

Barcelona, 6 June 2017

## **FCB FOUNDATION AND BARÇA PLAYERS GROUP TO HOLD CHARITY MATCH ON THE ISLAND OF LESBOS (GREECE)**

*The initiative represents a new approach from the Foundation towards the refugees to promote sport as a tool for social integration*

The FC Barcelona Foundation and the Barça Players Group are organising various charity activities with refugee children who live on the island of Lesbos, Greece on 8 June. The aim of this event is to promote social integration and sensitise the international community towards the situation faced by thousands of refugees in Greece, who are waiting to be placed in other countries of the European Union. The president of the Barça Players Group and patron of the FC Barcelona Foundation, Ramon Alfonseda, will lead the expedition.

Under the sponsorship of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and with the collaboration of the Lesbos Municipality, the delegation will visit the Kara Tepe refugee camp, where 700 refugees live, who arrived on the island by the sea from Turkey who predominantly come from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. Some 15 former players of the club will feature in the clinic which will be carried out with around 200 youngsters from the refugee camp as well as the capital Mytilene. The day will end with a match between the veterans and a selection of former Greek players.

The FC Barcelona Foundation's objective of going to the refugee camps is to empower the youngsters between eight and 18 years of age, both refugees and locals, in positive relations, social skills and emotional well-being. In this way, and within the new strategic fight against social exclusion, the Foundation plans to develop the 'FutbolNet' methodology across various areas of the Mediterranean to invoke self-confidence as well as improve respect and management of conflicts among children and youth, using football as a source of dialogue. This project will also offer psychosocial support which will be key help for them to rebuild their future.

### **Schedule for the day**

Thursday, 8 June

- 9.30am** Visit to Kara Tepe refugee camp
- 11.30am** Sporting clinic with children from refugee camp and from Mytilene (Lesbos).
- 6.30pm** Match between Greek veterans and former Barça players

List of ex-FC Barcelona players who will be taking part:

Juliano Belletti  
José Edmilson  
Aloísio Pires  
Sebastià Herrera  
Josep Pérez Serer  
Mario Alberto Rosas  
Javier Delgado  
Salvador Miracle  
Joan Cañadas  
Joan Blanquera  
Jordi Martínez  
Carles Rexach Itoiz  
Óscar Ollés  
Sergi Pérez  
Sergio Chavarría