

# News Release



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**External Trade**

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## International trade

June 2006

In June this year, total imports reached Lm114.4 million. This figure is Lm9.3 million more when compared to June 2005.

The importation of Industrial Supplies went down by Lm1.9 million from Lm46.8 million to Lm44.9 million. Capital Goods imports also show a decrease of Lm2.6 million to Lm18.5 million. On the other hand increases of Lm0.8 million and Lm13.0 million were registered in the importation of Consumer Goods and Fuel and Lubricants respectively.

In the month under review, total exports went up by Lm6.6 million to Lm77.0 million from Lm70.4 million of June 2005.

### Merchandise Trade: January-June

Total imports for the period January-June 2006 increased by Lm68.2 million or 10.9 per cent to Lm692.3 million from Lm624.1 million for the same period of last year.

Imports of Industrial Supplies increased by Lm28.7 million or 10.1 per cent to Lm313.2 million. The importation of Capital Goods also went up to Lm130.6 million, representing an increase of Lm17.6 million or 15.6 per cent. At the same time Consumer Goods imports increased by Lm9.0 million or 5.3 per cent from Lm168.8 million to Lm177.8 million while imports of Fuel and Lubricants registered an increase of Lm12.9 million or 22.3 per cent.

In the period January-June 2006, total exports went up by Lm57.3 million or 14.4 per cent to Lm453.7 million from Lm396.4 million of the same period of 2005.

### Visible Trade Gap

During June 2006 the visible trade gap widened by Lm2.7 million to Lm37.4 million from Lm34.7 million of the same month of 2005, with the overall visible trade gap for the first six months of 2006 widening by Lm10.9 million to Lm238.6 million from Lm227.7 million reported in the period January-June 2005.

### Direction of Trade

In the first six months of 2006, the European Union remained the main trading partner of Malta, with arrivals reaching Lm464.0 million or 67.0 per cent of total imports, of which Lm382.2 million or 82.4 per cent originating from the Euro Zone Area. The main trading partners within the EU were Italy, the United Kingdom, Germany and France with Lm195.7 million, Lm66.7 million, Lm57.8 million and Lm51.4 million respectively. Imports from Asia totalled Lm115.4 million, or 16.7 per cent of total imports, with Singapore registering Lm30.3 million followed by China with Lm19.0 million, Japan with Lm15.3 million and Malaysia with Lm12.2 million. Figures indicate that imports from North and Central American countries totalled Lm49.8 million or 7.2 per cent, of which Lm45.6 million coming from the United States, while at the same time imports from other European countries reached Lm29.4 or 4.2 per cent.

Total dispatches to the European Union for the period January-June 2006 amounted to Lm233.0 million, representing 51.4 per cent of the total figure for exports, of which Lm171.0 million or 73.4 per cent dispatched to the Euro Zone Area. France, with Lm67.5 million, followed by the Germany with Lm58.5 million, the United Kingdom with Lm45.9 million and Italy with Lm16.7 million were the four prime partners within the EU. Exports to Asia stood at Lm119.0 million, or 26.2 per cent, while those to North and Central America reached Lm63.7 million, or 14.0 per cent ■

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**Table 1. Trade by final use**

Lm (million)

