



fédération française des échecs

Agréée par le ministère de la jeunesse et des sports
Membre fondateur de la fédération internationale des échecs

St-Quentin-en-Yvelines,
May 7, 2010

STATEMENT FROM FRENCH CHESS FEDERATION

An answer to Ali YAZICI's open letter, dated May 6, to Anatoli KARPOV

We have read with great interest the letter that Ali YAZICI sent to Anatoli KARPOV, about his candidacy for FIDE President 2010.

We want to confirm that the French Chess Federation is one hundred percent backing Anatoli KARPOV. We even have nominated him as our candidate, if needed.

On his part, Ali YAZICI is strongly supporting incumbent FIDE President Kirsan ILYUMZHINOV who, he says, is leading a "*FIDE Management (that) has never in the history been as good as it is now*". We do not agree with this analysis of the situation in international Chess, and we think, as most of the leading players in the world do, that Chess urgently needs a huge boost.

Attracting partners, enjoying global media's recognition, spreading Chess in Schools programs worldwide, and really taking care of chess in developing countries, are the main items on the agenda. These are major goals for FIDE, whose fulfillment has not been successful until now, to say the least.

When Ali YAZICI was supporting Bessel KOK for the 2006 FIDE elections in Torino, he was not so kind towards Kirsan and the FIDE Management... We do not want to reproduce here the words that have been pronounced at this moment, neither do we wish to spend time on those that have been written.

We will only focus on the obvious switch in Ali's assessment of the positions inside FIDE, and his ability to have a different look on people, depending on circumstances...

As far as we are concerned, our opinion has not changed, and we do believe that Anatoli KARPOV is the one who can lead a team to a successful change for Chess.

And, as Winston CHURCHILL used to say, "*you do not solve problems with people who have created them*".

Jean-Claude MOINGT
President, French Chess Federation