

**To the national associations of FIFA**

Circular no. 792

Zurich, 21 December 2001  
GS/hus-col/sma

**Coordinated International Match Calendar**

Dear Sir or Madam,

We refer to circular no. 719 dated 23 June 2000 and would like to remind you that the coordinated international match calendar, approved by the FIFA Executive Committee at a meeting on 6 June 2000 and at the FIFA Congress in August 2000 in Zurich, will come into effect on 1 January 2002 and will introduce fixed match dates for international matches in 2002, 2003 and 2004. We also enclose a copy of the fixed match dates for official competitive and friendly games.

Enclosed you will also find details of how the coordinated international match calendar will work. This new calendar will ensure that national associations will be able to select any player to play in their national team in competitive or friendly matches arranged on one of the set dates. Any player selected to represent his national team on one of these dates must be released by the club holding his registration. Please refer to the new FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players (Chapter XIII, Article 36ff), dated 5 July 2001, for further details regarding the release of players for national association representative matches. We also refer to Article 45 of these regulations for any matters not provided for in the enclosure mentioned above.

We will constantly update the list of dates for international matches in 2002, 2003 and 2004, most notably with the dates of tournaments in the confederations, and with the dates of the preliminary round of the football tournament at the Olympic Games in Athens 2004, which will be set in the very near future.

We hope that this information will be of use to you.

Yours faithfully,

FIFA

Michel Zen-Ruffinen  
General Secretary

Enclosures

cc: Executive Committee  
Confederations