



### Key Findings

- In the first three quarters of 2013, Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) exports reached 816 billion US\$ and the imports 832 billion US\$. Consequently, the trade balance in the region was negative by 16 billion US\$. This is due, mainly, to the deficits shown in the Central American and the Andean countries, CARICOM, and Mexico. Only Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela registered surpluses (see Table 1a).
- The development of exports in the first nine months of 2013 was the result of different trends in the first quarter and the two following quarters of that year (with changes of -4.2%, +2.7%, and +2.1%, respectively, for the whole region). Regarding imports, in contrast, a sustained growth was observed since the last quarter in 2012 (+3.4%, +5.1%, and +5.6%, respectively in the first three quarters in 2013). For the complete period, exports slightly increased by 0.2%, while imports followed their positive trend with a 4.7% increase in the period (see Table 1a).
- Paraguay (+37%), the Plurinational State of Bolivia (+9.5%), and the Dominican Republic (+8%) were the countries with the largest increases in their exports between January and September 2013 with respect to the same period of in 2012, while Honduras, Nicaragua, and Peru presented the largest reductions (-15.1%, -10.2% y -8.3%, respectively). In the remaining countries, the development was mixed with declines in Panama, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, and Cuba, and increases smaller than 5% in all other countries.
- Among the sub-regional integration schemes, increasing exports were registered by the Caribbean Community (+4.3%) and, to a lesser extent by MERCOSUR (+0.4%). At the same time, exports declined in the Andean Community (-2.3%) and in the Central American common market (-2%) (see Table 1a).
- In terms of imports, the largest growth corresponds to the Plurinational State of Bolivia (+13.3%), followed by Argentina, Peru, and Brazil (+10.7%, +9.7% y +8.7%, respectively). At the opposite end are the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, with negative growth rates. Among the sub-regional integration schemes, the MERCOSUR registered the largest increase (+8.7%), while the countries of the CARICOM showed a decline of 1.2% (see Table 1a).
- In the first nine months of 2013, other world regions showed a growth in exports larger than that observed in Latin America and the Caribbean (except Japan and Africa and the Middle East). Asia registered an increase of 5.4% with respect to January-September 2012, while the euro zone and the United States experiences increases of 2.4% and 1.3%, respectively. The growth of Chinese foreign sales excels within Asia, compensating the decline of exports of Japan (see Table 2).
- The slight growth of the exports of the region was due to a 2.5% increase in exported volume that could compensate the 2.3% decline in prices. Except for Mexico, the development of prices during the period was unfavorable. At the same time, the Caribbean countries and, to a lesser extent, the CACM, Chile, and the MERCOSUR, showed significant growth in their export volume (see Figure 1b).
- With respect to the first nine months in 2012, the intra-regional trade increased by 0.6%, a number that remains similar if Mexico is excluded (see Table 4).

## A – Trade by Origin and Destination

**Table 1. Latin America and the Caribbean: Trends in Goods Exports.**  
(Millions of current US\$ and change rates in percentages)

### a) Accumulated, January – September 2013

|  | Exports        |                |            | Imports        |                |            |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
|  | Jan-Sep 2012   | Jan-Sep 2013   | Change     | Jan-Sep 2012   | Jan-Sep 2013   | Change     |
| Argentina                              | 61 852         | 63 479         | 2.6        | 50 910         | 56 337         | 10.7       |
| Bolivia, Plurinational State           | 8 339          | 9 131          | 9.5        | 5 455          | 6 180          | 13.3       |
| Brazil                                 | 180 596        | 177 650        | -1.6       | 164 886        | 179 260        | 8.7        |
| Chile                                  | 57 109         | 57 876         | 1.3        | 54 558         | 56 088         | 2.8        |
| Colombia                               | 44 374         | 43 485         | -2.0       | 43 767         | 44 116         | 0.8        |
| Costa Rica                             | 8 533          | 8 594          | 0.7        | 12 950         | 13 442         | 3.8        |
| Cuba                                   | 1 773          | 1 769          | -0.2       | 6 267          | 6 676          | 6.5        |
| Ecuador                                | 18 164         | 18 622         | 2.5        | 19 024         | 20 621         | 8.4        |
| El Salvador                            | 4 059          | 4 216          | 3.9        | 7 709          | 8 138          | 5.6        |
| Guatemala                              | 7 614          | 7 634          | 0.3        | 12 622         | 13 129         | 4.0        |
| Honduras                               | 3 572          | 3 034          | -15.1      | 7 024          | 6 680          | -4.9       |
| Mexico                                 | 275 153        | 281 311        | 2.2        | 273 263        | 284 188        | 4.0        |
| Nicaragua                              | 2 038          | 1 830          | -10.2      | 4 306          | 4 172          | -3.1       |
| Panama                                 | 243            | 228            | -6.0       | 8 979          | 9 595          | 6.9        |
| Paraguay                               | 5 529          | 7 575          | 37         | 7 839          | 8 436          | 7.6        |
| Peru                                   | 33 899         | 31 078         | -8.3       | 29 771         | 32 670         | 9.7        |
| Dominican Republic                     | 6 712          | 7 248          | 8.0        | 11 169         | 10 154         | -9.1       |
| Uruguay                                | 6 689          | 6 999          | 4.6        | 8 722          | 8 615          | -1.2       |
| Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic         | 72 782         | 68 538         | -5.8       | 45 275         | 43 744         | -3.4       |
| <b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b> | <b>813 721</b> | <b>815 627</b> | <b>0.2</b> | <b>794 055</b> | <b>831 560</b> | <b>4.7</b> |
| Andean Community (CAN)                 | 104 775        | 102 316        | -2.3       | 98 017         | 103 587        | 5.7        |
| Caribbean Community (CARICOM)          | 14 691         | 15 329         | 4.3        | 19 558         | 19 318         | -1.2       |
| Central American Common Market (CACM)  | 25 816         | 25 308         | -2.0       | 44 611         | 45 561         | 2.1        |
| Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)      | 254 666        | 255 704        | 0.4        | 232 358        | 252 649        | 8.7        |