|                                 | 2004 <sup>P</sup> | 2005 <sup>P</sup> | June              |                   | January-June      |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                 |                   |                   | 2005 <sup>P</sup> | 2006 <sup>P</sup> | 2005 <sup>P</sup> | 2006 <sup>P</sup> |
| <b>Imports</b>                  | <b>1,309.6</b>    | <b>1,318.6</b>    | <b>105.1</b>      | <b>114.4</b>      | <b>624.1</b>      | <b>692.3</b>      |
| <b>Industrial Supplies</b>      | <b>625.3</b>      | <b>593.1</b>      | <b>46.8</b>       | <b>44.9</b>       | <b>284.5</b>      | <b>313.2</b>      |
| Primary                         | 16.2              | 19.8              | 2.6               | 3.2               | 9.1               | 9.2               |
| Semi-Finished                   | 583.0             | 537.6             | 42.5              | 36.5              | 264.0             | 277.2             |
| Finished                        | 26.1              | 35.7              | 1.7               | 5.2               | 11.4              | 26.9              |
| <b>Capital Goods and Others</b> | <b>235.7</b>      | <b>226.9</b>      | <b>21.1</b>       | <b>18.5</b>       | <b>113.0</b>      | <b>130.6</b>      |
| <b>Consumer Goods</b>           | <b>341.6</b>      | <b>355.8</b>      | <b>28.2</b>       | <b>29.0</b>       | <b>168.8</b>      | <b>177.8</b>      |
| Food & Beverages                | 118.5             | 122.4             | 10.3              | 10.7              | 56.5              | 57.7              |
| Durable Goods                   | 136.1             | 150.7             | 12.1              | 11.7              | 73.0              | 78.7              |
| Others                          | 87.0              | 82.7              | 5.8               | 6.6               | 39.3              | 41.4              |
| <b>Fuel and Lubricants</b>      | <b>107.0</b>      | <b>142.8</b>      | <b>9.0</b>        | <b>22.0</b>       | <b>57.8</b>       | <b>70.7</b>       |
| <b>Exports</b>                  | <b>906.2</b>      | <b>822.2</b>      | <b>70.4</b>       | <b>77.0</b>       | <b>396.4</b>      | <b>453.7</b>      |
| <b>Visible Trade Gap</b>        | <b>-403.4</b>     | <b>-496.4</b>     | <b>-34.7</b>      | <b>-37.4</b>      | <b>-227.7</b>     | <b>-238.6</b>     |

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

**Table 2. Balance of trade**

Lm (million)

|   | June              |                   | January-June      |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | 2005 <sup>P</sup> | 2006 <sup>P</sup> | 2005 <sup>P</sup> | 2006 <sup>P</sup> |
| <b>Imports</b>                                  | <b>105.1</b>      | <b>114.4</b>      | <b>624.2</b>      | <b>692.3</b>      |
| <b>Total Exports</b>                            | <b>70.4</b>       | <b>77.0</b>       | <b>396.4</b>      | <b>453.7</b>      |
| <b>Sectoral Balance</b>                         |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Food  | -8.1              | -8.9              | -47.2             | -39.0             |
| Beverages and Tobacco                           | -0.5              | -1.5              | -4.1              | -4.0              |
| Crude Materials                                 | -0.6              | -0.6              | -4.5              | -4.3              |
| Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials | -8.2              | -21.0             | -54.7             | -66.5             |
| Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats              | -0.3              | -0.4              | -1.4              | -1.6              |
| Chemicals                                       | -5.7              | -6.3              | -40.8             | -37.8             |
| Semi-Manufactured Goods                         | -7.3              | -10.3             | -43.3             | -50.3             |
| Machinery and Transport Equipment               | -2.0              | 12.5              | -32.0             | -7.8              |
| Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles             | -1.5              | -0.3              | 4.0               | -22.3             |
| Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities      | -0.5              | -0.6              | -3.8              | -5.0              |
| <b>Total Balance</b>                            | <b>-34.7</b>      | <b>-37.4</b>      | <b>-227.8</b>     | <b>-238.6</b>     |

Notes: The commodity breakdown is in accordance with S.I.T.C. Rev. 3.

Totals may not add up due to rounding.

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

**Table 3. Sectoral imports and exports: June 2005-2006**

Lm (million)

|   | 2005 <sup>P</sup> | 2006 <sup>P</sup> | 2006-2005 <sup>P</sup> |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Imports</b>                                  | <b>105.1</b>      | <b>114.4</b>      | <b>9.3</b>             |
| <b>Total Exports</b>                            | <b>70.4</b>       | <b>77.0</b>       | <b>6.6</b>             |
| <b>Imports by Section</b>                       |                   |                   |                        |
| Food  | 11.8              | 12.4              | 0.6                    |
| Beverages and Tobacco                           | 1.2               | 2.0               | 0.8                    |
| Crude Materials                                 | 0.8               | 0.8               | -                      |
| Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials | 9.0               | 22.0              | 13.0                   |
| Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats              | 0.3               | 0.4               | 0.1                    |
| Chemicals                                       | 9.8               | 9.7               | -0.1                   |
| Semi-Manufactured Goods                         | 11.5              | 14.8              | 3.3                    |
| Machinery and Transport Equipment               | 46.5              | 38.2              | -8.3                   |
| Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles             | 13.7              | 13.4              | -0.3                   |
| Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities      | 0.5               | 0.7               | 0.2                    |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>105.1</b>      | <b>114.4</b>      | <b>9.3</b>             |
| <b>Total Exports by Section</b>                 |                   |                   |                        |
| Food  | 3.7               | 3.5               | -0.2                   |
| Beverages and Tobacco                           | 0.7               | 0.5               | -0.2                   |
| Crude Materials                                 | 0.2               | 0.2               | -                      |
| Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials | 0.8               | 1.0               | 0.2                    |
| Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats              | 0.0               | -                 | -                      |
| Chemicals                                       | 4.1               | 3.4               | -0.7                   |
| Semi-Manufactured Goods                         | 4.2               | 4.5               | 0.3                    |
| Machinery and Transport Equipment               | 44.5              | 50.7              | 6.2                    |
| Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles             | 12.2              | 13.1              | 0.9                    |
| Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities      | 0.0               | 0.1               | 0.1                    |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>70.4</b>       | <b>77.0</b>       | <b>6.6</b>             |

