

Commentary

Trend in January 2019

Month-on-month comparison

- **Exports:** export prices decreased by 0.3%, month-on-month (m-o-m) in January 2019. The trend in the monthly export price index was essentially affected by a decline in prices of 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' by 0.9%. Prices also fell in 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' by 2.9%, 'chemicals and related products' and 'machinery and transport equipment' by 1.2% and 0.3%, respectively. Prices in 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' increased by 5.3%, especially in electricity prices.
- **Imports:** import prices fell by 0.6%, m-o-m, in January 2019. The greatest effect on an overall decline in the monthly import price index was brought mainly by a decrease in 'machinery and transport equipment' by 0.8%. Prices in 'chemicals and related products' and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' decreased by 1.0% and 0.5%, respectively. The only prices that grew were those of 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' by 1.1%.
- The **terms of trade** increased to reach the value of 100.3%. Positive values of the terms of trade were reached in 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' (104.2%), 'machinery and transport equipment' (100.5%), and in 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (100.3%). Conversely, negative values of the terms of trade were reached in 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' (97.6%), and 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (99.4%).

Year-on-year comparison

- **Exports:** export prices grew by 2.8%, year-on-year (y-o-y) (in December 2018 they increased by 3.1%). An increase in the prices of 'machinery and transport equipment' by 1.7% exerted a significant effect on the development in the annual export price index. Highest price increases were recorded in the group of 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' by 12.9%, especially in electricity prices, in 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' by 4.4%, and in 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' by 4.1%. Prices decreased only in 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' by 1.2%.
- **Imports:** import prices increased by 2.4%, y-o-y (they also rose by 2.4% in December 2018). A growth in prices for 'machinery and transport equipment' by 2.2% had the strongest effect on the growth of the annual import price index. The biggest price growth was recorded in 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' by 7.6%, especially in electricity prices. Prices in 'chemicals and related products' and in 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' grew by 4.5% and 1.6%, respectively. Prices fell in 'food and live animals' by 0.7%.
- The **terms of trade** decreased to the value of 100.4% (they increased at 100.7% in December 2018) but they stayed in positive values for the second month. Positive values of the terms of trade were recorded for 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' (104.9%), 'food and live animals' (104.7%), and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (103.1%). Out of the important groups of goods negative values of the terms of trade were reached especially for 'chemicals and related products' (96.2%), and for 'machinery and transport equipment' (99.5%).