

(TRANSLATION)

**MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS**

**SEPTEMBER 2011** #

**I. SEPTEMBER 2011**

1. In September 2011, Malaysia's exports of merchandise grew significantly by **16.6%** to **RM58.7 billion**, year-on-year. This is an increase of **5.7 percentage point** compared with a growth of **10.9%** recorded in previous month. Meanwhile, imports rose by **12.9%** to **RM49.0 billion**, an increase of **6.0 percentage point**, year-on-year, as compared with **6.9%** recorded a month before. On a month-on-month basis, both exports and imports rose by **0.2%** and **3.1%** from **RM58.6 billion** and **RM47.6 billion**, respectively.

2. Based on product classification, the **16.6%** growth (**RM8.4 billion**) in exports was attributed mainly to higher exports of **gas, natural and manufactured (RM1.7 billion)**; **fixed vegetable oils and fats, crude, refined or fractionated (RM1.4 billion)**; **electrical & electronic (E&E) products (RM428.5 million)**; **crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed) (RM420.7 million)**; **iron and steel (RM357.4 million)**; **non-ferrous metals (RM346.8 million)**; **organic chemicals (RM341.2 million)**; **miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s. (RM321.1 million)**; **petroleum, petroleum products and related materials (RM236.1 million)**; **rubber manufactures, n.e.s. (RM186.0 million)** and **articles of apparel and clothing accessories (RM182.9 million)**. These products contributed **RM5.9 billion** or **70.2%** of total increase, year-on-year.

3. The **12.9%** growth (**RM5.6 billion**) in imports, was contributed mostly by larger imports of **petroleum, petroleum products & related materials (RM989.7 million)**; **machinery specialized for particular industries (RM364.7 million)**; **general industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s. and machine parts, n.e.s. (RM343.9 million)**; **gold, non-monetary (RM325.3 million)**; **road vehicles (including air-cushion vehicles) (RM321.9 million)**; **textile fibres (other than wool tops and other combed wool) and their wastes (not manufactured into yarn or fabrics) (RM305.2 million)**; **non-ferrous metal (RM296.4 million)**; **crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed) (RM238.1 million)**; **organic chemicals (RM221.9 million)**; **professional, scientific and**

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Note: #The September 2011 data is provisional and subject to revision in later issues.

*controlling instruments and apparatus, n.e.s. (RM180.3 million); miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s. (RM175.3 million) and iron and steel (RM175.1 million). These products accounted for 70.5% or RM5.6 billion of total increase, year-on-year.*

4. *Malaysia's growth in exports was contributed chiefly by higher exports to the People's Republic of China (RM2.2 billion), Japan (RM1.5 billion), Australia (RM558.2 million), the Republic of Singapore (RM509.1 million), the European Union (EU) (RM414.1 million), the United States of America (RM397.0 million) and the Republic of Indonesia (RM339.6 million) which amounted to RM6.0 billion (71.2%) of total increase, year-on-year. As for imports, the growth was attributed mainly to higher imports from the People's Republic of China (RM1.4 billion), the Republic of Singapore (RM1.3 billion), Thailand (RM517.7 million), the EU (RM516.1 million) and Japan (RM430.8 million), which contributed 74.7% or RM4.2 billion of total increase.*

5. *Total trade in September 2011 was valued at RM107.7 billion, showed a growth of 14.9% from a year ago. It also posted an increase of 1.5% or RM1.6 billion, month-on-month.*

6. *Malaysia's external trade registered a surplus of RM9.6 billion in September 2011. This was the 167<sup>th</sup> consecutive month of trade surplus since November 1997. The trade surplus grew significantly by 40.5% as compared with RM6.9 billion in the same month of 2010. However, on a month-on-month basis, it posted a decline of 12.3% from RM11.0 billion.*

7. *E&E products continued to be the top export products, which accounted for RM20.4 billion or 34.7% of total exports. Exports of E&E products recorded a growth of 2.6% (RM510.0 million) over the corresponding month of last year. It grew marginally by 0.9% (RM190.5 million), month-on-month.*

8. *Palm oil & palm oil-based products remained as the second largest export with a total combined value of RM6.9 billion, contributed 11.8% to total exports in September 2011. Exports of palm oil, the major commodity in this group of products, posted an expansion of 36.6% to RM5.1 billion, year-on-year. This was due to the significant*

increase in both average unit value of **22.4%** to **RM3,223 per tonne** and exports volume of **11.6%** to **1.6 million tonnes**. As against August 2011, exports of palm oil decreased by **11.1%** which was due to a decline in exports volume by **18.7%**, although the average unit value rose by **9.3%**.

