



# **AFF** **ORGANISATION** **REGULATIONS**

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## **DEFINITIONS**

In interpreting these Regulations, all terms defined within the Definitions section of the most recently adopted AFF Statutes and all terms whose meaning can be derived within the context of the AFF Statutes shall have the same meaning within these AFF Organisation Regulations.

For the purposes of these Regulations, and provided the context so permits:

- (a) the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa;
- (b) the feminine gender shall include the masculine and vice-versa;
- (c) reference to natural persons shall include any legal person or corporation; and
- (d) all defined terms unless otherwise stated herein shall bear the same meaning as ascribed in the AFF Statutes, unless the context indicates otherwise.

## **1. OBJECTIVE**

- 1.1. The objective of these Regulations is to complement the AFF Statutes with regard to the organisation of the AFF .
- 1.2. An overview of the organisational structure of the AFF is provided in the organisation chart set out in Appendix 1 of these Regulations.

## **2. SCOPE**

- 2.1. These Regulations shall apply to and regulate:
  - 2.1.1. the duties, powers and responsibilities of the AFF bodies and members of AFF bodies (cf. Article 18 of the AFF Statutes) with the exception of the AFF Congress;
  - 2.1.2. the duties, powers and responsibilities of the AFF President, AFF General Secretary, and AFF General Secretariat; and
  - 2.1.3. the establishment of authorisations to represent the AFF legally and limits of financial authority.
- 2.2. These Regulations do not define the organisation of the AFF judicial bodies which are set out in the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code and the Procedural Rules Governing the AFF Entry Control Body.

## **3. GENERAL POWERS**

- 3.1. The AFF Council is authorised to approve regulations as part of its range of duties and powers subject to the AFF Statutes and the provisions of these Regulations. The Standing Committees may propose amendments to these Regulations related to their respective Committee.
- 3.2. The AFF President, the Standing Committees and the AFF General Secretary are authorised to issue implementing directives, circular letters, manuals and similar documents as part of their range of duties and powers subject to the AFF Statutes and the provisions of these Regulations.

## **4. GENERAL CONDUCT OF MEMBERS**

- 4.1. During their work and as part of their functions, members of AFF bodies shall do everything possible that is conducive to fulfilling the AFF 's objectives (cf. Article 2 of the AFF Statutes) and refrain from any action that could be detrimental to those objectives.
- 4.2. They shall understand and comply with all applicable laws and regulations and the AFF 's regulatory framework, such as those contained within these Regulations, the

AFF Code of Conduct, the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Code, the AFF Electoral Code, any AFF media policies, as well as all applicable FIFA regulations.

## **5. AFF PRESIDENT**

5.1. The duties, powers and responsibilities of the AFF President are set out in Article 36 of the AFF Statutes.

5.2. In addition, the AFF President has the following specific duties:

5.2.1. proposing the appointment of the members of the Standing Committees to the AFF Council;

5.2.2. proposing the guidelines for AFF 's overall strategy, including marketing strategy guidelines, to the AFF Council;

5.2.3. implementing the guidelines for AFF 's overall strategy, including marketing strategy guidelines set by the AFF Council;

5.2.4. approving the targets of the divisions at the proposal of the AFF General Secretary;

5.2.5. approving the creation of a new division or the change of a division at the proposal of the AFF General Secretary;

5.2.6. appraising the AFF General Secretary's performance;

5.2.7. approving any action proposed by the AFF General Secretary for appraising and supporting the performances of the division directors;

5.2.8. preparing the business, rulings and decisions of the AFF Council and the AFF Congress, subject to the AFF General Secretary's duties in accordance with Article 39.3 of the AFF Statutes;

5.2.9. producing a report not less than once a year for the AFF Council and the AFF Congress;

5.2.10. approving the appointment and dismissal of any directors proposed by the AFF General Secretary;

5.2.11. engaging and terminating the employment of the AFF Deputy General Secretary(ies) at the proposal of the AFF General Secretary;

5.2.12. engaging and terminating the employment of the members of the Executive Office of the AFF President; and

5.2.13. approving salary structures (including bonuses) and social benefits proposed by the AFF General Secretary, excluding the AFF General Secretary's salary structures which shall be decided by the AFF Council.

