2022

Sent to:
Senegalese Football Association
fsf@senegalfoot.sn;
victorciss@hotmail.com

Cc:
CAF

Notification of the grounds of the Decision

Ref FDD-10782

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

Please find attached the grounds of the decision passed in the aforementioned case by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee on 27 April 2022.

We would appreciate your taking due note of this decision and ensuring its implementation.

Yours faithfully,

FIFA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Schneider'.

Carlos Schneider
Director of the FIFA Judicial Bodies

Decision of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee

passed on 27 April 2022

DECISION BY:

Jorge Ivan PALACIO, Colombia (Chairperson)

Thomas HOLLERER, Austria (Member)

Mark Anthony WADE, Bermuda (Member)

ON THE CASE OF:

Senegalese Football Association

(Decision FDD-10782)

REGARDING:

FIFA Disciplinary Code, Article 16 - Order and security at matches

I. FACTS

1. The following summary of the facts does not purport to include every single contention put forth by the actors at these proceedings. However, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (**the Committee**) has thoroughly considered in its discussion and deliberations any and all evidence and arguments submitted, even if no specific or detailed reference has been made to those arguments in the following outline of its position and in the ensuing discussion on the merits.
2. On 29 March 2022, a match was played between the representative teams of Senegal and Egypt in Diamniadio (Senegal – Attendance 48,000 spectators – Final score 1-0) in the context of the Preliminary Competition of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™, African Zone (**the Match**).
3. After the Match, the referee reported the following in his report (**the Referee Report**):

*“Je vous signale l'utilisation des lasers pendant le match par les supporters du Sénégal ainsi que le jet de quelques projectiles "bouteilles".
Je vous signale la pénétration des supporters du Sénégal à la fin du match”¹*

4. In addition, the match commissioner of the Match mentioned the following incidents in his report (**the MC Report**):

*“Utilisation abusive des lasers > 200”
Projection de quelques bouteilles d'eau (plastique)
Fin du match beaucoup de supporters dans le terrain”²*

5. The FIFA Security Officer also provided two separate reports referring to several incidents in the following terms (**the Security Officer Reports**):

“General Comments:

During the warmups, and the entire duration of the entire 120 minutes of play, bottles, missiles, pyrotechnics were thrown at the Egyptian players, and lesser pointers were also used on them making it extremely difficult for them.

After the Penalty shootout, the security failed to protect the playing pitch properly and the spectators went on the field to celebrate with their players.

Most of the executives of the Senegalese Football Federation officials were also part of the pitch invasions.

Some of them even said FIFA can fined them, they will pay, as qualifying for the World Cup is bigger and greater than the fine.”

“Stadium attendance

The Stadium attendance was 48,000 approved. I observed it was over the approved number. There were too many people inside the stadium.

¹ Free English translation: “I would like to point out the use of lasers during the match by the Senegalese supporters as well as the throwing of some projectiles (bottles).
I would like to point out the invasion of the field by the Senegalese supporters at the end of the match.”

² Free English translation: “Abusive use of lasers > 200”.
Throwing of some water bottles (plastic)
Many fans on the field at the end of the Match”

(...)

Staircases and gangways clear of spectators

Some stairways and gangways were seeing with spectators who had tickets but couldn't find seats as the stadium was overcrowded.

Banners and chants by fans

There was one discriminatory banner about Mohammed Salah, but when I confronted them, it was taken down by the Police, and the perpetrator was put out of the stadium.

General behaviour of supporters

The General behaviour of the Senegalese fans and supporters was terrible. They were seeing throwing missiles, water bottles, pyrotechnics, fire crackers & pointing lesser beams at the Egyptian players

(...)

Interaction with Venue Operating Centre (VOC)

The interaction with the Venue Operating center was okay from the beginning of the match, later all of the commanders, and staffs operating the VOC deserted it to watch the match. I went there several times with my counterpart to complaint.

(...)

LOC counterparts

My LOC Counterpart was cooperative, and supportive. At some point he was embarrassed with the way in which his security, stewards were acting unprofessionally. Most of them joined the pitch invaders to celebrate the victory.

