Namibia Statistics Agency

Quarterly Trade

Statistics Bulletin

First Quarter of 2017

Namibia Statistics Agency

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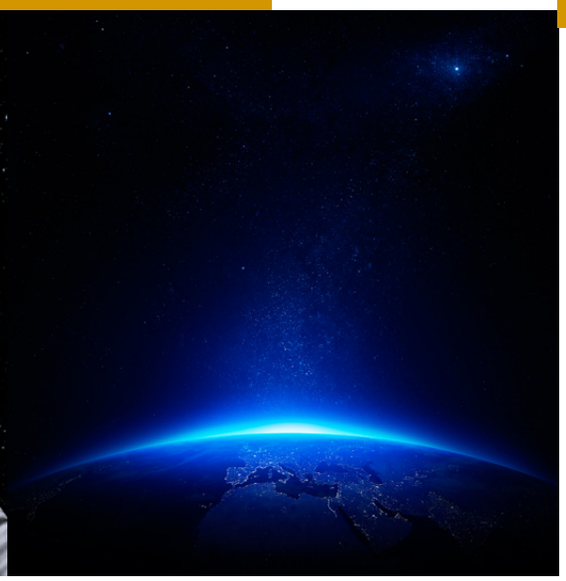

Mission Statement

"Leveraging on partnerships and innovative technologies, to produce and disseminate relevant, quality, timely statistics and spatial data that are fit-for-purpose in accordance with international standards and best practice"

Vision Statement

"Be a high performance institution in quality statistics delivery"

Core Values

- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Excellent Performance
- ✓ Accuracy
- ✓ Team Work
- ✓ Accountability
- ✓ Transparency

Preface

Foreign trade statistics plays an important role in many economies and Namibia is not an exception. It is an account of all transactions of merchandise between domestic residents and the rest of the world and measures the values and quantities of goods which add or subtract from the stock of material resources of a country by entering (imports) or leaving (exports) its economic territory. Therefore, trade statistics remains one of the major contributing indicators of the performance of Namibia's economy and its competitiveness on the world market.

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Quarterly merchandise trade statistics are used extensively in the compilation of the country's national accounts and the balance of payments. Furthermore, these statistics are also used by various government institutions in preparation of trade negotiations in:

a) defining and implementing anti-dumping policies

b) macroeconomic and monetary policies and

c) establishing new markets and evaluating the progress of existing markets.

Statistics on international trade of merchandise are used comprehensively by decision makers at national, regional and international level, while investors use this information in market research and to define their commercial strategy.

In the context of Namibia, the government's trade policy is aimed at developing, promoting and diversifying the country's exports as well as reducing its reliance on foreign goods.

The Directorate of Customs and Excise in the Ministry of Finance is responsible for the collection of revenues. Computerization of procedures at Customs and Excise continues to enhance the timely dissemination and analysis of trade statistics through prompt transfer of captured trade data at points of entries nationwide to the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA).

Therefore, this report outlines the quarterly developments of Namibia's trade in merchandise with the rest of the world during the first quarter of 2017 compared to the same quarter of 2016.

Alex Shimuafeni
Statistician-General & CEO

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Introduction

The mandate of the Namibia Statistics Agency is to produce and disseminate relevant, quality and timely statistics. This includes statistics relating to imports and exports of merchandise. This report presents a summary of the trade statistics in terms of imports and exports of merchandise during the first quarter of 2017.

Foreign trade statistics derived from records of trade flows across international borders are invaluable for the formulation of trade, commercial, fiscal and monetary policies of any country.

The basic information for the compilation of trade statistics was collected and captured based on import and export declarations made by traders to Customs at various Customs offices across the country.

Key developments

Revisions

Revisions on trade data are made every month when new monthly data files are uploaded into the database with additional information of previous months. In some instances, revisions are negligible while in others they are significant.

Table 1: Revisions

Trade flows	Value (N$ m)		
	Revised q4-2016	As reported in q4-2016	Difference
Exports	15,171	15,114	57
Imports	26,591	29,268	-2,677
Trade balance	**-11,420**	**-14,153**	**2,734**

Table 1 shows the revisions made to q4-2016 data after more monthly data became available. The exports value for q4-2016 was revised upwards from N$15,114 million to N$15,171 million, while imports were revised downwards from N$29,268 million to N$26,591 million.

The downward revision in imports was mostly caused by animal fodder which was estimated at N$3,403 million before revisions and N$203 million after revisions. Overall, the revisions resulted in the narrowing of the deficit from N$14,153 million to N$11,420 million.

The downward revision in imports was mostly caused by animal fodder which was estimated at N$3,403 million before revisions and N$203 million after revisions.

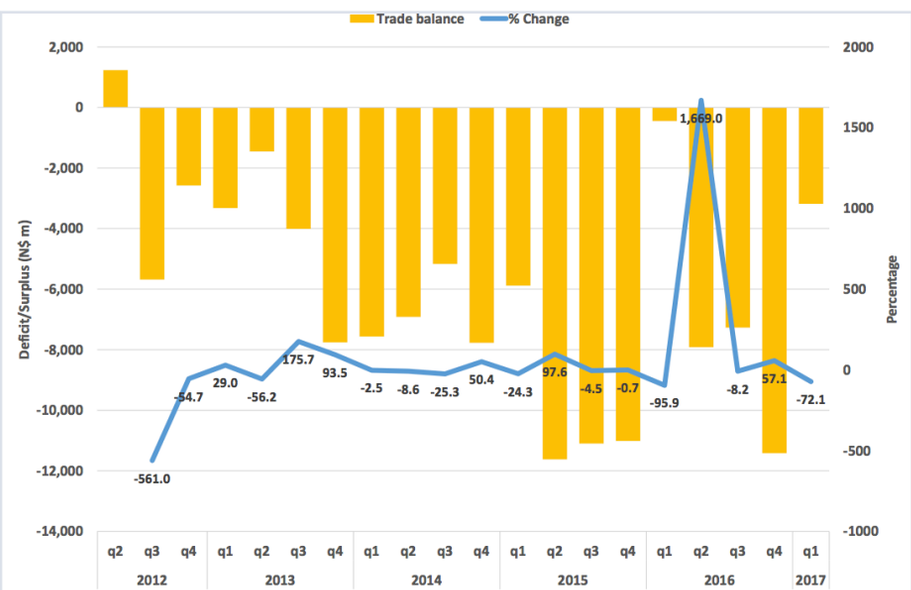
Trade Balance

Namibia's overall trade (exports plus imports) for q1-2017 was estimated at N$36,994 million, representing a decline of 16.6 percent compared to N$44,374 million recorded in q1-2016. In addition, the N$36,994 million of q1-2017 also represents a decline of 11.4 percent compared to q4-2016 which recoded N$41,762 million of overall trade.

Namibia's trade deficit for q1-2017 was estimated at N$3,185 million (Chart 1). This deficit was attributed to exports of N$16,905 million and imports of N$20,089 million. Overall, exports fell by N$ 5,508 million (from N$21,963 million in q1-2016 to N$16,905 million in q1-2017) which is a 23.0 percent decline whereas imports decreased by N$2,321 million (10.4 percent).

The deficit witnessed in q1-2017 grew by N$2,737 million (611.5 percent) compared to the revised deficit of N$448 million registered in the corresponding quarter a year earlier. In comparison to the previous quarter, the deficit narrowed by N$8,235 million (72.1 percent) from N$11,420 million as shown in Chart 1. The growth in the deficit from N$448 million in q1-2016 was mainly attributed to a stronger decline observed in exports compared to the decline recorded in imports.

Chart 1: Trade balance; q2-2012 to q1-2017



In comparison to the previous quarter, the deficit narrowed by

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Over the past twenty-quarters, q2-2012 to q1-2017, Namibia's trade balance averaged to a deficit of N$6,043 million and witnessed the only surplus of N$1,233 million in q2-2012 (Chart 1). The local economy continued posting unfavorable trade balances, with the highest deficit estimated at N$11,622 million witnessed in q2-2015.

The persistent deficits are mostly driven by Namibia's high demand for high-valued manufactured commodities and machinery from the rest of the world (ROW), while exporting commodities of low value or primary goods (diamonds excluded).

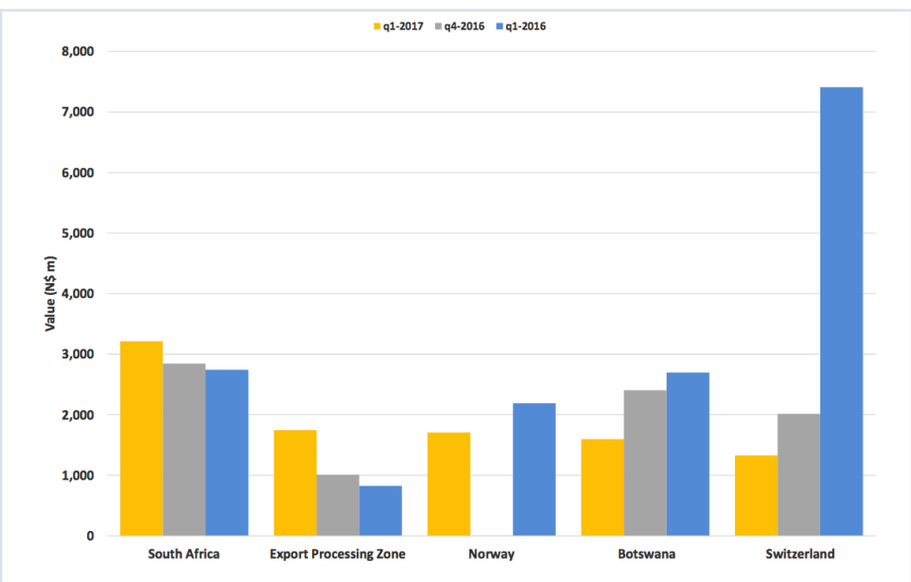
Exports to key markets

Namibia's export market was led by South Africa, EPZ, Norway, Botswana and Switzerland, absorbing 56.8 percent of Namibia's total (N$16,905 million) exports, (Chart 2). Exports to the aforesaid markets weakened, falling by N$6,268 million (39.5 percent) compared to N$15,861 million recorded in the same period last year. On a quarterly basis, exports to these markets grew by N$1,317 million (15.9 percent) from N$8,276 million witnessed in q4-2016.

The annual decline in exports to the aforementioned markets reduced their share to 56.8 percent of Namibia's total exports, from a level of 72.2 percent accounted for in the corresponding quarter a year earlier, but up from 54.6 percent in the previous quarter.

