

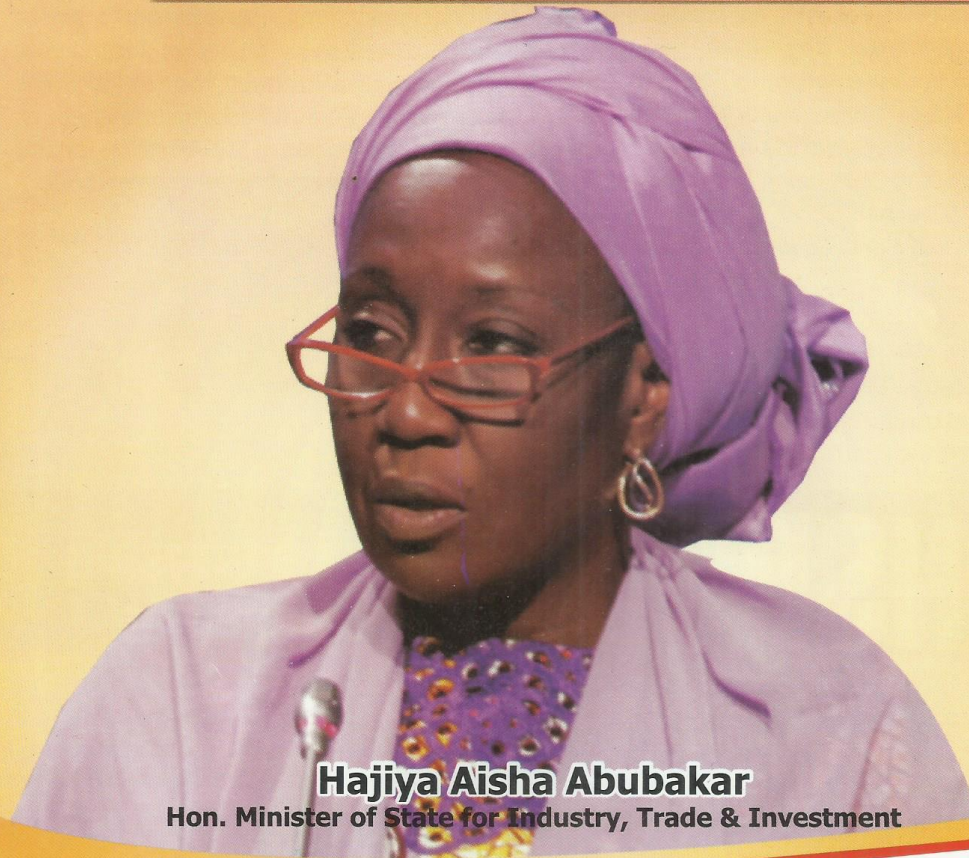


Sugar News

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL SUGAR DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Invest in sugar business,
Minister urges investors



Hajiya Aisha Abubakar

Hon. Minister of State for Industry, Trade & Investment

Minister of state charges sugar industry stakeholders on job creation

NSDC seeks strong partnership for sugar development

NSDC applauds Sunti sugar development strides

NSDC.... We sweeten your world

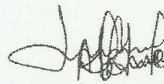
Editorial

Without doubts, the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) has manifestly taken the lead in actualizing President Muhammadu Buhari's avowed resolve to diversify the nation's economy in view of rising uncertainties in the global oil market. The NSDC, through its faithful implementation of the Nigerian Sugar Master Plan (NSMP) has recorded appreciable success in the implementation of the Backward Integration Programme (BIP) led by Savannah Sugar Company Limited, Numan and Sunti Golden Sugar Company, Sunti.

Recently, the Honourable Minister of State for Industry, Trade and Investment, Hajija Aisha Abubakar while on tour of various

sugar investment sites in the country, lauded the NSDC for designing brilliant and implementable policies for the nation's sugar sub-sector. The Minister also commended the efforts of some investors whom she described as "true change agents".

Within the period under review, the NSDC Acting Executive Secretary, Mr Samuel Kwabe, led members of his management team to inspect various sugar related projects across the country. He also played host to high profile visitors to the Council headquarters in Abuja. As always, this edition of SUGAR NEWS is richly packaged for your reading delight. Welcome.



