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- 1 ⇨ EXPORT PRICE INDEX**  
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MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL CO-OPERATION  
PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS

**Quarterly Export Price Index (EPI)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Semester 1997**  
**(Base Year 1993=100)**

**1. Introduction**

This issue of economic indicator presents quarterly Export Price Indices for the year 1996 and the first semester of 1997. The Export Price Index (EPI) provides a measure for price changes of exports. It is a measure of pure price changes of domestically produced goods shipped to other countries. The base and reference period for the EPI is calendar year 1993.

A technical note on the construction of the EPI is annexed. Quarterly indices by Standard International Trade Classification (SITC Rev3), changes by index points, and percentage changes for each quarter are shown in the tables annexed.

**2. Structure of the EPI**

The EPI is compiled using the Standard International Trade Classification of the United Nations (SITC Rev 3 ). The index comprises five sections namely: "*Food and live animals*", "*Crude materials, inedible, except fuels*", "*Chemicals and related products*", "*Manufactured goods classified chiefly by raw materials*" and "*Miscellaneous manufactured articles*". Distribution of weights for the different sections, groups of commodities and items are given in Table 1. In addition to the overall index, separate sub-indices are also calculated for different product categories at more detailed level.

"*Food and live animals*" carries more than 30% of the total weight. Sugar accounts for 88% of the weight of this section and the remaining 12% comprises of meat and meat preparations, fish and fish preparations, tea and molasses. The only constituent of the section "*crude materials, inedible, except fuels*" is cut flowers. "*Chemicals and related products*" consists mainly of pharmaceutical products and fertilisers. "*Manufactured goods classified chiefly by raw materials*" consists only of textile fabrics. "*Miscellaneous manufactured articles*" is the most important of the five sections comprising the EPI and comprises about 65% of the total weight. It consists exclusively of articles of wearing apparel from the Export Processing Zone (EPZ).

### **3. Quarterly Changes in the EPI, first semester 1997**

The export price index for the first quarter of 1997 stood at 125.4, representing a fall of 1.4% when compared to the fourth quarter of 1996 and an increase of 7.2% compared to the corresponding period of 1996. For the second quarter, the index stood at 126.0, that is 0.5% higher than the figure for the previous quarter and 3.9% higher than that of the same quarter of 1996.

### **4. Sub-indices by section and Commodity 1996 - 1997**

#### **Food and live animals**

The index for *Food and live animals* rose slightly from 131.3 in the fourth quarter of 1996 to 131.5 in the first quarter of 1997, followed by a drop to 130.8 in the second quarter. Commodity-wise, the major change of this group concerned the export prices of tea with an increase of 6.6% between the fourth quarter of 1996 and the first quarter of 1997 and an increase of 2.4% between the first and second quarters of 1997. The export prices of molasses went up by 6.5% during the first quarter of 1997, compared to the fourth quarter of 1996. Export prices of *meat and meat preparations* increased by 4.3% between the fourth quarter of 1996 and the first quarter of 1997, and by 3.6% between the first and second quarters of 1997.

#### **Crude materials, inedible, except fuel**

The average index for cut flowers fell by 14.2% from the fourth quarter of 1996 to the first quarter of 1997, followed by an increase of 3.1% during the following quarter. However, compared to the corresponding periods of the previous year, price indices for this commodity show increases of 7.5% and 1.8% respectively during the first and second quarters of 1997.

#### **Chemicals and related products**

The index of this section has been falling consistently since the second semester of last year. From a figure of 105.1 in the fourth quarter of 1996, the index dropped to 101.5 in the first quarter of 1997 and further to 100.7 in the second quarter, representing declines of 3.4% and 0.8% respectively when compared to the previous period.

**Manufactured goods classified chiefly by materials**

The index for this section rose marginally by 0.1% in the first quarter of 1997 and by 0.2% in the second quarter. Export prices of textile fabrics other than cotton registered falls of 8.5% and 0.4% during these periods. When compared to the corresponding periods of last year, the changes appeared more drastic, with decreases of 16.4% and 14.0% respectively

**Miscellaneous manufactured articles**

The index for this section dropped by 2.1% during the first quarter of 1997, followed by an increase of 1.0% during the following quarter. During the first quarter, the major change was registered in export prices of women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, trousers, etc. which fell by 15.4%. However, a recovery was noted in the export prices of these commodities which rose by 25.4% in the ensuing quarter.

**Central Statistical Office**

Ministry of Economic Development & Regional Co-operation

**PORT LOUIS**

November 1997

## **Technical Note**

### **Export Price Index (EPI)**

#### **Methodology for the Construction of the EPI**

##### **Definition**

The Export Price Index (EPI) is a measure of price change of domestically produced Mauritian products shipped to other countries i.e it excludes re-exports. In addition to the overall index, separate sub-indices are also calculated for different product categories at more detailed level.

##### **Comparison with Unit Value Index**

The Unit Value Export Index currently compiled provides only a proxy measure for price changes of exported goods. It is derived from value and quantity data of products or groups of products obtained from trade returns and is thus highly dependent on the degree of homogeneity of the groups of products considered. On the other hand, the EPI measures pure price changes and is based on actual price measurements of relatively more homogeneous group of products. It requires elaborate specifications of products and takes account of all the main price determining factors such as country of destination, quality, mode of transport and mode of payment.

##### **Scope and Classification**

The EPI covers all domestic exports, the most important commodities being sugar, molasses, tea and textile fabrics and articles of apparel and clothing accessories produced by the EPZ sector.

The index is based on the Nomenclature of the Standard International Trade Classification of the United Nations (SITC Rev 3). Separate sub-indices are produced for each SITC section and for more detailed groups where possible.

##### **Selection of Items and Firms**

A representative sample of 42 firms has been selected from trade declarations submitted to the Customs and Excise Department in 1993. The sample was drawn from exporting firms on the basis of regularity of their trade and their volume of exports. A total of 119 items (Entry Level Items, ELI's) which represent 32 product groups are priced from the selected enterprises.

