

Brazilian exports experience the consequences from the crisis in 2009

We are listing below some data publicized by the Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade (MDIC), which clearly show that Brazilian exports experience the negative effects from the world financial crisis and the decrease in value of the dollar against the Brazilian currency from January to August 2009.

In the first eight months of the year, exports amounted up US\$ 97.935 billion, which was inferior to the value reached in the same period of 2008 (US\$ 130.842 billion). As compared to the same months of 2008, exports decreased 24.7% by daily average. Imports reached US\$ 77.967 billion, representing a drop of 31.1% in relation to the one of January-August 2008 by daily average.

The trade surplus in the period January-August 2009 totaled US\$ 19.968 billion, which was 18.0% superior to the one in January-August 2008 (US\$ 16.928 billion).

The trade current accumulated US\$ 175.902 billion, an amount 27.7% inferior to the one presented in same months of 2008 (US\$ 244.756 billion) by daily average.

EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS IN JANUARY-AUGUST 2009

In the first eight months of 2009, the three groups of products registered drops in relation to the similar period of 2008: manufactured products (-31.3%, to US\$ 41.629 billion), semimanufactured products (-30.3%, to US\$ 12.440 billion) and basic products (-13.1%, to US\$ 41.877 billion).

In the group of manufactured products, among the main exported products, only the refined sugar presented a good performance, increasing 27.5% as compared to the first eight months of 2008. The other main exported products presented the following performances: trucks (-54.1%), fuel oils (-52.1%), pumps and compressors (-41.0%), ethanol (-40.1%), automobiles (-39.4%), autoparts (-38.2%), laminated

plans (-33.9%), frozen orange juice (-33.4%), transmitters and receivers (-31.3%), footwear (-28.5%), aircraft (-27.2%) and motors and generators (-15.3%).

Considering exports of semimanufactured products, the highest drops occurred in the sales of melted iron (-61.7%), iron and steel products (-61.2%), leathers and skins (-50.3%), aluminum (-27.1%) and cellulose (-22.1%). The highlight was the growth in sugar exports (+60.2%).

In respect to exports of basic products, there was drop in the revenue of the following products: petroleum (-39.5%), beef (-29.9%), pork (-26.3%), chicken (-21.6%), corn in grain (-20.1%), iron ore (-12.8%) and coffee in grain (-1.7%); however there were increase in the sales of tobacco leaf (+22.7%), soy in grain (+14.5%) and soy crumb (+8.9%).

About the destination markets, there was growth only to Asia (+3.9%, highlighting China +21.3%, due to soy in grain, iron ore, cellulose, iron and steel products and plastics). The other regions presented the following performances: the United States (-45.1%, petroleum, machines and equipment, aircraft and parts, iron and steel products), East Europe (-42.2%, meats, sugar, tobacco, soy crumb and machines and equipment), Mercosur (-39.4%, being -40.6% to Argentina, automotive vehicles and autoparts, electro-electronic devices, machines and equipment, plastics, fuel oil and lubricating oil), Latin America and Caribbean, except Mercosur (-33.3%, automotive vehicles and autoparts, machines and equipment, electro-electronic devices, petroleum and plastics), European Union (-28.8%, coffee, iron ore, petroleum, machines and equipment, cellulose, automotive vehicles and autoparts and iron and steel products), Africa (-11.7%, mainly meats, automobiles and autoparts and machines and equipment) and the Middle East (-5.0%, meats, iron ore and iron and steel products).

The main destination countries of Brazilian exports considering January-August 2009 were: 1st) China (US\$ 14.4 billion); 2nd) the United States (US\$ 10.0 billion); 3rd) Argentina (US\$ 7.1 billion); 4th) Netherlands (US\$ 5.2 billion); and 5th) Germany (US\$ 3.8 billion).