The recent decline in exports to the aforesaid markets was mainly reflected in the value of exports to Switzerland, dropping by N$6,077 million (82.0 percent) compared to N$7,408 million observed in the same period last year. This decline was mainly attributed to diamonds (92.1 percent) copper ores (90.4 percent) and copper cathodes (38.0 percent). Furthermore, exports of the same commodities to Switzerland dropped by 84.6 percent, 32.0 percent and 26.3 percent respectively from the previous quarter (Table 9 of the Appendix).

Chart 2: Main export destination



Namibia's export market was led by South Africa, EPZ, Norway, Botswana and Switzerland, absorbing

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of Namibia's total (N$16,905 million) exports

Exports to Botswana equally declined, registering N$1,598 million in q1-2017 compared to N$2,698 million and N$2,404 million recorded in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively, resulting in a yearly decline of 40.7 percent and a quarterly decline of 33.5 percent. The recent decline in exports to Botswana was led by beverages (Inc. alcoholic) (57.2 percent), mineral fuels and oils (44.9 percent), diamonds (41.4 percent) and salt and sulphur (26.8 percent). Similarly, exports to Norway and Italy also weakened.

Exports to the EPZ rose sharply, registering N$1,746 million in q1-2017 compared to N$826 million in q1-2016 and N$1,008 million in q4-2016, representing 111.4 percent and 73.1 percent growth respectively, as exports of diamonds to the EPZ grew.

Furthermore, exports to South Africa improved, recording 17.2 percent and 13.0 percent compared to N$2,741 million in q1-2016 and N$2,844 million in q4-2016 respectively, with the most notable growth observed in exports of mineral fuels and oils; live animals, fish, and beverages (Inc. alcoholic). Further growth in exports were registered by the United Arab Emirates (180.8 percent), Belgium (122.6 percent), France (56.1 percent) and Spain (7.7 percent) as shown in table 3 of the appendix.

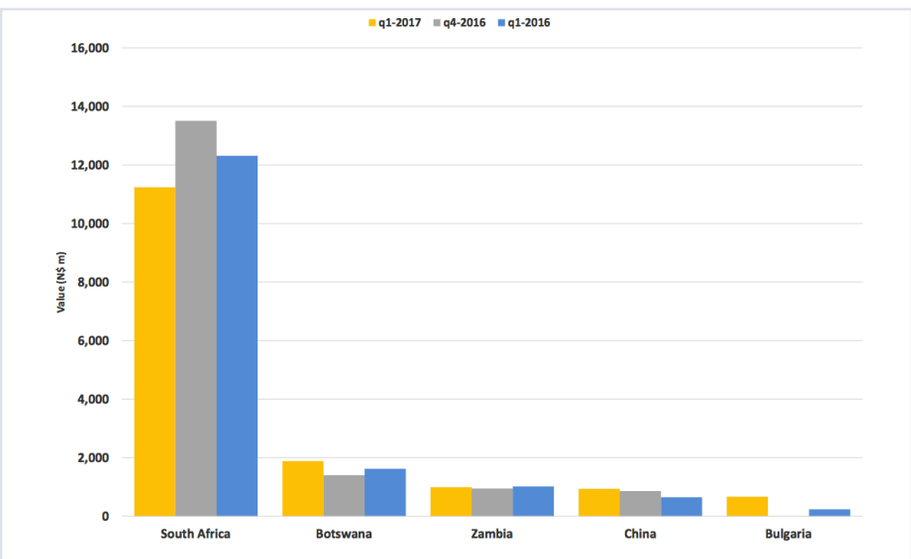
Imports from key markets

South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, China and Bulgaria emerged as the main sources of imports for Namibia during the period under review (Chart 3). These markets made up 78.2 percent of Namibia's total import bill from the rest of the world, up from 70.7 percent share accounted for in the corresponding period a year ago, and from 62.9 percent witnessed in the previous quarter. The combined import bill from the aforesaid markets amounted to N$15,719 million, a decline of 0.8 percent, compared to N$15,842 million witnessed in the same period last year, and a decline of 6.0 percent compared to N$16,273 million in the preceding quarter.

The domestic economy continued to rely on RSA with imports from that country accounting for 55.9 percent of the total import bill.

However, imports from that country declined, registering N$11,238 million in q1-2017, a decline of 8.7 percent compared to N$12,312 million in q1-2016 and a 16.8 percent drop compared to N$13,505 million in q4-2016. The decline resulted mainly on imports of mineral fuels & oils (34.1 percent), articles of iron or steel (20.1percent) and vehicles (18.0 percent). Furthermore, imports from Zambia declined by N$28 million (2.7 percent) to N$991 million in q1-2017, following a 96.0 percent decline in the category of other commodities. Further declines were also observed in imports of animal fodder (15.8 percent) and copper cathodes (0.3 percent) from Zambia. Imports from other countries outside the top ten listed countries also weakened, falling by 55.0 percent year-on-year and by 72.0 percent on a quarterly basis (Table 5).

Chart 3: Main source of imports



South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, China and Bulgaria emerged as the main sources of imports for Namibia during the period under review.

The domestic economy continued to rely on RSA with imports from that country accounting for 55.9 percent of the total import bill.

On the other hand, the value of imports from some markets improved, with the largest increases observed from Brazil, Portugal and United Arab Emirates (Table 5). Imports from Bulgaria rose by 181.1 percent when compared to N$238 million in q1-2016, as a result of an increase observed in imports of copper ores (187.2 percent) and inorganic chemicals (145.0 percent). Furthermore, overall imports from China rose to N$939 million in q1-2017, representing a 44.3 percent growth compared to N$651 million in q1-2016 due to the increase in imports of vehicles (676.8 percent), articles of iron and steel (91.9 percent); and electrical machinery and equipment (113.1 percent).

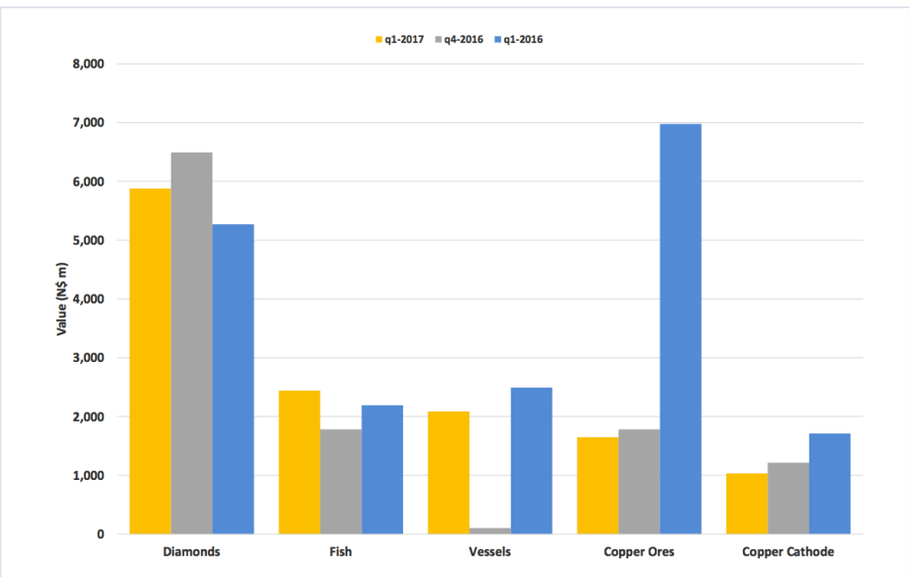
Similarly, Imports from Botswana equally strengthened, registering N$1,882 million in q1-2017, representing an increase of 16.1 percent and 34.3 percent compared to N$1,622 in q1-2016 and N$1,401 million in q4-2016 respectively. The increase in imports from Botswana was mostly owed to diamonds which increased by 23.1 percent and 40.4 percent in comparison to N$1,473 million in q1-2016 and N$1,292 million observed in q4-2016 respectively.

Top export products

Diamonds, fish, vessels, copper ores and copper cathodes were the leading export commodities during the period under review (Chart 4). However, the combined revenue generated from the exports of these commodities weakened, falling by N$5,557 million (29.8 percent) to N$13,087 million in q1-2017 compared to N$18,644 million recorded in q1-2016. When compared to the previous quarter, exports of these commodities improved by N$1,713 million (15.1 percent) from N$11,374 million. Together, these commodities made up 77.4 percent of the total (N$16,905 million) exports, down from 84.9 percent in the corresponding period a year earlier, and from 75.0 percent registered in the previous quarter.

The annual decline experienced in exports were mostly reflected in the value of copper ores, copper cathodes and vessels. Exports of copper ores declined by 76.4 percent compared to N$6,977 million witnessed in the same period last year as foreign demand by Switzerland and Canada dropped by 90.4 percent and 33.0 percent respectively. Exports of copper cathodes declined by N$679 million (39.7 percent) to register N$1,032 million in q1-2017, following a decline in external demand by Switzerland (38.0 percent) and Germany (6.8 percent).

Chart 4: Top five export products



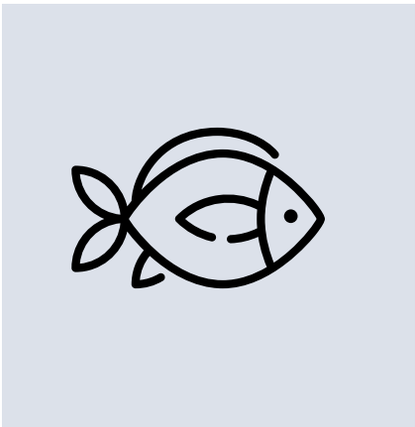
Diamond exports increased to

N$5,878 million

in q1-2017

Notwithstanding the recent decline in exports of copper ores, copper cathodes and vessels, exports of diamonds grew. Diamond exports increased to N$5,878 million in q1-2017, after recording N$5,270 million in the corresponding quarter of last year, representing a growth of 11.5 percent.

This follows increased demand by Israel (196.5 percent), EPZ (111.3 percent), Belgium (63.7 percent), USA (57.6 percent) and India (42.2 percent), making these markets the largest contributors to the growth in Namibia's diamond exports, as shown in table 11 of the appendix.



