

TO MR. AHMAD AHMAD

Cairo, 13th July 2019

By e-mail

Re : Your mail dated 12 July 2019

Dear Sir,

I acknowledge receipt your correspondence dated 12th July in reply to my mail dated 5th July and not 5th June as mentioned by mistake in which you keep insisting to violate CAF Statutes by refusing to send me an invitation in my capacity as Honorary member to allow me to attend the proceedings of the General Assembly.

You consider that Honorary members having no voting right, so this confers you the right of preventing them from attending the General Assembly. By so doing, you are giving yourself a right which you don't have by virtue of CAF Statutes because a General Assembly decision cannot in any way be contested by the Executive committee and more less by the president.

By the way, CAF Executive committee members does not have a voting right at the General Assembly. Does this give you the right to prevent them from attending the General Assembly if they are not sharing your views ?

Your decision has no basis and is a new evidence that you don't accept any discussion and you have never refrain from fighting any opposition since your arrival at the helm of CAF.

As far as the untrue facts mentioned in your correspondence related to my role in CAF between 1982 and 2010 then after as your advisor for competitions matters and your allusions to your former general secretary Amr Fahmy, I would like to clarify and emphasize the following :

1. I was CAF general secretary from 1982 till 2010. During this period, I organized 29 finals of the CAF champion clubs which becomes CAF champions League in 1996, 22 Cup winners cup finals, 7 CAF Cup Finals and 12 Confederation Cup Finals which represents 70 clubs finals and 140 matches. Do you remember only one of these 140 matches which did not come to an end ? Until this moment no body knows the name of the winner of CAF Champions League 2019.

2. You accused your predecessors and myself of not preserving CAF archives and for failing to provide CAF with any decision process. As far as CAF archives are concerned, your predecessor knowing perfectly that the archives constitute the history of CAF, he mandated Mrs. Abba Hassan, former CAF director of competitions. The latter achieved a tremendous job and today CAF archives are well preserved in CAF Old premises in front of the Egyptian FA.

3. As far as the decision process is concerned, I guess you are referring to the application of CAF statutes and regulations, which are supposed to be mastered by you even if your daily practice raises more questions about that. During my 32 years as a CAF employee, all decisions taken, even if sometimes they did not please everybody, were always enforced and respected. You will agree that's not the case for the decisions taken by CAF under your leadership.

4. You accused me of not fulfilling my role as advisor because I did not have any active role in your reforms. I would like to remind you that you have approached me to be your advisor for competitions matters. I played an important role in the main innovations you introduced at competitions level mainly the increase of the number of the finalist teams at the AFCON final tournament as well as the new inter-clubs competitions season. It seems that you have a short memory because you asked me to be in charge of the symposium of Rabat and you have congratulated me publicly at the end of this gathering. In my capacity as your advisor, I also drew your attention about the new format of the FIFA Clubs World Cup due to take place in odd years which will be a real threat for the organization of AFCON during summer at the same period because our competition will be moved to mid-july -mid-august and European clubs won't accept to release our players during this period. You did not listen to my observations and you followed blindly the FIFA President and we will be facing the risk of not being able to play the AFCON during odd years because the FIFA Clubs world cup will take place only few weeks before.

5. You assigned me the mission to put some order in the administration for a three months period between May and August 2018. I fulfilled my mission and tried to reduce the tensions existing between the former general secretary and his deputies. During the Extraordinary general assembly in Sharm El Sheikh, when you convened a staff meeting, you acknowledge yourself that there was an improvement but still some effort should be done. And you did not reconduct my mission. A few weeks later, the secretary general had to undergo a very critical surgery. Instead of giving him at least a moral support (you refused to reimburse the costs of his surgery despite the fact that he was still in office by that time) you marginalized him by violating once more the statutes and creating immediately a new position of general coordinator within the administration.

6. I would like to remind you that when you informed me that you would like to appoint him as CAF general secretary, I answered you that it was your own affair and that I would not like to be involved in that process. You were under the impression that I had no confidence in his capacities and capabilities but it was the contrary. I had no confidence in your ability to manage an organization as big and important as CAF. Your predecessors had always full confidence in their general secretaries and did not interfere in the running of the administration. But as far as you are concerned you have always interfered in the management of the secretariat and the appointments at all levels. Even for the appointments of the staff in positions lower than the directors where your approval was not needed. You have fired brilliant staff members who could have been a real asset to our administration but you managed to keep only those who were telling you that you are the best and those who were always following you all the time when you were in Cairo.

7. Finally, despite the dramatic situation encountered by CAF for the time being and the future of CAF which you compromise by your doing, you managed to make me laugh when you mentioned the legacy you will leave to your successors. What we notice is that you are dilapidating the marvelous heritage which was left to you by your predecessors. When you accused me of poor management, I would like to remind you that when I became CAF general secretary, CAF assets were amounting 500,000 USD. When I left and in accordance to CAF Financial report in June 2010, CAF assets reached 69 millions USD (you will agree that my archives are not as bad as you mentioned). My predecessor Mourad Fahmy when he came into office he found that CAF was owing a printing house 121 EGP and not a cent in the banks. When he left CAF had 500,000 USD. May be he was also a poor manager.

I will remind you that when you paid a visit to your former general secretary Amr Fahmy in Paris, you looked to me and you told me I should have been your general secretary and not the one of Mr. Hayatou. Your former assistant Sarah Kamel was a witness. But today and only seven months later, your decision of appointing me as your advisor was a mistake. So how to understand your repeated mistakes in choosing your close assistants ? Essam Ahmed who was your acting general secretary was a mistake. Amr Fahmy was a mistake. Sarah Kamel your assistant was a mistake and myself your advisor a mistake too. Great leaders are known for their ability in choosing those with whom they are working closely. Should you be considered one when you systematically confess mistakes in your choices ?

I will send a copy of your correspondence and a copy of my reply to the members of CAF Executive committee so they should take their responsibilities or persist in supporting you by their silence in your permanent violation of CAF statutes.

National associations will also receive a copy of those documents in order to protect the rights which were bestowed to me by the supreme body of CAF and which you persist in infringing without any shame.

With my sincerest regards.



Mustafa Fahmy
CAF Honorary Member