### b) Exports, October 2012 – September 2013

|  | Oct-12        | Nov-12        | Dec-12        | Jan-13        | Feb-13        | Mar-13        | Apr-13        | May-13        | Jun-13        | Jul-13        | Aug-13        | Sep-13        |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Argentina                              | 6 897         | 6 463         | 5 993         | 5 665         | 5 743         | 5 968         | 7 565         | 8 429         | 7 551         | 7 828         | 7 735         | 6 995         |
| Bolivia, Plurinational                 | 1 097         | 1 031         | 1 066         | 1 124         | 824           | 1 054         | 1 008         | 1 015         | 1 008         | 1 046         | 1 047         | 1 005         |
| Brazil                                 | 21 763        | 20 472        | 19 748        | 15 967        | 15 549        | 19 320        | 20 631        | 21 822        | 21 134        | 20 807        | 21 424        | 20 996        |
| Chile                                  | 7 445         | 6 575         | 7 280         | 6 967         | 5 727         | 6 328         | 6 812         | 7 027         | 6 354         | 6 411         | 6 395         | 5 855         |
| Colombia                               | 4 985         | 4 732         | 4 933         | 4 735         | 4 668         | 4 567         | 4 949         | 5 267         | 4 820         | 4 650         | 4 978         | 4 851         |
| Costa Rica                             | 905           | 949           | 860           | 897           | 919           | 986           | 989           | 999           | 961           | 947           | 927           | 969           |
| Cuba                                   | 225           | 179           | 145           | 194           | 164           | 125           | 226           | 216           | 172           | 272           | 179           | 221           |
| Ecuador                                | 1 946         | 1 778         | 1 990         | 1 939         | 2 082         | 2 201         | 1 934         | 2 055         | 1 983         | 2 130         | 2 102         | 2 195         |
| El Salvador                            | 445           | 417           | 418           | 478           | 436           | 448           | 489           | 520           | 451           | 491           | 478           | 425           |
| Guatemala                              | 733           | 808           | 824           | 828           | 796           | 982           | 888           | 966           | 808           | 827           | 805           | 733           |
| Honduras                               | 276           | 250           | 323           | 380           | 358           | 381           | 355           | 353           | 320           | 308           | 288           | 290           |
| Mexico                                 | 33 918        | 31 438        | 30 174        | 27 299        | 29 146        | 31 881        | 32 861        | 32 836        | 31 025        | 32 212        | 32 668        | 31 385        |
| Nicaragua                              | 234           | 199           | 206           | 217           | 188           | 222           | 231           | 208           | 197           | 196           | 191           | 182           |
| Panama                                 | 9             | 9             | 9             | 18            | 17            | 25            | 26            | 26            | 26            | 31            | 31            | 31            |
| Paraguay                               | 630           | 600           | 522           | 649           | 746           | 838           | 918           | 976           | 920           | 908           | 924           | 697           |
| Peru                                   | 3 782         | 3 709         | 3 953         | 3 424         | 3 183         | 3 638         | 3 179         | 3 472         | 3 251         | 3 318         | 4 076         | 3 537         |
| Dominican Republic                     | 772           | 890           | 695           | 700           | 736           | 819           | 824           | 927           | 776           | 857           | 826           | 782           |
| Uruguay                                | 681           | 664           | 676           | 537           | 527           | 612           | 713           | 988           | 1 002         | 884           | 934           | 803           |
| Venezuela, Bolivarian                  | 7 527         | 7 877         | 7 877         | 8 311         | 7 240         | 7 730         | 7 760         | 7 577         | 7 689         | 7 410         | 7 410         | 7 410         |
| <b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b> | <b>96 642</b> | <b>91 314</b> | <b>89 204</b> | <b>82 256</b> | <b>80 585</b> | <b>89 957</b> | <b>94 194</b> | <b>97 336</b> | <b>92 094</b> | <b>93 270</b> | <b>95 176</b> | <b>90 759</b> |
| CAN                                    | 11 810        | 11 250        | 11 941        | 11 222        | 10 757        | 11 460        | 11 071        | 11 809        | 11 063        | 11 144        | 12 203        | 11 587        |
| CARICOM                                | 2 371         | 2 274         | 1 513         | 1 928         | 1 536         | 1 832         | 1 834         | 1 659         | 1 645         | 1 738         | 1 758         | 1 397         |
| CACM                                   | 2 593         | 2 623         | 2 631         | 2 800         | 2 698         | 3 019         | 2 952         | 3 045         | 2 738         | 2 769         | 2 689         | 2 599         |
| MERCOSUR                               | 29 971        | 28 199        | 26 939        | 22 817        | 22 565        | 26 738        | 29 827        | 32 216        | 30 606        | 30 426        | 31 017        | 29 491        |