9. **Liquefied natural gas (LNG)**, the third largest export commodity, made up of **RM4.8 billion** or **8.2%** of total exports in September 2011. Total exports of LNG soared by **45.2%** from **RM3.3 billion**, year-on-year. The exports volume rose by **12.5%** to **2.1 million tonnes**, while average unit value soared by **29.1%** to **RM2,273 per tonne**. On a month-on-month basis, it also increased by **27.3%** which was due to increment in both exports volume and average unit value, which went up by **26.2%** from **1.7 million tonnes** and **0.9%** from **RM2,254 per tonne**.

10. **Petroleum products**, the fourth largest export commodity valued at **RM2.7 billion** or **4.6%** of total exports, surged by **24.4%**, year-on-year. It also posted a rise of **21.0%**, month-on-month.

11. **Crude petroleum**, the fifth export earner which accounted for **3.9%** of total exports, dropped by **11.2%** to **RM2.3 billion** during the period under review. This was mainly attributed to the decrease in exports volume of **40.8%** to **0.8 million tonnes**, although the average unit value rose by **49.9%** to **RM2,643 per tonne**. As compared with the preceding month, it registered a dip of **18.6%** as the result of decline in both exports volume and average unit value of **18.3%** and **0.4%**.

12. **Timber & timber-based products**, the sixth largest export earner, amounted to **RM1.5 billion** or **2.6%** of total exports. Exports value of this product increased by **7.7%** from **RM1.4 billion** as compared with the corresponding period of 2010. Nevertheless, it recorded a decline of **16.8%** from **RM1.8 billion**, month-on-month.

13. Imports of **intermediate goods**, constituted **67.0%** of total imports, posted a growth of **7.0%** to **RM32.9 billion**, year-on-year. Meanwhile, it also registered an increase of **3.9%** from **RM31.6 billion** compared with the previous month.

## **II. JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2011**

### **A. TRADE**

14. In the first nine months of 2011, total exports and total imports grew by **8.3%** to **RM513.6 billion** and **8.9%** to **RM424.4 billion** respectively as compared with the same period of last year. Malaysia's total trade was valued at **RM938.0 billion**, a growth of **8.6%** from the corresponding period of 2010. During the period under study, Malaysia's external trade balance also registered a **surplus** of **RM89.2 billion**, an increase of **RM4.7 billion (5.6%)**, year-on-year.

### **B. EXPORTS**

15. **E&E products**, valued at **RM177.2 billion**, remained as Malaysia's leading export which accounted for **34.5%** of total exports during the first nine months of 2011. Exports for this category of products decreased by **5.5%** or **RM10.3 billion** from a year ago. The major component, namely **electronic integrated circuits**, which accounted for **RM57.7 billion** or **32.5%** of total exports of E&E products, recorded a growth of **14.0%** from a year before.

16. **Palm oil & palm oil-based products**, the second largest export revenue earner with a total combined value of **RM61.8 billion** for the period of January – September 2011, contributed **12.0%** to total exports. Exports of **palm oil**, the major commodity in this group of products, escalated by **39.8%** to **RM45.1 billion** as compared with the corresponding period of 2010. This expansion was attributed to both higher average unit value and exports volume, which grew by **31.0%** to **RM3,370 per tonne** and **6.7%** to **13.4 million tonnes**.

17. **LNG**, which made up **6.8%** of total exports, remained as the third largest export commodity. Total exports of LNG increased by **18.9%** to **RM34.7 billion** from a year ago. This was due to the rise in exports volume of **8.5%** to **18.4 million tonnes** and increase in average unit value of **9.6%** to **RM1,884 per tonne**.

18. **Crude petroleum**, the fourth largest commodity which accounted for **4.7%** of total exports, decreased by **RM643.9 million** or **2.6%** to **RM24.0 billion** during the period

under review. The exports volume dropped by **27.9%** to **9.5 million tonnes**, despite an increase in average unit value of **35.1%** to **RM2,513 per tonne**.

