



CAF COVID-19 SAFETY AND SECURITY GUIDELINES AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR CLOSED DOOR MATCH

*CAF
Safety
and Security
Department*

■ CONTENTS

1. Introduction...p01
2. Safety Certificate...p02
3. Transport Protocol for Teams and Officials...p03
4. Hotel Safety and Security Protocol...p04
5. Training Site / Official Training Safety and Security protocol...p05
6. Stadium Safety and Security Protocol...p06
7. New Stadium Accreditation Zones...p07
8. Command and Control protocol...p08
9. Considerations for Personnel Deployment on MD...p09
10. End of Match protocol...p10
11. Medal Presentation safety and security protocol...p11
12. Match Risk Assessment...p12
13. Emergency Evacuation Considerations...p13
14. References...p14

■ INTRODUCTION

The safety and security department is very much aware about the challenges under which football is to be played in the current health pandemic conditions as presented by COVID-19. Hence, for the planned closed door matches leading unto the final matches for both CAF Interclub competitions and other Member Association Leagues, it is strongly recommended that the matches be played without spectators to reduce the inherent dangers that this may pose to the general public this is in line with the CAF recommendation for the development of football activity recovery plan.

This guidance is provided to support the host in looking at areas that may be considered critical at this time given the existence of COVID-19. The principle of Safety, Security and Health must now be adopted in all operations and more attention should be concentrated on ensuring that the safety of all persons that shall be allowed into the stadium for the purpose of a match is guaranteed and protected through enforcement of the right health protocols.

It is important to say that this guidance does not override the existing protocols established by the various host governments rather it is simply providing guidance to be considered with specific reference to football safety and security organization and the need for all concern in the provision of safety and security services to be properly guided on operational expectations.



■ SAFETY CERTIFICATE



- Every stadium that must be used must provide a safety certificate that is not less than 6 months from date of match (This must confirm that the stadium has met the safety and health conditions for hosting a football event i.e disinfection of the entire stadium by health authorities)
- All training sites must also present to us a safety certificate indicating fit for purpose as well as all hotels to be used by match officials and teams

■ TRANSPORT PROTOCOL FOR TEAMS AND OFFICIALS

- Teams and officials shall be transported adopting the Bubble - to - Bubble system
- All team and officials buses/ cars must be properly secured
- Team Buses must have dedicated parking spaces
- Team arrivals at stadium should be not less than 15mins apart
- If both teams arrive too close to each other the first team that arrives must be allowed to disembark while the other team in bus until the arrival area is totally cleared
- Teams departure after the match must be coordinated to avoid crowding at departure points
- Only four security guards are recommended to be at the arrival point of the teams and officials
- Under no condition must we have more than four security officials at this point
- Depending on the location of team bus park police escorts are not to come down from their cars or bikes while team is disembarking from the bus.
- The team arrival area must be decongested as much as possible
- During team arrivals at stadium all team members and officials shall wear their appropriate accreditation and face mask before they are granted access to the dressing room area.

