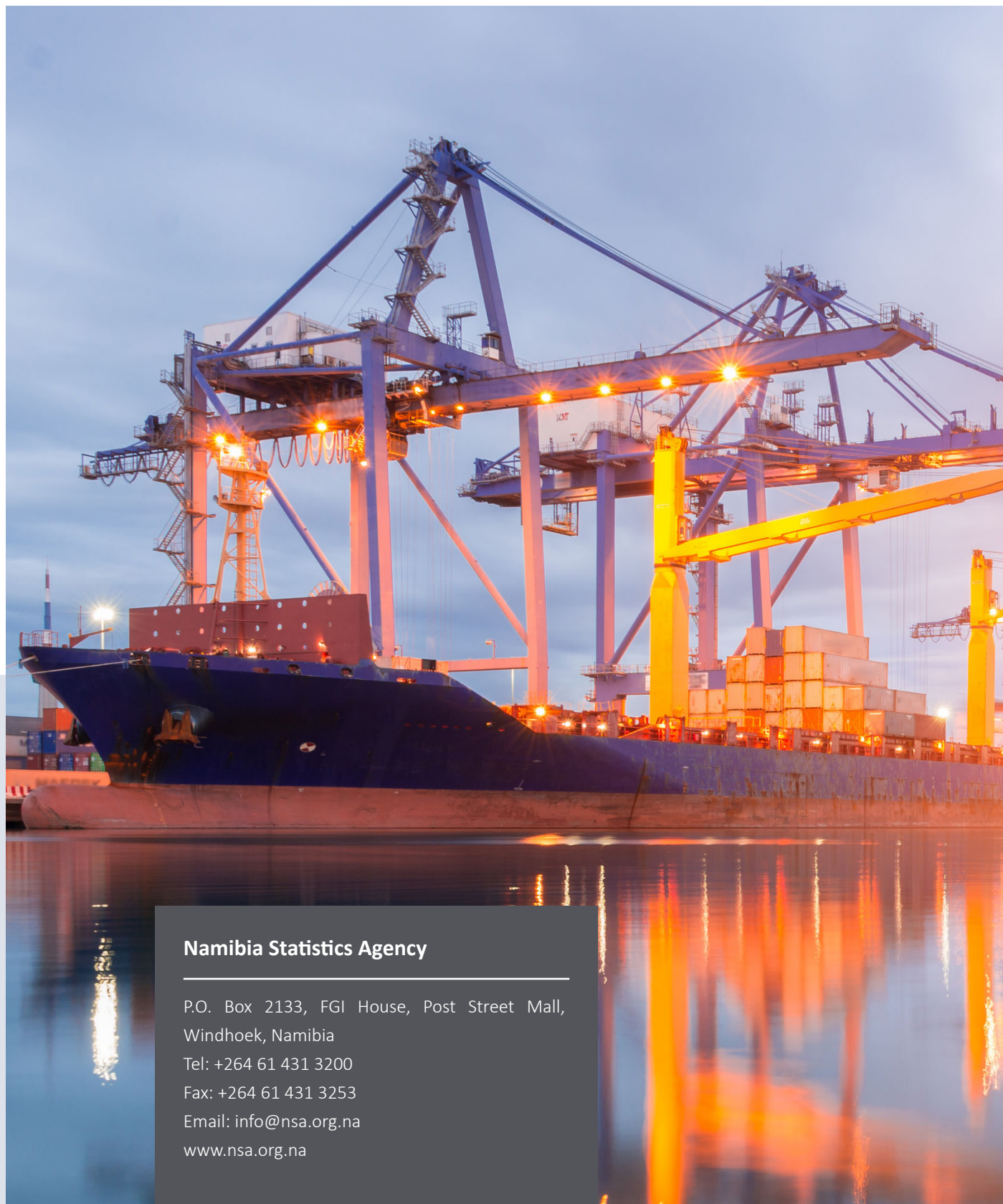


Annual Trade

Statistics Bulletin 2016



Namibia Statistics Agency

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Mission Statement

“In a coordinated manner we produce and disseminate relevant, quality and timely statistics that are fit-for-purpose in accordance with international standards and best practice”



Vision Statement

“Be a high performance institution in statistics delivery”

Core Values

Performance
Integrity
Service focus
Transparency
Accuracy
Partnership



Preface

Foreign trade statistics play an important role in Namibia's economy as it measures values and quantities of goods that are moving into or out of a country, add or subtract from a nation's material stock of goods. Foreign trade statistics are essential for the formulation of monetary, fiscal, commercial and regional integration policies. More importantly, in the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), reliable import statistics are crucial when it comes to revenue sharing among member states.



"Since 1990, positive developments have taken place, both in the particulars recorded and the methods of recording."

Namibia's International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) follows the general trade system of recording and reporting due to its statistics territory coinciding with its economic territory. General imports and exports are flows of goods entering/leaving the statistics territory and include the following:

General imports consist of:

- a. Imports of foreign goods (including compensating products after outward processing which changed their origin from domestic to foreign) entering the free circulation area, premises for inward processing, industrial free zones, premises for customs warehousing or commercial free zones;
- b. Re-imports of domestic goods into the free circulation area, premises for inward processing or industrial free zones, premises for customs warehousing or commercial free zones.

General exports consist of:

- c. Exports of domestic goods (including compensating products after inward processing which changed their origin from foreign to domestic) from any part of the statistics territory, including free zones and customs warehouses;

- b. Re-exports of foreign goods from any part of the statistical territory including free zones and customs warehouses

Since Namibia's independence, government policy has been to develop, promote and diversify the country's exports as well as reducing its reliance on foreign goods. It also helped to expand and consolidate market shares of existing markets and penetrate new markets. Prior to independence, trade flow between Namibia and the rest of the world was not independently recorded.

Since 1990, positive developments have taken place, both in the particulars recorded and the methods of recording. Computerization of procedures at the Directorate of Customs and Excise in the Ministry of Finance continues to enhance the timely dissemination and analysis of trade statistics through prompt transfer of captured trade data at Customs to the NSA. This bulletin presents the annual trade statistics for the year 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. This report presents a summary of trade statistics in terms of imports and exports of merchandise during the year 2016.

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

The basic information for the compilation of trade statistics is collected and captured based on import/export declarations made by traders.



Key developments

Revisions

Revisions to trade data are made every month. This occurs when a new monthly data file is uploaded into the database with additional information from previous months.

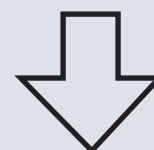
In some months, revisions are negligible while in others they are significant. Table 1 shows revisions made to 2015 data after more complete data became available.

Table 1: 2015 Annual revisions

Flow	Value (N\$ m)		
	Revised 2015	As reported in 2015	Difference
Export Import	5 8,587	58,362	225
Trade balance	98,204	97,558	646
Trade balance	-39,617	-39,196	-421

Total exports and imports for the year 2015 were revised slightly upward from N\$58,362 million to N\$58,587 million, and from N\$97,558 million to N\$98,204 million, respectively.

These revisions led to the deficit widening to N\$39,617 million, from N\$39,196 million reported earlier, representing a 1.07 percent growth.



Exports revenue grew by

20.9 %

Trade balance

Namibia continued to record an unfavorable trade balance, with 2016 recording a deficit amounting to N\$29,817 million, an indication that in 2016, the country has spent N\$29,817 million more on buying goods from the rest of the world, than what it received from selling goods to the rest of the world. However, the deficit recorded in 2016 dropped by 24.7 percent, that was the largest six-year drop since the deficit declined by 25.1 percent between 2009 and 2010.

