

**International Sugar Organization**1 Canada Square
Canary Wharf
London E14 5AA**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR****Press Release(26)16
(English only)****7 May 2026****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**NIGERIA: Dangote Sugar bounces back to profit in Q1**

Dangote Sugar Refinery Plc has reported a profit before tax of N20.6 billion (USD14.9 million) in the first quarter of 2026, a turnaround from a N22.6 billion loss in the same period last year, due to lower sales costs, according to Nairametrics.

Sales costs declined to NGN144.6 billion from NG204.6 billion, driven by lower raw material input costs, alongside other income of NGN9.4 billion.

The company's revenue declined 12.22% to NGN187.7 billion, with 50kg sugar contributing 97% of turnover, retail sales 2.5%, and molasses and freight income accounting for the remainder.

BANGLADESH: Minister says plan to reopen sugar mills is underway

Bangladesh's minister of Industries, Khandakar Abdul Muktedir, said on May 4 that the government's plan to revive the country's industrial sector, including reopening sugar mills, is underway, according to the United News of Bangladesh (UNB).

He said proposals from deputy commissioners include the development of new industrial zones, reopening of closed sugar mills and establishment of distilleries to enhance export potential.

The minister told journalists that reviving "sick and closed industries to boost production and employment remains one of the government's top priorities."

BRAZIL: Sugar exports from Santos port rises 29% in 1Q 2026

Sugar exports from Brazil's largest port increased 28.6% in the first quarter of 2026, from one year earlier, to almost 4.25 million metric tonnes, according to the [Santos Port Authority](#), reports Sugaronline.

Shipments were boosted by a 41% rise in bulk sugar exports to 3.85 million tonnes in the first three months of 2026, and partially offset by a 28.6% decline in sugar exports in containers to 397,898 tonnes. No bagged-sugar exports were recorded at the port from January through the end of March this year.

In March, total sugar exports from Santos increased 4.1% from the same month in 2025 to 1.19 million tonnes. Bulk sugar exports reached 1.04 million tonnes (+9.1%) and exports in containers declined 18.1% to 148,202 tonnes.

TAIWAN: Taiwan Sugar and US Grains & Bioproducts Council sign MOU on biofuel cooperation

Taiwan Sugar Corp. and the US Grains & Bioproducts Council (USGBC) signed a memorandum of understanding on May 5 to establish a platform for the exchange and promotion of bioethanol technology, according to Taiwan News.

The cooperation is expected to help Taiwan Sugar advance its net-zero strategy, by connecting with international biofuel technologies, and efforts to promote a circular economy and expand green energy development.

Taiwan Sugar Chair Wu Ming-chang said that USGBC brings extensive international experience in promoting bioethanol, ethanol-gasoline, and SAF, and expressed hope that the partnership will generate practical momentum for Taiwan's alternative fuel development.

BRAZIL: Hydrous ethanol prices in SP spot market fall to the lowest level since June 2024

Hydrous ethanol prices in the São Paulo spot market in April, the first official month of the 2026/27 cane crushing season in the centre-south, declined to its lowest level since June 2024, in real terms, according to the Centre for Advanced Studies on Applied Economics (CEPEA).

The price decline was driven by the progress of sugarcane crushing activities in the centre-south, which this year was accelerated due to low rainfall.

Volumes sold in the spot market in April were still low, as fuel distributors have mostly been absent from spot purchases, but increased 75.1% from March and 24.8% from the same month last year.

CEPEA said low prices for both ethanol and sugar in the 2026/27 season in the centre-south is keeping market participants cautious, as the scenario remains uncertain for the sugarcane industry.

[Hydrous ethanol](#) prices fell by 5.52% in the last week of April, closing at BRL2.3158/litre (BRL0.4649). Anhydrous ethanol prices closed 5.57% lower at BRL2.6956 (USD0.5412) per litre.

PHILIPPINES: Proposed legislation seeks to overhaul sugar sector

A bill filed in Congress on May 5 seeks to amend the Sugarcane Industry Development Act of 2015 (SIDA) and introduce wide-ranging reforms to stabilize the country's sugar industry, according to PhilStar.

The bill aims to address persistent volatility in sugar production, pricing and supply, which stakeholders attribute to gaps in regulation, import policy and program implementation.

The proposed legislation would grant expanded authority to the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) to regulate sugar and sugar substitutes. It also proposes a more inclusive SRA governing board, adding representatives from the sugar millers, sugar planters, sugar refineries, Small Farmers and Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARBs), field and mill workers, and industrial users.

EUROPE: EC updates 2025/26 sugar production estimate to 16.6 million T

Sugar production in the European Union is projected to reach 16.6 million metric tonnes in 2025/26, higher than the [previous estimate](#) of 16 million tonnes and last year's 16.56 million tonnes output, according to [updated estimates](#) released by the European Commission's Expert Group Common Market Organisation on Arable Crops in late April, reports Sugaronline.

