



International Sugar Organization

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(17)53
(English only)**

18 December 2017

Various sugar related articles

The Executive Director would like to draw your attention to the articles below all of which are relevant to the sugar sector.

Sugaronline Ebriefing - 15/12/2017

SOUTH AFRICA: President signs sugar tax into law

President Jacob Zuma has signed the health promotion levy (sugar tax) into law and the South African Revenue Service (SARS) has announced that it will begin collecting it from April 1, 2018, according to South Africa's Business Day.

The levy falls under the Rates and Monetary Amounts and Revenue Laws Amendment Bill as passed in Parliament on December 5 and signed by Zuma this week.

The levy, which is part of government's efforts to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and to combat obesity, has been set at 2.1c/gram of the sugar content that exceeds 4g/100ml. This means the first 4g/100ml are levy free.

SARS said in a statement that the Customs and Excise Act provided for a health promotion levy on sugary beverages that had been manufactured in or imported into SA. Imported products will be taxed when they are cleared for home consumption and locally manufactured products will be taxed at source.

"Licensing and registration of manufacturers of sugary beverages will take place from February 2018. Only commercial manufacturers that produce sugary beverages with a total annual sugar content in excess of 500kg/year need to be licensed and pay the sugary beverages levy," said SARS. "Non-commercial producers below this threshold will be expected to register but will not be subject to the levy."

SARS said it would engage industry stakeholders during roadshows to guide them through the process.

FoodNavigator.com

Barry Callebaut sweetens appeal of healthier chocolate with low-sugar range

12-Dec-2017 By Will Chu

Barry Callebaut has made available a range of low-sugar chocolate designed to promote an improved nutritional profile to confectionery that doesn't compromise on taste.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2017/12/12/barry-callebaut-sweetens-appeal-of-healthier-chocolate-with-low-sugar-range>