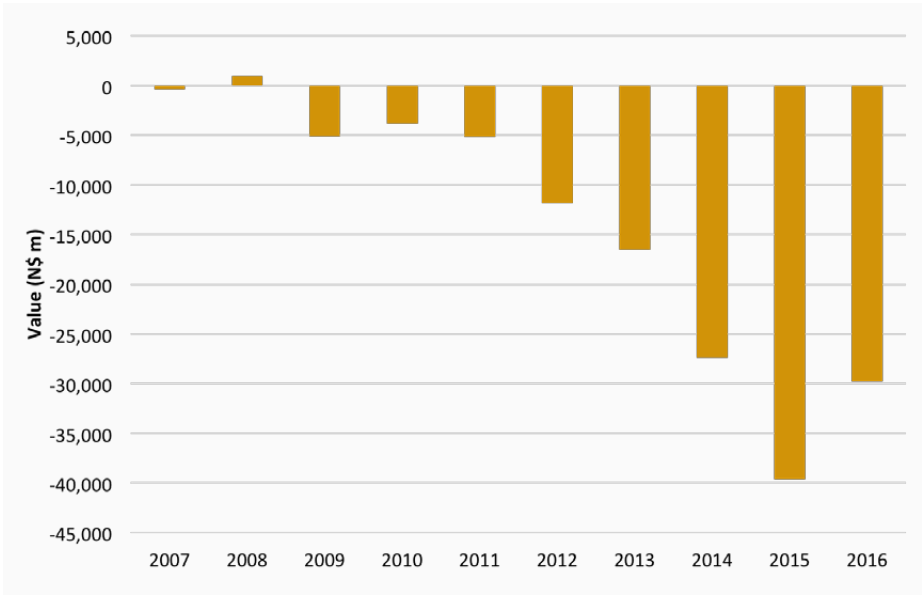
The N\$29,817 million deficit was N\$9,800 million lower, when compared to a revised figure of last year in which the deficit was estimated to be N\$39,617 million, which was the largest deficit recorded in the past ten years since 2007, (Chart 1).

The narrowing deficit can be attributed to a larger growth in exports compared to imports. Exports revenue grew by 20.9 percent while expenditure on imports grew only by 2.5 percent, however, the growth in exports was not sufficient to offset the deficit.

The growth in exports was attributed to diamonds, copper ores and fish while diamonds, vessels and fodder were responsible for the slight growth in overall imports.

Namibia’s trade balance averaged to a deficit of N\$13,871 million from 2007 till 2016, reaching a ten-year high with a surplus of N\$997 million recorded in 2008 and a record low with a deficit of N\$39,617 million registered in the preceding year.

Chart 1: Trade balance; 2007 to 2016



In 2016, the largest deficits were recorded with South Africa (N\$47,770 million), Bahamas (N\$2,304 million), India (N\$1,827 million) and Turkey (N\$1,293 million) and the biggest trade surpluses were registered with Switzerland (N\$12,578 million), Botswana (N\$3,318 million), Spain (N\$2,539 million), Belgium (N\$1,865 million) and France (N\$1,574 million).

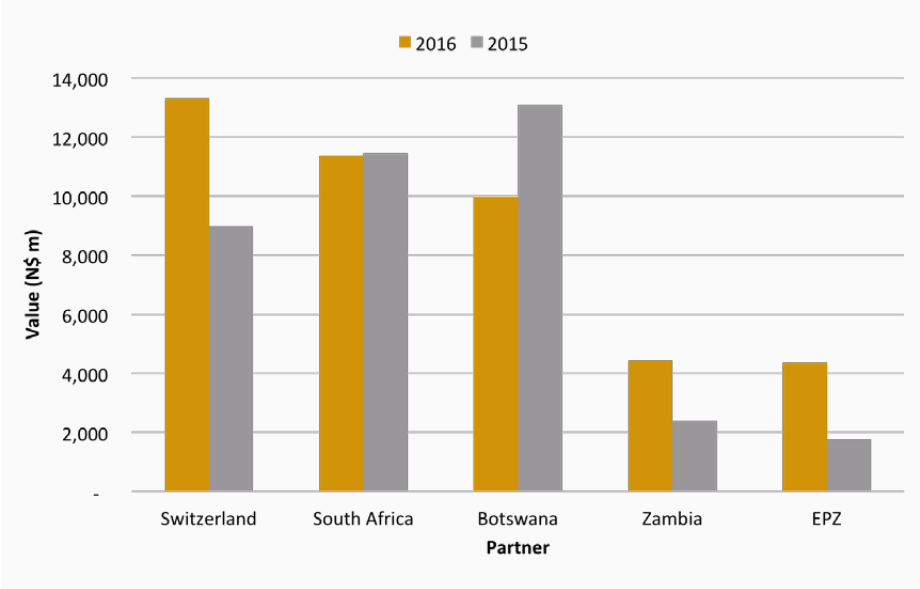
Exports to key markets

Namibia’s export market was dominated by Switzerland, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia and the Export Processing Zone (Chart 2) which absorbed N\$43,447 million of total domestic exports amounting to N\$70,854 million. Export revenue derived from these markets increased to N\$43,447 million during the period under review, from N\$37,617 million observed a year earlier emanating in an increase of 15.5 percent. In addition, these markets alone accounted for 61.3 percent share of Namibia’s total export earnings, down from 64.2 percent recorded a year ago.

The growth in exports from the aforesaid markets was mainly reflected in the value of exports to Switzerland, moving that country two places up to occupy the first position as Namibia’s export destination. Switzerland absorbed N\$13,321 million of Namibia’s overall export, which translates to 48.7 percent growth, up from N\$8,957 million obtained a year earlier. The strongest growth in exports to Switzerland was reflected in the value of copper ores rising to N\$8,103 million, up from N\$949 million.

Exports of diamonds and tobacco to that country also improved. Exports to Zambia equally improved significantly, accounting for N\$4,444 million, from the level of N\$2,392 million recorded last year, translating into an increase of 85.7 percent. The growth in exports to that country was led by articles of iron or steel which rose to N\$2,213 million, from N\$1 million in the preceding year. In addition, exports of fish and machinery to that country also improved.

Chart 2: Main export destinations



Switzerland absorbed

N\$13,321 million

of Namibia’s overall export, which translates to 48.7 percent growth, up from N\$8,957 million obtained a year earlier.

Despite the growth observed in exports to other partners, export revenue from Namibia’s largest markets, South Africa and Botswana weakened. Botswana recorded the largest decline, falling down from N\$13,072 million recorded a year earlier to N\$9,970 million, translating into a decline of 23.7 percent. The recent declines in exports to Botswana was led mainly by diamonds, dropping to N\$9,396 million from N\$12,352 million observed last year a decline of 23.9 percent.

Furthermore, fuel exports dented domestic exports to that country, falling from N\$553 million registered a year ago to N\$332 million registering a decline of 39.8 percent. Moreover, exports to South Africa slowed to N\$11,359 million, from the level of N\$11,435 million witnessed a year earlier, translating to 0.7 percent decline. The decline in exports to that country were mostly reflected in the value of fish, live animals and beverages which fell by 9.5, 32.8 and 10.3 percent, respectively.

Export revenue from countries outside the top five listed markets improved, accounting for N\$12,700 million, up from N\$6,900 million recorded in the preceding year, translating into an increase of 84.1 percent. Spain (N\$3,061 million), Italy (N\$2,776 million), China (N\$2,412 million), Belgium (2,236 million) and Norway (N\$2,215 million) are some of the major contributors to the growth in export revenue during the year under review.