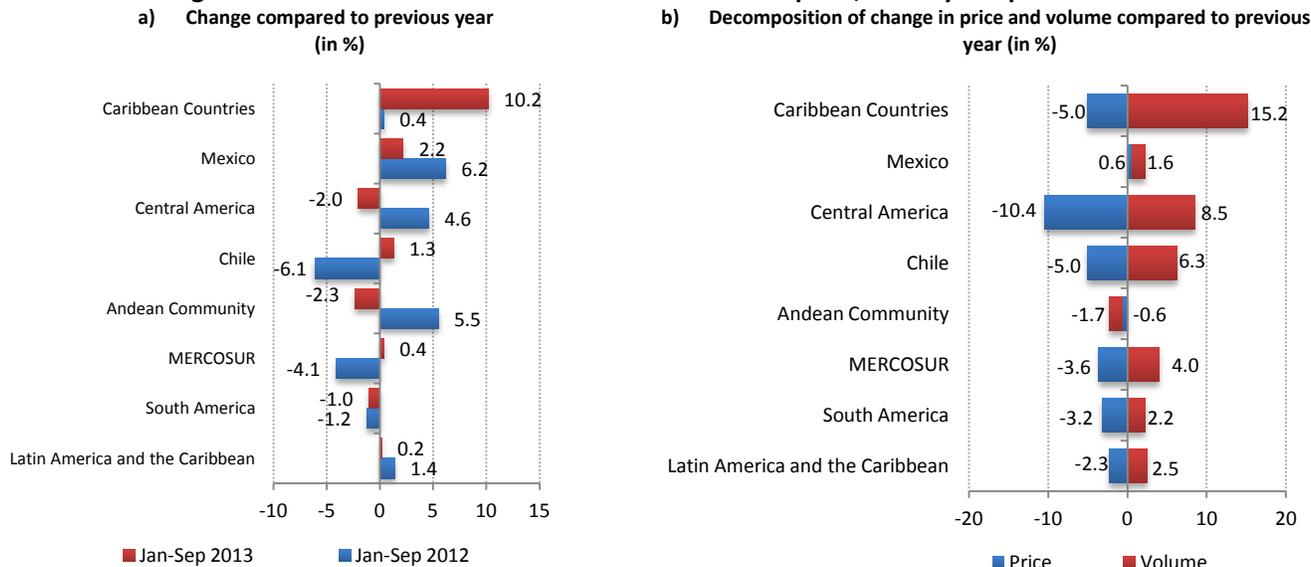
### c) Imports, October 2012 – September 2013