- 5.3. The AFF President leads the Executive Office of the AFF President, which is responsible for carrying out administrative work and any other tasks designated by the AFF President.
- 5.4. Pursuant to Article 36.1 of the AFF Statutes, the AFF President represents the AFF generally and is entitled to sign for the AFF in accordance with the AFF Statutes and the AFF Directive Governing the Level of Authority and Signatory Rights for Contracts. The AFF President is an authorised financial officer of the AFF .
- 5.5. The AFF President is recorded in the Registry of Societies of Malaysia pursuant to the Societies Act 1966 of the Laws of Malaysia.
- 5.6. The AFF President may delegate certain duties, powers and responsibilities that have been assigned to him to the AFF General Secretary or individual members of the AFF Council. In such cases, the AFF General Secretary or the individual members of the AFF Council shall report to the AFF President.

## **6. MEMBERS OF THE AFF COUNCIL**

- 6.1. The duties, powers, and responsibilities of the AFF Council are set out in Article 32 of the AFF Statutes and these Regulations.
- 6.2. Unless explicitly mentioned within these Regulations or the AFF Statutes, members of the AFF Council:
  - 6.2.1. are not authorised to legally bind the AFF ; and
  - 6.2.2. are not authorised financial officers of the AFF.

## **7. AUTHORISED SIGNATORIES AND AUTHORITY LIMITS**

Authorised signatories entitled to legally bind the AFF are set out in the AFF Directive Governing the Level of Authority and Signatory Rights for Contracts.

## **8. AFF COUNCIL AND AFF EMERGENCY COMMITTEE**

### **Duties, Powers and Responsibilities – AFF Council**

- 8.1. The AFF Council is the executive body of the AFF. The duties, powers and responsibilities of the AFF Council are set out in Article 32 of the AFF Statutes.
- 8.2. Unless otherwise stated in the AFF Statutes, the AFF Council has full authority governing executive matters of the AFF .
- 8.3. In addition to Article 8.1. hereinabove, the AFF Council has the power to decide the remuneration for the AFF General Secretary.
- 8.4. Pursuant to Article 32.4 of the AFF Statutes, the AFF Council may delegate certain

tasks arising out of its areas of authority to the AFF President, other bodies of the AFF or third parties.

### **Meetings – AFF Council**

8.5. Pursuant to Article 33 of the AFF Statutes:

8.5.1. The AFF Council shall meet at least once a year; and

8.5.2. The AFF President shall convene the AFF Council meetings. If fifty percent (50%) of the AFF Council members request a meeting or if the AFF President deems it necessary, the AFF President shall convene it within twenty-one (21) days.

8.6. Without prejudice to Article 8.17 of these Regulations, as a general rule, meetings of the AFF Council will be conducted in person. However, with the approval of the AFF President, meetings may be held by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication. The convocation of AFF Council meetings must be sent to the members by way of letter and/or e-mail at least eight (8) weeks in advance of the meeting, except when an AFF Council meeting is requested as stated in Article 8.5.2 above. This information shall include the proposed date, time and, as applicable, the location of and/or means of conducting the meeting. Where an in-person meeting is to be conducted, any member of the AFF Council may, in exceptional cases and with the approval of the AFF President, attend such meeting by teleconference, videoconference or by another means of communication. Attendance by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication shall constitute presence in this context.

8.7. The AFF President shall compile the agenda. The agenda shall include the required documents to enable the members to prepare properly and make informed decisions.

8.8. Each member of the AFF Council is entitled to propose items for inclusion in the agenda. The members of the AFF Council must submit the points they wish to be included in the agenda for the meeting to the AFF General Secretariat at least six (6) weeks before the meeting. The agenda must be sent out to the members of the AFF Council at least four (4) weeks before the meeting.

