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**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION  
FOR WESTERN ASIA**

**ANALYTICAL REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS AND ISSUES IN  
THE EXTERNAL TRADE AND PAYMENTS SITUATION OF  
COUNTRIES OF WESTERN ASIA**

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WORLD TRADE PERFORMANCE AND POLICIES

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Part One

**INTERNATIONAL SETTING: WORLD TRADE PERFORMANCE AND POLICIES**

## I. MERCHANDISE TRADE

The volume of world exports grew by 4.5 per cent in 1992, i.e., lower than the 6 per cent forecast a year ago but higher than the rate recorded in 1991 of 3.6 per cent. Growth was modest in comparison with the trend of the late 1980s (8.1 per cent and 7.8 per cent in 1988 and 1989, respectively); but far exceeded the growth of world output which barely recovered from the recession of the preceding year.

The expansion in trade at rates faster than could be explained by the past relationship between the growth of trade and of world output has been a notable feature of world trade in recent years. During the period 1988-1992, the growth of world output slowed down; its annual rate dropping from 4.4 to 0.6 per cent. The growth of world trade also slowed down, but far less dramatically; the annual rate decreasing from 8 to 4.5 per cent.

The growth of trade in 1992, in fact, closely reflected the regional pattern of growth in output. The growth of both trade and output differed widely among regions and countries. The rate of growth in the volume of exports of developed market economies increased from 2.5 per cent in 1991 to 3.9 per cent in 1992 (see table 1). The modest expansion reflected mainly the steep slow down in Japan's export performance, while growth of the United States exports did not keep pace with that of previous years, as its major markets in Europe and Japan were sluggish. The deceleration was especially marked for exports of capital goods. These unfavourable trends were partly offset by strong sales to developing countries in Asia and Latin America. The volume of United States exports, nevertheless, grew in 1992 by 7 per cent, which was almost twice the global growth rate. The continued growth in the United States exports, despite the weakness in international demand, reflected the degree of international competitiveness these exports regained in recent years. In Western Europe, export performance was sluggish in both Germany and the United Kingdom, while France entered 1992 with relatively strong export growth which stagnated by the end of the year.

Exports of developing countries grew faster than the world average, i.e. by 7.4 per cent, continuing a trend of the recent past. The most important force behind that trend has been the performance of countries in South and East Asia where exports expanded by 11.2 per cent. The smallest rate of growth, 0.5 per cent, was recorded by countries of Western Asia, while the volume of exports from the mediterranean group of developing countries declined by 6.7 per cent. In Latin America, the volume of exports increased by over 6 per cent in 1992. The increase in export earnings represented, a significant improvement over the previous year when exports declined by 3 per cent.

In the group of economies in transition, the net effect of attempts to redirect trade has been a sharp decline in both exports and imports in 1991 as the expansion of trade with new partners was insufficient to offset the contraction with traditional ones. The states of the former Soviet Union entered deeply into this process in 1992, while in Eastern Europe, where the transition process started earlier, the overall contraction in trade appears to have ended as the volume of exports grew by 5 per cent, compared with a decline of 7 per cent in 1991 (see table D).

The volume of imports into the developed market economies' increased by 3.7 per cent in 1992, compared to 4.6 per cent and 3.1 per cent in 1990 and 1991, respectively. After two years of almost no growth at all, the volume of imports into North America surged by 11 per cent and reflected the economic recovery that began to take hold in the United States, the world largest trading economy, and Canada during the year. The imports of North America, however, accounted for less than one quarter of the trade of the developed market economies. Japan, in contrast, experienced a drop of almost 1 per cent in the volume of imports due to a slow down in economic activity. The growth of imports into the developed market economy countries was also held back by the sharp curtailment of imports in Germany, the world's second largest trading country, due to recession, as well as by declines in other European countries.

As a whole, the developed market economies provided only a weak impetus to world trade in 1992 and they are not expected to be a major source of dynamism in 1993 either.

In the economies in transition, imports declined by 24.7 per cent in 1991 (almost five times the decline recorded in 1990), mainly due to the sharp drop in the level of imports by the former Soviet Union (38.5 per cent). Imports of Eastern Europe fell by 5.8 per cent, compared to a decline of about 9 per cent in 1990. In 1992, a growth rate of 5.7 per cent is forecast as their economies are showing signs of picking up.

Imports of developing countries grew faster than exports (10.3 per cent against 7.4 per cent) but slower than in 1991 when they rose by 13.6 per cent; and this was true across the subregions except for Africa and for South and East Asia. The largest gap between import and export growth was in West Asia (4.6 per cent against 0.5 per cent) and in Latin America and the Caribbean (21.7 per cent against 6.3 per cent). In West Asia, the overall stagnation in exports reflected the continuation of sanctions against Iraq, slow recovery of Kuwaiti oil exports, and economic problems in some trading partners (the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe), while reconstruction of Kuwait, trade liberalization measures and the economic boom in the Gulf states helped to boost imports. In other developing countries, trade liberalization, also contributed to

Table 1. Average annual variations in world volume of merchandise trade, selected years  
(Percentage)

	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992 <sup>a/</sup>	1993 <sup>b/</sup>
<u>World exports</u>	3.8	8.1	7.8	5.1	3.6	4.5	5.8
<u>Developed market economies</u>							
Exports	5.2	8.6					
Imports	4.6	8.7	6.7	5.7	2.5	3.9	4.9
			7.5	4.6	3.1	3.7	---
<u>Developing countries</u>							
Exports	1.3	8.0	11.7	7.9	9.7	7.4	
Imports	-0.7	15.0	8.9	5.8	13.6	10.3	9.2
Latin America							
Exports	0.1	7.7	6.8	3.0	3.9	6.3	
Imports	3.1	6.5	4.5	5.1	17.5	21.7	
Africa							
Exports	2.7	7.6	4.7	8.1	6.8	4.1	
Imports	-10.3	5.8	-1.3	7.0	2.6	2.6	
West Asia							
Exports	-4.0	8.9	17.3	3.1	4.3	0.5	
Imports	-13.8	5.8	3.3	-3.1	14.8	4.6	
South and East Asia							
Exports	1.8	14.1	10.6	7.3	17.2	11.2	
Imports	-2.1	23.8	14.3	9.6	15.4	9.7	
Mediterranean c/							
Exports	9.1	4.2	4.3	2.7	2.5	-6.7	
Imports	6.4	0.3	8.4	18.0	-8.4	-6.0	
<u>China</u>							
Exports	14.4	11.2	6.6	14.5	18.2	13.9	
Imports	67.1	19.8	5.8	-14.4	20.3	19.7	
<u>Economies in transition</u>							
Exports	-0.8	4.5	-1.0	-9.7	-18.0	---	
Imports	5.2	3.6	5.0	-5.2	-24.7	---	
Eastern Europe							
Exports	2.1	4.3	-1.8	-6.5	-7.0	5.0	
Imports	5.7	3.3	1.3	-8.9	-5.8	5.7	
Former Soviet Union							
Exports	-4.3	4.8	0.0	-1.3	-27.7	---	
Imports	4.7	4.0	9.3	1.4	-38.5	---	

Source: United Nations, World Economic Survey 1993, p. 57, table A.19 and pp. 224-225.

a/ Preliminary estimates.

b/ Forecasts.

c/ includes : Cyprus, Turkey, Malta and former Yugoslavia.

--- = Not available



the growth in imports. Appreciation of the currency, especially in Latin America and the Caribbean, contributed to slow down exports and accelerate the growth of imports<sup>1/</sup>

The dollar value of world exports (excluding the exports of the Asian part of the former Soviet Union), increased by 6.9 per cent in 1992, compared to a decline of 0.3 per cent in 1991, to reach \$3640.3 billion. All the main country groups: the developed market economy countries, developing countries, China and countries in Central and Eastern Europe participated directly in the improved performance, while in the former Soviet Union the rate of decline in exports slowed down appreciably. The rate of growth in the value of exports of developed market economy countries increased from 1 per cent to 6.4 per cent (from \$ 2489.2 billion to \$2648.4 billion); in developing countries from 6.2 per cent to 9.2 per cent (from \$ 826.3 billion to \$ 902.3 billion); and in China from 15.8 per cent to 17.7 per cent (from \$ 71.9 billion to \$ 84.6 billion). The value of exports of countries in Central and Eastern Europe recovered slightly by 2.9 per cent, having collapsed by 36.2 per cent in 1991, to \$ 45.7 billion. The rate of deterioration in the value of exports of the European part of the former Soviet Union slowed considerably from 54.9 per cent in 1991 to 5.4 per cent only in 1992, with the value of exports attaining \$ 43.8 billion.

In dollar terms, imports into the developed market-economy countries increased by 4.6 per cent, after declining by 0.1 per cent in 1991, or from \$2587.9 billion to \$2707.9 billion. The rate of growth in the imports of developing countries as a whole and of China increased from 9.7 per cent to 11.9 per cent and from 19.6 per cent to 25.9 per cent, respectively. The aggregate dollar value of imports of countries in Central and Eastern Europe increased by 5.6 per cent after collapsing by 40.6 per cent in 1991, while the rate of deterioration in the value of imports of the former Soviet Union (European part) declined from 59.4 per cent in 1991 to 11.1 per cent in 1992 (see table 2 and annex table 1)).

## II. SERVICES TRADE

The rate of growth in the value of World exports of services declined from 19.8 per cent in 1990, its highest level since 1985, to only 4.7 per cent in 1991 and reached \$ 1755.5 billion. The slow down affected both non-factor and factor services, but was more pronounced in the former (see table 3).

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<sup>1/</sup> United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, World Economic Survey, 1993.

Table 2. Average annual variations in the value of world merchandise trade, selected periods  
(Percentage)

	1985-88	1989	1990	1991	1992
<u>World exports</u>	13.4	7.9	12.9	- 0.3	6.9
<u>Developed Market-economy countries</u>					
Exports	15.6	8.4	14.9	1.0	6.4
Imports	14.4	9.2	14.2	- 0.13	4.6
<u>Developing countries</u>					
Exports	8.5	11.9	12.9	6.2	9.2
Imports	11.3	10.3	12.6	9.7	11.9
<u>China</u>					
Exports	20.2	10.6	18.2	15.8	17.7
Imports	9.4	7.0	- 9.8	19.6	25.9
<u>Countries in Central and Eastern Europe</u>					
Exports	7.0	-17.1	-15.2	-36.2	2.9
Imports	6.2	-16.0	-10.7	-40.8	5.6
<u>Former Soviet Union</u>					
Exports	8.2	- 1.3	- 4.6	-54.9	-5.4 <sup>a/</sup>
Imports	8.9	6.9	5.3	-59.4	-11.1 <sup>a/</sup>

Source: United Nations, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, Vol. XLVII, No. 6, June 1993.

a/ Former Soviet Union/ Europe.