■ HOTEL SAFETY AND SECURITY PROTOCOL

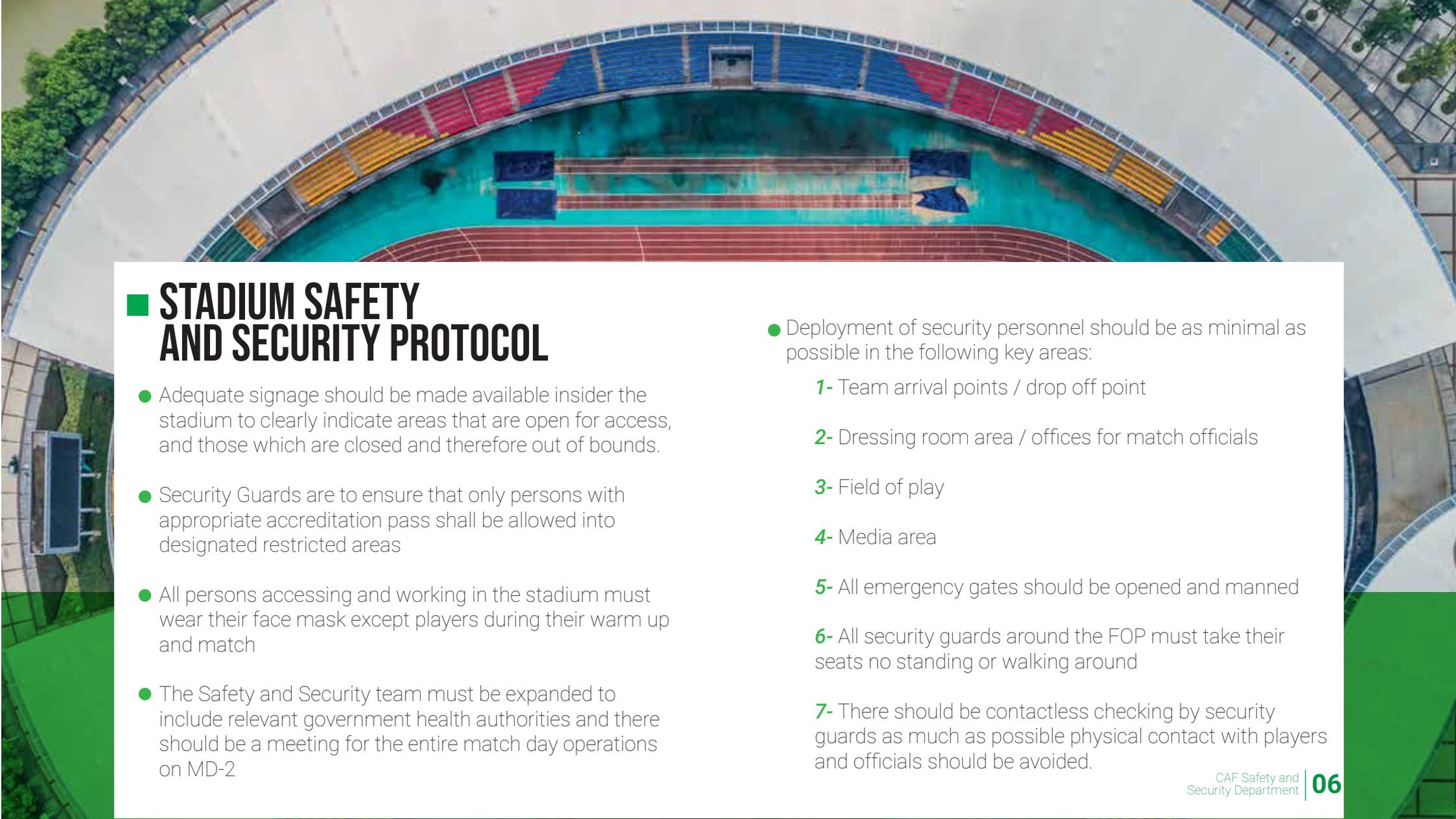
- Teams should have dedicated entrance to the hotel
- IF and when possible team should be on same floor and a guard should be deployed to ensure that only team members access their floor
- Team must have a dedicated bus park and drop off point if possible if not it should be effectively coordinated with hotel security to facilitate team smooth entry
- Security escorts for teams and officials must arrive the hotel 2hrs before departure and be in position 30mins before departure
- No team should be allowed to depart the hotel for training and match without adequate provision of escort for the team



A close-up photograph of a soccer player in a green uniform, captured in the middle of a kicking motion. The player's right foot is in contact with a black and white soccer ball on a green grass field. The background is slightly blurred, showing other players and a fence. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

■ TRAINING SITE / OFFICIAL TRAINING SAFETY AND SECURITY PROTOCOL

- Players and officials shall arrive the training site wearing their accreditation and masks
- There should be physical distancing for security guards at the various players and officials routes i. e drop off points, access to dressing room and access to field of play vice-versa
- Police escort must not accompany players or officials to the dressing room or field of play
- Players and official vehicles/ buses must be properly secured by security guards