## **Weighting Scheme**

The weights are derived from the 1993 Domestic Exports. Weights assigned to each section and group are based on their export values in 1993. Each product or group of products selected for pricing purposes represents all products that fall within that weight group.

## **Base and Reference Period**

The base price as well as the reference period for the EPI is calendar year 1993. Bench mark data for the year 1993, based on trade returns, have been used to derive weights. The selected firms have supplied prices of selected commodities for each of the 12 months in 1993. The yearly average price of each product has then been worked out and is used as base price for that product.

## **Price Collection**

Prices are collected directly from co-operating export firms. As far as possible price quotations are reported on a free on board (F.O.B.) basis and are mostly contract prices. Each reporting firm is visited once every quarter but prices are supplied on a monthly basis and are averaged for each quarter.

## **Sugar and Molasses**

Due to their specificity, sugar and molasses have been treated differently. Sugar and molasses produced during a crop year, which normally extends between July and June of the following year, are usually exported during that same crop year. Export prices of these commodities, sugar in particular, are mostly negotiated prices. These prices can be quite volatile between quarters depending on the destination of the shipments. Therefore, in order to eliminate these price distortions between quarters, the same average yearly price for the crop year is used for the four quarters comprising that crop year. The base price of these commodities for the year 1993 is the average price for crops years 92/93 and 93/94.

## **Calculation of the EPI**

A modified Laspeyres formula based on the weighted average of price relatives is used to calculate the EPI: the mathematical form of the formula is shown below:

$$I_{on} = \frac{\sum w_i \cdot \frac{iP_n}{iP_o}}{\sum w_i} \times 100$$

Where  $I_{on}$  is the index for period n compared to base period 0

$w_i$  is the weight of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element

$iP_o$  is the base price of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element

$iP_n$  is the price of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element in period n

$\frac{iP_n}{iP_o}$  is the price relative of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element in period n relative to base period o

$\Sigma$  means summation over all selected elements

### Uses

The primary use of the EPI is to deflate export trade statistics. It provides quarterly measures of price trends of Mauritian products sold abroad and can be used for calculating changes in the volume of exports.

It can also serve as a basis to assess the competitiveness of Mauritian products in relation to price trends of common products of other countries with which Mauritius competes for markets.

Table 1: Quarterly Export Price Index by SITC, 1995-1997 (base 1993=100)

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight | 1995    | 1996   |        |        |        |                | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |        |
|------------------------------|---|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|-------------------|--------|
|                              |   |        | Average | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr | 3rd Qr | 4th Qr | Yearly Average | 1st Qr            | 2nd Qr |
| 0                            | Food and live animals   | 3,081  | 117.7   | 123.9  | 124.2  | 130.8  | 131.3  | 127.6          | 131.5             | 130.8  |
|                              | Meat and meat preparations  | 51     | 109.4   | 112.2  | 120.9  | 125.4  | 117.7  | 119.1          | 122.8             | 127.3  |
|                              | Fish and fish preparations  | 187    | 124.8   | 129.8  | 129.8  | 135.7  | 144.5  | 135.0          | 141.9             | 142.3  |
|                              | Sugar   | 2,717  | 117.8   | 123.6  | 123.6  | 130.7  | 130.7  | 127.2          | 130.7             | 130.7  |
|                              | Molasses  | 44     | 145.7   | 179.8  | 179.8  | 166.5  | 166.5  | 173.2          | 177.4             | 177.5  |
|                              | Tea   | 54     | 73.6    | 77.4   | 83.6   | 83.6   | 86.9   | 82.9           | 92.6              | 94.8   |
|                              | Cereals and cereal preparations                                   | 28     | 115.8   | 141.2  | 147.9  | 160.4  | 159.4  | 152.2          | 161.8             | 159.3  |
| 2                            | Crude materials, inedible, except fuels                           | 72     | 123.0   | 125.4  | 136.5  | 154.6  | 157.2  | 143.4          | 134.8             | 139.0  |
|                              | Cut flowers   | 72     | 123.0   | 125.4  | 136.5  | 154.6  | 157.2  | 143.4          | 134.8             | 139.0  |
| 5                            | Chemicals and related products                                    | 90     | 101.5   | 98.0   | 98.4   | 107.8  | 105.1  | 102.3          | 101.5             | 100.7  |
| 6                            | Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material                 | 301    | 114.8   | 116.9  | 119.4  | 121.8  | 119.0  | 119.3          | 119.1             | 119.3  |
|                              | Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles, n.e.s & related products | 301    | 114.8   | 116.9  | 119.4  | 121.8  | 119.0  | 119.3          | 119.1             | 119.3  |
|                              | <i>Cotton fabrics</i>   | 241    | 114.0   | 115.9  | 120.0  | 123.2  | 121.1  | 120.1          | 123.5             | 124.0  |
|                              | <i>Other textile fabrics</i>                                      | 60     | 118.2   | 120.9  | 117.1  | 115.8  | 110.5  | 116.1          | 101.1             | 100.7  |

<sup>1</sup> The Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3 (SITC Rev 3)

<sup>2</sup> Provisional



Table 1 (cont'd): Quarterly Export Price Index by SITC, 1995-1997 (base 1993=100)