Table 3. World trade in services

	<u>Value (million US dollars)</u>						<u>Annual rate of variation (per cent)</u>			
	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1985-1988	1988-1989	1989-1990	1990-1991	
	<u>Exports</u>									
<u>World</u>	759990	1197178	1400282	1676981	1755521	16.4	17.0	19.8	4.7	
Non-factor services a/	401359	615361	681740	822617	862065	15.3	10.8	20.7	4.8	
Factor services b/	358631	581817	718542	854364	893456	17.5	23.5	18.9	4.6	
Industrial countries	613627	1005934	1183856	1433721	1502298	17.9	17.7	21.1	4.9	
Non-factor services	306002	481557	531243	649958	680769	16.3	10.3	22.3	4.0	
Factor services	307625	524377	652613	783763	821529	19.5	24.5	20.1	4.8	
Developing countries	146363	191244	216426	243261	253223	9.3	13.1	12.4	4.1	
Non-factor services	95357	133803	150497	172660	181296	12.0	12.5	14.7	5.0	
Factor services	51006	57441	65929	70601	71927	4.0	14.8	7.1	1.9	
	<u>Imports</u>									
<u>World</u>	842822	1279414	1477143	1770312	1840550	14.9	15.4	19.8	4.0	
Non-factor services	435491	646831	716908	860246	894191	14.1	10.8	20.0	3.9	
Factor services	407331	632583	760235	910066	946359	15.8	20.2	19.7	4.0	
Industrial countries	598047	1006657	1168229	1426779	1482478	19.0	16.1	22.1	3.9	
Non-factor services	294022	484630	528882	646222	661513	18.1	9.1	22.2	2.4	
Factor services	304025	522027	639347	780557	820965	19.8	22.5	22.1	5.2	
Developing countries	244775	272757	308914	343533	358072	3.7	13.3	11.2	4.2	
Non-factor services	141469	162201	188026	214024	232678	4.7	15.9	13.8	8.7	
Factor services	103306	110556	120888	129509	125394	2.3	9.3	7.1	-3.2	

Source : IMF, Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook, volume 43, Part 2, 1992.

a/ Non-factor services include shipment, other official goods and services, transportation, travel and other private goods and services.

b/ Factor Services include direct investment income, other investment income and private transfers.

The unfavourable trend, however, was more evident in the industrialized countries than in developing ones, with growth falling back from 21.1 per cent to 4.8 per cent in the former, and from 12.4 per cent to 4.1 per cent in the latter.

In the industrial countries, the slower growth resulted mainly from the persistence of recession and was almost evenly distributed between non-factor services and factor services; while in developing countries, the slow down was much sharper in factor services (from 7.1 per cent to 1.9 per cent) relative to non-factor services (from 14.7 per cent to 5 per cent). This was mainly due to large liquidation of investments abroad by some surplus developing countries in the Middle East following the Gulf war, and the decline in the export of labour services by many developing labour-exporting countries to the Gulf States and Iraq following the Gulf crisis and war.

The dominant position of the industrial countries in World trade in services is too evident. Of a total export value of \$175.6 billion, these countries were responsible for \$150.2 billion, or 85.5 per cent, compared to \$25.3 billion for developing countries, or 14.5 per cent. This dominance is particularly pronounced in the category of factor services; the position of developing countries being somewhat relatively better in the case of exports of non-factor services.

### III. POLICY ISSUES

The preference for unilateralism and for bilateral and regional trading arrangements continued to grow stronger. Friction between some of the largest trading partners rose after a period of relative calm. In early 1993, tension in trade relations between the European Community and the United States of America extended to cover issues of trade in steel and semi-conductors and government procurement. Japan's trade surplus rose to record levels and aggravated the old tension between the country and its major trading partners, especially the United States. Excessive focus on bilateral or even sectoral trade imbalances has led to excessive proliferation of managed trade agreements which appeared to gain intellectual support; and there is a risk that regional trading arrangements could become inward looking, rather than serving primarily to promote regional integration in the context of multilateral trade<sup>2/</sup>.

#### A. Progress in the Uruguay Round

Failure to conclude the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, already over two years behind schedule, continued to cast doubt on the future of the multilateral trading system.

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<sup>2/</sup> IMF, World Economic Outlook, May 1993, p.7; and United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, World Economic Survey 1993, pp 57-8.

The Draft Final Act, embodying the results of the Uruguay Round, was submitted by the GATT's previous Director-General to participants on 20 December 1991. In January 1992, the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC), after having a first collective assessment, agreed to move forward on a work programme aimed to conclude the Round, but negotiations failed to take off<sup>3/</sup>. In November, differences between the United States and the European Communities (EC), which often flared up over the last six years of negotiations, reached crisis level following the breakdown of talks in Chicago over the European subsidies to oil seeds. However, by the end of the month, the two parties reached agreement on the issue of agricultural subsidies though France, the EC country most concerned with agricultural subsidies, did not accept the Agreement. A package of agreements acceptable to all parties still requires complex negotiations in a large number of interlinked areas, including services, tariffs and non-tariff barriers. Moreover, negotiations still face strong opposition to the liberalization of farm trade in a number of other countries<sup>4/</sup>.

Concerned about the poor performance of the world economy, high unemployment and protectionist pressures 37 governments, led by Argentina, called on 11 March 1993 on the United States, the European Communities and Japan to accord the highest priority to an early and successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round to stimulate growth of world trade and economic recovery<sup>5/</sup>.

Some observers blame the European Communities for failure to complete the Round. They agree that the EC dragged its feet before coming up with a reluctant and minimal proposal to reform farm trade. Even after the outline of a farm agreement had been sketched in Washington in November 1992, the Communities equivocated with the previous administration of the United States which was in a mood for compromise<sup>6/</sup>.

The GATT Director-General called in May 1993 on world leaders attending the Economic Summit in Tokyo in July to bring credibility to the December 1993 deadline contained in the request by the President of the United States to Congress for a new "fast track" negotiating

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<sup>3/</sup> UNCTAD, News of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, No. 052, 11 November 1992.

<sup>4/</sup> Containerization-international, December 23, 1992; and United Nations Economic and Social Council, The World Economy at the End of 1992, E/1993/INF/1.

<sup>5/</sup> GATT, FOCUS: GATT Newsletter, No. 97, March 1993, p.1 .

<sup>6/</sup> The Economist, 22 May, 1993.

authority<sup>7/</sup>. The leaders of the Seven major industrial countries at the conclusion of their meeting renewed their commitment to the finalization of the Round without explicitly fixing a date.

However, in a recent development, Mr. Peter Sutherland, the new Director-General of GATT, firmly set the 15th of December 1993 as a make-or-break date of the Round; and the trade envoys from 116 nations, members in the Trade Negotiation Committee (TNC), endorsed the deadline in Geneva on 30 August. Mr. Sutherland emphasized that there will be no further extension of the negotiations, and he called for a ministerial meeting in Geneva for April 1994 to sign a more than 500 page treaty. Mr. Sutherland's work programme received unanimous support, according to the GATT spokesman<sup>8/</sup>.

## B. Regional Economic Blocs

### The Single European Market

On January 1, 1993, the European Communities (EC) formally became a single market where goods, services, capital and people could move freely. On this date, border controls were removed on goods only; movement of capital has been free since July 1990, and movement of people has not been implemented yet. Initially, 1 July, 1993 has been set for removing all border's inspection points although three member countries, namely, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark, still oppose the free movement of people for fear of encouraging terrorism, drug trafficking and illegal immigration.

On 18 October 1993, nine member countries agreed in Paris to remove gradually all borders restrictions between them over a period of two months, starting on the first of December 1993 and ending on the first of February 1994<sup>9/</sup>.

### The North American Free Trade Agreement

After fourteen months of negotiations, the United States, Canada, and Mexico reached during the second week of December 1992 a free trade agreement; thus creating the world's largest free-trade block. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), to take effect on the first of January 1994, will eliminate barriers to trade gradually over a period of 15 years

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<sup>7/</sup> GATT Press Communiqué, GATT/1582, 24 May 1993.

<sup>8/</sup> Jordan Times, daily newspaper, 1 September 1993, p.7.

<sup>9/</sup> Al-Dustour, daily newspaper (in Arabic), 19 October 1993.

between the three nations and form a free trade zone of 360 million people generating goods and services worth \$6 trillion a year. Barriers would fall on trade ranging from fruits and vegetables to cars and financial services. The agreement marks the first time that the United States has covered environmental concerns in a trade treaty, mainly pollution along the United States - Mexico border.

#### Other regional economic blocs

In Eastern Europe three countries: Poland, Hungary and former Czechoslovakia signed a free-trade agreement in December 1992 to remove duties on industrial and agricultural goods. The pact was to come into force after three months and is intended to facilitate a gradual break down of obstacles to trade among the signatories by the year 2001. Barriers such as taxes, duties and quotas on trade in raw materials were to be removed in March 1993, while duties on agricultural goods and many industrial products are subject to a five-year gradual decrease<sup>10/</sup>.

In another part of the world, six former Soviet Republics and Afghanistan joined in November 1992, the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) consisting of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey, thus creating an economic bloc linking Europe and Asia. The 10-member group becomes the largest economic bloc after the European Communities and NAFTA, with a population of 300 million, but is unlikely to exert the same influence<sup>11/</sup>.

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<sup>10/</sup> Jordan Times, December 12, 1992.

<sup>11/</sup> Jordan Times, November 29, 1992.

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Box I

German Unification

Two years after reunification, the consequences are proving more complex than anticipated. Growth in the Gross National Product (GNP) is likely to drop to 1 per cent in 1992 from 3.6 per cent in 1991. The cost of transforming the economy of former East Germany has produced huge strains. The Five "New Lander" (regions) of the former East Germany have lost their captive markets in the ex-Soviet bloc and many industries have collapsed. Unemployment could reach 3 million in 1993 on current trends. The eastern part of united Germany is socking up resources; DM 400,000 million have been injected over the past three years and annual transfers are expected to peak in 1993 at DM 185,800 million. The private sector has not matched this huge public investment on anything like the scale predicted. The authorities have pursued a tight monetary policy to protect the low inflation record in the face of a huge fiscal deficit. The policy has worked, but its effects have been damaging for Germany's partners in the European Monetary System (EMS), because high German interest rates have bound the rest of Europe to the same rigorous policies at a time recession was gathering momentum. The consequent disarray of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) has thrown the calendar for closer European Union off course and put the spotlight on the Bundesbank, Germany's Central Bank. The tensions are a new experience to Germany: instead of using its strength to promote moves to unite Europe more closely, it stands accused of using Europe to its own advantage by exporting the costs of unification. At the same time, domestic opposition to closer European Union is on the rise<sup>12/</sup>.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's plan for a "solidarity pact" between politicians, unions and business to pay the rising bills in Eastern Germany received a set back when on December 17th 1992, the opposition Social Democratic Party leaked what it said were government proposals to cut into subsidies and social programmes. The list of possible cuts included unemployment benefits, housing allowances, payments for a second child and reducing subsidies to western farmers, coal mines and shipyards. Also, the Government plan is claimed to contemplate the introduction of school fees thus undermining the German traditional right to free education.