Fish was ranked second among the top five major export commodities by value, and is the only food item among other commodities, mostly minerals

On a yearly basis, fish exports increased to

N$2,442 million

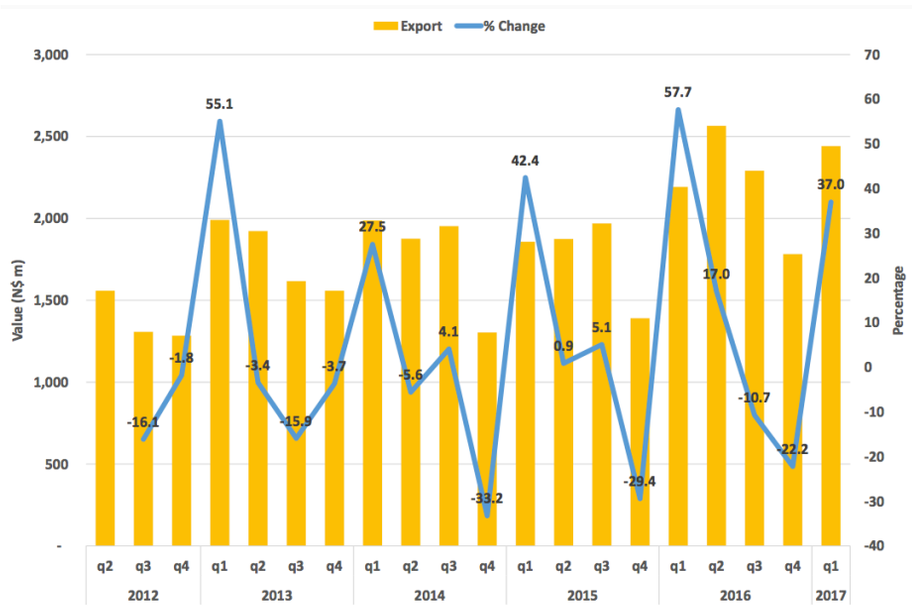
(11.4 percent)

Fish exports

Fish export plays a vital role as a major source of foreign exchange earnings for the domestic economy. During the period under review, fish continued to prove its significance as one of Namibia's major export revenue earners. Fish was ranked second among the top five major export commodities by value, and is the only food item among other commodities, mostly minerals (See Chart 4). Over the past twenty quarters, q2-2012 to q1-2017, revenue generated from fish exports averaged to N$1,836 million, reaching an all-time high of N$2,565 million in q2-2016, and a record low of N$1,284 million, below average during q4-2012 (Chart 5).

The strongest growth in fish exports on a quarterly basis were listed in the first quarters of 2013 to 2017, registering increases of 55.1 percent in q1-2013, 27.5 percent in q1-2014, 42.2 percent in q1-2015, 57.7 percent in q1-2016 and 37.0 percent in q1-2017. On the other hand, substantial declines in fish exports were witnessed in some quarters, with the most notable ones being q3-2012 declining by 16.1 percent, q3-2013 by 15.9 percent, q4-2014 falling by 33.2 percent (the largest decline recorded over the last twenty quarters), and q4-2015 by 29.4 percent and q4-2016 by 22.2 percent.

Chart 5: Fish exports



On a yearly basis, fish exports increased to N$2,442 million (11.4 percent) compared to N$2,192 million observed in the same quarter of last year, as foreign demand for local fish improved, mostly by European markets-the Netherlands (82.8 percent), Germany (52.1 percent), France (35.4 percent), Portugal (10.1 percent) and Spain (8.2 percent). In the African market, the growth in fish exports were mostly destined to DRC (31.5 percent) and South Africa (30.2 percent). Apart from the growth witnessed in fish exports to the aforesaid countries, fish exports to Zambia, Mozambique and Italy declined by 20.1, 10.6 and 4.1 percent respectively (Appendix Table 12).

Furthermore, table 12 shows Namibia's top ten largest fish export destinations for q1-2017, with Spain, DRC, South Africa, Zambia and Italy absorbing 74.2 percent of Namibia's total fish exports to the rest of the world, while Spain accounted for the largest share of 29.2 percent of total exports, followed by DRC with 17.4 percent, South Africa with 13.9 percent and Zambia absorbing 8.1 percent of the total fish exports.

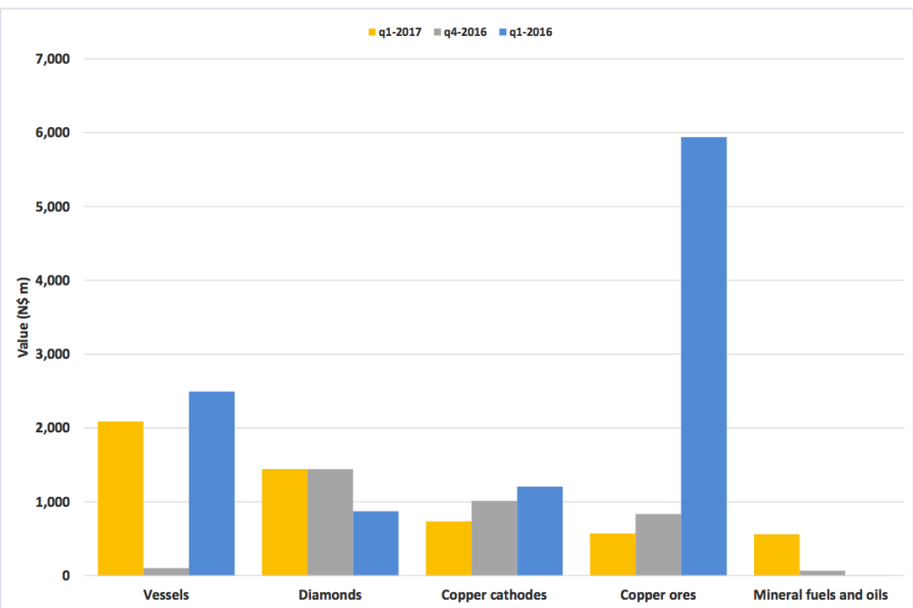
Top re-exports products

Re-exports were mostly dominated by vessels, diamonds, copper cathodes, copper ores and mineral fuels and oils. Re-exports of the aforementioned commodities weakened, registering N$5,395 million in q1-2017 down from N$10,510 million recorded in the same period last year, representing a 48.7 percent decline. On the other hand, the value of re-exported commodities rose from N$3,455 million witnessed in the previous quarter, indicating a quarterly growth of 56.2 percent.

The decline in re-exports was mostly lead by copper ores, copper cathodes and vessels (Chart 6). Re-exports of copper ores to Switzerland declined to register N$569 million in q1-2017, after recording N$5,940 million in the corresponding period a year earlier, representing a decline of 90.4 percent, as shown in table 13 of the appendix.

Furthermore, a 31.9 percent decline was observed when compared to the previous quarter. Likewise, the value of re-exported copper cathodes, mostly to Switzerland dropped to N$736 million from N$1,205 million in q1-2016 and N$1,012 million in q4-2016, indicating a decline of 39.0 percent and 27.3 percent respectively. Vessels also recorded a decline, falling by 16.3 percent to register N$2,087 million compared to N$2,493 million registered in the same period a year ago. This was owed to a 22.1 decline in re-exports of vessels to Norway.

Chart 6: Top five re-export products



As shown in Table 13, re-export of diamond rose by 65.8 percent and 0.2 percent when compared to N$871 million in q1-2016 and N$1,440 in q4-2016 respectively, following higher re-export values of diamonds to Belgium (N$557 million), United Arab Emirates (N$302 million), USA (N$233 million), Israel (N$128 million) and India (N$85 million).

Furthermore, re-export of mineral fuels and oils also rose, registering N$561 million compared to N$1 million in the corresponding period last year, as re-export of this commodity to South Africa increased significantly.

Vehicles accounted for the largest share of the import bill, recording a 10.7 percent

Most commodities within the top five listed declined, with the largest decline reflected in the value of mineral fuels and oils which dropped by 40.2 percent to register N$2,055 million compared to N$3,439 million witnessed in the same period last year

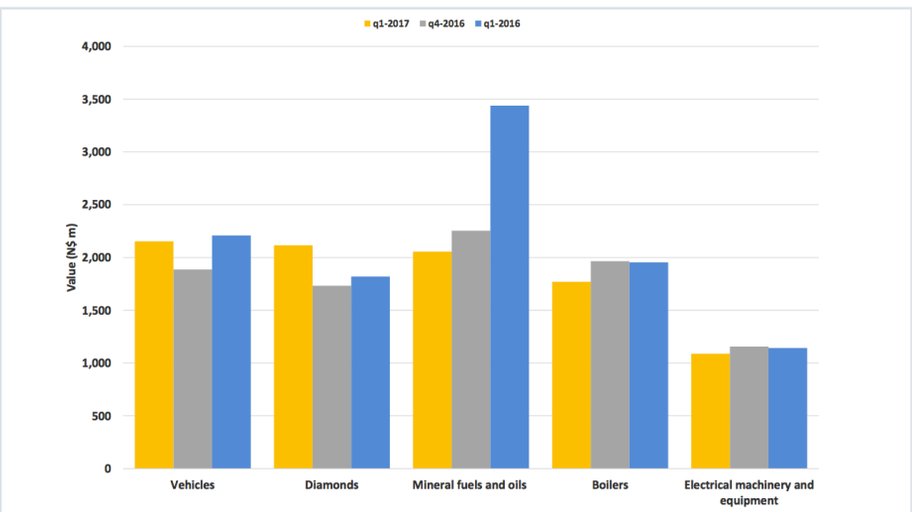
Declines were also observed in commodities outside the top five listed commodities, with the most noticeable being articles of iron and steel (14.9 percent)

Top import products

During the first quarter of 2017, vehicles, diamonds, mineral fuels and oils, boilers; and electrical machinery and equipment emerged as the leading commodities imported into Namibia (Chart 7). However, the import bill of the top listed commodities declined, registering N$9,182 million, after recording N$10,562 million in the corresponding period a year earlier, representing a 13.1 percent decline, but increased by N$189 million (2.1 percent) compared to N$8,993 million witnessed in the previous quarter.

The aforesaid commodities accounted for a combined share of 45.7 percent of the total import bill, down from 47.1 percent accounted for in the corresponding quarter last year but up from 33.8 percent recorded in the previous quarter. Vehicles accounted for the largest share of the import bill, recording a 10.7 percent, followed by diamonds which recorded 10.5 percent, mineral fuels and oils recorded a 10.2 percent, boilers 8.8 percent; and electrical machinery and equipment contributing 5.4 percent of the total import bill (appendix table 8).

Chart 7: Top five import products



Most commodities within the top five listed declined, with the largest decline reflected in the value of mineral fuels and oils which dropped by 40.2 percent to register N$2,055 million compared to N$3,439 million witnessed in the same period last year. Compared to the previous quarter, imports of this commodity only declined by 8.8 percent. Further declines in imports were also reflected in the value of boilers (9.4 percent), electrical machinery and equipment (4.7 percent) and vehicles (2.5 percent).

