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MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS



Amid global economic uncertainty, Malaysia's total trade declined by 14.5 per cent or RM33.7 billion in April 2023, to post a value of RM198.0 billion as compared to RM231.7 billion in the same month of preceding year. The value of exports and imports also decreased 17.4 per cent to RM105.4 billion and 11.1 per cent to RM92.6 billion, respectively. Trade balance recorded a double-digit negative growth of 45.3 per cent with a value of RM12.8 billion in April 2023.

In comparison to March 2023, exports, imports, total trade and trade surplus experienced a double-digit contraction of 18.7 per cent, 10.1 per cent, 14.9 per cent and 51.9 per cent, respectively.

The first four months of 2023 also noted a decline in the performance of exports, imports, total trade and trade surplus. Exports fell 2.6 per cent to RM460.0 billion while imports amounted RM382.8 billion, flatten by 0.3 per cent. Concurrently, total trade tapered off by 1.6 per cent to RM842.8 billion, while trade balance was valued to RM77.2 billion, shrank 12.7 per cent.

Performance of Exports

Malaysia's exports in April 2023 posted a reduction of 17.4 per cent as compared to the same month of 2022, corresponded with the decline in domestic exports despite marginal increase in re-exports.

Domestic exports accounted for 76.3 per cent of total exports, declined 22.3 per cent year on year (y-o-y) to RM80.4 billion. Nevertheless, re-exports increased by 3.8 per cent with a value of RM25.0 billion. Similarly, on a monthly basis, exports decreased 18.7 per cent or RM24.2 billion. According to an examination of the seasonally adjusted terms month-on-month (m-o-m), exports decreased by RM20.1 billion or 16.3 per cent to RM103.1 billion.

Exports (RM billion) and Annual Change (%)

Chart 1 : Domestic Exports, Re-



Seasonally Adjusted Export Value, RM billion

Chart 2 : Actual Export Value and



Performance of Imports

Malaysia's imports showed a downward performance for two consecutive months with 11.1 per cent or RM11.5 billion y-o-y. On a m-o-m basis, imports decelerated by 10.1 per cent or RM10.4 billion to RM92.6 billion as compared to RM103.0 billion in March 2023. Analysis of seasonal adjustment terms, m-o-m, showed imports subdued by 11.4 per cent to RM89.7 billion.

On a y-o-y basis, imports by End Use experienced a negative growth as imports of the intermediate goods and consumption goods decreased by 24.2 per cent and 1.6 per cent respectively. However, imports of capital goods continued to increase with 11.8 per cent.

Imports, Value (RM billion) and Annual Change (%)

Chart 3 : Imports, Value (RM



Seasonally Adjusted Imports Value, RM billion

Chart 4 : Actual Import Value and



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