# **Quarterly Export and Import Price Indices**

1st Quarter 2012 (Base year: 2007=100)

### 1. Introduction

The Export Price Index (EPI) provides an overall measure of pure price changes (in Mauritian rupees) of goods exported to other countries. The Import Price Index (IPI), on the other hand, measures pure price changes (in Mauritian rupees) of goods purchased from other countries.

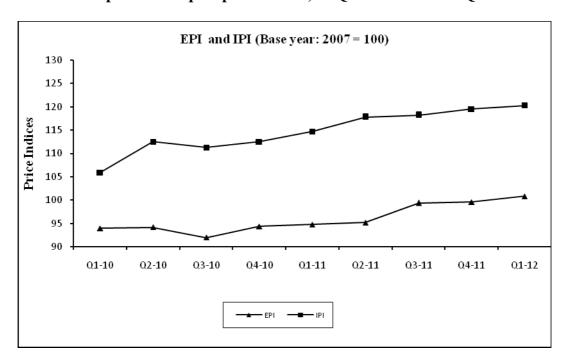
This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents a series of quarterly export and import price indices for the period first quarter 2010 to first quarter 2012 with 2007 as base year. The weights have been derived from exports and imports data for the base year, while the average import and export prices of representative items in 2007 have been used in the base year.

The methodology used and the weight structure are given in the technical notes at Annex.

# 2. Terms of trade (base year: 2007 = 100)

The terms of trade index is the ratio of export price index to import price index. A rise in this ratio indicates that the terms of trade have moved in favour of Mauritius. During the first quarter of 2012, exports and imports prices increased by 1.3% and 0.6% respectively when compared to the previous quarter. Consequently, the terms of trade were up by 0.6 point to reach 83.9 from 83.3. Compared to the corresponding period of 2011 the index rose by 1.2 points, from 82.7 to 83.9.

Chart 1: Export and Import price indices,  $1^{st}$  Quarter  $2010 - 1^{st}$  Quarter 2012



## 3. Export Price Index (EPI) – (Tables 4 - 9)

### 3.1 Structure of the EPI

The EPI covers six sections of the SITC, namely "Food and live animals", "Crude materials, inedible, except fuels", "Animals and vegetables oils & fats" "Chemicals and related products", "Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material" and "Miscellaneous manufactured articles". Exports of goods falling under these sections covered 88.0% of total exports in base year 2007. In addition to the overall index, separate sub-indices are given for the different sections, groups of commodities and items product categories.

# 3.2 Changes in Export Price Index (1st quarter 2012)

## 3.2.1 Overall Index

During the first quarter of 2012, the EPI increased by 1.3% to reach 100.8 from 99.6 in the previous quarter. That was mainly due to increases in the prices of "Food and live animals" (+4.0%), partly offset by a decrease in the prices of "Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material" (-0.2%),

Compared to price levels in the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index was higher by 6.3%, explained mainly by price increases in "Food and live animals" (+18.6%) and "Miscellaneous manufactured articles" (+0.6%).

# 3.2.2 Sub-indices by section

# Section 0: Food and live animals

During the first quarter of 2012, the sub-index for "Food and live animals" accounting for 34.5% of the total weight went up to 105.2 from 101.2 in the previous quarter, representing an increase of 4.0%. That was mainly due to an increase of 11.6% in the export prices of "Fish and fish preparations".

When compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index rose by 18.6%, due to an increases of 24.6% and 15.5% in the prices of "Sugars, sugar preparations and honey" and "Fish and fish preparations" respectively.

## Section 2: Crude materials, inedible, except fuels

The index for "Crude materials, inedible, except fuels" decreased by 15.3% from 122.5 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to 103.8 in the first quarter of 2012, as a result of a 15.3% fall in the export price of "Fresh cut flowers".

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index declined by 1.1%.

## Section 4: Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes

During the first quarter of 2012, the index for "Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes" remained at the same level (111.1) of the fourth quarter of 2011.

Compared to the corresponding period of 2011, the index went up by 40.5%.

# Section 5: Chemicals and related products

The export price index for "Chemicals and related products", which stood at 86.9 in the fourth quarter of 2011, decreased by 1.6% to reach 85.4 in the first quarter of 2012.

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index fell by 3.3%.

# Section 6: Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material

Export prices of goods in this section, which consist mainly of textile fabrics, decreased by 0.2% from 132.7 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to 132.5 in the first quarter of 2012. This fall is explained by lower prices of 1.1% and 0.4% in "Manufactures of metal, n.e.s" in "Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s" respectively.

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index rose by 0.5%, mainly as a result of increases in the export prices of "Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s" (+3.1%) and "Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles, n.e.s, & related products" (+0.3%).

### Section 8: Miscellaneous manufactured articles

"Miscellaneous manufactured articles" which consists mostly of articles of apparel and clothing accessories, is the most important section covered by the export price index as it carries about 55.2% of the total weight.

During the first quarter of 2012, the index for "Miscellaneous manufactured articles" remained at the same level (94.4) of the fourth quarter of 2011.

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index rose by 0.6% due to increases in the prices of "Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s, watches and clocks" (+46.8%).

## 4. Import Price Index (IPI) (Tables 10 -16)

## 4.1 Structure of the IPI

The IPI covers nine out of the 10 Standard International Trade Classification sections.

The only section not covered is "Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere", because of the heterogeneity of the products and the inherent difficulties in pricing items of a constant quality.

Thus, the index, either directly or indirectly, covers about 91.0% of merchandise imported during 2007. Sixty per cent of the items are directly represented. For those items which are not directly represented, the prices are considered to move similarly to those represented directly.

# 4.2 Changes in Import Price Index (1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2012)

### 4.2.1 Overall Index

The Import Price Index (IPI) increased by 0.6% from 119.6 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to 120.3 in the first quarter of 2012. This was mainly the effect of increases in the prices of "Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials" (+10.8%) and "Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material" (+2.0%), partly offset by a decrease in prices of "Machinery and transport equipment" (-10.7%).

Compared to the corresponding period of 2011, the index rose by 4.9%, mainly as a result of increases in the prices of "Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials" (+19.7%), "Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material" (+6.3%) and "Food and live animals" (+0.6%).

### 4.2.2 Sub-indices by section

#### Section 0: Food and live animals

The index for "Food and live animals", representing about 18.1% of total weight, decreased by 2.9%, from 123.4 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to 119.9 in the first quarter of 2012. Within the section, price decreases were registered in "Fish and fish preparations" (-2.5%) and "Cereals and cereal preparations" (-6.4%).

Compared to the first quarter of 2011, the index went up by 0.6%, mainly due to increases in the prices of "Fish and fish preparations" (+9.5%), partly offset by lower prices in "Cereals and cereal preparations" (-3.5%)

## Section 1: Beverages and tobacco

The index for "Beverages and tobacco" decreased by 1.0%, from 138.4 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to 137.0 in the first quarter of 2012, as a result of price decreases of 1.3% and 0.6% in "Beverages" and "Tobacco & tobacco manufactures" respectively.

Compared to the corresponding period of 2011, the index went up by 0.8% due to higher prices of "Tobacco & tobacco manufactures" (+4.3%).

## Section 2: Crude materials, inedible, except fuels

The index for "Crude materials, inedible, except fuels" went up by 0.1% from 155.1 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to 155.3 in the first quarter of 2012, mainly as a result of an increase of 6.2% in prices of "Crude fertilizers and crude minerals".

Compared to the corresponding period of last year, the index went up by 7.6%, attributable to an increase of 3.2% in the prices of "Textile fibres and their wastes".

## Section 3: Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials

The index for "Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials" with 20.0% of the total weight, increased by 10.8% from 135.5 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to reach 150.2 in the first quarter of 2012, mainly explained by an increase of 11.1% in the prices of "Petroleum, petroleum products and materials".

Compared to the corresponding period of 2011, the index rose by 19.7%, mainly due to a price increase of 22.0% in "Petroleum, petroleum products and materials".

## Section 4: Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes

The index for "Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes" fell by 1.7% from 142.5 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to 140.1 in the first quarter of 2012, as a result of a fall of 1.7% in prices of "Fixed vegetable fats and oils, crude, refined or fractionated".