Abdullahi W. Yunusa
Editor-In-Chief

NSDC seeks strong partnership for sugar development

The National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) believes that a strong partnership among stakeholders will ensure Nigeria achieves the expected 70 per cent self-sufficiency in sugar production within the shortest possible time.

The Acting Executive Secretary of the Council, Mr. Samuel Kwabe said the desired new dawn where the industry not only meets our domestic requirements, but becomes a key foreign earner for the country is realizable if all stakeholders work in line with NSDC's mandate of promoting the development of the sub-sector and through implementing the NSMP.

Speaking during a familiarization visit to Savannah Sugar Company Limited (SSCL) in Numan, Mr. Kwabe said the government through the NSDC will always create the conducive atmosphere for the industry to thrive and contribute effectively to Nigeria's industrial and economic development.

The Acting Executive Secretary, who commiserated with the Management and family of a cane cutter who lost his life during the crisis involving cane cutters and Bonge Community Bank, said such ugly incidents were preventable if stakeholders would shun violence and adopt dialogue in addressing issues of mutual concerns.

He said though the visit was to explore ways of improving development in the sugar sector, NSDC was impressed with efforts of Dangote Industries Limited in ensuring the production of sugar locally, promising that all issues raised as well as observations made from the field and factory tours would be communicated to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, who supervises the NSDC. The Executive Secretary said NSDC's door is opened at all times to offer assistance to SSCL whenever the need arises and assured the Company that the issue of Urea fertilizer will be given priority mention in the Council's submission to the Minister.



R-L: NSDC Acting Executive Secretary, Mr. Samuel Kwabe presenting some publications to member, Niger State House of Assembly during a visit to the NSDC Headquarters while DD(PA), Mr. Ahmed Waziri observes

On SSCL's proposal seeking to reduce sugar colour from the recommended ICUMSA 45 to 60 in order to cut down the cost of refining chemicals, the NSDC urged the Company to adhere strictly to national standards as only the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) and the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) have the sole responsibility to approve food standards.

In his presentation to the NSDC team, the Acting General Manager of SSCL, Mr. T.A. Todi, who acknowledged the Acting Executive Secretary as son of the soil, said the planned 150ha seed cane

farm at Lau, Taraba state has been put on hold because the Management of Dangote Sugar Refinery (DSR) is yet to settle the contentious land issue with the Taraba State Government. He however said the already planted 20ha seed cane farm was harvested and transported to SSCL, Numan for milling and to serve as seed cane, adding that the Company currently maintains the ratoon while discussions were ongoing with the Taraba State Government to reconcile existing differences over the land.

The Agric Manager had earlier lamented that lack of Urea fertilizer remains the major challenge facing the Company, stating that due to the current security situation in the North-East, truck-loads of Urea fertilizer meant for SSCL were impounded by security operatives in Kogi State. He however said top officials of the Company were in-touch with relevant security agencies to release the trucks.

He said as part of efforts to address its raw material needs, the SSCL is already working on sourcing the commodity locally given the negative effects lack of fertilizers or its late application would have on sugar cane yield.

During the field visit, the team inspected the G5 farm road constructed by the NSDC which stretched from the Numan-Gombe road at Levee Workshop junction passing through the outgrower farmers' cane field. The Agric. Manager, who took the team through GK fields where cane loading/transportation was ongoing, said both the out-growers and Staff of SSCL were happy with the road.

Other areas visited include K3, K2 and K1 farm

estates where seed cane cuttings and transportation to various planting sites within the estates were in progress. Also inspected by the team was Field P221 planted with some outstanding selected sugarcane varieties for commercial multiplication under the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) project. The project IS supervised by International Sugar Organization (ISO) with NSDC as Project Executing Agency. The selected varieties, which are all growing well and ready to harvest as seed cane for further multiplication, include B80689; D8687; B85266; M1176/77; M1861/89; and Bt87164.

During facility inspection at the factory, the Factory Manager explained that the Company was having challenges with the shredder and milling sections thereby hampering its cane crushing activities. He took the team through the process of cane milling to boiler and the turbines for electricity generation.

According to him, two (2) Boilers had been re-tubed while the 3rd Boiler would be re-tubed before the 2016/17 crop season, adding that the factory had two (2) turbines of 3.2MW each (6.4MW) but at present only one of the turbines (G2) is functional with the second one (G1) meant to undergo repairs.