|  | Oct-12        | Nov-12        | Dec-12        | Jan-13        | Feb-13        | Mar-13        | Apr-13        | May-13        | Jun-13        | Jul-13        | Aug-13        | Sep-13        |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Argentina                              | 6 312         | 5 829         | 5 464         | 5 385         | 5 222         | 5 458         | 6 414         | 7 091         | 6 396         | 7 058         | 7 167         | 6 146         |
| Bolivia, Plurinational                 | 742           | 720           | 776           | 706           | 567           | 688           | 710           | 735           | 576           | 709           | 798           | 691           |
| Brazil                                 | 20 104        | 20 659        | 17 500        | 20 007        | 16 828        | 19 158        | 21 620        | 21 061        | 18 826        | 22 706        | 20 201        | 18 855        |
| Chile                                  | 7 897         | 6 237         | 6 219         | 6 637         | 5 781         | 5 702         | 6 388         | 6 685         | 5 777         | 6 568         | 6 697         | 5 853         |
| Colombia                               | 5 219         | 5 167         | 4 480         | 5 201         | 4 497         | 4 488         | 5 167         | 5 181         | 4 311         | 5 148         | 4 975         | 5 148         |
| Costa Rica                             | 1 616         | 1 551         | 1 473         | 1 563         | 1 354         | 1 474         | 1 606         | 1 488         | 1 392         | 1 538         | 1 525         | 1 502         |
| Cuba                                   | 752           | 762           | 761           | 742           | 761           | 756           | 749           | 757           | 778           | 745           | 683           | 703           |
| Ecuador                                | 2 037         | 2 076         | 2 017         | 2 281         | 2 123         | 2 214         | 2 249         | 2 499         | 2 228         | 2 277         | 2 550         | 2 199         |
| El Salvador                            | 864           | 862           | 835           | 915           | 802           | 825           | 947           | 957           | 961           | 967           | 934           | 831           |
| Guatemala                              | 1 532         | 1 431         | 1 410         | 1 465         | 1 337         | 1 346         | 1 610         | 1 596         | 1 382         | 1 532         | 1 387         | 1 474         |
| Honduras                               | 814           | 805           | 862           | 807           | 726           | 679           | 738           | 714           | 710           | 804           | 767           | 733           |
| Mexico                                 | 35 565        | 32 716        | 29 208        | 30 153        | 29 066        | 30 128        | 34 088        | 33 306        | 30 168        | 33 651        | 32 902        | 30 726        |
| Nicaragua                              | 539           | 467           | 538           | 426           | 460           | 402           | 493           | 466           | 479           | 491           | 510           | 445           |
| Panama                                 | 1 074         | 1 079         | 1 089         | 1 020         | 946           | 1 142         | 1 100         | 1 100         | 1 100         | 1 063         | 1 063         | 1 063         |
| Paraguay                               | 1 002         | 964           | 951           | 1 004         | 884           | 873           | 1 056         | 936           | 828           | 923           | 965           | 966           |
| Peru                                   | 3 640         | 3 492         | 3 039         | 3 877         | 3 236         | 3 355         | 3 591         | 3 863         | 3 320         | 3 869         | 4 024         | 3 536         |
| Dominican Republic                     | 1 271         | 1 246         | 1 279         | 1 022         | 1 182         | 1 103         | 1 102         | 1 141         | 1 160         | 1 184         | 1 177         | 1 084         |
| Uruguay                                | 1 057         | 927           | 946           | 895           | 839           | 916           | 992           | 1 018         | 828           | 988           | 1 011         | 1 129         |
| Venezuela, Bolivarian                  | 4 961         | 5 192         | 5 192         | 5 478         | 4 772         | 5 095         | 5 115         | 4 994         | 5 068         | 4 407         | 4 407         | 4 407         |
| <b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b> | <b>99 246</b> | <b>94 198</b> | <b>86 155</b> | <b>91 579</b> | <b>83 614</b> | <b>88 087</b> | <b>97 774</b> | <b>97 514</b> | <b>88 517</b> | <b>98 638</b> | <b>96 045</b> | <b>89 792</b> |
| CAN                                    | 11 638        | 11 455        | 10 313        | 12 065        | 10 423        | 10 745        | 11 717        | 12 278        | 10 435        | 12 003        | 12 347        | 11 574        |
| CARICOM                                | 2 249         | 2 015         | 2 114         | 1 994         | 2 231         | 2 285         | 2 040         | 1 926         | 2 228         | 2 010         | 2 302         | 2 301         |
| CACM                                   | 5 364         | 5 116         | 5 119         | 5 176         | 4 679         | 4 726         | 5 394         | 5 222         | 4 925         | 5 333         | 5 123         | 4 984         |
| MERCOSUR                               | 28 475        | 28 379        | 24 861        | 27 291        | 23 773        | 26 405        | 30 081        | 30 105        | 26 879        | 31 674        | 29 344        | 27 096        |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, the United States International Trade Commission (USITC), EUROSTAT of the European Union, *Statistics Canada*, the International Monetary Fund Direction of Trade Statistics (DOTS), and the Central American Monetary Council.