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index showed a decrease of 8.3%, from 152.8 to 140.1.

# Section 5: Chemical materials and related products, not elsewhere specified (n.e.s)

The index for "Chemical materials and related products, n.e.s" increased by 0.2% in the first quarter of 2012 from 109.9 in the fourth quarter of 2011 to 110.1. Price increases were registered mainly in "Plastics in primary forms" (+1.6%).

The index rose by 4.6% when compared to the corresponding period of last year.

# Section 6: Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material

In the first quarter of 2012, the index for "Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material" stood at 112.6, which represents an increase of 2.0% over the previous quarter figure of 110.4. This was mainly attributable to a rise in prices of "Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s" (+11.5%).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index went up by 6.3%, mainly due to price increases in "Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s" (+27.6%).

## Section 7: Machinery and transport equipment

The index of "Machinery and transport equipment" with 18.0% of total weight reached 96.3 in the first quarter of 2012, showing a decrease of 10.7% over the previous quarter figure of 107.8. This was mainly due to decreases of 38.1% and 0.8% in the prices of "Telecommunications and sound recording and apparatus" and "Road vehicles" respectively.

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index fell by 10.7%, mainly attributable to price decreases of 36.9% in "Telecommunications and sound recording and apparatus".

## Section 8: Miscellaneous manufactured articles

During the first quarter of 2012, the index of "Miscellaneous manufactured articles" was (114.0), almost at same level of the fourth quarter of 2011.

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2011, the index went up by 5.9%, mainly due to higher prices of 4.2% in "Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s".

### 5. Past trends

As indicated earlier, EPI and IPI in this publication are not strictly comparable with previously published series worked out using 2003 as base year. Chain linked export and import price indices using 2007 as the base year have been worked out using appropriate conversion factors and are presented in Tables 9 and 16 respectively.

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Table 1- Price indices of exports and imports and terms of trade, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

Do	iod	Price i	indices	Terms of trade
rei	100	Export	Import	Terms of trade
	Referen	ice year : 20	07 = 1 0 0	
	1st Qr	94.0	105.9	88.8
	2nd Qr	94.2	112.5	83.7
2010	3rd Qr	92.0	111.3	82.7
	4th Qr	94.4	112.5	83.9
	Year	93.7	110.6	84.8
	1st Qr	94.8	114.7	82.7
	2nd Qr	95.2	117.8	80.8
2011 1	3rd Qr	99.4	118.2	84.0
	4th Qr	99.6	119.5	83.3
	Year	97.2	117.6	82.7
2012	1st Qr	100.8	120.3	83.9

Table 2-Percentage change in the price and volume of total exports<sup>1</sup>, 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter 2012

CITEC			F.O.B Val	ue (R Mn)	0,	6 change	
SITC- section	Description	Weight	Jan-Mar	Jan-Mar	,	o change	1
Section			2011	$2012^{2}$	Value	Price	Volume <sup>3</sup>
	Overall	10,000	14,754	14,882	+ 1	+ 6	- 5
0	Food and live animals	3,445	4,973	5,447	+ 10	+ 19	- 8
	of which:						
	Sugar	1,904	2,201	1,791	- 19	+27	- 36
2	Crude materials, inedible except fuels	37	296	213	- 28	- 1	- 27
4	Animals and vegetables oils & fats	9	18	23	+ 28	+ 40	- 9
5	Chemicals & related products, n.e.s	233	458	529	+ 16	- 3	+ 19
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by	<b>=</b> 50	1.650	1 470	11	0	11
	material	759	1,653	1,479	- 11	0	- 11
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	5,517	7,356	7,191	- 2	+1	- 3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding sections 1,3,7 and 9 and SSB not covered by the EPI

Table 3 -Percentage change in the price and volume of total imports<sup>1</sup>, 1st quarter 2011 -1st quarter 2012

SITC-			C.I.F Valu	ue (R Mn)	C	% change	
section	Description	Weight	Jan-Mar	Jan-Mar	,	70 Change	
section			2011	$2012^{2}$	Value	Price	Volume <sup>3</sup>
	Overall	10,000	34,292	36,838	+ 7	+ 5	+ 2
0	Food and live animals	1,808	5,823	6,251	+ 7	+ 1	+ 7
1	Beverages & tobacco	138	574	572	0	+1	- 1
2	Crude materials, inedible except fuels	288	1,177	899	- 24	+ 8	- 29
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants & related materials	2,004	9,185	8,814	- 4	+ 20	- 20
4	Animals and vegetables oils & fats	104	534	419	- 22	- 8	- 14
5	Chemicals & related products, n.e.s	851	2,714	2,725	0	+5	- 4
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2,141	6,155	5,965	- 3	+ 6	- 9
7	Machinery & transport equipment (excluding aircraft)	1,800	5,695	8,336	+ 46	- 11	+ 64
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	866	2,435	2,857	+ 17	+ 6	+ 11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding section 9 not covered by the IPI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provisional <sup>3</sup> Volume change has been derived as the ratio of value to price change

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provisional <sup>3</sup> Volume change has been derived as the ratio of value to price change

Table 4 - Quarterly Export Price Index by SITC <sup>1</sup> section, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

SITC					2010					2011			2012
Section	Description	Weight	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Year Average	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr <sup>2</sup>	Year Average	1st Qr <sup>3</sup>
	Overall	10,000	94.0	94.2	92.0	94.4	93.7	94.8	95.2	99.4	99.6	97.2	100.8
0	Food and live animals	3,445	88.8	89.0	88.3	89.5	88.9	88.7	91.0	101.9	101.2	95.7	105.2
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	37	121.9	122.9	134.8	120.9	125.1	105.0	112.4	120.9	122.5	115.2	103.8
4	Animals and vegetables oils & fats	9	75.6	79.1	79.1	79.1	78.2	79.1	111.1	111.1	111.1	103.1	111.1
5	Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	233	89.2	86.9	86.4	89.3	88.0	88.4	88.6	88.1	86.9	88.0	85.4
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	759	133.5	127.8	130.6	125.0	129.2	131.8	129.5	131.1	132.7	131.3	132.5
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	5,517	91.9	93.0	88.9	93.3	91.8	93.8	93.2	93.7	94.4	93.8	94.4

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

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provisional

Table 5 - Quarterly Export Price Index by SITC <sup>1</sup>, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

SITC					2010					2011			2012
Section	Description	Weight	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Year Average	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr <sup>2</sup>	Year Average	1st Qr <sup>3</sup>
	Overall	10,000	94.0	94.2	92.0	94.4	93.7	94.8	95.2	99.4	99.6	97.2	100.8
0	Food and live animals	3,445	88.8	89.0	88.3	89.5	88.9	88.7	91.0	101.9	101.2	95.7	105.2
	Live animals	163	90.0	92.5	91.0	89.9	90.8	89.0	84.7	84.8	86.0	86.1	86.3
	Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, and aquatic invertebrates and preparations thereof	1,262	89.6	89.9	94.3	96.9	92.7	92.1	99.2	97.5	95.3	96.0	106.4
	Cereals and cereal preparations	55	107.9	107.1	107.9	115.0	109.5	117.6	114.9	114.6	112.2	114.8	109.0
	Sugars, sugar preparations and honey	1,904	86.9	86.9	82.4	82.4	84.6	84.2	84.2	104.9	104.9	94.6	104.9
	Feeding stuff for animals	61	111.8	114.7	120.6	130.4	119.4	130.4	130.4	130.4	134.5	131.4	134.9
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	37	121.9	122.9	134.8	120.9	125.1	105.0	112.4	120.9	122.5	115.2	103.8
	Crude animal and vegetable materials (Fresh cut flowers)	37	121.9	122.9	134.8	120.9	125.1	105.0	112.4	120.9	122.5	115.2	103.8
4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	9	75.6	79.1	79.1	79.1	78.2	79.1	111.1	111.1	111.1	103.1	111.1
	Fixed vegetable fats and oils, crude, refined or fractionated	9	75.6	79.1	79.1	79.1	78.2	79.1	111.1	111.1	111.1	103.1	111.1
5	Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	233	89.2	86.9	86.4	89.3	88.0	88.4	88.6	88.1	86.9	88.0	85.4
	Organic chemicals	69	81.2	80.6	83.4	87.0	83.1	86.1	89.1	88.8	88.6	88.2	86.6
	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	164	92.6	89.6	87.7	90.2	90.0	89.3	88.4	87.8	86.1	87.9	84.9
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	759	133.5	127.8	130.6	125.0	129.2	131.8	129.5	131.1	132.7	131.3	132.5
	Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., & related products	438	148.4	139.5	140.8	126.8	138.9	138.1	131.9	130.2	138.4	134.7	138.6
	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s	178	115.8	116.2	126.9	134.8	123.4	137.1	142.7	153.6	142.0	143.8	141.4
	Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	143	109.8	106.3	104.0	107.0	106.8	105.9	105.9	106.2	103.9	105.4	102.7