Minister of State charges sugar industry stakeholders on job creation

The Minister of State for Industry, Trade and Investment, Hajia Aisha Abubakar said stakeholders in the sugar industry must exploit its huge potential to create employment opportunities for Nigeria's teeming youth population.

Speaking during a one-day facility visit to Savannah Sugar Company Limited (SSCL) in Numan, Adamawa State, Hajia Abubakar said the sector must take its pride of place in contributing to the Country's economic development in line with government's resolve to focus and grow the agriculture sector as a major revenue earner for Nigeria.

She said laudable strides by Alhaji Aliko Dangote and the SSCL in sugar production have contributed significantly to the growth witnessed in the sector and government would always encourage such productive endeavours by creating conducive environment for local investments to thrive.

Established in 1971 as a greenfield sugar Company, the SSCL manufactures granulated sugar starting from the cultivation of sugarcane. It took off initially as a joint effort between the Nigerian

government and the Commonwealth Development Corporation Limited (CDCL). However, the Federal government eventually took over control of the Company from CDCL which managed its affairs from 1974 to 1982.

According to her, the SSCL management must keep up its on-going excellent works by maximizing visible gains in both human and capital development for the overall benefit of the nation, adding that the present administration is ready to partner effectively with all stakeholders towards achieving the self-sufficiency target in sugar production. The Minister, who was full of praises for SSCL's investment

which consists of field sugarcane farm, land development and factory (mill) development, urged the workers to remain committed partners in growing the sugar sector.

In his speech, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Aminu Aliyu Bisalla expressed happiness at the achievements recorded by SSCL and urged the management to do more in the area of employment generation as part of its contributions to Nigeria's socio-economic growth and development.

He said the 13 years efforts by owners of the Company, Dangote Group since buying off the Company from the government, has done so much to boost and reposition SSCL as a major player in the nation's sugar industry and charged the management to maintain the high standard it has so far achieved in its production drive.

Also speaking at the occasion, the Director, Industrial Development and Inspectorate Department, FMITI, Engineer (Mrs) Omotanwa Awobokun and the Acting Executive Secretary, National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Mr. Samuel Kwabe

both acknowledged the great efforts made by the firm in turning around the nation's sugar industry.

Mr. Kwabe, who described the sugar sector as having great potential in employment creation and rural empowerment, commended SSCL for its efforts of increasing their production and making them meet global standards.

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Hajiya Aisha Abubakar

Hon. Minister of State for Industry, Trade & Investment

Permanent Secretary for taking time out of their busy schedule to visit the Company. This, he said was a sign of good faith and commitment on the part of government to grow the industrial sector.

Earlier in his presentation, the General Manager of SSCL, Mr. Ta'aziya Akila Todi took the

Ministerial team through some of the facilities and sugar production process in the Company, ranging from sugarcane planting, harvesting and processing into consumable sugar.

He also listed some of the facilities being run by the company as part of its corporate social responsibilities. These include free health clinic, school (Primary and Secondary), guest house and restaurant. He gave a breakdown of SSCL staff strength to include 737 permanent; 1,366 casual Staff; and 5,504 seasonal workers.

As part of the visit, the team also toured the cane field, the mill, warehouse and the workshop, all occupying a total land area of 32,000ha.

At the end of the tour, representative of the Dangote Group, Engineer Joseph Makoju thanked the Minister and her team for the visit, assuring her that the Company would not relent in making its impact felt as a major player in growing the nation's sugar sector as an alternative revenue source for the country.



Acting Executive Secretary, Mr. Samuel Kwabe during a photo session with visiting NIPC boss Hajjiya Ladi Katagum



Acting Executive Secretary, Mr. Samuel Kwabe (M) and some members of the NSDC Management team during a courtesy visit by lawmakers from Niger State House of Assembly.



