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Südzucker expects extraordinary impairment losses – Executive Board proposes suspension of dividend

The Executive Board of Südzucker AG decided today to propose a suspension of the dividend (2024/25: EUR 0.20 per share) for the financial year 2025/26 (1 March 2025 to 28 February 2026) to the annual general meeting.

The reason for this decision, in addition to the persistently challenging market environment in the sugar segment, is the expectation that the consolidated financial statement of Südzucker AG prepared under IFRS will include extraordinary impairment losses on fixed assets in a range between EUR 450 million and EUR 550 million. This will likewise have a significant impact on the earnings reported in the statutory financial statement of Südzucker AG prepared under German GAAP (HGB). In view of this earnings burden, the Executive Board of Südzucker AG does not consider the conditions for paying a dividend to be met. The final determination of the amount of the extraordinary impairment losses will be made in the course of preparing the financial statements for fiscal year 2025/26.

The non-cash extraordinary impairment losses will be reported under restructuring and special items and therefore do not affect the level of the previously forecasted EBITDA and operating result for the 2025/26 fiscal year.

The proposal by the Executive Board is subject to the approval of the Supervisory Board. The supervisory board meeting is scheduled for 20 May 2026, and the annual general meeting is to be held in virtual form on 16 July 2026.

It should be noted that the economic and financial implications of the current geopolitical and economic situation for the future business performance of the Südzucker Group remain difficult to assess.

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About the Südzucker Group

Südzucker is a major player in the food industry with its sugar, special products, starch and fruit segments, and Europe's leading ethanol producer with its CropEnergies segment.

In the traditional sugar business, the group is Europe's number one supplier of sugar products, with 21 sugar factories and two refineries, extending from France in the west via Belgium, Germany and Austria, through to Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Bosnia, and Moldova in the east. The special products segment, with its consumer-oriented functional ingredients for food and animal feed (BENEFO), chilled/frozen products (Freiberger) and portion packs (PortionPack Group), operates in dynamic growth markets. Südzucker's CropEnergies segment is Europe's leading producer of renewable ethanol, with production sites in Germany, Belgium, France and Great Britain. Other products in this segment are protein food and animal feed products as well as biogenic carbon dioxide. The starch segment comprises AGRANA's starch and ethanol activities. The group's fruit segment operates globally, is the world market leader for fruit preparations for dairies and is a leading supplier of fruit juice concentrates in Europe.

In 2024/25, the group employed about 19,300 persons and generated revenues of about EUR 9.7 billion.