

Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Greece declare intention to submit joint bid to host 2030 FIFA World Cup™

- The tri-continental bid is a first for the FIFA World Cup™
- Uniting centuries of heritage, the Saudi-Egypt-Greece tournament would deliver an incomparable experience for fans, players and the world
- 2030 marks the 100th anniversary of the competition; the three nations are proud to be joining together for this innovative bid and to kickstart an even more global era of football

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (XX August 2022) – AFC, CAF, and UEFA member nations the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic today announced their intention to submit a joint bid to host the 2030 FIFA World Cup™.

As the first tri-continental bid, the three nations will draw upon their ancient heritage, ongoing transformation and long-standing partnership to bring an immersive and global experience to fans, players and the world. Together Saudi, Greece and Egypt have participated in 11 World Cups, but are yet to host the competition.

Yasser Almishehal, President, Saudi Arabian Football Federation, Gamal Allam, President, Egyptian Football Association, and Panagiotis Baltakos, President, Hellenic Football Federation, together announced the historic bid. The Memorandum of Understanding was signed in [City].

Almishehal commented, “We believe the time is right to open a new chapter in football, one in partnership, to elevate the game to new heights. Our World Cup will break down boundaries and inspire young people across the world – this will be our lasting legacy.”

“Egyptians have a deep love of football. Our love for the game stretches back over a century – we were the first Arab team to play in the World Cup, in 1934 in Italy,” said Allam. “With our partner countries Saudi and Greece, we are excited to bring this passion to the stands, delivering an unforgettable game for fans and athletes, across the world.”

Baltakos highlighted, “As the originators of the Olympic Games, Greece has a long and colorful history of sporting events. This is the next great opportunity for us to leave our mark in sport, across three great continents, and bolstered by the energy and dynamism of fans.”

Signifying the strong support of all three governments for the tri-continental bid, HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and President Katerina Sakellariopoulou were present at the signing ceremony. They were accompanied by HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki bin Faisal, Saudi Minister of Sport, Ashraf Sobhi, Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports, and Lina Mendoni, Greek Minister of Culture and Sports.

The tri-continental bid, using up to 14 stadia in the three countries, reflects the growth of the FIFA World Cup™, which becomes a 48-team tournament from 2026, increasing the demands on hosts.

All three nations in the bid have a strong track record in hosting sporting mega events, including Formula 1 and Formula E in Saudi, the five-time hosting of AFCON in Egypt, and the 2004 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Greece.

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