



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(20)27  
(English only)**

**13 May 2020**

### **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 11-05-2020**

##### **MOROCCO: Cosumar Group wins Best COVID-19 Project in UN webinar**

Participants in a UN Food and Agriculture Organization webinar voted a Cosumar Group project as the Best COVID-19 Protection for Farmers in the Middle East and North Africa, according to Morocco World News.

Cosumar Group's Project Attaisir allows farmers to respect social distancing rules by controlling their crops remotely.

Cosumar created Attaisir with a Moroccan startup in 2019 to digitalise sugar production processes.

When the COVID-19 state of emergency was introduced on March 20, Attaisir's functionalities allowed remote monitoring of more than 2,000 GPS-linked agricultural machines.

The system ensured a continuous supply of sugar market while minimising the risk of contamination and respecting social distancing rules.

Attaisir came first out of seven other projects from the region in the FAO-organized webinar devoted to innovative initiatives to protect farmers during the COVID-19 crisis.

##### **BRAZIL: Fuel distributors defend postponing RenovaBio's targets**

Large Brazilian fuel distributors are urging the Ministry of Mines and Energy to suspend or reduce their targets for the purchase of decarbonization credits under the RenovaBio program, according to Brazil's RPA News.

Renata Castanho, manager of the Environment and Infrastructure segment of Lobo de Rizo law practice, expects the program to be partially changed with the potential suspension of the compulsory targets for distributors.

She added that the fall in fuel sales have significantly changed the scenario forecasted for the implementation of RenovaBio.

Brazil's Ministry of Mines and Energy has already said that it is reviewing the targets for RenovaBio this year.

**FoodNavigator.com - 11-05-2020**

**American Heart Association: How children eat may be just as important as what they eat**

11-May-2020 By Mary Ellen Shoup

Creating a healthy food environment that allows children to choose what and how they eat encourages positive, long-term eating habits and maintenance of a healthy body weight, according to a scientific statement from the American Heart Association.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2020/05/11/american-heart-association-how-children-eat-may-be-just-as-important-as-what-they-eat>

---

**FoodNavigator.com - 08-05-2020**

**Frozen food to remain category 'heavyweight' for months and years to come, suggests AFFI study**

08-May-2020 By Mary Ellen Shoup

Just as shelf-stable pantry items have experienced surging sales in recent months, frozen food sales have exploded since the onset of COVID-19 with new consumers entering the category, finds a recent survey commissioned by the American Frozen Food Institute.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2020/05/08/frozen-food-to-remain-category-heavyweight-for-months-and-years-to-come-suggests-affi-study>

---

**Sugaronline – Ebriefing 08-05-2020**

**FAO Sugar Price Index falls 14.6% in April**

Global sugar prices fell by 14.6% in April from March, the second consecutive monthly decrease, due to an increase in sugar production and a drop in demand, according to the Sugar Price Index of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), **reports Sugaronline.**

The collapse in international oil prices reduced the competitiveness of ethanol against gasoline, prompting sugarcane mills to switch to sugar production. The sugarcane crushing season in Brazil's centre-south, one of the world's largest cane-producing regions, started on April 1.

"Falling energy prices mean that sugar mills divert more sugarcane for the production of sugar instead of ethanol, a substitute for gasoline, hence expanding sugar export availabilities," FAO said in a statement on May 7.

"In addition, a contraction in sugar demand arising from the confinement measures imposed in a number of countries to contain the spread of COVID-19 spawned additional downward pressure on world sugar prices."

Sugar prices influenced the fall of FAO Food Price Index in April, which decreased by 3.4% in April from March to 165.5 points, the lowest level since January 2019.