Notes: Data for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela are quarterly and estimated through applying the monthly DOTS trends. Data for Cuba and the CARICOM countries are estimated based on mirror statistics. Data for Honduras and Nicaragua do not include *maquila*. Data for the Dominican Republic for the period May to June are estimated. Data of Panama for 2013 are estimated.

**Figure 1. Latin America and the Caribbean: Trends in Exports, January – September 2013**



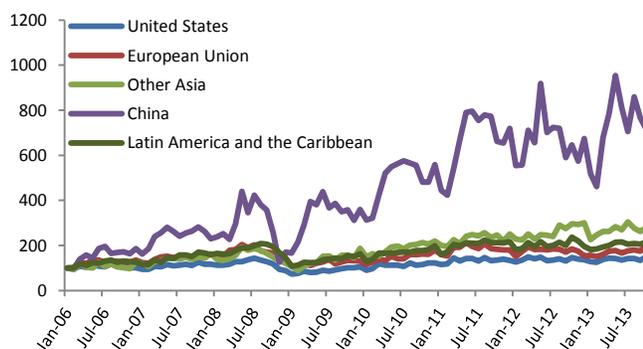
Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, EUROSTAT, and DOTS.

Notes: Data for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela are quarterly and estimated through applying the monthly DOTS trends. Data for Cuba and the CARICOM countries are estimated based on mirror statistics. Cuba's deflator is built based on the volume imported by the European Union; the Caribbean's deflator is built based on the deflators reported by Guyana and Jamaica to the IMF. CACM data do not include *maquila* for Honduras and Nicaragua.

In the first nine months of 2013, the 0.2% growth of the exports in the region was due to the 2.5% increase in export volumen that compensated the 2.3% reduction in prices. Within the sub-regions, the largest declines in prices were observed in the CACM (-10.4%) and in the Caribbean countries (-5%). In terms of export volume, the Andean Community registered a 7.5% decline, while the Caribbean countries, the CACM, Chile, and MERCOSUR showed increases in the pps period (15.2%, 8.5%, 6.3%, y 4.0%, respectively) (see Figure 1b).

**Figure 2 and Table 2. Latin America and the Caribbean and Selected Regions: Trends in Value of Exports, January 2006 – September 2013**

**Latin America and Caribbean Exports: Main Destinations**  
(January 2006 index =100)



**Growth Compared to Other Regions**  
(Accumulated to September each year, in percentages)

|  | Growth J-S 2011 | Growth J-S 2012 | Growth J-S 2013 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b> | 26.9            | 1.4             | 0.2             |
| <b>Africa and the Middle East</b>      | 33.5            | 2.1             | -4.2            |
| <b>Asia</b>                            | 22.5            | 2.4             | 5.4             |
| China                                  | 22.7            | 7.4             | 8.0             |
| Japan                                  | 9.1             | -0.8            | -12.2           |
| Euro area                              | 21.5            | -5.3            | 2.4             |
| United States                          | 17.6            | 5.6             | 1.3             |
| <b>World</b>                           | 23.0            | -0.4            | 1.3             |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, EUROSTAT, *Statistics Canada*, DOTS, and CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis.

Notes: Data for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela are quarterly and estimated through applying the monthly DOTS trends. Data for Cuba and CARICOM are estimated based on mirror statistics. Figure 2 does not include Panama and the Dominican Republic; it does also not include *maquila* for Honduras and Nicaragua.

Between January and September 2013, the main export destinations of Latin America and the Caribbean were the United States (39.6%), Asia (19.9%), and the region itself (18.4%). As regards imports, the United States also was the main source (30.2%), followed by Asia (27.2%), and the region itself (18.6%) (see Table 3).

**Table 3. Latin America and the Caribbean: Trade with Main Partners, October 2012 – September 2013**  
(Millions of current US\$)