Staff of Finance and Accounts Department in a group photo session during a mini sentforth organized for Mr. Adesoji Marcus who retired recently

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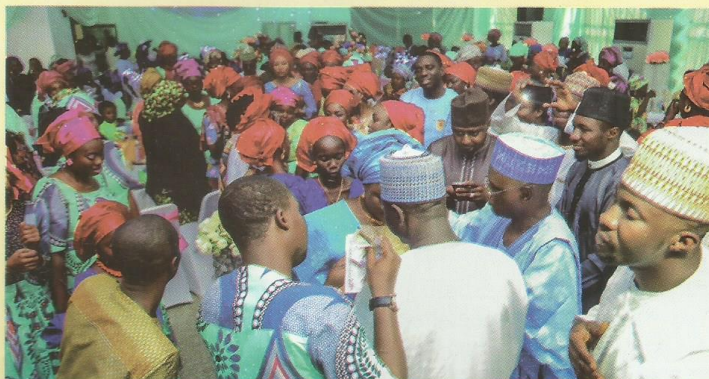


R-L: Acting Executive Secretary, Mr. Samuel Kwabe presenting gift item to the Acting Executive Secretary, Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), Hajjiya Ladi Sule Katagum during a visit to the NSDC Head Office in Abuja.

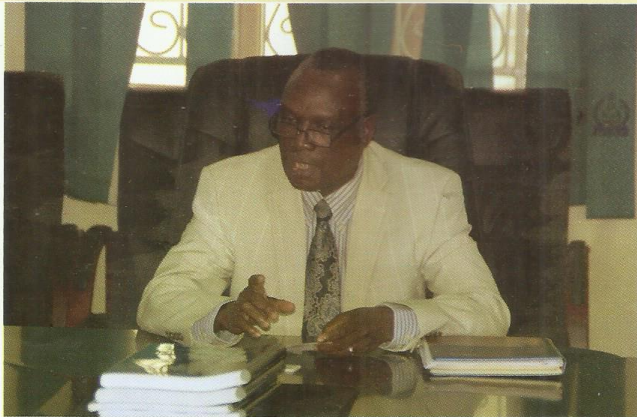
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Members of the Niger State House of Assembly Committee on House Services during an official visit to the NSDC Headquarters.



NSDC acting Executive Secretary Mr. Samuel Kwabe on the dance floor during the wedding ceremony of Mr. Saidu Mohammed of HRM Dept.



Acting Executive Secretary, Mr. Samuel Kwabe

NSDC applauds Sunti sugar development strides

The National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) has lauded the contributions of Sunti Golden Sugar Estate Limited (SGSEL) in growing the nation's sugar industry with assurances that its resolve to promote Nigeria's self-sufficiency in sugar production will not be compromised.

At a time many Nigerians are hard pressed to criticize Federal Government's perceived lack of economic focus, the NSDC says conscious efforts are being made to ensure the sugar sub-sector becomes a major employer of labour and revenue earner for the Country.

Acting Executive Secretary, Mr. Samuel Ali Kwabe gave the assurance during the NSDC Management team's two day official visit to Sunti Golden Sugar Estate Limited (SGSEL), a Backward Integration Project (BIP) site of Golden Sugar Refinery, Apapa, Lagos. He said with Agriculture now a priority sector under the present

administration, NSDC, as the focal agency for regulating the sugar sub-sector, remained fully committed to give required support and helping hands to companies that are ready to drive sustainable growth in the industry.

Mr. Kwabe said NSDC will always encourage active partnership between government and stakeholders towards realizing the goals of making the sector viable in Nigeria's economic growth and development agenda.

The Acting Executive Secretary, who noted SGSEL's great strides since the BIP commenced, said the firm will always enjoy attention as the pioneer green field sugar outfit under the Nigerian Sugar Master Plan (NSMP). He described SGSEL as NSMP's baby with demonstrable capacity in building a sugar industry from scratch, promising that NSDC will encourage the firm for effective production of sugar and other related products.

According to him, the visit was

to access the level of preparedness of the estate for commissioning in order to brief the Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Dr. Okechukwu E. Enelamah whose planned visit to SGSEL was put off due to urgent national assignments.

He expressed satisfaction with the progress of work on ground and urged the Company to maintain the positive tempo even after the project has been commissioned.

Mr. Kwabe, who advised the Company to contact NSDC whenever it was ready to establish the out-grower schemes around the estate, presented a booklet containing information on all imported sugar cane varieties into Nigeria compiled by the Council.

The NSDC team was received by the General Manager of Sunti Golden Sugar Estate, Sunti, Mr. Paul Lloyd and Agricultural Manager, Mr. Andrew Baker who conducted the visitors around the factory.

