

CAF DISCIPLINARY BOARD DECISION 008 - CAI - 28.11.2022

Executive Director CECAFA

Cairo, 12th December 2022

Re: Decision CAF Disciplinary Board on the CECAFA – Abusive Usage of CAF Logo

Dear Sir,

Arising out of the Disciplinary Board's meeting held on 28th November 2022, the Board was comprised of:

Mr. Raymond Hack (South Africa)	Chairman
Mr. Issa Sama (Burkina Faso)	Member
Mr. Youssouf Ali Djae (Comores)	Member
Mr. Samugabo Mustapha (Burundi)	Member

At its meeting held on 28th November 2022, the Board examined all the documents relevant to the above-mentioned case.

FACTS:

- 1. CECACA organised the Afcon U20 zonal Unions qualifiers.
- 2. During the tournament, it has been reported a sign bearing the CAF logo with a political message displayed in the 2022 CECAFA U-20 Championship 3rd place play-off match between Ethiopia and Sudan
- 3.CECAFA used the CAF logo associated with some wordings that are considered as political. "Freedom- Peace- Justice".
- 2. The footage of the said banner was submitted to CAF Disciplinary Board.

II. CAF'S COMPETENCE TO THE CASE:

- 3. Pursuant to articles 40, 42 and 57 of the CAF Statutes, as well as article 3 and 87 of the CAF Disciplinary Code, the CAF Statutes, Disciplinary Code and Regulations are applicable to this procedure.
- 4. The competence of the CAF Disciplinary Board results from the following articles:



- Pursuant to article 10 of CAF disciplinary code "the disciplinary Board is authorized to sanction any breach of CAF Regulations which does not come under the jurisdiction of another body of the Confederation".
- Article 3 of the CAF Disciplinary Code provides that "By participation in the various CAF competitions, all the persons referred to in article 2 para 2 above acknowledge and accept that they are bound by this code inclusive of any regulations relating to any specific CAF competitions as well as any directives issued by the CAF Secretariat on behalf of the CAF Executive Committee, inclusive of the Laws of the Game as issued by the International Football Association Board.
- 5. In the present case, and in accordance with the aforementioned articles of CAF Disciplinary Code, the CAF Disciplinary Board is competent to deal with the case.

III. Relevant provisions to the Case

- 6. The following relevant provisions apply to the case at hand:
 - Pursuant article 2 of CAF statutes, the objectives of CAF shall be: "h. To promote football free from discrimination against any country, person or group of persons, be it the grounds of ethnicity, gender, handicap, language, religion, politics."
- 7. According to Article 14 relating to rights and obligations of zonal unions " Each zonal union shall the obligation to Fully comply with the Statutes, regulations, directives, and decisions of CAF and FIFA;
- 8. Pursuant to Article 149 of CAF Regulations relating to the application of the CAF Statutes governing the signs "No demonstrations, nor any political, religious or racial propaganda shall be permitted at CAF competition venues".

IV. Legal Considerations

- 9. On a preliminary basis, the Disciplinary Board would like to recall that, according to the constant practice of the disciplinary bodies of CAF and the regulations, the Disciplinary Board is authorised to sanction any breach of CAF Regulations which does not come under the jurisdiction of another body of the Confederation.
- 10. The Disciplinary Board recalls that 149 of CAF Regulations relating to the application of the CAF Statutes governing the signs "No demonstrations, nor any political, religious or racial propaganda shall be permitted at CAF competition venues". Any implementation of a sign bearing the CAF logo with a political message must obtain the prior approval of CAF, which reserves the right to do so.



- 11. In the present case, it was reported the footage that a sign bearing the CAF logo with a political message namely "Freedom- Peace- Justice" was displayed during the 3rd place play-off match between Ethiopia and Sudan.
- 12. The Disciplinary Board recalls that the display of an advertising banner with a political message is a clear violation of the rules governing CAF signs. The disciplinary Board therefore underlined the fact that such violations damage the image and rights of CAF and CAF cannot tolerate such acts.

DECISION:

CAF Disciplinary Board decided:

6. to impose a warning for non-compliance with your obligations and urge you to respect the principles contained in the CAF Statutes.

Best Regards,

CONFEDERATION AFRICAINE DE FOOTBALL

Raymond Hack

Chairman of CAF Disciplinary Board