|                                 | Oct-12        | Nov-12        | Dec-12        | Jan-13        | Feb-13        | Mar-13        | Apr-13        | May-13        | Jun-13        | Jul-13        | Aug-13        | Sep-13        | Share %      |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Exports</b>                  | <b>95 860</b> | <b>90 415</b> | <b>88 500</b> | <b>81 538</b> | <b>79 832</b> | <b>89 114</b> | <b>93 343</b> | <b>96 383</b> | <b>91 293</b> | <b>92 382</b> | <b>94 319</b> | <b>89 946</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| United States                   | 38 078        | 36 175        | 35 639        | 33 427        | 32 721        | 35 739        | 37 554        | 36 951        | 35 162        | 36 943        | 36 823        | 34 558        | 39.6         |
| European Union                  | 11 570        | 10 865        | 9 604         | 9 717         | 9 412         | 10 016        | 10 910        | 10 996        | 10 281        | 11 045        | 11 215        | 10 894        | 11.7         |
| Asia                            | 17 230        | 15 952        | 17 747        | 13 999        | 13 978        | 17 214        | 18 543        | 21 230        | 18 977        | 18 398        | 19 753        | 18 339        | 19.9         |
| China                           | 7 333         | 6 380         | 8 149         | 6 271         | 5 640         | 8 265         | 9 594         | 11 601        | 9 860         | 8 450         | 10 401        | 9 341         | 9.8          |
| Other Asia                      | 9 897         | 9 573         | 9 598         | 7 728         | 8 339         | 8 949         | 8 949         | 9 629         | 9 117         | 9 949         | 9 352         | 8 998         | 10.0         |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 18 716        | 17 840        | 15 766        | 14 919        | 15 072        | 15 920        | 16 423        | 17 483        | 17 721        | 16 848        | 16 974        | 16 967        | 18.4         |
| Rest of the World               | 10 266        | 9 583         | 9 744         | 9 475         | 8 649         | 10 225        | 9 914         | 9 722         | 9 152         | 9 149         | 9 554         | 9 187         | 10.5         |
| <b>Imports</b>                  | <b>96 901</b> | <b>91 872</b> | <b>83 786</b> | <b>89 537</b> | <b>81 486</b> | <b>85 842</b> | <b>95 573</b> | <b>95 273</b> | <b>86 258</b> | <b>96 392</b> | <b>93 805</b> | <b>87 646</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| United States                   | 30 209        | 28 463        | 26 564        | 27 534        | 25 279        | 27 061        | 29 012        | 27 776        | 25 477        | 28 108        | 28 501        | 26 817        | 30.2         |
| European Union                  | 13 485        | 13 107        | 11 295        | 12 901        | 11 212        | 12 448        | 14 044        | 14 136        | 12 625        | 13 986        | 13 983        | 12 362        | 14.5         |
| Asia                            | 27 223        | 25 022        | 21 959        | 24 471        | 22 152        | 22 109        | 24 983        | 25 563        | 23 547        | 27 117        | 26 159        | 24 632        | 27.2         |
| China                           | 15 429        | 13 757        | 12 553        | 13 425        | 12 396        | 11 898        | 12 791        | 13 625        | 12 798        | 15 051        | 14 735        | 14 361        | 14.9         |
| Other Asia                      | 11 794        | 11 266        | 9 406         | 11 045        | 9 756         | 10 211        | 12 192        | 11 937        | 10 749        | 12 066        | 11 424        | 10 270        | 12.3         |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 19 434        | 18 302        | 16 764        | 16 449        | 15 534        | 15 982        | 17 867        | 17 905        | 16 248        | 17 236        | 17 561        | 16 566        | 18.6         |
| Rest of the World               | 6 549         | 6 978         | 7 204         | 8 182         | 7 310         | 8 242         | 9 665         | 9 893         | 8 361         | 9 945         | 7 601         | 7 269         | 9.4          |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, EUROSTAT, *Statistics Canada*, and DOTS.

Notes: Includes data from Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and CARICOM. It does not include *maquila* for Honduras and Nicaragua. Data for Cuba and CARICOM are estimated based on mirror statistics of the United States, the European Union, Canada, and the rest of Latin America. In the case of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the total was disaggregated utilizing mirror statistics from the United States, the European Union, Japan, Chile, and Colombia; DOTS structure was used for the rest of the destinations.

In the first three quarters of 2013, the exports to the European Union and to the United States decreased by 4.8% and 0.8%, respectively, with respect to the same period in 2012. Sales to Asia continued with the same dynamics observed since the end of 2012 and increased by 7.2%. Exports to the region itself increased by 0.6%. At the imports side, the largest increases are observed in those coming from the European Union (+7.6%) and Asia (+5.5%).

Up to September 2013, the largest share of intra-regional trade was observed in the Central American Common Market (25.5%), the only sub-region whose coefficient lay above the aggregated one for whole Latin America and the Caribbean (18.9%). The Andean Community (CAN) remains the grouping with the lowest coefficient of intra-sub-regional trade (7.8%). Moreover, the negative growth recorded for intra-CAN and the trade of Venezuela and Mexico with the region should be noted (see Table 4). The intra-regional trade grew at a rate of 0.6% and the exports of the region by 0.2%.