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

9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provisional

10

Table 5 (cont'd) - Quarterly Export Price Index by SITC<sup>1</sup>, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

SITC					2010					2011			2012
Section	Description	Weight	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Year Average	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr <sup>2</sup>	Year Average	1st Qr <sup>3</sup>
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	5,517	91.9	93.0	88.9	93.3	91.8	93.8	93.2	93.7	94.4	93.8	94.4
	Articles of apparel and clothing accesso	5,389	91.1	92.2	87.7	92.2	90.8	92.6	91.2	91.5	92.3	91.9	91.8
	Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits,	1,488	92.2	94.0	92.7	96.5	93.9	97.6	98.8	99.1	99.9	98.9	100.7
	blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits,	256	131.6	138.6	136.3	137.2	135.9	136.2	132.9	133.4	134.8	134.3	136.2
	blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crochetted	546	80.1	77.4	76.6	77.6	77.9	77.7	76.8	77.0	<i>76</i> .9	77.1	76.9
	Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crochetted	49	87.5	84.6	82.8	85.2	85.0	84.3	83.8	82.9	81.1	83.0	79.3
	Articles of apparel, of textile fabrics, whether or not knitted or crocheted	3,050	89.1	90.2	83.3	89.0	87.9	89.2	86.6	87.0	87.9	87.7	86.6
	Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches & clocks	99	135.1	135.8	152.9	157.3	145.3	161.9	202.1	214.5	213.1	197.9	237.6
	Optical goods,n.e.s	29	97.0	97.9	95.9	95.0	96.5	94.5	91.4	91.0	91.1	92.0	90.5
	Watches and clocks	70	150.9	151.5	176.6	183.2	165.5	189.8	248.0	265.7	263.6	241.8	298.5
	Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s	29	91.9	91.9	94.3	93.4	92.9	92.5	91.8	90.6	89.6	91.1	88.6

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provisional

Table 6 - Export Price Index: Percentage change by SITC<sup>1</sup> section, 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter 2012

						Perce	entage change	from			
Section	Description	Weight	1st Qr 11 to 2nd Qr 11	2nd Qr 11 to 3rd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11 to 4th Qr 11	4th Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	1st Qr 10 to 1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 10 to 2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 10 to 3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 10 to 4th Qr 11	1st Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12
	Overall	10,000	0.4	4.4	0.2	1.3	0.9	1.0	8.0	5.5	6.3
0	Food and live animals	3,445	2.7	11.9	-0.7	4.0	-0.1	2.2	15.4	13.1	18.6
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	37	7.1	7.5	1.4	-15.3	-13.9	-8.5	-10.3	1.4	-1.1
4	Animals and vegetables oils & fats	9	40.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5
5	Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	233	0.3	-0.6	-1.4	-1.6	-1.0	2.0	1.9	-2.7	-3.3
	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	759	-1.7	1.3	1.2	-0.2	-1.2	1.4	0.4	6.2	0.5
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	5,517	-0.7	0.6	0.7	0.0	2.1	0.2	5.4	1.2	0.6

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

12

Table 7 - Export Price Index: Percentage change by SITC<sup>1</sup>, 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter Qr 2012

						Perce	ntage change	from	<u> </u>		
Section	Description	Weight	1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 11 to	3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 11	1st Qr 10	2nd Qr 10 to	3rd Qr 10	4th Qr 10 to	1st Qr 11
			2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 11	1st Qr 12	1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 11	1st Qr 12
	Overall	10,000	0.4	4.4	0.2	1.3	0.9	1.0	8.0	5.5	6.3
0	Food and live animals	3,445	2.7	11.9	-0.7	4.0	-0.1	2.2	15.4	13.1	18.6
	Live animals	163	-4.8	0.2	1.4	0.4	-1.1	-8.5	-6.8	-4.3	-3.0
	Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, and aquatic invertebrates and preparations thereof	1,262	7.8	-1.7	-2.3	11.6	2.8	10.4	3.4	-1.7	15.5
	Cereals and cereal preparations	55	-2.3	-0.3	-2.0	-2.9	9.0	7.3	6.2	-2.4	-7.3
	Sugars, sugar preparations and honey	1,904	0.0	24.6	0.0	0.0	-3.1	-3.1	27.3	27.3	24.6
	Feeding stuff for animals	61	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.3	16.6	13.7	8.1	3.2	3.4
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	37	7.1	7.5	1.4	-15.3	-13.9	-8.5	-10.3	1.4	-1.1
	Crude animal and vegetable materials (Fresh cut flowers)	37	7.1	7.5	1.4	-15.3	-13.9	-8.5	-10.3	1.4	-1.1
4	Animals and vegetables oils & fats	9	40.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5
	Fixed vegetable fats and oils, crude, refined or fractionated	9	40.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5
5	Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	233	0.3	-0.6	-1.4	-1.6	-1.0	2.0	1.9	-2.7	-3.3
	Organic chemicals	69	3.5	-0.3	-0.2	-2.2	6.1	10.5	6.5	1.8	0.6
	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	164	-1.0	-0.8	-1.9	-1.4	-3.6	-1.3	0.1	-4.5	-4.9
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	759	-1.7	1.3	1.2	-0.2	-1.2	1.4	0.4	6.2	0.5
	Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., & related products	438	-4.5	-1.3	6.3	0.1	-6.9	-5.4	-7.5	9.1	0.3
	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s	178	4.1	7.6	-7.5	-0.4	18.4	22.8	21.0	5.3	3.1
	Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	143	0.0	0.3	-2.1	-1.1	-3.6	-0.4	2.1	-2.9	-3.0

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

Table 7 (cont'd) - Export Price Index: Percentage change by SITC <sup>1</sup> 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter 2012

						Percentag	ge change fron	1			
Section	Description	Weight	1st Qr 11 to 2nd Qr 11	2nd Qr 11 to 3rd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11 to 4th Qr 11	4th Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	1st Qr 10 to 1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 10 to 2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 10 to 3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 10 to 4th Qr 11	1st Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	5,517	-0.7	0.6	0.7	0.0	1.6	0.2	5.4	1.2	0.6
	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	5,389	-1.5	0.4	0.8	-0.5	1.1	-1.1	4.3	0.1	-0.8
	Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted	1,488	1.2	0.3	0.9	0.8	4.1	5.0	6.8	3.5	3.1
	Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, not knitted or crocheted	256	-2.4	0.4	1.1	1.0	3.5	-4.1	-2.1	-1.7	0.0
	Men's or boys' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crochetted	546	-1.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-3.0	-0.7	0.4	-0.9	-1.0
	Women's or girls' coats, jackets, suits, blazers, trousers, shorts, shirts etc, knitted or crochetted	49	-0.7	-1.0	-2.1	-2.2	-3.6	-1.0	0.1	-4.8	-5.9
	Articles of apparel, of textile fabrics, whether or not knitted or crocheted  Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and	3,050	-2.9	0.5	1.0	-1.4	0.1	-3.9	4.5	-1.2	-2.9
	optical goods, n.e.s.; watches & clocks	99	24.8	6.1	-0.7	11.5	19.8	48.8	40.3	35.4	46.8
	Optical goods,n.e.s	29	-3.2	-0.5	0.1	-0.6	-2.6	-6.7	-5.1	-4.1	-4.2
	Watches and clocks	70	30.6	7.2	-0.8	13.2	25.8	63.7	50.5	43.9	57.3
	Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s	29	-0.7	-1.3	-1.1	-1.1	0.6	-0.2	-4.0	-4.1	-4.2

