



# International Sugar Organization

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Press Release(20)61  
(English only)

27 October 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.

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#### Sugaronline – Ebriefing

##### **US: Public consultation considers changes in labeling of sweeteners in foods**

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is accepting comments for a public consultation aimed at changing nutrition labeling of sweeteners other than sugar in foods and beverages, according to Yahoo News.

The discussion has been opened in part as a response to a petition filed by the Sugar Association in June.

In the petition, the association requested changes to labels of products containing alternative sweeteners, demanding more transparency about the type and quantity of alternative sweeteners included in food products.

According to the Sugar Association, products with sugar-free sweeteners are in some cases wrongly labeled as “all-natural” and “no sugar added,” which may confuse consumers into believing that the product doesn’t include any sweeteners.

##### **INDONESIA: President opens Indonesia’s largest sugar factory**

President Joko Widodo inaugurated Indonesia’s largest sugar factory and saw the sugarcane harvest in southeast Sulawesi Province on Oct 22, according to WAH.

The new PT Prima Alam Gemilang operated sugar factory in Bombana Regency, has a maximum milling capacity of up to 12,000 tonnes of cane per day, making it the largest private sugar factory by production volume in Indonesia.

President Jokowi said that he hoped that the factory, which started operating in August 2020, and the plantation, would boost domestic sugar production.

Indonesia consumes around 5.8 million tonnes of sugar annually but can only produce around 2.1 million tonnes per year.

“This sugar factory will help reduce imports. It can also help strengthen our currency and our current account balance,” said Jokowi.

### **UAE: Al Khaleej Sugar applies blockchain**

Al Khaleej Sugar is applying blockchain technology on its recently launched sugar trading platform, DigitalSugar.io, according to Coin Telegraph.

The Universa Blockchain platform will be the first global exchange to offer traders and investors raw spot sugar trades on an immediate basis, rather than the more common options or futures offered by other current exchanges.

Users of the UAE-based platform will trade the spot price of sugar via tokens tied to “up to 100,000 tonnes of raw sugar,” with its peg assured by the Universa blockchain which will be issuing electronic warrants of ownership with the tokens. Traders will be able to hold tokens representing between 1 kg to 1 million tonnes, and pay 0.4% in exchange fees as well as a 2.5% yearly storage fee.

Al Khaleej Sugar Managing Director Jamal Al Ghurair said that the launch of a blockchain-based sugar trading platform is in line with the wider goals of UAE Blockchain Strategy 2021, launched in 2018.

### **UGANDA: President Yoweri Museveni launches Atiak Sugar Factory**

President Yoweri Museveni officially launched the Atiak Sugar Factory in Amuru district on Oct. 22, according to New Vision.

A colourful opening ceremony was attended by Uganda and Somali top government officials, including Somalia’s First Lady Saynab Abdi Moallim.

Entrepreneur Amina Hersi, owner of Atiak Sugar Factory, also gave the President a tour of the new mega facility, in which the government holds 41% stake through the Uganda Development Corporation. He saluted Hersi for her vision of starting sugarcane growing in northern Uganda, near the Somali border.

The President said: “Uganda as a developing country is still lacking three elements; capital and knowledge added to entrepreneurship skills to develop further. My people in Uganda, if you want Uganda to develop, you must have these factors. Ensure that the natural resources – land, minerals, forests, rivers among others – are exploited.”

### **ED & F Man Daily News**

Sugar Heads for Longest Winning Streak This Year, Awaiting India – **Bloomberg** – Raw sugar futures headed for the longest run of weekly gains this year as the market awaited clarity on the size of Indian exports. Most-active futures are set for a seventh weekly advance as dry weather spurs concerns about Brazil’s crop and the market waits for an announcement from India on export subsidies. Sugar Spread Jumps as Market Kept Waiting on Indian Sales: Chart “The continuing uncertainty over Indian exports has been the main driver of the rally recently,” ADM Investor Services International said in a note. “India exports will be the deciding factor on world prices this season, with most analysts now seeing a small overall deficit in production over demand.”

## NETHERLANDS

**Dutch minister says no to sugar tax, prefers agreement with industry**

For the time being there will be no additional tax on sugary soft drinks in the Netherlands. In a briefing to the members of the Lower House of the Parliament, Dutch State Secretary for Health Paul Blokhuis shared the findings of a study conducted by the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM). Dutch weekly Medisch Contact reported how RIVM researchers looked into the effects of the sugar tax in the United Kingdom, France, and Norway and concluded that while Norwegians and British seem to go for healthier light alternatives more often, it is still unclear whether these effects can be attributed to the levy.

In the briefing, Blokhuis also informed the MPs that while he does see the opportunities provided by a sugar tax, he relies on the National Prevention Agreement signed by the government and processed foods and drinks manufacturers in 2018 for the reduction of sugar, salt and fats in their products "Based on their own figures, they are ahead of schedule," NRC reported Blokhuis as saying.