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Elements for the Report on the Syrian Industry
With Special Reference to Syria's Foreign Trade
and Commercial Relations with the EEC Countries .

Ms. K.P. Di Pietrogiacomo

3627

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SYRIA FOREIGN TRADE: STATISTICS AND ANALYSIS.

Introduction

In any long term industrial planning for Syria it is essential to consider its exports and import-substitution achievements, shortcomings and potentials. Syria has a significant trade deficit, which in the longer perspective must be eliminated if stable economic development is to be achieved.

It should be noted that the export base of the economy of the is highly dependent on the petroleum sector, with crude oil accounting for two thirds or more of total exports. Oil reserves are however dwindling and it is officially accepted that Syria will soon cease to be a net exporter of petroleum. Indeed, export possibilities exist in areas such as:

- industries based on raw materials currently exported unprocessed from Syria.

- industrial branches -presently in operation in Syria- where installed production capacities are beyond the needs of the syrian market and where exportation is required if full utilization of production capacities is to be realized.

In as far as the import structure is concerned, it is likely that the analysis of the last decade trends allow to identify the underneath dynamics of the economy.

At this regard few examples seem to be significant: in 1973 sugar imports amounted to 153.649 tons of which 103.705 were of raw sugar and the rest were refined sugar and sugar confectionary. In 1983 the proportion changed substantially: out of 606.868 tons imported, raw sugar accounted for only 190.282 tons while refined sugar amounted to 398.983 tons.

This means that for this industrial branch less raw materials and more finished products were imported.

The same seems to be true, when we consider the importance of the group 'Crude materials, inedible, except fuels' over the value of total imports: in 1974 the group represented 4.8% of total imports when it represented only 0.02% in 1982.

1.1 Statistical basis

With a view of establishing a consistent data base, contact was made with the Central Bureau of Statistic in Damascus; this body publishes yearly the "Foreign Trade Statistics" and the "Statistical Abstract", while, monthly, the "Bulletin of Foreign Trade". From these publications the following informations were extracted:

- Commodity trade, defined in the framework of the Arab Custom Tarif for the years 1973, 1974, 1979, and in the framework of the Standard International Trade Classification (Refer to Annexe 1), for the last four years.

- Imports and exports defined by main countries and main commodities.

Two main reasons determined the choice of using national data instead of United Nations data:

- 1) Syria reporting to the United Nations Statistical Office is not sufficiently up to date.
- 2) Using national data one major advantage was obtained: the possibility of a consistent comparison with national data concerning internal production and consumption.

Undoubtedly, because of the modified structure of the statistic presentation (Arab Custom Tarif versus SITC) some inconsistency has been noted when comparing one with another tables 1 to 8.

Similarly, as the national data concerning trade partners are extremely imprecise (up to 60% of the value of imports or exports is classified as "other commodities" without any major description), for the analysis of Syria-EEC trade we applied the so-called "mirroring" technique for the reconstruction of the missing trade data.

The mirroring of data utilizes the fact that the imports of one country are exports for another. Thus, in cases where, for instance, import data is missing for a specific country, it can be reconstructed by using exports to that country reported by all other countries of the world.

It should be noted, however, that the mirrored data may not accurately state case of re-export (transit trade) of commodities through Syria: normally commodities imported temporarily are reported to the UN with a special code by the country of transit. As such reporting does not exist for Syrian trade gross import and gross export figures are somewhat over-valued due to inclusion of transit trade.

In general the import figures seem to coincide fairly well with each other. On the export side, however, there is a significant difference between Syrian and EEC registered exports. The main reason for this difference is that oil exports have been treated differently in the two statistics. As oil trade is quite important the significance of the discrepancies and missing data can not be under estimate.

The structure of syrian foreign trade for the years 1973, 1974 1979 and 1983, stated in volume and in value, is presented in tables 1 to 8.