Notes: The commodity breakdown is in accordance with S.I.T.C. Rev. 3.

Totals may not add up due to rounding.

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

**Table 4. Sectoral imports and exports: January-June 2005-2006**

Lm (million)

|   | 2005 <sup>p</sup> | 2006 <sup>p</sup> | 2006-2005 <sup>p</sup> |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Imports</b>                                  | <b>624.2</b>      | <b>692.3</b>      | <b>68.1</b>            |
| <b>Total Exports</b>                            | <b>396.4</b>      | <b>453.7</b>      | <b>57.3</b>            |
| <b>Imports by Section</b>                       |                   |                   |                        |
| Food  | 59.8              | 60.7              | 0.9                    |
| Beverages and Tobacco                           | 7.8               | 7.9               | 0.1                    |
| Crude Materials                                 | 6.0               | 6.2               | 0.2                    |
| Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials | 57.9              | 70.8              | 12.9                   |
| Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats              | 1.4               | 1.6               | 0.2                    |
| Chemicals                                       | 56.7              | 63.2              | 6.5                    |
| Semi-Manufactured Goods                         | 71.3              | 74.8              | 3.5                    |
| Machinery and Transport Equipment               | 282.0             | 308.7             | 26.7                   |
| Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles             | 77.5              | 93.2              | 15.7                   |
| Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities      | 3.8               | 5.2               | 1.4                    |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>624.2</b>      | <b>692.3</b>      | <b>68.1</b>            |
| <b>Total Exports by Section</b>                 |                   |                   |                        |
| Food  | 12.6              | 21.7              | 9.1                    |
| Beverages and Tobacco                           | 3.7               | 3.9               | 0.2                    |
| Crude Materials                                 | 1.5               | 1.9               | 0.4                    |
| Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials | 3.2               | 4.3               | 1.1                    |
| Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats              | 0.0               | 0.0               | 0.0                    |
| Chemicals                                       | 15.9              | 25.4              | 9.5                    |
| Semi-Manufactured Goods                         | 28.0              | 24.5              | -3.5                   |
| Machinery and Transport Equipment               | 250.0             | 300.9             | 50.9                   |
| Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles             | 81.5              | 70.9              | -10.6                  |
| Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities      | 0.0               | 0.2               | 0.2                    |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>396.4</b>      | <b>453.7</b>      | <b>57.3</b>            |

Notes: The commodity breakdown is in accordance with S.I.T.C. Rev. 3.

Totals may not add up due to rounding.