Imports from key markets

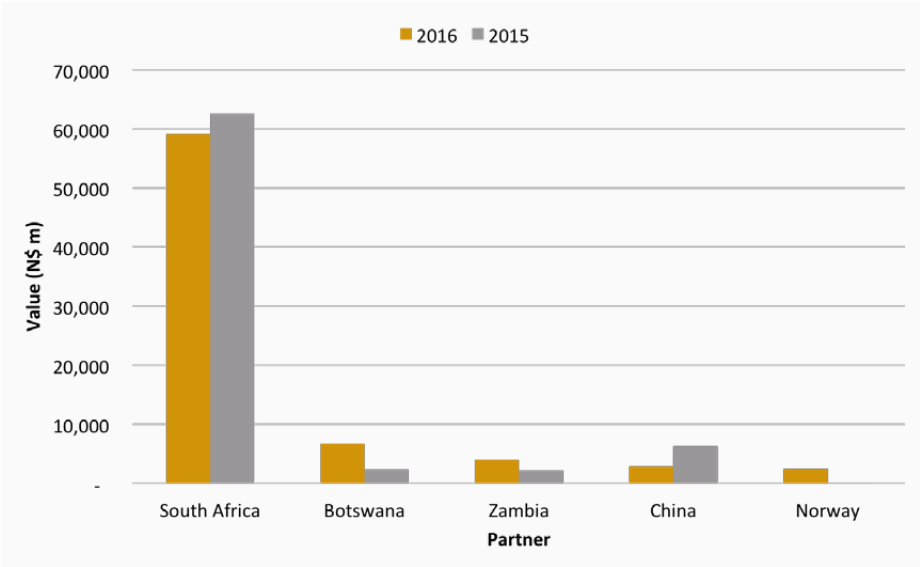
Namibia’s expenditure on imports remained on the high side, slightly increasing by 2.5 percent. An expenditure amounting to N\$100,675 million was recorded in the period under review, compared to N\$98,204 million obtained a year earlier.

South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, China and Norway were the main suppliers of foreign goods to Namibia during the period under review (Chart 3). These markets made up slightly more than 74 percent of total imports from the rest of the world, similar to the share accounted for in 2015.

The import bill from these markets combined continued to increase, registering N\$75,139 million, after recording N\$73,255 million a year ago, translating into a 2.6 percent growth. The recent increase in the import bill can be attributed to strengthening domestic demand for commodities originating from Botswana, Zambia and Norway. The strongest growth was recorded in imports from Norway due to a once off shipment of a vessel amounting to N\$2,416 million. Botswana recorded the second highest growth of imports valued at N\$6,652 million, up from N\$2,307 million recorded in the previous year rising by 188 percent.

The growth in imports from Botswana was on account of diamond imports which rose to N\$6,177 million, as compared to N\$1,852 million recorded a year earlier, resulting in an increase of 234 percent. The import bill from Zambia rose by 92.5 percent as domestic demand for copper cathodes, fodder and tobacco rose. Furthermore, imports from other countries outside the top ten listed partners in table 5 (appendix) weakened. Overall imports from this category fell to N\$16,028 million from N\$18,645 million recorded in the preceding year translating into a decline of 13.2 percent.

Chart 3: Main sources of imports



The total import bill from Namibia’s largest import markets such as South Africa and China weakened, with the bill from China falling significantly (54.8 percent) N\$2,845 million worth of imports were recorded in the period under review, after recording N\$6,293 million a year earlier.

Notwithstanding Namibia’s continued dependency on South Africa as a major source of imports, the import bill from that country dropped to N\$59,129 million, from N\$62,518 million recorded a year earlier recording a decline of 5.4 percent.

South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, China and Norway were the main suppliers of foreign goods to Namibia during the period under review.

The strongest growth was recorded in imports from Norway due to a once off shipment of a vessel amounting to N\$2,416 million

The decline in imports from RSA was mainly pronounced in the weakening value of imported vehicles, which can be attributed to low domestic demand leading to a fewer number of vehicles imported. Furthermore, fuel, machinery and articles of iron or steel also dented the overall value of imports from RSA..

Top export products

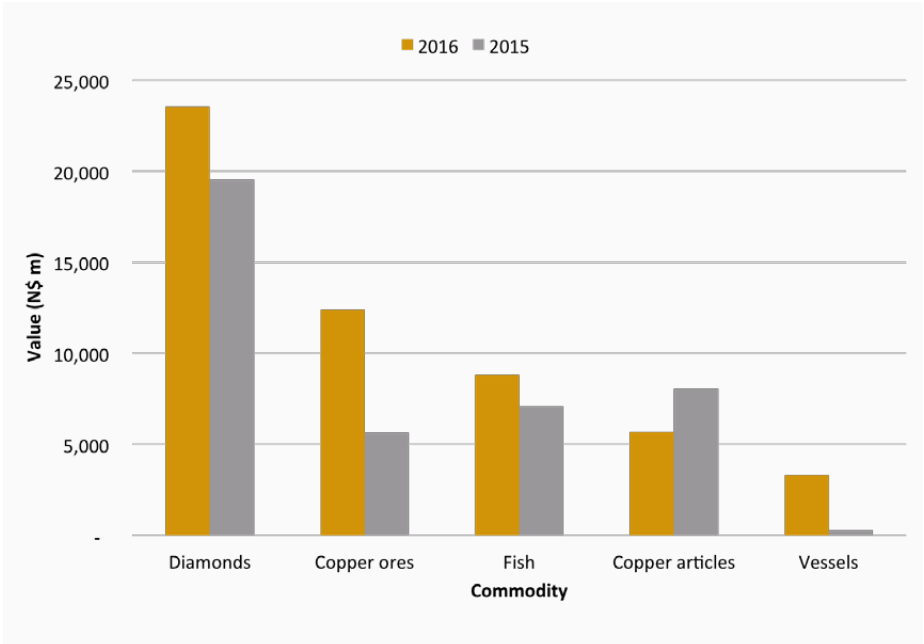
Diamonds, copper ores, fish, copper articles and vessels continued to lead the market for export commodities in the year under review (Chart 4). Overall export revenue generated from the sale of these commodities strengthened, growing to N\$53,740 million, up from N\$40,633 million obtained a year earlier an increase of 32.3 percent, thus, making these commodities to account for 75.8 percent of total export (N\$70,854 million) revenue in the year under review, up from 69.3 percent accounted for in 2015.

Diamonds continued to dominate Namibia’s export market accounting for 33.2 percent of overall exports in 2016, increasing by 20.4 percent to N\$23,536 million from N\$19,543 million observed in the preceding year. This was owed to high demand for this commodity, mainly from South Africa, Belgium and the EPZ.

Diamond exports to Botswana which absorbed most of Namibia’s diamond exports in the last two years, contracted. Further growth in exports was pronounced in the value of Vessels registering the strongest growth of 980 percent from the level of N\$306 million last year to N\$3,306 million in q4-2016. Copper ores also rose to the level of N\$12,413 million, up from N\$5,642 million observed in the preceding year, posting the second highest growth of 120 percent. Additionally, fish exports also increased to N\$8,804 million, up from N\$7,092 million recorded last year registering an increase of 24.2 percent. High foreign demand for zinc and articles of iron and steel was also the cause for a relatively sharp increase in the overall value of exports.

