



GENS UNA SUMUS

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉCHECS

Recognized by the International Olympic Committee

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Singapore Chess Federation
51 Bishan Street 13 #02-01A
Singapore Intellectual Games Centre,
Singapore 579799

Dear Sirs,

FIDE notes that the complaint of the NCFP dated 17 September 2015 was addressed to the SCF, and not to ASEAN. Pursuant to Article 14 of the ASEAN Constitution, in the event of any disputes arising amongst member federations, they shall attempt to resolve the matter at an Extraordinary General Meeting in accordance with said Constitution. Should the members fail to resolve the matter, it may be brought to a court of law for settlement. The fact that a copy of the complaint was forwarded to ASEAN for its information does not vest it with jurisdiction to intervene in the dispute between two of its member federations nor to seek to impose disciplinary sanctions against SCF or Mr. Tan. The ASEAN Constitution does not grant the Management Board any disciplinary powers and the resolutions of 10 and 30 October 2015 were clearly taken *ultra vires*.

In addition, the resolutions were clearly tainted by illegality for reasons of a total failure of fundamental justice (no hearing was held and neither SCF nor Mr. Tan were afforded an opportunity to make representations before the Management Board took its decisions), an apparent bias on the part of the members of the Management Board against the SCF and Mr. Tan, as well as the fact that the sanctions imposed were irrational, unreasonable and completely out of proportion with the alleged misconduct. In short, the resolutions were unlawful and shall be revoked without any delay.

In addition, the SCF has investigated the complaint filed by the National Chess Federation of Philippines of 17 September 2015. On 5 November, the SCF Ethics Committee thus found Mr. Tan guilty of showing disrespect during an official event and imposed a two-week suspension. The official concerned has therefore been duly and adequately sanctioned by the Singapore Chess Federation.

FIDE unites chess federations throughout the world and oversees all international competitions. It rejects discriminatory treatment and unlawful action against any one of its member federations. The members of ASEAN and also FIDE member federations and must observe the Statutes, regulations, resolutions and decisions of FIDE, individually and collectively. In the present case, FIDE, for the reasons mentioned above, refuses to endorse or recognize the sanctions issued by ASEAN against Mr. Tan and the Singapore Chess Federation.

Best Regards,

Nigel Freeman

Nigel Freeman

Executive Director