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

14

Table 8 - Quarterly Export Price Index, 1st Qr 1994 - 1st Qr 2012 (multiple base)

	Ref	erence yo	ear 1993:	=100		Ref	erence y	ear 1997:	=100		Ref	erence y	ear 2003=	=100		Referen	ce year 2	2007=100	
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 1	2012
Qr 1	103.2	109.5	117.0	125.3	102.1	111.0	108.2	108.1	117.6	124.9	102.0	112.0	116.4	129.1	96.5	97.6	94.0	94.8	100.8
Qr 2	101.6	109.8	121.3	126.2	106.1	110.0	105.3	107.4	120.2	126.5	106.3	111.7	119.3	126.4	96.0	98.7	94.2	95.2	
Qr 3	105.2	113.2	126.8	123.8	111.3	109.7	101.6	112.6	126.5	131.2	109.5	114.6	122.0	126.4	96.9	97.0	92.0	99.4	
Qr 4	107.3	114.7	127.2	132.0	113.8	109.7	102.4	114.8	126.8	132.2	111.3	115.2	125.0	126.3	99.2	93.6	94.4	99.6	
Year	104.3	111.8	123.1	126.8	108.3	110.1	104.4	110.7	122.8	128.7	107.3	113.4	120.7	127.1	97.2	96.7	93.7	97.2	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

15

Table 9 - Quarterly Export Price Index, 1st Qr 1994 - 1st Qr 2012 (single base)

		Reference year 2007=100																	
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 1	2012
Qr 1	49.8	52.8	56.4	60.4	62.4	67.9	66.2	66.1	71.9	76.4	80.3	88.2	91.6	101.6	96.5	97.6	94.0	94.8	100.8
Qr 2	49.0	53.0	58.5	60.9	64.9	67.3	64.4	65.7	73.5	77.4	83.7	87.9	93.9	99.4	96.0	98.7	94.2	95.2	
Qr 3	50.7	54.6	61.2	59.7	68.1	67.1	62.1	68.9	77.4	80.2	86.2	90.2	96.0	98.9	96.9	97.0	92.0	99.4	
Qr 4	51.7	55.3	61.3	63.7	69.6	67.1	62.6	70.2	77.5	80.8	87.6	90.7	98.4	100.0	99.2	93.6	94.4	99.6	
Year	50.3	53.9	59.4	61.2	66.2	67.3	63.8	67.7	75.1	78.7	84.4	89.2	95.0	100.0	97.2	96.7	93.7	97.2	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

16

Table 10 - Quarterly Import Price Index by SITC section, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

Section	Description	Weight			2010					2011			2012
Section	Description	Weight	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Year Average	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr <sup>2</sup>	Year Average	1st Qr <sup>3</sup>
	Overall Index	10,000	105.9	112.5	111.3	112.5	110.6	114.7	117.8	118.2	119.6	117.6	120.3
0	Food and live animals	1,808	109.2	121.0	113.7	118.1	115.5	119.1	123.7	124.8	123.4	122.8	119.9
1	Beverages and tobacco	138	140.3	140.1	135.7	137.5	138.4	135.9	137.4	136.9	138.4	137.1	137.0
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	288	141.1	149.7	143.6	148.4	145.7	144.3	153.3	153.2	155.1	151.5	155.3
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2,004	104.4	116.3	111.8	116.0	112.1	125.5	139.3	140.4	135.5	135.2	150.2
4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	104	109.1	108.0	108.4	115.8	110.3	152.8	152.9	143.4	142.5	147.9	140.1
)	Chemical materials & related products, n.e.s	851	106.6	108.8	106.4	108.2	107.5	105.3	105.4	110.2	109.9	107.7	110.1
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2,141	101.2	108.6	106.2	104.9	105.2	106.0	111.4	110.1	110.4	109.4	112.6
7	Machinery and transport equipment	1,800	100.6	99.2	110.4	107.5	104.4	107.8	97.2	96.4	107.8	102.3	96.3
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	866	107.1	110.9	110.2	110.1	109.6	107.6	107.9	109.1	113.9	109.6	114.0

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provisional

Table 11 - Quarterly Import Price Index by SITC section & division, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

Section/					2010					2011			2012
Division	Description	Weight	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Year Average	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr <sup>2</sup>	Year Average	1st Qr <sup>3</sup>
	Overall Index	10,000	105.9	112.5	111.3	112.5	110.6	114.7	117.8	118.2	119.6	117.6	120.3
Section 0	Food and live animals	1,808	109.2	121.0	113.7	118.1	115.5	119.1	123.7	124.8	123.4	122.8	119.9
Div 00	Live animals	29	98.5	123.1	119.6	122.0	115.8	122.4	122.4	131.8	127.3	126.0	133.2
Div 01	Meat and meat preparations	122	145.1	184.6	165.7	168.6	166.0	166.9	163.8	172.1	165.9	167.1	160.3
Div 02	Dairy products and birds' eggs	220	124.4	117.9	121.2	121.9	121.3	120.1	124.1	123.9	122.0	122.5	122.2
Div 03	Fish, crustaceans, etc, and preparations thereof	638	76.3	100.2	84.4	83.4	86.1	93.9	110.1	106.8	105.5	104.1	102.9
Div 04	Cereals and cereal preparations	360	135.6	132.5	134.5	138.2	135.2	134.0	137.1	139.2	138.2	137.1	129.3
	of which wheat	144	117.9	117.9	117.9	113.2	116.7	110.9	110.9	110.9	114.2	111.7	114.2
Div 05	Vegetables and fruit	177	101.8	98.8	96.6	117.5	103.7	103.2	89.5	94.2	98.9	96.5	97.9
	Sugars, sugar preparations and honey	59	200.6	215.0	185.6	210.3	202.9	211.2	203.1	236.9	229.2	220.1	214.8
Div 07	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof	47	110.4	127.0	130.4	131.9	124.9	137.6	130.3	127.8	124.5	130.0	132.1
Div 08	Feeding stuff for animals	40	95.5	90.9	82.0	99.2	91.9	105.2	92.1	77.9	77.0	88.0	68.3
Div 09	Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	116	113.9	131.8	133.6	139.2	129.6	133.6	134.0	134.1	132.1	133.5	131.8
Section 1	Beverages and Tobacco	138	140.3	140.1	135.7	137.5	138.4	135.9	137.4	136.9	138.4	137.1	137.0
Div 11	Beverages	81	136.7	136.2	135.2	133.3	135.3	131.6	134.0	135.5	130.7	132.9	129.1
Div 12	Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	57	145.5	145.5	136.5	143.6	142.8	142.1	142.1	138.9	149.2	143.1	148.3
Section 2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	288	141.1	149.7	143.6	148.4	145.7	144.3	153.3	153.2	155.1	151.5	155.3
Div 24	Cork and wood	98	193.8	210.4	193.0	190.1	196.8	185.6	177.3	194.7	202.8	190.1	200.5
Div 26	Textile fibres and their wastes (not manufactured into varn or fabric)	168	100.9	104.7	109.5	111.9	106.8	111.4	130.5	120.8	115.4	119.5	115.0
Div 27	Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum and precious stones)	22	213.2	223.4	183.3	240.8	215.2	211.8	219.9	215.4	246.2	223.3	261.6

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

7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provisional

18

Table 11 (cont'd) - Quarterly Import Price Index by SITC section & division, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

