



# Sugar News

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## NSDC

### Commissions First Sugarcane Bio-Factory Plant



- \* Council boss charges staff to show more commitment to work
- \* NSDC Holds Sensitization Workshop for Sugarcane Outgrowers in Yola

*...and much more*

### *Editor's Desk*

This edition carries stories about the two landmark events performed by the Honourable Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment during the second quarter of the year namely - the Commissioning of the Office Complex (Sugar House) which now serves as the headquarter office for NSDC located at Garki II, No 45, Oro Ago Crescent, Abuja as well as the Sugarcane Bio-factory at Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR), Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria

The acquisition of a Headquarter Office Complex by the Council has now put a full stop to the "itinerant" and "temporary" office occupation that had characterized its existence since 2006. The "eagle has finally landed!" The usual story on Staff Matters and sugar importation and price data are also served for your reading pleasure. Enjoy it!

## Council boss charges staff to show more commitment to work

The Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) Dr. Latif Busari has charged all Council staff to show more commitment in the discharge of their assignments, stressing that the NSDC leadership on its part is committed to realize its set goals, especially the implementation of the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan (NSMP).

The NSDC helmsman who reiterated Council's readiness to reposition the nation's sugar industry through well-coordinated, streamlined and result-driven policies, added that all hands must on deck to ensure the meaningful implementation of all its objectives for the overall interest of Nigerians.

Dr Busari who gave this charge during the 2015 edition of the NSDC general staff meeting in Abuja, stressed the need for all staffers to see themselves as key players in NSDC's drive to harness the enormous potential in the nation's sugar sector for increased revenue for Nigeria and to create more job opportunities for Nigerians.

While calling on all members of staff to take their work seriously, Dr Busari also implored them to take advantage of the numerous technological innovations available on the cyberspace to prepare themselves for more tasking responsibilities and assignments in line with their specific job schedules.

"We must all change our attitude to work. NSDC is poised to deliver on its core mandates. So, we won't condone acts that are capable of frustrating our determination to achieve tangible results within the sugar industry. We must sharpen our skills through constant research. NSDC has since keyed into the current administration's determination to revive the nation's industrial sector. The NSDC therefore, comes as one of the strategic agencies that is expected to lead the campaign for growing local industries and contribute to the nation's economic diversification".

The meeting which had participants drawn from across all NSDC Zonal offices as well as those in the Headquarters, featured general report presentations by all departmental Directors. The meeting was attended by the Director Human Resource, Mr Samuel Kwabe, Director Technical Services, Mallam Mohammed Jika, Director Policy, Planning Research and Statistics, Mr Hezekiah Kolawole, Director Finance and Accounts, Mallam Auwalu Abubakar, Director Procurement, Mallam Odewale Suleiman as well as other management staff.

### **NSDC holds Induction Course/Training for new Staff**

In its bid to acquaint its newly recruited staff with relevant civil service rules as well as brief them on

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## NSDC COMMISSIONS FIRST SUGARCANE BIO-FACTORY PLANT

Nigeria's quest to attain global reckoning in sugar production got a major boost recently following the official commissioning of a state-of-the-art sugar cane bio-factory facility in Nigeria.

The Sugarcane Bio factory which is the first of its kind in Nigeria, is located within the premises of the Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR), at the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria and is expected to make use of tissue culture techniques to produce and multiply proven sugarcane varieties, thereby ensuring the provision of pure, clean and good quality sugarcane seeds for the growth of the entire sugar industry.

Speaking at the event, the Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council, (NSDC) Dr. Latif Busari noted that the bio-factory facility which is the outcome of collaborative efforts between the NSDC and the IAR is a bold step towards addressing constraints associated with the production of clean, pure and disease-free sugarcane seeds in the country.

According to Dr. Busari, the bio-factory which would "adopt cutting-edge technologies to rapidly multiply sugarcane seeds for our sugar estates and farmers is a clear demonstration of the government to link our nation's industrial development to advances in science, technology and innovation."

While stressing the need for critical stakeholders in the industrial sector to be innovative in the execution of their assignments, Dr. Busari regretted that the country has been "faced with the paradox where scientists and technologists come up with new innovations which are left to gather dusts on their shelves while many of our industries rely on imported technologies and innovations or on obsolete technologies and machines that make industrial manufacturing inefficient and unprofitable".

On the adoption of modern technologies, Dr Busari said, "for us in the sugar industry, we have realized that the adoption of modern bio-technologies can

help us to achieve rapid multiplication, transformation and conservation of sugarcane germ plasm."

"Since sugarcane is ordinarily propagated through stem cuttings, this often facilitates the spread of pathogens that may result in epidemics. It is also a fact that development and release of new sugarcane varieties using the conventional breeding techniques takes between 8-10 years. But there are modern technologies such as mutation breeding and tissue culture techniques that could help solve these and other similar problems", he explained.

