



# Sugar News

VOL. 21 NO. 1 JANUARY - MARCH 2021 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL SUGAR DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## President Buhari appoints Zacch Adedeji as NSDC Executive Secretary



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🍷 New NSDC boss assumes office, pledges to work with all staff

🍷 Sugar Council mourns Alhaji Song, Yaro

*NSDC.... We sweeten your world*

## Editorial

The first quarter of 2021 was a busy and momentous period at the National Sugar Development Council. The official commissioning of the Nigeria Sugar Institute (NSI), Ilorin, Kwara state by the Hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Niyi Adebayo led the pack of events that involved the Council in the last three months. The immediate past Executive Secretary, Dr. Latif D. Busari served out his final term in office and handed over affairs of the Council to the Director, Policy, Planning, Research and Statistics, Mr. Hezekiah Kolawole, in acting capacity.

Again, the Council hugged news headlines with the appointment of Mr. Zacch Adelabu Adedeji as the 5th substantive Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) by President Muhammadu Buhari. The news of his appointment was contained in a press statement signed by Director of Information, office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Mr. Willie Bassey.

Another cheering development for the Council and the sugar industry as a whole was the coming on board of a new investor, KIA Group Africa, who bought over the Nigeria Sugar Company (NISUCO), Bacita,

Kwara state from the Asset Management Company of Nigeria (AMCON). All administrative and policy issues relating to the acquisition have been concluded by all the parties involved.

As usual, we have for your reading pleasure and delight, happenings and activities of interest in the local and global sugar market as well as our specialized pages; Star Interview, Health Corner and Staff Matters.



Abdullahi W. Yunusa  
Editor-In-Chief

## Jubilation as FG commissions sugar institute in Kwara state

History was made recently following the formal commissioning of Nigeria's first sugar training centre jointly established by the Federal Government and key private sector players in the sugar industry. The institute which is expected to address challenges of skilled manpower and expertise in the sugar industry is named the Nigeria Sugar Institute (NSI), located in Ilorin, Kwara State.

The institute which was commissioned by the Hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Niyi Adebayo had political bigwigs, captains of industry, traditional rulers, key government functionaries as well as investors in the sugar sector in attendance.

Earlier in his speech, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Niyi Adebayo, while stating that the Federal Government was ready to partner with private investors in sugar production in the



**Otunba Niyi Adebayo**  
Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment  
during the official commissioning of the Nigeria Sugar Institute (NSI)

country, said that investment already made by the apex government and the private sector in the industry was capable of creating thousands of jobs in agriculture and manufacturing sectors.

While expressing optimism on what the sector holds for the country, Otunba Adebayo said, "The government, therefore, recognizes the need to deepen the partnership with the private sector to drive access to skills development, research and development in a manner that promotes competition,



productivity, profitability and sustainability in the sugar industry”.

The Minister who commended the Kwara State Government and other stakeholders in the partnership for the support given to the ministry in actualizing the project, pledged to meet expectations of the country in sugar development through the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan.

In his welcome address, the Executive Secretary, National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) Dr. Latif D. Busari said that the newly

“would further assist in the provision of clean and pure seed cane for growers, all based on the most advanced technologies available.

To actualize these for the country, Dr. Busari explained that the “institution would provide training for the core faculties of the Nigerian institution, adding that, NSI has begun to train 18 trainee instructors before the official commissioning to ensure that the ongoing plan to boost sugar industry achieve desired purpose”.

He noted that, “six of the 18 trainees

collaboration with world-class sugar institutes in India and Mauritius.”

“The Sugar Council, working closely with our operators had collated the various technical manpower needs covering the plan period between 2017 and 2023, identified the training programmes and developed curriculum for the courses that would be offered at the Institute.

Also speaking at the event, the Governor of Kwara state, Alhaji Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq pledged that his government will continue to



Dignitaries at the official commissioning of the Nigeria Sugar Institute (NSI) Ilorin, Kwara State

commissioned Nigeria Sugar Institute (NSI) in Ilorin, Kwara State would aid the ongoing drive towards achieving a virile and competitive sugar industry for the country.

Dr. Busari also hinted that the institute would also fill the current void in critical areas of Nigeria's sugar industry such as research, development and innovation as well as technical manpower development to sustain the industry development. Dr. Busari stressed that the institute

were currently taking courses in agriculture and field operations while the 12 others were gaining required knowledge on factory related operations. Dr. Busari argued that the commissioning and training would have commenced earlier but was delayed due to COVID-19 lockdown and international travel restrictions imposed to prevent the virus transmission. The secretary described the institute as a partnership effort between the public and private sector, and also

create an environment for industrial growth, in partnership with both the Federal Government and the private sector for the benefit of residents of the state. The governor said the state has the potential of providing enough sugarcane for sugar industries in the country.