(VOC Commander & team)

From the beginning of our Mission, the VOC Commander and his Team were cooperative, and supportive, but when the game was ongoing and I needed the video of the pyrotechnics, and lesser pointers, they have all deserted the monitoring and watching the match. My LOC Counterpart even got angry with them.

Overall evaluation

My overall evaluation is that the Stadium lacks several security configurations, and barriers. Something must be done with the inner barrier, it must be extended to avoid fans and supporters invading the pitch regularly. As it is right now, no amount of security deployment can prevent pitch invasions.

(...)

Resolution of issue 1:

- *Description: Pointing of lesser beams on the Egyptian players, throwing of water bottles, Pyrotechnics, fires crackers, & throwing of missiles from warmups to the end of the match*

- *Evaluation: After discovering that the fans were using lesser, and throwing bottles, we immediately informed the Public Announcement system to publicly announce that those with the lesser and throwing bottles should stop immediately.*

Resolution of issue 1:

- *Description: Pitch Invasion after the penalty shootout*
- *Evaluation: The pitch invasion was supported by several executives of the Senegalese Football Federation saying that FIFA can fine them any amount of money, they will pay as long as they have qualified to the World Cup. After several attempts by the Police and the Stewards, they finally left the pitch.*

(...)

General comments

From the Police deployment this morning around 10:00 am, everything was okay, peaceful, very effective until when the two teams went to warmups. The Senegalese fans and supporters started to throw missiles, water bottles, and Pyrotechnics unto the playing pitch, and also pointing lesser beams in the faces of the Egyptian Players.

The Security setup & Stadium Configuration of the stadium is terrible, something is needed to be done for the improvement of the barriers, barricades to avoid pitch invasion in the future. The Stadium is not security friendly.

If the stands are not fenced, it will be extremely difficult to avoid pitch invasion whenever game is played at the Abdoulaye Wade Stadium.

The Police were not also sincere in their search this morning during the entry of the fans and supporters. Had they searched thoroughly, they would have seen all these lesser pointers, pyrotechnics, and fire works that were used on the Egyptians”.

6. The Security Officer Reports were supplemented by pictures.
7. In view of the foregoing, on 30 March 2022, disciplinary proceedings were opened against the Senegalese Football Association (**the Respondent**) with respect to a potential breach of art. 16 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code (**FDC**). In particular, the latter was provided with the abovementioned reports and was granted a six-day deadline to provide the Secretariat to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (**the Secretariat**) with its position.
8. On 5 April 2022, the Respondent provided its position.
9. On 21 April 2022, the Secretariat informed the Respondent about the date on which the matter would be heard by the Committee, as well as about the composition of the latter.

II. RESPONDENT'S POSITION

10. The position submitted by the Respondent can be summarised as follows:

- With respect to organizational and security arrangements:
 - Given the specific context of the Match, the Respondent took all necessary safety precautions to ensure its proper organization;
 - All necessary measures were undertaken by the organisers to ensure the safety of all persons attending the Match, and to ensure its smooth running;
 - A significant number of policemen, firefighters and stewards were mobilized for the Match;
 - No evidence was provided with respect to any potential violent conduct towards the Egyptian delegation or supporters;
 - With respect to the allegation that the stadium capacity was exceeded as a result of which supporters had to stand in the stairways, the Respondent emphasized that, despite the fact that the stadium capacity is of 50,000 seats, only 48,000 were sold to avoid any overflow. However, some spectators stood in the stairs as everyone was standing during the Match;
 - The Respondent objects to the fact that some of its officials may have approved the field invasion;
 - It appears to be clear from the reports of the referee and the match commissioner that no significant incident was caused by the spectators before, during or after the Match, although they confirm that lasers were used and some spectators peacefully invaded the field after the victory of their team;
- With respect to the facts reported by the match officials and their scope:
 - In relation to the discriminatory banner:
 - Such incident is not corroborated by any picture or text depicting discriminatory words;
 - Despite the safety measures implemented and the body search operated by the security services, it may happen that some spectators manage to bring banners into the stadiums;
 - The most important to note is that, as emphasized by the FIFA Security Officer, once the banner was noticed, it was immediately removed by the police and the perpetrator expelled from the stadium;
 - In relation to the use of lasers and the throwing of a few empty plastic bottles:
 - The use of the lasers could not be prevented by the important safety measures implemented for the Match. As a matter of fact, given the small size of those laser pointers, they could be easily hidden, making it impossible for the security services to detect them;
 - Some messages on social medias also had a negative impact on the Senegalese supporters;
 - In so far the bottles are concerned, the Respondent emphasized that thousands of those were seized at the gates of the stadium;
 - No supporter managed to bring water bottles in the stadium;