19. **Petroleum products**, the fifth largest export commodity valued at **RM23.6 billion** or **4.6%** of total exports, surged by **37.0%** from **RM17.2 billion** over the same reference period of last year.

20. **Timber & timber-based products**, the sixth largest export earner amounted to **RM14.7 billion** or **2.9%** of total exports, down by **3.9%** from **RM15.3 billion** over the first nine months of last year.

### **C. IMPORTS**

21. The values of major import products were as below:-

- a. machinery and transport equipment (**RM188.3 billion** or **44.4%** of total imports);
- b. manufactured goods and articles (**RM82.7 billion** or **19.5%** of total imports);
- c. mineral fuels, lubricants, etc. (**RM49.7 billion** or **11.7%** of total imports);
- d. chemicals (**RM41.0 billion** or **9.7%** of total imports); and
- e. food (**RM25.2 billion** or **5.9%** of total imports).

22. The compositions of imports by **end-use** for the three major categories were as follows:-

- a. **intermediate goods** : **RM288.8 billion** (**68.0%** of total imports); the main component was **parts and accessories of capital goods** (excluding transport equipment) amounted to **RM107.3 billion** or **37.2%** of intermediate goods;
- b. **capital goods** : **RM57.6 billion** (**13.6%** of total imports); and
- c. **consumption goods** : **RM29.6 billion** (**7.0%** of total imports).

23. Comparatively, the above items recorded the following changes in value over the same period in 2010 as shown below:-

- a. **intermediate goods** : **RM17.4 billion** (**6.4%**);
- b. **capital goods** : **RM5.4 billion** (**10.4%**); and
- c. **consumption goods** : **RM4.2 billion** (**16.7%**).

#### **D. DIRECTION OF TRADE**

24. Malaysia's top ten export destinations were the **People's Republic of China, the Republic of Singapore, Japan, the EU, the United States of America, Thailand, Hong Kong, India, the Republic of Korea and Australia**. These countries accounted for **RM396.5 billion** or **77.2%** of Malaysia's total exports in the period of January - September 2011.

25. The top ten import sources of Malaysia were the **Republic of Singapore, the People's Republic of China, Japan, the EU, the United States of America, the Republic of Indonesia, Thailand, Taiwan, the Republic of Korea and Hong Kong**. Imports from these countries amounted to **RM343.2 billion** or **80.9%** of Malaysia's total imports in the first nine months of 2011.

26. Malaysia's top ten trading partners were the **People's Republic of China, the Republic of Singapore, Japan, the EU, the United States of America, Thailand, the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong**. These countries collectively contributed **78.0% (RM731.7 billion)** of Malaysia's total trade in the first nine month of 2011.

27. Exports to **North East Asia** was valued at **RM184.8 billion** or **36.0%** of total exports in the first nine months of 2011, expanded by **11.3%** from **RM166.0 billion** compared with the corresponding period of 2010. The growth of **11.3%** or **RM18.8 billion** was due to higher exports to **Japan (RM8.6 billion)**, the **People's Republic of China (RM8.0 billion)** and **Taiwan (RM1.7 billion)**.

28. Malaysia's exports to **ASEAN** amounted to **RM126.9 billion (24.7%)** in the period of January - September 2011. It registered an increase of **5.7%** from **RM120.1 billion**, year-on-year. The rise of **5.7% (RM6.8 billion)** was mainly attributed to higher export to the **Republic of Singapore (RM2.5 billion)**, **Thailand (RM1.5 billion)** and the **Republic of Indonesia (RM1.3 billion)**.

29. Exports to the **EU** contributed **RM53.5 billion** or **10.4%** of Malaysia's total exports. It rose by **5.0%** from **RM50.9 billion** as against the same reference period of

2010. For this region, the **Federal Republic of Germany** and the **France** recorded an increase of **RM1.8 billion** and **RM771.1 million** respectively.

30. Exports to **North America**, accounted for **RM45.1 billion** or **8.8%** to total exports, decreased by **6.6%** or **RM3.2 billion** in the period under review. The reduction was mainly due to lower exports to the **United States of America (-RM2.9 billion)** and **Canada (-RM336.1 million)**.