

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND SYRIA

Biennial Report on the Operation of the Agreement

Communication from the European Community

The report below presents the information received from the Permanent Delegation of the European Commission, dated 19 April 2002. It is organized in accordance with the standard format (WT/REG/W/6).

This report covers the period 1999-2001. The previous biennial report submitted by the EC on the operation of the Cooperation Agreement between the EC and Syria was circulated as WTO document WT/REG104/R/B/1, G/L/372 of 2 May 2000.

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE AGREEMENT

1. Membership and Dates of Signature, Ratification and Entry into Force

There have been no changes during the reporting period.

Negotiations for the conclusion of a new and strengthened agreement, an Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement, which would replace the existing Co-operation Agreement, were launched in May 1998 and have continued during the reporting period. This Association Agreement will cover a number of areas, essentially involving political dialogue, the establishment of a free-trade area over a transitional period, economic and financial co-operation and co-operation in social and cultural affairs.

4. Trade Data

Total bilateral trade between the EU and Syria increased to €5.2 billion in 2000. Further statistical information is provided in the annex.

II. TRADE PROVISIONS

1. Import restrictions &
2. Export restrictions &
3. Rules of origin &

**4. Standards &
5. Safeguards &
6. Anti-dumping and countervailing measures**

These trade provisions of the Agreement have not been modified during the reporting period.

7. Subsidies and State-aid

The Agreement does not include any provisions concerning State aids or subsidies.

8. Sector-specific provisions

The situation remains as described in the last regular report.

**III. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT &
IV. OTHER**

The situation remains as described in the last regular report.

Annex

EC-Syria Imports/Exports, 2000 and comparison with extra-EU

Syria / Total HS Section	EU15 trade 2000 with Syria					EU15 trade 2000 with EXTRA-EUR					Syria		
	imports		exports		balance	imports		exports		balance	market shares	Exp-Imp ratio	
	M Euro	% Total	M Euro	% Total	M Euro	M Euro	% Total	M Euro	% Total	M Euro	imports	exports	
Total	3,428	100.0%	1,761	100.0%	-1,667	1,026,798	100.0%	937,836	100.0%	-88,961	0.3%	0.2%	0.51
<i>of which:</i>													
01 Animals & animal products	18	0.5%	28	1.6%	10	15,386	1.5%	12,064	1.3%	-3,321	0.1%	0.2%	1.54
02 Vegetable products	19	0.6%	61	3.5%	42	25,086	2.4%	11,223	1.2%	-13,864	0.1%	0.5%	3.19
03 Animal or vegetable fats	0	0.0%	7	0.4%	7	2,360	0.2%	2,687	0.3%	327	0.0%	0.3%	55.23
04 Prepared foodstuffs	3	0.1%	124	7.0%	121	22,170	2.2%	29,937	3.2%	7,767	0.0%	0.4%	46.43
05 Mineral products	3,012	87.9%	117	6.6%	-2,896	160,181	15.6%	33,372	3.6%	-126,808	1.9%	0.3%	0.04
06 Chemical products	2	0.1%	222	12.6%	221	63,673	6.2%	113,378	12.1%	49,705	0.0%	0.2%	119.05
07 Plastics & rubber	3	0.1%	104	5.9%	101	26,308	2.6%	35,240	3.8%	8,932	0.0%	0.3%	32.62
08 Hides & skins	55	1.6%	2	0.1%	-54	10,204	1.0%	8,969	1.0%	-1,234	0.5%	0.0%	0.03
09 Wood & wood products	1	0.0%	12	0.7%	11	14,618	1.4%	7,007	0.7%	-7,611	0.0%	0.2%	12.48
10 Wood pulp products	0	0.0%	70	4.0%	70	17,021	1.7%	24,481	2.6%	7,461	0.0%	0.3%	255.80
11 Textiles & textile articles	278	8.1%	59	3.4%	-218	69,611	6.8%	40,549	4.3%	-29,062	0.4%	0.1%	0.21
12 Footwear, headgear	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	10,903	1.1%	6,825	0.7%	-4,078	0.0%	0.0%	1.55
13 Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos	1	0.0%	15	0.8%	14	7,846	0.8%	15,121	1.6%	7,275	0.0%	0.1%	16.74
14 Pearls, (semi-)precious stones, metals	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	1	35,656	3.5%	28,969	3.1%	-6,687	0.0%	0.0%	3.13
15 Base metals & articles thereof	7	0.2%	176	10.0%	169	57,454	5.6%	52,942	5.6%	-4,512	0.0%	0.3%	26.03
16 Machinery & mechanical appliances	12	0.4%	582	33.1%	570	298,805	29.1%	298,008	31.8%	-797	0.0%	0.2%	47.05
17 Transportation equipment	5	0.1%	88	5.0%	83	90,679	8.8%	139,903	14.9%	49,224	0.0%	0.1%	17.57
18 Instruments - measuring, musical	5	0.1%	41	2.4%	37	42,480	4.1%	39,533	4.2%	-2,947	0.0%	0.1%	9.09
19 Arms & ammunition	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	601	0.1%	1,574	0.2%	973	0.0%	0.0%	247.91
20 Miscellaneous	1	0.0%	9	0.5%	8	27,149	2.6%	18,409	2.0%	-8,739	0.0%	0.0%	11.41
21 Works of art	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	2,672	0.3%	4,583	0.5%	1,910	0.0%	0.0%	0.71
Other	5	0.1%	41	2.3%	36	25,935	2.5%	13,062	1.4%	-12,872	0.0%	0.3%	8.01