In a keynote address, the immediate past Minister of Trade and Investment Dr. Olusegun Aganga, expressed delight at the commissioning and described the event as a milestone in the implementation of the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan. He said, "the Master Plan is one of the major sectoral policies under the Nigeria Industrial Revolution Plan (NIRP), enunciated by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment. Sugarcane is a strategic crop with high value addition because ethanol; electricity, animal feed can be produced from it in the course of producing sugar. According to the Honourable Minister, the projection of the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan (NSMP) is that 250,000 hectares of sugarcane field will be needed and 28 mills established to produce about 1.8million tonnes of sugar in the first phase of the project." He noted also that "Cutting edge technologies have been used in many developed countries to promote rapid economic development and the advancement made from Biotech was due to heavy reliance on research, technology and innovation. Sadly, that has been the missing link in Nigeria's past efforts at economic diversification through industrial manufacturing. Biotechnology in particular has opened to mankind a vast array of opportunities to significantly improve the quantity and quality of biological deliverables", he said.

He also commended the management of the Sugar Council for investing in the project and the Institute for Agricultural Research Zaria for collaborating so well with the Sugar Council.

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# Photo News

## COMMISSIONING OF "SUGAR HOUSE", NSDC HEAD OFFICE COMPLEX



Hon. Minister, FMITI, cutting the tape to Commission Renews NSDC Headquarters (Sugar House)



Hon. Minister unveiling the plaque during the Commissioning of the Sugar House



The Headquarter Office Complex of NSDC (Sugar House) being commissioned

# Photo News

## COMMISSIONING OF NSDC SUGARCANE BIO-FACTORY AT IAR SAMARU, ZARIA.



Hon. Minister FMITI Dr. Olusegun Aganga in a warm handshake with the Vice Chancellor ABU, Prof. Ibrahim Garba



Hon. Minister FMITI Dr. Olusegun Aganga leading other participants on the tour of the Bio-Factory Facilities



L-R: HRH Etsu Tsaragi, Alh. A. K. Abdullahi Representative of Emir of Zaria. Ex. Secretary NSDC Dr. Latif Busari, Hon. Minister, FMITI, Dr. Olusegun Aganga and Vice Chancellor, ABU, Prof. Ibrahim Garba



Hon. Minister FMITI Dr. Olusegun Aganga in a chat with the Vice Chancellor, ABU, Prof. Ibrahim Garba



Green House at the Bio-Factory Site

## SUGAR NEWS

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The Sugarcane Bio-factory is established through the collaborative efforts of the National Sugar Council, a parastatal under the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, and the Institute of Agricultural Research (IAR), Zaria.

In a goodwill message, the Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Professor Ibrahim Garba thanked the NSDC management for "nurturing this project to maturity", adding that the project is a proactive approach for alleviating problems of sugarcane production in Nigeria.

The historic event was attended by two former Executive Secretaries of the NSDC, Alhaji Yakubu Tsala and Malam Usman Bello. His Royal Highness, Alhaji A.K Abdullahi, Etsu Tsaragi and National Chairman Sugarcane Outgrowers Association as well as the representative of Emir of Zaria were among other important dignitaries present at the occasion.

### ***NSDC Commissions its Headquarters Office Complex in Abuja.***

The National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) formally moved to her newly completed and commissioned state-of-the-art office complex located within the Garki District of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

Before the relocation, the Council and its staff operated from a temporary office within the Office Complex of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation (HOCSF) in the heart of the Federal Capital Territory.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, the Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council, Dr Latif Busari said, the new office facility has ended years of un-conducive working environment for staff of the Council, expressing hope that this effort would boost the morale of members of staff to be more motivated to deliver.

While urging Council staff to make good use of the magnificent office facility code name "Sugar House", Dr. Busari stressed the need for Council

staff to be more dedicated, committed and determined to contribute towards the realization of the Council's overall goals.

The office complex which was commissioned by the immediate past Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Dr Olusegun Aganga was witnessed by former Executive Secretary of NSDC, Mr. Yakubu Tsala, Etsu Tsaragi, HRH, Alhaji A. K Abdullahi, Senator Shaaba Lafiagi as well as stakeholders in the sugar industry.

### **NSDC Holds Sensitization Workshop for Sugarcane Outgrowers in Yola**

Determined to keep sugarcane outgrowers abreast of developments in the sugar industry as well as address challenges confronting them, the National Sugar Development Council held a sensitization workshop for sugarcane outgrowers and other stakeholders in Numan, Adamawa State.

The event which was declared open by the Executive Secretary of NSDC, Dr. Latif Busari, ably represented by the Director, Finance and Account, Mallam Auwalu Abubakar Shira had other management staff like, the Director, Technical Services, Mallam Muhammed Jika; Deputy Director, Public Affairs, Mallam Ahmed Waziri, Deputy Director, Technical Services, Saliu Bkeke and the Council's Senior Information Officer, Abdullahi Yunusa in attendance. Also in attendance are the Managing Director of SSCL, Engr. Todi as well as other top management staff of the company.

The event took place within the premises of the Savannah Sugar Company Limited (SSCL), Numan, Adamawa State. It featured paper presentations as well as question and answer segment which afforded participants the opportunity to seek clarifications on contentious issues and challenges confronting sugarcane outgrowers and farmers and the way forward.

