

**AIPG Information  
on  
Current Supply Situation of Gum Arabic**

**Update: 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2023**

The current situation remains highly problematic in Sudan, particularly in Khartoum, while other regions such as Port Sudan seem less affected by the ongoing conflict.

AIPG members are closely monitoring developments with their local partners, and hope that a peaceful solution can soon be found, so that the acacia gum market, which is an essential source of income for the rural population, can return to normal in this country.

Acacia gum, which is used in multiple food & beverage applications as a natural/organic food additive and as a source of prebiotic fibre, is collected in abt. a dozen of African countries from West Africa to East Africa – the so-called “Gum belt”. These producing countries are currently supplying the global acacia gum market with substantial raw material stocks available both from the 2023 crop and surplus from prior years, without an expected disruption of the supply.

However, AIPG members are working to re-establish a Sudanese supply chain, under identical conditions of safety, conformity and compliance to those in place before the beginning of the conflict. It is hoped that the economical and - beyond all – the humanitarian stability can be fully restored for the whole country.

Furthermore, we would like to inform that acacia gum does neither figure amongst the top 10 contributors to the Sudanese GDP nor does it significantly contribute to the Sudanese export statistics. This product category is of neglectable financial interest to the conflicting parties.

## Initial Statement - Status: 28<sup>th</sup> April

AIPG members are aware of the extremely problematic situation in Sudan and sincerely hope that a peaceful solution will soon be found.

Our members are monitoring the development of the situation and keep in touch with their local contacts. Based on decades of experience in the Sudan business and generally as producers, importers and manufacturers of natural products from all over the world, AIPG members do not believe that the supply situation of end users of gum Arabic is at risk.

Like many other importers, our member companies keep sufficient stocks of gum Arabic imported from Sudan and other countries in their warehouses, so that possible interruptions in supply – for whatever reason that might occur – can be absorbed.

Further on, it must also be considered that Sudan is not the only supplier country for gum Arabic, as also countries like Chad and Nigeria significantly contribute to the supply continuity of the market. Thus, in AIPG's estimation, immediate supply bottlenecks are not to be expected because of the current events in Sudan.

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