



PRESS RELEASE

FOOTBALL

THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS) DISMISSES ADRIAN MUTU'S APPEAL

DECISION OF THE FIFA DISPUTE RESOLUTION CHAMBER CONFIRMED

Lausanne, 31 July 2009 – The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has today dismissed the appeal filed by the Romanian football player, Adrian Mutu, against the decision rendered by the FIFA Dispute Resolution Chamber (DRC) on 7 May 2008 in which he was ordered to pay EUR 17'173'990 in compensation to his former club, Chelsea FC, for breach of contract.

It is the third decision rendered by the CAS in this matter. In 2005, the CAS confirmed the decision of the Football Association Premier League Appeals Committee finding that, because of a positive doping test, Mutu had committed a breach of the employment contract without just cause. In 2007, the CAS set aside a first decision by the DRC denying jurisdiction and referred the matter back to FIFA to determine and impose the appropriate sporting sanction and/or order for compensation arising out of the dispute. Then, the DRC issued its decision on compensation which generated this third CAS arbitration.

In his appeal to the CAS, Adrian Mutu sought to set aside the DRC decision and establish that no compensation was due to be paid by him to Chelsea FC. The arbitration was referred to the following panel of CAS arbitrators: Professor Luigi Fumagalli (Italy), President, Jean-Jacques Bertrand (France) and Dr Dirk-Reiner Martens (Germany). The parties, their witnesses and their legal representatives were heard by the Panel at a hearing held at the CAS Court Office in Lausanne on 7 May 2009.

The CAS Panel concluded that the appeal brought by the player was to be dismissed and the measure of damages, as awarded by the DRC, was to be confirmed. Adrian Mutu must therefore pay EUR 17'173'990 to Chelsea FC.