Some of these measures will be unavoidable. The Government plans to spend an extra DM 12 billion boosting new industry in Eastern Germany over the next few years. The solidarity pact is supposed to divide the bill among federal and regional governments, unions and business. The Social Democrats demand higher taxes on the rich, while the Federal Government rules out a tax increase before 1995. It insists on savings in the West whatever new money it spends in the East 2/.

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<sup>12/</sup> Middle East Economic Digest (MEED), 30 October 1992.



Reunification has played havoc with Germany's energy imports and the Middle Eastern and North African suppliers are improving their penetration of a market which is the largest in Europe. Oil import volumes from the Middle East rose by 11.8 per cent in 1991 to 35.9 million tons. The greatest increase was in imports from Saudi Arabia, which rose by 30 per cent. However, Germany's biggest supplier still Libya which increased its deliveries by 6.9 per cent. Germany's total exports to the Middle East, however, increased by 24.4 per cent in 1991 compared to 1990, while its total imports increased by only 5.3 per cent 3/.

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2/ The Economist, December 26, 1992 and January 8 1993.

3/ MEED, 30 October 1992.

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**Part Two**

**DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EXTERNAL TRADE  
AND PAYMENTS OF THE ESCWA REGION**

## IV. MERCHANDISE TRADE

### A. Overall Performance

International factors and events, mainly the world economic recession, the unification of Germany and the transition process in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, which significantly affected world trade performance in 1990 and 1991, have had less impact on the external sector of the ESCWA region compared to domestic and regional events such as the Gulf war, sanctions against Iraq, re-construction of Kuwait, economic recovery in the GCC countries and structural adjustment programmes in a number of member countries, including the liberalization of the external sector.

The maintenance of economic sanctions against Iraq, and the destruction of Kuwait's capacity to export oil, kept these two major oil exporters off the oil market during 1991; in addition, oil prices went back to their pre-war level. Consequently, the region's total exports declined by about 12.4 per cent compared to an increase of about 16 per cent in 1990, despite improvement in the export performance of some countries. In contrast, imports, excluding Iraq, increased by 6.4 per cent compared to 3.6 per cent in 1990. The rise in the region's imports was mainly caused by the economic boom in the GCC countries and re-construction activity in Kuwait. The decline in exports and expansion in imports, coupled with higher imports of services and transfer payments, were reflected in a widening of the current account deficit. Consequently, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait resorted to borrowing from the international financial markets and to drawing on reserves. Improvements in the current account of other ESCWA countries, especially Egypt and Jordan, notwithstanding, the region's overall current account turned a very large deficit.

Although statistics on the region's external sector during 1992 are still partial and incomplete, judging by some indicators and preliminary data<sup>13/</sup>, the region's exports and imports should show a marked expansion in 1992. However, while improvement should appear in the GCC countries current account with the settlement of the financial obligations arising from the Gulf crisis, the surge in other ESCWA countries' current account recorded in 1991 must have been checked: "exceptional financing" and transfers in 1991 were transitory phenomena connected with the Gulf crisis and war, while tourism has been badly hit in Egypt.

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<sup>13/</sup> In particular, the recovery in Kuwait's oil production and exports; the continuation of the economic boom in the GCC countries, which began in oil and government related activities in 1991 and then spread to private sector activity during 1992; trade liberalization measures in some member countries which started in 1991 and continued into 1992; and, the efforts of some countries to reach new markets following the loss of traditional ones.

## 1. Exports

The aggregate dollar value of the ESCWA region's exports (excluding Iraq) declined from \$93.1 billion in 1990, its highest level since 1983, to \$89.9 billion in 1991, or by 3.5 per cent. It remained, however, higher than in 1985 and 1988-1989 (see table 4 and annex table A-2). The decline reflected essentially the drop in overall GCC countries' exports by 3.8 per cent. Apart from Saudi Arabia and Qatar, where exports increased by 10 per cent and 6.4 per cent, respectively, exports of the remaining four GCC countries declined at rates ranging between 6.5 per cent for Oman and 91 per cent for Kuwait. The increase in Saudi Arabia's exports from \$44.4 billion in 1990 to \$48.8 billion in 1991 resulted from a 6.3 per cent rise in the value of oil exports<sup>14/</sup>, and a 43 per cent in that of non-oil exports. The decline in the United Arab Emirates' exports from about \$22 billion to \$20.2 billion was entirely caused by a decline in oil exports; the increase in the volume of oil exports by 12.7 per cent being insufficient to offset the fall in prices<sup>15/</sup>. However, both countries, especially Saudi Arabia, continued to enjoy very high levels of exports compared to the previous period. In contrast to the boom in 1990 which resulted from a sharp increase in oil prices and quantities exported, the situation in 1991 reflected good performance in non-oil exports and re-exports as well.

Egypt's exports increased by 41 per cent in 1991, compared to only 0.7 per cent in 1990, with exports of oil increasing by 18 per cent, those of other industries by 3.7 per cent and unclassified commodities by 24.8 per cent. The increase reflected the government's efforts to gear production towards foreign markets, including the phasing out of quantitative export restrictions. In May 1991, the Egyptian government started reducing the number of products covered by export bans from 20 to 6; export quotas, from 17 to 4; and items requiring prior government approval for export from 37 to only one. In order to further reduce discrimination against exports, the government has also improved the drawback and temporary admission mechanisms<sup>16/</sup>.

Exports of Jordan recovered and rose by 6.5 per cent, having declined by 1.4 per cent in 1990. However, the recovery resulted from a rise in re-exports by 83.5 per cent, as national exports declined by 2.2 per cent. Among the latter, food and live animals, beverages and tobacco, animal and vegetable oils and fats, mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials, increased at rates ranging between 43 per cent and 360 per cent compared to 1990. The rest of exports, comprising over four-fifths of the total, declined at rates ranging between 6.3 per cent

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<sup>14/</sup> The quantity of oil exported increased by 26.6 per cent, i.e., from 6.4 million barrel a day b/d to 8.1 b/d, which compensated for the 61 per cent decline in prices. The National Commercial Bank Economist, No.1, vol.3, January 1993.

<sup>15/</sup> Ibid, No.2, vol.3, February-March 1993.

<sup>16/</sup> GATT, Trade Policy Review Mechanism (The Arab Republic of Egypt), (C/RM/G/28), 14 September, 1992, p.5.

Table 4. ESCWA region : average annual variations in export and import values  
(percentage) a/

	Exports (f.o.b)				Imports(c.i.f.)			
	1985- 1988	1988- 1989	1989- 1990	1990- 1991	1985- 1988	1988- 1989	1989- 1990	1990- 1991
ESCWA region	-5.3	30.5	15.8	-12.4	-0.3	-0.02	3.6	6.4
Major oil exporters b/	-6.0	29.7	16.2	-13.6	-1.4	4.6	-0.6	7.4
Iraq	1.0	32.1	c/-34.8	---	-2.1	7.4	c/-33.6	---
GCC Countries	-7.3	29.2	27.4	-3.8	-1.3	4.2	5.2	19.2
Bahrain	-5.9	17.4	32.7	-9.4	-5.8	20.9	18.4	9.4
Kuwait	-9.5	47.8	c/ -49.1	---	-2.5	4.3	c/-48.3	94.2
Oman	-13.1	20.4	32.6	-6.5	-11.3	2.4	18.9	19.1
Qatar	-4.8	24.7	40.0	6.4	3.6	4.7	16.9	11.0
Saudi Arabia	-4.8	19.5	56.6	9.9	-2.7	-2.9	13.8	13.8
United Arab Emirates	-6.0	41.6	26.7	-8.0	9.2	17.5	11.9	13.2
Other ESCWA countries	3.8	39.3	12.6	-0.3	3.0	-12.7	17.2	3.6
Egypt	4.9	21.0	0.7	40.1	16.4	-14.1	23.8	-15.6
Jordan	9.5	6.0	-3.2	6.5	0.7	-23.4	22.0	-3.5
Lebanon	16.2	-23.1	2.5	-1.2	5.2	-6.0	13.9	45.4
Syrian Arab Republic	-6.3	123.7	35.0	-22.6	-17.5	-6.0	20.5	24.7
<u>of which: The region's</u>								
<u>least developed country:</u>								
Republic of Yemen	9.4	38.2	-6.8	-28.8	-4.2	-2.4	-18.6	25.6
a.Yemen	63.5	37.7	-16.5	....	-5.3	1.2	-14.8	....
b.Democratic Yemen	-36.5	39.5	48.7	....	-1.6	-10.4	-27.6	....

For source and notes see annex table A-2.

a/ compound rates of growth, based on terminal years.

b/ GCC countries plus Iraq.

c/ Data for 1990 cover 7 months only ( January - July).

.... = Not available.

and 48.3 per cent, including phosphate exports which declined by 11.2 per cent because of the loss of East European market<sup>17/</sup>.

The 1989 arrangement, by which the former Soviet Union accepted Syrian exports in payment for debt, helped boost exports of the Syrian Arab Republic from \$1.3 billion in 1988 to \$3 billion in 1989 and to \$4.1 billion in 1990. The arrangement, however, came to an end in mid-1991 and Syrian exports to the former Soviet Union declined from Syrian Pound (SP) 14 billion in 1990 to SP 7 billion in 1991. Consequently, the country's total exports declined by 23 per cent as private sector exporters could not readily switch to other destinations<sup>18/</sup>.

Exports from the Republic of Yemen, the region's least-developed member country, dropped by 28.8 per cent, or by \$0.5 billion, following a decline of 6.8 per cent in 1990. The decline was mainly in exports of food items and fuel. In general, the reasons which caused the decline in 1990 seem to have persisted and deepened in 1991. These are: the allocation of a greater part of oil production, that would otherwise have been exported, for meeting domestic demand after the country stopped receiving oil from Iraq, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates on concessional terms; strained relations with GCC countries which have been the major outlets for the country's exports, especially food items; and the increase in domestic demand following the large inflow of returnees.