Declines were also observed in commodities outside the top five listed commodities, with the most noticeable being articles of iron and steel (14.9 percent), copper ores (13.9 percent), plastics and articles thereof (10.8 percent) and copper cathodes (9.9 percent).

Despite the decline of imports for most commodities, table 14 (appendix) shows that imports of diamonds increased by 16.3 percent to register N$2,116 million in q1-2017 from N$1,819 million in q1-2016, as domestic demand for diamonds increased, mostly from Canada, USA, Russia and Botswana.

Trade by economic regions

Exports

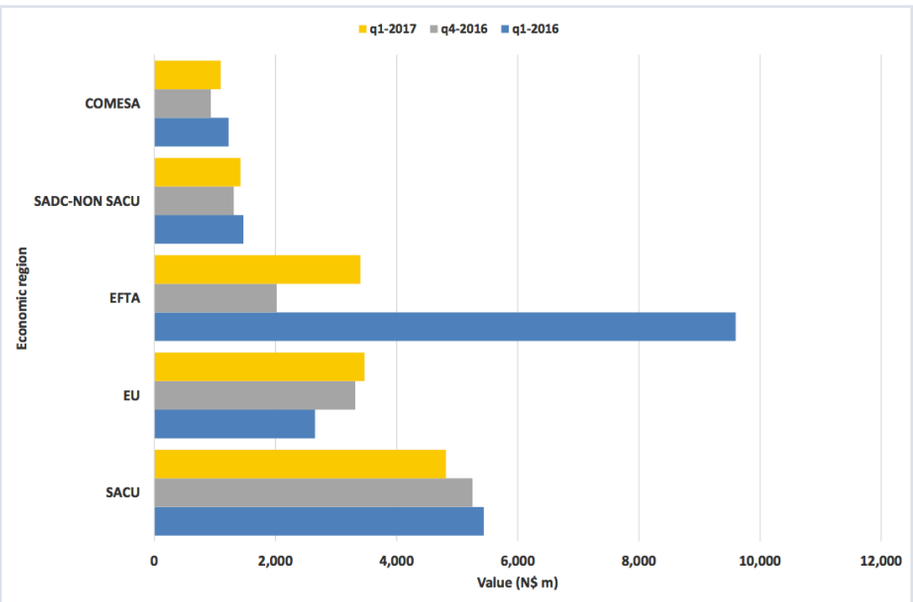
The Southern African Customs Union (SACU) continued to be Namibia's largest export market compared to other regional groupings during the period under review as shown in Chart 8. However, export revenue from that region declined to N$4,815 million compared to N$5,440 million recorded in the same quarter a year ago, representing a decline of 11.5 percent. Similarly, when compared to the preceding quarter, export revenue from SACU fell from N$5,253 million indicating a drop of 8.3 percent. In addition, SACU accounted for 32.7 percent of Namibia's total exports, the largest share compared to other economic regions. This is more than 26.0 percent share accounted for in the corresponding quarter a year ago, but less than 39.5 percent share witnessed in the previous quarter.

The European Union (EU) was the country's second largest key export market, with exports to that market rising to N$3,471 million in q1-2017, from N$2,652 million witnessed in the corresponding quarter last year and from N$3,316 million recorded in the preceding quarter, indicating an annual growth of 30.9 percent and a 4.7 percent quarterly increase.

The EU accounted for a share of 23.6 percent of Namibia's total exports, an increase from 12.7 percent it accounted for in the corresponding quarter last year, but a decline when compared to 25.0 percent witnessed in the last quarter.

The European Free Trade Area (EFTA) ranked third as the largest export market for the domestic economy, however, the value of domestic exports absorbed by EFTA declined, registering N$3,403 million in q1-2017, from N$9,598 million witnessed in the same quarter a year earlier, but rose from N$2,020 million recorded in the previous quarter, this translates to a yearly decline of 64.5 percent and a 68.4 percent quarterly growth-the highest growth amongst all regions. EFTA's contribution to Namibia's total exports stood at 23.1 percent in q1-2017, declining from a share of 45.8 percent accounted for in the same period last year and rising from 15.2 percent accounted for in the preceding quarter.

Chart 8: Exports by Economic Regions



The SADC-Non-SACU region was ranked the fourth largest market for Namibia's exports. Exports to that market declined by 3.2 percent to register N$1,422 million in q1-2017, from N$1,497 million recorded in the corresponding quarter a year ago. On the other hand, exports to that market rose by 8.5 percent after recording N$1,322 million in the previous quarter. SADC-Non-SACU's contribution to Namibia's total export revenue stood at 9.7 percent in q1-2017, up from 7.0 percent share recorded in the corresponding quarter last year, but down when compared to 9.9 percent accounted for in the previous quarter.

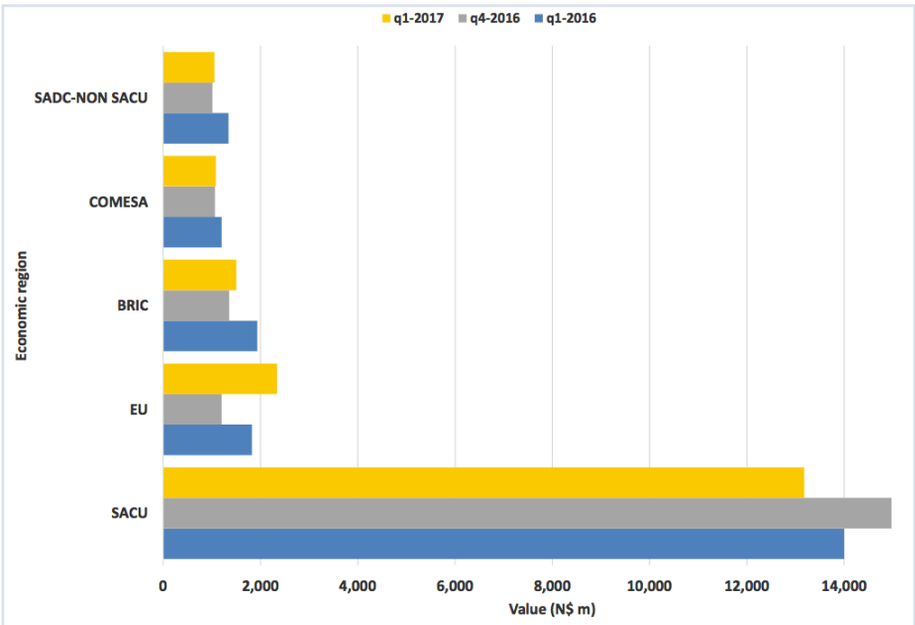
The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) occupied the fifth position as the largest export destination for the local economy. Exports to COMESA stood at N$1,096 million in q1-2017, posting a 10.7 percent decline when compared to N$1,226 million recorded in q1-2016. In comparison to the previous quarter, exports to that market grew by 17.4 percent after recording N$933 million. COMESA's contribution to Namibia's total export revenue stood at 7.5 percent in q1-2017, up from 5.9 percent and 7.0 percent recorded in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively.

Imports

Similar to the trend shown by exports, SACU emerged as Namibia's largest source of imports (see Chart 9), after recording N$13,180 million in the period under review. However, the import bill from SACU showed a decline of 5.8 percent and 12.0 percent compared to N$13,997 million and N$14,969 million recorded in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively. Moreover, 67.8 percent of the country's total import bill came from SACU, down from 68.8 percent recorded in the corresponding quarter a year earlier, but up compared to 66.3 percent witnessed in q4-2016.

The EU moved two places up, occupying the second position as the largest source of imports for the domestic economy. The import bill from the EU market stood at N$2,342 million in q1-2017, representing increases of 28.4 percent and 95.2 percent when compared to N$1,824 million and N$1,200 million recorded in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively. Subsequently, the EU accounted for 12.1 percent of Namibia's overall import bill in q1-2017, up from 9.5 percent and 5.3 percent it accounted for in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively.

Chart 9: Imports by Economic Regions



The import bill from the EU market stood at

N$2,342 million

in q1-2017

Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC) ranked third as Namibia's largest source of imports, though, expenditure on imports from this market declined, registering N$1,500 million in q1-2017, after recording N$1,934 million in the corresponding period a year ago, representing a 22.4 percent decline. However, when compared to the previous quarter, the import bill from this market rose from N$1,357 million indicating a 10.5 percent growth. BRIC accounted for 7.7 percent of the overall import expenditure absorbed by the domestic economy, down from 9.5 percent witnessed in the corresponding quarter of 2016, but up from 6.0 percent recorded in the preceding quarter.

COMESA advanced one place up to occupy the fourth position as a major source of imports for Namibia despite the import bill from this market weakening to N$1,085 million in q1-2017 compared to N$1,201 million witnessed in the same period last year, indicating a 9.6 percent decline. When compared to the previous quarter, the import bill from this market rose from N$1,063 million, representing an increase of 2.1 percent.

COMESA accounted for 5.6 percent of the total import bill in the period under review, down from 5.9 percent witnessed in the corresponding period a year earlier and up from 4.7 percent recorded in the previous quarter.

The SADC-NON-SACU and EFTA markets also played a vital role in supporting the domestic economy's demand for imports (see Chart 9). The import bill from SADC-NON-SACU was estimated to be N$1,054 million in q1-2017, representing a 21.4 percent decline after recording N$1,341 million in the same quarter a year ago, but advanced by 4.4 percent when compared to N$1,009 million recorded in the previous quarter. SADC-NON-SACU accounted for 5.4 percent of the total import bill, down from 6.6 percent witnessed in the same quarter a year ago, but up from 4.5 percent registered in the preceding quarter.