The one-day event offered sugarcane outgrowers the opportunity to access first-hand information from representatives of the NSDC Management team on the state of the nation's sugar industry as well as opportunities available in the sugar sector.

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the core mandates of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), the NSDC management recently organised a two-day induction course/training for its newly recruited officers.

The event which took place at the NSDC Headquarters in Abuja was declared open by the Executive Secretary of the Council, Dr Latif Busari where he congratulated the new staffers for scaling through the various stages of interviews for anyone seeking employment in the civil service as enshrined in the civil service rules.

While urging the new officers to bring their knowledge and expertise to bear in their respective offices, Dr Busari cautioned them against indiscipline, fraud, laziness, truancy as well as practices that could expose them to danger.

The two-day event featured paper presentation by all departmental heads which include the Director Human Resource, Mr Samuel Kwabe, Director Technical Services, Mallam Mohammed Jika, Director Policy, Planning Research and Statistics, Mr Hezekiah Kolawole, Director Finance and Accounts, Mallam Auwalu Abubakar, Director Procurement, Mallam Odewale Suleiman.

The Directors in their separate paper presentations charged the newly recruited staffers to dedicate quality time and attention to official tasks assigned to them, adding that the NSDC leadership under Dr Latif Busari is undergoing serious beneficial reforms and urged them to tag along.

The induction course/training had a total of 11 new officers in attendance; they include, Uyigwe Adeosun and Adeyemi Pojo (DFA), Subair Fatai (HRM), Sherrif Gamboni, Suleiman Mohammed Kabir, Fauzat Omoshewo and Omowunmi Ogundiya (PPRS), Kudirat Babamale, Adeshina Adebola and Abdullahi Yunusa (ES Office).

## STAFF MATTERS

### **Council Rejoices with Celebrating Staff**

The Council in keeping with its tradition of identifying with employees who celebrate events, sent two delegations each to the wedding ceremony of the daughter of Mr. Usman Mohammed, Chief Clerical Officer on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2015, Mallam Ibrahim Alhassan, Senior Driver/Mechanic who gave out two of his daughters in marriage on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 and Mr. Chinonyerem Israel, Clerical Officer II who wedded on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2015. Token gifts were given to the celebrants. The Council wishes the new couples a happy married life.

### **Council Commiserates with Bereaved Officer and Associates**

Council condoles with its Director of Human Resource Management Department who lost his beloved mother to the cold hands of death during the invasion of his home town, by Boko-Haram insurgents. The late Mrs Kwabe was given a befitting burial on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2015.

Similarly, Council also commiserated with the Management and staff of Taraba Sugar Company Limited over the death of Engineer Joshua Ripiye, Acting General Manager of the Company who died on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April, 2015 after a brief illness.

The Council wishes the souls of the departed eternal rest and the bereaved families the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

## DATA ON SUGAR IMPORTATION IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2015 (APRIL – JUNE)

Month	Importer	Qty (MT) NPA	Qty (MT) NCS	Country of Origin	Discharging Port	Type of Sugar
April	Dangote Sugar	87,482	-	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk (Raw)
	BUA Sugar	45,000	22,500	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk (Raw)
	Golden Sugar	43,877	30,000	-	-	-
May	Dangote Sugar	44,032	86,900	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk (Raw)
	BUA Sugar	45,000	45,000	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk (Raw)
	Golden Sugar	30,044	-	-	-	-
June	Dangote Sugar	86,977	-	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk (Raw)
	BUA Sugar	-	45,000	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk (Raw)
	Golden Sugar	23,008	-	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk (Raw)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>405,420</b>	<b>229,400</b>			

Source: Nigeria Customs Service (NCS)

### QUARTERLY SUMMARY OF AVERAGE LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL WHITE AND RAW SUGAR PRICE: APRIL – MAY, 2015

MONTHS	STATE/ CITY	SUGAR TYPE	WHOLESALE ₦/50KG	WHOLESALE ₦/MT	RETAIL ₦/50KG	RETAIL ₦/MT	INTERNATIONAL RAW SUGAR AVERAGE PRICE		INTERNATIONAL WHITE SUGAR AVERAGE PRICE	
							\$/MT	₦/MT	\$/MT	₦/MT
APRIL	Abuja, Kano, Lagos	Refined Dangote	8275	165500	8510	170200	284.86	56474.62	366.67	72693.75
MAY	Abuja, Kano, Lagos	Refined Dangote	8412	168240	8644	172880	274.79	54683.21	360	71640
JUNE	Abuja, Kano, Lagos	Refined Dangote/ Bua	8360	167200	8510	170200	264.69	52674.80	358.55	71351.45
AVERAGE		Refined	8349	166980	8554.67	171093.33	274.78	54610.87	361.74	71895.06

\*NOTE: MT=Metric Tons (50kgx20), kg=kilogram, N=Nigerian currency naira, \$=USD,  
Weight conversion: 1000kg=1 Metric tonne, \$/MT= c/lb x 22.04  
Country and State are NOT applicable to International raw and white sugar price.  
Source: International Sugar Organization Market Report & Local Market Survey

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