## 2. Imports

The region's total imports, excluding Iraq, increased by 14.7 per cent in 1991, compared to an 8.2 per cent decline in 1990, or from \$65 billion to \$74.6 billion. All countries shared in the increase except Egypt and Jordan where imports declined by 15.7 per cent and 3.5 per cent, respectively (see table 4 and annex table A-2).

As a group, the GCC countries' imports increased by 19.2 per cent, rising from \$46.5 billion to \$55.4 billion. The increase came notably from Kuwait where demand for imports almost doubled to meet the large scale re-construction requirements and to replenish stocks, followed by Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. Although growth was lower than in 1990 in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Bahrain, the momentum of import growth in the GCC countries was maintained in 1991 by economic recovery. In addition to oil and government related activities in infrastructure, which spearheaded economic activities since the end of the Gulf-war, private sector activity also picked up in 1991 and added to the demand for imports.

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<sup>17/</sup> Central Bank of Jordan, Monthly Statistical Bulletin, vol.28, No.12, December 1992, Table 38, p.66; and Annual Report, No.28, 1991, p.64.

<sup>18/</sup> Al-Hayat, daily newspaper (in Arabic), 3 December, 1992.

In the other ESCWA countries, the aggregate dollar value of imports increased by only 3.6 per cent in 1991, compared to 17.2 per cent in 1990. At the country level, Egypt's imports declined by 15.7 per cent in 1991 compared to a rate of increase of 24 per cent in 1990. The factors which produced the decline included: higher domestic output of agricultural commodities; importing goods at discounted prices (up to 15 per cent) by paying in cash instead of deferred payments; depletion of the private sector's large stocks of imported goods to avoid new taxes planned to be imposed by the outset of 1993; and economic recession.

In Jordan, imports declined by 3.5 per cent, having increased by 22 per cent in 1990. The decline was due to the drop in the value of oil imports as Jordan was permitted by the United Nations to resume imports of oil from Iraq at concessional terms, having had to pay much higher prices for oil imports from the Syrian Arab Republic and other sources in 1990.

In Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Yemen, the dollar value of imports increased by 45.4 per cent, 24.7 per cent and 25.6 per cent, respectively. In Lebanon, the improved security situation and prospects induced the increase; while in the Syrian Arab Republic the surge of investment activities was the main factor. In the Republic of Yemen, however, an increase in the volume of imports of manufactured goods and in the price of oil, following the cessation of oil supplied at concessional terms from Iraq and some Gulf neighbouring countries, boosted the level of imports.

Because of the larger decline in the region's exports relative to the world, its share in world exports recorded a further retreat from 3 per cent in 1990 to 2.6 per cent in 1991. However, its share in world imports increased slightly from 2 per cent to 2.1 per cent.

## B. Commodity structure of trade

### 1. Imports

The share of manufactured goods in the region's total imports (excluding Iraq, Kuwait and Lebanon) rose from 67.8 per cent in 1990 to 73 per cent in 1991, thus regaining its peak level of 1980 (following the second adjustment in oil prices) after successive declines during the period 1985-1990. Within the manufactured goods category, the shares of both chemical products and machinery and equipment declined, though slightly, relative to 1990, while the share of other manufactured goods increased from 27.5 per cent to 34.3 per cent due to the recovery in the GCC countries following the Gulf crisis and war (see table 5 and annex tables A-3 and A-4).

The decline in the percentage share of food items from 18.2 per cent to 15.5 per cent did not represent a big decline in the absolute value of food imports (only from \$10.8 billion to \$10.3 billion), because of the increase in the region's total imports from \$59.5 billion to \$66.8 billion. The decline in the share of fuel from 5.7 per cent to 4.6 per cent, however, reflected a decline





in value from \$3.4 billion to \$3.1 billion mainly because oil prices dropped in 1991 to their pre-war levels.

The GCC countries (excluding Kuwait) increased their share in the region's total imports from an average of 73 per cent during 1989-1990 to 77.5 per cent in 1991. In value terms, imports rose from an average of \$40 billion during 1988-1989 to \$43.6 billion in 1990; and then jumped to \$51.8 billion in 1991 (i.e, back to the peak level of 1980 ). Manufactured goods continued to dominate the GCC countries product pattern of imports which deepened further in 1991 with the economic boom, especially in Saudi Arabia. Their share increased from an average of 75 per cent to 77.2 per cent. The increase was concentrated, however, in the category of other manufactured goods, while the shares of chemical products and machinery and equipment declined. Except for ores and metals, the percentage shares of all other major import categories declined; but because of the increase in the group's total imports, the dollar value of some categories still showed an improvement, increasing from \$5.8 billion to \$ 6.6 billion though their share declined slightly from 13.3 per cent to 12.6 per cent.

All members of the group experienced increases in their imports but Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates led with \$5.1 billion and \$2.2 billion, respectively. The increase in the share of manufactured goods was experienced by all members against a decline in the shares of other items with some exceptions. The share of food declined in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates while it increased in Oman and Qatar; the share of imports of ores and metals, on the other hand, increased in Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates, and declined in Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

The imports of other ESCWA countries, excluding Lebanon but including the Republic of Yemen (the region's least developed country), declined from \$15.9 billion in 1990 to \$14.7 billion in 1991. Egypt and to a lesser extent Jordan recorded declines, while the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Yemen recorded higher imports. Despite an overall decline in value, the share of imports of manufactured goods increased from 48.8 per cent to 62.3 per cent as the relative share of other import categories declined. For the group as a whole, the decline in the percentage share of food from 31.6 per cent to 24.1 per cent implied a decline in the value as well, from \$5.1 billion to \$3.5 billion. The two countries which experienced a decline in their food imports were Egypt and the Republic of Yemen (see annex tables A-3 and A-4).

## 2. Exports

### (a) Oil exports

Following the decline in their share in the region's total exports, from 96.2 per cent in 1980 and 89.3 per cent in 1985, to an average of 77.3 per cent in 1988-1989, fuel exports rebound in 1990 to 82.7 per cent as a result of the increase in oil prices associated with the Gulf crisis. In 1991, oil prices returned to their pre-crisis level; but, the increase in the quantity of crude oil exports by 23 per cent (from 7.1 million b/d to 8.8 million b/d) led to a further, though

slight, improvement in the share of fuel in total exports to 83.3 per cent <sup>19/</sup>.

For the GCC group of countries, the share of fuel in their exports increased from about 83 per cent in 1989 to an average of 87.4 per cent in 1990-1991.

The GCC countries, excluding Kuwait, experienced higher fuel exports in 1990. In 1991, however, only Saudi Arabia recorded an increase in its total exports (from \$44.4 billion to \$48.8 billion), and the share of fuel rose from 90.4 per cent to 91.4 per cent.

In the other ESCWA countries, excluding Lebanon, the share of fuel in the total increased significantly, from 34.6 per cent in 1990 and an average of 30 per cent in 1988 - 1989, to 48.8 per cent in 1991 due to the sharp increase in Egypt's exports of fuel which rose from \$0.8 billion to about \$2 billion. The increase in the share of fuel in the exports of both the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Yemen did not reflect a rise in value terms but rather a deterioration in the relative importance of non-oil exports.

(b) Non-oil exports

The decline in the relative importance of non-oil exports in the region's total exports, from an average of 22.8 per cent in 1988-1989 to 17.3 per cent in 1990, reflected the faster increase in fuel exports, as the value of non-oil exports rose from \$13.6 billion to \$14.7 billion. In 1991, non-oil exports declined in both relative terms (to 16.7 per cent) as well as in dollar terms (to \$14.2 billion). The decline was mainly evident in manufactured goods, especially in the category of other manufactured goods, while there was a slight increase in the share of food exports.

The GCC countries recorded a slight improvement in the share of non-oil exports, from 12.5 per cent to 12.7 per cent, and in value form \$9.6 billion to \$9.7 billion; the whole increase being in food items. The United Arab Emirates recorded increases in relative and absolute terms in exports of both food items and manufactured goods. In Oman the unusual increase reported in the exports of unallocated items (SITC 9) and the unusual decline in the exports of manufactured goods (see annex table A-3), most probably reflects mis-allocation of commodities between the two categories. Exports of food items from Saudi Arabia and Bahrain recorded increases in value as well as in percentage terms against a decline in exports of manufactured goods. It is worth noting that the decline in the GCC countries' imports of food and the increase in their exports, especially in Saudi Arabia, came as a result of policies and efforts aimed not only to achieve self-sufficiency but also to become food exporters.

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<sup>19/</sup> OPEC, Annual Statistical Bulletin, 1991, table 23, p.24.

In contrast to the GCC group, the percentage share as well as the dollar value of other ESCWA countries' non-oil exports dropped significantly, from 65.4 per cent and \$5.6 billion in 1990 to 51.2 per cent and \$4.5 billion in 1991, respectively. The decline was most evident in Egypt and the Syrian Arab Republic. The main category affected was manufactured goods (from 40.5 per cent to 29.7 per cent) followed by food items (from 12.4 per cent to 10.5 per cent). Apart from Jordan, which recorded an increase in its food exports, the other members of the group recorded declines in both categories, but mainly in manufactured goods.

### C. Export / import ratios

The region's ability to finance imports from export proceeds, as reflected in the export/import ratio, improved in 1990 compared to 1988 and 1989 in terms of both current and 1985 imports. The ratio, however, declined in 1991 from 1.46 to 1.24 in terms of current imports, and from 1.50 to 1.31 in terms of 1985 imports because of the decline in the value of exports and the increase in the value of imports. All groups of countries in the region shared in to the decline, but the overall position mainly reflects developments in the GCC countries where the ratio declined from 1.82 in 1990 to 1.52 per cent in 1991 in terms of current imports, and from 1.81 to 1.56 in 1985 imports. The overall ratio of the remaining ESCWA countries was virtually unchanged. Despite the decline in 1991, the export/import ratios were still higher than in 1988 and 1985, reflecting improvement in the balance of trade at the regional level, as well as at the country group level (see table 6).

## V. DIRECTION OF TRADE<sup>20/</sup>

### A. Aggregate trade

No significant changes were recorded in 1992 in the overall geographical distribution of exports from the ESCWA region. The developed-market economies remained the major export outlet, with a share of around 54 per cent (see table 7). Other developing regions maintained their share as in 1991, i.e., 23 per cent. The share of intraregional exports, however, improved, rising from 9 per cent to 10.4 per cent; it remained, however, significantly below the levels attained in the years 1988 and 1989 of 11.7 per cent, 11.4 per cent, respectively, as the embargo on Iraq continued and trade relations between the Gulf states and some other member countries were not normalized. The share of exports going to the former centrally-planned economies remained unchanged at 2.4 per cent, but lower than it was in 1989 and 1990 because of the collapse of many East European economies and the lapse of the payments arrangement between the Syrian Arab Republic and the former Soviet Union.