8.9. The AFF President as Chairperson of the AFF Council shall conduct all meetings in accordance with the AFF Statutes and these Regulations. The AFF President shall open and close the debates and give the floor to the members as appropriate. If the AFF President is unable to attend, the Senior Vice President shall chair the meeting.

8.10. Subject to any duties expressly set out in these Regulations, the AFF General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the AFF Council in a consultative role.

8.11. Meetings shall be confidential and are not open to the public. The AFF Council may, however, invite third parties to attend meetings if it deems necessary upon approval of the AFF President. A simple majority of the AFF Council must approve the invitation of third parties. Those third parties shall not have voting rights and may only express an opinion with the permission of the AFF Council.

- 8.12. Any member of the AFF Council who is absent without a properly accepted apology by the AFF Council for two (2) consecutive meetings or any four (4) meetings during their term shall be provisionally suspended from the AFF Council. A decision shall then be made by the AFF Congress, at the next AFF Congress, which shall be final. Before voting on such a matter, the member of the AFF Council concerned shall be given the opportunity to explain him or herself in person or in writing.

#### **Decisions – AFF Council**

- 8.13. The quorum for a meeting of the AFF Council shall be a simple majority of its members.
- 8.14. The AFF Council shall reach decisions by a simple majority of the votes cast by the members present. In the event of a tied vote, the AFF President shall have the casting vote. Voting by proxy or letter is not permitted. Voting shall be conducted openly. Where a meeting is conducted by teleconference, videoconference or by another means of communication, voting shall be conducted by calling the roll in English alphabetical order.
- 8.15. Members of the AFF Council must decline to participate in any discussion and/or debate concerning any matter, and immediately leave the meeting room, where there are grounds for questioning their impartiality and/or there is a possibility of any conflict of interest arising. This shall in any event apply if the relevant matter concerns a member's Member Association or Regional Association (as applicable).
- 8.16. The decisions made shall be recorded in the minutes. Minutes of every meeting shall be recorded by the AFF General Secretary as the secretary of the meeting. The minutes shall be signed by the AFF President and the AFF General Secretary.
- 8.17. The decisions made by the AFF Council shall come into effect immediately, unless the AFF Council decides otherwise.
- 8.18. If the circumstances so require, the AFF Council may deliberate and take decisions in writing by correspondence (including by email, facsimile or other form of electronic communication) using the applicable form. In such a case, the written resolution, signed by a majority of the AFF Council members entitled to take a decision, shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the AFF Council duly convened and held. All such written resolutions shall be filed with the minutes of the subsequent meeting of the AFF Council. For the avoidance of doubt, spoiled or blank voting forms or any other forms of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

#### **Duties, Powers and Responsibilities – AFF Emergency Committee**

- 8.19. The AFF Emergency Committee shall have the duties, powers and responsibilities of the AFF Council between two meetings of the latter as provided by Article 35 of the AFF Statutes.
- 8.20. Pursuant to Article 35.4 of the AFF Statutes, decisions of the AFF Emergency Committee shall have immediate effect. The AFF President shall notify the AFF Council immediately of the decisions passed by the AFF Emergency Committee.



### **Meetings – AFF Emergency Committee**

- 8.21. Pursuant to Article 35.3 of the AFF Statutes, the AFF President shall convene the meetings of the AFF Emergency Committee.
- 8.22. Without prejudice to Article 8.28 of these Regulations, as a general rule, meetings of the AFF Emergency Committee will be conducted in person. However, with the approval of the AFF President, meetings may be held by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication. The convocation of such meetings must be informed to the members at least three (3) days in advance of the meeting. This information shall include the proposed date, time and, as applicable, the location of and/or means of conducting the meeting. Where an in-person meeting is to be conducted, any member of the AFF Emergency Committee may, in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the AFF President, attend such meeting by teleconference, videoconference or by another means of communication. Attendance by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication shall constitute presence in this context.
- 8.23. The AFF President shall set the agenda for the meeting of the AFF Emergency Committee. No other items may be discussed.
- 8.24. If the AFF President is unable to attend a meeting, the Senior Vice President shall deputise.
- 8.25. The AFF President is entitled to designate a deputy for any member who is unable to attend or has a conflict of interest. The deputy shall belong to the AFF Council and the same zone as the member who is unable to attend or has a conflict of interest.
- 8.26. Subject to any duties expressly set out in these Regulations, the AFF General Secretary shall take part in the meetings of the AFF Emergency Committee in a consultative role.
- 8.27. Meetings shall be confidential. Minutes of every meeting shall be recorded by the AFF General Secretary, as the secretary of the meeting. The minutes shall be signed by the AFF President and the AFF General Secretary.
- 8.28. The AFF President as Chairperson of the AFF Emergency Committee shall conduct all meetings in accordance with the AFF Statutes and these Regulations. The AFF President shall open and close the debates and give the floor to the members as appropriate.