- The few empty bottles that were thrown came from “refreshing points” inside the stadium;
 - The bottles thrown did not touch nor hurt anyone and were smoothly and swiftly handled;
 - In so far that the field invasion at the end of the Match is concerned, the Respondent emphasized that, given that it was a high risk match, in addition to the stewards, several security services dressed in plain clothes were positioned all around the pitch to prevent any invasion and to protect the safety of the players and officials. This is precisely the reason why such incident was smoothly controlled and the supporters removed upon request by the organisers;
- In relation to the mitigating circumstances:
 - The Respondent took all necessary measures to ensure the proper organization of the Match;
 - It however recognizes that a few incidents occurred, such incidents resulting from several endogenous and exogenous factors: it was the first time that a match was played in this new stadium with a modern architecture (no athletics track nor protective grid), the enthusiasm of the supporters after their victory in the African Cup of Nations and the behavior of the Egyptian supporters in the first leg;
- With respect to the behavior of the Egyptian supporters in the first leg (played on 25 March 2022):
 - During said match, the Senegalese team was the victim of several racist and unsporting attacks from the Egyptian supporters;
 - Such behavior was clearly in breach of arts. 11 and 16 FDC;
 - The Respondent requests the FIFA Disciplinary Committee to dismiss all charges against it, while taking into account (i) all above mitigating circumstances, (ii) the limited impact of the incidents reported, (iii) the efforts undertaken to ensure the smooth running of the Match, and (iv) its good faith.
11. The Committee, once again, reiterated that it has considered all the facts, allegations, legal arguments and evidence provided by the Respondent, and in the present decision had only referred to those observations and evidence regarded as necessary to explain its reasoning.

III. CONSIDERATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

12. In view of the circumstances of the present case, the Committee decided to first address the procedural aspects of the case, *i.e.* its jurisdiction and the applicable regulatory framework, before proceeding to the merits of the case and determining the possible infringements as well as the possible resulting sanctions.

A. Jurisdiction of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee

13. First of all, the Committee noted that at no point during the present proceedings did the Respondent challenge its jurisdiction or the applicability of the FDC.
14. Notwithstanding the above and for the sake of good order, the Committee found it worthwhile to emphasise that, on the basis of art. 2 (1) FDC read together with art. 53 FDC, it was competent to evaluate the present case and to impose sanctions in case of corresponding violations.

B. Applicable law

15. In order to duly assess the matter, the Committee firstly began by recalling the content and the scope of the relevant provisions of the 2019 edition of the FDC, which was, in its view, the edition applicable to the present issue. In particular, the Committee considered that both the merits and the procedural aspects of the present case should be covered by the 2019 edition of the FDC.
16. To begin with, the Committee referred to art. 16 FDC which reads as follows:

Art. 16 of the FDC – Order and security at matches

1. *Host clubs and associations are responsible for order and security both in and around the stadium before, during and after matches. They are liable for incidents of any kind and may be subject to disciplinary measures and directives unless they can prove that they have not been negligent in any way in the organisation of the match. In particular, associations, clubs and licensed match agents who organise matches shall:*

- a) assess the degree of risk posed by the match and notify the FIFA bodies of those that are especially high-risk;*
- b) comply with and implement existing safety rules (FIFA regulations, national laws, international agreements) and take every safety precaution demanded by the circumstances in and around the stadium before, during and after the match and if incidents occur;*
- c) ensure the safety of the match officials and the players and officials of the visiting team during their stay;*
- d) keep local authorities informed and collaborate with them actively and effectively;*
- e) ensure that law and order are maintained in and around the stadiums and that matches are organised properly.*

2. *All associations and clubs are liable for inappropriate behaviour on the part of one or more of their supporters as stated below and may be subject to disciplinary measures and directives even if they can prove the absence of any negligence in relation to the organisation of the match:*

