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SECOND QUARTER REPORT - 2020

BY

THE INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS UNIT



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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

ASYCUDA++	Automated System for Customs Data
CIF	Cost, Insurance and Freight
FOB	Free on Board
GBoS	Gambia Bureau of Statistics
GMD	Gambian Dalasi
GRA	Gambia Revenue Authority
HS	Harmonized System
IMTS 2010	International Merchandise Trade Statistics 2010
N.E. S	Not elsewhere specified
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division

Concepts and Definitions

Monthly trade summary: Includes imports, exports and re-exports and total exports disaggregated by month.

Trade flow by selected continents and economic zones: Is the value of trade between The Gambia and selected geographic and economic zones.

Direction of trade: Trade flows from and to main trading partners. The ranking is done base on highest ten by value (GMD) and country.

Trade flow by top ten products: This indicates trade flows (import, exports, re-exports) by main products sorted base on the highest Cost Insurance Freight or Free On-Board value (GMD'000) at 2-digit Harmonized System product code which groups related commodities.

Exports trade: The exports of merchandise goods are valued at F.O.B (Free on Board) and it refers to all movable goods. Share of domestic exports to total trade is the value of all goods exported to the rest of the world divided by total trade multiply by 100.

Imports trade: The value of imported goods includes the cost of the goods plus the insurance and freight (C.I.F) Share of imports to total trade is the value of all goods imported from the rest of the world divided by total trade multiply by 100.

Preface

This report presents International Merchandise Trade Statistics of The Gambia (IMTS) for second quarter 2020. It aims to show the outlook of trade between The Gambia and its trading partners during the period under review. It could also serve as a catalyst to enhancing the investment drive of the country. The international merchandise trade statistics unit under the Directorate of Economic Statistics of the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS), receives monthly raw trade data extracted from the Customs and Exercise Department of The Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA) Database (ASYCUDA++) in American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) format for processing using EUROTRACE¹.

Data cleaning is continuous as various tables are produced to feed into the reports. The database is therefore, updated from time to time to take account of adjustments made from the input source.

The report contains a wide range of trade statistics between The Gambia and its partners. This avails data users with information to facilitate planning and decision making. Data can be provided to users based on the level of breakdown requested. Thus, up to six (6) or eight (8) digits according to the Harmonised commodity description and coding system (HS).

The report usually contains data on the Trade Balance, Imports and Exports by major trading partners, Imports and Exports by top ten countries, Imports of selected commodities etc.

The reports can be accessed on the Gambia Bureau of Statistics' website (www.gbosdata.org). For users who have specific data needs, the international merchandise trade statistics Unit could offer the necessary assistance.

The Gambia Bureau of Statistics wishes to express its profound gratitude to the ASYCUDA++ (Automated System Customs Data) Unit of The Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA), for making available the necessary data for the compilation of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics. We hope that users will find this report useful.

Nyakassi M.B. Sanyang

Statistician General

¹ Euro trace is the statistical software used by the external trade unit for data analysis. In July 1993 ECOWAS & UNCTAD developed Trace-nat under DOS OP System.

Introduction

The International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) of The Gambia are compiled based on the 'General Trade System' as recommended by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in (IMTS) 2010 concepts and definitions manual. The main source of data is Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA). They record goods entering (imports) or leaving (exports) to/from The Gambia. That is, whether or not the imports at the time of importation are intended for domestic consumption or for re-exports.

Merchandise trade covers only trade in goods and excludes trade in services. The commodity classification is based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) 2007 tariff. The data presented in this report contains trade summary and other detailed information.

The trade summary covers the total imports, exports, re-exports, total exports, total trade and balance of trade. The trade balance is the difference between total exports and total imports (i.e. total exports minus total imports), total exports is (domestic exports plus re-exports), and total trade is (total imports plus total exports).

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS FOR SECOND QUARTER 2020

MONTHLY TRADE STATISTICS

Monthly trade statistics for the second quarter 2020 is presented in table 1 below. The highest value of imports was registered in April with GMD2.7 billion, followed by May with GMD2.5 billion. Similarly, Exports in April also recorded the highest FOB value with GMD49.0 million, followed by June with GMD37.5 million and the least was recorded in May with GMD20.3 million.