## President Buhari appoints new NSDC Executive Secretary, as Dr. Busari serves out final term

President Muhammadu Buhari has approved the appointment of Mr Zacch as the Executive Secretary of National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) for an initial term of four years.

President Buhari made the announcement in a statement signed by Mr Willie Bassey, Director of Information, office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation. The statement said that Mr. Zacch's appointment was in accordance with the provision of Section 5 (1) of the National Sugar Development Council (Establishment Act, 1993).

According to the statement, the new Executive Secretary holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Management and Accounting and Masters degree in

Accounting from the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun.

He also holds Executive Certificate in Economic Development from Harvard, Kennedy School of Government, Boston, U.S. with fifteen years' experience as Chartered Accountant. Until his appointment, Zacch had served as Corporate Affairs Manager (West Africa), Procter and Gamble Company, Lagos, and Commissioner for Finance, Oyo State, from 2011 to 2015. "Mr President enjoins Zacch to serve the nation with all sense of responsibility, honesty, diligence and promote good governance in the discharge of his duties," it said. According to the statement, the appointment is with effect from March 10.

## New NSDC boss assumes office, pledges to work with all staff

The newly inaugurated Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council, Mr. Zacch Adedeji has pledged his readiness to learn, understudy and work with all members of staff across boards for the overall growth and development of the Council in particular and the sugar industry in general.

Mr. Adedeji who gave this pledge today during his formal inauguration as the substantive Executive Secretary of the Council by the Hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Niyi Adebayo, also promised to be fair, just and objective in the discharge of his official responsibilities.

While thanking President Muhammadu Buhari for appointing him to head the Council, Mr. Adedeji said he would welcome and work with inputs and suggestions from all members of staff, including inputs from the Ministers and Permanent Secretary to take the Council to the next level.

"I am ready to learn, relate, work and listen to all shades of useful and relevant views that would help the Council to achieve its mandate. I pledge to build on the legacies and achievements of my predecessors".

While on a familiarization tour of the Sugar House, Headquarters of the NSDC, Mr. Adedeji said he's pleased with the serene, orderly and conducive working environment in the Council, a feat he said is rare in public service.

"I'm very pleased with the things on ground here. It is difficult to believe that this is a government office. The environment is clean, serene and things are all in order. Kudos to all of you, especially my predecessors who made all these possible".

"I've not come here to alter existing programmes and policies that are clearly working for the good of the Council, but to join you in building on the legacies of my predecessors who have all done marvelously well in taking the Council to where it is today. I'm particularly happy that we aren't operating from a

rented office complex. This is fantastic, I must admit".

The new E.S was earlier received by the entire members of the NSDC Management team, led by the Acting E.S and Director, Policy, Planning, Research and Statistics, Mr. Hezekiah Kolawole.



**MR. ZACCH ADEDEJI**  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
NATIONAL SUGAR DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (NSDC)



## Meet the new Executive Secretary of NSDC

**M**r. Zacch Adelabu Adedeji is the 5th substantive Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), since it was established by Decree 88 of 1993, now an Act of the National Assembly, Act Cap. No. 78 LFN of 2004, amended in 2015, to catalyze the development of the sugar industry with a view to ensuring that Nigeria attains at least, 70% self-sufficiency in her sugar requirement within the shortest possible time and even export to earn foreign exchange.

Mr. Adedeji, a consummate financial expert with 15 years' post qualification experience in financial and general management was appointed by President Muhammadu Buhari as the Executive Secretary of the Council on 10th March, 2021 for an initial term of four years.

He assumed leadership of the Council with a proven track record of over 15 years of hands-on executive experience (+16 years qualified chartered accountant) in strategy, accounting and financial management, financial analysis/reporting, internal controls, change management, and people management.

Mr. Adedeji is also an expert generalist in overseeing all aspects of multi-million-dollar business, proactive, goal-oriented senior executive with extensive international financial management and operations experience both in the private and public sectors.

He is a First Class graduate of Management and Accounting from the prestigious Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife and later bagged a Masters of Science degree in Accounting from the same university. He was also at the famous Harvard Kennedy School of Government in the United States of America for an Executive Course in Economic Development.



**MR. ZACCH ADEDEJI**  
**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**  
 NATIONAL SUGAR DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (NSDC)

Mr. Adedeji's long sojourn in the private sector and a four-year stint as the Commissioner of Finance in Oyo state between 2011-2015 with unbeatable and unassailable performance records and achievements have undoubtedly prepared him for the onerous task of providing the needed leadership in Nigeria's drive to attain self-sufficiency in sugar production through faithful implementation of the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan (NSMP).