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<sup>20/</sup> The data used in this section are derived from statistics reported by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook 1992, and Direction of Trade Statistics Monthly Bulletin, December 1992. The data may differ in some significant respects from data used in other sections and derived from national and international sources. Data for 1992 are preliminary.

Table 6. ESCWA region : export/import ratios, 1985 and 1988-1991  
(In terms of current and 1985 imports)

	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991
<u>ESCWA region</u>					
Current imports	1.17	1.02	1.31	1.46	1.24
1985 imports	1.17	0.99	1.30	1.50	1.31
<u>Major oil exporters a/</u>					
Current imports	1.45	1.25	1.56	1.82	1.52
1985 imports	1.45	1.20	1.56	1.81	1.56
<u>Iraq</u>					
Current imports	1.41	1.55	1.90	1.87	..
1985 imports	1.41	1.45	1.90	1.25	..
<u>GCC countries</u>					
Current imports	1.45	1.21	1.50	1.81	1.52
1985 imports	1.45	1.16	1.50	1.91	1.82
<u>Other ESCWA countries b/</u>					
Current imports	0.31	0.31	0.50	0.48	0.46
1985 imports	0.31	0.34	0.48	0.54	0.54

Source: Compiled on the basis of data given in annex table A.1

a/ Including GCC countries plus Iraq

b/ Including non-oil diversified economies plus the region's least developed member country, The Republic of Yemen.

.. = Not available.

Table 7. ESCWA region: direction of trade, selected years  
(Percentage share)

	<u>Exports (f.o.b.)</u>										<u>Imports (c.i.f.)</u>									
	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992		
<u>ESCWA region</u>	7.7	11.7	11.4	10.4	9.0	10.4	8.6	9.2	10.4	10.4	7.7	6.0	11.6	14.1	13.0	12.6	15.3	14.6		
<u>Other developing countries</u>	23.1	23.9	21.7	22.8	23.0	23.0	11.6	14.1	13.0	12.6	15.3	14.6	8.3	11.2	10.2	10.0	13.1	12.2		
Asia a/	15.7	17.6	16.2	17.3	18.9	19.1	8.3	11.2	10.2	10.0	13.1	12.2	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.5		
Africa b/	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3		
North Africa c/	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.5	1.2	1.6		
Latin America	5.1	3.8	3.4	3.0	1.8	1.7	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.5	1.2	1.6								
<u>Developed market economies</u>	53.8	49.9	50.8	52.0	54.0	53.6	64.7	55.9	57.5	57.8	60.7	63.6	35.0	33.1	33.4	31.6	34.0	35.2		
European Economic Communities	26.5	19.8	18.6	16.8	18.3	18.7	35.0	33.1	33.4	31.6	34.0	35.2	11.0	12.3	13.6	11.5	15.9	16.8		
United States of America	4.3	12.1	14.1	15.0	12.4	11.9	11.0	12.3	13.6	11.5	15.9	16.8	15.5	11.5	10.6	14.7	10.8	11.6		
Japan	24.2	18.1	18.1	20.2	23.3	23.0	15.5	11.5	10.6	14.7	10.8	11.6								
<u>Former centrally-planned economies</u>	1.8	1.9	3.0	2.7	2.2	2.2	4.8	5.7	4.4	3.9	3.0	2.9								
Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union	1.8	1.9	2.5	2.4	1.5	1.5	3.7	3.8	2.6	1.9	1.4	1.2								
<u>China</u>	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.7	1.1	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.5	1.7								
<u>Rest of world</u>	13.2	12.8	13.2	12.1	11.9	10.8	13.5	14.2	14.5	15.3	13.4	12.9								
<u>World</u>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		

For source and notes see Annex tables A-5 and A-6.

a/ Excluding ESCWA region.

b/ Excluding North Africa.

c/ Excluding Egypt.

Figures might not add up to totals because of rounding.

At a more disaggregated level, Japan continued to be the region's main export outlet because of its heavy reliance on oil from the Gulf area, followed by the European Communities (EC) and the United States. The share of the EC, however, has been on the decline; it has fallen from 26.5 per cent in 1985 to 18.7 per cent in 1992. The United States' share has almost tripled since 1985, increasing from 4.3 per cent to 15 per cent in 1990, then declining to 12.4 per cent in 1991 and 11.9 per cent in 1992.

Among the developing regions, Asia (excluding ESCWA) took the lead; its share continued to increase during the period 1985-1992 without interruption, going from 15.7 per cent to 19.1 per cent, while the share of other developing regions either stagnated or fell as in Latin America.

As for import trade, the developed market-economies continued to gain ground as the region's main supplier, their share having increased from an average of 57.5 per cent during 1988-1990 to 60.7 per cent in 1991 and 63.6 per cent in 1992. The EC continued to be the region's leading supplier, providing about one-third of total merchandise imports; its share attained 34 per cent in 1991 and increased again to 35.2 per cent in 1992. The United State also continued to strengthen its position and its share rose from an average of 12.4 per cent during 1988-1990 to 15.9 per cent in 1991 and then to 16.8 per cent in 1992.

The depreciation of the dollar against other major currencies since 1985 has been an important factor which enabled the United States to strengthen its position as one of the region's main suppliers. However, the jumps recorded in 1991 and 1992 were more the direct result of the Gulf crisis and war, as the GCC countries, especially Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, shifted large portions of their imports and business contracts to the United States.

The share of imports from other developing countries declined slightly from 15.3 per cent in 1991 to 14.6 per cent in 1992. However, Asia (excluding ESCWA) continued to be the region's main supplier among developing regions, while the share of some other developing regions declined. Intra-regional imports, still suffering from the consequences of the Gulf crisis, dropped again in 1992 to 6 per cent, compared to 7.7 per cent in 1991, and 10.4 per cent in 1990. Imports from former centrally-planned economies declined steadily from 5.7 per cent of the total in 1988 to 3 per cent in 1991 and 1992, i.e; by almost two-thirds. Within this group, the decline in the share of the East European countries and the former Soviet Union alone was 80 per cent.

#### B. Intra-regional trade

The share of intra-regional exports dropped from an average of 11.5 per cent in 1988-1989 to 10.4 per cent in 1990 and 9 per cent in 1991 before recovering to 10.4 per cent in 1992 (see table 8). The improvement, however, was entirely attributed to the increase in GCC intra-regional exports which rose from 8.1 per cent in 1991 to 10 per cent in 1992. All GCC countries,

Table 8. ESCWA region: share of intraregional trade in total trade, 1985 and 1988-1992.  
(percentage)

	Exports (f.o.b)						Imports (c.i.f)					
	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
ESCWA Region	7.7	11.7	11.4	10.4	9.0	10.4	8.6	9.2	10.4	10.4	7.7	6.0
Major oil exporters	7.2	11.1	10.9	9.9	8.4	10.0	8.5	9.5	10.8	10.7	7.1	6.5
Iraq	2.6	5.2	4.4	44.8	88.2	....	5.8	7.7	8.9	8.0	....	....
GCC countries	7.8	12.1	12.1	10.5	8.1	10.0	9.1	9.9	10.8	10.8	7.0	6.5
Bahrain	26.8	26.8	26.7	20.2	18.7	21.6	48.9	48.9	48.8	45.4	43.9	35.3
Kuwait	10.2	7.4	6.5	5.9	10.2	--	5.2	13.3	12.7	13.2	0.6	....
Oman	0.00	57.3	67.0	61.3	36.6	33.7	22.9	23.3	28.0	26.7	21.9	21.1
Qatar	3.1	9.8	9.0	6.5	6.1	6.5	5.5	9.4	11.2	11.9	10.3	12.8
Saudi Arabia	8.1	8.4	8.8	9.2	5.8	7.3	3.3	4.1	4.6	3.8	2.4	2.8
United Arab Emirates	6.1	6.2	5.3	4.1	3.5	8.3	8.5	6.6	7.7	8.0	5.4	8.5
Other ESCWA countries	15.5	18.2	16.1	15.7	14.8	14.3	9.1	8.4	9.1	9.5	9.6	4.3
Egypt	4.5	8.5	8.7	6.4	6.8	5.3	2.2	2.0	1.6	1.4	2.9	1.4
Jordan	48.2	33.6	34.9	40.2	24.8	18.0	25.4	25.1	27.5	25.1	20.0	8.4
Lebanon	63.5	55.9	51.1	48.3	42.9	51.4	7.8	7.2	12.1	16.6	14.7	12.8
Syria	3.4	11.0	14.8	17.0	19.9	19.9	3.7	4.1	4.7	4.9	3.8	3.4
The region's least developed country:												
Republic of Yemen	10.9	6.9	4.2	2.8	6.0	....	17.3	17.9	17.0	20.4	20.1	....
a. Democratic Yemen	2.6	9.6	6.3	3.3	6.5	....	29.2	11.0	20.2	25.1	35.3	....
b. Yemen	43.0	6.0	3.7	2.8	5.9	....	10.6	21.3	15.0	18.2	15.3	....

For source and notes: see annex tables A-5 and A-6  
 Note: Figures may not add up to totals because of rounding.  
 .... = Not available.

excluding Kuwait for lack of data and Oman where a decline occurred, participated in the improvement. The share of intra-trade in the other ESCWA countries, as a group, continued to decline, dropping from an average of 16.7 per cent during the period 1988-1990 to 14.8 per cent in 1991 and 14.3 per cent in 1992. The largest decline was reported by Jordan where the ratio of intraregional exports to total exports dropped from 40.2 per cent in 1990 to 24.8 per cent in 1991 and then to 18 per cent in 1992 due to economic sanctions on Iraq, the country's biggest single market in the region, and strained relations with some GCC countries. Lebanon, however, recorded a large increase in the share of its exports going to other countries in the region (from 42.9 to 51.4 per cent).

Intraregional imports, relative to total imports, declined from 7.7 per cent in 1991 to 6 per cent in 1992 (the former figure excludes Iraq and the latter excludes Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait and the Republic of Yemen because of lack of data)<sup>21/</sup>. The relative importance of intraregional imports in 1992 was the lowest since 1985 and much below the average share of 10 per cent during 1988-1990. All country groups were affected by the decline. However, the drop was more pronounced in the share of non-GCC countries than in that of the GCC countries: from 9.6 per cent to 4.3 per cent in the former, as against 7 per cent to 6.5 per cent in the latter. Jordan recorded the sharpest decline among non-GCC countries (from 20 per cent to 8.4 per cent) because it resumed importing oil from Iraq at concessional terms, whereas it had to pay higher prices for importing oil from other sources in the region in 1991. However, the share of intraregional trade in individual country trade generally indicate that the consequences of the Gulf war are still casting their shadow on economic relations among countries of the region.