On the other hand, exports of some commodities dropped, with the strongest decline reflected in the value of copper articles which fell to N\$5,681 million, after recording N\$8,050 million in the preceding year, resulting into a decline of 29.4 percent. Exports of live animals, beverages (Inc alcoholic), and meat declined. The overall value of the aforementioned commodities dropped to N\$3,187 million, down from N\$4,380 million observed in the preceding year emanating in the reduction of exports bill by 27.2 percent. The recent decline in the aforesaid commodities can be attributed to low domestic production coupled with low foreign demand, mostly by Angola, DRC, Norway, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia.

Chart 4: Top five exports



Diamonds continued to dominate Namibia’s export market accounting for 33.2 percent of overall exports in 2016, increasing by 20.4 percent to N\$23,536 million from N\$19,543 million observed in the preceding year. This was owed to high demand for this commodity, mainly from South Africa, Belgium and the EPZ.



Namibia is a major fish exporting country and fish continues to be Namibia's number one export revenue earner in terms of food items

Namibia's revenue generated from the sales of fish averaged

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million**

for the period between 2007 and 2016, reaching an all-time high of N\$8,804 million in 2016, and a record low of N\$3,452 million in 2007.

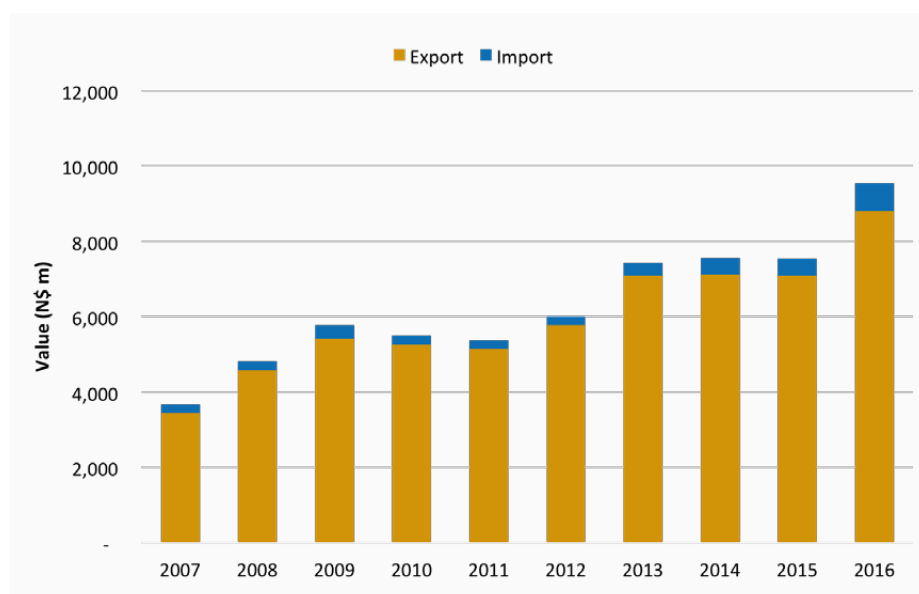
Fish exports

Namibia is a major fish exporting country and fish continues to be Namibia's number one export revenue earner in terms of food items. Overall, fish forms part of the top five major export commodities by value. This is shown in Chart 4 above, while Chart 5 below postulates an upward trend of fish exports over a ten year period, from 2007 to 2016. The recent growth in fish exports was due to high foreign demand, in particular by Spain and the neighboring Zambia. The strongest growth however, was reflected in the value of fish exports to Zambia that grew to N\$1,004 million, up from N\$729 million recorded in the previous year, translating into an increase of 37.7 percent.

Furthermore, Spain absorbed 34 percent or N\$2,995 million of total domestic fish exports (N\$8,804 million), the largest share of Namibia's fish exports in 2016.

Namibia's revenue generated from the sales of fish averaged N\$5,974 million for the period between 2007 and 2016, reaching an all-time high of N\$8,804 million in 2016, and a record low of N\$3,452 million in 2007. Fish exports recorded the strongest growth in 2008, 2013 and 2016, in which exports rose by 32.6, 22.8 and 24.2 percent, respectively.

Chart 5: Fish exports



Slight declines in fish exports were recorded in two consecutive years, 2010 and 2011 in which the decline was estimated at 3.2 percent and 2.0 percent, respectively.

Furthermore, the year 2015 accounted for the weakest drop, falling to N\$7,092 million, down from N\$7,120 million recorded in 2014.

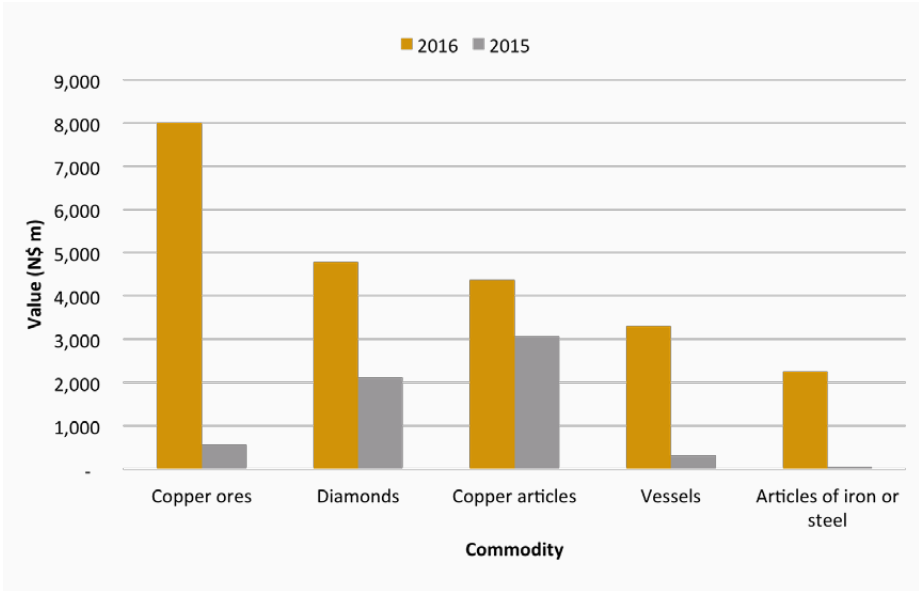
Top re-exports products

In 2016, the overall value of re-exports grew to N\$26,802 million, after recording N\$9,708 million in the previous year, rising by 176 percent. The recent growth in re-exports were mostly led by high values of copper ores, diamonds, copper articles, vessels and articles of iron or steel (Chart 6). The value of the aforementioned commodities combined advanced enormously, growing to N\$22,725 million, after recording N\$6,075 million in the previous year, representing an increase of 274 percent.

Copper ores moved four places up to occupy the first position as the major commodity re-exported from the fifth position it occupied a year earlier, thus, accounting for the highest (29.9 percent) share of total (N\$26,802 million) re-exports, mainly on account of high demand for this commodity by Switzerland.

Re-exports of copper ores to Switzerland increased to N\$8,015 million after recording N\$561 million a year ago. Moreover, re-exports of articles of iron or steel registered the highest growth, increasing to N\$2,258 million from N\$35 million registered in the preceding year, mostly on account of a once off shipment to Zambia.

Chart 6: Top five re-exports



Re-export of vehicles and boilers weakened, with vehicles registering the strongest decline of N\$1,015 million witnessed a year earlier to N\$845 million translating into a decline of 16.7 percent.

Furthermore, re-exports of boilers declined to N\$683 million, after recording N\$738 million a year earlier.