He held a number of senior management positions while working at the Procter & Gamble Company (P&G), a famous American multinational consumer goods corporation headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, United States of America with branches across several countries. He was General Accounting and Stewardship Manager between January 2004 to May 2006 where he led a cross-functional team to prepare and report financial statements regionally and globally through consolidated data entry tool.

Mr. Adedeji's culture of hardwork and knack for professional excellence earned him a higher position at the P&G with his elevation as the Finance Leader-SAP (Systems Applications and Products) Implementation Project. He spearheaded the day-to-day evaluation and implementation of SAP Modules and also led a 15-person finance team to develop the internal processes for the roll out of SAP West Africa in line with the projects prerequisites. He later rose to the position of Corporate Finance Manager (West Africa) overseeing Treasury, Corporate/Affiliate Accounting, AP & Tax at the Procter and Gamble between August 2007 to May 2011.

Continued on page 8



3rd from right, former Executive Secretary, NSDC, Dr. Latif D. Busari in a farewell photo session with Directors to mark the end of his 2nd term in office.



Mr. Zacch Adedeji receiving letter of appointment from the Minister of State, Industry, Trade and Investment, Hajiya Ambassador Mariam Katagum



Former E.S. Dr. Busari with staff under the Executive Secretary's office.



*Photo Speaks*



Some members of NSDC Management Staff during the general staff meeting at the Council headquarters, Abuja



Former E.S. Dr. Latif D. Busari and some dignitaries at the official commissioning of the Nigeria Sugar Institute (NSI), Ilorin, Kwara State



The Executive Secretary, NSDC Mr. Zacch Adedeji in a group photograph with the Ministers of Industry, Trade & Investment and FMTII officials shortly after his Inauguration by the Hon. Minister, FMTII, Otunba Niyi Adebayo

Continued from page 5 **Meet the new Executive Secretary of NSDC**

While in the saddle as the Commissioner of Finance in Oyo state, he introduced a number of brilliant, forward-thinking, revenue-boosting and cost-saving reforms that increased the Internally Generated Revenue of the state, plugged financial leakages, introduced best financial practices and general financial turnaround among other innovations.

Mr. Adedeji, a Fellow of Chartered Accountant (FCA) is also a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) and member, Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria.

He has attended trainings and participated in several executive programmes centered on leadership, capacity building and development, finance and accounting, policy and administration and stewardship in the United States of America, Philippines, South Africa, Belgium and Switzerland.

Until his appointment as the Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Mr. Zacch Adedeji was the Chairman, Governing Board, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Teaching Hospital, Bauchi state.



**MR. ZACCH ADEDEJI**  
**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**  
**NATIONAL SUGAR DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (NSDC)**

## Dangote Sugar winds up sugar business in Niger State

The Board of DSR has completed all winding-up proceedings for its Backward Integration Project in Niger State.

Dangote Sugar Refinery Plc, one of the leading producers of refined sugar to consumers and industries in Nigeria has successfully wind up its sugar business in Niger State - under the Dangote Niger Sugar Limited.

According to a note by the company, this decision was made in an effort to cut down on deadweight cost, coming from a stretched situation from its host community which had started accumulating negative returns for the integrated sugar business.

The company noted that after a careful assessment of recent disruptions to its operation as projected in the state, due to community dispute over the land acquired in Niger, the Board of DSR in December 2020 completed all winding-up proceedings for the Backward Integration Project Company in Niger State.

The Dangote Niger Sugar Limited was created through an MOU between the Niger State Government and Dangote Sugar Refinery Plc, for the establishment of an integrated sugar project in the State.

The 12,000 ted mill located on a 16,000ha land near Mambe, Lavun LGA of Niger State, had an estimated set-up cost of \$450million.

The Sugar project was established as an integral part of the company's Backward Integration Project (BIP), with a 10-year sugar development plan to produce 1.5 million MTPA of sugar from locally grown sugarcane, under the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan (NSMP), a plan implemented to make Nigeria self-sufficient in sugar production.

The BIP Company in Niger State was the fourth sugar project by Dangote Sugar, after the Savannah Sugar Company - Numan Adamawa State, Lau/Tau Sugar - Taraba State and Tunga Sugar Project in Nasarawa State.



## Sugar Council mourns Alhaji Song, Yaro

The National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) has expressed over the passing of two important players in the sugar industry, Alhaji Ahmed Song and Alhaji Ibrahim Yaro. Both of them died in January 2021 after a brief illness.

