



Figo, Nedved and referee Collina to join football greats in global Match Against Poverty

Proceeds from 9th Annual Match to support Horn of Africa famine relief

Geneva / Hamburg, 16 November 2011 — Legendary six-time World Referee winner, Pierluigi Collina along with international football stars Luís Figo and Pavel Nedvěd are among the personalities that confirmed their participation in the 9th Annual Match Against Poverty on 13 December.

The “Ronaldo, Zidane & Friends vs. HSV All Stars” match, which kicks off at the Imtech Arena in Hamburg, Germany, at 19:05 local time, will channel funds into bolstering recovery efforts for the ongoing crisis in the Horn of Africa.

Presiding over the match for eight editions out of nine will be Italian legendary referee Pierluigi Collina, who said: "Everyone, players and referees, is looking forward to a great football match in Hamburg for an important cause - the famine crisis in the Horn of Africa and the fight against poverty. I am sure it will be a very enjoyable evening for all the people who will join us at the Stadium that I'm sure it will be full as it is crucial that we raise the maximum amount of money possible to combat one of the most serious problems in the world today."

Luís Figo and Pavel Nedvěd have also answered the call, thus confirming their participation in this year's edition of the match. Both of them have already played the 7th Match Against Poverty which was held in Lisbon, Portugal, in January 2010.

UNDP will receive two thirds of the match proceeds which will be used to support humanitarian and recovery activities in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. The UN is working in these countries to provide emergency food aid, water, shelter, and health services, while working on longer term development plans.

Hamburger SV, which hosts the event, will donate the remaining 33 percent of the event's profits to the club's initiative, Der Hamburger Weg (The Hamburg Way), to support diverse community development projects focused on sports, youth, education and protection of the environment.

As in previous years, the Goodwill Ambassadors will mobilize their team from across Europe to take on an all-star team from Hamburger SV in a friendly match.

The star-studded array of players keeps on filling up with football superstars such as Fernando Hierro (Spain), Gheorghe Popescu or Gheorghe Hagi (Romania). Will also be present: Sami Al Jaber (Saudi Arabia), Steve McManaman (England), Rabah Madjer (Algeria), Dida & Serginho (Brazil), Pauleta & Fernando Couto (Portugal), Claude Makélélé & Robert Pirès (France) and Lucas Radebe (South Africa). More top international names are expected to confirm in the coming days.

Information on ticket sales is available at: www.hsv.de/ticket and <http://www.uefa.com/uefa/socialresponsibility/charity/news/newsid=1698567.html>

For more information, please contact:

In Geneva: Aziyadé Poltier-Mutal, aziyade.poltier@undp.org | Tel: +41 22 917 8368 | Cell: +41 79 349 1610.

UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. We are on the ground in 177 countries and territories, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw on the people of UNDP and our wide range of partners. Please visit: www.undp.org. Follow us on [twitter](#) and [facebook](#).