Table 1: Monthly trade statistics for second quarter 2020, values GMD ('000)

MONTHS	IMPORTS	%	EXPORTS	%
April	2,730,723	36.1	49,038	45.9
May	2,534,976	33.5	20,265	19.0
June	2,295,261	30.4	37,453	35.1
TOTAL	7,560,960	100.0	106,756	100.0

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY SELECTED CONTINENTS/ECONOMIC ZONES

Table 2 shows trade flow by selected continents and the economic zones/blocs. Gambia's imports from Africa recorded the highest value with GMD2.5 billion. Out of which Economic Community of West African States registered GMD2.3 billion which constitutes 30.4 per cent of total imports. This is followed by Asia and Europe with GMD2.1 billion and GMD1.8 billion respectively.

Asia dominated The Gambia's Domestic Export market with GMD90.6 million accounting for 85 per cent of total domestic exports. This is followed by Europe with GMD6.8 million and America with GMD5.8 million.

Table 2: Imports and exports by selected continents/economic zones for the second quarter 2020, values GMD ('000)

PARTNER	IMPORTS	%	EXPORTS	%
AFRICA	2,459,780	32.5	3,519	3.3
<i>OF WHICH</i>				
ECOWAS	2,296,497	30.4	2,871	2.7
REST OF AFRICA	163,282	2.2	648	0.6
ASIA	2,138,654	28.3	90,618	84.9
EUROPE	1,795,564	23.7	6,806	6.4
<i>OF WHICH</i>				
EU	1,110,031	14.7	5,385	5.0
AMERICA	1,147,412	15.2	5,813	5.4
SUBTOTAL	7,541,410	99.7	106,756	100.0

REST OF THE WORLD	19,550	0.3	0	0.0
TOTAL	7,560,960	100.0	106,756	100.0

IMPORTS FROM TOP TEN PARTNERS

Table 3 shows that total imports from top ten countries for the period under review amounted to GMD5.8 billion (76.6%). Cote d'Ivoire (*main product imported is mineral fuels*) registered the highest value with GMD1.8 billion (24.2%). This is followed by Brazil (*main product imported is sugars and sugar confectionery*) with GMD943.2 million (12.5%) and China (*main product imported is optical, photographic, cinematographic*) with GMD763.0 million (10.1%). Furthermore, Netherlands registered the least import value with GMD188.1 million accounting for only 2.5 per cent.

Table 3: Imports from top ten partners for second quarter 2020, values GMD ('000)

PARTNER	IMPORTS	%
Cote d'Ivoire	1,828,536	24.2
Brazil	943,191	12.5
China	762,982	10.1
Turkey	615,092	8.1
Senegal	423,608	5.6
India	291,378	3.9
France	286,302	3.8
Malaysia	254,668	3.4
Pakistan	198,186	2.6
Netherlands	188,127	2.5
SUBTOTAL	5,792,070	76.6
REST OF THE WORLD	1,768,889	23.4
TOTAL IMPORTS	7,560,960	100.0

EXPORTS TO TOP TEN PARTNERS

Table 4 below shows the domestic export values and percentage share of domestic exports to Gambia's top ten partners against total domestic exports. China (*main product imported is oil seeds and oleaginous fruits*) dominated the domestic export market to The Gambia with GMD39.6 million which is a share of about (37.1%). This is followed by India (*main product imported is edible fruit and nuts*) and Vietnam (*main product imported is oil seeds and oleaginous fruits*) with GMD31.4 million, (29.5%) and GMD12.1 million (11.3%). United States recorded the least value of domestic exports with GMD1.5 million (1.4%).