<sup>p</sup> Provisional

Table 5. Direction of trade

| Region and Country                 | 2005 P |      |      |      |       |       |              |       |      |      |      |      | 2006 P |       |       |       |      |      | Lm million |              |       |       |       |       |     |
|------------------------------------|--------|------|------|------|-------|-------|--------------|-------|------|------|------|------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|                                    | June   |      |      |      |       |       | January-June |       |      |      |      |      | June   |       |       |       |      |      |            | January-June |       |       |       |       |     |
|                                    | Arr    | Dis  | Imp  | Exp  | Arr   | Dis   | Imp          | Exp   | Arr  | Dis  | Imp  | Exp  | Arr    | Dis   | Imp   | Exp   | Arr  | Dis  |            | Imp          | Exp   | Arr   | Dis   | Imp   | Exp |
| <b>European Union</b>              | 65.6   | 36.5 |      |      | 443.4 | 208.7 |              |       | 77.6 | 41.4 |      |      | 464.0  | 233.0 |       |       | 77.6 | 41.4 |            |              | 464.0 | 233.0 |       |       |     |
| of which:                          |        |      |      |      |       |       |              |       |      |      |      |      |        |       |       |       |      |      |            |              |       |       |       |       |     |
| France                             | 7.8    | 10.8 |      |      | 57.6  | 60.8  |              |       | 4.7  | 11.6 |      |      | 51.4   | 67.5  |       |       | 4.7  | 11.6 |            |              | 51.4  | 67.5  |       |       |     |
| Germany                            | 9.2    | 7.4  |      |      | 55.1  | 47.3  |              |       | 8.4  | 8.4  |      |      | 57.8   | 58.5  |       |       | 8.4  | 8.4  |            |              | 57.8  | 58.5  |       |       |     |
| Italy                              | 24.3   | 3.3  |      |      | 180.1 | 15.2  |              |       | 34.0 | 2.5  |      |      | 195.7  | 16.7  |       |       | 34.0 | 2.5  |            |              | 195.7 | 16.7  |       |       |     |
| United Kingdom                     | 9.6    | 10.0 |      |      | 65.5  | 51.0  |              |       | 11.4 | 8.2  |      |      | 66.7   | 45.9  |       |       | 11.4 | 8.2  |            |              | 66.7  | 45.9  |       |       |     |
| <b>Euro Zone Area</b>              | 53.8   | 24.1 |      |      | 362.2 | 143.7 |              |       | 63.5 | 29.7 |      |      | 382.2  | 171.0 |       |       | 63.5 | 29.7 |            |              | 382.2 | 171.0 |       |       |     |
| <b>Other European Countries</b>    |        |      | 4.6  | 0.4  |       |       | 23.8         | 4.2   |      |      | 5.0  | 0.9  |        |       | 29.4  | 7.0   |      |      | 5.0        | 0.9          |       |       | 29.4  | 7.0   |     |
| of which:                          |        |      |      |      |       |       |              |       |      |      |      |      |        |       |       |       |      |      |            |              |       |       |       |       |     |
| Switzerland                        |        |      | 2.6  | 0.1  |       |       | 9.4          | 1.6   |      |      | 1.5  | 0.2  |        |       | 11.6  | 1.6   |      |      | 1.5        | 0.2          |       |       | 11.6  | 1.6   |     |
| Turkey                             |        |      | 0.9  | 0.1  |       |       | 8.1          | 0.6   |      |      | 1.4  | 0.0  |        |       | 8.0   | 1.0   |      |      | 1.4        | 0.0          |       |       | 8.0   | 1.0   |     |
| <b>Africa</b>                      |        |      | 9.0  | 3.0  |       |       | 31.6         | 28.1  |      |      | 3.4  | 4.9  |        |       | 16.0  | 24.4  |      |      | 3.4        | 4.9          |       |       | 16.0  | 24.4  |     |
| of which:                          |        |      |      |      |       |       |              |       |      |      |      |      |        |       |       |       |      |      |            |              |       |       |       |       |     |
| Egypt                              |        |      | 8.7  | 0.2  |       |       | 28.3         | 1.3   |      |      | 2.8  | 0.5  |        |       | 8.0   | 1.6   |      |      | 2.8        | 0.5          |       |       | 8.0   | 1.6   |     |