Late Ahmed Song was one of the notable stakeholders in the sugar industry who contributed immensely to the growth of the sector through policy formulation and other professional interventions. Late Alhaji Song was the Chairman of the Presidential Committee that midwived the establishment of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) in 1993.

In a letter of condolence to the family, the Executive Secretary, Dr. Latif D. Busari said the late Alhaji Ahmed Song was a patriot who gave his very best to the development of the sugar sector and other critical sectors of the economy where he worked.

He urged the family to take solace in the fact that their "lived a peaceful, harmonious, eventful and impactful live, and prayed God almighty to grant him paradise".



Late Alhaji Ahmed Song



Late Alhaji Ibrahim Yaro,  
Former MD, BUA Sugar Refinery

Also, the NSDC boss condoled with the family of late Alhaji Ibrahim Yaro who was until his death the Managing Director, BUA Sugar Refinery, Lagos.

While recalling the various impactful roles Alhaji Yaro played, especially as it relates to the implementation of the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan (NSMP), Dr. Busari prayed God to grant him eternal rest and give the family members and friends the needed fortitude even as they mourn.



### What is high blood pressure?

Blood pressure is the force at which blood pumps from the heart into the arteries. A normal blood pressure reading is less than 120/80 mm Hg. When blood pressure is high, the blood moves through the arteries more forcefully. This puts increased pressure on the delicate tissues in the arteries and damages the blood vessels.

High blood pressure, or hypertension, affects about half of American adults, estimates the American College of Cardiology.

Known as a "silent killer," it usually doesn't cause symptoms until there's significant damage done to the heart. Without visible symptoms, most people are unaware that they have high blood pressure.

### 1. Get moving

Exercising 30 to 60 minutes a day is an important part of healthy living. Along with helping lower blood pressure, regular physical activity benefits your mood, strength, and balance. It decreases your risk of diabetes and other types of heart disease.

If you've been inactive for a while, talk to your doctor about a safe exercise routine. Start out slowly, then gradually pick up the pace and frequency of your workouts.

Not a fan of the gym? Take your workout outside. Go for a hike, jog, or swim and still reap the benefits. The important thing is to get moving!

The American Heart Association (AHA) also recommends incorporating muscle strengthening activity at least two

## 7 home remedies for managing High Blood Pressure

days per week. You can try lifting weights, doing pushups, or performing any other exercise that helps build lean muscle mass.

### 2. Follow the DASH diet

Following the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) diet can lower your blood pressure by as much as 11 mm Hg systolic. The DASH diet consists of:

eating fruits, vegetables, and whole grains

eating low-fat dairy products, lean meats, fish, and nuts

eliminating foods that are high in saturated fats, such as processed foods, full-fat dairy products, and fatty meats

The AHA recommends limiting your sodium intake to between 1,500 milligrams (mg) and 2,300 mg per day. That's a little over half a teaspoon of table salt.

To decrease sodium in your diet, don't add salt to your food. One teaspoon of table salt has 2,300 mg of sodium! Use herbs and spices to add flavor instead. Processed foods also tend to be loaded with sodium. Always read food labels and choose low-sodium alternatives when possible.

### 4. Lose excess weight

Weight and blood pressure go hand in hand. Losing just 10 pounds (4.5 kilograms) can help lower your blood pressure.

It's not just the number on your scale that matters. Watching your waistline is



It also helps to cut back on desserts and sweetened beverages, such as soda and juice.

### 3. Put down the saltshaker

Keeping your sodium intake to a minimum can be vital for lowering blood pressure.

In some people, when you eat too much sodium, your body starts to retain fluid. This results in a sharp rise in blood pressure.

also critical for controlling blood pressure.

The extra fat around your waist, called visceral fat, is troublesome. It tends to surround various organs in the abdomen. This can lead to serious health problems, including high blood pressure.

In general, men should keep their waist measurement to less than 40 inches. Women should aim for less than 35 inches.



**5. Nix your nicotine addiction**

Each cigarette you smoke temporarily raises blood pressure for several minutes after you finish. If you're a heavy smoker, your blood pressure can stay elevated for extended periods of time.

People with high blood pressure who smoke are at greater risk for developing dangerously high blood pressure, heart attack, and stroke.

Even secondhand smoke can put you at increased risk for high blood pressure and heart disease. Aside from providing numerous other health benefits, quitting smoking can help your blood pressure return to normal.

**6. Limit alcohol**

Drinking a glass of red wine with your dinner is perfectly fine. It might even offer heart-health benefits when done in moderation.

But drinking excessive amounts of alcohol can lead to lots of health issues, including high blood pressure. Excessive drinking can also reduce the effectiveness of certain blood pressure medications.

