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Press release

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St.Maarten import and export of merchandise increases in 2007

Results of the Import and Export Survey St.Maarten 2007

The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) has conducted an import and export survey among established companies in St.Maarten with the main purpose to compile international merchandise trade data of the island. After processing and evaluation of the compiled trade data for the years 2006 and 2007, CBS has summarized the main trade developments in the import and export of St.Maarten. Currently, CBS is conducting an import and export survey among companies in St.Maarten in order to collect the trade data for the year 2008.

This press release contains the main preliminary results of the import and export survey from the year 2007.

Import of merchandise

The total import of merchandise in St.Maarten has increased from 729 million guilders in 2006 to 778 million guilders in 2007. This is an increment of about 7 percent. In 2007 the import of “Food and related products” has increased the most with 30 percent. The import value of this type of commodity has increased with 16 million guilders. Another import increase is registered in “Machinery and transport equipment” with 19 percent.

The major decline is noted in imports of “Crude materials” with almost 43 percent. The import of this commodity has dropped from 5 million to 3 million guilders in 2007.

Import by Industry

Analysis by industry shows that the “Wholesale and retail trade” has the highest share of almost 84 percent of the total import of merchandise in 2007. The total import of this industry has amounted to 650 million guilders. An increment of about 7 percent is noted in the “Wholesale and retail trade” industry compared to the year 2006. The types of commodities with the highest values within the “Wholesale and retail trade” industry in 2007 are: “Manufactured articles” with 252 million guilders, “Mineral fuels” with 110

million guilders, and “Manufactured goods” with a value of 84 million guilders.

The “Real estate, renting and business activities” industry has the second highest share of about 5 percent of the total import of merchandise in 2007. The import value of this industry has increased with approximately 3 million guilders in 2007.

Export of merchandise

The total export of merchandise in St.Maarten has increased from about 93 million guilders in 2006 to 101 million guilders in 2007, which is an increment of 9 percent compared to the previous year. The commodity export of “Miscellaneous manufactured articles” has increased with 8 million guilders (35%) in 2007. The export of “Machinery and transport equipment” has augmented with approximately 24 percent in 2007. It should be noted that the overall exports from St.Maarten include goods, which have been previously imported.

The highest value decline is registered in the merchandise export of “Beverage and tobacco” with more than 2 million guilders in 2007. This export decline is 8 percent.

Export by industry

In 2007 the industry which has the highest share of merchandise export is the “Wholesale and retail trade” with a value of 91 million guilders. This industry has a share of 90 percent of the total export from St.Maarten. Compared to 2006 the “Wholesale and retail trade” industry has augmented with 9 percent. The commodity with a high value within this industry is the “Miscellaneous manufactured articles” with a value of 31 million guilders in 2007.

The industries of “Hotel and restaurant” and “Construction”, both have a share of about 4 percent of the total export in merchandise from St.Maarten. The merchandise export in the “Hotel and restaurant” industry has decreased with about 9 percent in 2007, while the merchandise export in the “Construction” industry has increased with 41 percent.

Table 1) St. Maarten Import by Industry in 2006 and 2007

Industry		Import	
		2006	2007
A / B	Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishery	850	894
D / E	Manufacturing and Electricity, Water Supply	11817	14456
F	Construction	14948	17614
G	Wholesale and Retail Trade	609917	650268
H	Hotels and Restaurants	17405	19973
I	Transport, Storage and Communications	22996	20662
J	Financing intermediation	3233	3540
K	Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	34814	37488
N	Health and Social Work	3468	3526
O	Other Social and Related Community Services	9592	9711
TOTAL		729040	778132

*All values in 1000 Ang

Table 2) St. Maarten Export by Industry in 2006 and 2007

Industry		Export	
		2006	2007
A / B	Agriculture, Hunting, and Fishery	36	38
D / E	Manufacturing and Electricity, Water Supply	2266	2611
F	Construction	2551	3601
G	Wholesale and Retail Trade	83622	91288
H	Hotels and Restaurants	4320	3940
	TOTAL	92795	101478

*All values in 1000 Ang
