

Algeria hails Egypt preparations for showdown match

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Algeria hailed on Wednesday Egypt's preparations and the full cooperation among the bodies concerned in Egypt and Algeria to secure the success of the showdown match between Egypt and Algeria on 14 November in Cairo which will enable the winner to qualify for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa

Algerian Ambassador to Egypt Abdel-Qader Hajjar hailed Egyptian authorities saying in a press statement on Wednesday that he received a written letter from the Egyptian Higher Sports Council in Egypt to allocate 2,000 tickets to Algerian fans.

He appealed to Algerian and Egyptian fans to stay away from any fanaticism, indicating that historical relations between the two nations go beyond any game.

On the other hand, a high-ranking Algerian team will visit Cairo in coming days to ease tension that broke out between Egypt and Algeria over the match.

Egyptian media quoted on Wednesday Algeria's Communications minister , Azzedine Mihoubi, as saying that Algeria aims by such initiative to mitigate some negative atmosphere around the match and maintain friendly and distinguished ties between the two sister countries.

A 90-minute game should not mar relations between the two sides which have developed over years for Egypt to become number one Arab investor in Algeria, he added.

Some Algerian media outraged Egyptians by publishing cartoons depicting badly the Egyptian national football team.

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