What does drinking in moderation mean? The AHA recommends that men limit their consumption to two alcoholic drinks per day. Women should limit their intake to one alcoholic drink per day.

One drink equals:

- 12 ounces of beer
- 5 ounces of wine
- 1.5 ounces of 80-proof liquor

**7. Stress less**

In today's fast-paced world that's filled with increasing demands, it can be hard to slow down and relax. It's important to step away from your daily responsibilities so you can ease your stress.

Stress can temporarily raise your blood pressure. Too much of it can keep your pressure up for extended periods of time.

It helps to identify the trigger for your stress. It may be your job, relationship, or finances. Once you know the source of your stress, you can try to find ways to fix the problem.

You can also take steps to relieve your stress in a healthy way. Try taking a

few deep breaths, meditating, or practicing yoga.

**The risks of high blood pressure**

When left untreated, high blood pressure can lead to serious health complications, including stroke, heart attack, and kidney damage. Regular visits to your doctor can help you monitor and control your blood pressure.

A blood pressure reading of 130/80 mm Hg or above is considered high. If you've recently received a diagnosis of high blood pressure, your doctor will work with you on how to lower it.

Your treatment plan might include medication, lifestyle changes, or a combination of therapies. Taking the above steps can help bring your numbers down, too.

Experts say each lifestyle change, on average, is expected to bring down blood pressure by 4 to 5 mm Hg systolic (the top number) and 2 to 3 mm Hg diastolic (the bottom number). Lowering salt intake and making dietary changes may lower blood pressure even more.

**Staff Matters**



Sent forth ceremony organized in honour of some Corps members and Interns posted to the Council following the completion of their service to the nation at the council

## DATA ON SUGAR IMPORTATION IN THE FOURTH QUARTERS JANUARY - MARCH 2021

Month	Importer	Qty (MT) (NPA)	Qty (MT) (NCS)	Levy Paid (N)	Country of Origin	Discharging Port	Type of Sugar
January	Dangote Sugar	169,090	1,602	10,154,296	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk (Raw)
	BU A Sugar	44,590	46,670	291,899,504	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk (Raw)
	Golden Sugar	-	65,486	486,993,981	Brazil	Apapa	Bulk (Raw)
February	Dangote Sugar	100,832	84,410	654,565,352	Brazil		Bulk (Raw)
	BUA Sugar	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Golden Suagr	-	-	-	-	-	-
March	Dangote Sugar	45,024	-	-	-	-	-
	BUA Sugar	-	44,000	314,203,084	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk (Raw)
	Golden Sugar	-	52,750	407,271,366	Brazil	Tin Can	Bulk (Raw)
<b>Total</b>		<b>359,536</b>	<b>294,918</b>	<b>2,165,087,583</b>			

## SUMMARY OF AVERAGE LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL RAW AND WHITE SUGAR PRICE: JANUARY - MARCH 2021

MONTH	SOURCE (STATE)	SUGAR (BRAND)	WHOLESALE N/50KG	WHOLESALE N/MT	RETAIL N/50KG	RETAIL N/MT	INTERNATIONAL		INTERNATIONAL	
							RAW SUGAR		WHITE SUGAR	
							AVERAGE PRICE \$/MT	N/MT	AVERAGE PRICE \$/MT	N/MT
JANUARY	LAGOS	WHITE	18,780.00	375,600	19,110.00	382,200.00	313.303	119,054.95	407.375	154,802.50
	KANO	DANGOTE/								
	ABUJA	GOLDEN/								
	ADAMAWA	BUA								
FEBRUARY	LAGOS	WHITE	18,885	377,700	19,305	386,100	358.373	136,181.55	461.188	175,251.25
	KANO	DANGOTE/								
	ABUJA	GOLDEN/								
	ADAMAWA	BUA								
MARCH	LAGOS	WHITE	18,601	372,016	18,895	377,400	343.83	130,655.15	447.08	169,891.25
	KANO	DANGOTE/								
	ABUJA	GOLDEN/								
	ADAMAWA	BUA								
AVERAGE MONTH										
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18,755.33</b>	<b>375,105</b>	<b>19,103.33</b>	<b>381,900.00</b>	<b>338.502</b>	<b>128,630.55</b>	<b>438.5477</b>	<b>166,649.00</b>

**Note:** Mt = metric Tons (50kgx 20), Kg = Kilogram, N = Nigerian Currency Naira, S= Usd, Currency Conversion Us\$1 = 380.50(Nigeria Central Bank Rate Average For The Quarter)  
**Weight Conversion:** 1000kg = 1 Metric Tonne, S/ Ton = C/ib 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.

#### Editorial Team

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*...and much more*