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight        | 1995         |              |              |              | 1996         |                |              |              | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |  |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--|
|                              |   |               | Average      | 1st Qr       | 2nd Qr       | 3rd Qr       | 4th Qr       | Yearly Average | 1st Qr       | 2nd Qr       |                   |  |
| 8                            | Miscellaneous manufactured articles   | 6,456         | 108.9        | 113.9        | 120.1        | 125.1        | 125.6        | 121.2          | 123.0        | 124.3        |                   |  |
|                              | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories  | 6,064         | 108.0        | 112.6        | 119.0        | 123.9        | 124.4        | 120.0          | 121.8        | 123.5        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i>    | 2,022         | 108.8        | 111.7        | 115.8        | 120.6        | 123.0        | 117.8          | 116.5        | 115.7        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i> | 501           | 118.4        | 130.6        | 135.4        | 138.4        | 142.9        | 136.8          | 145.2        | 147.0        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>        | 221           | 96.3         | 96.7         | 103.5        | 106.1        | 105.3        | 102.9          | 103.1        | 105.5        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>     | 383           | 105.7        | 96.6         | 111.2        | 112.0        | 114.2        | 108.5          | 96.6         | 121.2        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel of textile fabrics whether or not knitted or crocheted</i>                               | 2,924         | 106.8        | 113.3        | 120.6        | 126.5        | 125.7        | 121.5          | 126.0        | 126.6        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel and clothing accessories of other than textile fabrics</i>                               | 13            | 119.7        | 123.7        | 125.8        | 130.2        | 127.4        | 126.8          | 123.7        | 122.4        |                   |  |
|                              | Footwear  | 15            | 125.5        | 135.4        | 141.2        | 147.1        | 147.5        | 142.8          | 137.7        | 136.3        |                   |  |
|                              | Optical goods, watches and clocks   | 377           | 122.4        | 135.0        | 136.2        | 143.2        | 143.1        | 139.4          | 141.6        | 135.7        |                   |  |
|                              | <b>Overall</b>  | <b>10,000</b> | <b>111.8</b> | <b>117.0</b> | <b>121.3</b> | <b>126.8</b> | <b>127.2</b> | <b>123.1</b>   | <b>125.4</b> | <b>126.0</b> |                   |  |

<sup>1</sup> The Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3 (SITC Rev 3)

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

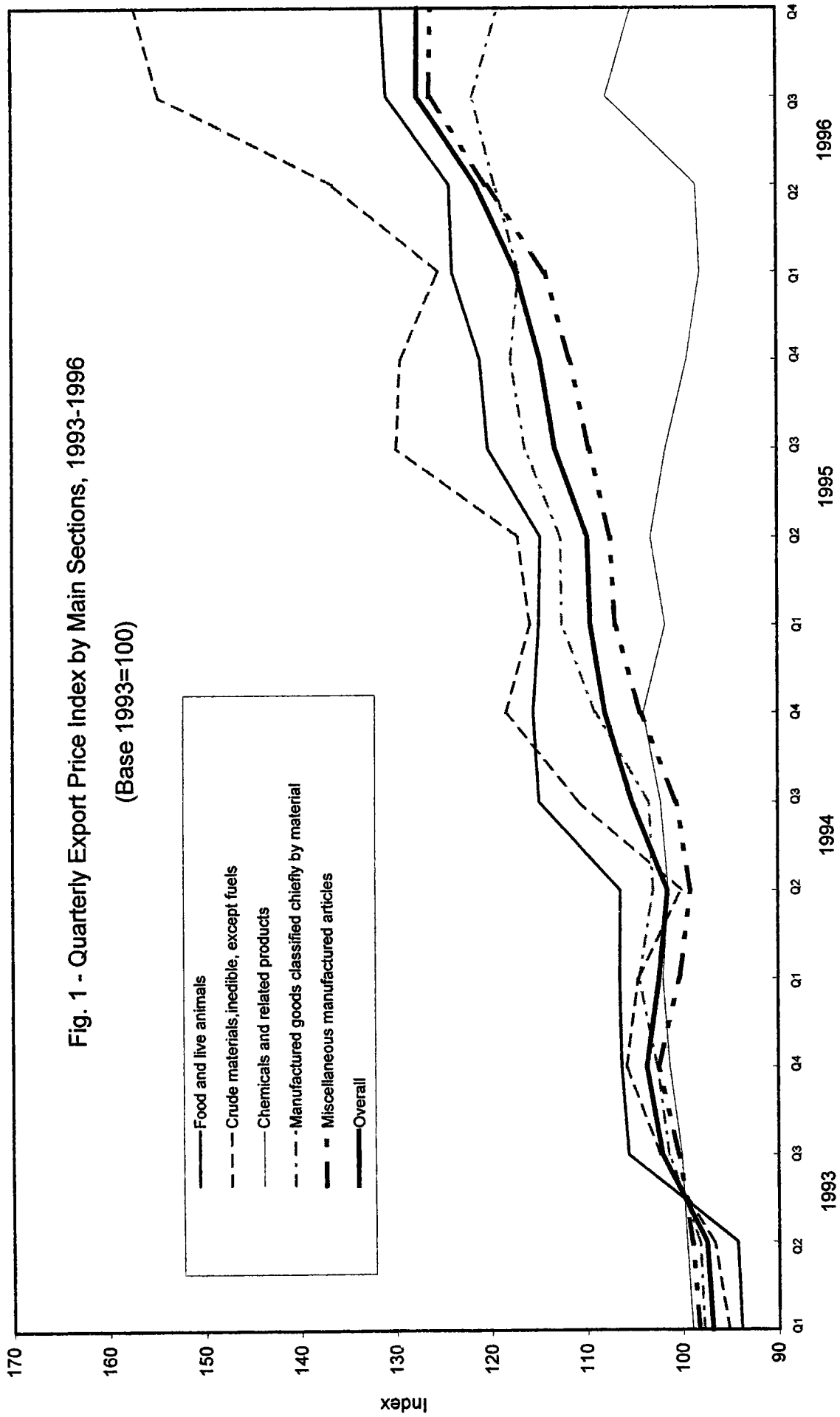


Table 2: Quarterly Export Price index of selected commodity groups, 1995-1997 (base 1993 = 100)