Table 9 contains the foreign trade statistics for the years 1980 to 1982, stated in value. These recent data are presented because of their link with the overall analysis of the industrial sector performance of the last years.

As petroleum and petroleum products constitute the major export commodity, averaging an export share of 86% over the three years period, we devoted to this group a deeper analysis and persented the statistics concerning syrian international trade for refined and petrolchemicals products in tables 10 to .

The following ten tables present syrian registered imports and exports from/to the European Community from 1980 to 1984. For the reason already mentioned they are followed by the Community registered trade with Syria during the same period.

I M P O R T S

1973

TABLE 1

SYRIA IMPORTS

(Quantity in tons, Value in 1000 US \$)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
FOODSTUFFS..... :	458.146	106.231
of which:		
raw sugar..... :	103.705	
FOOD PROCESSING..... :	211.514	57.972
of which:		
refined sugar..... :	49.994	
WOOD PROCESSING..... :	108.723	20.407
PAPER..... :	32.785	11.281
of which:		
pulp..... :	297	78
paper manufactures..... :	32.488	11.202
TEXTILE..... :	51.234	58.758
of which:		
raw materials..... :	24.705	41.608
textile manufactures..... :	26.526	17.150
PETROLEUM & PRODUCTS THEREOF..... :	1224.517	27.938
of which:		
distillate fuels..... :	107.607	3.725
lubricating preparations..... :	18.092	4.565
CHEMICALS..... :	147.899	68.727
of which:		
medicaments..... :	2516	23.422
artificial resins & plastics..... :	67.993	28.424
fertilizers..... :	43.719	3.217
ENGINEERING..... :	395.702	192.114
of which:		
spare parts..... :	305.837	82.296
machinery..... :	53.865	109.817
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT..... :	23.493	33.950
of which:		
cars..... :		
trucks & special lorries..... :		
<u>TOTAL</u> :	3130.148	616.333

TABLE 2

1974

SYRIA IMPORTS

(Quantity in tons, Value in 1000 US \$)

	Quantity	Value
FOODSTUFFS	506.451	179.479
of which:		
raw sugar.....	62.915	27.745
FOOD PROCESSING	290.053	170.532
of which:		
refined sugar.....	166.448	99.308
WOOD PROCESSING.....	131.235	41.147
PAPER	52.140	32.981
of which:		
pulp.....	541	77
paper manufactures.....	51.599	32.904
TEXTILE	49.309	84.035
of which:		
raw materials.....	24.135	60.939
textile manufactures.....	25.174	23.096
PETROLEUM & PRODUCTS THEREOF.....	2739.524	74.432
of which:		
distillate fuels.....	752.251	25.120
lubricating preparations.....	24.354	10.092
CHEMICALS.....	208.633	120.072
of which:		
medicaments.....	2829	33.420
artificial resins & plastics.....	38.929	43.160
fertilizers.....	116.536	20.263
ENGINEERING	586.084	394.535
of which:		
spare parts.....	525.134	231.901
machinery.....	57.950	162.634
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT.....	37.109	71.145
of which:		
cars.....		
trucks & special lorries.....		
TOTAL :	5245.263	1235.392

1979

TABLE 3

SYRIA IMPORTS

(Quantity in tons, Value in 1000 US \$)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
FOODSTUFFS :	896.114	337.489
of which:		
raw sugar :	92.603	21.026
FOOD PROCESSING :	308.688	123.747
of which:		
refined sugar :	117.821	28.479
WOOD PROCESSING :	214.699	75.606
PAPER :	64.423	39.765
of which:		
pulp :	30.332	21.322
paper manufactures :	34.091	18.443
TEXTILE :	77.010	151.534
of which:		
raw materials :		
textile manufactures :		
PETROLEUM & PRODUCTS THEREOF :	7160.895	911.404
of which:		
distillate fuels :	1400.342	196.618
lubricating preparations :	28.141	16.879
CHEMICALS :	442.610	345.107
of which:		
medicaments :	6.379	98.764
artificial resins & plastics :		
fertilizers :		
ENGINEERING :	1088.726	1010.325
of which:		
spare parts :	970.567	469.639
machinery :	118.159	540.685
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT :	66.756	210.734
of which:		
cars :		
trucks & special lorries :		
<u>TOTAL</u> :	10 382.540	3333.346