- a) the invasion or attempted invasion of the field of play;*
- b) the throwing of objects;*
- c) the lighting of fireworks or any other objects;*
- d) the use of laser pointers or similar electronic devices;*
- e) the use of gestures, words, objects or any other means to transmit a message that is not appropriate for a sports event, particularly messages that are of a political, ideological, religious or offensive nature;*
- f) acts of damage;*
- g) causing a disturbance during national anthems;*
- h) any other lack of order or discipline observed in or around the stadium.*

17. It is clear from the wording of this provision that its main purpose is to ensure that matches are properly organised so that no incident can occur and disrupt any football match. In particular, the home association/club shall be held responsible for any incidents in and around the stadium, but may be released from any disciplinary measures if it can prove that all necessary measures have been taken, *i.e.* that it was not negligent in the organisation of the match (art. 16 (1) FDC).
18. In contrast to the first paragraph, the second paragraph contains a strict liability rule according to which an association, whether home or visiting, is responsible for the behaviour of its own spectators. In this regard, the Committee recalled that according to CAS jurisprudence, the term “supporter” is an open concept, which must be assessed from the perspective of a reasonable and objective observer³. This means that the behaviour of the person may lead a reasonable and objective observer to conclude that the latter is a supporter of that particular club/association. Moreover, CAS specified that the behaviour of individuals and their location in and around the stadium are important criteria in determining the team they support⁴.

C. Standard of proof

19. Firstly, the Committee recalled that the burden of proof lies with FIFA, which is required to prove the infringement under art. 36 (1) FDC.
20. Secondly, the Committee pointed out that, according to art. 35 (3) FDC, the standard of “*comfortable satisfaction*” is applicable in disciplinary proceedings. According to this standard of proof, the onus is on the sanctioning authority to establish the disciplinary violation to the comfortable satisfaction of the judging body, taking into account the seriousness of the allegation.
21. Finally, the Committee referred to art. 40 FDC, according to which the facts contained in the match officials’ reports, as well as in the supplementary reports or correspondence submitted by the match officials, are presumed to be accurate, bearing in mind that proof of their inaccuracy may be provided.

³ CAS 2015/A/3874 Football Association of Albania v. UEFA & Football Association of Serbia

⁴ CAS 2007/A/1217 Feyenoord Rotterdam v. UEFA

22. Having clarified the foregoing, the Committee proceeded to consider the merits of the case.

D. Merits of the case

1. Issue of review

23. The Committee started to analyse the evidence at its disposal, in particular the documentation and information provided in the scope of the present disciplinary proceeding to determine the potential violations of the FDC.
24. In this context, the Committee acknowledged from the various reports at its disposal that several incidents occurred during the Match, namely:
- i. A significant number of laser pointers was used during the entire Match (**Incident 1**);
 - ii. Many objects, including plastic bottles, were thrown in the direction of the field of play (**Incident 2**);
 - iii. Several fireworks were ignited (**Incident 3**);
 - iv. A banner with the words "Fuck you Salah" was displayed (**Incident 4**);
 - v. Numerous supporters invaded the field of play at the end of the Match (**Incident 5**);
 - vi. Some stairways were blocked (**Incident 6**).
25. With those elements in mind, the Committee acknowledged that the Respondent did not contest the occurrence of these incidents, rather focusing on the specific context of the Match which was considered to be at "high risk" and emphasising on the limited impact of those incidents thanks to the specific measures it implemented to ensure the safety of all persons attending the Match.
26. Against this background, the Committee began by determining the spectators who perpetrated the incidents 1 to 5 *supra*. In this respect, the Committee first emphasised that the Respondent did not deny, nor did it provide any evidence rebutting the fact that they could be considered supporters of the Senegalese team.
27. Notwithstanding the above, the Committee acknowledged that the referee specified that Incidents 1, 2 and 5 were committed by Senegalese supporters. Given the presumption of accuracy of the facts reported by the referee, while taking into account (i) the fact that the Respondent did not provide any contradictory evidence, (ii) that the FIFA Security Officer further confirmed in its report that those incidents were perpetrated by Senegalese supporters⁵, (iii) that the objects were thrown in the direction of the Egyptian players⁶, (iv) that laser pointers were directed at the Egyptian players⁷, (v) that the spectators who invaded the field of play aimed at celebrating the victory with the Senegalese players⁸ and (vi) the various pictures