### **Decisions – AFF Emergency Committee**

- 8.29. Articles 8.13, 8.14, 8.16 and 8.17 of these Regulations also apply to the decision-making ability of the AFF Emergency Committee.

### **Expenses**

- 8.30. Expenses of members of the AFF Council and AFF Emergency Committee shall be reimbursed in accordance with the AFF Service Level Policy.

## **9. STANDING COMMITTEES AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES**

9.1. Pursuant to Article 40.1 of the AFF Statutes, the following are the Standing Committees of the AFF :

9.1.1. Finance Committee;

9.1.2. Competitions Committee;

9.1.3. Referees Committee;

9.1.4. Women's Football Committee;

9.1.5. Legal Committee;

9.1.6. Development Committee;

9.1.7. Marketing and Communications Committee.

9.2. The AFF Council may create Ad-Hoc Committees or task forces for special duties and for a limited period of time in accordance with Article 32.2(h) of the AFF Statutes.

9.3. The matters contained within this section shall, unless otherwise stated, apply to all Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces.

9.4. Special rules relating solely to the Audit and Compliance Committee are contained in Article 11 of these Regulations.

### **Function**

9.5. The Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces shall advise and assist the AFF Council in fulfilling its duties. They shall have an advisory function, unless these or any other regulations adopted by the AFF Council, or any decision of the AFF Council, grants relevant committee or task force decision-making powers.

### **Relationship with the AFF Council**

9.6. The AFF Council may delegate further duties to the Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces at any time, in addition to the duties set out in the AFF Statutes and/or these Regulations.

9.7. The Chairpersons of the Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces shall regularly report to the AFF Council in writing on their respective committee or task force's activities.

9.8. Pursuant to Article 40.10 of the AFF Statutes, the Standing Committees may request the AFF Council to make amendments to those parts of these Regulations which directly relate to their function and operations.

### **Composition**

9.9. The following rules, consistent with Article 40 of the AFF Statutes, shall apply to the Standing Committees:

- 9.9.1. Subject to Articles 9.52 and 11.1 of these Regulations, the Chairperson shall be a member of the AFF Council;
  - 9.9.2. the members of each Standing Committee shall be appointed by the AFF Council on the proposal of the Member Associations or the AFF President;
  - 9.9.3. proposals by the Member Associations shall be made in writing to the AFF President. The AFF General Secretariat shall set an appropriate deadline for the submission of proposals;
  - 9.9.4. the AFF Council shall appoint the members for a term of office of four (4) years; and
  - 9.9.5. members may be reappointed or relieved of their duties at any time.
- 9.10. The AFF Council may define the composition of Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces in each case. Articles 9.9.1 and 9.9.4 of these Regulations shall not, unless otherwise decided by the AFF Council, apply to Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces.

