

# Namibia Today Sport

## MTC sponsors millions to four local sport disciplines

By Kayele M. KAMBOMBO

The Mobile Telecommunication Limited (MTC) sponsored a combined N\$17 million to four local sports codes for the 2010/2011 season.

This tidings was announced this week by the youthful but influential Tim Ekanjo, Chief Human Capital and Corporate Affairs of Mobile Telecommunication Limited.

MTC's Ekanjo told the media conference that the recipients of the massive N\$17 million to four sports disciplines in the country are football through Namibia Premier League that have received the biggest chunk of N\$10 million, Namibia Rugby Union and Cricket Namibia have each receive a portion of N\$2.5 million while Namibia Professional Golf Association got N\$2 million.

"We have long graduated from the approach that looks specifically for the monetary returns for such invest-

ments, and have always taken a view that sports is an industry ... that if well managed contributes nationally to the development of any country, and Namibia is no different".

In its existence of 15 years, MTC has transformed the face of local sports. Even though Namibia is not winning enough medals at the big international events, "we are proud and shameful of the achievements and failures thus far. MTC's sports sponsorship has been the sole reason why many sports codes were able to continue with their operations".

"Currently", said Ekanjo, "the focus of MTC is on football, golf, rugby and cricket.

"Assistance is not merely in terms of running leagues and international programmes but MTC have deliberately placed a huge emphasis of management control and beefing up of administration capacity within these codes".



Tim Ekanjo, Chief Human Capital and Corporate Affairs of MTC.

Over the past one and half decades, MTC has assisted sports codes like football, rugby, cricket, professional golf, hockey, cycling, basketball and tennis, inter alia.

MTC has also assisted these sports codes to host events and run leagues or stage international competitions against neighboring states, Ekanjo revealed.

## Global Players Registration System at NFA

With an increase in discrepancies in players registration rife in Africa, FIFA is working hard to ensure that African countries are linked to the international players tracking system that will reduce if not eliminate related issues.

This have come to light, after Namibia football Association (NFA) Head of Competition and Players Registration Titus Kunamwene returned recently from Tunisia, where he attended a follow-up seminar to the Global Players Registration and Competitions Management System.

"Namibia and other four countries out of the 25 that were present at the seminar did presentations on how we have implemented the new system already in our countries and how we are using it. I must state that for us the system is something new and promising and we like the rationale behind it" said Kunamwene after the early October seminar.

FIFA together with Tunisia-based technology company NARSIL technology conducted the seminar, after the African company won the tender to install and educate member associations of FIFA in Africa on the system.

"The system has allowed us to have data capturing in ways we have never imagined and after 10 years, you can come back and see who was registered with which club and for how long.

"FIFA wants to link the countries together in the future so that we can then monitor very well in Africa who is who to avoid unnecessary issues such as age-cheating and so on" added Kunamwene.

The system, installed at Soccer House was also used to produce access cards to the 20th NFA Congress held on October 2 at Brakwater.

The competition part of the system will enable the NFA to am-



Titus Kunamwene

ply coordinate events in terms of league games and cup competitions and record information a such as goals-scorers to ensure that the information is available for a long time on line.

FIFA have stated that the on-line system is remarkably easy, with clubs signed up to a required web-based network to match the details of any international player transactions and upload proof of payment, identification of agents involved and other documents to confirm a player's new employer.

The world football governing body believes that as a result of this new system, auditing will be significantly easier because FIFA staff and national football officials can inspect players transfer deals from anywhere in the world with a simple login password.

## World Cup Seminar Necessary

The Namibia delegates at the 2010 Fifa World Cup symposium held last week in Cairo hails it as necessary and a great success.

According to the Technical Director of the Namibia Football Association Klaus Staerk, the symposium held on October 13-15 was "very interesting "as it brought together various football specialists who shared ideas with the rest of the fifty-three member association of CAF.

"We shared ideas on how Africa fared and how best the situation can be improved and also on the overall standards and organization of the world cup and how the game of football general move forward from this

world cup" Staerk said.

The symposium was meant to provide a platform for the technical and tactical analysis of the 2010 World Cup in relation to the development of football on the continent.

Staerk further added that the symposium also analyzed the challenges for the game in Africa and various workable suggestions-to be part of a report by CAF- where brought forward by various coaches and technical directors that represented their associations.

He also emphasized on cooperation between technical directors and national team coaches: "this

is meant to ensure that the national team have a similar way of doing things in terms of formations and plans.

"The technical director is responsible for long-term plan of the association while the coach is just focused on the daily improvement of the national team and so there should be some fostered cooperation to ensure that we are all in tune of what we set out to achieve in the association's mission and strategy" stated Staerk.