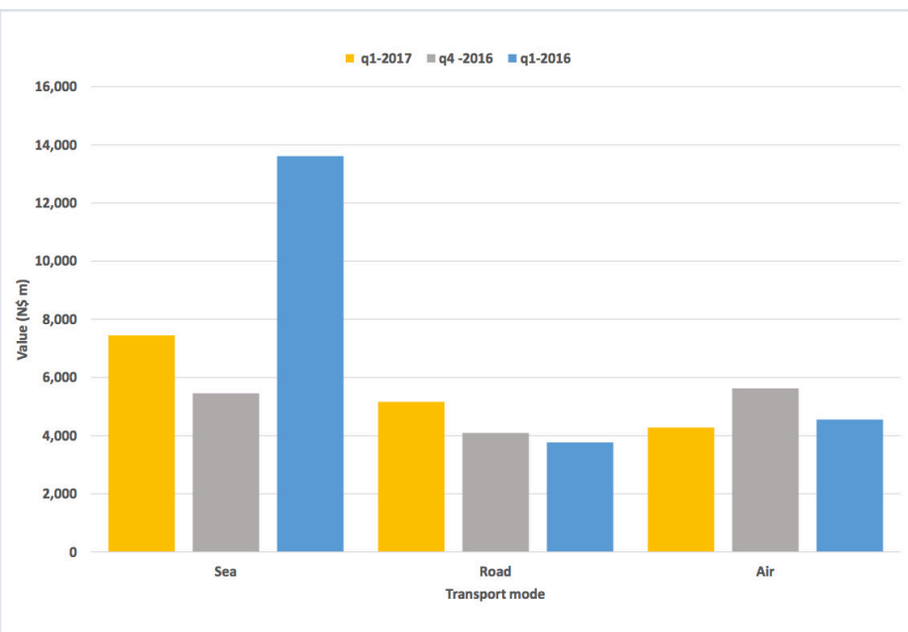
Trade by mode of transport

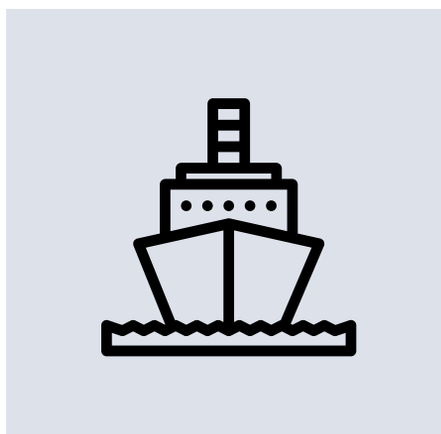
Exports

Sea transportation was the most used mode of transport for exports in q1-2017, (Chart 10). However, exports via sea dropped to N$7,450 million compared to N$13,611 million recorded in the same quarter of 2016, resulting in a decline of 45.3 percent. When compared to the previous quarter, exports via sea rose from N$5,456 million, representing an increase of 36.5 percent.

Sea transport accounted for 44.1 percent of the total exports in q1-2017, down from 62.0 percent recorded a year earlier and up from 36.0 percent recorded in the previous quarter.

Chart 10: Exports by mode of transport





Sea transport accounted for

44.1%

of the total exports in q1-2017

Road transport ranked second in terms of the value of goods exported rising to N$5,165 million compared to N$3,767 million recorded in the corresponding quarter last year, resulting in an increase of 37.1 percent, and when compared to the previous quarter, exports via road advanced from N$4,089 million, representing an increase of 26.3 percent. The share of exports by road stood at 30.6 percent of the total exports, up from 17.1 percent and 27.0 percent it accounted for in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively.

Air transport ranked third as the most used means of transport for exports registering N$4,280 million in q1-2017 (Chart 10). However, exports via air dropped by 6.0 percent and 23.9 percent compared to N$4,554 million and N$5,625 million witnessed in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively. Additionally, air transport accounted for 25.3 percent share of the total exports, down from 20.7 percent and 37.1 percent it accounted for in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively.

Most commodities imported into Namibia were transported by road

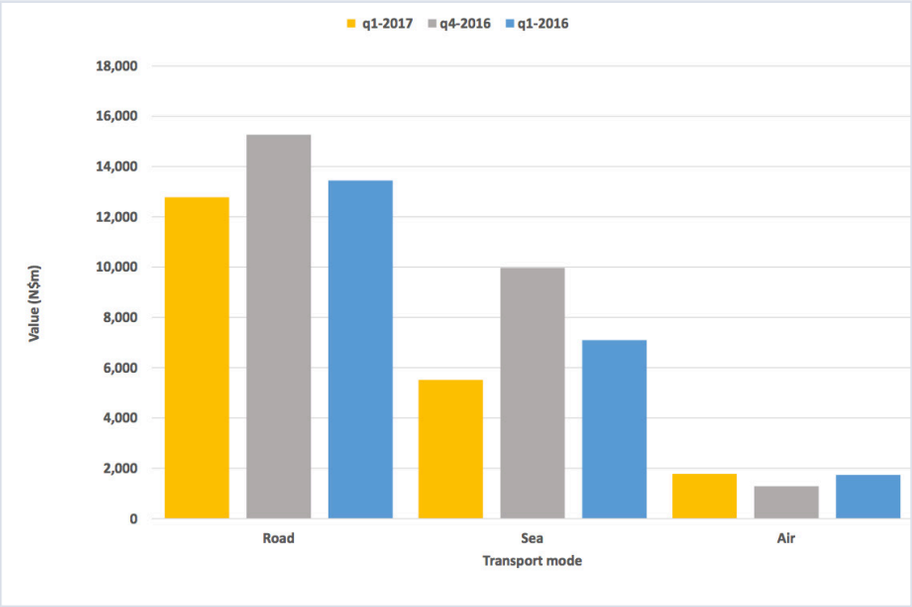
Air transportation occupied the third place as Namibia's common mode of transporting goods into the local economy.

Imports

Most commodities imported into Namibia were transported by road, compared to other modes of transportation, but the value of imports by road dropped by 4.9 percent and 16.3 percent compared to N$13,443 million witnessed in q1-2016 and N$15,264 million in q4-2016 respectively. Despite the decline witnessed in imports by road, its contribution to the overall import bill remained high, accounting for 63.6 percent, the largest share accounted for when compared to sea and air transport.

The share of imports via road in q1-2017 was higher compared to 60.0 percent and 57.4 percent share accounted for in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively.

Chart 11: Imports by mode of transports



Sea transport also played a vital role and ranked second as a major way of delivering imports into the local economy. Imports via sea slowed down in q1-2017 compared to q1-2016 and q4-2016. The value of imports by sea declined from q1-2016 to q1-2017 by N$1,580 million (22.3 percent) and in comparison to the previous quarter it fell by N$4,452 million, representing 44.7 percent drop. The decline in imports by sea also affected its share of the overall import bill to account for 27.5 percent in q1-2017 compared to 31.7 percent it accounted for in q1-2016 and 37.5 percent in the previous quarter.

Air transportation occupied the third place as Namibia's common mode of transporting goods into the local economy. The overall value of imports via air is far less compared to the value of imports by road and sea although it increased to register N$1,777 million in q1-2017 compared to N$1,733 million recorded in the same quarter of 2016 and N$1,288 million witnessed in the previous quarter, representing increases of 2.5 percent and 37.9 percent respectively. In terms of contributions, air transport accounted for 8.8 percent of the total import, down from 7.7 percent and 4.8 percent accounted for in q1-2016 and q4-2016 respectively.

Conclusion

In the first quarter of 2017, Namibia posted a negative trade balance valued at N$3,185 million, up from N$448 million deficit recorded in the corresponding quarter of last year, and down from N$11,420 million witnessed in the previous quarter, representing a yearly increase of 611.5 percent and a quarterly decline of 72.1 percent. During the period under review, Namibia's exports were mostly absorbed by South Africa, Botswana, the Export Processing Zone (EPZ), Norway and Switzerland. On the other hand, imports were mainly sourced from South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, China and Bulgaria.

The domestic economy's export market was mostly led by diamonds, fish, vessels, copper ores and copper cathodes. In addition, the above mentioned commodities with the exception of fish led the list of re-exports. Mineral fuels and oils also contributed significantly to Namibia's total re-exports. Vehicles, diamonds, mineral fuels and oils, boilers and electrical machinery and equipment led the list of major imported commodities by value.

In terms of economic regions, Namibia's exports were mostly absorbed by African regional groupings and the EU, with SACU absorbing 32.7 percent of total exports to the world, followed by the EU with 23.6 percent, EFTA with 23.1 percent, and SADC-Non-SACU with 9.7 percent and COMESA with 7.5 percent. Equally, imports were also sourced from the same economic regions with SACU accounting for the largest share of 67.8 percent of total imports, followed by EU with 12.1 percent, BRIC with 7.7 percent, SADC-Non-SACU with 5.4 percent and EFTA with 1.4 percent.

Namibia exported most commodities by air, sea and road, with sea emerging as the most used means of transport by traders, while air transport was the least used in terms of exports. On the other hand, most commodities imported to Namibia were transported by road and sea with road leading, while air accounted for a smaller share of overall imports.

List of Terms and Definitions

List of Terms and Definitions

Cost Insurance and freight (CIF): The transaction value of the goods, the value of services performed to deliver goods to the border of the exporting country and the value of the services performed to deliver the goods from the border of the exporting country to the border of the importing country.

Export Processing Zone (EPZ): An Export Processing Zone (EPZ) is a Customs area where one is allowed to import machinery, equipment and material for the manufacture of export goods under security, without payment of duty. The imported goods are subject to customs control at importation, through the manufacturing process, to the time of sale/export, or duty payment for home consumption.

Free on board (FOB): The transaction value of the goods and the value of services performed to deliver goods to the border of the exporting country.

Re-export: The export of foreign goods previously imported from the ROW.

Trade Balance: The commercial balance or net exports (sometimes symbolized as NX), is the difference between the monetary value of exports and imports of output in an economy over a certain period.

Trade Deficit: Is an economic measure of a negative trade balance in which a country's imports exceeds its exports.

Trade Surplus: Is an economic measure of a positive trade balance in which a country's exports exceeds its imports.