#### **Removal from office and replacement**

- 9.11. If a seat on a Standing Committee, Ad-Hoc Committee or task force becomes vacant for any reason, the AFF Council may appoint a replacement for the remaining period of the term of office.
- 9.12. A member of a Standing Committee, Ad-Hoc Committee or task force may be removed from office and, if need be, replaced for the remaining period of the term of office by the AFF Council, in, without limitation, the following scenarios:
  - 9.12.1. on a well-founded request from the Member Association concerned (e.g. when the member can no longer be considered as an official of their Member Association because they no longer hold an active office within the Member Association);
  - 9.12.2. where the member is deemed by the AFF Council to have committed a gross dereliction of duty or an act of improper conduct, in which case the case may be referred to the AFF Disciplinary and Ethics Committee;
  - 9.12.3. AFF any member who is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings or any five (5) meetings during their term without a properly accepted apology is automatically suspended. A decision shall then be made by the AFF Council whether or not to dismiss the member, which shall be final.

#### **Organisation**

- 9.13. A Standing Committee may work with other Standing Committees to deal with special matters.
- 9.14. A Standing Committee may set up a sub-committee at any time to settle any urgent business.

- 9.15. Any sub-committee may not have members appointed or undertake its function until approval from the AFF Council has been received. Any sub-committee shall report primarily to the Standing Committee which sought for it to be created.
- 9.16. The Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces may call upon staff from the AFF General Secretariat to support them in carrying out their activities.
- 9.17. Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces may be supported in their activities by expert individual(s) or a panel of experts. In this regard, the Standing Committee, Ad-Hoc Committee or task force may delegate certain tasks or responsibilities to such expert individual(s) or panel of experts. Such delegation shall be duly documented.
- 9.18. The Chairpersons shall represent the Standing Committees in dealings with the AFF Council.

### **Meetings**

- 9.19. The Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces shall meet whenever pending matters so require. The dates of meetings of each Standing Committee, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces shall be fixed by the General Secretariat in consultation with the relevant Chairperson. Without prejudice to Article 9.31 of these Regulations, as a general rule, meetings of the Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces will be conducted in person at the AFF headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia or at a venue linked to an AFF or FIFA event. However, with the approval of the relevant Chairperson, meetings may be held by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication. Where an in-person meeting is to be conducted, any member of a Standing Committee, Ad-Hoc Committee or task force may, in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the relevant Chairperson and the AFF General Secretary, attend a meeting by teleconference, videoconference or by another means of communication. Attendance by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication shall constitute presence in this context.
- 9.20. The Chairperson shall draw up the agenda in conjunction with the AFF General Secretary. Members may send written requests to the Chairperson for items to be included in the agenda at least six (6) weeks before the meeting.
- 9.21. The agenda shall, as a general rule, include the following items:
  - 9.21.1. Roll Call;
  - 9.21.2. Welcome from the AFF President (if applicable);
  - 9.21.3. Welcome of new members by the AFF President (if applicable);
  - 9.21.4. Welcome from the Chairperson;
  - 9.21.5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting;

- 9.21.6. Matters for General Information;
- 9.21.7. Activity Reports;
- 9.21.8. Matters for Discussion and Decision; and,
- 9.21.9. Related/Other Matters.
- 9.22. The AFF General Secretary AFF shall sign the agenda. The agenda and any enclosures shall be sent to the members four (4) weeks before the meeting. The agenda may be altered if a majority of the members present agrees to such a proposal. The time limit contained in this Article shall not apply to any Ad-Hoc Committee or task force.
- 9.23. Documents containing further information on the items to be discussed may be distributed to the members in good time before the meeting.
- 9.24. The AFF General Secretary AFF shall open the meeting and then give the floor to the AFF President or to the Chairperson of the committee. The Chairperson shall conduct the meeting. The Chairperson shall open and close the debates and give the floor to the members. If the Chairperson is unable to attend, a Deputy Chairperson shall conduct the meeting. If no Deputy Chairperson is available to carry out their duties, the longest-serving member shall act as the Chairperson.
- 9.25. The quorum for meetings shall be not less than half (1/2) of the members of the committee or task force. Decisions made are only valid if half or more of all voting members of the relevant committee or task force are present.
- 9.26. Without prejudice to Article 9.31, if a vote is needed on any matter, a simple majority of the valid votes cast is required for the decision to be adopted. Each member of the relevant committee or task force has one (1) vote. If votes are equal, the Chairperson has a casting vote. Votes are conducted openly. Voting is by a show of hands and voting by secret ballot is prohibited. Where a meeting is conducted by teleconference, videoconference or by another means of communication, voting shall be conducted by calling the roll in English alphabetical order.
- 9.27. Any meeting conducted shall always be attended by a member of the AFF General Secretariat.
- 9.28. Meetings are confidential and are not open to public. The Chairperson may, however, invite third parties to attend meetings if they deem it necessary on account of the agenda.
- 9.29. Minutes shall be recorded for every meeting. The minutes shall be signed by the Chairperson and the AFF General Secretary.
- 9.30. The frequency of meetings is determined by the Chairperson according to the needs and the urgency of matters to be dealt with. Except for Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces, each Standing Committee must hold at least one (1) meeting per year.
- 9.31. The procedure for taking action without a meeting set out in Article 8.17 of these