■ STADIUM SAFETY AND SECURITY PROTOCOL

- Adequate signage should be made available inside the stadium to clearly indicate areas that are open for access, and those which are closed and therefore out of bounds.
- Security Guards are to ensure that only persons with appropriate accreditation pass shall be allowed into designated restricted areas
- All persons accessing and working in the stadium must wear their face mask except players during their warm up and match
- The Safety and Security team must be expanded to include relevant government health authorities and there should be a meeting for the entire match day operations on MD-2
- Deployment of security personnel should be as minimal as possible in the following key areas:
 - 1- Team arrival points / drop off point
 - 2- Dressing room area / offices for match officials
 - 3- Field of play
 - 4- Media area
 - 5- All emergency gates should be opened and manned
 - 6- All security guards around the FOP must take their seats no standing or walking around
 - 7- There should be contactless checking by security guards as much as possible physical contact with players and officials should be avoided.

NEW STADIUM ACCREDITATION ZONES

- The stadium is to be divided into four zones:

1- **Zone 1:** Field of Play Area

2- **Zone 2:** Official Area

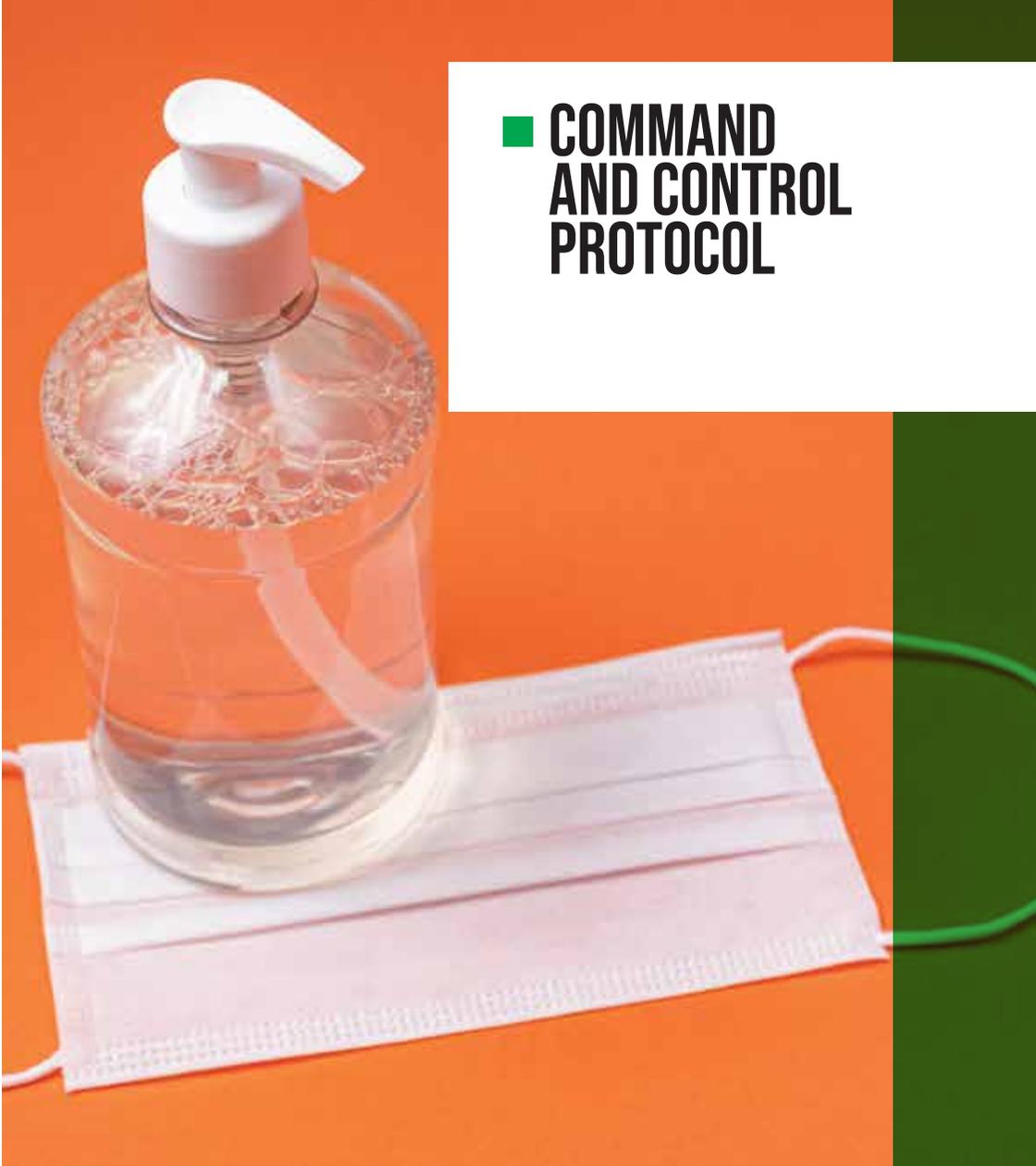
3- **Zone 3:** Stands

4- **Zone 4:** All other areas

- Host MA/Club shall keep the minimum number of people to be allowed in each zone.
- Number of people is subject to the stadium configuration and at the discretion of CAF.
- Preparation and setup for match day must be completed 2hrs prior to the arrival of teams.

- In comparison to standard 9 Zone allocations, it shall be understood as following:

NO	ZONES	DESCRIPTIONS
1	ZONE 1	-FIELD OF PLAY -FIELD BORDERS AND SURROUNDINGS, TECHNICAL AREA
2	ZONE 2	-COMPETITIONS AREA I. E OFFICES, DRESSING ROOMS ETC -TUNNEL -DOPING CONTROL ROOM
3	ZONE 3	-STANDS -MEDIA AREA -OPERATIONS AREA I.E CONTROL ROOM ETC
4	ZONE 4	-TV BROADCAST AREA/COMPOUND

