

CHESSE FEDERATION OF ASEAN COUNTRIES

Date: 5 June 2016

FIDE Secretariat
9 Siggrou Avenue,
Athens, Greece 11743.

(Attn: Mr Nigel Freeman)

Dear Sirs,

RE: PETITION OF APPEAL TO REINSTATE TITLES, NORMS AND RATING AWARD

The above matter refers.

As you are aware, FIDE had temporarily suspended ASEAN Chess Confederation (ACC) since 19 January 2016 of which full particulars of facts are within your own knowledge. Further, due to such suspension, FIDE had opted not to award titles, norms and rating to any events organised by ACC.

Hence, the respective undersigned countries request to appeal against the above decision by reason of the following:

- i) that FIDE-ACC issue should be treated differently and not affect the countries which happen to be members of both FIDE and ACC, and, more so, their respective players;
- ii) that chess players in ASEAN countries are heavily relying on tournaments and events organised by ACC within the region mainly due to geographical and cost factors;
- iii) that chess players within the ASEAN region have been deprived of norms, titles and ratings due to existing suspension; for instance the ASEAN Championships held in December 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia and the 17th ASEAN Age Group Championships in June 2016 Pattaya, Thailand; and
- iv) that FIDE decision on no award for titles, norms and ratings on any event organised by ACC (being the only regional chess confederation unifying the countries in the ASEAN), may cause chess development in the region to stagnate and, worse, to regress.

Moreover, the FIDE-ACC issue that resulted to latter's suspension and FIDE's refusal to award titles, norms and ratings for ACC's events had put the undersigned countries' chess federations--whose reason for being, like FIDE's, is to develop chess players--on *zugzwang* situation.

As FIDE and ACC members, we humbly urge and appeal to FIDE to reinstate titles, norms and ratings to events organised by ACC (an ASEAN-affiliated Civil-Society Organization), including the on-going ASEAN + Age Group Championships, pending full and final disposal of FIDE-ACC issue for the sake of chess development in the region and most importantly, for the love of the game.

We deem it would do FIDE well adopting the practice of the Olympic movement of which it is a part to spare the athletes from "collateral damage" in whatever issue with whatever chess body. Athletes of countries suspended for whatever reasons are allowed to compete in the Olympic Games, albeit under the Olympic banner.

We trust you treat this matter with utmost urgency.

Thank you. *Gens Una Sumus*

Yours faithfully,

(_____)

Brunei Chess Federation

(_____)

Cambodian Chess Federation

(_____)

Indonesian Chess Federation

(_____)

Lao Chess Federation

(_____)

Malaysian Chess Federation

(_____)

Myanmar Chess Federation

(_____)

National Chess Federation of the Philippines

(_____)

Singapore Chess Federation

(_____)

Thailand Chess Association

(_____)

Vietnam Chess Federation

c.c: ASEAN CHESS CONFEDERATION (ACC)
(Attn: Secretary General)

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Brunei Chess Federation

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Cambodian Chess Federation

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Indonesian Chess Federation

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Lao Chess Federation

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(GABRIEL LAY)
SECRETARY
Malaysian Chess Federation

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(MAUNG MAUNG LWIN)
PRESIDENT
Myanmar Chess Federation

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(RED DUYUNG)
DEP. SECRETARY GENERAL
National Chess Federation of the Philippines

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Singapore Chess Federation

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(MR. PANPHAND VITJUPRABHA)
Vice President
Thailand Chess Association

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Vietnam Chess Federation Vice-President
Zone President

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(*Vice President*)

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