

## WORKING DOCUMENT

### **Evolution of consumer SUGAR prices - Update - from the monthly report by the EU Commission on "EU agricultural commodity and food prices - Update on recent developments" and "Commodity price data dashboard"**

The monthly report by the EU Commission on "EU agricultural commodity and food prices - Update on recent developments" which enabled the assessment of the evolution of consumer sugar prices was provided up to March 2012 and replaced in June 2012 by the "Commodity price data dashboard". This renewed report further provides a monthly summary of commodity price data for the most representative agricultural products and consumer food prices, of which sugar, at EU and world level.

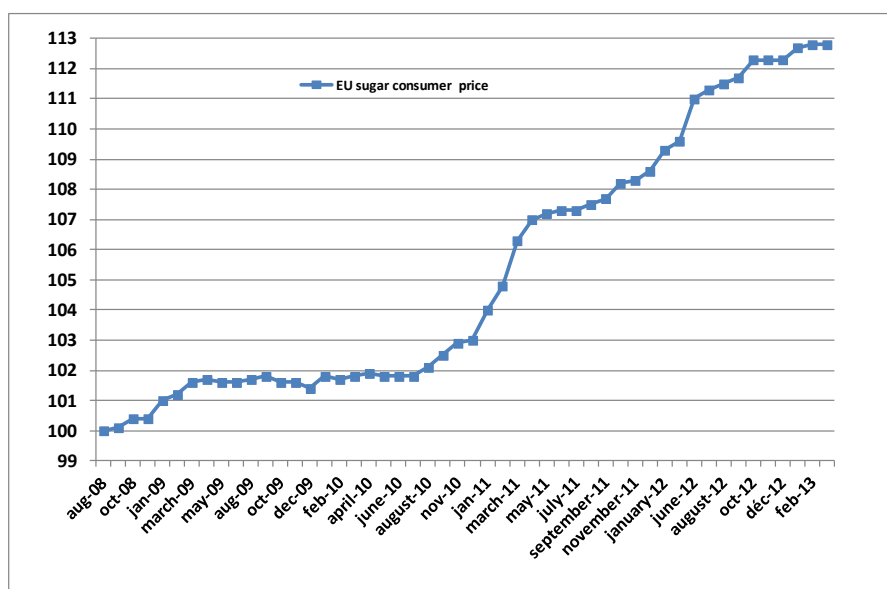
We have collected and extracted the figures as regards the monthly indexed evolution of consumer sugar prices in the EU and in the Member States from August 2008 until August 2012 (see graphs below).

There is only one Member State: the United Kingdom, for which this evolution cannot be assessed because the complete set of data is not available. It should be noted also that these sets of data per country has been interrupted in March 2012. In June 2012, the Commission has provided a renewed price dashboard.

The result for the EU-26 is pointed out on the graph below.