In their presentation, the SGSEL said among the challenges facing the outfit is the perennial flooding of the estate due to excess water released from Jebba Dam and solicited government's assistance to address the issue on a permanent basis.

They assured the NSDC team that as part of its corporate social responsibilities, the Company will effectively engage youths in the host Community to make them enterprising and responsible citizens through gainful employment.

Invest in sugar business, Minister urges investors

The Honourable Minister of State for Industry, Trade and Investment, Hajia Aisha Abubakar has called on investors in the country to take advantage of the huge potential in the nation's sugar industry by investing in the sector.

The Minister who made the call while inspecting the Sunti Golden Sugar Estate, Sunti, Niger state, said the sugar sector is in dire need of investment.

Hajia Abubakar who commended the efforts of the owners of the company, said the project was a good example of the Backward Integration Programme (BIP) of the present administration. She stressed the readiness of government to accord willing investors necessary support to strengthen their businesses.

While urging all stakeholders to cooperate with government to actualize its noble plans as contained in the Nigerian Sugar Master Plan (NSMP), she called on them to be alive to their responsibilities.

On his part, the Acting

Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Mr Samuel Kwabe expressed happiness over the level of achievement recorded by the company and prayed the organization not to relent until the entire project is completed.

Mr Kwabe assured the Management of the company of NSDC's support to encourage research institutes and researchers to develop the Nigerian varieties of sugarcane.

Speaking on why the Sunti Golden Sugar Estate should not dissipate its energy in setting up a bio-factory as being proposed, Mr Kwabe hinted that there was a state-of-the-art bio-factory in Zaria which could satisfy not only the company's needs, but that of other investors in the sector.

Speaking earlier, the Group Managing Director of the Flour Mills of Nigeria, owners of SGSE, Mr Paul Gbadebo disclosed that the Sunti Golden Sugar Estate is the newest sugar estate in

Nigeria, adding that it was sitting on a 17,000ha land which was acquired five years ago.

He said the organization has various projects in Kwara, Oyo, Edo, Ogun and Cross River states, stressing that his company has much interest in agricultural businesses. He further stated that the SGSE is their second agri-based project in Niger state, the other one being in Kontogora.

On the Minister's entourage were the Permanent Secreatry, Ministry, Industry, Trade and Investment, Alhaji Aminu Aliyu Bissala, Acting Executive Secretary, NSDC, Mr Samuel Kwabe as well as members of the NSDC Management and officials of the FMITI.

NSDC Acting Executive Secretary hails Justice Mamman Nasir

The Acting Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Mr Samuel Kwabe recently joined other eminent Nigerians to shower encomiums on former President of the Court of Appeal, Justice Mamman Nasir on the occasion of a colloquium organised in honour of the retired jurist.

Mr Kwabe who praised the eminent jurist for his exemplary conducts within and outside the court room, described him as a patriotic, forthright and honest gentleman.

He commended the organisers of the event for their foresight, arguing that individuals who distinguish themselves in their chosen endeavours should be honoured while alive not when they are no more.

The event which attracted the high and mighty within and outside northern Nigerian also witnessed the launch of four books in honour of Justice Nasir.

President Muhammadu Buhari, represented by Kaduna state governor, Malam Nasir Ahmed el-Rufai congratulated Justice Nasir

for his huge contributions to the nation's judiciary and described the former Court of Appeal President as the "architect of Nigerian judiciary".

President Buhari said, "I want to inform everyone that Justice Nasir is the architect of Nigerian judicial system, as you know it today. "What you



Justice Mamman Nasir (Rtd)
Former Court of Appeal President

see today in terms of the structure of the judiciary and everything that makes the system works are the handwork of Nasir,"he said.

The president commended the organizers of the event, saying that it was significant to always recognise and appreciate those who served the nation meritoriously. Buhari expressed sadness that Nigerians tend to accord priority to materialism rather than honesty, hard work and service.

"We have become a nation in which people that have money are worshipped and recognized more than those that have served with merit. "I am therefore grateful to the organizers of this event and for writing four books in Nasir's honour. "This is what we need to be doing as a country: recognizing those that served the nation well," he said.

A total of four books entitled, Sustaining the Administration of Justice; Character and Leadership: The Nasir Example; Threshold of Justice; and Northern Stars: Who is Who in the North were launched at the event.