| Description  | Weight | 1995<br>Average | 1996   |        |        |        | Yearly<br>average | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |        |
|--|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
|  |        |                 | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr | 3rd Qr | 4th Qr |                   | 1st Qr            | 2nd Qr |
| All commodities<br><i>of which</i>   | 10,000 | 111.8           | 117.0  | 121.3  | 126.8  | 127.2  | 123.1             | 125.4             | 126.0  |
| Sugar  | 2,717  | 110.7           | 123.6  | 123.6  | 130.7  | 130.7  | 127.2             | 130.7             | 130.7  |
| Molasses   | 44     | 145.7           | 179.8  | 179.8  | 164.7  | 164.7  | 172.3             | 177.4             | 177.5  |
| Tea  | 54     | 73.6            | 77.4   | 83.6   | 83.6   | 86.9   | 82.9              | 92.6              | 94.8   |
| Cut flowers  | 72     | 123.0           | 125.4  | 136.5  | 154.6  | 157.2  | 143.4             | 134.8             | 139.0  |
| Men's or boys coats, jackets, trousers etc. not knitted or crocheted       | 2,022  | 108.8           | 111.7  | 115.8  | 120.6  | 123.0  | 117.8             | 116.5             | 115.7  |
| Articles of apparel of textile fabrics whether or not knitted or crocheted | 2,924  | 106.8           | 113.3  | 120.6  | 126.5  | 125.7  | 121.5             | 126.0             | 126.6  |

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

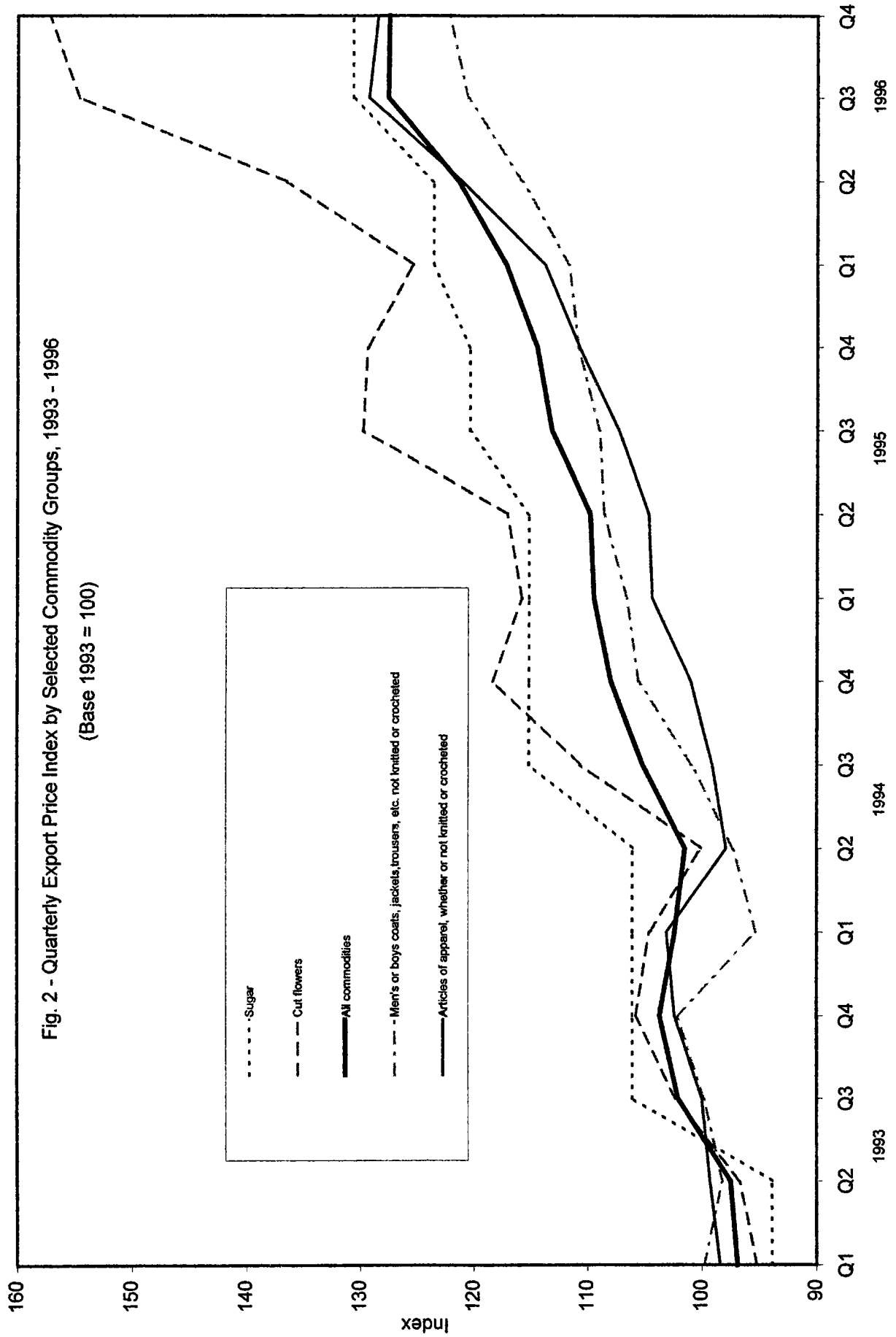


Table 3: Point change from previous period by SITC, 1995-1997 (base 1993 = 100)