He was accompanied by Brian Isaacs, who is the co-coach of the national team with Ronnie

Kanalelo.

The three-day workshop was opened by CAF President Issa Hayatou and Africa was represented at the World Cup by hosts South Africa, Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria, Algeria and Cote d'Ivoire. Only Ghana made it out of the group stage, reaching the quarter-finals before losing to Uruguay on penalties.

The FIFA/CAF World Cup Symposium is organized every four years, after the FIFA World Cup, to analyze the event in view of amending flaws and consolidating improvements.

## Fifa suspends duo over vote claim

Fifa has provisionally suspended officials Amos Adamu and Reynald Temarii over allegations of corruption.

The Fifa executive committee members are accused of offering to sell their votes in the contest to host the 2018 World Cup ahead of December's ballot.

They were secretly filmed by Sunday Times reporters, who posed as lobbyists for a consortium of American companies that wanted the event to go to the US.

Fifa will meet again in mid-November to make a final decision.

At that meeting Fifa will also study alleged agreements between member associations and their bid committees in relation to the 2018 and 2022 World Cup bidding process.

The world governing body did not specify which countries could be under scrutiny.

Rumours of collusion between a 2018 bidder and a 2022 hopeful surfaced in September, prompting Fifa secretary general Jerome Valcke to warn all countries that mutual voting deals are against Fifa rules.

England, Russia, Spain/Portugal and Netherlands/Belgium are competing to stage the 2018 World Cup, while the United States, Australia, Qatar, Japan and South Korea are all in the hunt for 2022.

Fifa's 24-man executive committee will decide who wins both ballots on 2 December when they meet

in Zurich to conduct a secret vote.

The US - the last remaining non-European bidder - pulled out of the running for 2018 on Friday to focus its efforts on 2022. On the same day, England pulled out of the bidding to host in 2022.

The allegations of vote selling have plunged the selection process into crisis and Fifa chief executive Sepp Blatter admitted "it was a sad day for football" before insisting "confidence will be restored".

Nigerian Adamu, 57, allegedly said he wanted \$800,000 (£500,000) to build four artificial football pitches. This would be against Fifa's rules.

appears to show him asking for money to be paid to him directly for endorsing a US bid.

Tahitian Temarii, 43, who played for French club Nantes during the 1980s, is alleged to have asked for a payment to finance a sports academy. He has already pleaded his innocence.

"I am 100% convinced of my integrity," Temarii, head of Fifa's technical and development committee, previously told

"That's why I have stayed on." Temarii suggested his comments on the Sunday Times video had been taken out of context.

However Fifa ethics committee

chairman Claudio Sulser explained that the decision to provisionally suspend Adamu and Temarii was "fully justified and should not be put in question".

"It is crucial to protect the in-

tegrity of the 2018 and 2022 World Cup bidding process. We are determined to have zero tolerance for any breach of the code of ethics," added Sulser, a former Switzerland international.

Four other Fifa officials - Slim Aloulou, Amadou Diakite, Ahongalu Fusimalohi and Ismail Bhamjee - have also been provisionally suspended.

## Fifa warns Zambian government

Fifa has warned Zambia that it will take a dim view of any government interference in football matters.

This follows the Sports Council of Zambia's decision to investigate the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ).

FAZ has been in turmoil since the resignations of four executive committee members, including vice president Emmanuel Munaile.

The quartet quit after falling out with FAZ president and former national coach, Kalusha Bwalya.

Bwalya then reconstructed the FAZ executive committee by co-opting four members - a move which enraged some clubs and officials.

But the game's world governing body has thrown its weight behind Bwalya, saying the decisions taken by the Zambian leg- end are valid.



Kalusha Bwalya

"We would like to underline once more that if some of the FAZ members are unhappy with the current situation, they must act according to the current FAZ statutes," Fifa secretary general

Jerome Valcke said in a letter to Bwalya.

He added: "They can wait for the next annual council to express their disgruntlement or wait for the

next elective council due to take place in a year-and-a-half to elect a new board.

"An additional option could be the request for an emergency council provided two thirds of the FAZ members ask for it in writing."

## NPL LEAGUE FIXTURES - ROUND 5

Friday 22 October 2010

FNB Orlando Pirates FC vs. Wesbank Tigers FC Sam Nujoma Stadium 20H00

Saturday 23 October 2010

Black Africa FC vs. Eleven Arrows FC Independence Stadium 18H00  
African Stars FC vs. FNB Oshakati City FC Sam Nujoma Stadium 19H00

Oshikandela Ramblers FC vs. Mighty Gunners FC Ramblers Stadium 16H00

PC Blue Boys FC vs. Cymot SKW FC Tamariskia Stadium 15H00  
LHU Blue Waters FC vs. Civics FC Kuisebmond Stadium 15H00