**Table 4. Latin America: Intra-Subregional and Intra-Regional Trade, October 2012 – September 2013**  
(Percentages of total exports and change rates)

|                         | Oct-12 | Nov-12 | Dec-12 | Jan-13 | Feb-13 | Mar-13 | Apr-13 | May-13 | Jun-13 | Jul-13 | Aug-13 | Sep-13 | Change<br>J-S 13/J-S 12 <sup>a</sup> |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Intra CAN               | 8.2    | 8.0    | 6.7    | 6.4    | 8.1    | 7.7    | 8.0    | 7.2    | 7.4    | 7.9    | 6.2    | 7.8    | -2.0                                 |
| Intra CACM              | 23.5   | 24.3   | 22.5   | 22.4   | 23.4   | 21.1   | 21.7   | 22.9   | 23.9   | 24.3   | 23.7   | 25.5   | 6.3                                  |
| Intra MERCOSUR          | 15.2   | 15.7   | 15.4   | 17.0   | 17.3   | 15.4   | 15.1   | 14.3   | 14.1   | 15.2   | 14.7   | 15.3   | 9.6                                  |
| Chile to LAC            | 18.1   | 17.8   | 15.9   | 16.3   | 15.7   | 17.8   | 16.1   | 18.1   | 18.8   | 19.1   | 19.6   | 18.5   | 2.4                                  |
| Mexico to LAC           | 7.3    | 6.8    | 6.5    | 6.6    | 6.8    | 7.4    | 7.3    | 7.5    | 7.7    | 7.6    | 7.9    | 7.7    | -3.7                                 |
| Venezuela, B.R., to LAC | 13.6   | 12.2   | 13.4   | 12.2   | 16.9   | 15.1   | 14.6   | 15.5   | 15.1   | 12.7   | 16.1   | 16.0   | -7.5                                 |
| Intra LAC               | 19.5   | 19.7   | 17.8   | 18.3   | 18.9   | 17.9   | 17.6   | 18.1   | 19.4   | 18.2   | 18     | 18.9   | 0.6                                  |
| Intra LAC w/o Mexico    | 20.1   | 20.8   | 18.8   | 19.7   | 20.2   | 18.3   | 17.9   | 18.5   | 20.1   | 23.9   | 23.3   | 24.8   | 0.6                                  |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, EUROSTAT, and DOTS.

Note: It does not include *maquila* for Honduras and Nicaragua. MERCOSUR data include the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

<sup>a</sup> Growth rates with respect to the same period of the previous year.

## B – Trade by Category and Main Products

**Table 5. Latin America and the Caribbean: Main Traded Product Categories, October 2012 – September 2013**  
(Millions of current US\$)

|                           | Oct-12 | Nov-12 | Dec-12 | Jan-13 | Feb-13 | Mar-13 | Apr-13 | May-13 | Jun-13 | Jul-13 | Aug-13 | Sep-13 | Part. % |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| <b>EXPORTS</b>            | 94 761 | 89 512 | 88 235 | 78 962 | 78 833 | 87 514 | 91 642 | 95 078 | 89 989 | 91 046 | 93 032 | 88 939 | 100.0   |
| Agriculture and Livestock | 11 639 | 10 750 | 10 417 | 11 103 | 10 110 | 11 203 | 12 318 | 12 296 | 10 794 | 10 963 | 11 354 | 10 047 | 12.6    |
| Mining and Petroleum      | 29 812 | 29 153 | 30 870 | 26 208 | 25 375 | 26 578 | 26 597 | 27 670 | 26 194 | 26 730 | 27 893 | 28 081 | 30.4    |
| Manufactures              | 53 309 | 49 608 | 46 948 | 41 651 | 43 347 | 49 733 | 52 727 | 55 112 | 53 001 | 53 353 | 53 786 | 50 811 | 57.0    |
| <b>IMPORTS</b>            | 96 516 | 91 122 | 83 380 | 87 180 | 79 692 | 83 641 | 93 298 | 93 283 | 83 818 | 94 498 | 91 720 | 85 402 | 100.0   |
| Capital Goods             | 18 198 | 17 071 | 16 883 | 16 666 | 14 713 | 15 137 | 16 557 | 16 551 | 15 017 | 16 652 | 15 915 | 14 856 | 17.9    |
| Intermediate Inputs       | 47 532 | 42 926 | 39 830 | 40 658 | 39 062 | 40 455 | 44 798 | 45 937 | 41 609 | 46 324 | 45 565 | 42 927 | 48.9    |
| Consumption Goods         | 18 701 | 17 847 | 16 229 | 16 278 | 15 020 | 16 315 | 17 815 | 16 895 | 15 825 | 17 682 | 17 982 | 17 037 | 19.0    |
| Fuels                     | 12 085 | 13 277 | 10 438 | 13 578 | 10 896 | 11 733 | 14 128 | 13 900 | 11 367 | 13 840 | 12 258 | 10 583 | 14.2    |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, USITC, and EUROSTAT.