Sugar consumption is estimated to increase to 13.8 million from 13.61 million tonnes in the previous year and the 13.7 million tonnes in the previous estimate for 2025/26.

The EC estimate for the EU's 2025/26 sugar imports was increased to 1.53 million tonnes, from 1.43 million tonnes previously projected and 1.45 million tonnes in 2024/25.

Exports should reach 4 million tonnes, down from the 4.2 million in 2024/25 but higher than the 3.8 million tonnes of the previous estimate for 2025/26.

The 2025/26 ending stocks should total 2.63 million tonnes, up from the 2.3 million tonnes previously projected for the year and recorded in 2024/25.

The estimates, released in the EC's Sugar Market Observatory report on April 30, are based on production data supplied by member states and the latest estimates available.

BRAZIL: President Lula confirms plan to raise ethanol blend in gasoline to 32%

Brazil's president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva confirmed on April 30 that the government will announce an increase in the mandatory blend of anhydrous ethanol in gasoline from 30% to 32%, according to news reports by Isto É Dinheiro and O Globo.

The biodiesel blend in diesel is also set to increase from 15% to 16%, Lula said during an event in Brasília on April 30.

Brazil's Ministry of Mines and Energy had already announced that a proposal to increase the mandatory ethanol blend to 32% would be considered at the next meeting of the National Council for Energy Policy (CNPE), scheduled for May 7.

INDIA: Government sees no need to restrict sugar exports for now – news report

India's government has no plans to restrict sugar exports for now amid expected weaker domestic demand, according to a news report by Reuters, citing two government sources on May 6.

Sugar production is unlikely to exceed 28 million tonnes by the end of the production year in September this year, in line with estimated demand, according to the news report. Carryover stocks at the start of the 2025/26 season were around 5 million tonnes.

India's government authorised exports of 1.59 million tonnes of sugar in the current 2025/26 season, of which 530,000-540,000 tonnes have been shipped and more than 800,000 tonnes contracted.

PAKISTAN: Minister says sugar production this season ensures adequate supply

Pakistan's sugar production this season has been encouraging and should ensure adequate supply in the domestic market while maintaining price stability, said deputy prime minister and Foreign minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on May 5, according to Business Recorder.

Dar has chaired a meeting to review sugar production at the conclusion of the current crushing season, with the minister of National Food Security Rana Tanveer Hussain and other ministers and officials.

US: ASR breaks ground on modernisation of Domino Sugar Chalmette Refinery

American Sugar Refining, part of ASR Group, has broken ground on the first phase of a USD785 million modernization project in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, according to a [press statement](#) released by the state-run Louisiana Economic Development agency on May 5.

The first phase of the project will construct a new, state-of-the-art process building to replace existing equipment and systems at the Domino Sugar Chalmette Refinery, with an initial investment of USD200 million.

It will introduce modernized refining capabilities designed to improve reliability, reduce energy and water consumption and support future demand. Additional phases will build on these improvements as part of the refinery's broader modernization initiative.

The company is expected to create 15 direct new jobs while retaining 500 current positions. Louisiana Economic Development estimates the project will create an additional 37 indirect jobs, bringing the total to 52 potential new jobs in the Southeast Region.

"This project, our largest capital investment ever, reflects our commitment to modernize operations, enhance reliability for our customers and advance our sustainability goals—all while continuing to be the employer of choice for hundreds of people in the area," American Sugar Refining president Luis Fernandez said.

The company's Domino Sugar Chalmette Refinery has been part of Louisiana's sugar industry for more than a century, supporting production, refining and distribution across the region.

"Domino Sugar has operated in Arabi for over 100 years and has consistently been recognized as one of St. Bernard Parish's top employers and taxpayers," St. Bernard Parish president Louis Pomes said.

"This project represents another significant investment in St. Bernard, helping to secure existing jobs while creating new ones. I am extremely proud to support American Sugar Refining, Inc. while they continue to make St. Bernard Parish a better place to live and work." Construction is underway, with completion of the first phase and commercial operations anticipated in 2028.

PARAGUAY: 50% of ethanol in fuel blends must come from sugarcane – decree

Paraguayan president Santiago Peña signed a decree on May 1 regulating the Ethanol Law, requiring that at least 50% of the ethanol used in fuel blends come from sugarcane, according to the Red Chaquena de Comunicaciones (RCC) news website.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce said the decision aims to prioritize the use of domestically produced ethanol, generating sustained demand and providing economic predictability for small farmers.

The new regulations also introduce a sanctioning regime (for those who fail to comply with the mandatory mixing percentages).

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