

The FIFA Council Background Guide



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Introduction to the Committee

Mandate

The FIFA Council handles issues regarding the International Football Community. The FIFA council at R-NPSMUN 2018 is aimed at coming up with realistic, practical and feasible solutions to the controversies surrounding the 2022 FIFA World Cup to be held at Qatar. Delegates in this committee will be able to take individual action based on the powers as entailed by their portfolios.

History of FIFA

The *Federation Internationale de Football Association* (FIFA) was founded in Paris on 21 May 1904. The founding member countries were France, Belgium, Denmark, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. The success of the Olympic Football Tournament intensified FIFA's wish for its own world championship. On 28 May 1928, the FIFA Congress held in Amsterdam passed a resolution to stage a world championship that would be organized by FIFA. Today, with approximately 200 million active players, "the beautiful game" now makes up a substantial chunk of the leisure industry, having opened up new markets for itself and for the rest of the business world.

Procedure

This committee will follow official MUN Rules of Procedure at all times except during voting, during which a procedure similar to the 2026 procedure for designation of host country of the FIFA World Cup will be followed.

Bidding procedure

1. All Nations interested in presenting a bid must approach their respective Member Associations, who will decide whether to present a joint bid or not, with the consent of the respective countries.
2. A bidding procedure initially inviting all Member Nations (except those belonging to **UEFA**) would be initiated to express their interest in submitting a bid to the FIFA Council to host the FIFA World Cup 2022.
3. Should The Council decide not to select any of the above countries, the EB would invite further the Member Association of **UEFA** to submit a new bid. (**Member Associations who had submitted a bid during the first phase will not be permitted to submit a new bid**).

Voting

1. Each bidder must submit a report to the FIFA Council containing an overview of the intended course followed in connection with hosting of the World Cup.
2. Each report containing comprehensive details (about **Budget, Accommodation, Transport, etc.**) must be presented before the committee by the host association as well as the countries involved. No more than 10 minutes will be allowed for presentation.
3. Following such presentations, The Council must open the floor to amendments, if any. After the relevant contributions, the EB must close the debate and proceed to the vote.
4. The Council will review the bids received. Based on their best judgement and taking into consideration the defined criteria for the selection decision (as set out in the **FIFA Regulations for the Selection of the Venue for the Final Competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup**), the Council will vote on the selected country(s) of the final competition for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.
5. Delegates may vote “Yes”, “No”, “Re-open bidding procedure”, or abstain. (**Subject to their voting stance**).
6. If one of the bids obtains a simple majority in the first ballot, the same bid will be awarded the right to host the FIFA World Cup 2022. The other bid(s) will be deemed as rejected by the Council.
7. If the option- “Re-open bidding procedure” receives more votes than the sum of “yes” and “no” votes, the second phase of the bidding procedure will be initiated, excluding Member Associations that have already submitted a bid.
8. If none of the bids receive simple majority and the number of votes for “Re-open bidding procedure” is less than the sum of “yes” and “no” votes, a second vote will be conducted after 10 minutes of unmoderated caucus.
9. If The Council still does not obtain simple majority, the second phase of the bidding procedure will be initiated. (**“Re-open bidding procedure” will not be allowed during the second phase**)

AGENDA

Controversies surrounding the 2022 Qatar World Cup

Introduction

In 2010, FIFA baffled the world when it awarded the small Persian Gulf State of Qatar the opportunity to host the 2022 World Cup. This decision added to Qatar's desire to become a global centre for sport excellence.

Qatar's winning bid to host FIFA 2022 World Cup has been controversial due to allegations of bribery. The Qatari Government has also been accused of poor treatment of migrant workers working on the FIFA stadium project. Political ramifications of LGBT fans and alcohol consumption in public is also a major concern.

1. WORKER SAFETY

This committee's primary agenda is to debate on the morality of Qatar hosting the 2022 World Cup with respect to socio-economic oppression of the migrant workers constructing the football stadiums in the country.

The Kafala System currently in practice in Qatar has raised concerns amongst organisations like the Human Rights Watch and the Amnesty International. These organisations also claim that the companies involved in the construction and renovation of the FIFA stadiums subject their workers to systematic abuse.

Qatar's World Cup organizers have placed special requirements on contractors that are supposed to stop this from happening, but the reality is that workers on their sites still live under Qatar's repressive sponsorship system, which gives employers powerful tools to abuse them. With hundreds of thousands of people being recruited to build and service at least seven more World Cup stadiums, along with the infrastructure to support the tournament, many more migrant workers are at serious risk over the next four years.

'The Guardian' reports that the construction frenzy ahead of the 2022 World Cup is on course to cost the lives of at least 4,000 migrant workers and the annual death toll among those working on the stadium construction sites could rise up to 600 a year. The International Trade Union Confederation has based the estimate on current mortality figures for Nepalese and Indian workers, who form the bulk of Qatar's 1.2 million-strong migrant workforce, the majority of whom are builders who are subject to drastic living and work conditions.

Kafala system

About 1.2 million foreign workers in Qatar, mostly from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal making up 94 percent of the labor force constructing the stadiums for the World Cup, are forced to work under the Kafala system.

The Kafala system is a system used to track migrant laborers, working primarily in the construction and domestic sectors in Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Qatar and few other countries.

The system requires all unskilled laborers to have an in-country sponsor, usually their employer, who is responsible for their visa and legal status. Many employers take away passports and abuse their workers with little chance of legal repercussions. The system blocks domestic competition for overseas workers in the Gulf countries.

