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6 January 2016

For Immediate Release

Chess Masters for Africa, supported by the Paul G Allen Family Foundation

The Kasparov Chess Foundation Africa is delighted to announce that we will be collaborating with the Paul G Allen Family Foundation to facilitate a series of chess master training tours across the African continent during the first six months of the 2017 calendar year. The program will be known as “Chess Masters for Africa” and will primarily be funded by way of grant received from the Paul G Allen Family Foundation.

The program represents an exciting partnership between two visionaries, Paul G Allen and Garry Kasparov, who will be combining the skills and resources of their respective Foundations to promote the game of chess in Africa. The exciting new program will see twenty-four weeks of structured chess training provided across six African countries by some of the most recognisable chess personalities in the world.

Grandmasters that have already confirmed their participation include GM Maurice Ashley from the United States, GM Pontus Carlsson from Sweden and GM Kenny Solomon from South Africa. They will be joined by some of the best regional players on the African Continent including IM Andrew Kayonde from Zambia and IM Arthur Ssegwanyi from Uganda.

Between them, the masters will conduct training sessions in Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania as part of a structured programs that are expected to run from February until June 2017. More than sixty locally based trainers are expected to benefit directly from the program which is also expected to impact more than 1,500 children through indirect training sessions.

The Kasparov Chess Foundation Africa wishes to thank Mr Paul G Allen for his leadership and willingness to partner with us to make this tour a reality. We are confident that the training provided will greatly improve both the playing strength and technical knowledge of the local chess trainers and we look forward to witnessing the results as they pass on this knowledge within their local communities in the future.

About Kasparov Chess Foundation Africa

The Kasparov Chess Foundation Africa is a public benefit organisation focusing on the promotion of chess as a tool for education and social development across the African continent. We operate under the patronage and chairmanship of the 13th World Chess Champion, GM Garry Kasparov. The Foundation frequently co-operates with international partners who wish to assist with the development of the game of chess across the African continent.

About Paul G Allen Family Foundation

The Paul G Allen Family Foundation was founded in 1988 by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen and has contributed funds to communities across Africa in order to improve education, technology infrastructures and health care access.

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