					2010					2011	ionee jour	2007=100	2012
Section/	Description	Weight		1	2010					2011	1		2012
Division	Description	Weight	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Year Average	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr <sup>2</sup>	Year Average	1st Qr
Section 3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2,004	104.4	116.3	111.8	116.0	112.1	125.5	139.3	140.4	135.5	135.2	150.2
Div 32	Coal, coke and briquettes	145	125.9	149.0	137.7	142.5	138.8	152.0	154.0	148.1	142.1	149.0	138.8
Div 33	Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	1,725	101.9	113.5	110.8	113.6	110.0	123.9	139.1	141.0	136.2	135.0	151.2
Div 34	Gas, natural and manufactured	134	113.5	115.9	97.4	118.3	111.3	117.1	126.7	124.3	120.5	122.1	148.9
Section 4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	104	109.1	108.0	108.4	115.8	110.3	152.8	152.9	143.4	142.5	147.9	140.1
Div 42	Fixed vegetable fats and oils, crude, refined or fractionated	104	109.1	108.0	108.4	115.8	110.3	152.8	152.9	143.4	142.5	147.9	140.1
Section 5	Chemical materials & related products, n.e.s	851	106.6	108.8	106.4	108.2	107.5	105.3	105.4	110.2	109.9	107.7	110.1
Div 51	Organic chemicals	61	116.4	123.2	116.2	115.9	117.9	107.8	107.8	135.2	138.4	122.3	146.4
Div 54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	225	98.2	99.2	98.4	96.6	98.1	95.6	93.8	93.9	95.2	94.6	94.3
Div 55	Essential oils and resinoids & perfume materials;toilet, etc.	147	125.6	126.6	123.0	124.0	124.8	121.7	123.4	123.0	122.9	122.8	120.6
Div 56	Fertilizers (other than those of group 272)	49	115.5	115.5	96.7	96.2	106.0	95.5	109.5	121.0	132.3	114.6	131.4
Div 57	Plastics in primary forms	157	101.3	106.7	107.7	118.0	108.4	111.9	113.8	126.7	117.2	117.4	119.1
Div 58	Plastics in non-primary forms	81	95.7	94.9	100.6	101.9	98.3	100.7	97.2	96.4	95.9	97.5	97.0
Div 59	Chemical materials & products, n.e.s	131	104.9	106.8	102.7	103.5	104.5	100.9	97.6	96.9	98.8	98.6	98.1

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provisional

Table 11 (cont'd) - Quarterly Import Price Index by SITC section & division, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

Section/					2010					2011			2012	1
Division	Description	Weight	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Year Average	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr <sup>2</sup>	Year Average	1st Qr	
Section 6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2,141	101.2	108.6	106.2	104.9	105.2	106.0	111.4	110.1	110.4	109.4	112.6	
Div 61	Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s., & dressed furskins	27	104.5	99.2	97.8	101.1	100.7	101.4	101.9	100.4	100.5	101.1	102.1	
Div 62	Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	70	119.5	125.7	124.1	122.3	122.9	122.2	136.4	144.0	145.8	137.1	144.1	
Div 63	Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	50	117.9	123.7	123.7	123.7	122.3	123.7	123.7	123.7	123.7	123.7	123.7	
Div 64	Paper, paperboard and articles of paper pulp	151	88.1	95.0	94.1	94.7	93.0	93.5	94.6	93.9	95.3	94.3	94.9	
Div 65	Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s of which	813	98.9	107.2	107.1	108.4	105.4	110.1	116.5	108.0	109.0	110.9	108.6	
	Textile yarn	406	98.7	109.5	113.6	116.9	109.7	122.6	134.7	116.9	115.6	122.4	112.6	
	Cotton fabrics, woven (not including narrow or special fabrics)	233	98.9	109.4	104.0	103.0	103.8	98.7	96.2	96.1	99.7	97.6	99.7	
	Fabrics, woven, of man-made textile materials	100	92.6	93.6	93.6	91.7	92.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	92.1	91.2	91.4	
	Knitted/crocheted fabric including tubular knit. fabrics. n.e.s	74	108.1	106.1	99.6	101.6	103.8	104.0	115.3	119.6	125.8	116.2	137.8	
Div 66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	416	108.1	111.2	103.5	96.7	104.9	102.8	114.7	119.2	117.6	113.6	131.2	
	of which Lime, cement & fab. const. materials (except glass & clay mats.)	175	76.9	79.7	76.5	74.1	76.8	72.0	69.9	78.9	71.1	73.0	83.6	
	Clay construction materials & refractory construction materials	66	106.4	108.9	105.2	102.8	105.8	101.5	99.8	111.5	112.2	106.2	110.8	
	Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, unworked or worked	175	140.0	143.7	129.8	117.0	132.6	134.0	165.1	162.3	166.2	156.9	186.4	
Div 67	Iron and steel	285	81.2	92.7	92.7	89.0	88.9	86.7	88.9	91.4	91.7	89.7	90.3	
Div 68	Non-ferrous metals	95	99.2	108.6	102.3	109.3	104.9	111.2	111.8	113.9	103.6	110.1	104.4	
Div 69	Manufactures of metals, n.e.s.	247	121.6	129.9	125.6	122.7	125.0	118.3	116.7	121.0	124.9	120.2	124.8	

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}$  The Standard International Trade Classification Revision 3 (SITC Rev. 3)

19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provisional

Table 11 (cont'd) - Quarterly Import Price Index by SITC section & division, 1st quarter 2010 - 1st quarter 2012

Section/					2010					2011			2012	
Division	Description	Weight	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Year Average	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr <sup>2</sup>	Year Average	1st Qr	
Section 7	Machinery and transport equipment	1,800	100.6	99.2	110.4	107.5	104.4	107.8	97.2	96.4	107.8	102.3	96.3	
Div 71	Power generating machinery and equipment	65	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	119.6	117.0	119.6	
Div 72	Machinery specialized for particular industries	266	101.4	100.3	100.7	101.5	101.0	101.6	101.7	101.5	101.5	101.6	101.6	
Div 74	General industrial machinery & equipment, n.e.s.	271	95.8	97.3	96.9	98.3	97.1	97.2	97.9	92.6	92.3	95.0	92.8	
Div 75	Office machines and automatic data processing machines	96	93.5	92.4	92.4	95.1	93.3	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.6	93.8	93.3	
Div 76	Telecommunications and sound recording and	456	87.5	79.0	123.5	112.4	100.6	114.9	74.7	74.7	117.1	95.3	72.4	
Div 77	Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, n.e.s., & parts thereof reproducing apparatus	238	106.2	103.9	103.9	99.6	103.4	97.1	94.7	94.0	95.9	95.4	95.8	
Div 78	Road vehicles (including air-cushion vehicles)	408	113.9	118.5	118.1	118.3	117.2	119.1	118.1	118.7	120.1	119.0	119.1	
	of which Motor cars & other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, including station wagons & racing cars	272	110.6	117.1	116.7	117.1	115.4	117.9	116.9	117.6	119.1	117.9	117.8	20
Section 8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	866	107.1	110.9	110.2	110.1	109.6	107.6	107.9	109.1	113.9	109.6	114.0	
Div 81	Prefabricated buildings; sanitary plumbing, heating & lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.	62	91.0	94.2	103.2	99.8	97.1	95.0	95.0	95.0	103.7	97.2	104.4	
Div 82	Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, mattresses, mattress support, cushions & similar stuffed furnishings	98	152.6	157.2	157.2	163.4	157.6	162.9	162.9	162.9	163.6	163.1	163.6	
Div 87	Professional, scientific and controlling inst. and ap	103	97.1	95.0	119.8	122.2	108.5	119.7	119.7	119.7	117.3	119.1	117.3	
Div 88	Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches & clocks	107	119.2	130.6	119.1	114.4	120.8	112.1	107.8	107.8	137.8	116.4	140.9	
Div 89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	496	99.6	103.0	97.8	97.5	99.5	94.8	96.2	98.3	99.5	97.2	98.8	
	of which Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	168	80.1	87.1	83.5	82.9	83.4	80.6	79.5	81.7	82.2	81.0	81.2	
	Jewellery, goldsmiths' & silversmiths' wares of precious/semi-precious, n.e.s.	101	130.4	130.4	130.4	128.7	130.0	127.8	127.8	133.2	133.6	130.6	132.2	

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provisional

21

Table 12 - Import Price Index: Percentage change by SITC¹ section, 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter 2012

