



PRESS RELEASE

Contact:

Khalid Ali, Secretary General ESSA

tel. +32 (0)22 567565

email: ka@eu-ssa.org

THE EUROPEAN SPORTS SECURITY ASSOCIATION RENEWS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH FIFA'S EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

Brussels, 07 June 2010: The European Sports Security Association (ESSA) today announced that it has renewed a cooperation agreement with Early Warning System GmbH (EWS), a subsidiary of international football authority FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association), to support the monitoring of betting activities related to the forthcoming World Cup and other upcoming FIFA tournaments.

Under the terms of the agreement, ESSA will support FIFA's efforts to identify attempted match-fixing by linking up its successful Early Warning System – a platform dedicated to monitoring, reporting and tracking suspicious betting activity both on- and off-line - with FIFA's own Early Warning System GmbH.

"I am very pleased that ESSA will be supporting FIFA in its attempts to ensure betting integrity during the coming World Cup," said Khalid Ali, Secretary-General of ESSA. "Since we launched our Early Warning System in 2005, ESSA has played a key role in coordinating and focusing the licensed, regulated betting industry's zero-tolerance approach to the threat of betting-related match fixing in sport, and this agreement with FIFA's EWS is further proof of our commitment to helping all sports authorities maintain the highest levels of integrity."

"Since our early warning system was first implemented at the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany, FIFA has made great strides in preventing criminal elements from being able to alter the outcome of football matches. With its excellent



reputation for monitoring betting activity across a whole range of sports, we view our partnership with ESSA for the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa and other upcoming FIFA tournaments as an important element in making sure we maintain this outstanding record," said Wolfgang Feldner, Head of Strategy of FIFA's EWS.

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About ESSA

The European Sports Security Association (ESSA) was established in 2005 by the leading online sports book operators in Europe to monitor any irregular betting patterns or possible insider betting from within each sport. To achieve this goal ESSA implemented an early warning system between its members that highlights any suspicious betting activity. The early warning system allows ESSA to work with the Sports Regulators and their disciplinary and legal department, ensuring that when an alert is given the regulator is informed immediately which may prevent the possibility of any game manipulation on a given event. So far, ESSA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with [FIFA](#), [UEFA](#), [EPFL](#), [The FA](#), [DFB](#), [ATP](#), [ITE](#), [WTA](#) has established close relations with the [IOC](#) and many other sports regulators. For more information on ESSA please do the ESSA website <http://www.eu-ssa.org>.

About FIFA EWS

Early Warning System GmbH (EWS) was founded by FIFA as an independent company in 2005 to protect the integrity of sport. The company's objective is to identify and expose match-fixing and attempted match-fixing in relation to sports betting, and to communicate the problem. Following the success of a pilot project conducted during the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany™, in May 2007 the FIFA Congress decided to launch the project properly. Since then, matches have been monitored in all FIFA competitions that are of relevance to the betting market, especially the preliminary competition of the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™. Currently, the focus is on the final competition of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.



Apart from monitoring the betting market with a complex technical system, another crucial cornerstone of the company's work is its direct contact to betting providers. EWS has contracts with more than 400 betting providers all around the world, and they have all pledged to inform EWS of any irregularities in the sports betting market. In addition, EWS works with a number of service companies and institutions to ensure that it has the best possible overview of the worldwide betting market.