

## الجزء الأول

خلاصة إحصاءات التجارة الخارجية لبلدان اللجنة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لغربي آسيا

## Part I

**Summary of the external trade statistics of ESCWA member countries**





cent during 2011, followed by Saudi Arabia with 23.1 per cent, United Arab Emirates 22.8 per cent and Oman 19.4 per cent. Imports of the Syrian Arab Republic, Sudan and Qatar decreased by 22.2, 5.7 and 3.9 per cent respectively during 2011 as shown in table (1-4).

As for the region's groupings, the share of the ESCWA region's main oil producing countries (Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates) amounted to 91.3 per cent of the region's total exports in 2011 compared to the ratio of 73.0 per cent in total imports. The main oil producing countries continued to enjoy balance of payments surpluses during 2011 that reached US\$517 billion compared to US\$ 298 billion during 2010. The region's more diversified economies on the other hand did not produce any balance of payments surpluses due to their chronic trade deficits such as Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen as shown in table (1-4).

Table (1-3) presents selective indicators of international trade for the ESCWA member countries. It shows the high dependence of the majority of member countries on international trade to their economies. The main oil producing countries exhibit the highest ratios of dependency especially the ratios of international trade to GDP in comparison with the rest of the ESCWA more diversified economies. Generally speaking, the ratio of imports to GDP reaches the lowest of 13 per cent to a high of 64 per cent in Qatar and United Arab Emirates respectively, while the ratio of exports to GDP fluctuates between 61 and 78 per cent in Iraq and United Arab Emirates stipulating that around two thirds of GDP in this group of countries goes to exports. The rest of ESCWA more diversified economies exhibit far lower exports to GDP ratios that reached lowest level of 8 per cent in Palestine and highest of 27 per cent in Jordan. Sudan recorded the lowest ratio of imports to GDP 14 per cent while Jordan recorded the highest ratio of 65 per cent during 2011 as shown in table (1-3).

	2010	2011	
22.8	28.5	23.1	
	19.4		
3.9	5.7	22.2	
		(4-1)	
	91.3		
	73.0		
		2011	
517	2011		
	2010	298	
		(3-1)	
	64	13	
	78	61	
	8		
		27	
	14		
	2011	65	
			(3-1)