

Hamburg/Berlin, 16 May 2006

Press Release / Invitation

2006 Embassy Cup at the Neues Kranzler Eck CityQuartier complex – supported by Günter Gloser, Minister of State at the German Federal Foreign Office

Teams from 13 embassies to play on a “diplomatic playing field”

Three weeks before the official start of the football World Cup there will be a warm-up on Wednesday, 17 May at DIFA’s Neues Kranzler Eck CityQuartier in the shape of the 2006 Embassy Cup. **Dr. Bernd Andrich**, DIFA CityQuartier Manager: “This event provides yet another opportunity to demonstrate the unique appeal of Neues Kranzler Eck as a visitor attraction in the west of the city. The 2006 Embassy Cup will also offer a taster of the forthcoming World Cup action in Berlin – Neues Kranzler Eck, with its Buddy Bear table football, is part of the official FIFA programme in the capital.”

With the support of **Günter Gloser**, Minister of State for Europe and Commissioner for Franco-German Cooperation, 13 teams from various embassies and government ministries will be competing in the 2006 Embassy Cup on the unique Buddy Bear table football pitch. The teams comprise diplomatic representatives from **Brazil, Bulgaria, Denmark, Iran, Italy, Japan, Morocco, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Turkey** and the **USA**, as well as from the **German Federal Foreign Office** and the **Ministry of the Interior**. This year’s tournament has once again been organised by **TheCorps – League of International Capital Contacts**, Berlin’s network for diplomacy, business and politics.

To coincide with the Embassy Cup, at approximately **6.30 p.m.** a number of ambassadors including **Rachad Bouhlal** (Morocco), **Lilianne Lebron-Wenger** (Paraguay), **Carsten Søndergaard** (Denmark), and **Mehmet Ali Irtemcelik** (Turkey) will be signing ten footballs as part of the federal government’s “Germany – Land of Ideas” campaign. These balls will be presented to the heads and pupils of the **Döblin School in Marzahn** for children with learning difficulties and the **Carl-von-Linné School in Lichtenberg** for physically handicapped children.

We look forward to welcoming representatives of the press to the 2006 Embassy Cup at Neues Kranzler Eck.

Date: Wednesday, 17 May 2006
Time: From 5 p.m.
Approx. 6.30 p.m. – Ball signing by the ambassadors
Place: Neues Kranzler Eck DIFA CityQuartier
Kurfürstendamm 21 / Inner Zone
10719 Berlin, Germany

Visiting one of the numerous cafés and restaurants at Neues Kranzler Eck, such as the CARAS Gourmet Café, Café Kranzler, “the coffee shop”, Sushi Circle or the Chinese restaurant New Country, will help recharge your batteries for the next round. As one of the most impressive addresses in Berlin, Neues Kranzler Eck on the Kurfürstendamm also offers plenty of good shopping at stores such as Schuhhof, Gerry Weber, Strauss Innovation, bad & baden and Blume 2000.

Welcome Days at Neues Kranzler Eck

A special highlight in the run-up to the football World Cup are the Welcome Days being held for the different continents at the Neues Kranzler Eck DIFA CityQuartier. On these days, a “welcome lodge” will be set up at the entrance to the CityQuartier where passers-by can register with the welcome team to receive a Welcome Card. One of the benefits is entry to a prize draw, with a chance to win trips to the world’s greatest stadiums courtesy of Neues Kranzler Eck. As part of the Europe Welcome Day there will be a prize draw on Saturday for a three-day trip for two to Barcelona, including a visit to the famous Camp Nou stadium.

Please note: We are happy to provide photographs of Buddy Bear table football via e-mail upon request.

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