1983

TABLE 4

SYRIA IMPORTS

(Quantity in tons, Value in 1000 US \$)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
FOODSTUFFS	1418.040	473.280
of which:		
raw sugar.....	190.282	51.606
FOOD PROCESSING	1019.360	377.358
of which:		
refined sugar.....	398.983	132.425
WOOD PROCESSING.....	215.852	84.535
PAPER	119.163	84.623
of which:		
pulp.....	9521	5.630
paper manufactures.....	109.642	78.904
TEXTILE	64.950	37.457
of which:		
raw materials.....	9.822	12.133
textile manufactures.....	55.128	25.324
PETROLEUM & PRODUCTS THEREOF.....	6076.425	1187.617
of which:		
distillate fuels.....		
lubricating preparations.....		
CHEMICALS	387.431	353.811
of which:		
medicaments.....	12.076	120.863
artificial resins & plastics.....	158.787	23.383
fertilizers.....		
ENGINEERING	653.597	1963.639
of which:		
spare parts.....		
machinery.....		
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT.....	92.314	335.302
of which:		
cars.....	25.955	127.943
trucks & special lorries.....	67.259	207.359
<u>TOTAL</u> :	10 920.485	4460.073

1.2 Imports analysis

Tables 1 to 4 allow to detect the possible structural changes of syrian imports during the last decade. It should be noted, however, that these statistics are organised by major commodities groups so that the respective percentages over the total imports are somewhat over-valued.

In the following the share of each commodity group during the different years will be indicated so to facilitate the comparison with the modifications in the national industrial sector.

Foodstuffs and food processing imports' value constituted 26.4 of total imports in 1973, 28.3% in 1974, 13.8% in 1979 and 19% in 1983. Considering the share of this group over the total quantities imported during the different years it represented 21.3% in 1973, 15.1% in 1974, 11.6% in 1979 and 23.3%.

In absolute terms imports of foodstuffs and food processing amounted to 669.660 tons in 1973 and to 2.437.400 tons in 1983, or a threefold increase over ten years.

Wood processing imports registered a moderate decrease either in terms of value and of quantity during the last decade. In terms of volume wood processing represented 3.4% of total imports in 1973, 2.5% in 1974, 2.0 in 1979 and 1.9 in 1983.

In terms of value these commodities accounted for 3.3% of total imports in 1973, 3.3 in 1974, 2.2 in 1979 and 1.8 in 1983.

Paper imports were stable. Their value represented 1.8% in 1973 and the same in 1983. The recorded quantities imported registered a threefold increase shifting from 32.785 tons in 1973 to 119.163 tons in 1983.

Textile. The volume of total imports in this sector can be considered stable: 51.234 tons in 1973 and 64.950 in 1983. Nevertheless in relative terms the share of the textile sector over the value of total imports decreased: it represented 9.5% of total imports in 1973 and 0.03% only in 1983.

Petroleum and products-thereof imports registered a percentage increase of 5% in volume and 11% in value. As the S.I.T.C. system was introduced in the general foreign trade statistics only in 1976, it is impossible to differentiate between imports of crude and refined products in the preceding years. Nonetheless a comparison can be made for "distillate fuels and lubricating preparations" whose registered imports amounted to 125.699 tons in 1973 and to 490.089 tons in 1983. In terms of volume, imports of this group of products amounted to 39% of total imports in 1973, 52% in 1974, 68% in 1979, and 55% in 1983.

The value accounted for 4,5% of total imports in 1973, 6% in 1974, 27.3% in 1979, and 26.6% in 1983.