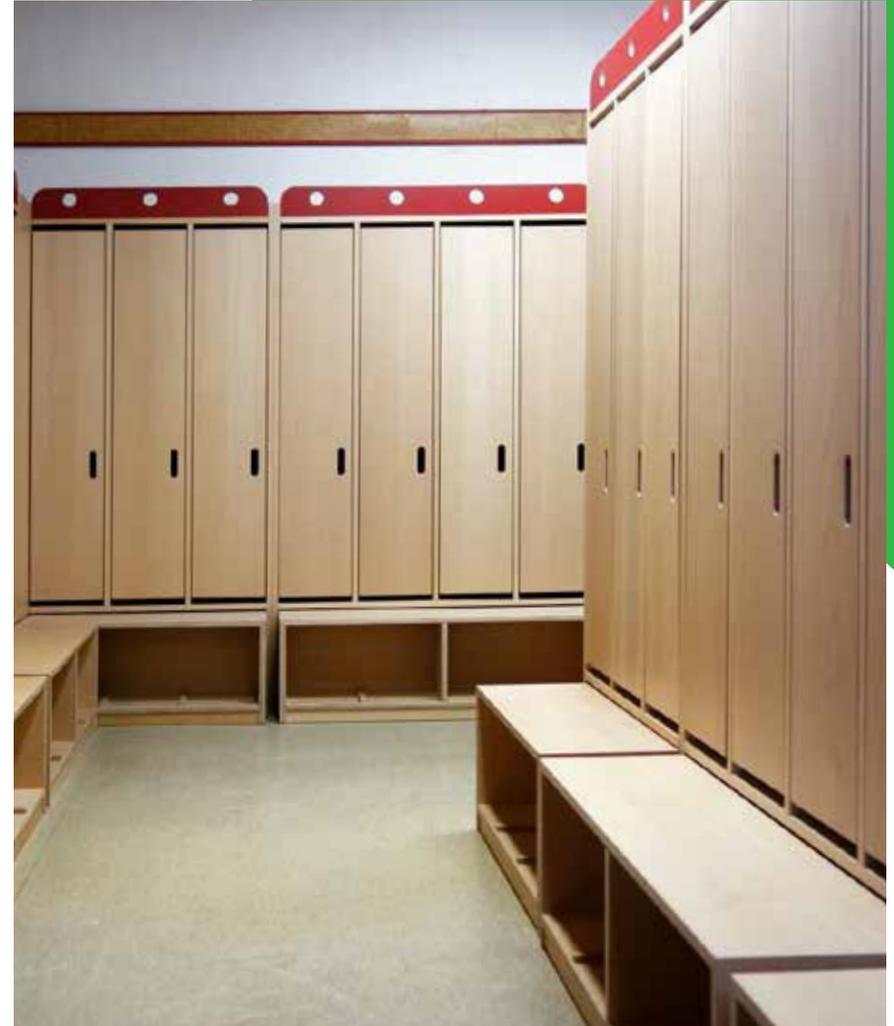


■ COMMAND AND CONTROL PROTOCOL

- There should be an integrated command and control structure between Safety, Security and Health representatives for the match
- The VOC should be only for operational commanders and must respect the following:
 - 1-** Disinfection of the VOC (Venue Operation Center) shall be carried out on the match day - 1.
 - 2-** Sanitizers, masks and disposable gloves shall be provided in the VOC.
 - 3-** Staff shall wear a mask and masks and gloves shall not be reused.
 - 4-** Everyone inside VOC shall wear masks and disposable gloves at all times.
 - 5-** Full ventilation and re-disinfection of VOC after the match is necessary.

■ CONSIDERATIONS FOR PERSONNEL DEPLOYMENT ON MD

- There should be a minimal personnel deployment in the following critical areas:
 - 1- Team arrival / departure area
 - 2- VIP/VVIP arrival and departure area
 - 3- Players dressing room area
 - 4- Competition area
 - 5- Around the FOP it is recommended that guards manning the emergency gates can sit inside the stands facing the pitch close to the emergency gate and not inside and around the FOP.
 - 6- Security considerations should be given to the deployment outside the stadium especially around the immediate surrounding leading to the stadium (Zone X)
 - 7- Security must anticipate the possibility of crowd / supporters build up outside the stadium and put measures to mitigate these acts



■ END OF MATCH PROTOCOL

- The security operations around the dressing room and players departure area must be devoid of any form of crowding
- There should be free flow access outside the dressing room by players and officials
- Security must maintain good physical distancing during the departure of all players and officials