Regulations shall also apply to Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces.

### **Chairperson's duties**

- 9.32. The Chairperson of each Standing Committee, Ad-Hoc Committee or task force shall:
- 9.32.1. oversee all preparations for a meeting of the committee to be carried out by the AFF General Secretariat;
  - 9.32.2. chair meetings of the committee or task force;
  - 9.32.3. lead the discussion and ensure the smooth operation of the meeting;
  - 9.32.4. exercise the casting vote in the event of a tie;
  - 9.32.5. approve the action list;
  - 9.32.6. lead any media conferences; and
  - 9.32.7. inform the members about any special matters.
- 9.33. The Chairperson coordinates requests to take the floor. The Chairperson can limit the amount of time given to speakers or take other measures to ensure the smooth operation of a meeting.
- 9.34. If the Chairperson cannot carry out any duties (e.g. as a result of being unable to attend or due to a conflict of interest), he shall appoint a Deputy Chairperson to replace him.
- 9.35. If no Deputy Chairperson is available to carry out their duties, the longest-serving member shall act as the Chairperson or, in the case of a task force, a member designated by the Chairperson.

### **Members' duties**

- 9.36. Members shall take part in meetings personally with the exception of personal interpreters who may attend in the translation booth. They are not permitted to send a replacement or vote by proxy.
- 9.37. Members shall show mutual respect and protect the interests of the AFF in their work on the committees or task forces. They shall read the agenda carefully and any documents sent to them before the meeting. They shall take an active part in the discussions.
- 9.38. If any member is directly or indirectly involved in a matter, either personally or on account of interests that they represent (e.g. matters involving their Member Association), they shall abstain from voting or taking part in any deliberations. The Chairperson shall request the member to leave the meeting room. Any such involvement shall be made known to the Chairperson before the start of the meeting.

## **Confidentiality**

- 9.39. Members must not disclose (except to the AFF ) and are bound to treat any information received in the course of their AFF activities and/or duties as strictly confidential before, during and after their appointment.
- 9.40. Documents classified as confidential must be kept carefully and, if requested by the AFF General Secretariat, shall be returned by the member(s) concerned on completion of their term of office.

## **Expenses**

- 9.41. Expenses of members of the Standing Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and task forces shall be reimbursed in accordance with the AFF Service Level Policy.

## **Specific tasks in relation to the composition and duties of the Standing Committees**

### **Finance Committee**

- 9.42. The Finance Committee shall advise and assist the AFF Council on financial matters, including by, without limitation:
- 9.42.1. reviewing and advising on financial policy matters, and when necessary making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;
  - 9.42.2. reviewing and approving the budget and financial statements as prepared by the AFF General Secretary for submission to the AFF Council;
  - 9.42.3. presenting the final budget and audited financial statements to the AFF Council for its approval;
  - 9.42.4. reviewing the strategic financial performance of the AFF and the financial obligations of the AFF , and providing advice in connection with the same; and
  - 9.42.5. overseeing the review and adoption of relevant financial, accounting and tax regulatory guidelines, as well as the AFF's adherence to the principles of good governance in a financial context.
- 9.43. The Finance Committee shall cooperate in its duties with the Audit and Compliance Committee and with the independent external auditors. A joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the Audit and Compliance Committee will be held annually to approve the audited financial statements for submission to the AFF Council.

