

Dear Chessfriends

## **TOURNAMENT ANNOUNCEMENT AND INVITATION**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Afro-Asian Zonal Correspondence Chess Championships are due to start in January 2012. The tournament will be played on the webserver of the ICCF ([www.iccf-webchess.com](http://www.iccf-webchess.com) )

Entry is **FREE**, but only entries received up to midnight on 31 December 2011 will be considered. **All chess players in Africa and Asia may enter**. Entries must be emailed to the address below.

The tournament will consist of a preliminary round, semi-finals and finals. The preliminary round will be divided into groups equal in rating strength of between 9 and 13 players.

Qualifying criteria for progression to the semi-finals will be calculated once the total number of entrants is known, but will be communicated at the start of the preliminary round. All players with a fixed rating of 2250 and ICCF titled players (WIM; WGM; IM; SM; GM) will be allowed to bypass the preliminary round and enter directly into a semi-final round if they so wish.

The preliminary round will be an ICCF rated event allowing players to obtain ICCF ratings, while the semi-final and final will be international title norm tournaments (subject to the rating strength of the qualifiers). Players with FIDE ratings may use these ratings for the preliminary round.

Kindly spread the word to all your chessfriends so that this next Afro-Asian Championships can be even bigger.

Amici sumus  
Iain Smuts  
Tournament Organiser (ICCF)  
Paarl – South Africa  
[sacca@xsinet.co.za](mailto:sacca@xsinet.co.za)