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EU Sports Ministers

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Dear Colleagues

The arrests that took place on 27th May in Zurich in relation to alleged corruption within FIFA, along with the statements released both by the US Department of Justice and the Swiss Attorney General were shocking in their scale, but unfortunately not surprising. This is just the latest episode in FIFA's history where the integrity of global football has been called into question.

Recent events have shown how important it is for sports bodies to uphold the highest standards of governance, transparency and accountability. This is what we ask of all our domestic sports bodies in the UK, and what you ask of your organisations in your own countries. I don't think our expectations of FIFA, the guardians of the most popular sport in the world, should be any different.

I welcome the investigations that are now underway into the allegations of bribery and corruption. I understand that UEFA have called for FIFA's presidential election to be postponed in light of these investigations. I agree with this position and I also fully back the English Football Association's position that FIFA is seriously damaged and change and reform is urgently needed to help restore our trust in the organisation.

I hope that you will join me in publicly emphasising the need for leadership change and widespread reform of FIFA.

Best wishes

Tracey Crouch

Tracey Crouch MP
Minister for Sport and Tourism

