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Carrefour announces investments of R\$ 2.5 billion

Carrefour announced on Wednesday, 20th, the French group's greatest investment since it arrived to Brazil, in 1975. It will consist of R\$ 2.5 billion for the 2010-2011 biennium. Resources will be mainly allocated to the network's expansion. Investments will be used to open new stores, service units and to increase the distribution chain, as reported by the company. Faced before the potential consumption growth in Brazil, Carrefour aims at strengthening the national operation, especially in the North and Northeast regions, where seven units were opened last year. Currently, the company is present in 18 states. The company further announced that it will enter the electronic commerce area during the first quarter this year, competing with its rival, Pão de Açúcar. [...] **Source:** [Zero Hora \(01/21/2010\)](#)

Indian company must take Equipav

Not willing to take control or to get the entire business, the Indian group Shree Renuka must displace Bunge, Noble and the Vital Renewable Energy Company (VREC) fund within the framework of dispute for the two plants that belong to Equipav group. Valor newspaper said that the Indians agree to get up to 50% of the business, percentage that pleased Brazilian group's current controllers—families Toledo, Vetorazzo, and Tarallo. When consulted, Equipav did not want to make comments on this regard. According to market sources, Bunge has made two different offers: with or without control. Meanwhile, the same sources assert that during the negotiations there is consensus that, throughout the process, the multinational company will press to acquire 100% of the capital, that is to say, to act in line with the strategy designed with Moema group, recently acquired by the multinational. [...] **Source:** [Valor Econômico \(01/21/2010\)](#)

CADE frees BRF to acquire raw materials with Sadia

The Administrative Council for Economic Defense (CADE, as per its acronym in Portuguese) authorized this Wednesday the coordination of activities of Brasil Foods (former Perdigão) with Sadia in the domestic market's natural meat segment and in the negotiation and acquisition of raw material and services, according to a document of the organization. BRF, company, which results from last year's purchase of Sadia by Perdigão, still waits for the final approval by CADE to entirely conclude the companies' integration. "From now on, the companies will be able to negotiate and perform joint purchases of raw material and services (such as grain, packaging, and natural beef), except from the purchase of poultry and pork", said BRF in a press release after the market closure. The company added that it is also authorized to commercialize the production of natural meat in general. In September, the company had already been granted the authorization to coordinate activities that aim at the foreign market in the natural meat segment. [...] **Source:** [Reuters Brasil \(01/20/2010\)](#).

Lavazza will have an exportation base in Brazil

[...] One of the main coffee industries in the world, the Italian Lavazza, will have an industrialized coffee exportation base to the Americas. After several years in Brazil, the company has already been performing market studies and searching locations for its industry. It has chosen the State of Rio de Janeiro, and the new industry will begin its operations during the second semester next year. [...] **Source:** [Folha de São Paulo \(01/19/2010\)](#).

Parmalat's owner will receive a R\$120 million contribution

Laep Investments, controlling company of the Parmalat brand, announced last Friday that it will receive a financial resource injection of approximately R\$120 million by the Global Yield Fund Limited (GEM) investment fund, through the subscription of new shares. Resources must be used to reinforce the company's working capital and debts payment. [...] Grupo Gem has performed investments equal to US\$ 3.44 billion in more than 55 countries. In Brazil, Global Yield Fund Limited entered an agreement with Pine bank for the creation of a private equity fund. [...] **Source:** [DCI - Diário do Comércio & Indústria \(01/18/2010\)](#).

Grupo Arakaki will invest in the expansion of Alcoeste

After selling half of the Ouroeste (SP) plant to Bunge, Grupo Arakaki—traditional company in the sugar-cane cultivation sector in Florianópolis (SP)—wants to push forward an old project to produce sugar. The target is the Alcoeste distillery—built in the city during the 1980's during Proálcool's boom—of which the group holds 100% of shares. The company does not dismiss beginning the production of the valorized commodity in the 2010/11 harvest that begins in April. During the next few months, the sugar-cane plantation's expansion will begin, from 18 thousand to 21 thousand hectares. The company used to have plants in association with Moema Participações (Moemapar), controlled by Maurílio Biagi Filho, purchased by the multinational company Bunge. [...] **Source:** [Valor Econômico \(01/18/2010\)](#)