Participation in intraregional exports, though varying widely between country groupings and among individual countries, remained dominated by the major oil-exporting members (see table 9) whose share in 1992, excluding Iraq and Kuwait, in total intraregional exports amounted to 85.1 per cent. In contrast, the share of other ESCWA countries (excluding the region's least developed country, the Republic of Yemen), dropped from 16.5 per cent in 1991 to 14.9 per cent in 1992.

At the country level, Saudi Arabia and Oman continued to dominate intraregional exports. Their respective shares in the total increased from an average of 28.5 per cent and 27.7 per cent during the period 1988-1990 to 33 per cent and 29.1 per cent in 1991. In 1992, the share of Saudi Arabia leaped to 38.7 per cent, while that of Oman fell to 26.5 per cent. The remaining GCC countries recorded improvements in 1992. All other ESCWA countries, on the other hand, and except Lebanon, contributed to the decline in the group's share in intraregional exports.

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<sup>21/</sup> Excluding Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait and the Republic of Yemen in both years, the share of intraregional imports drops from 5.5 per cent in 1991 to 4.7 per cent in 1992.



Table 9. ESCWA region: participation in intraregional trade, 1985 and 1988-1992.  
(percentage)

	Exports (f.o.b.)					Imports (c.i.f.)						
	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
Major oil exporters a/	87.6	86.8	86.3	86.2	83.5	85.1	75.7	76.5	80.2	76.2	70.2	80.9
Iraq	4.4	6.1	5.5	4.4	2.9	--	10.1	11.2	14.6	10.4	1.8	--
GCC countries	83.2	80.7	80.8	81.8	80.6	85.1	65.6	65.3	65.7	65.8	68.4	80.9
Bahrain	12.4	7.7	7.4	5.2	6.5	7.14	25.4	20.2	20.0	22.7	27.3	26.7
Kuwait	18.1	7.5	7.2	4.3	0.5	...	5.3	12.9	11.3	7.0	0.4	...
Oman	---	28.2	29.6	25.2	29.1	26.5	11.9	7.9	8.8	9.5	11.3	6.6
Qatar	1.9	2.5	2.3	1.9	2.2	2.3	1.0	1.8	2.1	2.6	3.0	4.2
Saudi Arabia	36.8	24.3	24.8	36.5	33.0	38.7	13.0	13.7	13.4	11.9	12.9	17.9
United Arab Emirates	14.0	10.5	9.4	8.7	9.4	10.5	9.1	8.7	10.3	12.0	13.5	25.5
Other ESCWA countries	12.4	13.2	13.7	13.8	16.5	14.9	24.3	23.5	19.8	23.8	29.8	19.1
Egypt	1.4	2.2	2.2	1.5	2.9	2.7	2.0	2.7	1.7	1.7	3.7	3.5
Jordan	5.4	4.2	3.9	3.3	2.4	1.8	11.4	10.9	8.2	8.5	7.8	4.5
Lebanon	4.2	4.3	2.5	2.1	2.3	2.9	2.6	2.7	3.8	5.6	8.6	8.9
Syrian Arab Republic	0.8	1.8	4.5	6.4	8.1	7.6	2.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.7	2.2
of which,												
The region's least developed country	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.8	...	5.8	5.8	4.8	6.5	8.0	...
Republic of Yemen												
a. Democratic Yemen	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	...	3.6	1.2	2.2	2.6	3.3	...
b. Yemen Arab Republic.	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.7	...	2.2	4.6	2.6	3.9	4.7	...
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source : compiled by the ESCWA secretariat on the basis of data given in the International Monetary Fund, Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook 1992, and, Direction of Trade Monthly Bulletin, april 1993.

a/ GCC countries plus Iraq.

- Details might not add up to total because of rounding.

Though the variation among country groupings' share in intraregional imports is less pronounced than in exports, the pattern is also highly dominated by the major oil exporters. Their share (excluding Iraq and Kuwait) increased from 70.2 per cent in 1991 to 80.9 per cent in 1992. At the country level, the dependence of Bahrain on imports from within the region has traditionally exceeded that of other countries. Between 1985 and 1991, these imports have generally ranged between 20-27 per cent of the total. In the other ESCWA countries, the rise in the share of Lebanon's imports from the region and the gradual decline in that of Jordan are worth noting.

This situation, however, is largely to be explained by two features of intraregional trade. The first is the heavy weight of oil in this trade as in the case of Saudi Arabia's exports and Bahrain's imports. The second relates to the importance of re-export trade, especially in the Gulf region. Hence, if only non-oil national exports are considered, the significance of other ESCWA countries in intra-regional trade would become more apparent.

Another important characteristic of ESCWA's intraregional trade is the lack of widespread trade links among member countries. At least two-thirds of intraregional trade in all member countries is conducted with one, two or three partners, and in some cases the coverage is complete (see table 10).

A comparison of the cumulative share of the three leading trading partners in intraregional exports shows that the weighted average of the first, second and third partners increased significantly between 1985 and 1991, rising from 46.4 per cent to 63.6 per cent, from 64.4 per cent to 83.3 per cent, and from 75.7 per cent to 88.4 per cent, respectively. These developments reflect the tension in intraregional economic relations following the Gulf crisis. At the country level, the ratios were unchanged in one country (Bahrain); declined in three countries (the Republic of Yemen, Egypt and Jordan) indicating that trade spread to other countries; and increased in Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United Arab Emirates. The degree of geographical concentration for intraregional imports, measured by the share of imports supplied by the three leading partners, was virtually the same in 1985 and 1991. Apart from the increase in the share of the first partner, from 60.6 per cent to 65.6 per cent, the cumulative share of the second and third partners maintained their levels at 77.5 per cent and 84.7 per cent, respectively. At the country level, five countries (Bahrain, Jordan, Qatar, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Yemen) recorded declines; while six countries (Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates) recorded increases.



## VI. TRADE IN SERVICES

### A. Overall Performance<sup>22/</sup>

The position of the ESCWA region in global services transactions declined significantly as an exporter and importer of both non-factor services and factor services in 1990 compared to 1985, although the dollar value of world trade in services more than doubled (see table 11)<sup>23/</sup>. On the credit side, the region's share in non-factor services declined from 2.7 per cent to 1.5 per cent in non-factor services, and from 5.3 per cent to 1.3 per cent in factor services, while the world's dollar value of exports of non-factor services rose from \$401.3 billion to \$822.6 billion and for factor services from \$435.5 billion to \$860.2 billion. The share of other developing countries also declined, but to a lesser extent. Consequently, developed market economies strengthened their position in the world exports of non-factor services from 76.2 per cent to 79.1 per cent and in factor services from 85.8 per cent to 91.7 per cent. It is worth noting that the drop in the region's share in exports of services carried with it a decline in the dollar value of exports of factor services from \$19 billion to \$11 billion, while their earnings from non-factor services rose from \$10.8 billion to \$12.3 billion. The decline in the region's share in earnings from both non-factor services and factor services affected the various major items except that of other official services, the share of which increased from 1.6 per cent to 2.4 per cent, and direct investment income which remained unchanged at 0.2 per cent.

On the debit side, the region's share in both non-factor services and factor services was more than halved between 1985 and 1991, dropping from 8.5 per cent to 3.5 per cent in the former, and from 1.3 per cent to 0.5 per cent in the latter. The share of other developing countries also dropped from 24 per cent to 21.4 per cent in non-factor services and from 24.1 per cent to 13.8 per cent in factor services. The developed market economies increased their share in imports of non-factor services from 67.5 per cent to 75.1 per cent, and in factor services from 74.5 per cent to 85.7 per cent. Again, the region's imports of all types of services experienced declines in most cases exceeding 50 per cent. The decline in the region's contribution to world trade in services in 1990 compared to 1985 was mainly due to the circumstances created by the Gulf crisis.

The ESCWA region's total exports of services declined from \$23.3 billion to \$22.2 billion, i.e., by 4.6 per cent between 1990 and 1991 following a sharp drop of 28.1 per cent in 1990. The decline was larger in factor services (8.5 per cent) than in non-factor services (1.2 per cent).

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<sup>22</sup> Due to inadequate data only nine countries are covered in 1985, namely: Bahrain, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. The figures for 1990, however, cover only seven countries after the exclusion of Kuwait and the Republic of Yemen.

<sup>23</sup> Non-factor services include shipment, other transportation, travel, other official services and other private services. Factor services include direct investment income, other investment income and private transfers.

Table 11. Position of Western Asia in world services transactions, 1985 and 1990  
(Percentage Shares)

	Western Asia a/		Other developing countries		Developed-market economies		World b/ (\$ million = 100 percent) 1985 1990
	1985	1990	1985	1990	1985	1990	
<b>A. Credit</b>							
1. <u>Non-factor services</u>	2.7	1.5	21.1	19.4	76.2	79.1	401360
Shipment	0.8	0.1	24.0	22.2	75.2	77.7	57360
Other transportation	4.2	2.7	21.0	18.9	74.8	78.4	72571
Travel	1.5	0.8	24.9	24.0	73.6	75.2	134485
Other official services	1.6	2.4	13.0	13.0	85.4	84.6	247760
Other private services	4.0	1.9	18.7	16.2	77.3	81.9	35202
2. <u>Factor services</u>	5.3	1.3	8.9	7.0	85.8	91.7	128476
Direct investment income	0.2	0.2	2.6	2.1	97.2	97.7	50535
Other investment income	6.6	1.5	9.3	7.3	84.1	91.2	287730
Private transfers	--	--	18.7	13.5	81.3	86.5	20366
<b>B. Debit</b>							
1. <u>Non-factor services</u>	8.5	3.5	24.0	21.4	67.5	75.1	435491
Shipment	8.0	3.9	33.6	32.6	58.4	63.5	81937
Other transportation	1.7	0.6	22.3	20.9	76.0	78.5	73231
Travel	2.8	0.3	18.7	17.0	78.5	82.7	104881
Other official services	28.4	15.5	13.1	16.4	58.5	68.1	247398
Other private services	9.9	4.6	27.2	21.5	62.9	73.9	48115
2. <u>Factor services</u>	1.3	0.5	24.1	13.8	74.6	85.7	127327
Direct investment income	5.2	1.7	28.4	27.1	66.4	71.2	44778
Other investment income	0.8	0.5	24.1	12.6	75.1	86.9	340721
Private transfers	2.6	1.2	13.6	10.9	83.8	87.9	21831
							822617
							97121
							134485
							247760
							54089
							289162
							854364
							115194
							689012
							50159
							860246
							132844
							137322
							247398
							68066
							274617
							910066
							72219
							781540
							56306

Source: ESCWA compilations, based on data given in IMF, the Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook, Vol. 43, part 2, 1992. a/ comprised 8 (out of 13) countries for which data were reported in 1985 and 1990, namely: Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. b/ Includes developed countries, former centrally-planned economies, developing countries (including ESCWA region) and transactions of international organizations.