Source : Eurostat COMEXT 30 Jul 01 (Statistical regime 4)

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EC-Syria Imports/Exports, 1997-2000

HS Section	EU15 trade 1997-2000 with Syria (million Euro)															
	imports				exports				balance				total trade			
	1997	1998	1999	2000	1997	1998	1999	2000	1997	1998	1999	2000	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	2,027	1,465	2,158	3,428	1,354	1,534	1,665	1,761	-673	69	-493	-1,667	3,380	2,999	3,822	5,189
of which:																
01 Animals & animal products	12	13	15	18	27	20	23	28	16	8	8	10	39	33	38	45
02 Vegetable products	12	10	22	19	22	17	59	61	10	7	38	42	35	27	81	80
03 Animal or vegetable fats	0	0	1	0	6	5	7	7	6	5	5	7	7	5	8	7
04 Prepared foodstuffs	1	3	2	3	137	172	104	124	136	170	102	121	139	175	106	126
05 Mineral products	1,719	1,173	1,857	3,012	58	39	42	117	-1,661	-1,134	-1,815	-2,896	1,777	1,213	1,898	3,129
06 Chemical products	1	1	2	2	170	203	213	222	170	202	212	221	171	203	215	224
07 Plastics & rubber	1	1	2	3	77	84	84	104	76	83	82	101	79	86	85	108
08 Hides & skins	33	21	24	55	1	1	1	2	-31	-19	-23	-54	34	22	25	57
09 Wood & wood products	0	0	1	1	13	5	7	12	13	5	6	11	13	5	8	13
10 Wood pulp products	0	0	0	0	46	47	59	70	46	47	59	70	46	47	60	71
11 Textiles & textile articles	230	219	191	278	75	75	57	59	-155	-144	-134	-218	305	294	248	337
12 Footwear, headgear	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1
13 Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos	0	1	0	1	18	15	14	15	18	15	13	14	19	16	14	16
14 Pearls, (semi-)precious stones, metals	0	1	1	0	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	3	1
15 Base metals & articles thereof	1	4	4	7	140	147	120	176	138	143	116	169	141	150	125	182
16 Machinery & mechanical applicances	5	8	5	12	412	499	483	582	408	491	478	570	417	508	488	595
17 Transportation equipment	1	1	24	5	59	116	312	88	59	115	288	83	60	117	336	93
18 Instruments - measuring, musical	1	3	2	5	41	38	42	41	40	35	40	37	42	41	44	46
19 Arms & ammunition	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 Miscellaneous	1	0	0	1	9	10	10	9	9	10	9	8	10	11	10	9
21 Works of art	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Other	6	6	5	5	37	36	25	41	30	30	20	36	43	42	31	46

Source : Eurostat COMEXT 30 Jul 01 (Statistical regime 4)

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