Chemicals. Quantity values of imported chemicals doubled in ten years but the share of the group over the imports total value was decreasing: 11.5% in 1973 and 7.9% in 1983.

One of the most important items of this group is constituted by medicaments, whose value represented, in 1983, half of the value of total imported chemicals.

Engineering. Under this category different items have been included but it covers, mainly, raw materials and manufactured products of ferrous and non ferrous metals and machinery.

In 1973 engineering products represented 12% of the total value of imported products and 31% of the total value of imports. In 1983 they represented 6% of the total quantity imported and 44% of the total value of imports.

The internal proportion between spare parts and machinery did not change substantially during the last ten years: in 1973 spare parts represented 77.2% of the sector total imports, and in 1983 77.5%. Obviously the situation appears different if we analyse the value of: in 1973 spare parts represented 13% and machinery 17% of the total imports value; in 1983 the same items represented 8.3% and 35.6% respectively.

Transport equipment and parts thereof. During the last decade imports of this group did not registered in terms of value or of volume, any substantia change. In 1973 the percentage value over the total imports was of 5.5% and it was of 7.5% in 1983. However, an internal modification occurred in the group: in 1973 the value of imported cars accounted for only 4.1% of the group imports, it accounted for 48% in 1983.

E X P O R T S

1973

TABLE 5

SYRIA EXPORTS

(Quantity in tons, Value in 1000 US \$)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
FOODSTUFFS..... :	179.269	46.040
of which:		
raw sugar..... :		
FOOD PROCESSING..... :	38.357	18.361
of which:		
refined sugar..... :	6.921	526
WOOD PROCESSING..... :	5.883	1.047
PAPER..... :	1.363	330
of which:		
pulp..... :	1162	76
paper manufactures..... :	201	2 256
TEXTILE..... :	167.949	185.210
of which:		
raw materials..... :	146.249	132.421
textile manufactures..... :	21.700	52.789
PETROLEUM & PRODUCTS THEREOF..... :	4329.583	76.779
of which:		
distillate fuels..... :		
lubricating preparations..... :		
CHEMICALS..... :	2.236	1.666
of which:		
medicaments..... :	121	289
artificial resins & plastics..... :	1.046	837
fertilizers..... :	-	-
ENGINEERING..... :	10.864	5.334
of which:		
spare parts..... :	9.986	2.936
machinery..... :	874	2.397
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT..... :	1.628	1.763
of which:		
cars..... :		
trucks & special lorries..... :		
<u>TOTAL</u> :	5022.237	352.967

1974

TABLE 6

SYRIA EXPORTS

(Quantity in tons, Value in 1000 US \$)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
FOODSTUFFS	71.209	23.169
of which:		
raw sugar.....		
FOOD PROCESSING	39.095	25.931
of which:		
refined sugar.....	4.361	550
WOOD PROCESSING.....	6.234	1.033
PAPER	2.868	490
of which:		
pulp.....	1.978	98
paper manufactures.....	896	391
TEXTILE	143.368	255.660
of which:		
raw materials.....	126.656	255.630
textile manufactures.....	16.709	52.463
PETROLEUM & PRODUCTS THEREOF.....	6163.096	434.651
of which:		
distillate fuels.....		
lubricating preparations.....		
CHEMICALS	1.624	2.009
of which:		
medicaments.....	81	182
artificial resins & plastics.....	610	690
fertilizers.....		
ENGINEERING	14.177	5.944
of which:		
spare parts.....	13.204	3.383
machinery.....		
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	2.555	3.037
of which:		
cars.....		
trucks & special lorries.....		
<u>TOTAL</u> :	6992.957	787.556