-- = Nil or negligible.

Both GCC countries and non-oil diversified economies participated in the decline which was much larger in the former (7 per cent) than in the latter (1.1 per cent) (see table 12).

In contrast, total imports increased significantly from \$35 billion to \$48.2 billion, i.e., by 37.5 per cent, after dropping by 3.9 per cent in 1990. The increase resulted from a large jump in imports of non-factor services by 47.5 per cent, while there was a decline of 17.6 per cent in factor services. The imports of GCC countries increased from 26.2 billion to 41.1 billion, i.e., by 51.7 per cent, while those of non-oil diversified economies declined by 20.3 per cent.

### B. Structure

The distribution of the region's earnings from trade in services between non-factor services and factor services showed significant changes between 1985 and 1990. The percentage share of non-factor services increased from 36.3 per cent to 53.5 per cent, while that of factor services declined from 63.7 per cent to 46.5 per cent. All components, excluding shipment (which declined from 1.5 per cent to 0.3 per cent) shared in the increase. The decline in the share of factor services was mainly caused by the decline in the share of other investment income from 63.5 per cent to 45.4 per cent (see table 13), the region's prime source of credit from trade in services.

On the debit side, changes in the relative shares of non-factor services and factor services between 1985 and 1990 were not significant. The share of the former declined from 87.3 per cent to 84.6 per cent with all components, excluding other private services, participating in the decline; while the share of factor services increased from 12.7 per cent to 15.4 per cent mainly because of the increase in the other investment income item from 5.9 per cent to 9.9 per cent.

Traditionally, the region's net earnings have been negative on non-factor services and positive on factor services because of the GCC countries' high level of income from investment abroad. Between 1985 and 1990, however, the region's deficit on non-factor services declined from \$26.2 billion to \$17.2 billion, while the surplus on factor services dropped from \$ 13.6 billion to \$ 5.4 billion, mainly as the earning from investment income declined by more than 50 per cent (from \$16.4 billion to \$7.1 billion). Consequently, the deficit on the region's services declined slightly from \$12.6 billion to \$11.8 billion.

The GCC countries' main source of earnings from services is factor services, namely other investment which represented 61.7 per cent of the regions total credit in 1985 but declined to 42.4 per cent in 1990 as a result of liquidating some of the group's investments abroad to finance the Gulf war. Their reported share in earnings from non-factor services, usually much less important, declined from 19.2 per cent in 1985 to 16.7 per cent in 1990, probably reflecting absence of data on the group's credit from two items: shipment and other official service.

Table 12. ESCWA region : aggregate trade in services, 1985-1991.

	Annual rate of variation (percentage)					Value (millions of U.S dollars)							
	1985- 1986- 1987- 1988- 1989- 1990-		1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991			1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991							
<b>ESCWA region</b>	2.4	-8.0	8.6	6.2	-28.1	-4.6	29795	30515	28086	30509	32398	23287	22212
Non-factor services	-10.4	5.6	9.7	17.1	-5.2	-1.2	10815	9694	10233	11227	13142	12455	12298
Factor services	9.7	-14.3	8.0	7.9	-47.9	-8.5	18980	20822	17852	19282	20803	10832	9914
<b>GCC countries a/</b>	2.8	-12.4	6.2	7.6	-44.4	-7.0	24092	24760	21690	23025	24762	13760	12796
Non-factor services	-21.3	-0.2	-1.3	8.2	-18.9	-0.6	5709	4495	4484	4425	4789	3883	3861
Factor services	10.2	-15.1	8.1	7.4	-50.5	-9.6	18383	20265	17206	18600	19973	9877	8935
<b>Non-oil diversified economies b</b>	1.9	11.0	16.9	1.5	31.6	-1.1	5395	5499	6105	7134	7239	9525	9416
Non-factor services	2.8	10.8	17.7	-0.5	32.6	-1.6	4847	4983	5519	6496	6466	8571	8437
Factor services	-5.8	13.6	8.9	21.2	23.4	2.6	548	516	586	638	773	954	979
<b>The region's least developed country:</b>	-16.6	13.7	20.3	13.4	....	....	307	256	291	350	397	....	....
<b>The Republic of Yemen</b>	-16.7	7.4	32.5	11.1	....	....	258	215	231	306	340	....	....
Non-factor services	-16.3	46.3	-26.7	29.6	....	....	49	41	60	44	57	....	....
Factor services	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
<b>ESCWA region</b>	-18.4	-3.6	-9.8	21.3	-3.9	37.5	42377	34591	33344	30083	36475	35031	48177
Non-factor services	-17.8	-4.3	-11.0	20.4	-4.9	47.5	36988	30416	29114	25916	31207	29647	43740
Factor services	-22.5	1.3	-1.4	26.4	2.2	-17.6	53897	4175	4230	4167	5268	5384	4437
<b>GCC countries a/</b>	-20.3	-5.3	-13.9	24.4	-7.2	57.1	34902	27817	26341	22667	28188	26163	41110
Non-factor services	-18.9	-5.2	-15.5	25.7	-6.3	65.2	31100	25213	23909	20198	25384	23771	39263
Factor services	-31.5	-6.5	1.4	13.6	-14.7	-22.8	3802	2604	2434	2469	2804	2392	1847
<b>Non-oil diversified economies b</b>	-9.0	1.4	3.1	12.0	19.1	-20.3	6992	6364	6451	6650	7447	8867	7068
Non-factor services	-10.8	-2.7	6.9	0.4	15.7	-23.8	5452	4861	4730	5058	5077	5875	4477
Factor services	-2.4	14.5	-7.5	48.9	26.2	-13.4	1540	1503	1721	1592	2370	2992	2591
<b>The region's least developed country</b>	-15.4	34.2	39.5	9.7	....	....	483	409	549	766	840	....	....
<b>The Republic of Yemen</b>	-21.6	38.6	39.2	13.0	....	....	436	342	474	660	746	....	....
Non-factor services	42.6	11.9	41.3	-11.3	....	....	47	67	75	106	94	....	....
Factor services	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

For source and notes: see annex table A-8.

a/GCC countries covered in this table are : Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

b/Non-diversified economies cover: Egypt, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic.

.... = Not available.

Table 13. ESCWA region: Structure of international transactions in services and contribution to exchange earnings and uses, 1985 and 1990.

	<u>credit</u>		<u>Debit</u>		<u>Net earnings/uses</u>	
	1985	1990	1985	1990	(\$ millions)	
<b>1. ESCWA region</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>		
<i>Non-factor services</i>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>87.3</b>	<b>84.6</b>	-26172	-17192
<i>Shipment</i>	1.5	0.3	15.5	14.6	-6093	-5069
<i>Other transportation</i>	10.2	15.4	2.9	2.4	1811	2764
<i>Travel</i>	5.3	8.8	7.0	2.3	-1405	1255
<i>Other official services</i>	1.9	5.6	32.2	30.1	-13101	-9242
<i>Other private services</i>	17.4	23.3	29.6	35.2	-7384	-6900
<i>Factor services</i>	<b>63.7</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>15.4</b>	13594	5448
<i>Direct Investment Income</i>	0.2	1.1	5.5	3.6	-2250	-1009
<i>Other Investment Income</i>	63.5	45.4	5.9	9.9	16394	7105
<i>Private Transfers</i>	--	--	1.3	1.9	-550	-648
<b>2. GCC countries</b>						
<i>Non-factor services</i>	19.2	16.7	73.4	67.9	-25389	-19888
<i>Shipment</i>	1.2	--	11.2	9.2	-4397	-3230
<i>Other transportation</i>	2.1	1.6	1.00	0.4	202	218
<i>Travel</i>	0.9	0.6	5.1	0.4	-1887	-6
<i>Other official services</i>	0.8	--	30.2	27.8	-12547	-9719
<i>Other private services</i>	14.2	14.5	25.9	30.1	-6760	-7153
<i>Factor services</i>	61.7	42.4	8.9	6.9	14581	7485
<i>Direct Investment Income</i>	--	--	5.4	3.6	-2308	-1242
<i>Other Investment Income</i>	61.7	42.4	2.2	1.5	-17439	9355
<i>Private Transfers</i>	--	--	1.3	1.8	-550	-627
<b>3. Non-oil diversified economies</b>						
<i>Non-factor services</i>	16.2	36.8	12.9	16.8	-602	2696
<i>Shipment</i>	0.3	0.3	3.8	5.5	-1517	-1839
<i>Other transportation</i>	7.9	13.9	1.8	2.0	-1581	2574
<i>Travel</i>	4.0	8.2	1.8	1.8	444	1261
<i>Other official services</i>	1.0	5.6	1.8	2.4	-468	477
<i>Other private services</i>	3.0	8.8	3.5	5.1	-642	253
<i>Factor services</i>	1.8	4.1	3.6	8.6	-991	-2038
<i>Direct Investment Income</i>	0.2	1.1	--	0.1	56	233
<i>Other Investment Income</i>	1.6	3.0	3.6	8.4	-1047	-2250
<i>Private Transfers</i>	--	--	--	0.1	0.0	-21



Table 13 (continued)

<b>4. The region's least developed</b>						
<b>country: Republic of Yemen</b>						
<b>Non-factor services</b>	0.9	--	1.00	--	-179	--
<b>Shipment</b>	--	--	0.5	--	-181	--
<b>Other transportation</b>	0.2	--	0.1	--	28	--
<b>Travel</b>	0.4	--	--	--	39	--
<b>Other official services</b>	0.1	--	0.3	--	-84	--
<b>Other private services</b>	0.2	--	0.1	--	19	--
<b>Factor services</b>	0.2	--	0.1	--	2	--
<b>Direct investment income</b>	--	--	--	--	0	--
<b>Other investment income</b>	0.2	--	0.1	--	2	--
<b>Private Transfers</b>	--	--	--	--	0	--
<b>a. Democratic Yemen</b>						
<b>Non-factor services</b>	1.0	--	0.6	--	-103	--
<b>Shipment</b>	0.1	--	0.2	--	-69	--
<b>Other transportation</b>	0.4	--	0.1	--	29	--
<b>Travel</b>	0.1	--	0.04	--	-7	--
<b>Other official services</b>	0.1	--	0.2	--	-73	--
<b>Other private services</b>	0.3	--	0.1	--	17	--
<b>Factor services</b>	0.1	--	0.1	--	-4	--
<b>Direct investment income</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Other investment income</b>	0.1	--	0.1	--	-4	--
<b>Private Transfers</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>b. Yemen.</b>						
<b>Non-factor services</b>	1.5	--	0.6	--	-76	--
<b>Shipment</b>	0.1	--	0.3	--	-112	--
<b>Other transportation</b>	0.1	--	--	--	-1	--
<b>Travel</b>	0.9	--	0.14	--	46	--
<b>Other official services</b>	0.2	--	0.1	--	-11	--
<b>Other private services</b>	0.2	--	0.1	--	2	--
<b>Factor services</b>	0.3	--	0.1	--	6	--
<b>Direct investment income</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Other investment income</b>	0.3	--	0.1	--	6	--
<b>Private Transfers</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		

For source and notes : see annex table A-8.