⁵ "The General behaviour of the Senegalese fans and supporters was terrible. They were seen throwing missiles, water bottles, pyrotechnics, fire crackers & pointing laser beams at the Egyptian players"

⁶ As denoted by the FIFA Security Officer, "During the warmups, and the entire duration of the entire 120 minutes of play, bottles, missiles, pyrotechnics were thrown at the Egyptian players".

⁷ As emphasised by the FIFA Security Officer, "[objects] were thrown at the Egyptian players, and laser pointers were also used on them making it extremely difficult for them".

⁸ As mentioned by the FIFA Security Officer, "After the Penalty shootout, the security failed to protect the playing pitch properly and the spectators went on the field to celebrate with their players. Most of the executives of the Senegalese Football Federation officials were also part of the pitch invasions."

at its disposal, the Committee was convinced that such incidents were all committed by Senegalese supporters.

28. With respect to Incident 3, the Committee first noted that none of the match officials mentioned it in their respective report. Although this incident has not been contested by the Respondent, the Committee acknowledged that it was reported by the FIFA Security Officer. While referring to art. 35 FDC according to which “*any type of proof may be produced*”, and upon analysing the various pictures provided by the FIFA Security Officer on which several smoke bombs and pyrotechnic devices can be seen ignited (many of them in the colour of the Senegalese flag), the Committee was comfortably satisfied that those fireworks used by Senegalese supporters.
29. In so far that the banner is concerned (Incident 4), the Committee observed from the picture at its disposal that the banner was displayed in the middle of supporters wearing the colours of Senegal and/or holding Senegalese flags. By way of consequence, while also taking into account that such banner was targeting an Egyptian player, the Committee could only conclude that the perpetrators of the incident at stake were supporters of the Senegalese team.
30. Finally, and with respect to the last incident (*i.e.* Incident 6), the Committee considered that it does not fall under a specific behaviour of spectators (foreseen under art. 16 (2) FDC), but that it should rather be analysed under art. 16 (1) FDC and the general liability of the organising association.
31. Having clarified the above, the Committee decided to analyse the abovementioned incidents in order to assess whether any provisions of the FDC had been breached.

2. Infringements committed by the supporters of the Senegalese Football Association

32. To begin with, the Committee recalled that the Respondent did not dispute the occurrence of the incidents involving its spectators (*i.e.* Incidents 1 – 5). Furthermore, the Respondent downplayed those incidents by arguing that:
 - i. the banner and the laser pointers could not be noticed by the stewards at the entrance of the stadium;
 - ii. the use of lasers could not be prevented despite the important measures implemented by the Respondent;
 - iii. the banner was quickly removed;
 - iv. only a few objects were thrown and none hit or hurt anyone;
 - v. all bottles thrown were bought in the Stadium;
 - vi. the invasion of the field of play was smoothly and swiftly handled by the Respondent.
 - vii. it was an isolated incident, (ii) handled in an efficient, professional and appropriate manner, (iii) which did not hit or injure anyone and had no impact on the Match;
 - viii. the overall context of the Match and the enthusiasm of the spectators resulted in those incidents.
33. In light of the above, and given that the Respondent did not contest the occurrence of Incidents 1-5 nor did it demonstrate that it could not be attributed to Senegalese supporters, the Committee had no doubt that those incidents took place and had been perpetrated by home supporters.

34. In light of the foregoing, in particular the fact that this incident was caused by home supporters (cf. above developments), the Committee was satisfied to hold the Respondent responsible for the inappropriate behaviour of its supporter in accordance with art. 16 (2) FDC.
35. Indeed, this provision clearly provides that the association is liable for the misconduct of its supporter, especially with regard to *the invasion of the field of play* (lit. a), *the throwing of objects* (lit. b), *the lighting of fireworks or any other objects* (lit. c), *the use of laser pointers or similar electronic devices* (lit. d), *the use of objects to transmit a message that is not appropriate for a sports event, particularly messages that are of a[n] offensive nature* (lit. e) and *the lack of order or discipline in the stadium* (lit. h). In particular, the Committee had no doubt that Incidents 1-5 all fell within the scope of the abovementioned subparagraphs⁹.