Acronyms

BRIC	Brazil, Russia, India and China
CIF	Cost, Insurance and Freight
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	East African Community
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EPZ	Export Processing Zone
EU	European Union
FOB	Free on Board
ROW	Rest of World
SACU	Southern African Customs Union
SADC	Southern African Development Community

Appendix

Table 2: Trade by fob and cif

Period	Value (N$ m)		
	Export (f.o.b)	Import (c.i.f)	Import (f.o.b)
q1-2017	16,905	20,089	18,893
q4-2016	15,171	26,591	24,822
q1-2016	21,963	22,411	21,328

Table 3: Main export destinations

Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
South Africa	3,213	19.0	2,844	18.7	2,741	12.5	17.2	13.0
Export Processing Zone	1,746	10.3	1,008	6.6	826	3.8	111.4	73.2
Norway	1,706	10.1	5	0.0	2,191	10.0	-22.1	32,774.9
Botswana	1,598	9.5	2,404	15.8	2,696	12.3	-40.7	-33.5
Switzerland	1,330	7.9	2,015	13.3	7,408	33.7	-82.0	-34.0
Belgium	811	4.8	643	4.2	364	1.7	122.6	26.1
Spain	718	4.2	551	3.6	667	3.0	7.7	30.3
United Arab Emirates	716	4.2	671	4.4	255	1.2	180.8	6.6
Italy	676	4.0	807	5.3	715	3.3	-5.4	-16.2
France	625	3.7	336	2.2	400	1.8	56.1	86.0
Other	3,765	22.3	3,886	25.6	3,701	16.9	1.7	-3.1
Total	**16,905**	**100.0**	**15,171**	**100.0**	**21,963**	**100.0**	**-23.0**	**11.4**

Table 4: Main re-export destinations

Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Norway	1,703	25.2	0	0.0	2,189	19.0	-22.2	680,449.6
Switzerland	1,328	19.6	2,014	43.9	7,407	64.3	-82.1	-34.1
South Africa	929	13.7	384	8.4	305	2.6	204.8	141.5
Belgium	809	12.0	522	11.4	340	3.0	137.8	55.0
Iceland	366	5.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	22,163,147.2
United Arab Emirates	313	4.6	83	1.8	4	0.0	7,535.6	279.0
Zambia	288	4.2	289	6.3	388	3.4	-25.8	-0.6
USA	225	3.3	354	7.7	143	1.2	57.5	-36.4
Angola	170	2.5	155	3.4	109	0.9	55.6	9.7
Israel	128	1.9	134	2.9	43	0.4	196.6	-3.9
Other	510	7.5	648	14.1	585	5.1	-12.8	-21.2
Total	**6,770**	**100.0**	**4,583**	**100.0**	**11,514**	**100.0**	**-41.2**	**47.7**

Table 5: Main source of Imports

Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
South Africa	11,238	55.9	13,505	50.8	12,312	54.9	-8.7	-16.8
Botswana	1,882	9.4	1,401	5.3	1,622	7.2	16.1	34.3
Zambia	991	4.9	951	3.6	1,019	4.5	-2.7	4.2
China	939	4.7	861	3.2	651	2.9	44.3	9.0
Bulgaria	669	3.3	4	0.0	238	1.1	181.1	15,403.3
United Arab Emirates	465	2.3	298	1.1	185	0.8	151.1	55.7
Italy	404	2.0	213	0.8	350	1.6	15.4	89.4
Germany	360	1.8	281	1.1	348	1.6	3.6	28.4
Brazil	332	1.7	13	0.0	12	0.1	2,738.7	2,407.5
Portugal	277	1.4	11	0.0	54	0.2	414.7	2,447.5
Other	2,531	12.6	9,052	34.0	5,620	25.1	-55.0	-72.0
Total	**20,089**	**100.0**	**26,591**	**100**	**22,411**	**100.0**	**-10.4**	**-24.5**

Table 6: Top ten export products

Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Diamonds	5,878	34.8	6,493	42.8	5,270	24.0	11.5	-9.5
Fish	2,442	14.4	1,782	11.7	2,192	10.0	11.4	37.0
Vessels	2,087	12.3	102	0.7	2,494	11.4	-16.3	1,937.2
Copper Ores	1,648	9.7	1,782	11.7	6,977	31.8	-76.4	-7.5
Copper Cathode	1,032	6.1	1,214	8.0	1,711	7.8	-39.7	-15.0
Zinc	589	3.5	563	3.7	514	2.3	14.7	4.7
Mineral fuels and oils	588	3.5	110	0.7	126	0.6	367.5	436.3
Vehicles	385	2.3	235	1.6	223	1.0	72.8	63.6
Live Animals	383	2.3	222	1.5	248	1.1	54.1	72.7
Beverages (incl alcoholic)	268	1.6	363	2.4	251	1.1	7.0	-26.0
Other	1,605	9.5	2,305	15.2	1,958	8.9	-18.0	-30.4
Total	**16,905**	**100.0**	**15,171**	**100.0**	**21,963**	**100.0**	**-23.0**	**11.4**

Table 7: Top ten re-export products

Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Vessels	2,087	30.8	102	2.2	2,493	21.7	-16.3	1,941.5
Diamonds	1,443	21.3	1,440	3 1.4	871	7.6	65.8	0.2
Copper cathodes	736	10.9	1,012	22.1	1,205	10.5	-39.0	-27.3
Copper ores	569	8.4	835	1 8.2	5,940	51.6	-90.4	-31.9
Mineral fuels and oils	561	8.3	65	1.4	1	0.0	109,900.9	756.4
Vehicles	375	5.5	226	4.9	214	1.9	75.2	65.8
Zinc	249	3.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	1,648,476.5	95,519.0
Boilers	183	2.7	175	3.8	161	1.4	13.8	5.0
Miscellaneous chemicals products	103	1.5	67	1.5	79	0.7	30.1	54.8
Articles of iron or steel	87	1.3	52	1.1	37	0.3	134.5	67.7
Other	377	5.6	608	1 3.3	512	4.4	-26.4	-38.0
Total	**6,770**	**100.0**	**4,583**	**100.0**	**11,514**	**100.0**	**-41.2**	**47.7**

Table 8: Top ten Import products

Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Vehicles	2,153	10.7	1,886	7.1	2,209	9.9	-2.5	14.1
Diamonds	2,116	10.5	1,732	6.5	1,819	8.1	16.3	22.1
Mineral fuels and oils	2,055	10.2	2,254	8.5	3,439	15.3	-40.2	-8.8
Boilers	1,770	8.8	1,965	7.4	1,953	8.7	-9.4	-9.9
Electrical machinery and equipment	1,088	5.4	1,156	4.3	1,142	5.1	-4.7	-5.9
Copper cathodes	979	4.9	911	3.4	1,087	4.8	-9.9	7.5
Copper ores	736	3.7	494	1.9	855	3.8	-13.9	49.0
Articles of iron or steel	638	3.2	661	2.5	750	3.3	-14.9	-3.5
Plastics and articles	412	2.1	556	2.1	462	2.1	-10.8	-25.9
Optical and photographic instruments	390	1.9	350	1.3	321	1.4	21.6	11.3
Other	7,753	38.6	14,626	55.0	8,374	37.4	-7.4	-47.0
Total	**20,089**	**100.0**	**26,591**	**100.0**	**22,411**	**100.0**	**-10.4**	**-24.5**

Table 9: Fish exports

Year	Period	Export	% Change	Import	% Change
2012	q2	1,558	-4.1	69	129.8
	q3	1,307	-16.1	56	-17.8
	q4	1,284	-1.8	79	40.7
2013	q1	1,991	55.1	64	-18.8
	q2	1,923	-3.4	106	64.9
	q3	1,617	-15.9	46	-56.4
	q4	1,558	-3.7	128	176.0
2014	q1	1,987	27.5	79	-38.3
	q2	1,876	-5.6	119	51.2
	q3	1,953	4.1	108	-9.5
	q4	1,304	-33.2	131	21.6
2015	q1	1,858	42.4	84	-36.0
	q2	1,874	0.9	98	16.8
	q3	1,970	5.1	97	-0.6
	q4	1,390	-29.4	166	70.3
2016	q1	2,192	57.7	157	-5.2
	q2	2,565	17.0	243	54.4
	q3	2,291	-10.7	77	-68.1
	q4	1,782	-22.2	257	232.6
2017	**q1**	**2,442**	**37.0**	**127**	**-50.8**

Table 10: Export products to key markets

South Africa								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Diamonds	948	29.5	1,234	43.4	1,029	37.5	-7.9	-23.1
Mineral fuels & oils	515	16.0	15	0.5	2	0.1	31558.3	3322.0
Live animals	371	11.6	207	7.3	248	9.0	50.0	79.3
Fish	339	10.6	190	6.7	261	9.5	30.2	78.7
Beverages (incl alcoholic)	215	6.7	271	9.5	153	5.6	40.7	-20.7
Vehicles	189	5.9	186	6.5	160	5.8	18.4	1.8
Boilers	125	3.9	122	4.3	128	4.7	-2.4	2.4
Zinc & articles thereof	84	2.6	59	2.1	76	2.8	10.5	42.7
Meat	70	2.2	88	3.1	83	3.0	-15.9	-20.4
Electrical machinery & equipment	44	1.4	59	2.1	221	8.1	-80.1	-25.5
Other	311	9.7	413	14.5	381	13.9	-18.2	-24.6
Total	**3,213**	**100.0**	**2,844**	**100.0**	**2,741**	**100.0**	**17.2**	**13.0**

Export Processing Zone								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Diamond	1,744	99.9	1,008	100.0	826	100.0	111.3	73.1
Zinc & articles thereof	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-100.0	-
Total	**1,746**	**100.0**	**1,008**	**100.0**	**826**	**100.0**	**111.4**	**73.2**

Norway								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Vessels	1,703	99.8	0	0.0	2,186	99.8	-22.1	-
Meat	2	0.1	4	77.1	0	0.0	-	-48.9
Works of art, collections & antiques	0	0.0	1	12.6	0	0.0	30.4	-59.0
Miscellaneous chemicals	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Used personal effects	0	0.0	0	0.7	0	0.0	-73.8	80.9
Mineral fuels & oils	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5757.7	38951.4
Boilers	0	0.0	0	1.9	0	0.0	-89.5	-54.8
Plastics & articles thereof	0	0.0	0	0.4	0	0.0	-	95.3
Soap and other detergents	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	69.6	-
Explosives	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	0	0.0	0	7.2	3	0.2	-98.0	-81.6
Total	**1,706**	**100.0**	**5**	**100.0**	**2,191**	**100.0**	**-22.1**	**32774.9**

Botswana								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Diamonds	1,491	93.3	2,296	95.5	2,546	94.4	-41.4	-35.1
Mineral fuels & oils	55	3.5	61	2.6	100	3.7	-44.9	-10.1
Preparations of meats, of fish	14	0.9	16	0.7	11	0.4	23.6	-16.9
Vehicles	9	0.5	3	0.1	5	0.2	61.5	200.1
Boilers	8	0.5	3	0.1	5	0.2	84.6	158.3
Beverages (incl alcoholic)	6	0.4	7	0.3	15	0.6	-57.2	-11.8
Salt & sulphur	4	0.2	6	0.2	5	0.2	-26.8	-36.2
Fish	2	0.1	2	0.1	2	0.1	19.7	-9.4
Vessels	2	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Preparation of cereals,flour, etc.	2	0.1	2	0.1	1	0.0	106.8	-31.1
Other	6	0.4	6	0.3	6	0.2	0.4	-1.9
Total	**1,598**	**100.0**	**2,404**	**100.0**	**2,696**	**100.0**	**-40.7**	**-33.5**

