

COMMENTARY

Trend in April 2010

Month-on-month comparison:

- **Exports:** export prices increased by 0.5% in April (-1.0% in March). The growth of the total m-o-m export price index came mainly from a 11.3% price increase in 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials'. Price growths were recorded also for 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' by 7.5%, 'chemicals and related products' by 1.6% and 'manufactured goods, classified chiefly by material' by 0.9%. Among important sections price drops were registered in 'machinery and transport equipment' by 0.7%, 'food and live animals' by 0.4% and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' by 0.2%.
- **Imports:** import prices increased by 0.6% (-0.1% in March). Increase of the total m-o-m import price index was driven mainly by a 4.3% growth in prices of 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials'. Price growths were registered also in 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' by 1.3%, 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' by 1.1%, 'chemicals and related products' by 0.4% and 'food and live animals' by 0.1%. Among important sections, there were price drops in 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' by 0.9% and 'machinery and transport equipment' by 0.1%.
- The **terms of trade** figures slightly increased to 99.9% (99.1% in March), however for the sixth successive month remained in negative values. Negative values of the terms of trade figures were recorded for 'machinery and transport equipment' (99.4%), 'food and live animals' (99.5%) and 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (99.8%). On the contrary, among important section positive values of the terms of trade were registered in 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials' (106.7%), 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels', (106.1%), 'chemicals and related products' (101.2%) and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (100.7%).

Year-on-year comparison:

- **Exports:** export prices were decreasing for the ninth month, this time by 3.1 % (5.4% in March), especially due to strengthening of the koruna against euro and dollar. The drop of the total y-o-y export price index was mainly affected by a 5.0% price decrease in 'machinery and transport equipment'. More significant price drops were recorded in 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' by 6.3%, 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' by 4.7% and 'food and live animals' by 4.3%. More marked price growths were reported only for 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' by 38.2%, 'chemicals and related products' by 8.6% and 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials' by 6.0%.
- **Imports:** import prices decreased by 0.4% (2.6% in March). The decrease of the total y-o-y import price index came mainly from a 3.2% price drop in 'machinery and transport equipment'. Among important sections price drops were also recorded in 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' by 13.2%, 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' by 6.0% and 'chemicals and related products' by 1.6%. Price increase was observed only in 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials' by 25.9%.
- The **terms of trade** figures slightly increased at 97.3% in April (97.1% in March) and for the fifth month they remained in negative values. Negative values of the terms of trade figures recorded 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials' (84.2%), 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (94.9%), 'food and live animals' (97.2%) and 'machinery and transport equipment' (98.1%). Among sections important in terms of weight, positive values of the terms of trade figures reached 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' (159.2%), 'chemicals and related products' (110.4%) and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (101.4%).