						Percei	ntage change	e from			
Section	Description	Weight	1st Qr 11 to 2nd Qr 11	2nd Qr 11 to 3rd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11 to 4th Qr 11	4th Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	1st Qr 10 to 1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 10 to 2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 10 to 3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 10 to 4th Qr 11	1st Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12
	Overall Index	10,000	2.7	0.3	1.1	0.6	8.3	4.7	6.2	6.3	4.9
0	Food and live animals	1,808	3.8	0.9	-1.1	-2.9	9.1	2.2	9.7	4.5	0.6
1	Beverages and tobacco	138	1.0	-0.3	1.1	-1.0	-3.1	-1.9	0.9	0.6	0.8
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	288	6.2	-0.1	1.3	0.1	2.3	2.3	6.7	4.6	7.6
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2,004	11.0	0.8	-3.4	10.8	20.2	19.8	25.5	16.8	19.7
4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	104	0.0	-6.2	-0.6	-1.7	40.1	41.5	32.2	23.1	-8.3
5	Chemical materials & related products, n.e.s	851	0.1	4.6	-0.3	0.2	-1.2	-3.1	3.6	1.6	4.6
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2,141	5.1	-1.2	0.3	2.0	4.7	2.5	3.7	5.2	6.3
7	Machinery and transport equipment	1,800	-9.8	-0.8	11.8	-10.7	7.1	-2.0	-12.7	0.2	-10.7
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	866	0.2	1.1	4.4	0.0	0.5	-2.7	-1.0	3.5	5.9

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

22

Table 13 - Import Price Index: Percentage change by SITC section & division, 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter 2012

Reference year 2007=100

Section/ Description Weight 1st Or 11 2nd Or 11 3rd Or 11 4th Or 11 1st Or 10 2nd Or 10 3rd Or 10 4th Or											
Section/ Division	Description	Weight	1st Qr 11 to 2nd Qr 11	2nd Qr 11 to 3rd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11 to 4th Qr 11	4th Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	1st Qr 10 to 1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 10 to 2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 10 to 3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 10 to 4th Qr 11	1st Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12
	Overall Index	10,000	2.7	0.3	1.1	0.6	8.3	4.7	6.2	6.3	4.9
Section 0	Food and live animals	1,808	3.8	0.9	-1.1	-2.9	9.1	2.2	9.7	4.5	0.6
Div 00	Live animals	29	0.0	7.7	-3.4	4.6	24.2	-0.6	10.2	4.4	8.9
Div 01	Meat and meat preparations	122	-1.9	5.1	-3.6	-3.4	15.0	-11.3	3.8	-1.7	-3.9
Div 02	Dairy products and birds' eggs	220	3.3	-0.1	-1.5	0.1	-3.5	5.2	2.3	0.1	1.7
Div 03	Fish, crustaceans, etc, and preparations thereof	638	17.2	-3.0	-1.2	-2.5	23.1	9.9	26.4	26.4	9.5
Div 04	Cereals and cereal preparations	360	2.3	1.6	-0.7	-6.4	-1.1	3.5	3.5	0.0	-3.5
	of which wheat	144	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	-5.9	-5.9	-5.9	0.9	3.0
Div 05	Vegetables and fruit	177	-13.3	5.2	5.1	-1.1	1.4	-9.4	-2.6	-15.8	-5.2
Div 06	Sugars, sugar preparations and honey	59	-3.8	16.7	-3.3	-6.3	5.3	-5.6	27.6	9.0	1.7
Div 07	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures thereof	47	-5.3	-2.0	-2.6	6.1	24.6	2.6	-2.0	-5.7	-4.0
Div 08	Feeding stuff for animals	40	-12.4	-15.5	-1.1	-11.2	10.1	1.3	-5.1	-22.4	-35.0
Div 09	Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	116	0.3	0.1	-1.5	-0.2	17.3	1.7	0.4	-5.2	-1.3
Section 1	Beverages and Tobacco	138	1.0	-0.3	1.1	-1.0	-3.1	-1.9	0.9	0.6	0.8
Div 11	Beverages	81	1.8	1.1	-3.5	-1.3	-3.7	-1.6	0.2	-1.9	-1.9
Div 12	Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	57	0.0	-2.3	7.4	-0.6	-2.3	-2.3	1.8	3.9	4.3
Section 2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	288	6.2	-0.1	1.3	0.1	2.3	2.3	6.7	4.6	7.6
Div 24	Cork and wood	98	-4.5	9.8	4.2	-1.1	-4.2	-15.7	0.8	6.7	8.0
Div 26	Textile fibres and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabric)	168	17.2	-7.4	-4.5	-0.4	10.4	24.6	10.3	3.1	3.2
Div 27	Crude fertilisers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum and precious stones)	22	3.9	-2.0	14.3	6.2	-0.7	-1.6	17.5	2.3	23.5

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

Table 13 cont'd - Import Price Index: Percentage change by SITC section & division, 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter 2012

						Perce	ntage change	e from				
Section/ Division	Description	Weight	1st Qr 11 to 2nd Qr 11	2nd Qr 11 to 3rd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11 to 4th Qr 11	4th Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	1st Qr 10 to 1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 10 to 2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 10 to 3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 10 to 4th Qr 11	1st Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	
Section 3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2,004	11.0	0.8	-3.4	10.8	20.2	19.8	25.5	16.8	19.7	
Div 32	Coal, coke and briquettes	145	1.3	-3.8	-4.1	-2.4	20.7	3.3	7.6	-0.3	-8.7	
Div 33	Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	1,725	12.2	1.4	-3.4	11.1	21.6	22.5	27.2	19.8	22.0	
Div 34	Gas, natural and manufactured	134	8.2	-1.9	-3.1	23.6	3.1	9.3	27.7	1.8	27.2	
Section 4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	104	0.0	-6.2	-0.6	-1.7	40.1	41.5	32.2	23.1	-8.3	
Div 42	Fixed vegetable fats and oils, crude, refined or fractionated	104	0.0	-6.2	-0.6	-1.7	40.1	41.5	32.2	23.1	-8.3	23
Section 5	Chemical materials & related products, n.e.s	851	0.1	4.6	-0.3	0.2	-1.2	-3.1	3.6	1.6	4.6	
Div 51	Organic chemicals	61	0.0	25.5	2.3	5.8	-7.4	-12.5	16.4	19.4	35.8	
Div 54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	225	-1.9	0.1	1.4	-1.0	-2.7	-5.5	-4.6	-1.4	-1.4	
Div 55	Essential oils and resinoids & perfume materials;toilet, etc.	147	1.4	-0.3	-0.1	-1.9	-3.1	-2.5	0.0	-0.9	-0.9	
Div 56	Fertilizers (other than those of group 272)	49	14.6	10.5	9.4	-0.7	-17.3	-5.2	25.1	37.6	37.6	
Div 57	Plastics in primary forms	157	1.7	11.3	-7.5	1.6	10.5	6.6	17.7	-0.7	6.4	
Div 58	Plastics in non-primary forms	81	-3.5	-0.8	-0.5	1.2	5.2	2.3	-4.2	-5.9	-3.6	
Div 59	Chemical materials & products, n.e.s	131	-3.3	-0.7	1.9	-0.7	-3.8	-8.6	-5.6	-4.6	-2.8	

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

Table 13 cont'd - Import Price Index: Percentage change by SITC section & division, 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter 2012

