

## COMMENTARY

### Trend in October 2012

#### Month-on-month comparison:

- **Exports:** export prices increased by 0.5% in October (-0.9% in September). The change of the total m-o-m export price index was driven mainly by a 0.6% price growth in 'machinery and transport equipment'. Among important sections, prices rose in 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (+1.4%), 'food and live animals' (+1.3%), 'chemicals and related products' (+1.0%) and 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (+0.5%). Prices decreased in 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials' (-0.7%) and 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' (-0.5%).
- **Imports:** import prices increased by 0.3% (-1.3% in September). The change of the total m-o-m import price index was driven mainly by a 0.6% price growth in 'machinery and transport equipment'. Significant growth was recorded in 'chemicals and related products' (+1.0%), 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (+0.6%) and 'food and live animals' (+0.5%). Prices in 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' and 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related material' fell 1.0% and 0.8%, respectively.
- The **terms of trade** figures reached 100.2% (100.4% in September). Positive values of the terms of trade figures, among important sections, were recorded in 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (101.3%) and 'food and live animals' (100.8%). Terms of trade figures of 'machinery and transport equipment' and 'chemicals and related products' stood at 100.0%. Negative values of the terms of trade figures reached 'beverages and tobacco' (98.8%) and 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (99.9%).

#### Year-on-year comparison:

- **Exports:** export prices increased by 1.3% (+1.4% in September). The change of the total y-o-y export price index was driven mainly by a 1.3% price growth in 'machinery and transport equipment'. Among important sections, price growth was registered in 'chemicals and related products' (+3.7%) 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (+2.6%), and 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (+0.4%). Significant price drop was recorded in 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials' (-4.6%).
- **Imports:** import prices moderated their growth rate, however they increased by 2.2% (+2.8% in September). Change of the total y-o-y import price index came mainly from a 8.6% price growth in 'mineral fuels, lubricant and related products' (+11.7% in September). Among important sections, prices were rising in 'chemicals and related products' (+3.1%), 'machinery and transport equipment' (+1.5%) and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (+0.2%). Price drop was registered only in 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' (-6.6%).
- The **terms of trade** rose to 99.1% (98.6% in September) and they have stayed in negative values for the thirty-fifth straight month. Among important sections, negative values of the terms of trade figures reached 'mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials' (87.8%), 'food and live animals' (98.3%) and 'machinery and transport equipment' (99.8%). Positive values of the terms of trade figures, among important sections, reached 'crude material, inedible, except fuel' (113.4%), 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (102.6%) and 'chemicals and related products' (100.6%).

Czech Statistical Office has been preparing **a revision of external trade price indices**.

From January 2013, export and import price indices will be calculated using new weighting scheme based upon External trade statistics data from year 2010 and implementing new price base 2010 average = 100. New indices will be chained to existent time series (2005 average = 100) thus enabling continuation of current time series. Hitherto published indices will not be revised.