



WORKING GROUP ATELIER 4 YOUTH FOOTBALL

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Subject: Discussion of new age groups and Qualifier formats

- Presentations by UEFA regarding their U15-U16 tournaments as well as the UEFA ASSIST Programme (new Assistance Programme to other Confederations)

- Proposal by CAF Competitions Division regarding Qualifier formats for Youth competitions



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- Proposal 'B' was preferred by most of the participants as it will ensure more diversity in the Continental Championships. Through this format, each zone will qualify one team (6 in total), the Zone of the title holder of the U-17 AFCON will qualify one extra team and the host country will also be qualified - 8 teams in total.
- Each zone will organize its Zonal Championship in order to ensure that each Zone is represented by at least one Team at the Final Tournament and such representative has qualified in a transparent and fair manner.
- Flexibility will be given to each Zone in terms of the competition format to best match its realities and budget constraints. The competition format will try to maximize the number of games while still considering the development and health of the young players.
- The Eligibility of Players will be set in accordance with the CAF Eligibility criteria in order to ensure the eligibility of Players from Zonal Qualifier through to the CAF Final Tournament and eventually the FIFA U-17 World Cup



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- CAF and UEFA to cooperate in providing assistance to the Member Associations regarding the issue of eligibility of Players before the Zonal Championship.
- Proposal to increase the number of participating teams at the U-17 AFCON Final Tournament beyond the current 8 teams.
- Proposal that U-17, U-20 and Futsal for both men and women's competitions are organized at a Zonal level and that qualified teams access the continental Championship through the Zonal competitions.
- Participants urged CAF/UEFA Assistance regarding on-pitch and off-pitch issues through the organization of workshops during the Zonal championships. Each zone must provide CAF, along with the competition format of the Zonal championship, a list of priority topics they would like to receive, keeping in mind the time available during the tournament.
- Participants asked CAF to consider the implementation of a Pro Coaching License.