Switzerland								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Copper cathodes	734	55.2	996	49.4	1,184	16.0	-38.0	-26.3
Copper ores	568	42.7	835	41.5	5,940	80.2	-90.4	-32.0
Diamonds	22	1.7	146	7.2	282	3.8	-92.1	-84.6
Boilers	3	0.2	8	0.4	0	0.0	7524.4	-65.9
Fish	2	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	989.6	-
Electrical machinery & equipment	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	213.1	415990.7
Works of art, collections & antiques	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-12.3	173.5
Tanning or dyeing extracts	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Used personal effects	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	58.9	-70.8
Salt & sulphur	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	80900.0
Other	0	0.0	30	1.5	0	0.0	-59.3	-99.8
Total	**1,330**	**100.0**	**2,015**	**100.0**	**7,408**	**100.0**	**-82.0**	**-34.0**

Table 11: Import products from Key markets

South Africa								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Vehicles	1,593	14.2	1,698	12.6	1,941	15.8	-18.0	-6.2
Boilers	1,275	11.3	1,375	10.2	1,357	11.0	-6.0	-7.3
Electrical machinery & equipment	778	6.9	841	6.2	701	5.7	10.9	-7.5
Mineral fuels & oils	521	4.6	418	3.1	790	6.4	-34.1	24.6
Articles of iron or steel	439	3.9	546	4.0	550	4.5	-20.1	-19.6
Plastics & articles thereof	341	3.0	481	3.6	363	2.9	-5.9	-29.1
Beverages (incl alcoholic)	339	3.0	587	4.3	376	3.1	-9.7	-42.2
Pharmaceutical products	325	2.9	341	2.5	371	3.0	-12.3	-4.7
Sugar & sugar confectionery	280	2.5	318	2.4	270	2.2	3.8	-11.9
Optical & photographic instruments thereof	271	2.4	227	1.7	230	1.9	17.9	19.1
Other	5,075	45.2	6,672	49.4	5,364	43.6	-5.4	-23.9
Total	**11,238**	**100.0**	**13,505**	**100.0**	**12,312**	**100.0**	**-8.7**	**-16.8**

Botswana								
Commodities	q4-2016		q3-2016		q4-2015		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Diamonds	1,814	96.4	1,292	92.2	1,473	90.8	23.1	40.4
Electrical machinery & equipment	21	1.1	29	2.1	20	1.2	7.0	-27.3
Vehicles	13	0.7	28	2.0	33	2.0	-60.4	-54.4
Mineral fuels & oils	6	0.3	4	0.3	6	0.4	1.0	67.8
Boilers	6	0.3	9	0.7	20	1.2	-70.7	-35.8
Paper or paperboard, etc	5	0.3	2	0.1	2	0.1	175.0	251.0
Plastics & articles thereof	2	0.1	2	0.1	5	0.3	-58.5	16.3
Vessels	2	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1598763.0	1999.1
Rubber & articles thereof	1	0.1	1	0.1	6	0.3	-74.9	52.0
Iron & steel	1	0.1	1	0.0	1	0.0	69.4	116.4
Other	10	0.5	34	2.4	57	3.5	-81.9	-69.4
Total	**1882**	**100.0**	**1401**	**100.0**	**1622**	**100.0**	**16.1**	**34.3**

Zambia								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Copper cathodes	963	97.2	895	94.1	966	94.8	-0.3	7.6
Animal fodder	18	1.8	20	2.1	21	2.1	-15.8	-13.1
Electrical machinery & equipment	3	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	2010.1	121282.4
Explosives	2	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Sugar & sugar confectionery	2	0.2	3	0.3	2	0.2	-15.5	-40.5
Wood & articles	1	0.1	2	0.2	0	0.0	171.7	-55.4
Salt & sulphur	1	0.1	0	0.1	1	0.1	10.5	47.8
Optical & photographic instruments	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	28065.3	11110.9
Used personal effects	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3449.6	-5.1
Organic chemicals	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1325.3 -	
Other	1	0.1	30	3.2	29	2.8	-96.0	-96.2
Total	**991**	**100.0**	**951**	**100.0**	**1,019**	**100.0**	**-2.7**	**4.2**

China								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Vehicles	285	30.3	40	4.6	37	5.6	676.8	618.6
Articles of iron or steel	146	15.5	55	6.4	76	11.7	91.9	162.9
Boilers	107	11.4	148	17.2	82	12.6	30.4	-27.8
Electrical machinery & equipment	100	10.6	88	10.2	47	7.2	113.1	13.6
Iron & steel	55	5.8	37	4.3	104	16.0	-47.2	48.1
Cereals	53	5.6	9	1.1	0	0.1	13657.4	458.4
Inorganic chemicals	28	2.9	36	4.2	58	8.9	-52.2	-23.8
Furniture & beddings	16	1.7	10	1.2	26	4.0	-39.7	50.4
Optical & photographic instrumentsthereof	13	1.3	11	1.3	14	2.2	-12.2	15.9
Paper or paperboard, etc	12	1.3	9	1.0	3	0.5	264.7	32.4
Other	127	13.5	418	48.5	204	31.4	-37.9	-69.6
Total	**939**	**100.0**	**861**	**100.0**	**651**	**100.0**	**44.3**	**9.0**

Bulgaria								
Commodities	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Copper ores	655	98.0	0	0.0	228	95.9	187.2	-
Inorganic chemicals	11	1.7	4	98.0	5	1.9	145.0	167.5
Electrical machinery & equipment	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.4	-7.1	-
Toys, games & sports requisites	1	0.1	0	0.6	0	0.0	-	2486.2
Vehicles	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Boilers	0	0.0	0	0.9	4	1.7	-99.1	-0.6
Articles of apparel & clothing accessories	0	0.0	0	0.2	0	0.0	-	61.1
Plastics & articles thereof	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
preparation of vegetables, fruits,etc.	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-55.4	-
Articles of apparel & clothing accessories	0	0.0	0	0.1	0	0.0	-	28.2
Other	0	0.0	0	0.4	0	0.0	-97.8	-86.3
Total	**669**	**100.0**	**4**	**100.0**	**238**	**100.0**	**181.1**	**15403.3**

Table 12: Key Exports by partner

Diamonds								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
EPZ	1,744	29.7	1,008	15.5	826	15.7	111.3	73.1
Botswana	1,491	25.4	2,296	35.4	2,546	48.3	-41.4	-35.1
South Africa	948	16.1	1,234	19.0	1,029	19.5	-7.9	-23.1
United Arab Emirates	679	11.5	627	9.7	0	0.0 -		8.3
Belgium	557	9.5	597	9.2	340	6.5	63.7	-6.7
USA	223	3.8	272	4.2	142	2.7	57.6	-17.9
Israel	128	2.2	134	2.1	43	0.8	196.5	-3.9
India	85	1.4	121	1.9	60	1.1	42.2	-30.2
Switzerland	22	0.4	146	2.2	282	5.4	-92.1	-84.6
China	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	101247.3	-88.4
Other	0	0.0	58	0.9	1	0.0	-99.0	-100.0
Total	**5,878**	**100.0**	**6,493**	**100.0**	**5,270**	**100.0**	**11.5**	**-9.5**

Fish								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Spain	712	29.2	533	29.9	658	30.0	8.2	33.7
DRC	425	17.4	178	10.0	323	14.7	31.5	138.5
South Africa	339	13.9	190	10.7	261	11.9	30.2	78.7
Zambia	197	8.1	235	13.2	247	11.3	-20.1	-16.1
Italy	139	5.7	62	3.5	145	6.6	-4.1	123.4
Portugal	118	4.9	193	10.8	108	4.9	10.1	-38.7
Mozambique	113	4.6	163	9.1	126	5.8	-10.6	-30.5
France	86	3.5	46	2.6	63	2.9	35.4	85.8
Germany	62	2.5	47	2.6	41	1.9	52.1	32.9
Netherlands	56	2.3	22	1.2	30	1.4	82.8	153.0
Other	194	7.9	114	6.4	190	8.7	2.3	70.9
Total	**2,442**	**100.0**	**1,782**	**100.0**	**2,192**	**100.0**	**11.4**	**37.0**

Vessels								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Norway	1,703	81.6	0	0.0	2,186	81.6	-22.1	-
Iceland	366	17.5	0	0.0	0	17.5	-	-
Ireland	11	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.6	-	-
Angola	3	0.2	0	0.1	0	0.2	-	4400.1
Botswana	2	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.1	-	-
South Africa	1	0.0	1	0.8	12	0.0	-92.9	8.2
USA	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-0.4	-5.9
Netherlands	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Antigua and Barbuda	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Russia Federation	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	0	0.0	102	99.1	296	0.0	-100.0	-100.0
Total	**2,087**	**100.0**	**102**	**100.0**	**2,494**	**100.0**	**-16.3**	**1937.2**

Copper ores								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Switzerland	568	34.5	835	46.9	5,940	85.1	-90.4	-32.0
France	509	30.9	263	14.8	315	4.5	61.7	93.4
China	326	19.8	246	13.8	0	0.0	2171604276.1	32.4
Canada	238	14.4	214	12.0	355	5.1	-33.0	10.9
Singapore	6	0.4	6	0.3	2	0.0	254.1	3.6
South Africa	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	97.2	2875.1
Angola	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	148.5
UK	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	581.6	577.3
Netherlands	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-77.0	-76.6
Andorra	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	0	0.0	217	12.2	364	5.2	-100.0	-100.0
Total	**1,648**	**100.0**	**1,782**	**100.0**	**6,977**	**100.0**	**-76.4**	**-7.5**

Copper cathodes								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Switzerland	734	71.1	996	82.0	1,184	69.2	-38.0	-26.3
Italy	243	23.5	91	7.5	220	12.9	10.2	166.1
Germany	41	4.0	80	6.6	44	2.6	-6.8	-48.5
South Africa	14	1.4	11	0.9	11	0.6	28.6	25.2
Angola	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	244.4	-55.7
Panama	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Andorra	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
United Arab Emirates	0	0.0	0	0.0	17	1.0	-100.0	-100.0
Antigua and Barbuda	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Anguilla	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	0	0.0	36	2.9	235	13.7	-100.0	-100.0
Total	**1,032**	**100.0**	**1,214**	**100.0**	**1,711**	**100.0**	**-39.7**	**-15.0**

Table 13: Key Re-exports by partner

Diamonds								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Belgium	557	38.6	519	36.1	340	39.1	21578.8	7.2
United Arab Emirates	302	20.9	73	5.1	0	0.0	30095.8	311.5
USA	223	15.5	272	18.9	142	16.3	8065.8	-17.9
Israel	128	8.9	134	9.3	43	5.0	8404.6	-3.9
India	85	5.9	121	8.4	60	6.8	2413.1	-30.2
EPZ	71	4.9	31	2.2	0	0.0	6996.5	128.2
South Africa	31	2.2	5	0.3	0	0.0	3044.3	589.3
Botswana	23	1.6	81	5.6	4	0.4	1853.1	-71.3
Switzerland	22	1.6	146	10.1	282	32.4	-26077.8	-84.6
Angola	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	-99.5	-99.0
Other	0	0.0	58	4.0	0	0.0	-100.0	-100.0
Total	**1,443**	**100.0**	**1,440**	**100.0**	**871**	**100.0**	**57174.9**	**0.2**

