

**Rütli Meadow, on the shores of Lake Lucerne
1 August 2026**

Open Letter to Mr Gianni Infantino

*INDEPENDENT SPECULATIVE AND SYMBOLIC PROPOSAL,
WITH NO AFFILIATION TO THE OFFICIAL FIFA.*

For a new presidency of FIFA: the International Federation of Associated Forms of Life (FIFA)

Mr President,

Over the past ten years, you have demonstrated a remarkable ability to lead, transform and develop one of the most powerful and visible institutions on the planet.

When you were elected President of FIFA on 26 February 2016, the organisation was going through a profound crisis. A decade later, it can point to renewed stability, a stronger international presence and unprecedented financial results. Under your presidency, investment through the FIFA Forward programme for football development has increased sevenfold, while FIFA has drawn closer to organisations as diverse as UNESCO, the World Health Organization, the World Trade Organization, the African Union and the Council of Europe.

The financial results also testify to this capacity for transformation. FIFA generated USD 2.66 billion in revenue in 2025 and now expects to exceed its revised target of USD 13 billion for the 2023-2026 cycle. By the end of 2025, 93% of this revenue had already been contracted.

These figures are more than an accounting performance. They reveal a rarer ability: to turn a collective passion, shared rules and an immense human community into a global organisation capable of mobilising resources, synchronising attention and connecting extremely different territories.

It is precisely for this reason that we wish to submit to you a proposal commensurate with your experience and ambition.

You have announced your intention to seek a further term as head of FIFA in 2027. Beyond that milestone, we invite you to consider an even broader role: becoming the first “president for life” of a new FIFA.

Not only the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, but also the:

International Federation of Associated Forms of Life

This new FIFA would represent human and non-human living beings, as well as the conditions without which no society, no economy and no football pitch can endure.

Mr President, the living world could benefit from your experience: your ability to bring competing nations together around common rules; your knowledge of governments, international organisations, broadcasters, companies and financing mechanisms; and your talent for making visible, desirable and universal what often remains abstract without a powerful collective narrative.

The living world today suffers from a deficit that is less scientific than political and symbolic. We know that soils are being depleted, water resources are under pressure, ecosystems are fragmenting and some conditions of habitability are deteriorating. Yet these realities have no World Cup, no shared calendar, no universal emblem and no institution able to gather several billion people on a regular basis. The proposal is deliberately uncomfortable: can the instruments of commercial globalisation be mobilised to defend what should never be reduced to a commodity?

The living world has researchers, NGOs, public agencies and international conventions. It does not yet have its FIFA.

You have shown that an organisation can represent 211 member associations, establish rules applicable across every continent and make football a common language of humanity. The next step might be to apply that experience to a broader community: all the beings that share our planetary playing field.

This new Federation would not ask you to abandon what you know how to do. On the contrary, it would invite you to extend it. You could:

- transform FIFA's commercial capacity into a capacity for regeneration;
- use broadcasting rights as a means of financing ecosystem restoration;
- invite major brands not only to sponsor competitions, but to become official partners of watersheds, forests, agricultural soils, coral reefs and biodiversity corridors;
- create a World Cup of Habitability every four years, measuring not which countries dominate others, but which territories succeed in preserving water, health, food, biodiversity, livelihoods and the continuity of vital functions;
- establish a global ranking based on the quality of the common ground;
- organise an opening ceremony in which each delegation represents not only a nation, but also the living environments on which it depends: its rivers, forests, farmland, mountains, coastlines and the species that inhabit them.

Your experience would be particularly valuable in confronting one of the main political problems of the living world: how can those who do not vote, have no access to negotiations and cannot defend their own interests be represented? Rivers, pollinators, soils and future generations nevertheless contribute silently to the very possibility of our existence.

The International Federation of Associated Forms of Life could offer them indirect representation through three chambers: a Chamber of Humans, a Chamber of Other Living Beings, and a Chamber of Conditions of Possibility, devoted in particular to water, soils, the atmosphere, oceans, energy and vital infrastructure. Your knowledge of football would also provide a language that is immediately understandable.

There would be offside whenever an actor obtained a private benefit by shifting its costs onto other living beings. A yellow card would signal that a critical threshold was approaching. A red card would sanction the irreversible destruction of a condition of habitability. A "video assistant for the living world" would allow decisions to be reviewed in light of their indirect and long-term consequences. Added time would be devoted to repairing what had been damaged. Financial fair play would finally become ecological fair play: no one could win sustainably by destroying the ground on which everyone must continue to play.

Mr President, you have often said that you want to make football truly global and allow every child to dream. That ambition could be decisively extended: ensuring that every child still has a habitable territory in which to

realise those dreams. Football teaches us that no match can exist without a pitch, rules, a referee, players and trust in the competition.

Our age is fascinated by players, scores, transfers and revenues. It sometimes forgets the pitch. Yet the pitch is becoming the central political question of the twenty-first century. Can people still live there? Can food still be produced there? Is water still available? Can it still be insured? Can a competition still be organised when heat, fires, floods or shortages make some regions unplayable?

Presiding over the International Federation of Associated Forms of Life would therefore be less a break in your career than its extension on another scale. The point is not to anticipate the outcome of an institutional deadline, but to open a question: what use could tomorrow be made of the skills acquired at the head of one of the most visible and powerful organisations on the planet?

You have helped make FIFA a prosperous, global and influential organisation. Your new mission would be to place that power at the service of what makes all prosperity possible. After administering the most universal sport, you could help administer the most universal playing field. After federating football associations, you could federate the associations of life. After organising the World Cup, you could help preserve the world itself.

The phrase “president for life” would then be understood as a provocation about the duration of responsibility, not as an institutional status. The living world does not operate on four-year mandates: soils, forests, oceans and generations unfold over timescales far longer than those of our organisations.

Your mandate could be simple: Make the living world the greatest permanent global event.

Your motto could extend that of football: One world. All living beings. One common ground.

Mr President, UEFA and then football’s FIFA allowed you to demonstrate your abilities. A FIFA for the living world could give them a new historical reach and offer a role commensurate with your experience, your skills and your international ambition.

The living world still awaits an institution capable of making it visible and representable. We propose that you become its first symbolic president - unless, tomorrow, under your impetus, that symbol begins to take form.

Mr President, on this day when you had the wisdom to step back, and on Switzerland’s national day, your journey as a Swiss citizen born in Valais, within a family that came to Switzerland to work and build its future, gives this proposal particular resonance. May it help bring to light one of Switzerland’s most valuable capacities: federating differences around common ground.

Please accept, Mr President, the assurance of our highest consideration.



For the International Federation of Associated Forms of Life
FIFA - One World. All Living Beings. One Common Ground.

*Independent speculative and symbolic proposal - without affiliation, approval or support
from the official FIFA or Mr Gianni Infantino. ;)*