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight | 1995    | 1996   |        |        |        | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |        |        |
|------------------------------|---|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|--------|--------|
|                              |   |        | Average | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr | 3rd Qr | 4th Qr | Year              | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr |
| 0                            | Food and live animals   | 3,081  | 6.9     | 2.9    | 0.3    | 6.6    | 0.5    | 9.9               | 0.2    | -0.7   |
|                              | Meat and meat preparations  | 51     | 2.6     | 1.7    | 8.7    | 4.5    | -7.7   | 9.7               | 5.1    | 4.5    |
|                              | Fish and fish preparations  | 187    | 3.6     | -8.1   | 0.0    | 5.9    | 8.8    | 10.2              | -2.6   | 0.4    |
|                              | Sugar   | 2,717  | 7.2     | 3.2    | 0.0    | 7.1    | 0.0    | 9.3               | 0.0    | 0.0    |
|                              | Molasses  | 44     | 24.6    | 22.9   | 0.0    | -13.3  | 0.0    | 27.5              | 10.9   | 0.1    |
|                              | Tea   | 54     | -10.7   | 3.8    | 6.2    | 0.0    | 3.3    | 9.3               | 5.7    | 2.2    |
|                              | Cereal and cereal preparations                                    | 28     | 15.5    | 26.9   | 6.7    | 12.5   | -1.0   | 36.5              | 2.4    | -2.5   |
| 2                            | Crude materials, inedible, except fuels                           | 72     | 14.5    | -4.0   | 11.1   | 18.1   | 2.6    | 20.4              | -22.4  | 4.2    |
|                              | Cut flowers   | 72     | 14.5    | -4.0   | 11.1   | 18.1   | 2.6    | 20.4              | -22.4  | 4.2    |
| 5                            | Chemicals and related products                                    | 90     | -0.9    | -1.4   | 0.4    | 9.4    | -2.7   | 0.8               | -3.6   | -0.8   |
| 6                            | Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material                 | 301    | 9.8     | -0.9   | 2.5    | 2.4    | -2.8   | 4.5               | 0.1    | 0.2    |
|                              | Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s & related products | 301    | 9.8     | -0.9   | 2.5    | 2.4    | -2.8   | 4.5               | 0.1    | 0.2    |
|                              | <i>Cotton fabrics</i>   | 178    | 10.0    | -1.2   | 4.1    | 3.2    | -2.1   | 6.1               | 2.4    | 0.5    |
|                              | <i>Other textile fabrics</i>                                      | 123    | 9.5     | 0.5    | -3.8   | -1.3   | -5.3   | -2.1              | -9.4   | -0.4   |

<sup>1</sup> The Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3 (SITC Rev 3)

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

Table 3(cont'd) : Point change from previous period by SITC, 1995-1997 (base 1993 = 100)

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight        | 1995       | 1996       |            |            |            | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |             |            |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|
|                              |   |               | Average    | 1st Qr     | 2nd Qr     | 3rd Qr     | 4th Qr     | Year              | 1st Qr      | 2nd Qr     |
| 8                            | Miscellaneous manufactured articles   | 6,456         | 7.8        | 2.3        | 6.2        | 5.0        | 0.5        | 12.3              | -2.6        | 1.3        |
|                              | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories  | 6,064         | 6.7        | 2.1        | 6.4        | 4.9        | 0.5        | 12.0              | -2.6        | 1.7        |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i>    | 2,022         | 9.0        | 0.8        | 4.1        | 4.8        | 2.4        | 9.0               | -6.5        | -0.8       |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i> | 501           | 7.1        | 8.1        | 4.8        | 3.0        | 4.5        | 18.5              | 2.3         | 1.8        |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>        | 221           | -4.4       | -1.5       | 6.8        | 2.6        | -0.8       | 6.6               | -2.2        | 2.4        |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>     | 383           | 1.2        | -0.9       | 14.6       | 0.8        | 2.2        | 2.8               | -17.6       | 24.6       |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel of textile fabrics whether or not knitted or crocheted</i>                               | 2,924         | 6.5        | 2.5        | 7.3        | 5.9        | -0.8       | 14.7              | 0.3         | 0.6        |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel and clothing accessories of other than textile fabrics</i>                               | 13            | 9.6        | 1.9        | 2.1        | 4.4        | -2.8       | 7.1               | -3.7        | -1.3       |
|                              | Footwear  | 15            | 24.9       | 2.5        | 5.8        | 5.9        | 0.4        | 17.3              | -9.8        | -1.4       |
|                              | Optical goods, watches and clocks   | 377           | 24.1       | 6.6        | 1.2        | 7.0        | -0.1       | 17.0              | -1.5        | -5.9       |
|                              | <b>Overall</b>  | <b>10,000</b> | <b>7.6</b> | <b>2.3</b> | <b>4.3</b> | <b>5.5</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>11.3</b>       | <b>-1.8</b> | <b>0.6</b> |

1 The Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3 (SITC Rev 3)

2 Provisional

Table 4 : Percentage change from previous period by SITC, 1995-1997

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight | 1995<br>Average | 1996   |        |        |        | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |        |        |
|------------------------------|---|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|--------|--------|
|                              |   |        |                 | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr | 3rd Qr | 4th Qr | Year              | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr |
| 0                            | Food and live animals   | 3,081  | 6.2             | 2.4    | 0.2    | 5.3    | 0.4    | 8.4               | 0.2    | -0.5   |
|                              | Meat and meat preparations  | 51     | 2.4             | 1.5    | 7.8    | 3.7    | -6.1   | 8.8               | 4.3    | 3.6    |
|                              | Fish and fish preparations  | 187    | 3.0             | -5.9   | 0.0    | 4.5    | 6.5    | 8.2               | -1.8   | 0.3    |
|                              | Sugar   | 2,717  | 6.5             | 2.7    | 0.0    | 5.7    | 0.0    | 7.9               | 0.0    | 0.0    |
|                              | Molasses  | 44     | 20.3            | 14.6   | 0.0    | -7.4   | 0.0    | 18.9              | 6.5    | 0.1    |
| 2                            | Tea   | 54     | -12.7           | 5.2    | 8.0    | 0.0    | 3.9    | 12.6              | 6.6    | 2.4    |
|                              | Cereal and cereal preparations                                    | 28     | 15.4            | 23.5   | 4.7    | 8.5    | -0.6   | 31.5              | 1.5    | -1.5   |
|                              | Crude materials, inedible, except fuels                           | 72     | 13.4            | -3.1   | 8.9    | 13.3   | 1.7    | 16.6              | -14.2  | 3.1    |
| 5                            | Cut flowers   | 72     | 13.4            | -3.1   | 8.9    | 13.3   | 1.7    | 16.6              | -14.2  | 3.1    |
|                              | Chemicals and related products                                    | 90     | -0.9            | -1.4   | 0.4    | 9.6    | -2.5   | 0.8               | -3.4   | -0.8   |
| 6                            | Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material                 | 301    | 9.3             | -0.8   | 2.1    | 2.0    | -2.3   | 3.9               | 0.1    | 0.2    |
|                              | Textile yarn, Fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s & related products | 301    | 9.3             | -0.8   | 2.1    | 2.0    | -2.3   | 3.9               | 0.1    | 0.2    |
|                              | Cotton fabrics  | 178    | 9.6             | -1.0   | 3.5    | 2.7    | -1.7   | 5.4               | 2.0    | 0.4    |
|                              | Other textile fabrics   | 123    | 8.8             | 0.4    | -3.2   | -1.1   | -4.6   | -1.8              | -8.5   | -0.4   |

