**Response from the** [**Dutch Football Association**](https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/companies/koninklijke-nederlandse-voetbalbond/) **to questions on human rights risks and due diligence ahead of FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022**

**Subject:** FIFA Qatar World Cup - human rights due diligence

Dear Isobel,

Thank you for your email and the invitation to provide information about our human rights due diligence. We are happy to oblige. Below you will find the answers to your questions:

1. Have you carried out a human rights risk assessment regarding your participation in the Qatar World Cup? If so, please outline the risks identified.

We aim to participate in the Qatar 2022 World Cup in a socially aware manner. We truly believe in the social power of football and open dialogue to realize sustainable development, not only in the run-up and during the tournament, but also afterward for the long term.

We have been aware of the human rights situation in Qatar for a long time. This is why we advocated for the implementation of a human rights criteria in the bidding procedure around our 125th anniversary in 2014. We call this the Pact of Amsterdam. In the years since then, we have been in close contact with several human rights organizations, such as Amnesty International and the International Labor Organization, to discuss the situation at hand. We trust their expertise as they have done extensive research on the matter and monitor developments closely. Additionally, communication with local authorities, the Embassy of The Netherlands in Doha, and the Supreme Committee for the Delivery and Legacy aided us in staying up to date with these developments.

With this expertise gathered, we set out to improve the situation through the power of football, open dialogue, and open communication. We have actively participated in the working groups of both FIFA and UEFA on worker’s rights. This has culminated in fruitful discussions with other national associations as well as two site visits to the host country, in which we spoke to local Qatari organizers, several NGOs such as the ILO and BWI, as well as the migrant workers themselves. We have also been developing a KNVB WorldCoaches social program to educate women’s coaches and to help create a first start of a women’s competition in Qatar. We hope to bring a lasting and sustainable legacy with us to the World Cup. More information on the actions we have undertaken thus far can be found on our website, as part of our [*Football Supports Change* campaign](https://www.knvb.com/downloads/bestand/98/football-supports-change-qatar-infographics-uk2021).

*[LINK:* [*https://www.knvb.com/downloads/bestand/98/football-supports-change-qatar-infographics-uk2021*](https://www.knvb.com/downloads/bestand/98/football-supports-change-qatar-infographics-uk2021)*]*

1. Please disclose the name of the hotel(s) booked to host your national team and staff during the World Cup.

We have not booked any hotels to host our national and staff team yet.

1. Please set out what human rights due diligence you undertook prior to booking the hotel or are undertaking in preparation for selecting a base camp and other facilities/amenities e.g. transport, security, or leisure facilities.

When the time comes to select a hotel, we will once again trust the knowledge and advice of experts. FIFA has taken the due diligence to provide all national football associations with a list of hotels that conform to human rights standards. All these hotels have signed a human rights clause in the contract, and they will all be audited prior to the World Cup. We will select a hotel from this list. The same holds true for the other amenities that our national team will make use of during the World Cup as the KNVB will engage in similar discussions to ensure we make socially aware choices.

For now, we can say that the KNVB will also continue working with the UEFA Working group on Workers’ Rights to further develop a list of questions that can be used during the conversations with any service providers for the World Cup in Qatar. Based on the answers provided we will engage with the boards of the companies to emphasize our commitment to contribute to good working conditions for the employees. In addition to this, we will continue to be an active participant in the discussions with FIFA and UEFA about human rights due diligence checks throughout the supply chain. We will also make use of the advice of the ILO and BWI in our due diligence process.

We hope to have sufficiently informed you of our human rights due diligence. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Kind regards,