## 'Give equal opportunities for girls and boys to play football'

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... AFFA scribe tells SLFA & others

## May 9, 2016 By Sahr Morris Jr.

Secretary General of Association of Football Federations of Azerbaijan (AFFA), Elkan Mammadov, has called on the Sierra Leone Football Association (SLFA) and all other football governing bodies in the world to give equal opportunities to young girls and boys to play football.

Mammadov made this call during the Save the Dream session at the just concluded 7th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The AFFA scribe said: "Governing bodies have a responsibility to give equal opportunities for girls and boys to play sport and that football has played an important role in breaking down cultural and social barriers and stereotypes, particularly around young women and girls."

In his submission, the Executive Director of Save the Dream, Massimiliano Montanari said, "The dream of a child is the most genuine and pure form of human ambition. We have learnt how sport can restore dignity, dialogue and mutual understanding in societies where violence, discrimination and conflicts have dramatically jeopardised the human condition.

"As a movement of people and organisations who love sport and believe that sport values can protect this dream, Save the Dream aims to provide young people with an avenue of hope for young people and use the values of sport as a bridge to promote greater understanding within society."

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