1979

TABLE 7

SYRIA EXPORTS

(Quantity in tons, Value in 1000 US \$)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
FOODSTUFFS	152.371	58.443
of which:		
raw sugar.....	33.823	22.360
FOOD PROCESSING	2.581	2.642
of which:		
refined sugar.....	16.335	3.016
WOOD PROCESSING.....	3.263	2.291
PAPER		
of which:		
pulp.....		
paper manufactures.....		
TEXTILE	152.579	276.397
of which:		
raw materials.....	113.028	204.867
textile manufactures.....	39.551	67.765
PETROLEUM & PRODUCTS THEREOF	9492.878	1221.352
of which:		
distillate fuels.....	371.051	52.686
lubricating preparations.....		
CHEMICALS	8.506	6.830
of which:		
medicaments.....		
artificial resins & plastics.....		
fertilizers.....		
ENGINEERING	11.493	20.581
of which:		
spare parts.....	7.774	7.362
machinery.....	3.719	13.212
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT		9.327
of which:		
cars.....		
trucks & special lorries.....		
<u>TOTAL</u> :	9944.577	1646.250

1983

TABLE 8

SYRIA EXPORTS

(Quantity in tons, Value in 1000 US \$)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
FOODSTUFFS.....	135.713	52.010
of which:		
raw sugar.....	:	:
FOOD PROCESSING	86.545	54.591
of which:		
refined sugar.....	64.431	2.883
WOOD PROCESSING.....	997	
PAPER	2.364	973
of which:		
pulp.....	:	:
paper manufactures.....	:	:
TEXTILE ..	149.146	348.360
of which:		
raw materials.....	106.470	174.097
textile manufactures.....	41.369	162.069
PETROLEUM & PRODUCTS THEREOF.....	7529.899	1325.146
of which:		
distillate fuels.....	1.471.662	239.258
lubricating preparations.....	:	:
CHEMICALS	30.140	57.418
of which:		
medicaments.....	24	73
artificial resins & plastics.....	17	3.198 ¹³
fertilizers.....	2120	
ENGINEERING	5.059	17.948
of which:		
spare parts.....	:	:
machinery.....	:	:
TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT.....	5.117	3.531
of which:		
cars.....	:	:
trucks & special lorries.....	:	:
<u>TOTAL</u> :	9042.177	1925.370

1.3 Exports analysis

Tables 5 to 8 presented the structure of syrian exports, stated in Value and in volume, for the years 1973, 1974, 1979, 1983. In the following the export structure of syrian trade will be briefly analysed, highlighting the changemnets registered in the last decade.

The share of each commodity group in the total exports of the different years will be indicated if superior to 0.00%.

As it was already indicated for imports these statistics concern only the major commodities groups thus the single percentages are somewhat over-valued.

Foodstuffs and food processing exports accounted for 18.2% of the exports' total value in 1973, and for 4.3% of the exports' total quantity. In 1974 the importance of this group decreased both in terms of its contribution to the exports' total value and total quantity; in that year it accounted for only 6.1% of the total value and for 1.5% of the total quantity exported. The situation improved in 1979 and further in 1983 when the sector share over the total value of exports reached 5.5%.

In reality Syria is a traditional exporter of canned food, groundnuts and biscuits but none of the public companies concerned show outside sales since 1982. Considering the big unsold stocks the situation could be determined by the foreign exchange policy. Indeed, in 1982 most of the exports proceeds were converted in syrian currency according to the official rate, which stood at 4 SP against 1 US \$. This was far below the real value of the syrian pound, such as this value is determined in the foreign exchange markets in Beirut and Amman. Under these conditions, export transactions were either not possible (too expensive products) or lead to losses.

In 1982, the public food industries exported only 2 commodities: dehydrated onions, mineral water.

Wood processin exports were stable during the period considered. Neither the value nor the quantity exported reached 1% of the total exports values. The massive imports of furniture by other countries of the region could had made it possible some development of the sector.

Paper. Exports for this group of products did not show any significant improvement during the last decade.

