



# International Sugar Organization

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Press Release(18)13  
(English only)**

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## **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.

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### **Food Navigator.com - 27/02/2018**

#### **Is price a barrier to ethical food sales?**

**27-Feb-2018 By Katy Askew**

Almost half of shoppers in the UK are discouraged from buying ethical food because of its price – but the Fairtrade Foundation insists fairtrade products offer “something for everybody”.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2018/02/27/is-price-a-barrier-to-ethical-food-sales>

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### **ECRUU Sugar News Monitor - 26 February 2018**

#### **SWITZERLAND - Govt considers new customs regulation for sugar, and organic sugar**

A parliamentary committee has approved a proposal to change customs regulations in order to guarantee a minimum price for sugar, which will be discussed in parliament during its spring session. A parliamentarian said the demand would respect WTO rules and bilateral treaties. The proposal is in response to a call made by the Swiss Farmers Union, Swiss Sugar and the Swiss Federation of Sugar Beet Growers, who are worried about shrinking domestic production and competition from abroad.

Meanwhile, farmers are reportedly not too eager to grow organic beet despite getting a four times higher return of CHF 150/mt (USD 160.72/mt) because it needs more labour and has a higher chance of failure. The annual demand for organic sugar is 7,000-10,000mt, and it sells at CHF 2.30/kg (USD 2.46/kg), compared to CHF 1/kg (USD 1.07/kg) for regular sugar. ([Swiss Info](#) & [Aargauerzeitung](#))

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### **ECRUU Sugar News Monitor - 26 February 2018**

#### **UNITED KINGDOM - Coca-Cola flays Scotland's planned curbs**

Coca-Cola officials have criticised the Scottish government's proposal to restrict advertisements of sugary and junk food products. Encouraging people to exercise would give better results than curbs and taxes on sweetened products, they said. ([The Scottish Sun](#))

**Food Navigator.com - 27/02/2018**

**USDA is pursuing trade agreements of all sizes as NAFTA negotiations continue**  
**27-Feb-2018 By Elizabeth Crawford**

While NAFTA's status remains in limbo, the US Department of Agriculture is "leaving no stone unturned" in its efforts to strike trade agreements with countries outside of North America that will benefit US farmers, ranchers and manufacturers of finished goods, according to a top agency official.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2018/02/27/USDA-is-pursuing-trade-agreements-of-all-sizes-as-NAFTA-negotiations-continue>

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**Sugaronline Ebriefing - 27/02/2018**

**PHILIPPINES: Coca Cola pays the most sugar taxes in January**

Coca-Cola Femsa Philippines Inc. was the top paying company in terms of the excise tax on sugar-sweetened beverages in January, the Department of Finance (DOF) reported Tuesday, according to the Philippines' GMA News.

Data released by the DOF showed tax collections from SSBs reached PHP2.5 billion (US\$47.9 million) in January, with PHP1.186 billion or 47.44% coming from Coca-Cola.

Rival Pepsi Cola Philippines Inc. accounted for PHP666 million or 62.64%, while ARC Refreshments Corp. paid PHP293.015 million or 11.72%, Nestle Philippines Inc. contributed PHP143.5 million or 5.74%, and Inter Beverages Philippines paid PHP112 million or 4.48%.

Asia Brewery Inc. paid PHP18 million or 0.72%, Liwayway Marketing contributed PHP16.049 million or 0.64%, SMB Inc. accounted for PHP10.726 million or 0.42%, and Zesto Corp. paid PHP7 million or or 0.27%.

President Rodrigo Duterte signed into law the proposed Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Act in December. It took effect in January, lowering the personal income tax and expanding the value-added tax (VAT) base.

Under the new tax reform regime, the government collected PHP12.139 billion of excise tax from tobacco companies in January, up 95.91% from PHP6.196 billion in January 2017.

It was also 52.8% more than the PHP7.944-billion collection target last month.

The excise tax on automobiles was up 113.13% to PHP443.34 million from the PHP208.010 million.

The total excise tax collections in January reached PHP22.078 billion from PHP12.152 billion in 2017, exceeding the PHP20.501-billion target last month by 7.7%.

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