Table 4: Exports to top ten countries for second quarter 2020, values GMD ('000)

PARTNER	EXPORTS	%
China	39,619	37.1
India	31,447	29.5

Viet Nam	12,092	11.3
Republic of Korea	5,744	5.4
Chile	3,014	2.8
Guinea-Bissau	2,196	2.1
United Kingdom	1,922	1.8
Spain	1,767	1.7
Netherlands	1,696	1.6
United States	1,461	1.4
SUBTOTAL	100,957	94.6
REST OF THE WORLD	5,799	5.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	106,756	100.0

IMPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS

As shown in table 5 below, ‘Mineral products’ registered the highest value among the top ten products with GMD1.9 billion (24.7%), followed by ‘cereals’ with GMD1.1 million (15.1%) and ‘salt; sulphur; earths and stone....’ with GMD697.4 million (9.2%). However, ‘electrical machinery and equipment....’ registered the least value of imported products with GMD157.9 million (2.1%).

Table 5: Imports of top ten products for second quarter 2020, values GMD (‘000)

PRODUCTS	IMPORTS	%
Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	1,870,156	24.7
Cereals	1,139,864	15.1
Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement	697,388	9.2
Sugars and sugar confectionery	534,059	7.1
Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	412,874	5.5
Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; parts and accessories thereof	271,565	3.6
Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof	262,239	3.5
Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten	208,993	2.8
Iron and steel	174,533	2.3
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	157,898	2.1
SUBTOTAL	5,729,569	75.8
OTHER PRODUCTS	1,831,391	24.2
TOTAL IMPORTS	7,560,960	100.0

EXPORTS OF TOP TEN PRODUCTS

Table 6 shows the top ten domestic Exports by product. ‘Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits ...’ registered the highest FOB value with GMD41.1 million (38.5%). This is followed by ‘Edible

fruit and nuts....’ with GMD27.8 million (26.1%) and ‘fish and crustaceans’ with GMD19.0 million (17.8%).

Table 6: Exports of top ten products for second quarter 2020, values GMD (‘000)

PRODUCTS	EXPORTS	%
Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder	41,070	38.5
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons	27,840	26.1
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	19,026	17.8
Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	10,049	9.4
Preparations of meat, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates	5,523	5.2
Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten	2,196	2.1
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder	782	0.7
Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	194	0.2
Miscellaneous edible preparations	75	0.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	106,756	100.0

IMPORTS OF SELECTED BASIC COMMODITIES

Imports of selected basic commodities constitute the most basic products consumed in The Gambia. Imports of selected basic products was dominated by refined cane rice with GMD999.4 million, followed by total cement with GMD613.9 million; out of which Portland cement amounted to GMD455.1 million and white cement with GMD1.4 million.

Table 7: Imports of selected basic commodities for second quarter 2020, values GMD (‘000)

PRODUCTS	IMPORTS
Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	32,191
<i>OF WHICH</i>	
Potatoes, fresh or chilled	8,782
Onions and shallots	14,235
Rice	999,367
Wheat or meslin flour	201,600
Refined cane sugar	521,816
Total Cement	613,893
<i>OF WHICH</i>	
Portland Cement	455,144
White cement	1,410
Tomatoes, preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, nes	22,140
Beverages, spirits and vinegar	51,620

OF WHICH	
Vinegar and substitutes for vinegar obtained from acetic acid	65
Mineral water	51,348
Alcohol	207
Eggs	21,366
Milk and milk products	84,438
Vegetable Oil	404,465

TRADE SUMMARY STATISTICS

Table 8 presents summary of trade flow in The Gambia for the period under review. Total international merchandise trade amounted to GMD7.8 billion. The trade balance remains unfavorable recording a deficit of GMD -7.4 billion. Furthermore, total imports imputed in the second quarter 2020 amounted to GMD7.6 billion (97.4%), whereas total domestic exports registered GMD106.8 million and re-exports GMD96.4 million.

Table 8: Trade summary second quarter 2020, values GMD ('000),

TRADEFLOW	VALUES	%
IMPORTS	7,560,960	97.4
EXPORTS	106,756	1.4
RE-EXPORTS	96,425	1.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	203,181	2.6
TOTAL TRADE	7,764,140	100.0
BALANCE	-7,357,779	