Textile. Exports in this group are mainly constituted by raw cotton, which rapresented in 1973 71.5% of the total textile sector exports' value. Se situation registered a minimal improvement but raw cotton still represented 50% of the total textile exports value in 1983.

The poor performance of syrian textile industry is unfavourable for the country as a whole as well as for the individual companies. As to the first point, that is the national interest, in 1980 all public textile companies, taken together, used an higher value of imported inputs than the value of their exports.

Petroleum and products thereof. It is the most important export proceed but because of the statistical system of national statistics used before the adoption of the SITC system, is almost impossible to establish the percentage of exported crude or refined products for the first years of our analysis. In fact, crude oil was not mentioned in the national tables presenting the exports of main commodities, when in the same tables informations were given for what concerns refined products.

In 1979 crude oil exports constituted 95.3% of the total exports of this group; in 1983 the value of crude oil exports represented 79.4% of the total value of these exports, and 77.8% of the total quantity.

Chemicals exports were traditionally limited to natural fertilizers but many factories in the chemical industry have been built with large export capacities. This is notably so for fertilizers factories, glass industries and companies in the leather industry.

In 1982-1983 export performance was disappointind as the Damascus Tannery was the only company where sales abroad were more than 10% of total sales. Taking together all companies of the GO for Chemical Industry, imports exceeded exports in 1982 by 360.5 mn SP.

Engineering exports. In terms of absolute quantities/~~engineering~~ exports diminished. In 1973, they ammounted to 10.864 tons while in 1983 to 5059 tons only; higher national consumption it is probably the main reason of this decrease.

In fact, engineering industries are essentially import-substitution activities. Thus it is normal if they show up with a negative foreign exchange impact. Expenditure abroad is for raw materials needed for running the engineering industries. In case that these activities were not undertaken, Syria would have imports of final products now produced domestically. However two aspects should be stressed: firstly export capacities have been created, and secondly, import-substitution is costly, even in foreign exchange.

SYRIA IMPORTS-EXPORTS in Value (mn US \$) 1980-1982

YEARS:	1980			1981			1982		
Products:	Import	Export	Net Exp.	Import	Export	Net Exp.	Import	Export	Net Exp.
Foodstuffs.....	197.2	25.3	- 171.9	331.1	153	- 1768.1	300.5	75.1	- 225.4
Foodprocessing.....	176.4	6.1	- 170.3	188.4	13.7	- 174.7	131.5	11.3	- 120.2
Textile.....	207.1	108.2	- 98.9	315.3	164.2	- 151.1	208	109	- 99
Paper.....	41.6	1.3	- 40.3	56.9	1.0	- 55.9	50.2	1.3	- 48.9
Wood	109.7	0.8	- 108.9	51.6			52.4		
CHEMICALS	339.3	3.2	- 336.1	546.6	22.5	- 524.1	457.4	4.9	- 452.5
of which:									
- crude rubber.....	3.9	0.0	- 3.9	13.5	0.0	- 13.5	9.9	0.6	- 9.3
Rubber Manufactures.....	49.2	0.3	- 48.9	63.6	0.3	- 63.3	36.5	0.2	- 36.3
- Crude fertilizers.....	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.2	16.2	16.0	0.0	1.2	1.2
Fertilizers manufacture	15.6	0.0	- 15.6	6.7	0.2	- 6.5	4.0	0.1	- 3.9
- Artificial resins & Plastics materials	58.2	0.1	- 58.1	112.4	0.2	- 112.2	87.8	0.1	- 87.7
- Medicaments	92.4	0.2	- 92.2	141.2	0.3	- 140.9	156.2	0.0	- 156.2
PETROLEUM & PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.....	1070.2	1662.0	591.8	1730.5	1663.6	- 66.8	1467.1	1515.2	48.1
of which:									
- Crude Oil	804.7	1335.3	530.6	1274.0	1286.6	12.6	1083.8	1041.1	- 42.7
REfined products.....	241.8	328.7	86.9	456.4	377.0	- 79.4	383.3	474.0	90.7