| Libya                              |        |      | 0.0  | 1.7  |       |       | 0.8          | 18.6  |      |      | 0.2  | 2.3  |        |       | 0.3   | 14.5  |      |      | 0.2        | 2.3          |       |       | 0.3   | 14.5  |     |
| Tunisia                            |        |      | 0.1  | 0.3  |       |       | 1.1          | 2.8   |      |      | 0.1  | 0.3  |        |       | 0.8   | 1.7   |      |      | 0.1        | 0.3          |       |       | 0.8   | 1.7   |     |
| <b>North and Central America</b>   |        |      | 7.5  | 10.4 |       |       | 31.2         | 65.1  |      |      | 6.4  | 8.8  |        |       | 49.8  | 63.7  |      |      | 6.4        | 8.8          |       |       | 49.8  | 63.7  |     |
| of which:                          |        |      |      |      |       |       |              |       |      |      |      |      |        |       |       |       |      |      |            |              |       |       |       |       |     |
| United States                      |        |      | 7.4  | 9.7  |       |       | 30.0         | 60.3  |      |      | 6.3  | 8.5  |        |       | 45.6  | 60.1  |      |      | 6.3        | 8.5          |       |       | 45.6  | 60.1  |     |
| <b>West Indies</b>                 |        |      | 0.0  | 0.0  |       |       | 0.0          | 1.2   |      |      | 0.0  | 0.1  |        |       | 0.5   | 0.4   |      |      | 0.0        | 0.1          |       |       | 0.5   | 0.4   |     |
| <b>South America</b>               |        |      | 0.6  | 0.2  |       |       | 4.0          | 2.2   |      |      | 0.4  | 0.2  |        |       | 3.5   | 1.7   |      |      | 0.4        | 0.2          |       |       | 3.5   | 1.7   |     |
| <b>Asia</b>                        |        |      | 17.5 | 19.1 |       |       | 88.4         | 82.9  |      |      | 20.8 | 19.6 |        |       | 115.4 | 119.0 |      |      | 20.8       | 19.6         |       |       | 115.4 | 119.0 |     |
| of which:                          |        |      |      |      |       |       |              |       |      |      |      |      |        |       |       |       |      |      |            |              |       |       |       |       |     |
| China                              |        |      | 2.6  | 0.5  |       |       | 10.8         | 2.8   |      |      | 5.0  | 1.7  |        |       | 19.0  | 10.9  |      |      | 5.0        | 1.7          |       |       | 19.0  | 10.9  |     |
| Hong Kong                          |        |      | 0.6  | 2.4  |       |       | 3.1          | 12.0  |      |      | 0.5  | 2.4  |        |       | 3.8   | 16.5  |      |      | 0.5        | 2.4          |       |       | 3.8   | 16.5  |     |
| Japan                              |        |      | 2.4  | 2.2  |       |       | 13.3         | 7.7   |      |      | 1.6  | 2.6  |        |       | 15.3  | 20.0  |      |      | 1.6        | 2.6          |       |       | 15.3  | 20.0  |     |
| Korea Republic of                  |        |      | 0.8  | 0.3  |       |       | 5.8          | 1.8   |      |      | 1.0  | 0.5  |        |       | 7.5   | 2.6   |      |      | 1.0        | 0.5          |       |       | 7.5   | 2.6   |     |
| Malaysia                           |        |      | 2.0  | 0.7  |       |       | 9.8          | 1.6   |      |      | 1.9  | 1.1  |        |       | 12.2  | 3.6   |      |      | 1.9        | 1.1          |       |       | 12.2  | 3.6   |     |
| Singapore                          |        |      | 5.2  |      |       |       | 27.9         |       |      |      | 6.6  | 8.4  |        |       | 30.3  | 54.9  |      |      | 6.6        | 8.4          |       |       | 30.3  | 54.9  |     |
| <b>Australia and Oceania</b>       |        |      | 0.3  | 0.1  |       |       | 1.7          | 0.7   |      |      | 0.8  | 0.2  |        |       | 13.7  | 0.9   |      |      | 0.8        | 0.2          |       |       | 13.7  | 0.9   |     |
| <b>Ships &amp; Aircraft Stores</b> |        |      |      | 0.7  |       |       | 3.3          |       |      |      |      | 0.9  |        |       | 3.7   |       |      |      |            |              |       |       | 3.7   |       |     |
| <b>TOTAL TRADE</b>                 | 65.6   | 36.5 | 39.5 | 33.9 | 443.4 | 208.7 | 180.7        | 187.7 | 77.6 | 41.4 | 36.8 | 35.6 | 464.0  | 233.0 | 228.3 | 220.7 |      |      |            |              |       |       |       |       |     |