Mineral fuels and oils, vehicles, boilers, diamonds and vessels continued to lead the list of major imports to Namibia.

The strongest growth in imports was mostly evident in the value of diamonds which improved significantly, increasing to N\$7,877 million, after registering N\$2,600 million a year earlier translating in an increase of 203 percent, this increase emanated from high domestic demand from Botswana, the EPZ and South Africa.

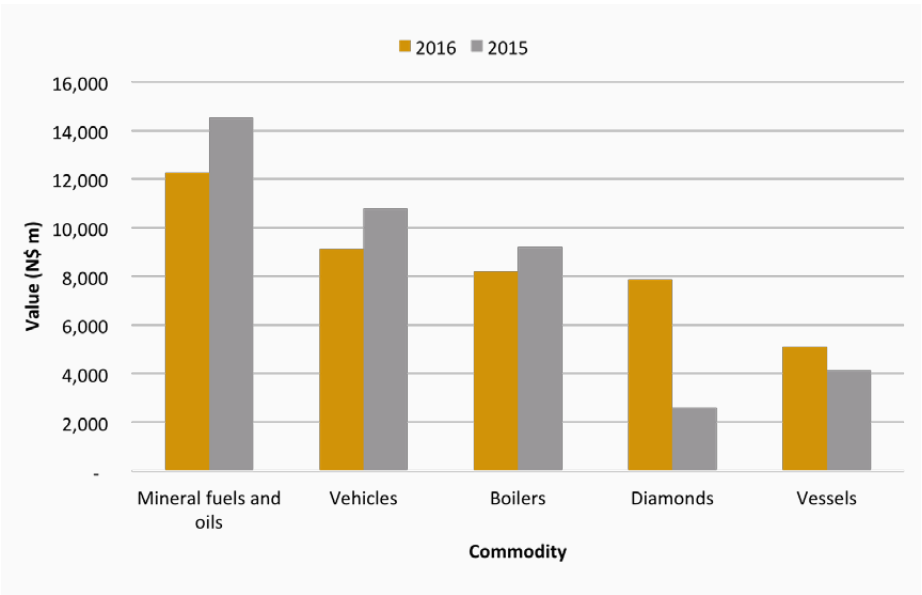
Despite registering an increase in the overall import bill, Namibia recorded a decline in imports of commodities such as mineral fuels and oils, vehicles and boilers.

Top import products

Mineral fuels and oils, vehicles, boilers, diamonds and vessels continued to lead the list of major imports to Namibia (Chart 7). These commodities together accounted for 42.3 percent share of total imports (N\$100,671 million), slightly higher than 42.0 percent accounted for in the previous year. Overall, the domestic economy’s expenditure on these commodities strengthened increasing from N\$41,221 million witnessed a year ago to N\$42,605 million registered in the year 2016 resulting in an increase of 3.4 percent.

The strongest growth in imports was mostly evident in the value of diamonds which improved significantly, increasing to N\$7,877 million, after registering N\$2,600 million a year earlier translating in an increase of 203 percent. This increase emanated from high domestic demand from Botswana, the EPZ and South Africa. Furthermore, imports of vessels also improved from N\$4,127 million observed in 2015 compared to N\$5,122 million in the year under review, an increase of 24.1 percent. This increase follows a once of shipment of a vessel valued at N\$2,416 million from Norway.

Chart 7: Top five imports



Despite registering an increase in the overall import bill, Namibia recorded a decline in imports of commodities such as mineral fuels and oils, vehicles and boilers.

The strongest decline was reflected in the value of mineral fuels and oils falling to N\$12,268 million, from N\$14,514 million registered last year resulting in a decline of 15.5 percent, vessels fell to N\$9,128 million from N\$10,786 million recorded a year ago declining by 15.4 percent and boilers dropped to N\$8,210 million from N\$9,194 million obtained in the previous year registering a decline of 10.7 percent.



Trade by economic regions

Exports

The Southern African Customs Union (SACU) maintained its position as Namibia's number one export market in terms of regional groupings, a position it held for many years (Chart 8). However, export revenue from SACU tumbled, falling to N\$21,344 million, from N\$24,517 million witnessed a year earlier resulting in a reduction of exports to SACU by 12.9 percent. Additionally, SACU alone accounted for 31.9 percent of total exports to selected regions, down from 42.9 percent obtained in the previous year.

EFTA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) occupied the second position as Namibia's leading export destination.

Despite its ranking, export revenues from that region has grown, advancing to N\$15,536 million, from N\$9,022 million registered last year, an increase of 72.2 percent. Thus, accounting for 23.2 percent of total exports to selected groupings, up from 15.8 percent share accounted for last year.

The European Union (EU) was third in ranking as one of the largest export destinations for Namibia.

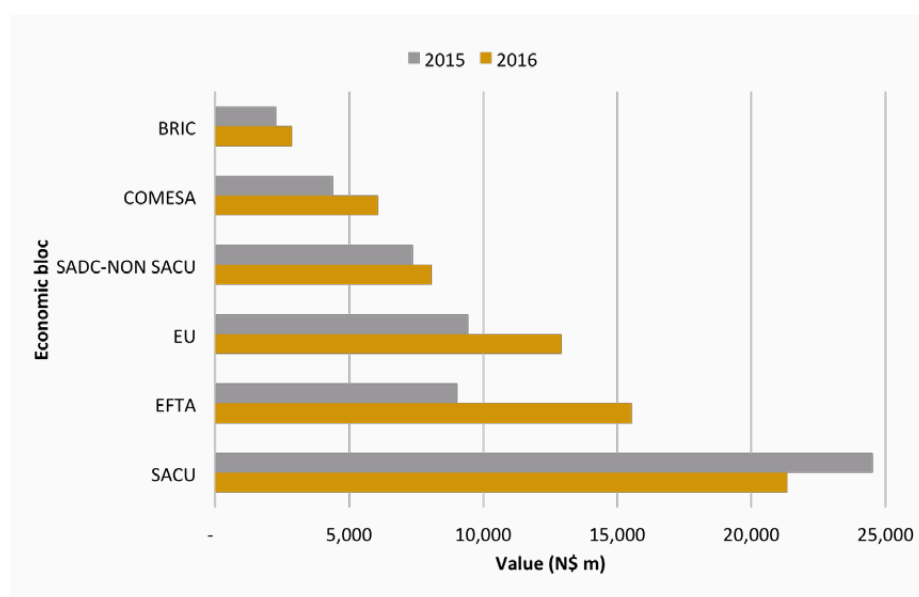
The EU absorbed N\$12,927 million of Namibia's total exports from N\$9,445 million recorded in the previous year, rising by 36.9 percent. Furthermore, export earnings from this market accounted for 19.3 percent of total export to selected regions, up from 16.5 percent contribution last year.

SADC-NON-SACU ranked fourth as Namibia's preferred export destination. This market absorbed 12.1 percent of Namibia's overall exports, down from 12.9 percent accounted for a year earlier.

Additionally, exports to that market advanced, rising to N\$8,086 million, after recording N\$7,366 million a year ago, registering an increase of 9.8 percent.

Furthermore, exports to other regions such as COMESA and BRIC improved. The combined export sales to these markets rose to N\$8,954 million, after recording N\$6,667 million a year earlier accounting for 34.3 percent of total COMESA and BRIC exports.