- Security are only to stand down when all players and officials have departed the stadium
- End of match debrief of security personnel must be done respecting physical distancing



■ MEDAL PRESENTATION SAFETY AND SECURITY PROTOCOL

- The process of medal presentation must not be used to deploy too many personnel on the field
- No security guard should be seen on the pitch during medal presentations
- Deployment can be done around the field especially to control the photographers
- Security should ensure smooth access route for dignitaries with active collaboration with the protocol team
- Security Guards of VIP's are not allowed to go onto the pitch during medal presentations



■ MATCH RISK ASSESSMENT

- We recommend that the host conduct risk assessment of the match using both the WHO and FIFA Instrument for risk analysis.
- WHO:
<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/10665-333187>
- FIFA:
<https://www.fifa.com/who-we-are/news/fifa-who-and-football-stakeholders-draft-medical-considerations-and-risk-assessm>





■ EMERGENCY EVACUATION CONSIDERATIONS

- Alternative means of escape should be identified to ensure the safety of those inside the stadium in the event that egress cannot be achieved through normal routes. All doors on these emergency escape routes should be staffed by stewards to help facilitate and direct the movement to places of safety. (SGSA, 2020)



■ REFERENCES

- Elite sport – return to domestic competition guidance:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance->
- Sport without spectators Key safety considerations for football grounds:
<https://sgsa.org.uk/sport-without-spectators-general-guidance/>
- Elite Sport- Return To Cross Border Competition Guidance Updated 17 July 2020
UK Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

**CAF
Safety
and Security
Department**