

Voting Procedure for the Designation of the Host Country of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ Final Competition

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PREAMBLE

The 67th FIFA Congress decided that:

- (i) based on specific regulations to be issued by the FIFA Council, the FIFA general secretariat would establish a bidding procedure (hereinafter: the "Bidding Procedure") inviting initially the member associations of CONCACAF, CAF, CONMEBOL and the OFC to express, by 11 August 2017, their interest in submitting to FIFA a bid to host the final competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™. The 68th FIFA Congress would decide on the selection of the candidate host association(s); and
- (ii) should the 68th FIFA Congress decide to not select any candidate host association(s), the FIFA general secretariat would invite further member associations, including the member associations of the AFC and UEFA and excluding those member associations that had already submitted a bid, to submit a bid to host the final competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™.

Before the passing of the deadline of 11 August 2017, FIFA received:

- a joint expression of interest submitted by the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA), the Mexican Football Association (FEMEXFUT) and the United States Soccer Federation (USSF); and
- an expression of interest submitted by the Moroccan Football Association

to submit to FIFA a bid to host the final competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™.

The 68th FIFA Congress, which will take place in Moscow, Russia, on 13 June 2018, will vote on the matter of awarding the right to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition, in accordance with art. 69 par. 2 of the FIFA Statutes. The present procedure will define in more detail the voting process to be followed in connection with the relevant agenda item of the 68th FIFA Congress.

I. PROCEEDINGS AT THE 68TH FIFA CONGRESS

A. INTRODUCTION

1. The 68th FIFA Congress shall review the evaluation report issued by the 2026 Bid Evaluation Task Force in relation to the Bidding Procedure. Based on their best judgement and taking into consideration the defined criteria for the selection decision as set out in the FIFA Regulations for the Selection of the Venue for the Final Competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™, the 68th FIFA Congress shall vote on the selection of the host association(s) of the final competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ pursuant to article 69 par. 2 (d) of the FIFA Statutes and based on the decision taken by the 67th FIFA Congress, unless no bid is submitted to the 68th FIFA Congress. In the event that the 68th FIFA Congress decides not to select the host association(s) for the final competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™, the second phase of the Bidding Procedure shall be conducted.
2. Proceedings with regard to the relevant agenda item of the 68th FIFA Congress shall be opened by the chair of the Congress. In accordance with art. 5 of the Standing Orders of the Congress, the chair, or a member of the 2026 Bid Evaluation Task Force designated by the FIFA Council, shall give a short report. Such report shall include, in particular, a summary of the results of the evaluation of the bids by the 2026 Bid Evaluation Task Force and an official notification of the FIFA Congress of the bid(s) the FIFA Council has designated for selection. The relevant report shall also include an overview of the intended course to be followed in connection with the FIFA Congress agenda item concerned and, in particular, of the voting procedure foreseen with regard to the selection decision of the FIFA Congress.
3. Following the introduction by the chair and the presentation of the report, each Candidate Host Association(s) that submitted a bid which was designated by the FIFA Council for submission to the 68th FIFA Congress shall be given the opportunity to present the respective bid to the Congress. Such presentations shall be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes each.
4. Following such presentations, the chair shall open the debate, if there are any requests to speak. After the relevant contributions, the chair shall close the debate and proceed to the vote.

B. VOTE

5. The voting part of the agenda item of the 68th FIFA Congress on the selection of the host association(s) of the final competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ shall be introduced by a detailed explanation of the relevant voting procedure.
6. The question to be put to the 68th FIFA Congress in connection with the vote shall be:
“Do you want to award the right to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition to the bid submitted by the Moroccan Football Association, to the joint bid submitted by the CSA, FEMEXFUT and the USSF (“United Bid”), or to none of them (thus reopening the bidding process, excluding the four member associations having already submitted a bid)?”
7. Voting may be conducted by electronic means. In this case, the possible votes are: “Moroccan Football Association Bid”; “United Bid”; or “None of the Bids – Reopen Bidding Process”. If a FIFA Congress member does not vote for any of these options, this shall be counted as an abstention. The result of each ballot and the related votes by the members of the FIFA Congress shall be made public on www.fifa.com immediately after the conclusion of the Congress. The result will be announced immediately after the vote has been conducted by showing it on the screen at the 68th FIFA Congress.
8. In accordance with art. 69 par. 2 (d) of the FIFA Statutes, if fewer than three bids are presented to the Congress, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is required for a decision on the host. In accordance with art. 11 par. 1 of the Standing Orders of the Congress, invalid votes or electronic votes manipulated in any other way as well as abstentions are to be disregarded when calculating the simple majority.
9. If one of the two bids obtains a simple majority in the first ballot, it shall be awarded the right to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition. The other bid shall be deemed to be rejected by FIFA. This decision is final.
10. If the third option (“None of the Bids – Reopen Bidding Process”) obtains a simple majority in the first ballot, both of the aforementioned bids are deemed to be rejected and the second phase of the Bidding Procedure shall be initiated (thus reopening the bidding process, excluding the four member associations that have already submitted a bid). The proceedings relating to the agenda item of the 68th FIFA Congress on the designation of the host country of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition shall be concluded.
11. If none of the above three options obtains a simple majority, and the number of votes for the option “None of the Bids – Reopen Bidding Process” is equal to the number of votes for the aforementioned bids taken together, both of the bids shall be deemed to be rejected and the second phase of the Bidding Procedure shall be initiated. The proceedings relating to the agenda item of the 68th FIFA Congress on the designation of the host country of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition shall be concluded.
12. If none of the options presented to the 68th FIFA Congress reaches a simple majority, and the number of votes for the aforementioned bids taken together is higher than the number of votes for the option “None of the Bids”, a second ballot shall be conducted. The question to be put to the 68th FIFA Congress in the context of the second ballot shall be:

“Do you want to award the right to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition to the bid submitted by the Moroccan Football Association or to the joint bid submitted by the CSA, FEMEXFUT and the USSF (“United Bid”)?”

13. A simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is required for a decision to be taken in the second ballot. If the second ballot should result in an equal number of votes for both bids, the bid that received the highest weighted average score in the technical evaluation report according to clause 3.5.3 of the Bidding Registration shall prevail.
14. Following the decision, proceedings with regard to the agenda item of the 68th FIFA Congress on the designation of the host country of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition shall be concluded.
15. In the event that only one bid to host the final competition of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ is designated by the FIFA Council for submission to the FIFA Congress for its final selection decision, the question to be put to the 68th FIFA Congress in connection with the vote shall be:
"Do you want to award the right to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition to the bid submitted by [candidate host association] or not (reopening the bidding process; except for the four member associations having already submitted a bid)?"
16. In accordance with art. 69 par. 2 (d) of the FIFA Statutes, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast is required for a decision to be taken. If the relevant bid does not reach the required majority, the second phase of the Bidding Procedure shall be initiated. The proceedings relating to the agenda item of the 68th FIFA Congress on the designation of the host country of the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ final competition shall be concluded.

II. FINAL PROVISIONS

17. The present procedure is issued in the four official languages of FIFA: English, French, German and Spanish. If there are any discrepancies in the interpretation of the different versions of this procedure, the English text is authoritative.
18. This procedure was approved by the FIFA Council at its meeting in Bogotá on 16 March 2018.