Chart 8: Export by economic regions



Import expenditure from SACU increased to

N\$66,066 million

Imports

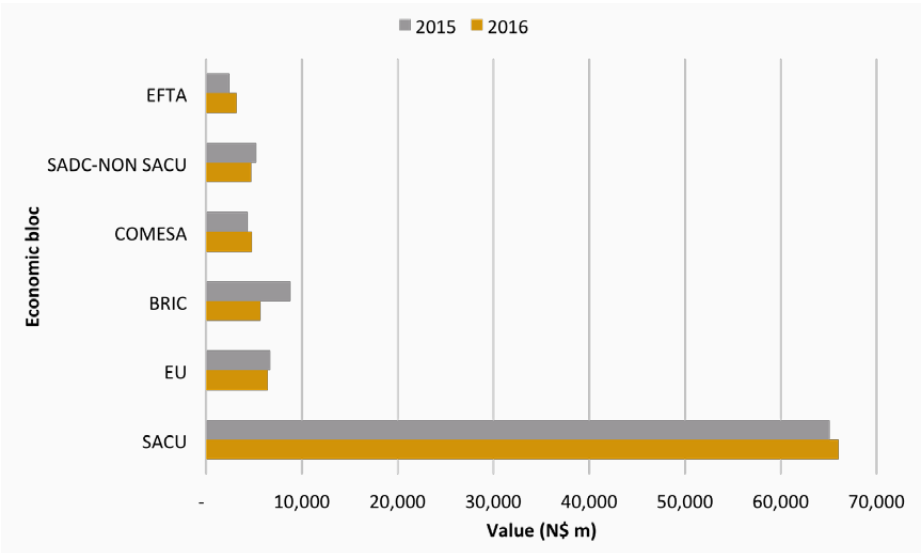
During the period under review, SACU continued to lead as Namibia’s major source of imports in terms of regional groupings, this also holds for exports when compared to other regional groupings (Chart 9). Import expenditure from SACU increased to N\$66,066 million compared to N\$65,099 million recorded a year ago. Moreover, SACU accounted for 72.6 percent of the domestic economy’s total imports, the largest share compared to other regions and up from 70.4 percent recorded a year ago.

The European Union (EU) occupied the second position as Namibia’s major source of imports.

However, imports from that market were on the down side, falling to N\$6,437 million compared to N\$6,662 million observed in the preceding year accounting for 3.4 percent of imports from the EU. In addition, the EU accounted for 7.1 percent share of total imports into Namibia, slightly up from 7.1 percent share it accounted for last year.

BRIC ranked third as one of largest source of imports for the domestic economy. However, imports from that market recorded the strongest decline from N\$8,808 million recorded a year earlier to N\$5,681 million, representing a fall of 35.5 percent.

Chart 9: Import by economic blocs



COMESA ranked fourth as Namibia’s preferred source of imports. The local economy absorbed 5.3 percent of the total imports from COMESA, up when compared to 4.7 percent share recorded a year earlier. Thus, recording a strong growth of N\$4,810 million, from N\$4,313 million observed in the previous year this is an increase of 15.5 percent on total imports from COMESA.

The SADC-NON-SACU and EFTA markets also contributed immensely as Namibia’s major source of imports, although imports from the former weakened by 9 percent, but imports from the latter rose by 33.1 percent.



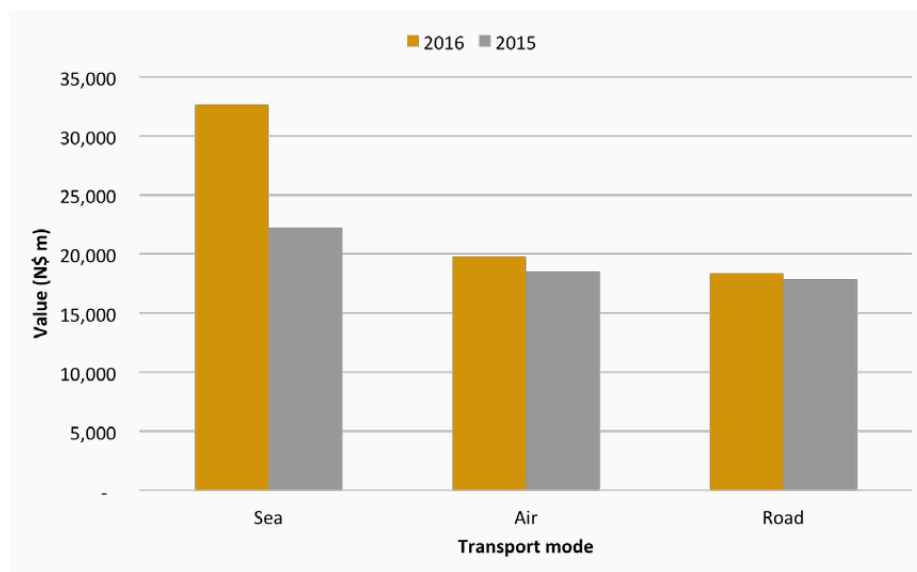
Trade by mode of transport

Exports

In 2016, majority of Namibia's exports by value were transported via sea (Chart 10). Exports by sea surged, climbing to N\$32,613 million, after witnessing N\$22,182 million a year ago, thus, representing a 47 percent growth, and led to sea transport accounting for the largest share of 46.0 percent of Namibia's total exports, up from 37.9 percent recorded in the preceding year.

Similarly, the value of exported goods by means of air also strengthened to account for N\$19,767 million in 2016, compared to N\$18,465 million recorded in the previous year, translating into an increase of 7.0 percent. However, the percentage share of exports via air dropped, accounting for 27.9 percent, down from 31.5 percent accounted for last year.

Chart 10: Exports by mode of transport



Moreover, goods exported via road transport also advanced, increasing to N\$18,379 million, only N\$533 million higher than N\$17,846 million reported a year earlier.

However, the share of exports by means of road declined, trending down to 25.9 percent, from 30.5 percent accounted for last year.



In 2016, majority of Namibia's exports by value were transported via sea.

Sea transport accounted for

46.0 %

of Namibia's total exports.



Goods exported through air transport rose by

7.0 %



The majority of imports to Namibia were transported by road.

The value of imports via road accounted for

59 %

of total imports to Namibia

The total value of imports by Sea rose by

5 %

It accounted for

36 %

of total imports in the period under review.

The value of goods imported via air grew the most, with

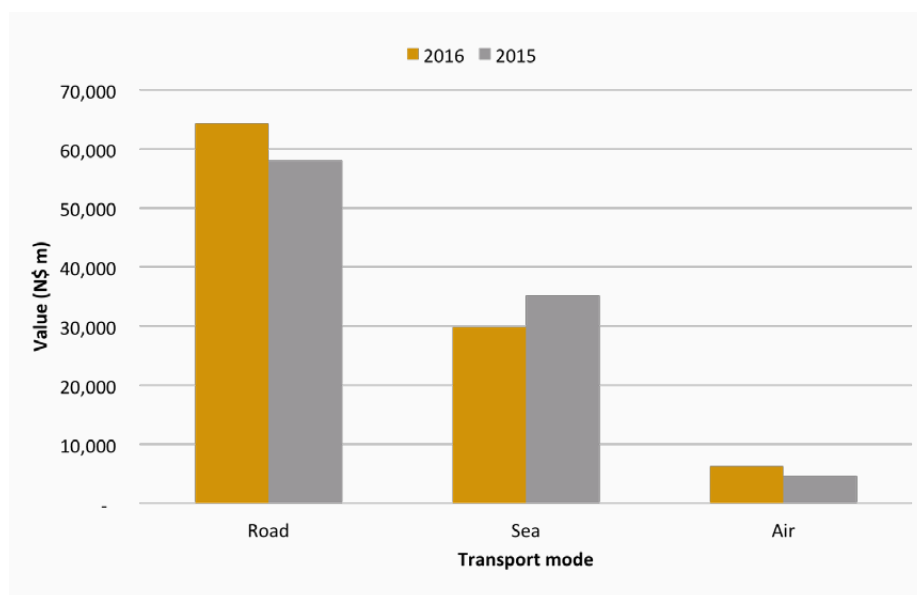
8 %

Imports

Most goods imported to Namibia were transported by way of road, therefore, the value of imported goods by road improved to N\$64,312 million compared to N\$57,991 million registered in the previous year (Chart 11), an increase of 10.9 percent.