Vessels								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Norway	1,703	81.6	0	0.0	2,186	87.7	-22.1	-
Iceland	366	17.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Ireland	11	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Angola	3	0.2	0	0.1	0	0.0	-	4400.1
Botswana	2	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
South Africa	0	0.0	1	0.5	11	0.5	-95.8	-12.0
USA	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-5.9
Netherlands	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Antigua and Barbuda	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Russia Federation	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	0	0.0	102	99.3	296	11.9	-100.0	-100.0
Total	**2,087**	**100.0**	**102**	**100.0**	**2,493**	**100.0**	**-16.3**	**1941.5**

Copper ores								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Switzerland	568	100.0	835	100.0	5,940	100.0	-90.4	-32.0
Angola	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	42070.0
South Africa	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Andorra	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
United Arab Emirates	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Antigua and Barbuda	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Anguilla	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Albania	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Argentina	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Austria	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Total	**569**	**100.0**	**835**	**100.0**	**5,940**	**100.0**	**-90.4**	**-31.9**

Copper cathodes								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Switzerland	734	99.8	996	98.4	1,184	98.3	-38.0	-26.3
South Africa	1	0.2	2	0.2	0	0.0	219413.2	-39.1
Angola	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	285.6	-55.7
Andorra	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
United Arab Emirates	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Antigua and Barbuda	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Anguilla	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Albania	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Argentina	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Austria	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	0	0.0	14	1.3	21	1.7	-100.0	-100.0
Total	**736**	**100.0**	**1,012**	**100.0**	**1,205**	**100.0**	**-39.0**	**-27.3**

Mineral fuels & oils								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
South Africa	505	90.1	2	2.8	0	1.7	5711461.8	27276.8
Botswana	50	8.9	60	90.9	0	0.0	-	-16.1
Angola	3	0.6	3	3.9	0	41.9	1348.8	20.3
DRC	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	56.0	257.7	-
Hong Kong	0	0.1	1	1.0	0	0.0	-	-37.1
Zimbabwe	0	0.1	0	0.7	0	0.0	-	-7.6
Greece	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Liberia	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
UK	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Switzerland	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.4	-99.5	-
Other	0	0.0	0	0.6	0	0.0	-	-100.0
Total	**561**	**100.0**	**65**	**100.0**	**1**	**100.0**	**109900.9**	**756.4**

Table 14: Key Imports by partner

Diamonds								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
Botswana	1,814	85.7	1,292	74.6	1,473	81.0	23.1	40.4
EPZ	233	11.0	346	20.0	221	12.1	5.6	-32.6
Imported from various countries	34	1.6	24	1.4	62	3.4	-45.8	42.1
South Africa	26	1.2	54	3.1	44	2.4	-41.2	-51.4
Belgium	4	0.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	-	192.9
Russia Federation	2	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.1	24.2	-
Israel	2	0.1	5	0.3	4	0.2	-52.7	-66.0
Canada	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	96628.9	-
USA	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	162.7	347.0
China	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-69.6	-72.4
Other	0	0.0	10	0.6	13	0.7	-98.6	-98.2
Total	**2,116**	**100.0**	**1,732**	**100.0**	**1,819**	**100.0**	**16.3**	**22.1**

Mineral fuels & oils								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
South Africa	521	25.3	418	18.5	790	23.0	-34.1	24.6
United Arab Emirates	422	20.6	285	12.6	173	5.0	144.8	48.3
Italy	345	16.8	163	7.2	287	8.3	20.1	111.7
Portugal	260	12.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Switzerland	244	11.9	82	3.7	34	1.0	625.9	197.0
Togo	85	4.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	553753104.4	-
Oman	49	2.4	154	6.8	133	3.9	-63.1	-68.2
Germany	33	1.6	2	0.1	0	0.0	20727.2 1493.6	-
Bahamas	22	1.1	0	0.0	271	7.9	-91.8 -	-
Bahrain	18	0.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
Other	57	2.8	1,150	51.0	1,751	50.9	-96.8	-95.1
Total	**2,055**	**100.0**	**2,254**	**100.0**	**3,439**	**100.0**	**-40.2**	**-8.8**

Vehicles								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
South Africa	1,593	74.0	1,698	90.0	1,941	87.9	-18.0	-6.2
China	285	13.2	40	2.1	37	1.7	676.8	618.6
Germany	133	6.2	7	0.4	21	0.9	545.7	1809.8
Japan	52	2.4	76	4.0	23	1.0	123.1	-32.0
UK	27	1.3	3	0.2	20	0.9	33.5	783.4
Botswana	13	0.6	28	1.5	33	1.5	-60.4	-54.4
Portugal	10	0.5	4	0.2	0	0.0	-	181.1
USA	8	0.4	5	0.3	4	0.2	115.1	42.6
India	7	0.3	3	0.2	101	4.6	-93.5	130.1
Mozambique	4	0.2	1	0.0	0	0.0	-	436.4
Other	22	1.0	22	1.2	29	1.3	-26.3	-1.2
Total	**2,153**	**100.0**	**1,886**	**100.0**	**2,209**	**100.0**	**-2.5**	**14.1**

Boilers								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
South Africa	1,275	72.1	1,375	70.0	1,357	69.5	-6.0	-7.3
China	107	6.0	148	7.5	82	4.2	30.4	-27.8
UK	59	3.3	20	1.0	43	2.2	35.3	189.3
USA	53	3.0	141	7.2	144	7.4	-63.2	-62.2
France	47	2.7	6	0.3	7	0.4	583.9	647.5
Germany	39	2.2	56	2.9	81	4.1	-52.4	-31.4
Belgium	30	1.7	17	0.9	10	0.5	203.7	77.1
BRAZIL	23	1.3	1	0.0	6	0.3	268.1	2432.5
Spain	19	1.1	18	0.9	22	1.1	-11.7	5.2
Italy	16	0.9	16	0.8	35	1.8	-54.8	0.3
Other	102	5.7	166	8.4	166	8.5	-38.7	-38.7
Total	1,770	100.0	1,965	100.0	1,953	100.0	-9.4	-9.9

Electrical machinery & equipment								
Partner	q1-2017		q4-2016		q1-2016		%Δy/y	%Δq/q
	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share	Value (N$ m)	% share		
South Africa	778	71.5	841	72.8	701	61.4	10.9	-7.5
Botswana	100	9.2	88	7.6	47	4.1	113.1	13.6
Angola	37	3.4	103	8.9	96	8.4	-61.7	-64.1
DRC	28	2.6	14	1.2	53	4.6	-46.8	96.9
Hong Kong	23	2.1	1	0.1	2	0.2	1128.8	3095.3
Zimbabwe	21	2.0	29	2.5	20	1.7	7.0	-27.3
Greece	14	1.2	11	1.0	11	1.0	23.9	20.2
Liberia	13	1.2	5	0.4	3	0.3	277.1	174.3
UK	10	0.9	2	0.2	1	0.1	828.2	461.1
Switzerland	10	0.9	1	0.1	2	0.1	475.3	738.6
Other	55	5.1	61	5.3	206	18.0	-73.2	-8.9
Total	**1,088**	**100.0**	**1,156**	**100.0**	**1,142**	**100.0**	**-4.7**	**-5.9**

Table 15: Trade by office

Border Post / Office	q1-2017				q4-2016				q1-2016			
	Export		Import		Export		Import		Export		Import	
	Value (N$ m)	% Share	Value (N$ m)	% Share	Value (N$ m)	% Share	Value (N$ m)	% Share	Value (N$ m)	% Share	Value (N$ m)	% Share
Ariamsvlei	823	4.9	3,969	19.8	595	3.9	4,581	17.2	756	3.4	4,105	18.3
Eros Airport	1,510	8.9	1,105	5.5	2,329	15.4	687	2.6	2,725	12.4	1,088	4.9
F. P. Du Toit	0	0.0	801	4.0	0	0.0	636	2.4	0	0.0	682	3.0
Gobabis	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Grootfontein	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Chief Hosea Kutako Intl Airport	2,769	16.4	628	3.1	3,294	21.7	575	2.2	1,830	8.3	628	2.8
Impalila Island	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	5	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
Katima Mulilo	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
Katwitwi	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0
Keetmanshoop	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	12	0.0	0	0.0	21	0.1
Luderitz	939	5.6	287	1.4	923	6.1	2,678	10.1	882	4.0	314	1.4
Klein Manase	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Mohembo	3	0.0	29	0.1	8	0.0	48	0.2	5	0.0	29	0.1
Ngoma	66	0.4	96	0.5	74	0.5	117	0.4	107	0.5	86	0.4
Noordoewer	447	2.6	1,985	9.9	825	5.4	2,556	9.6	425	1.9	2,086	9.3
Omahenene	30	0.2	0	0.0	16	0.1	1	0.0	5	0.0	0	0.0
Ondangwa	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
Oranjemund	15	0.1	199	1.0	20	0.1	190	0.7	16	0.1	191	0.9
Oshakati	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	22	0.1	0	0.0	36	0.2
Oshikango	172	1.0	22	0.1	180	1.2	4	0.0	138	0.6	9	0.0
Otjiwarongo	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
Ruacana	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Rundu	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.0	1	0.0
Trans Kalahari	1,264	7.5	3,636	18.1	737	4.9	5,005	18.8	821	3.7	4,174	18.6
Tsumeb	2	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0	13	0.0	1	0.0	40	0.2
International Airport-Windhoek	0	0.0	3	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.0	0	0.0	9	0.0
Walvis Bay	6,537	38.7	5,248	26.1	4,544	30.0	7,308	27.5	12,865	58.6	6,788	30.3
Wenela	583	3.5	999	5.0	616	4.1	958	3.6	556	2.5	1,123	5.0
Windhoek Regional Warehouse Office	1,744	10.3	1,065	5.3	1,008	6.6	1,097	4.1	826	3.8	812	3.6
Windhoek Regional Office	0	0.0	14	0.1	0	0.0	53	0.2	0	0.0	110	0.5
Windhoek Regional Excise Office	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	36	0.1	0	0.0	72	0.3
Total	**16,905**	**100.0**	**20,089**	**100.0**	**15,171**	**100.0**	**26,591**	**100.0**	**21,963**	**100.0**	**22,411**	**100.0**

Quarterly Trade

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