

Maradona And Romario Get Together To Take Fight To CONMEBOL

Argentina's [Diego Maradona](#) and Brazil's Romario, two of the biggest football icons of South America, have joined hands for denouncing the South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL) for not doing enough to distribute its funds.

After a meeting of South American clubs in Sao Paulo, Maradona told reporters we have seen, with astonishment and great sadness, that football is for just a few. The former captain of Argentina said it doesn't belong to the clubs, the supporters or the players and so we are going to form a commission to unmask these people who do so much harm to the game. The legendary football player added it is very serious, but thanks to all of us who are not afraid of those people, we are here so that we can have a more transparent football.

The Argentine football coach as well as a manager and former player also said Brazil are firm favorites to win next year's FIFA World Cup on home soil. Maradona played in four FIFA World Cup tournaments, including the 1986 tournament, where he captained Argentina and led them to a victory over West Germany in the final. In the same tournament, he won the Golden Ball award as the tournament's best player. Romario emerged as one of the most prolific strikers in the world and helped the helped the Brazil national team win the 1994 FIFA World Cup. The striker won FIFA World Player of the Year and World Cup Golden Ball in 1994 and was named as one of the Top 125 greatest living footballers as part of FIFA's 100th anniversary celebration.

A few weeks back, Ricardo Teixeira, a shady character in [South America football](#), had moved his residency to Andorra after resigning from his position as head of the Brazilian FA and FIFA's executive committee in March of last year, citing ill health. Teixeira was serving as chairman of the 2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil™ Organising Committee (LOC) and president of the Brazilian Football Association (CBF). The CBF and the LOC have officially confirmed to FIFA that Jose Maria Marin will be the successor of Ricardo Teixeira in those two positions.

Another former FIFA executive committee member, Nicolas Leoz, resigned as CONMEBOL president at the age of 84 in April, also citing ill-health and was replaced by his vice-president, Eugenio Figueredo of Uruguay.

After this, both Teixeira and Leoz were cited by a report by FIFA's ethics commission as being among those who had taken illicit payments in the infamous ISL case, along with former FIFA president Joao Havelange.

CONMEBOL was described by Romario as worse than the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) that he has frequently criticized in the past. The former Brazilian football player said the situation is much more serious than we imagined and added we have to get more people together -- the clubs, the ex-players and the current players have to take the fight to CONMEBOL." Romario added it is a movement for transparency and dignity in football and we are going to form with this commission and we are going to see what has happened to all this money.