			Percentage change from									
Section/ Division	Description	Weight	1st Qr 11 to 2nd Qr 11	2nd Qr 11 to 3rd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11 to 4th Qr 11	4th Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	1st Qr 10 to 1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 10 to 2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 10 to 3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 10 to 4th Qr 11	1st Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	
Section 6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2,141	5.1	-1.2	0.3	2.0	4.7	2.5	3.7	5.2	6.3	]
Div 61	Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s., & dressed furskins	27	0.5	-1.5	0.1	1.6	-3.0	2.7	2.6	-0.6	0.8	
Div 62	Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	70	11.6	5.6	1.2	-1.2	2.2	8.5	16.0	19.2	17.9	
Div 63	Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	50	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Div 64	Paper, paperboard and articles of paper pulp	151	1.1	-0.7	1.5	-0.5	6.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.6	1.4	
Div 65	Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s	813	5.8	-7.3	1.0	-0.4	11.4	8.7	0.8	0.6	-1.4	
	of which Textile yarn	406	9.9	-13.3	-1.1	-2.6	24.2	23.1	2.9	-1.2	-8.2	!
	Cotton fabrics, woven (not including narrow or special fabrics)	233	-2.5	-0.1	3.8	0.0	-0.2	-12.1	-7.6	-3.3	1.0	
	Fabrics, woven, of man-made textile materials	100	0.0	0.0	1.3	-0.7	-1.9	-2.9	-2.9	0.4	0.6	
	Knitted/crocheted fabric including tubular knit, fabrics nes	74	10.9	3.7	5.2	9.5	-3.8	8.7	20.1	23.8	32.5	
Div 66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	416	11.6	3.9	-1.3	11.5	-5.0	3.1	15.2	21.6	27.6	
	of which Lime, cement & fab. const. materials (except glass & clay mats.)	175	-3.0	13.0	-10.0	17.7	-6.4	-12.3	3.2	-4.1	16.1	
	Clay construction materials & refractory construction materials	66	-1.7	11.7	0.7	-1.2	-4.6	-8.4	5.9	9.1	9.2	
	Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, unworked or worked	175	23.2	-1.7	2.4	12.2	-4.3	14.9	25.1	42.0	39.1	
Div 67	Iron and steel	285	2.5	2.7	0.4	-1.6	6.8	-4.1	-1.4	3.1	4.1	
Div 68	Non-ferrous metals	95	0.5	1.9	-9.1	0.8	12.1	3.0	11.4	-5.2	-6.1	
Div 69	Manufactures of metals, n.e.s.	247	-1.3	3.7	3.2	-0.1	-2.8	-10.1	-3.6	1.8	5.6	

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

24

25

Table 13 cont'd - Import Price Index: Percentage change by SITC section & division, 1st quarter 2011 - 1st quarter 2012

						Perce	entage chang	ge from			
Section/ Division	Description	Weight	1st Qr 11 to 2nd Qr 11	2nd Qr 11 to 3rd Qr 11	3rd Qr 11 to 4th Qr 11	4th Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12	1st Qr 10 to 1st Qr 11	2nd Qr 10 to 2nd Qr 11	3rd Qr 10 to 3rd Qr 11	4th Qr 10 to 4th Qr 11	1st Qr 11 to 1st Qr 12
Section 7	Machinery and transport equipment	1,800	-9.8	-0.8	11.8	-10.7	7.1	-2.0	-12.7	0.2	-10.7
Div 71	Power generating machinery and equipment	65	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	3.0
Div 72	Machinery specialized for particular industries	266	0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.4	0.7	0.0	-0.1
Div 74	General industrial machinery & equipment, n.e.s.	271	0.7	-5.4	-0.3	0.5	1.5	0.6	-4.5	-6.1	-4.5
Div 75	Office machines and automatic data processing machines	96	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.4	0.4	1.6	1.6	-1.5	-0.6
Div 76	Telecommunications and sound recording and	456	-35.0	0.0	56.8	-38.1	31.2	-5.5	-39.5	4.1	-36.9
Div 77	Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, n.e.s., & parts thereof reproducing apparatus	238	-2.5	-0.7	2.0	-0.1	-8.5	-8.9	-9.5	-3.8	-1.4
Div 78	Road vehicles (including air-cushion vehicles)	408	-0.8	0.5	1.2	-0.8	4.5	-0.3	0.5	1.6	0.1
	of which Motor cars & other motor vehicles for the transport of persons	272	-0.9	0.6	1.3	-1.1	6.6	-0.2	0.7	1.7	-0.1
Section 8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	866	0.2	1.1	4.4	0.0	0.5	-2.7	-1.0	3.5	5.9
Div 81	Prefabricated buildings; sanitary plumbing, heating & lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.	62	0.0	0.0	9.2	0.6	4.3	0.8	-8.0	3.9	9.9
Div 82	Furniture & parts thereof; bedding, mattresses, mattress support, cushions & similar stuffed furnishings	98	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	6.8	3.6	3.6	0.1	0.5
Div 87	Professional, scientific and controlling inst. and app.	103	0.0	0.0	-2.0	0.0	23.3	26.1	0.0	-4.0	-2.0
Div 88	Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches & clocks	107	-3.8	0.0	27.8	2.3	-5.9	-17.5	-9.5	20.5	25.7
Div 89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s.	496	1.4	2.1	1.3	-0.7	-4.7	-6.6	0.5	2.1	4.2
	of which Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	168	-1.4	2.8	0.7	-1.3	0.7	-8.7	-2.2	-0.8	0.7
	Jewellery, goldsmiths' & silversmiths' wares of precious/semi-precious, n.e.s	101	0.0	4.2	0.3	-1.1	-2.0	-2.0	2.1	3.8	3.4

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

Table 14 - Quarterly Import Price Index, 1st Qr 2004 - 1st Qr 2012 (multiple base)

		Reference ye	ear 2003=100		Reference year 2007=100								
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 1	2012				
Qr 1	100.9	123.6	137.8	156.2	100.3	102.6	105.9	114.7	120.3				
Qr 2	110.5	124.8	141.1	151.8	108.4	103.5	112.5	117.8					
Qr 3	115.6	134.1	148.3	150.2	118.7	103.9	111.3	118.2					
Qr 4	117.4	132.7	153.3	156.2	110.9	102.8	112.5	119.6					
Year	111.1	128.8	145.1	153.6	109.6	103.2	110.6	117.6					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

26

Table 15 - Quarterly Import Price Index, 1st Qr 2004 - 1st Qr 2012(single base)

		Reference year 2007=100													
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 1	2012						
Qr 1	65.7	80.5	89.7	101.7	100.3	102.6	105.9	114.7	120.3						
Qr 2	71.9	81.3	91.9	98.8	108.4	103.5	112.5	117.8							
Qr 3	75.3	87.3	96.5	97.8	118.7	103.9	111.3	118.2							
Qr 4	76.4	86.4	99.8	101.7	110.9	102.8	112.5	119.6							
Year	72.3	83.9	94.5	100.0	109.6	103.2	110.6	117.6							

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

#### **Technical Note**

# **Export Price Index (EPI)**

## Methodology for the Construction of the EPI

### **Definition**

The Export Price index (EPI) provides an overall measure of pure price changes in Mauritian Rupees of goods exported to other countries. This index is constructed from the export prices of a "constant" well-defined representative basket of products selected from trade data in the base year, that is, in 2007.

The first series of EPI was calculated with year 1993 as base and reference period. It was subsequently rebased in 1997, 2003 and 2007.

# **Scope and Classification**

The index is based on the Nomenclature of the Standard International Trade Classification of the United Nations (SITC Rev 4). Separate sub-indices are produced for each SITC section and for more detailed groups where possible.

The EPI covers domestic exports and re-exports, the most important commodities being sugar, textile fabrics, articles of apparel and clothing accessories.

However, some commodities were excluded in the computation of the weights, because of their heterogeneity and the inherent difficulties in pricing the items to a constant quality. These were precious stones, jewellery, recorded media and free publications, and all products classified within the Sections 1, 3, 7 and 9 of the SITC; together, they accounted for around 12% of total exports.

The index thus covers about 88% of the value of merchandise exported during 2007. Items directly represented (price movements followed), constitute 75% of the total value of exports. For the other 13% not directly represented, their prices are considered to move similarly to those represented directly.

# **Selection of Items to be priced and Outlets**

A representative sample of 25 exporting companies (outlets) was selected from trade declarations submitted to the Customs Department in 2007 for the pricing of the commodity items. The sample consists of major exporting companies trading on a regular basis. The selected companies are visited each quarter to collect the required prices.

A total of 65 items, representing 30 commodities were selected for pricing on the basis of regularity of trade and share in total exports, the most important ones being sugar, textile fabrics, and articles of apparel and clothing accessories. Specifications of items to be

priced (physical and qualitative) were established in collaboration with the selected exporting companies to ensure that same items are priced every quarter. Specifications include: pricing basis, contract basis, country of destination, unit of measurement, mode of transport, terms of payment, currency and any other conditions like quality and quantity of the product, that have a bearing on the price.

# **Weighting Scheme**

The weights have been derived from the 2007 total exports. Weights assigned to each section, division, group and commodity are based on their export values in 2007. Items selected for pricing purposes represent all commodities that fall within that weight group.

## Changes in the weights from 2003 to 2007

The changes in weights at section level are shown in the table below.