1 The Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3 (SITC Rev 3)

2 Provisional

Table 4 (cont'd) : Percentage change from previous period by SITC, 1995-1997

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight        | 1995<br>Average | 1996       |            |            |            | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |             |            |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|
|                              |   |               |                 | 1st Qr     | 2nd Qr     | 3rd Qr     | 4th Qr     | Year              | 1st Qr      | 2nd Qr     |
| 8                            | Miscellaneous manufactured articles   | 6,456         | 7.7             | 2.1        | 5.4        | 4.2        | 0.4        | 11.3              | -2.1        | 1.0        |
|                              | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories  | 6,064         | 6.6             | 1.9        | 5.7        | 4.1        | 0.4        | 11.1              | -2.1        | 1.4        |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i>    | 2,022         | 9.0             | 0.7        | 3.7        | 4.1        | 2.0        | 8.3               | -5.3        | -0.7       |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i> | 501           | 6.4             | 6.6        | 3.7        | 2.2        | 3.3        | 15.6              | 1.6         | 1.2        |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>        | 221           | -4.4            | -1.5       | 7.0        | 2.5        | -0.8       | 6.9               | -2.1        | 2.3        |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>     | 383           | 1.1             | -0.9       | 15.1       | 0.7        | 2.0        | 2.6               | -15.4       | 25.4       |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel of textile fabrics whether or not knitted or crocheted</i>                               | 2,924         | 6.5             | 2.3        | 6.4        | 4.9        | -0.6       | 13.8              | 0.2         | 0.5        |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel and clothing accessories of other than textile fabrics</i>                               | 13            | 8.7             | 1.6        | 1.7        | 3.5        | -2.2       | 6.0               | -2.9        | -1.1       |
|                              | Footwear  | 15            | 24.7            | 1.9        | 4.3        | 4.2        | 0.3        | 13.8              | -6.6        | -1.0       |
|                              | Optical goods, watches and clocks   | 377           | 24.5            | 5.1        | 0.9        | 5.1        | -0.1       | 13.8              | -1.0        | -4.2       |
|                              | <b>Overall</b>  | <b>10,000</b> | <b>7.3</b>      | <b>2.0</b> | <b>3.7</b> | <b>4.5</b> | <b>0.3</b> | <b>10.1</b>       | <b>-1.4</b> | <b>0.5</b> |

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Table 5 : Point change from corresponding period of previous year by SITC, 1995-1997 (base 1994=100)

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight | 1995    | 1996   |        |        |        | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |        |        |
|------------------------------|---|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|--------|--------|
|                              |   |        | Average | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr | 3rd Qr | 4th Qr | Year              | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr |
| 0                            | Food and live animals   | 3,081  | 6.9     | 9.0    | 9.5    | 10.6   | 10.3   | 9.9               | 7.6    | 6.6    |
|                              | Meat and meat preparations  | 51     | 2.6     | 3.3    | 12.5   | 15.7   | 7.2    | 9.7               | 10.6   | 6.4    |
|                              | Fish and fish preparations  | 187    | 3.6     | 11.9   | 13.8   | 8.5    | 6.6    | 10.2              | 12.1   | 12.5   |
|                              | Sugar   | 2,717  | 7.2     | 8.4    | 8.4    | 10.3   | 10.3   | 9.3               | 7.1    | 7.1    |
|                              | Molasses  | 44     | 24.6    | 45.4   | 45.4   | 9.6    | 9.6    | 27.5              | -2.4   | -2.4   |
| 2                            | Tea   | 54     | -10.7   | -5.3   | 13.3   | 15.9   | 13.3   | 9.3               | 15.2   | 11.2   |
|                              | Cereal and cereal products  | 28     | 15.5    | 27.4   | 29.3   | 44.0   | 45.1   | 36.5              | 20.6   | 11.4   |
| 5                            | Crude materials, inedible, except fuels                           | 72     | 14.5    | 9.6    | 19.4   | 24.8   | 27.8   | 20.4              | 9.4    | 2.5    |
|                              | Cut flowers   | 72     | 14.5    | 9.6    | 19.4   | 24.8   | 27.8   | 20.4              | 9.4    | 2.5    |
| 6                            | Chemicals and related products                                    | 90     | -0.9    | -3.7   | -4.8   | 6.2    | 5.7    | 0.8               | 3.5    | 2.3    |
|                              | Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material                 | 301    | 9.8     | 4.4    | 6.8    | 5.5    | 1.2    | 4.5               | 2.2    | -0.1   |
|                              | Textile yarn, Fabrics, made up articles, n.e.s & related products | 301    | 9.8     | 4.4    | 6.8    | 5.5    | 1.2    | 4.5               | 2.2    | -0.1   |
|                              | <i>Cotton fabrics</i>   | 178    | 10.0    | 4.3    | 8.8    | 7.3    | 4.0    | 6.1               | 7.6    | 4.0    |
|                              | <i>Other textile fabrics</i>                                      | 123    | 9.5     | 4.8    | -1.3   | -2.2   | -9.9   | -2.1              | -19.8  | -16.4  |