2. BUDGET

The official budget has been reduced by almost 40 percent and ***The Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy***, the organisation responsible for delivering the infrastructure required for the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, now plans to spend only 8-10 billion on the tournament infrastructure, most of which is towards the stadium and training grounds .

The state budget plan released by the Finance Minister projects that the expenditure is expected to be 56 billion dollars or 203.2 billion riyals.

This does not include highways, hospitals or the upcoming Doha Metro for the transport and facilities for influx of tourists attending the matches.

Transportation and other infrastructure projects were assigned the largest share in the 2018 budget with allocation of QR42.0 billion (21 % of the total expenditure) for projects including the Doha Metro, Lusail Light Train, Al Bustan Highway, Orbiter Expressway, which is affecting a major portion of the FIFA budget .

3. CULTURAL AND POLITICAL ISSUES

A total of 9 nations have severed ties with Qatar because of allegations of funding non state activists. Qatari citizens have been deported from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the UAE, and these countries have also warned their own citizens from entering Qatar, affecting the tourists coming from these countries.

Doha was also prohibited from using land, airspace and territorial waters of the UAE, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

Since Qatar is an orthodox Islamic country, several laws are directly based off the Sharia system. Laws banning public consumption of alcohol will have a rather depreciatory effect on the crowd viewership. Also, the Gulf state's legal code allows for up to seven years of imprisonment for homosexual conduct. LGBT soccer fans who wish to attend the 2022 World Cup would risk facing both state persecution and threats from anti-gay vigilantes.

Questions a resolution must answer

Will the world cup be held in Qatar?

- **If yes;**

1. How will the smooth functioning of the tournament be ensured?
2. How will the issue of the migrant workers be addressed?
3. How will all the major footballing nations cooperate with Qatar?

- **If no;**

1. Which country will host the world cup?
2. How will the selected country provide the required facilities in such a short time frame?

PORTFOLIO POWERS

Undersecretary of LaLiga

The Undersecretary of La Liga has complete authority over the functioning of the first division Spanish League. It handles scheduling of matches throughout the season, and oversees all complaints involving any unsportsmanlike conduct, betting, doping, and other issues regarding the first division Spanish League.

Furthermore The Undersecretary of La Liga, is also a member of the ***Selección de fútbol de España***.

Undersecretary of Serie A

The Undersecretary of Serie A has complete authority over the functioning of the first division Italian League. It handles scheduling of matches throughout the season, and oversees all complaints involving any unsportsmanlike conduct, betting, doping, and other such issues regarding the first division Italian League.

Furthermore the Undersecretary of Serie A is also a member of the ***Federazione Italiana Giuoco Calcio (Federcalcio)***.

Undersecretary of Ligue 1

The Undersecretary of Ligue 1 has complete authority over the functioning of the first division French League. It handles scheduling of matches throughout the season, and oversees all complaints involving any unsportsmanlike conduct, betting, doping, and other such issues regarding the first division French League.

Furthermore the Undersecretary of Ligue 1 is also a member of the ***Fédération Française de Football***.

Undersecretary of Bundesliga

The Undersecretary of Bundesliga has complete authority over the functioning of the first division German League. It handles scheduling of matches throughout the season, and oversees all complaints involving any unsportsmanlike conduct, betting, doping, and other such issues regarding the first division German League.

Furthermore the Undersecretary of Bundesliga is also a member of the ***Deutscher Fussball-Bund (DFB)***.

Undersecretary of Premier League

The Undersecretary of Premier League has complete authority over the functioning of the first division English League. It handles scheduling of matches throughout the season, and oversees all complaints involving any unsportsmanlike conduct, betting, doping, and other such issues regarding the first division English League.

Furthermore the Undersecretary of Premier League is also a member of ***The Football Association (FA)***.

Secretary General of Amnesty International

Can take any action within his/her personal means and the resources of Amnesty International.

Director of ILO

Can take any action within his/her personal means and the resources of the International Labour Organisation.

President of CONCACAF

The President of ***The Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF)***, is the head of the continental governing body for association football (soccer) in North America which includes Central America and the Caribbean Region.

The President of CONCACAF organises competitions for national teams and clubs, and conducts Men's World Cup and Women's World Cup qualifying tournaments.

President of CAF

The President of the ***Confederation of African Football (CAF)***, is the head of the administrative and controlling body for African Association Football.

Furthermore the President of CAF runs continental, national and club competitions. It also conducts World Cup Qualifiers.

President of AFC

The President of the ***Asian Football Confederation (AFC)***, is the head of the governing body of association football in Asia and Australia.

Furthermore the President of CAF runs continental, national and club competitions. It also conducts Men's and Women's World Cup Qualifiers.

President of OFC

The President of the **Oceania Football Confederation (OFC)** is the head of the governing body of association football in Oceania.

Furthermore the President of OFC promotes the game in Oceania and allows member nations to qualify for the World Cup.

President of UEFA

The President of The **Union of European Football Associations (UEFA)** is the head of the administrative body for association football in Europe.

Furthermore the President of UEFA promotes the game in Europe and allows member nations to qualify for the World Cup.

Pre- committee requirements

- *The background guide is only a launching platform for research. All delegates are expected to be well versed with other issues surrounding the agenda as well.*
- Position Paper Deadline: 21st August, 2018

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