Section	Description	2003	2007
	All sections	10,000	10,000
Section 0	Food and live animals	2,942	3,445
Section 2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	31	37
Section 4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	-	9
Section 5	Chemical materials & related products, n.e.s	21	233
Section 6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	293	759
Section 8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	6,713	5,517

It is noted that the weights of "Food and live animals", and "Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material" have increased in the new weight structure due to their growing importance while the increase in the weights of "Chemicals and related products" was a result of the introduction of medicinal and pharmaceutical products in the index basket.

#### **Base and Reference Period**

Both the base period (period to which weights refer) and the reference period (index=100) for the EPI are the calendar year 2007. Export data for year 2007 have been used to derive the weights while the yearly average prices were used as reference year prices. The quarterly average prices have also been used to calculate the quarterly indices for the reference year.

## **Price Collection**

Selected companies are visited once every quarter, but prices are collected for each month of the quarter and quarterly averages worked out for the computation of the price

indices. Some 65 price quotations are collected each month. These prices are reported on a free on board (F.O.B.) basis and are mostly contract prices.

## Sugar

Due to its specificity, sugar has been treated differently. Sugar produced during a crop year, which normally extends from July to June of the following year, is usually exported during the same crop year. The export prices 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 of that crop year. It is to be noted that the base year price of sugar is the average price for crop years 2006/07 and 2007/08.

## Uses of the EPI

The EPI is mainly used as price deflators for exports. It shows changes in the prices of Mauritian products sold abroad and can be used for calculating changes in the volume of exports.

It also serves 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.

### **Calculation of the EPI**

The lowest level (SITC 7 digit) indices are calculated as a geometric average of the price relatives of the basic observations. A modified Laspeyres formula, based on the weighted average of price relatives, is used to calculate higher level indices. The mathematical

$$I_{ot} \ = \ \frac{\displaystyle \sum W_i \times \frac{P_{it}}{P_{io}} \times 100}{\displaystyle \sum W_i}$$

form of the formula is shown below:

Where  $1_{ot}$  is the index for period t compared to base period 0

w<sub>i</sub> is the weight of the i<sup>th</sup> element

P<sub>io</sub> is the base price of the i<sup>th</sup> element

 $P_{it}$  is the price of the  $i^{th}$  element in period t

 $\frac{P_{it}}{P_{ot}}$  is the price relative of the i<sup>th</sup> element in period t relative to base period 0

 $\Sigma$  means summation over all selected elements

## **Import Price Index (IPI)**

# Methodology for the Construction of the IPI

#### **Definition**

The Import Price Index (IPI) provides an overall measure of pure price changes (in Mauritian Rupees) of goods imported into the country.

The IPI is based on actual price measurements of a fixed basket of imported goods. It requires elaborate specifications of products and takes into account the main price determining factors such as country of origin and quality.

The first IPI was calculated with the year 2003 as reference and 2002 as base year. The new index is calculated with 2007 as base and reference year.

# **Scope and Classification**

The commodities are classified according to the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification (SITC Rev 4). Sub-indices are produced for each SITC section and for more detailed groups where possible.

For the computation of weights, some commodities accounting for around 9% of total imports in 2007 were excluded because of their heterogeneity and the inherent difficulties in pricing the items to a constant quality. These were: precious stones, jewellery, cellular telephones, recorded media and free publications, aircraft, helicopters and marine vessels, certain machine parts, textile wastes and Section 9 of the SITC described as "Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere".

Thus, the index covers about 91% of the value of merchandise imported during 2007. Items directly represented (price movements followed), constitute around 60% of the total value of imports. For the other 31% not directly represented, their prices are considered to move similarly to those represented directly.

## Selection of Items to be priced and Outlets

The commodities forming the basket were selected according to the following criteria:

- (i) As far as possible, an item is included if it is imported regularly and frequently
- (ii) The items selected had to be, to a large extent, representative of the bulk of the trader's import
- (iii) There must be a sustained demand of the commodity variety
- (iv) Items had to be specific and detailed enough for pricing.

Similarly, an importer for a particular product is selected provided that he imports that product on a regular basis.

Detailed characteristics (physical and qualitative) of items to be priced were established in collaboration with the importers so that the price quotations from period to period refer to the same items. The following are some commodity specifications: pricing basis, country of importation, unit of measurement, mode of transport, terms of payment, currency and any other conditions like quality and quantity of the product that have a bearing on the price

At the end of the process, some 139 commodity items and 220 outlets were selected for subsequent pricing.

## Weighting scheme

The weights were derived from total imports in 2007. Weights assigned to each section and group are based on their import values in that year .Products or group of products selected for pricing purposes represent all products that fall within that weight group.

# Changes in the weights from 2003 to 2007

The changes in weights at section level are shown in the table below.

Section	Description	2003	2007
	All sections	10,000	10,000
Section 0	Food and live animals	1,621	1,808
Section 1	Beverages and Tobacco	-	138
Section 2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	221	288
Section 3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1,789	2,004
Section 4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	113	104
Section 5	Chemical materials & related products, n.e.s	467	851
Section 6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	3,776	2,141
Section 7	Machinery and transport equipment	1,134	1,800
Section 8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	879	866

### The main changes were:

- (i) "Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material" declined by 1,635 from 3,776 in 2003 to 2,141 due to lower imports of textile yarn, paper and paperboard and cotton fabrics
- (ii) "Machinery and transport equipment" increased by 666 from 1,134 in 2003 to 1,800 as a result of higher imports.

#### **Base and Reference Period**

Both the base period (period to which weights refer) and the reference period (index=100) for the IPI are the calendar year 2007. Import data for year 2007 have been used to derive the weights while the yearly average prices were used as reference year prices. The quarterly average prices have also been used to calculate the quarterly indices for the reference year.

#### Price collection

There are two common practices for the collection of prices of items falling in the basket. Prices for the specified goods are collected each month from importers and average quarterly prices are then derived for compiling the index, or, in case where most imports occur at intervals longer than a month, prices are collected only once every quarter and refer to the last consignment. A preliminary survey of the importers has shown that, in the case of Mauritius, the second practice is more suitable.

Prices are reported on a cost, insurance and freight (c.i.f) basis and are expressed in Mauritian Rupees. Exchange rates from the Customs and Excise Department are used in case prices are reported in foreign currencies.

Though the frequency of imports has been taken into consideration in selecting items and importers, it may happen that some items in the basket have not been imported during a certain period. In such cases, the prices are estimated using the variations in the exchange rate of the currency of imports. The underlying assumption is that the only factor affecting the price is the value of the Mauritian Rupee relative to the transaction currency. However, for items that would no longer be imported, they would have to be substituted by similar items.

### Petroleum products and rice

It is to be noted that for petroleum products, the index is calculated differently given that these products, namely gasoline, gas oil, aviation fuel, fuel oil, LPG are now imported more than once during a quarter. All prices available for the quarter are collected and an average price for the quarter is computed.

The above pricing system is also applicable for rice, imported by the STC.

### **Uses of the Import Price Index**

The Import Price Index is an important economic indicator which is used, inter alia, to:

- (i) measure changes in prices of imports
- (ii) analyse the effect of import price changes on the various sectors of the economy
- (iii) calculate changes in the volume of imports
- (iv) calculate the terms of trade (that is the ratio of export prices to import prices)
- (v) analyse the effect of exchange rates on import prices.

# Calculation of the IPI

The lowest level indices are determined as a geometric average of the price relatives of the basic observations. A modified Laspeyres formula, based on the weighted average of price relatives, is used to calculate higher level indices.

The mathematical form of the formula is shown below:

$$I_{ot} \ = \ \frac{\displaystyle \sum W_i \times \frac{P_{it}}{P_{io}} \times 100}{\displaystyle \sum W_i}$$

Where  $1_{ot}$  is the index for period t compared to base period 0

wis the weight of the ith element

P<sub>io</sub> is the base price of the i<sup>th</sup> element

 $P_{it}$  is the price of the  $i^{th}$  element in period t

 $\frac{\mathbf{p}_{it}}{\mathbf{p}_{ot}}$  is the price relative of the i<sup>th</sup> element in period t relative to base period 0

 $\Sigma$  means summation over all selected elements