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Table 5 (cont'd) : Point change from corresponding period of previous year by SITC, 1995-1997

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight        | 1995<br>Average | 1996       |             |             |             | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |            |            |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
|                              |   |               |                 | 1st Qr     | 2nd Qr      | 3rd Qr      | 4th Qr      | Year              | 1st Qr     | 2nd Qr     |
| 8                            | Miscellaneous manufactured articles   | 6,456         | 7.8             | 7.0        | 12.7        | 15.5        | 14.0        | 12.3              | 9.1        | 4.2        |
|                              | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories  | 6,064         | 6.7             | 6.0        | 12.6        | 15.4        | 13.9        | 12.0              | 9.2        | 4.5        |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i>    | 2,022         | 9.0             | 5.1        | 7.2         | 11.6        | 12.1        | 9.0               | 4.8        | -0.1       |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i> | 501           | 7.1             | 12.9       | 21.8        | 18.8        | 20.4        | 18.5              | 14.6       | 11.6       |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>        | 221           | -4.4            | 1.4        | 9.8         | 8.1         | 7.1         | 6.6               | 6.4        | 2.0        |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>     | 383           | 1.2             | -17.6      | 6.2         | 5.9         | 16.7        | 2.8               | 0.0        | 10.0       |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel of textile fabrics whether or not knitted or crocheted</i>                               | 2,924         | 6.5             | 8.9        | 15.9        | 19.2        | 14.9        | 14.7              | 12.7       | 6.0        |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel and clothing accessories of other than textile fabrics</i>                               | 13            | 9.6             | 7.9        | 6.1         | 8.9         | 5.6         | 7.1               | 0.0        | -3.4       |
|                              | Footwear  | 15            | 24.9            | 19.0       | 17.8        | 17.9        | 14.6        | 17.3              | 2.3        | -4.9       |
|                              | Optical goods, watches and clocks   | 377           | 24.1            | 23.5       | 13.0        | 16.6        | 14.7        | 17.0              | 6.6        | -0.5       |
|                              | <b>Overall</b>  | <b>10,000</b> | <b>7.6</b>      | <b>7.5</b> | <b>11.5</b> | <b>13.6</b> | <b>12.5</b> | <b>11.3</b>       | <b>8.4</b> | <b>4.7</b> |

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Table 6: Percentage change from corresponding period of previous year by SITC, 1995-1997

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight | 1995    |        | 1996   |        |        |      | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |        |
|------------------------------|---|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|-------------------|--------|
|                              |   |        | Average | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr | 3rd Qr | 4th Qr | Year | 1st Qr            | 2nd Qr |
| 0                            | Food and live animals   | 3,081  | 6.2     | 7.8    | 8.3    | 8.8    | 8.5    | 8.4  | 6.1               | 5.3    |
|                              | Meat and meat preparations  | 51     | 2.4     | 3.0    | 11.5   | 14.3   | 6.5    | 8.8  | 9.4               | 5.3    |
|                              | Fish and fish preparations  | 187    | 3.0     | 10.1   | 11.9   | 6.7    | 4.8    | 8.2  | 9.3               | 9.7    |
|                              | Sugar   | 2,717  | 6.5     | 7.3    | 7.3    | 8.6    | 8.6    | 7.9  | 5.7               | 5.7    |
|                              | Molasses  | 44     | 20.3    | 33.8   | 33.8   | 6.1    | 6.1    | 18.9 | -1.3              | -1.3   |
|                              | Tea   | 54     | -12.7   | -6.4   | 18.9   | 23.5   | 18.1   | 12.6 | 19.6              | 13.4   |
|                              | Cereal and cereal products  | 28     | 15.4    | 24.1   | 24.7   | 37.8   | 39.5   | 31.5 | 14.6              | 7.7    |
| 2                            | Crude materials, inedible, except fuels                           | 72     | 13.4    | 8.3    | 16.6   | 19.1   | 21.5   | 16.6 | 7.5               | 1.8    |
|                              | Cut flowers   | 72     | 13.4    | 8.3    | 16.6   | 19.1   | 21.5   | 16.6 | 7.5               | 1.8    |
| 5                            | Chemicals and related products                                    | 90     | -0.9    | -3.6   | -4.7   | 6.1    | 5.7    | 0.8  | 3.6               | 2.4    |
| 6                            | Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material                 | 301    | 9.3     | 3.9    | 6.0    | 4.7    | 1.0    | 3.9  | 1.9               | -0.1   |
|                              | Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s & related products | 301    | 9.3     | 3.9    | 6.0    | 4.7    | 1.0    | 3.9  | 1.9               | -0.1   |
|                              | <i>Cotton fabrics</i>   | 178    | 9.6     | 3.9    | 7.9    | 6.3    | 3.4    | 5.4  | 6.6               | 3.3    |
|                              | <i>Other textile fabrics</i>                                      | 123    | 8.8     | 4.1    | -1.1   | -1.9   | -8.2   | -1.8 | -16.4             | -14.0  |

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Table 6 (Cont'd) :Percentage change from corresponding period of previous year by SITC, 1995-1997