Note: Includes data from Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Uruguay, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. It does not include *maquila* for Honduras and Nicaragua.

By product categories, the largest changes between January and September 2013 with respect to the previous year were registered in the exports of agriculture and livestock (+23.6%) and mining and petroleum (-7.3%). Manufactured goods that alone accounted for the majority of total exports increased by 2.4%.

The decline in export value can be mainly explained by the change in minerals and oil, which together represent about 30% of the total exports. Likewise, the Latin American commodities price index fell by 3.3% in the first three months of this year (see Table 6.b), with declines in nearly all products (especially beverages and sugar). In terms of export volume, the sharp declines registered by gas and iron, as well as the increases registered by soy and sugar (see Table 6a).

**Table 6. Latin America and the Caribbean: Main Products Exported, January – September 2013***(Millions of current US\$, percentages and price indices 2000=100)***a) Selected Products**

| Products         | (D)        | Value          |                | Value change | Prices       |              |              | Volume change |            |
|------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
|                  |            | Jan-Sep 2012   | Jan-Sep 2013   |              | Jan-Sep 2012 | Jan-Sep 2013 | Price change |               |            |
| Sugar            | 2%         | 10 451         | 11 435         | 9.4          | 212.8        | 271.1        | 216.6        | -20.1         | 29.5       |
| Banana           | 1%         | 2 739          | 2 999          | 9.5          | 223.9        | 237.6        | 220.7        | -7.1          | 16.6       |
| Beverages (A)    | 3%         | 8 355          | 6 772          | -18.9        | 115.8        | 177.9        | 129.7        | -27.1         | 8.1        |
| Meats            | 2%         | 16 255         | 17 574         | 8.1          | 199.9        | 213.4        | 209.5        | -1.8          | 9.9        |
| Copper           | 9%         | 39 958         | 39 071         | -2.2         | 394.7        | 439.2        | 407.2        | -7.3          | 5.1        |
| Gas              | 2%         | 5 468          | 6 111          | 11.8         | 83.8         | 58.9         | 85.5         | 45.3          | -33.6      |
| Iron-Steel (B)   | 5%         | 12 861         | 10 437         | -18.8        | 485          | 473.5        | 489.8        | 3.4           | -22.3      |
| Oil              | 30%        | 134 626        | 128 122        | -4.8         | 405.5        | 395.3        | 387.4        | -2.0          | -2.8       |
| Soy (C)          | 3%         | 22 262         | 29 571         | 32.8         | 262.5        | 277.2        | 255.6        | -7.8          | 40.6       |
| <b>Sub-total</b> | <b>57%</b> | <b>252 975</b> | <b>252 092</b> | <b>-0.3</b>  | <b>206.8</b> | <b>210.8</b> | <b>203.2</b> | <b>-3.6</b>   | <b>3.2</b> |

**b) Product Groups**

|                     | (E)         | Prices       |              |              |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                     |             | Jan-Sep 2012 | Jan-Sep 2013 | Price change |
| Foodstuff           | 10%         | 171.5        | 167.5        | -2.3         |
| Beverages           | 3%          | 177.9        | 129.7        | -27.1        |
| Oils and flours     | 8%          | 215.8        | 207.4        | -3.9         |
| Other agro          | 9%          | 151.1        | 152.0        | 0.6          |
| Minerals and metals | 27%         | 248.4        | 239.8        | -3.4         |
| Fuels               | 45%         | 181.8        | 177.5        | -2.4         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>100%</b> | <b>198.4</b> | <b>191.9</b> | <b>-3.3</b>  |

Source: ECLAC based on data from Statistical Offices, Central Banks, Export Promotion Agencies, CEPALSTAT and the World Bank. See description in the Annex in Excel.

Notes: Product statistics are made up by main exporters in the region and not with all countries; in each case, they represent more than 70% of the annual total in that product. In the case of prices, it is an index calculated by ECLAC.

(A) Average of coffee, tea, and yerba mate; (B) Made up of iron and steel manufactures; (C) Soy grains; (D) Weight of each product in the total regional exports; (E) Weight of each group in natural resources and manufacturing exports in the region.

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