The total share of imports by road also increase, accounting for 63.9 percent, up from 59.1 percent accounted for a year earlier.

Chart 11: Imports by mode of transport



Marine transportation played a vital role in transporting imported goods into Namibia. This is evident in the overall value of imports by sea. However, the value imports by sea weakened, falling to N\$29,808 million, when compared to N\$35,157 million recorded in the previous year emanating in a decline of 15.2 percent. Thus, the share of imports by sea also declined, accounting for 29.6 percent of total imports, down from 35.8 percent observed a year earlier.

Air transport was the third means of transport used by traders in delivering imports to Namibian shores, therefore increasing the value of goods imported via air to N\$6,223 million from N\$4,615 million recorded in the previous year translating into 34.8 percent increase. Furthermore, the share of imports by air improved, accounting for 6.2 percent of total imports, up when compared to 4.7 percent accounted for in the previous year.



Conclusion

In 2016, Namibia recorded a negative trade balance valued at N\$29,817 million as compared to, N\$39,617 observed in the previous year, resulting in a deficit improvement of 24.7 percent. During the period under review, Namibia's key export markets were mainly Switzerland, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia and the EPZ. On the other hand, the domestic economy heavily relied on South Africa, Botswana, China, Zambia and Norway for most of its imports.

Diamonds, copper ores, fish, copper articles and vessels were the leading export commodities in the period of review. Equally, the aforementioned commodities excluding fish but including articles of iron or steel topped the list of re-exports. On the other hand, key imports comprised of fuel, vehicles, boilers, diamonds and vessels.

In relation to regional groupings, Namibia's preferred export destinations in 2016 were SACU, EFTA, EU, SACU-NON-SADC, COMESA and BRIC. Imports were also mostly sourced from the same markets with SACU dominating followed by the EU, BRIC and then COMESA.

The majority of exported commodities were transport via sea while road was responsible for the majority of imports to Namibia. Air transport also played a vital role in both the exports and imports of commodities.



List of Terms and Definitions

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.

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.

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

Acronyms

BRIC	Brazil, Russia, India and China
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
SACU	Southern African Customs Union
SADC	Southern African Development Community



Appendix

Table 2: Trade by FOB value

Year	Export	Import	
	Value (fob)	Value (cif)	Value (fob)
2016	70,854	100,671	92,198
2015	58,587	98,204	92,028

Table 3: Main export destination

Partner	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Switzerland	13,321	18.8	8,957	15.3	48.7
South Africa	11,359	16.0	11,435	19.5	-0.7
Botswana	9,970	14.1	13,072	22.3	-23.7
Zambia	4,444	6.3	2,392	4.1	85.7
EPZ	4,353	6.1	1,761	3.0	147.2
Spain	3,061	4.3	2,626	4.5	16.6
Italy	2,776	3.9	1,339	2.3	107.3
China	2,412	3.4	1,991	3.4	21.1
Belgium	2,236	3.2	879	1.5	154.5
Norway	2,215	3.1	65	0.1	3,296.1
Other	14,707	20.8	14,069	24.0	4.5
Total	70,854	100.0	58,587	100.0	20.9

Table 4: Main re-export destination

Partner	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Switzerland	13,229	49.4	4,105	42.3	2 22.2
Zambia	3,341	12.5	456	4.7	6 33.4
Norway	2,190	8.2	1	0.0	184,574.2
Belgium	1,650	6.2	595	6.1	177.1
South Africa	1,456	5.4	1,328	13.7	9.6
Angola	1,230	4.6	982	10.1	25.2
USA	1,006	3.8	543	5.6	85.4
India	411	1.5	266	2.7	54.7
Israel	388	1.4	114	1.2	2 40.4
Botswana	325	1.2	33	0.3	8 84.8
Other	1,576	5.9	1,286	13.2	22.6
Total	26,802	100.0	9,708	100.0	176.1

Table 5: Main source of imports

Partner	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
South Africa	59,129	58.7	62,518	63.7	-5.4
Botswana	6,652	6.6	2,307	2.3	188.3
Zambia	4,047	4.0	2,102	2.1	92.5
China	2,845	2.8	6,293	6.4	-54.8
Norway	2,466	2.4	35	0.0	7,048.0
Bahamas	2,352	2.3	2,134	2.2	10.2
India	2,260	2.2	1,848	1.9	22.3
USA	1,834	1.8	960	1.0	91.1
Italy	1,672	1.7	1,102	1.1	51.8
EPZ	1,390	1.4	440	0.4	215.9
Other	16,028	15.9	18,465	18.8	-13.2
Total	1 00,675	100.0	98,204	100.0	2.5

Table 6: Top ten exports

Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Diamonds	23,536	33.2	19,543	33.4	20.4
Copper ores	12,413	17.5	5,642	9.6	120.0
Fish	8,804	12.4	7,092	12.1	24.2
Copper articles	5,681	8.0	8,050	13.7	-29.4
Vessels	3,306	4.7	306	0.5	978.9
Zinc	2,461	3.5	1,965	3.4	25.3
Articles of iron or steel	2,352	3.3	169	0.3	1,293.1
Beverages (Inc alcoholic)	1,150	1.6	1,608	2.7	-28.5
Live animals	1,031	1.5	1,556	2.7	-33.8
Meat	1,006	1.4	1,216	2.1	-17.2
Other	9,115	12.9	11,441	19.5	-20.3
Total	70,854	100.0	58,587	100.0	20.9

Table 7: Top ten re-exports

Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Copper ores	8,015	29.9	561	5.8	1,329.5
Diamonds	4,783	17.8	2,110	21.7	126.7
Copper articles	4,365	16.3	3,067	31.6	42.3
Vessels	3,304	12.3	302	3.1	995.1
Articles of iron or steel	2,258	8.4	35	0.4	6,424.2
Vehicles	845	3.2	1,015	10.5	-16.7
Boilers	683	2.5	738	7.6	-7.5
Electrical machinery and equipments	551	2.1	309	3.2	78.2
Miscellaneous chemical products	302	1.1	250	2.6	20.9
Beverages (Inc alcoholic)	298	1.1	107	1.1	179.1
Other	1,399	5.2	1,216	12.5	15.0
Total	26,802	100.0	9,708	1 00.0	176.1

Table 8: Top ten imports

Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Mineral fuels and oils	12,268	1 2.2	14,514	1 4.8	-15.5
Vehicles	9,128	9.1	10,786	11.0	-15.4
Boilers	8,210	8.2	9,194	9.4	-10.7
Diamonds	7,877	7.8	2,600	2.6	203.0
Vessels	5,122	5.1	4,127	4.2	24.1
Electrical machinery and equipments	4,851	4.8	5,319	5.4	-8.8
Copper articles	4,267	4.2	3,870	3.9	10.3
Animal fodder	3,997	4.0	814	0.8	391.0
Copper ores	3,185	3.2	4,290	4.4	-25.8
Articles of iron or steel	2,819	2.8	4,239	4.3	-33.5
Other	36,932	3 6.7	36,436	37.1	1.4
Total	100,671	100.0	98,204	100.0	2.5