3. General responsibility of the Senegalese Football Association

36. As a preliminary remark, the Committee recalled that the Respondent, as the home association, was responsible for the proper organization of the Match and had to ensure the smooth and safe running of the Match.
37. Then, the Committee noted that the Respondent did not dispute the information contained in the various reports, but rather attempted to minimise these incidents by claiming that it undertook all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security during the Match.
38. Against this background, the Committee pointed out that the Respondent, as the home association, was responsible for order and security in and around the stadium before, during and after the Match in accordance with art 16 (1) FDC. In particular, this provision clearly establishes that associations (or club) *“are liable for incidents of any kind and may be subject to disciplinary measures and directives unless they can prove that they have not been negligent in any way in the organisation of the match”*. In other words, it was the Respondent’s responsibility to organize the Match properly and to ensure order and security in the stadium.
39. However, given the occurrence and the magnitude of the above incidents, the Committee considered that the Respondent failed to ensure that law and order were maintained in the stadium, and that the Match was organised properly.
40. More specifically, and in view of the incidents reported, the Committee could only conclude that the Respondent did not comply with the relevant FIFA safety rules (specifically the FIFA Stadium Safety and Security Regulations) since (i) numerous objects were thrown towards the field of play, (ii) laser pointers were used throughout the Match, (iii) fireworks were ignited, and (iv) a massive pitch invasion occurred at the end of Match.
41. In the same vain, taking into account that stairways were blocked without any reaction from the stewards (the Respondent rather arguing that the supporters were standing in the stairways as everyone was standing during the Match), the Committee also reached the conclusion that the Respondent did not comply with the FIFA Stadium Safety and Security Regulations in that respect.

⁹ For the sake of good order, the Committee wished to clarify that, although the banner was considered as being “discriminatory” by the FIFA Security Officer, it appears that the message displayed is rather of an offensive nature, and as such, falls under the scope of art. 16 (2) FDC.

42. Given the above, and despite its allegations that it assessed that the Match posed a noticeable risk factor and that it undertook several steps in order to comply with art. 16 (1) FDC, the Committee found that the Respondent had not proved or established that it had not been negligent in any way in the organisation of the Match, so that its responsibility for the non-compliance with the aforementioned provision could not be excluded.
43. Having determined the foregoing, in particular that the Respondent should be liable for the breaches of art. 16 (1) and (2) FDC, the Committee held that the latter had to be sanctioned accordingly.

4. Determination of the sanction

44. The Committee observed in the first place that the Respondent was a legal person, and as such was subject to the sanctions described under art. 6 (1) and (3) FDC.
45. For the sake of good order, the Committee underlined that it is responsible to determine the type and extent of the disciplinary measures to be imposed in accordance with the objective and subjective elements of the offence, taking into account both aggravating and mitigating circumstances (art. 24 (1) FDC).
46. As established above, the Respondent was found liable for the failure to ensure order and security in the stadium (art. 16 (1) FDC) as well as for the inappropriate behaviour of its supporters (art. 16 (2) FDC).
47. In determining the sanctions to be applied, the Committee held that the seriousness and the continuous repetition of the incidents during the Match had to be taken into account. In the same vein, the Committee considered that the following elements could not be ignored nor disregarded when setting the sanction:
 - i. the concrete risk posed to the safety and security of the match attendees (whom may have been injured as a result of the numerous objects thrown);
 - ii. the number of incidents involving the Senegalese supporters and their overall provocative attitude towards Egyptian players (cf. the banner and the lasers clearly aiming at destabilising or disturbing them);
 - iii. the number of individuals who entered the field of play;
 - iv. the lack of concrete reaction and/or action of the Respondent in response to the various incidents, specifically with regard to the objects thrown and the lasers used during the entire match;
 - v. the serious deficiencies of the Respondent towards its responsibilities in the organisation of the Match.
48. In addition, the Committee wished to emphasise that it was particularly concerned by (i) the number of objects that have been thrown during the Match, (ii) the despicable attitude of the Senegalese supporters towards the Egyptian players, specifically during the penalty shoot-outs when Egyptian players were literally covered in green by the laser pointers, and (iii) the gravity and the magnitude of the incidents.
49. With such considerations in mind, the Committee took into account all the allegations and submissions brought forward by the Respondent in the present proceedings, and determined that the foregoing did