The National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) was represented at the event by the Senior Information Officer, Abdullahi W.

Yunusa.

The organizers of the event identified the NSDC as one of the "notable media friendly government agencies in the country", and pledged to assist in the attainment of all its programme of action as contained in the Nigerian Sugar Master Plan (NSMP).

STAFF MATTERS/NEWS

MARRIAGES:

The second quarter of 2016 witnessed the marriage ceremonies of some Council staff. The events which held at different dates and venues/locations had council staff in attendance.

It first began with Saidu Mohammed of the Human Resource Management Department who bided farewell to bachelorhood on 15th May, 2016 when he walked down the aisle with his diva, Ramatu Ahmad Agyina. Here is wishing the ever lively Saidu and his dear wife a blissful marital journey.

Also, an Assistant Director in the PPRS department, Malam Babangida Damare was joined in holy matrimony with his damsel in the ancient city of Yola, Adamawa state on 6th May, 2016. We wish them Allah's blessings and protection in their new home.

Lastly, a staff of the Technical Services department, Amina Salau, signed the dotted lines with her heartthrob Abdul Wasiu Olamilekan Omotosho on the 4th June, 2016. The event took place in Karu, Abuja. We wish them the very best in all spheres of life.



Mr. Saidu Mohammed of HRM Dept. and his wife cutting their wedding cake

CONDOLENCES:

The entire Council hereby extend its deepest condolences to Mrs. Okolie Ijeoma of the PPRS Department on the death of her beloved father, Ichie Sir Paul N Ukaigwe whose burial final rites took place on 27th May, 2016 at Uli in Ihiala LGA, Anambra State. The Council was represented at the burial. May his soul rest peacefully in the Lord's bosom.

Also, an Assistant Director in the PPRS Department, Malam Babangida Damare shared the sad news of the passage of his beloved mother. The sad incident occurred on the 27th, June, 2016. She has since been buried in accordance with Islamic rites. May Allah (SWT) accept her innocent soul and grant the entire family the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

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Also in the second quarter, Miss Rufai Omotayo Mariam a corps member in the ICT Unit under the office of the Executive Secretary was sent forth on the 5th of April upon the completion of her mandatory one year service. The farewell ceremony had representatives of all departments in the Council in attendance. Best of luck in your future endeavours.

DATA ON SUGAR IMPORTATION IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2016 - APRIL - JUNE

MONTHS	Importer	QTY (MT) (NPA)	QTY (MT) (NCS)	Country Of Origin	Discharging Port	Type of Sugar
APRIL	Dangote Sugar	46,250	93,050	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk Raw
	BUA Sugar	45,005	45,000	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk Raw
	Golden Sugar	35,380	46,000	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk Raw
MAY	Dangote Sugar	46,909	90,680	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk Raw
	BUA Sugar	40,014	-	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk Raw
	Golden Sugar	46,000	-	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk Raw
JUNE	Dangote Sugar	46,580	61,500	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk Raw
	BUA Sugar	45,000	23,572	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk Raw
	Total	699,119	670,485			

Source: Nigeria Customs Service (NCS)

SUMMARY OF AVERAGE LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL RAW AND REFINED SUGAR PRICE: APRIL - JUNE 2016

MONTHS	STATE/CITY	SUGAR TYPE	WHOLESALE N/50KG	WHOLESALE N/MT	RETAIL N/50KG	RETAIL N/MT	INTERNATIONAL RAW SUGAR AVERAGE PRICE		INTERNATIONAL RAW SUGAR AVERAGE PRICE	
							\$/MT	N/MT	\$/MT	N/MT
APRIL	Abuja Kano Lagos Adamawa Kwara	Refined Dangote Bua Golden	9200	184000	9340	186800	333.33	66332.67	440.58	87675.42
MAY	Abuja Kano Lagos Adamawa Kwara	Refined Dangote Bua Golden	9490	189800	9625	192500	371.31	73891.68	478.27	95176.72
JUNE	Abuja Kano Lagos Adamawa Kwara	Refined Dangote Bua Golden	11610	232200	11810	236200	417.76	119267.4	518.75	148078
AVERAGE			10100	202000	10258.33	205166.66	374.13	86497.25	479.2	110310.04

*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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...and much more