Table 9: Export products to key markets

Switzerland					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Copper ores	8,103	60.8	949	10.6	754.3
Copper articles	4,312	32.4	7,512	83.9	-42.6
Diamonds	864	6.5	483	5.4	79.0
Other	42	0.3	13	0.1	221.6
Total	13,321	1 00.0	8,957	100.0	48.7

South Africa					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Diamonds	4,522	39.8	3,097	27.1	46.0
Fish	1,006	8.9	1,112	9.7	-9.5
Live animals	1,006	8.9	1,498	13.1	-32.8
Beverages (Inc alcoholic)	742	6.5	827	7.2	-10.3
Vehicles	646	5.7	619	5.4	4.4
Other	3,436	30.3	4,283	37.5	-19.8
Total	11,359	100.0	11,435	100.0	-0.7

Botswana					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Diamonds	9,396	94.2	12,352	94.5	-23.9
Fuel	332	3.3	553	4.2	-39.8
Other	242	2.4	167	1.3	44.9
Total	9,970	1 00.0	13,072	100.0	-23.7

Zambia					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Articles of iron or steel	2,213	49.8	1	0.0	372,199.9
Fish	1,004	22.6	729	30.5	37.7
Electrical machinery and equipments	352	7.9	239	10.0	47.6
Beverages (Inc alcoholic)	275	6.2	580	24.3	-52.5
Paper or paperboard	144	3.2	280	11.7	-48.7
Other	456	10.3	564	23.6	-19.2
Total	4,444	1 00.0	2,392	1 00.0	85.7

Export Processing Zone					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Diamonds	4,350	99.9	1,761	100.0	147.0
Boilers	3	0.1	-	-	-
Other	0	0.0	-	-	-
Total	4,353	100.0	1,761	100.0	147.2

Table 10: Import products from key markets

South Africa					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Vehicles	8,464	14.3	9,525	15.2	-11.1
Boilers	6,122	10.4	5,893	9.4	3.9
Fodder	3,872	6.5	740	1.2	423.3
Mineral fuels and mineral	3,76	6.4	9,396	15.0	-59.9
Electrical machinery and equipments	3,322	5.6	3,726	6.0	-10.9
Articles of iron or steel	2,260	3.8	3,045	4.9	-25.8
Beverages (Inc alcoholic)	1,964	3.3	2,265	3.6	-13.3
Plastics and articles thereof	1,795	3.0	1,726	2.8	4.0
Pharmaceutical products	1,525	2.6	1,364	2.2	11.8
Sugar and sugar confectionery	1,180	2.0	1,007	1.6	17.1
Other	24,859	42.0	23,831	38.1	4.3
Total	59,129	100.0	62,518	100.0	-5.4

Botswana					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Diamonds	6,177	92.9	1,852	80.3	233.6
Vehicles	113	1.7	152	6.6	-25.5
Electrical machinery and equipments	96	1.4	67	2.9	43.6
Pharmaceutical products	74	1.1	42	1.8	74.6
Boilers	51	0.8	40	1.7	27.9
Other	141	2.1	155	6.7	-8.7
Total	6,652	100.0	2,307	100.0	188.3

Zambia					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Copper articles	3,882	95.9	1,938	92.2	100.3
Animal fodder	71	1.8	64	3.0	11.6
Cereals	29	0.7	34	1.6	-15.4
Tobacco	23	0.6	0	0.0	106,783.1
Other	42	1.0	66	3.2	-36.4
Total	4,047	100.0	2,102	1 00.0	92.5

China					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Electrical machinery and equipments	482	16.9	288	4.6	67.0
Boilers	383	13.5	1,053	16.7	-63.6
Articles of iron or steel	260	9.1	942	15.0	-72.4
Mineral fuels and mineral oils	242	8.5	5	0.1	4,521.9
Iron and steel	224	7.9	493	7.8	-54.6
Inorganic chemicals	192	6.8	219	3.5	-12.1
Railway or tramway locomotives	117	4.1	2	0.0	4,759.0
Other	945	33.2	3,290	52.3	-71.3
Total	2,845	1 00.0	6,293	1 00.0	-54.8

Norway					
Commodities	2016		2015		%ΔY/Y
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	
Vessels	2,416	97.9	-	-	-
Electrical machinery and equipments	34	1.4	0	0.9	11,289.8
Boilers	8	0.3	3	7.6	203.2
Inorganic chemicals	6	0.3	5	15.7	19.7
Other	2	0.1	26	75.9	-92.0
Total	2,466	1 00.0	35	1 00.0	7,048.0

Table 11: Trade by office

Office	2016				2015			
	Export		Import		Export		Import	
	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share	Value (N\$ m)	Share
Walvis Bay	29,040	41.0	26,137	26.0	18,558	31.7	33,986	34.6
Eros Airport	9,916	14.0	3,803	3.8	12,566	21.4	2,373	2.4
Chief Hosea Kutako Intl Airport	9,810	13.8	2,335	2.3	5,026	8.6	2,121	2.2
Wenela	4,564	6.4	4,370	4.3	2,956	5.0	3,971	4.0
Windhoek Regional Warehouse Office	4,353	6.1	4,391	4.4	2,634	4.5	534	0.5
Lüderitz	3,715	5.2	3,696	3.7	3,576	6.1	1,277	1.3
Trans Kalahari	3,235	4.6	19,165	19.0	3,863	6.6	19,470	19.8
Ariamsvlei	2,715	3.8	21,814	21.7	3,279	5.6	18,700	19.0
Noordoewer	2,269	3.2	9,441	9.4	2,749	4.7	8,877	9.0
Oshikango	663	0.9	43	0.0	2,320	4.0	502	0.5
Ngoma	382	0.5	404	0.4	505	0.9	292	0.3
Oranjemund	114	0.2	893	0.9	52	0.1	967	1.0
Omahenene	37	0.1	2	0.0	79	0.1	0	0.0
Mohembo	25	0.0	166	0.2	22	0.0	163	0.2
Rundu	5	0.0	2	0.0	14	0.0	3	0.0
Tsumeb	5	0.0	80	0.1	4	0.0	41	0.0
Katwitwi	2	0.0	1	0.0	142	0.2	9	0.0
Windhoek Regional Office	2	0.0	279	0.3	1	0.0	474	0.5
Ruacana	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-
International Airport-Windhoek	1	0.0	18	0.0	1	0.0	39	0.0
Katima Mulilo	0	0.0	19	0.0	227	0.4	17	0.0
Ondangwa	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.0
Klein Manase	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	3	0.0
Oshakati	0	0.0	156	0.2	11	0.0	321	0.3
Swakopmund	-	-	-	-	0	0.0	1	0.0
Keetmanshoop	-	-	83	0.1	0	0.0	80	0.1
Gobabis	-	-	1	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.0
Impalila Island	-	-	12	0.0	0	0.0	11	0.0
F. P. du Toit	-	-	3,049	3.0	-	-	3,258	3.3
Grootfontein	-	-	0	0.0	-	-	4	0.0
Otjiwarongo	-	-	2	0.0	-	-	13	0.0
Statistics office	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.0
Windhoek Regional Excise Office	-	-	310	0.3	-	-	692	0.7
Total	70,854	100.0	100,671	100.0	58,587	100.0	98,204	100.0

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