

European Zone

First stage

Begins in August 2008 and is played as a league system on a home-and-away basis involving nine groups (eight groups of six teams, and one group of five teams).

The nine group winners qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™.

Group 1	Group 2
1 Portugal	1 Greece
2 Sweden	2 Israel
3 Denmark	3 Switzerland
4 Hungary	4 Moldova
5 Albania	5 Latvia
6 Malta	6 Luxembourg

Group 3	Group 4
1 Czech Republic	1 Germany
2 Poland	2 Russia
3 Northern Ireland	3 Finland
4 Slovakia	4 Wales
5 Slovenia	5 Azerbaijan
6 San Marino	6 Liechtenstein

Group 5	Group 6
1 Spain	1 Croatia
2 Turkey	2 England
3 Belgium	3 Ukraine
4 Bosnia-Herzegovina	4 Belarus
5 Armenia	5 Kazakhstan
6 Estonia	6 Andorra

Group 7	Group 8
1 France	1 Italy
2 Romania	2 Bulgaria
3 Serbia	3 Republic of Ireland
4 Lithuania	4 Cyprus
5 Austria	5 Georgia
6 Faroe Islands	6 Montenegro

Group 9
1 Netherlands
2 Scotland
3 Norway
4 FYR Macedonia
5 Iceland

Second stage

The best eight best runners-up* will be drawn against each other for four play-off matches on a home-and-away basis.

The four play-off winners qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™.

* determined on the basis of the number of points won whereby the bottom-placed team in the groups involving six teams is not taken into account

South American Zone

Played as a league system on a home-and-away basis involving all 10 teams. Tournament kicked off in October 2007.

The top four teams qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™.

The fifth-placed team will play-off with the fourth-placed team from the North, Central American and Caribbean Zone.

African Zone

First stage

Preliminary round comprising play-offs between the six lowest-ranked teams** that were held in October and November 2007. The three winners (Madagascar, Sierra Leone and Djibouti) advance to the second stage joining the other 45 teams that have enrolled in the competition.

Second stage

The 48 teams are drawn into 12 groups of four teams that play in a league system on a home-and-away basis. The group winners and the eight best runners-up advance to the third stage.

Group 1	Group 2
1 Cameroon	1 Guinea
2 Cape Verde Islands	2 Zimbabwe
3 Tanzania	3 Namibia
4 Mauritius	4 Kenya

Group 3	Group 4
1 Angola	1 Nigeria
2 Benin	2 South Africa
3 Uganda	3 Equatorial Guinea
4 Niger	4 Sierra Leone

Group 5	Group 6
1 Ghana	1 Senegal
2 Libya	2 Algeria
3 Gabon	3 Liberia
4 Lesotho	4 Gambia

Group 7	Group 8
1 Côte d'Ivoire	1 Morocco
2 Mozambique	2 Ethiopia
3 Botswana	3 Rwanda
4 Madagascar	4 Mauritania

Group 9	Group 10
1 Tunisia	1 Mali
2 Burkina Faso	2 Congo
3 Burundi	3 Sudan
4 Seychelles	4 Chad

Group 11	Group 12
1 Togo	1 Egypt
2 Zambia	2 Congo DR
3 Eritrea	3 Malawi
4 Swaziland	4 Djibouti

Third stage

The 20 teams are drawn into five groups of four teams that play in a league system on a home-and-away basis. **The five group winners qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™.**

* South Africa will participate in the Preliminary Competition for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™ which serves also as the qualifying competition for the Africa Cup of Nations. If qualified for the third stage, South Africa will play in its group but the points obtained will only be computed for the Africa Cup of Nations, not for the FIFA World Cup™.

** FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of July 2007

Asian Zone

First Stage

The five top-seeded* associations (Australia, Korea Republic, Saudi Arabia, Japan and Iran) and Kuwait and Indonesia receive a bye to the third stage. The remaining 36 teams are paired into 17 home-and-away play-offs, with the 11 highest-ranked winners earning byes to the third stage and the other 8 winners advancing to the second stage.

* determined on the basis of FIFA World Cup Germany 2006 results and previous preliminary competitions

Second stage

The eight teams are paired into four home-and-away play-offs, with the four winners qualifying for the third stage

Third stage

The 11 first stage winners and the four second stage winners are joined by the five top-ranked teams who have received a bye. The stage is played as a league system on a home-and-away basis comprised of five groups of four teams each. All group winners and runners-up advance to the fourth stage.

Group 1	Group 2
1 Australia	1 Japan
2 China PR	2 Bahrain
3 Iraq	3 Oman
4 Qatar	4 Thailand

Group 3	Group 4
1 Korea Republic	1 Saudi Arabia
2 Korea DPR	2 Uzbekistan
3 Jordan	3 Lebanon
4 Turkmenistan	4 Singapore

Group 5
1 Iran
2 Kuwait
3 United Arab Emirates
4 Syria

Fourth stage

The five winners and five runners-up from the third stage are drawn into two groups that play as a league system on a home-and-away basis.

The 2 group winners and the two runners-up qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™.

Fifth stage

The 3rd placed teams from the two fourth stage groups qualify for a play-off on a home-and-away basis.

The winner advances to a play-off with the winner from the Oceanian zone.

Oceanian Zone

First Stage

New Zealand received a bye, the remaining 9 teams played at the South Pacific Games in late August and early September 2007, which served as FIFA World Cup™ qualification. The three medalist teams (New Caledonia, Fiji and Vanuatu) advanced to the second stage.

Second stage

New Caledonia, Fiji and Vanuatu meet New Zealand in a group playing in a league system on a home-and-away basis from October 2007. The teams finishing first and second advance to the third stage.

Third stage

The two finalists play off against each other on a home-and-away basis.

The winner advances to a play-off with the winner from the Asian Zone.

North, Central American and Caribbean Zone

First stage

The 12 best teams* and St. Vincent and the Grenadines receive a bye.

The remaining 22 teams are paired into 11 home-and-away play-offs. The 11 winners advance to the second stage.

* determined on the basis of the FIFA World Ranking May 2007

Second stage

The 11 First Stage winners join St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the 12 top teams, and are paired into 12 play-offs on a home-and-away basis. The winners advance to the third stage.

Third stage

The 12 teams are drawn into three groups of four teams that play in a league system on a home-and-away basis. The group winners and runners-up advance to the fourth stage.

Group 1A	Dominica	VS	Barbados
	USA	VS	Winner
Group 1B	Turks and Caicos Islands	VS	St. Lucia
	Guatemala	VS	Winner
Group 1C	Bermuda	VS	Cayman Islands
	Trinidad and Tobago	VS	Winner
Group 1D	Aruba	VS	Antigua and Barbuda
	Winner	VS	Cuba
Group 2A	Belize	VS	St. Kitts and Nevis
	Winner	VS	Mexico
Group 2B	Bahamas	VS	British Virgin Islands
	Jamaica	VS	Winner
Group 2C	Dominican Republic	VS	Puerto Rico
	Honduras	VS	Winner
Group 2D	Canada	VS	St. Vincent / Grenadines
Group 3A	US Virgin Islands	VS	Grenada
	Winner	VS	Costa Rica
Group 3B	Suriname	VS	Montserrat
	Winner	VS	Guyana
Group 3C	El Salvador	VS	Anguilla
	Panama	VS	Winner
Group 3D	Nicaragua	VS	Netherlands Antilles
	Haiti	VS	Winner

Fourth stage

The six qualified teams play in a league system on a home-and-away basis. **The top three teams qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™.**

The fourth-placed team enters a home-and-away play-off with the fifth-placed South American team.