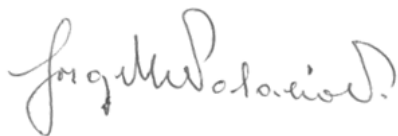
not serve to mitigate the mentioned circumstances of the case. As a matter of fact, and despite the allegations of the Respondent, the Committee could not agree with the latter's contention that it actually did all possible efforts to ensure the smooth running of the Match and that the incidents only had a limited impact.

50. In fact, the Committee underlined that the aggravating factors of the case undoubtedly outweigh the existing mitigating factors, such element having to be taken into account when deciding on the sanction.
51. Given the above, the Committee considered that, among the range of sanctions available under art. 6 FDC, a fine was the minimum sanction to be imposed in response to the incidents that occurred during the Match.
52. However, the Committee was convinced that a fine alone could not be sufficient to serve the necessary deterrent effect. To that end, the Committee considered that it needed to be accompanied by a measure directly impacting supporters involved in most of the incidents.
53. Against such background, the Committee was of the view that, in addition to the fine to be imposed on the Respondent, and amongst the measures at its disposal, only a match to be played without spectators would serve the necessary deterrent effect, both on the Respondent and its supporters.
54. As such, the Committee decided that the Respondent shall be subject to one match to be played without spectators. In particular, the Committee specified that said sanction shall be applicable to the Respondent's next home match to be played in the frame of a FIFA competition at A level.
55. In so far that the fine is concerned, the Committee recalled that, in accordance with art. 6 (4) FDC, it may not be lower than CHF 100 and greater than CHF 1,000,000.
56. As a result, the Committee held that a fine amounting to CHF 175,000, is to be considered appropriate and proportionate. In particular, the Committee was satisfied that such amount would serve the necessary deterrent effect, while encouraging the Respondent to implement the necessary measures to prevent such incidents to happen again.

IV. DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 1. The Senegalese Football Association is ordered to pay a fine to the amount of CHF 175,000 for incidents related to order and security (failure to comply with and implement existing safety rules, failure to ensure that law and order are maintained in and around the stadium) as well as for the inappropriate behaviour of its supporters (invasion of the field of play, throwing of objects, lighting of fireworks, use of laser pointers, use of objects - *banner* – to transmit a message that is not appropriate for a sports events) in connection with the match *Senegal vs. Egypt* played on 29 March 2022 in the scope of the Preliminary Competition for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™, African Zone.**
- 2. The Senegalese Football Association is ordered to play its next (A level) FIFA competition match as host association without spectators.**
- 3. The fine is to be paid within 30 days of notification of the present decision.**

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Jorge Ivan PALACIO

Chairperson of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee

NOTE RELATING TO THE PAYMENT OF THE FINE:

Payment can be made either in Swiss francs (CHF) to account no. 0230-325519.70J, UBS AG, Bahnhofstrasse 45, 8098 Zurich, SWIFT: UBSWCHZH80A, IBAN: CH85 0023 0230 3255 1970 J or in US dollars (USD) to account no. 0230-325519.71U, UBS AG, Bahnhofstrasse 45, 8098 Zurich, SWIFT: UBSWCHZH80A, IBAN: CH95 0023 0230 3255 1971 U, with reference to case number above mentioned.

NOTE RELATING TO THE LEGAL ACTION:

This decision can be contested before the FIFA Appeal Committee (art. 57 FDC). Any party intending to appeal must announce its intention to do so in writing within three (3) days of notification of the grounds of the decision. Reasons for the appeal must then be given in writing within a further time limit of five (5) days, commencing upon expiry of the first time limit of three (3) days (art. 56 (4) FDC). The appeal fee of CHF 1,000 shall be transferred to the aforementioned bank account upon submission of the appeal brief (art. 56 (6) FDC).