P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Trade by commodity

Lm'000

| CHP NO | Commodity description               | 2005 <sup>P</sup> |              | 2006 <sup>P</sup> |              |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
|        |                                     | June              | January-June | June              | January-June |
|        |                                     | Main Imports      |              |                   |              |
| 02     | Meat                                | 1,493             | 7,286        | 1,288             | 7,554        |
| 04     | Dairy produce                       | 1,556             | 6,517        | 1,439             | 6,501        |
| 08     | Edible fruit and nuts               | 1,005             | 5,661        | 540               | 4,498        |
| 19     | Cereal preparations, biscuits, etc  | 1,203             | 7,756        | 1,396             | 7,921        |
| 22     | Beverages and spirits               | 1,059             | 6,033        | 1,489             | 5,975        |
| 27     | Mineral petroleum                   | 8,993             | 57,966       | 21,984            | 71,073       |
| 30     | Pharmaceutical products             | 2,080             | 13,158       | 2,426             | 17,104       |
| 33     | Toilet preparations                 | 1,482             | 8,297        | 1,542             | 7,571        |
| 39     | Plastics and articles thereof       | 5,339             | 27,105       | 4,053             | 29,849       |
| 44     | Wood and articles of wood           | 693               | 4,845        | 875               | 5,193        |
| 48     | Paper and articles thereof          | 1,411             | 13,035       | 3,018             | 15,395       |
| 52     | Cotton                              | 518               | 4,884        | 335               | 2,656        |
| 61     | Knitted clothing                    | 803               | 7,601        | 780               | 7,772        |
| 62     | Woven clothing                      | 1,320             | 9,933        | 1,004             | 9,401        |
| 64     | Footwear                            | 601               | 4,725        | 482               | 4,505        |
| 71     | Gold, silver and articles thereof   | 1,090             | 6,389        | 1,380             | 8,126        |
| 72     | Iron and steel                      | 1,146             | 7,317        | 1,490             | 7,024        |
| 73     | Articles or iron and steel          | 1,527             | 8,695        | 1,776             | 10,212       |
| 84     | Machinery and mechanical appliances | 10,997            | 62,337       | 10,699            | 68,382       |
| 85     | Electrical machinery and equipment  | 27,129            | 175,859      | 20,300            | 181,660      |
| 87     | Motor vehicles                      | 5,940             | 32,545       | 5,752             | 34,596       |
| 88     | Aircraft and parts                  | 1,133             | 7,220        | 1,435             | 11,119       |
| 90     | Scientific instruments              | 2,645             | 16,621       | 3,923             | 28,032       |
| 94     | Furniture                           | 1,933             | 11,548       | 2,177             | 11,580       |
|        |                                     | Main Exports      |              |                   |              |
| 21     | Miscellaneous edible preparations   | 2,380             | 8,835        | 3,114             | 10,167       |
| 29     | Organic chemicals                   | 1,206             | 4,522        | 302               | 3,509        |
| 30     | Pharmaceutical products             | 1,735             | 6,423        | 2,174             | 17,739       |
| 33     | Toilet preparations                 | 809               | 3,650        | 520               | 1,701        |
| 39     | Plastics and articles thereof       | 1,046             | 6,839        | 1,513             | 7,755        |
| 40     | Rubber and articles thereof         | 1,653             | 11,307       | 1,909             | 10,479       |
| 49     | Printed matter                      | 2,185             | 17,789       | 3,520             | 13,674       |
| 60     | Knitted fabrics                     | 1,308             | 7,638        | 1,429             | 8,161        |
| 62     | Woven clothing                      | 3,078             | 17,364       | 1,806             | 11,921       |
| 73     | Articles or iron and steel          | 639               | 3,991        | 492               | 2,211        |
| 84     | Machinery and mechanical appliances | 2,622             | 23,228       | 3,350             | 21,836       |
| 85     | Electrical machinery and equipment  | 37,327            | 210,248      | 44,763            | 259,076      |
| 87     | Motor vehicles                      | 2,258             | 11,247       | 2,236             | 14,572       |
| 90     | Scientific instruments              | 2,369             | 15,808       | 2,117             | 14,172       |
| 95     | Toys and games                      | 2,343             | 14,385       | 2,511             | 14,785       |

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

## Methodological notes

1. The data in this release are based on
  - a. the Customs Declarations for imports from and exports to countries that are not Members States of the European Union (EU) and, on
  - b. the Intrastat Supplementary Declaration that traders in merchandise goods must submit in respect of Arrivals (Imports) and the Dispatches (Exports) of goods from and to the Member States of the EU.
2. The Intrastat Supplementary Declaration for the collection of data on trade in goods between the Member States of the EU replaced the Customs Declaration as from the 1 May 2004. The requirements of the Supplementary Declaration, which at EU level was introduced as from the 1 January 1993, are similar in all the Member States of the EU.
3. As from May 2004, it was no longer possible to disaggregate total exports into domestic exports and re-exports. With the introduction of the Intrastat Supplementary Declaration as the source document for trade statistics, such a breakdown was no longer possible
4. The data in this release are provisional and therefore subject to revision. Regular revisions to monthly and annual trade data may be carried out for up to two (2) years after the reference period.