### **Competitions Committee**

- 9.44. The Competitions Committee shall advise and assist the AFF Council on matters relating to the AFF 's club and national team men's competitions including by, without limitation:
- 9.44.1. discussing matters relating to these competitions (including topics relating to the hosting of centralised final competitions, the format of such competitions, and identifying the number of participating teams) and making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;

- 9.44.2. subject to Article 63 of the AFF Statutes, assisting in the process of selecting the host(s) of such competitions and making recommendations in this regard;
- 9.44.3. working collectively and collaboratively to ensure the development of football through well organised competitions, with particular regard to the objectives of the AFF as set out in Article 2 of the AFF Statutes;
- 9.44.4. recommending policies, standards and guidelines related to various aspects of AFF such competitions; and
- 9.44.5. approving the regulations which govern such competitions and making recommendations to the AFF Council in this regard.

#### **Referees Committee**

- 9.45. The Referees Committee shall advise and assist the AFF Council on refereeing matters, including by, without limitation:
- 9.45.1. discussing refereeing matters (including topics related to video assistant referees and other technology linked to refereeing) and making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;
  - 9.45.2. ensuring the correct application of the Laws of the Game and proposing amendments to the Laws of the Game to the AFF Council for its onward recommendation to FIFA and the International Football Association Board (IFAB);
  - 9.45.3. approving the appointment of all match officials and video assistant referees (where appropriate) for football, futsal and beach soccer matches in competitions organised by the AFF ;
  - 9.45.4. approving the panel of AFF referees for football, futsal, and beach soccer matches on an annual basis;
  - 9.45.5. assisting in the evaluation and ranking of AFF referees and other match officials; and
  - 9.45.6. monitoring the development and implementation of the AFF 's refereeing strategies and related activities taking place within the Member Associations and Regional Associations.

#### **Women's Football Committee**

- 9.46. The Women's Football Committee shall advise and assist the AFF Council on matters relating to women's football, including by, without limitation:
- 9.46.1. discussing matters relating to women's football and the AFF 's women's football competitions (including topics relating to the hosting of centralised final competitions, the format of such competitions, and identifying the number of participating teams) and making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;



- 9.46.2. discussing matters relating to women's football development and making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;
- 9.46.3. subject to Article 63 of the AFF Statutes, assisting in the process of selecting the host(s) of the AFF's women's football competitions and making recommendations in this regard;
- 9.46.4. working collectively and collaboratively to ensure the development of women's football in Asia through well organised women's football competitions, with particular regard to the objectives of the AFF as set out in Article 2 of the AFF Statutes;
- 9.46.5. making recommendations with regard to, and monitoring the implementation of, the AFF's women's football development strategies and programmes in Asia; and
- 9.46.6. approving the regulations which govern the AFF's women's football competitions and making recommendations to the AFF Council in this regard.

#### **Legal Committee**

- 9.47. The members of the Legal Committee shall have legal qualifications.
- 9.48. The Legal Committee shall advise and assist the AFF Council on legal matters, including by, without limitation:
  - 9.48.1. discussing legal issues relating to the AFF and its activities, and making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;
  - 9.48.2. monitoring and reviewing the AFF Statutes and regulations, and proposing suitable amendments to the AFF Council;
  - 9.48.3. working collectively and collaboratively to analyse legal issues affecting Member Associations and Regional Associations and making proposals in this regard; and
  - 9.48.4. keeping abreast of legal issues affecting football and sport generally in order to advise on any developments.

