



CONFEDERAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE FUTEBOL

Rio de Janeiro/Moscow, 18 June 2018

Fédération Internationale de Football Association-FIFA

**Mr. Gianni Infantino**  
President

c.c.:

**Ms. Fatma Samoura**  
General Secretary

**Mr. FIFA Match Commissioner (Match no. 9)**

**Mr. Pierluigi Collina**  
FIFA Referee Committee

Ref.: Clarifications regarding the use of “Video Assistant Referee” (VAR) – 2018 FIFA  
World Cup match no. 9 Brazil vs. Switzerland

Dear Mr. Infantino,

We make reference to the 2018 FIFA World Cup match 9, played between the representative teams of Brazil and Switzerland on 17 June 2018 at the Rostov Arena in Rostov-on-Don, Russia.

In this respect, after a further analysis carried out by CBF, we would like to draw your attention on certain key-episodes of said match, which we noted after a thorough review executed by our technical department, in particular in respect of the conduct of the referee Mr. César Ramos (“the Referee”) and of the video assistant referee Mr. Paolo Valeri (“Mr. Valeri”).

The episodes are the following:

- a) Minute 50: on the action, which led to the goal scored by the Swiss player Steven Zuber (no. 14), it is evident that the Brazilian player Miranda (no. 3), while on the act of defending, was clearly pushed and moved away by the goal-scorer Zuber.



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Zuber deliberately pushes Miranda on two (2) different occasions with two (02) hands, the second occasion being much clearer, because the bodies of both players were more distant.

The action characterizes a clear foul, which resulted in an undisputable advantage for Mr. Zuber, since Mr. Miranda was unable to defend and play the ball. The Referee did not mark the foul and Mr. Zuber scored a decisive goal.

- b) Minute 74: fault committed by the Swiss defender Mr. Manuel Akanji (no. 5) on Brazilian forward Gabriel Jesus (no. 9), which, having been committed in the Swiss penalty area, would have caused a penalty in favour of Brazil, but was not penalised.

Gabriel Jesus, who was controlling the ball in the Swiss penalty area with a clear opportunity to score a goal, was held, also with both hands, by Mr. Akanji, who knocked him down and thus committed an evident penalty. The referee, however, did not intervene and let the action continue.

These two (02) actions constitute, in the opinion of the CBF, clear errors of the referee, which thus should form part of the reviewable decisions that are analysed through the VAR, in accordance with the VAR Protocol.

On the other side, the CBF is aware that, according to the protocol established by The IFAB and FIFA, it is the referee's final decision whether or not a play is reviewed and whether or not the reviewed decision is maintained.

Equally, the CBF is aware that the VAR shall inform the referee about actions that shall possibly be reviewed, providing him with all the facts and issuing a recommendation on the decision to be taken.

Considering the above, and also in light of the fact that the VAR was recently introduced at an international level, and it is normal that certain clarifications be provided in the first stages of implementation of such new technology, the CBF respectfully would like to be informed of whether:

- I. Did Mr. Valeri, or anyone else at the VAR, suggest to the referee to review any of the plays and how?
- II. Did the referee, who has the power to do so, ask the VAR to analyse the plays?
- III. In either case, what was the communication between the two?



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The CBF also would like to share with FIFA its firm belief that for a proper and effective implementation of the VAR technology, transparency is of the essence, with

this in mind, CBF respectfully asks to be provided with the video and audio recordings from the VAR, all in order to verify what actually happened.

Finally, CBF has learnt from media reports that the FIFA Referee Committee would have said that the referee's action on the abovementioned plays would have been correct and therefore should not have been reviewed with the use of VAR.

In this respect, CBF would like to be provided with an official position on the matter and, once provided with such position, reserves all its rights to comment, also in light of further plays that have been reviewed in the course of the same competition.

Thanking you for your attention to the above and awaiting your reply, we remain

Sincerely Yours,

**CONFEDERAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE FITEBOL-CBF**

Mr. Rogério Caboclo  
Chief of Delegation