



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(18)23  
(English only)**

**4 April 2018**

### **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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#### **FoodNavigator.com – 29 March 2018**

##### **Does diet soda promote weight gain? Debate rages in the courts as Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, challenge 'outlandish' lawsuits**

By Elaine Watson

Coca-Cola and PepsiCo have urged courts to toss claims in a series of lawsuits\* alleging consumers are being led to believe that diet sodas "will assist in weight loss or management," when in fact the opposite may be true.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2018/03/29/does-diet-soda-promote-weight-gain-debate-rages-in-the-courts-as-coca-cola-pepsico-challenge-outlandish-lawsuits>

##### **Category crossovers and savoury swaps: Mintel on the future of sweet flavours**

By Niamh Michail

As the backlash against sugar continues, manufacturers of sweet products are coming up with eye-catching solutions to win consumers' attention from chocolate pizza to vegetable muffins, says Mintel.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2018/03/29/category-crossovers-and-savoury-swaps-mintel-on-the-future-of-sweet-flavours>

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#### **ECRUU Sugar News Monitor - 29 March 2018**

##### **AUSTRALIA - To ask WTO to review sugar subsidies, mulls biofuel mandate**

Australia is going to collaborate with Thailand and Brazil to verify if the production aid provided by India and Pakistan are valid under the WTO trade rules. India and Pakistan will add 5 million mt to the global supply while Australia is looking to export 85% of the 4.5 million mt of raw sugar it produces, Australian Sugar Milling Council's Economics and Trade director said. If the two countries are found to be flouting WTO rules, the trio will pursue dialogue through formal channels, he added.

Separately, Bioenergy Australia has come out in support of the proposed national biofuels policy, which is expected to be formally presented on March 28. ([Farm Online](#) & [Biofuels International](#))

### **WORLD - Companies adapt ahead of sugar taxes**

Beverage manufacturers have cut sugar and will save GBP 200 million (USD 283 million) in taxes once the UK implements soft drinks levy from April 1, Britvic said quoting Nielsen's figures. In an earlier report, the Office for Budget Responsibility had slashed estimate from sugary tax to GBP 240 million (USD 340 million) from GBP 520 million (USD 736 million) as manufacturers cut sugar content.

Making nutrition policies compulsory may lower sugar consumption among secondary school students, according to a study by the Canada-based University of Waterloo. The study found that this won't be enough, however, as eating habits outside the school and on weekends have a greater effect on children buying soft drinks than their purchases in school. ([Beverage Daily](#) & [Tech Explorist](#))

### **KYRGYZSTAN - Moves towards self-sufficiency**

The price of sugar has dropped from KGS 50-55/kg (USD 0.73-0.80/kg) in the previous years to an average of KGS 40-45/kg (USD 0.58-0.66/kg) at present, an official of the economy ministry said, explaining that this was because the country was producing 70% of its needs, compared to only 15% previously. ([Sugar.ru](#))

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