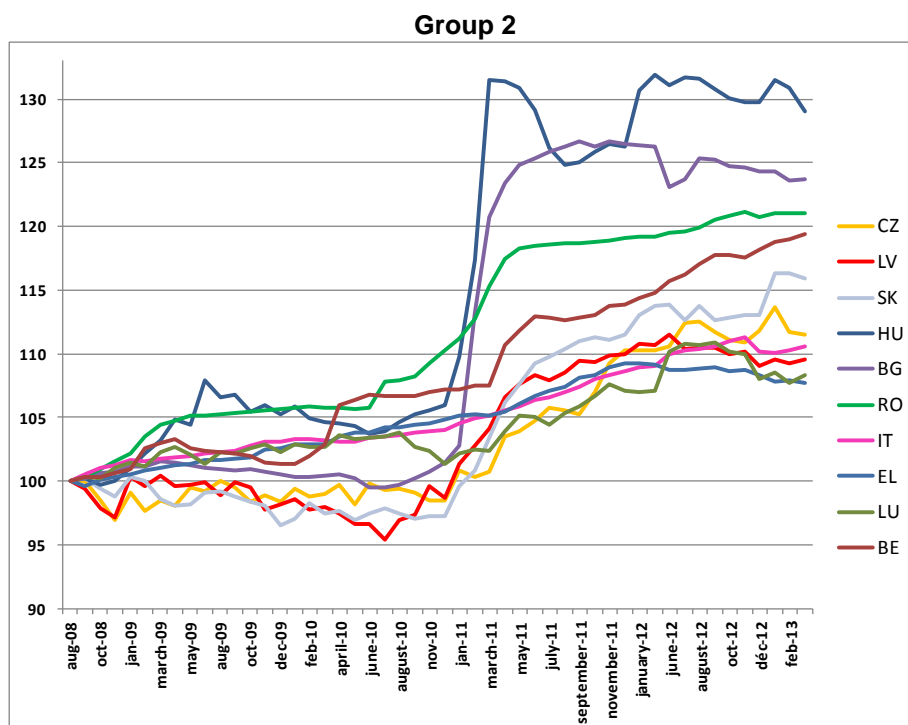
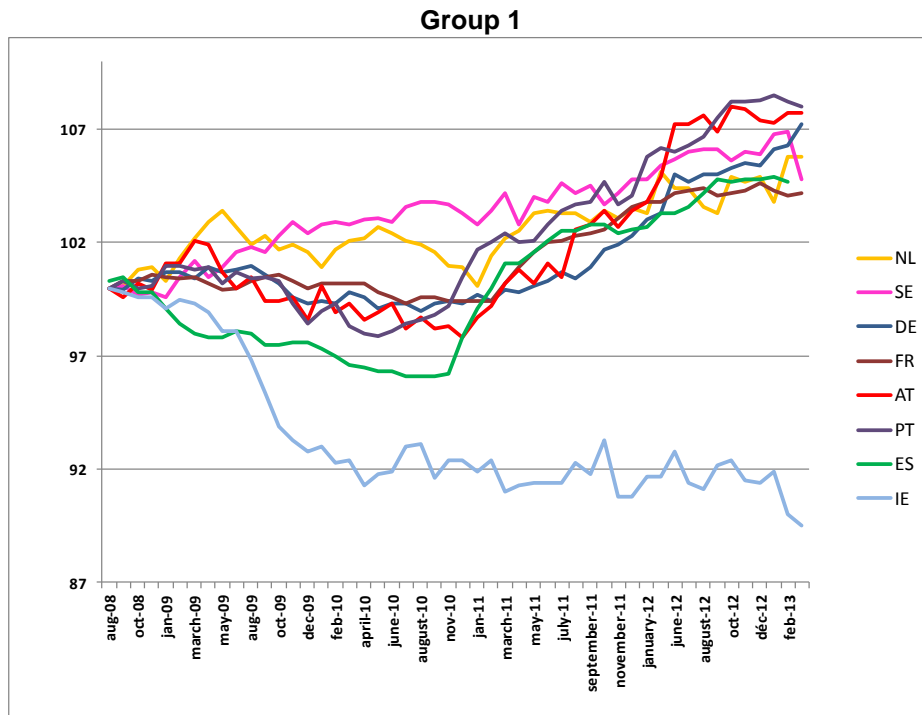
#### **Average Monthly evolution of EU-26 consumer sugar price in % from August 2008 up to March 2013**

Source: EU Commission



- Average EU consumer sugar price increased by around 11.6% between February 2009 and March 2013, i.e. an increase of 2.9%/year.

**Average Monthly evolution of EU consumer sugar price in % from August 2008 up to March 2013  
in two selected groups of countries - Source: EU Commission**



- It is not in EU countries that have relinquished sugar quotas between 2006 and 2009 that consumer sugar prices increased significantly. On the contrary, in Ireland sugar consumer price decreased over the entire period, in Portugal it decreased between 2008 and 2010 and it increased between 2010 and 2013 by 8% in 3 years (2.6%/y).
- In some EU competitive producing sugar countries, for example in Belgium and Hungary, sugar consumer prices increase is certainly related to other factors than the level of domestic production.
- In conclusion, it not possible to draw any relation between the evolution of domestic sugar consumer prices and the level of domestic sugar production.