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight        | 1995       |            |             |             | 1996        |             |            |            | 1997 <sup>2</sup> |  |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--|
|                              |   |               | Average    | 1st Qr     | 2nd Qr      | 3rd Qr      | 4th Qr      | Year        | 1st Qr     | 2nd Qr     |                   |  |
|                              |   |               |            |            |             |             |             |             |            |            |                   |  |
| 8                            | Miscellaneous manufactured articles   | 6,456         | 7.7        | 6.5        | 11.8        | 14.1        | 12.5        | 11.3        | 8.0        | 3.5        |                   |  |
|                              | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories  | 6,064         | 6.6        | 5.6        | 11.8        | 14.2        | 12.6        | 11.1        | 8.2        | 3.8        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i>    | 2,022         | 9.0        | 4.8        | 6.6         | 10.6        | 10.9        | 8.3         | 4.3        | -0.1       |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted</i> | 501           | 6.4        | 11.0       | 19.2        | 15.7        | 16.7        | 15.6        | 11.2       | 8.6        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>        | 221           | -4.4       | 1.5        | 10.5        | 8.3         | 7.2         | 6.9         | 6.6        | 1.9        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crocheted</i>     | 383           | 1.1        | -15.4      | 5.9         | 5.6         | 17.1        | 2.6         | 0.0        | 9.0        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel of textile fabrics whether or not knitted or crocheted</i>                               | 2,924         | 6.5        | 8.5        | 15.2        | 17.9        | 13.4        | 13.8        | 11.2       | 5.0        |                   |  |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel and clothing accessories of other than textile fabrics</i>                               | 13            | 8.7        | 6.8        | 5.1         | 7.3         | 4.6         | 6.0         | 0.0        | -2.7       |                   |  |
|                              | Footwear  | 15            | 24.7       | 16.3       | 14.4        | 13.9        | 11.0        | 13.8        | 1.7        | -3.5       |                   |  |
|                              | Optical goods, watches and clocks   | 377           | 24.5       | 21.1       | 10.6        | 13.1        | 11.4        | 13.8        | 4.9        | -0.4       |                   |  |
|                              | <b>Overall</b>  | <b>10,000</b> | <b>7.3</b> | <b>6.8</b> | <b>10.5</b> | <b>12.0</b> | <b>10.9</b> | <b>10.1</b> | <b>7.2</b> | <b>3.9</b> |                   |  |

<sup>1</sup> The Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3 (SITC Rev 3)

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

Table 7: Quarterly Export Price Index by SITC , Year 1993 (base 1993 =100)

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight | 1993   |        |        |        | Yearly<br>Average |
|------------------------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
|                              |   |        | 1st Qr | 2nd Qr | 3rd Qr | 4th Qr |                   |
| 0                            | Food and live animals   | 3,081  | 93.9   | 94.3   | 105.6  | 106.3  | 100.0             |
|                              | Meat and meat preparations  | 51     | 94.8   | 99.0   | 102.3  | 104.0  | 100.0             |
|                              | Fish and fish preparations  | 187    | 88.5   | 96.0   | 104.1  | 111.3  | 100.0             |
|                              | Sugar   | 2,717  | 93.9   | 93.9   | 106.1  | 106.1  | 100.0             |
|                              | Molasses  | 44     | 92.1   | 92.1   | 107.9  | 107.9  | 100.0             |
|                              | Tea   | 54     | 107.6  | 102.2  | 88.8   | 101.5  | 100.0             |
| 2                            | Cereal and cereal products  | 28     | 98.1   | 98.3   | 100.6  | 102.7  | 100.0             |
|                              | Crude materials, inedible, except fuels                           | 72     | 95.2   | 96.7   | 102.3  | 105.8  | 100.0             |
| 5                            | Cut flowers   | 72     | 95.2   | 96.7   | 102.3  | 105.8  | 100.0             |
|                              | Chemicals and related products                                    | 90     | 99.0   | 99.6   | 100.1  | 101.3  | 100.0             |
| 6                            | Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material                 | 301    | 97.8   | 98.2   | 101.4  | 102.6  | 100.0             |
|                              | Textile yarn, Fabrics, made up articles, n.e.s & related products | 301    | 97.8   | 98.2   | 101.4  | 102.6  | 100.0             |
|                              | <i>Cotton fabrics</i>   | 241    | 97.8   | 97.5   | 101.7  | 103.0  | 100.0             |
|                              | <i>Other textile fabrics</i>                                      | 60     | 97.8   | 101.3  | 100.0  | 100.9  | 100.0             |

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Table 7 (cont'd): Quarterly Export Price Index by SITC, Year 1993 (base 1993=100)

| SITC <sup>1</sup><br>Section | Description   | Weight        | 1993        |             |              |              | Yearly<br>Average |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
|                              |   |               | 1st Qr      | 2nd Qr      | 3rd Qr       | 4th Qr       |                   |
| 8                            | Miscellaneous manufactured articles   | 6,456         | 98.3        | 99.0        | 100.4        | 102.5        | 100.0             |
|                              | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories  | 6,064         | 97.6        | 98.2        | 101.2        | 103.2        | 100.0             |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats,jackets, suits,blazers,trousers,shorts,shirts etc not knitted or crocheted</i>    | 2,022         | 99.8        | 98.2        | 99.8         | 102.2        | 100.0             |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats,jackets, suits,blazers,trousers,shorts,shirts etc not knitted or crocheted</i> | 501           | 92.9        | 95.4        | 104.1        | 107.6        | 100.0             |
|                              | <i>Men's or boys' coats,jackets, suits,blazers,trousers,shorts,shirts etc knitted or crocheted</i>        | 221           | 96.8        | 96.4        | 110.0        | 96.8         | 100.0             |
|                              | <i>Women's or girls' coats,jackets, suits,blazers,trousers,shorts,shirts etc knitted or crocheted</i>     | 383           | 85.6        | 94.3        | 107.9        | 112.2        | 100.0             |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel of textile fabrics whether or not knitted or crocheted</i>                         | 2,924         | 98.4        | 99.3        | 100.0        | 102.4        | 100.0             |
|                              | <i>Articles of apparel and clothing accessories of other than textile fabrics</i>                         | 13            | 99.8        | 100.3       | 99.4         | 100.5        | 100.0             |
|                              | Footwear  | 15            | 99.6        | 102.0       | 96.1         | 102.4        | 100.0             |
|                              | Optical goods, watches and clocks   | 377           | 109.6       | 110.9       | 89.3         | 91.0         | 100.0             |
|                              | <b>Overall Index</b>  | <b>10,000</b> | <b>96.9</b> | <b>97.5</b> | <b>102.1</b> | <b>103.7</b> | <b>100.0</b>      |

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