#### **Development Committee**

- 9.49. The Development Committee shall advise and assist the AFF Council on development matters, including by, without limitation:
  - 9.49.1. discussing development topics (including topics relating to the AFF's general development strategy) and making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;
  - 9.49.2. proposing, approving and terminating development programmes, and making recommendations and proposals regarding the financial benefits to be received from such programmes;

- 9.49.3. proposing and approving the guidelines, first policies and regulations which govern the AFF 's development programmes and activities, and making recommendations and proposals regarding any necessary amendments to such documents;
- 9.49.4. fostering the exchange of know-how and best practices in development matters between football stakeholders in Asia in the interests of developing football in Asia; and
- 9.49.5. keeping abreast of issues affecting football and sport in general in order to advise on any developments and assist the AFF Council.

#### **Marketing and Communications Committee**

9.50. The Marketing and Communications Committee shall advise and assist the AFF Council on media and communications matters, including by, without limitation:

- 9.50.1. discussing media and communications topics (including topics relating to the AFF's general media and communications strategy), and making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;
- 9.50.2. nurturing collaboration with international organisations and companies in the media sector; and
- 9.50.3. keeping abreast of developments in the media sector in order to advise on any developments and assist the AFF Council.
- 9.50.4. discussing marketing matters relating to the AFF (including topics relating to the general marketing strategy for AFF competitions) and making recommendations to the AFF Council regarding such matters;
- 9.50.5. monitoring the implementation and progress of the AFF 's various marketing strategies and policies, and providing advice in connection with the same;
- 9.50.6. monitoring the performance and operation of the AFF 's major agency and commercial agreements in a marketing context, and providing advice in connection with the same;
- 9.50.7. fostering the exchange of know-how and best practice in marketing matters between Member Associations, Regional Associations and clubs in Asia in the interests of developing football in Asia; and
- 9.50.8. keeping abreast of marketing issues affecting football and sport generally in order to advise on any developments.

**10. AFF GENERAL SECRETARY AND AFF DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY(IES)**

- 10.1. The duties, powers and responsibilities of the AFF General Secretary are set out within Article 39 of the AFF Statutes and these Regulations. The AFF General Secretary has the responsibility and authority to make decisions on all administrative matters that are not subject to the AFF Statutes, these Regulations or the regulations of other AFF bodies. The AFF General Secretary shall report directly and regularly to the AFF President and the AFF Council.
- 10.2. The powers of the AFF General Secretary to legally bind the AFF and act as an authorised financial officer of the AFF shall be undertaken in accordance with Article 7 of these Regulations.
- 10.3. The AFF General Secretary is recorded in the Registry of Societies of Malaysia pursuant to the Societies Act 1966 of the Laws of Malaysia.
- 10.4. Pursuant to Article 39.3(j) of the AFF Statutes, the AFF General Secretary is authorised to sign decisions on behalf of any AFF committee, in the absence of internal regulations.
- 10.5. Pursuant to Article 30.5 of the AFF Statutes, the AFF Council shall appoint an Acting General Secretary in the absence of the AFF General Secretary.
- 10.6. The AFF General Secretary shall propose the appointment and dismissal of the AFF Deputy General Secretary(ies) for the approval of the AFF President. For the avoidance of doubt, more than one (1) AFF Deputy General Secretary may be appointed in accordance with the organisational structure of the AFF General Secretariat.
  - 10.6.1. The AFF Deputy General Secretary(ies) represents the AFF General Secretary in his absence.
  - 10.6.2. The AFF General Secretary may delegate duties and responsibilities to the AFF Deputy General Secretary(ies) at his discretion.
  - 10.6.3. AFF Council
- 10.7. After approval of the AFF President, the AFF General Secretary defines the organisational structure of the AFF General Secretariat. Any significant changes shall be presented to the AFF Council.
- 10.8. The AFF General Secretary shall implement special rules regarding conduct applicable to all employees of the AFF General Secretariat.

## **11. ENFORCEMENT**

- 11.1. These updated Regulations were ratified by the AFF Council on 22 July 2025 and come into force with immediate effect. They supersede and replace all prior versions of the Regulations.

For the AFF Council.

Major General Khiev Sameth  
President

Winston Lee  
General Secretary

## APPENDIX 1. ORGANISATION CHART OF THE AFF