SYRIA IMPORTS-EXPORTS in Value (mn US \$) 1980-1982

(Cont'd)

YEARS:	1980			1981			1982		
Products:	Import	Export	Net Exp.	Import	Export	Net Exp.	Import	Export	Net Exp.
Other minerals.....	2.9			3.7			4.8		
Gas naturel & manufactured	5.5	0.0	- 5.5	5.2	0.0	- 5.2	7.7	0.0	- 7.7
Stone, sand & gravel.....	3.4	0.4	- 3.0	4.6	0.2	- 4.4	1.9	0.2	- 1.7
Cement & construction Mat..	41.	0.3	- 40.7	63.	0.1	- 62.9	45.1	0.1	- 45.
CRUDE FERROUS & NON-FERROUS METALS.....	56.1	0.6	- 55.5	83.1	0.0	- 83.1	65.	0.	- 65.
of which:									
iron & steel & ferrous alloys									
& lingots of iron, steel " "	18.1	0	- 18.1	20.7	0	- 20.7	9.1	0	- 9.1
ENGINEERING.....	1265.2	26.7	- 1238.5	2134.6	34.8	- 2099.8	1486.4	29.7	- 1456.7
of which:									
iron & steel spare parts	197.6	0.4	- 197.2	329.3	0.8	- 328.5	123.5	0.2	- 123.3
manufacture of bas metals	97.7	5.4	- 92.3	154.6	5.1	- 149.5	104.8	4.4	- 100.4
MACHINERY.....	533.7	9.1	- 524.6	907.3	11.3	- 896.	639.4	10.	- 629.4
of which:									
*power generating machines	65.7	4.0	- 61.7	141.4	4.7	- 136.7	77.0	4.4	- 72.6
machinery	195.3	2.9	- 192.4	298.1	1.0	- 297.1	22.6	1.1	- 221.5
metal working machinery....	18.2	0	- 18.2	18.6	0.1	- 18.5	28.5	0.1	- 28.4
general industrial machinery	142.4	1.	- 141.4	267.9	3.1	- 264.8	182.0	2.1	- 179.9
electrical machinery & apparats.....	112.1	1.2	- 110.9	181.3	2.4	- 178.9	129.3	2.3	- 127.
office machines.....	11.5	0.2	- 11.3	45.8	0.	- 45.8	28.6	0.8	- 27.8
professional controlling instruments.....	28.0	1.8	- 26.2	56.5	2.4	- 54.1	52.1	3.8	- 48.3

(* Machinery specialized for particular industries

SYRIA IMPORTS-EXPORTS in Value (mn US \$) 1980-1982

(Cont'd)

YEARS:	1980			1981			1982		
	Import	Export	Net Exp.	Import	Export	Net Exp.	Import	Export	Net Exp.
Products:									
ROAD VEHICLES & OTHER TRANS- PORT EQUIP.	274.	3.8	- 265.2	467.1	11.6	- 455.5	370.6	8.1	- 362.5
of which:									
passenger motor cars.....	36.1	0.2	- 35.9	67.9	2.2	- 65.7	84.1	0.1	- 84.
motor vehicles for goods...	122.4	2.0	- 120.4	196.7	1.8	- 194.9	135.3	0.7	- 134.6
Telecommunications & sound recording sets.....	98.2	1.0	- 97.2	145.8	3.5	- 142.3	150.2	2.4	- 147.9
Photographic apparatus....	24.5	0.	- 24.5	28.2	0.1	- 28.1	17.1	0.	- 17.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (1)	30.5	2.9	- 27.6	40.7	4.8	- 35.9	31.	4.1	- 26.9
Special transactions & commodities.....	12.4	0.8	- 11.6	7.4	4.	- 3.4	6.1	4.2	- 1.9

(1)= STIC: 892-894-895
896-897-898-899