-- = Nil or negligible.

In contrast to the GCC countries, the non-oil diversified economies' major source of earnings is non-factor services, mainly other transportation and other private services; while their income from factor services is usually minimal despite the fact that most of them, especially Egypt, are major labour exporters because labour income is recorded as unrequited transfers in the balance of payments statistics.

As a result of the decline in the GCC countries' share in the region's earnings from both non-factor and factor services, the share of the more diversified economies group increased significantly compared to 1985; non-factor services increased from 16.2 per cent to 36.8 per cent and factor services from 1.8 per cent to 4.1 per cent. All items of non-factor services participated in the increase excluding shipment which maintained its 1985 position.

No information is available on the region's least developed country: the Republic of Yemen's trade in services for 1990; however in 1985, its share in the region's total credit hardly exceeded 1 per cent.

The GCC countries are the region's main importers of non-factor services as well as of total services. Their share, however, declined between 1985 and 1990, from 73.4 per cent to 67.9 per cent and all items participated in the decline. In factor services, their share dropped from 8.9 per cent to 6.9 per cent. In value terms, the group's deficit on non-factor services declined from \$25.4 billion to \$19.9 billion while their surplus on factor services dropped by almost 50 per cent: from \$14.6 billion to \$7.5 billion. The share of the more diversified economies in the region's outlays on services increased between 1985 and 1989 from 12.9 per cent to 16.8 per cent in the case of non-factor services, and from 3.5 per cent to 8.6 per cent for factor services. But since the increase in the group's share in total debit was less than the increase in credit, their net position from trade in factor services, moved from a deficit of \$0.6 billion in 1985 to a surplus of \$2.7 billion, while their deficit on factor services increased from \$1 billion to \$2 billion.

### C. Position of Individual Countries

Saudi Arabia continued to be the main exporter of services among the countries of the region though its share dropped marginally from 53.9 per cent in 1985 to 52.4 per cent in 1990. In 1985, Kuwait occupied the second position with a share of 21.5 per cent followed by Egypt (11.6 per cent). Excluding Kuwait, Egypt ranked second in 1990 with a share of 30.7 per cent. The contributions of other member countries were much less important and ranged between 1.6 per cent for Oman and 6.5 per cent for Jordan (see table 14).

The disaggregation of the region's earnings into non-factor services and factor services shows that Egypt and Saudi Arabia are the main contributors to the former, while Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are the main contributors to exports of factor services. The importance of Egypt and Saudi Arabia in the export of non-factor services comes from shipment, other transportation,

TABLE 14. ESCWA region: payments and receipts by major category of international transactions  
In services by countries, 1985 and 1990 a/  
 (Percentage Share)

	Bahrain	Egypt	Jordan	Kuwait	Oman	Saudi Arabia	Democratic Yemen	Yemen	Syrian Arab Republic	Total
	\$ Million = 100 Percent									
<b>Total Transactions</b>										
<b>Debit</b>										
1985	2.8	10.4	3.5	11.2	3.3	65.1	0.5	0.6	52.6	42374
1990	4.5	16.2	4.4	...	3.8	86.4	...	...	4.7	35031
<b>Credit</b>										
1985	4.1	11.6	4.3	21.5	1.3	53.9	0.4	0.6	2.3	29798
1990	5.1	30.7	6.5	...	1.6	52.4	...	...	3.7	23287
<b>Non-factor services</b>										
<b>Debit</b>										
1985	1.3	8.6	3.5	11.0	1.9	89.8	0.6	0.6	2.6	36986
1990	2.2	12.8	4.2	...	2.4	75.6	...	...	2.8	29647
<b>Credit</b>										
1985	8.4	28.0	10.8	10.5	0.1	33.7	1.0	1.4	6.1	10818
1990	7.0	50.5	11.8	...	0.1	24.1	...	...	6.8	12455
<b>Shipment</b>										
<b>Debit</b>										
1985	4.7	14.1	4.6	12.8	5.1	49.7	1.1	1.9	6.0	6554
1990	7.2	25.7	5.5	...	5.5	50.1	...	...	6.0	5140
<b>Credit</b>										
1985	..	..	17.2	75.4	..	..	0.4	2.2	4.8	459
1990	..	36.6	2.8	...	..	..	...	...	60.6	71
<b>Other transportation</b>										
<b>Debit</b>										
1985	1.8	28.5	25.5	33.5	..	..	1.3	0.5	8.9	1229
1990	17.3	31.4	42.2	...	..	..	...	...	9.1	828
<b>Credit</b>										
1985	1.3	59.4	13.2	16.3	0.5	2.8	1.5	0.2	4.9	3040
1990	6.4	75.3	10.3	...	0.3	3.3	...	...	4.4	3592

Table 14 (continued)

<b>Travel</b>												
<b>Debit</b>												
1985	4.2	3.6	14.2	66.6	1.7	--	0.5	1.7	7.4	2983		
1990	11.8	16.2	42.2	...	5.9	--	...	...	23.9	796		
<b>Credit</b>												
1985	11.1	26.4	32.8	6.5	--	--	0.5	6.2	16.5	1579		
1990	6.6	53.6	24.9	...	--	--	...	...	14.9	2051		
<b>Other official services</b>												
<b>Debit</b>												
1985	--	2.5	1.5	5.6	--	87.8	0.6	0.2	1.7	13663		
1990	--	4.4	1.4	...	--	92.1	...	...	2.1	10553		
<b>Credit</b>												
1985	6.4	18.8	1.4	34.2	--	--	2.1	3.2	33.8	564		
1990	0.1	88.4	1.3	...	--	--	...	...	10.2	1311		
<b>Other private services</b>												
<b>Debit</b>												
1985	0.2	11.7	0.4	0.5	2.6	84.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	12557		
1990	0.4	13.1	1.2	...	3.1	82.0	...	...	0.2	12330		
<b>Credit</b>												
1985	12.7	13.5	3.2	--	--	68.9	0.7	0.5	0.7	5174		
1990	9.3	23.9	10.1	...	--	53.0	...	...	3.7	5430		
<b>Factor services</b>												
<b>Debit</b>												
1985	12.9	22.4	3.5	12.3	12.8	32.6	0.3	0.5	2.6	5388		
1990	16.9	34.9	5.2	...	11.7	15.9	...	...	15.4	5384		
<b>Credit</b>												
1985	1.7	2.2	0.5	27.8	1.9	65.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	18980		
1990	3.0	8.0	0.6	...	3.3	84.9	...	...	0.2	10832		
<b>Direct investment income</b>												
<b>Debit</b>												
1985	--	0.6	--	--	23.8	75.6	--	--	--	2320		
1990	--	1.1	--	--	30.9	68.0	--	--	--	1256		
<b>Credit</b>												
1985	--	100.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	70		
1990	--	100.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	247		

Table 14 (continued)

<u>Other investment income</u>										
<u>Debit</u>										
1985	5.7	47.5	7.6	26.4	5.4	0.0	0.7	1.2	5.5	2516
1990	8.1	52.9	8.1	...	7.0	...	...	...	23.9	3474
<u>Credit</u>										
1985	1.7	2.2	0.5	27.8	1.9	65.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	18910
1990	3.0	5.8	0.6	...	3.4	87.0	...	...	0.2	10579
<u>Private transfers</u>										
<u>Debit</u>										
1985	100.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	550
1990	92.0	8.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	654
<u>Credit</u>										
1985	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1990	--	100.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6

For source and notes see annex table A-7.

a/ Iraq, Lebanon, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates are excluded due to lack of data.

-- = Nil or negligible.

.... = Not available.

travel and other official services, for the former, and other private services for the latter. The importance of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in the export of factor services is due to earnings from other investment. However, available figures show a significant decline in the importance of Saudi Arabia in the export of non-factor services against an increase in the importance of Egypt between 1985 and 1990. The former country's share declined from 33.7 per cent to 24.1 per cent, while that of the latter increased from 28 per cent to 50.5 per cent; i.e., more than half the region's earnings of \$12.5 billion. The contributions of other member states either marginally increased, like Jordan (from 10.8 per cent to 11.6 per cent) and the Syrian Arab Republic (from 6.1 per cent to 46.8 per cent) or declined as in Bahrain (from 8.4 per cent to 7 per cent). The contribution of Oman remained unchanged at 0.1 per cent.

The region's earnings from factor services have been traditionally dominated by the GCC countries, mainly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, because of their large investments abroad. In 1985, both countries acquired 65.4 per cent and 27.8 per cent, respectively, of the region's total earnings of \$ 19 billion. In 1990, however, Saudi Arabia earned \$12.4 billion, compared to \$9.2 billion in 1985.

## VII- BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND RESERVES

### A. Balance of payments developments

The improvement in the region's (excluding Iraq and Lebanon) current account balance in 1989 and 1990 was followed by a sharp deterioration in 1991 (see table 15). The balance moved from a surplus of \$3.9 billion and \$7.9 billion into a deficit of \$37.8 billion. The deficit resulted from a sharp decline in the trade surplus from \$32.9 billion in 1990 to \$20.3 billion in 1991, a doubling of the services deficit from \$15.5 billion to \$31 billion and an increase in the deficit on unrequited transfers by almost three-fold, from \$9.5 billion to \$27.8 billion.

The decline in the trade surplus was caused by a fall in export proceeds, especially in Kuwait, on the one hand, and an increase in payments for imports, on the other hand. The GCC countries' heavy financial obligations arising from the Gulf-crisis and war were reflected in the sharp increases in the deficit on both the services and unrequited transfers accounts.

The deficit in the current account was mainly met by large net capital inflows which amounted to \$28.9 billion, compared to a net outflow of \$13.4 billion in 1990. The rest of the deficit, \$8.8 billion, however, and after allowing for \$2.1 billion in errors and omissions, was covered by "exceptional financing" of \$4.5 billion and drawing on reserves in the amount of \$2.2 billion; while in 1990, the region's total reserves increased by \$8.5 billion.

Given the heavy weight of the GCC countries in the region's external transactions, the deterioration in the overall current account in 1991 was the result of the drop in these countries'

Table 15. Summary of Balance of payments flows 1985 and 1988-1991 a/  
(Millions of US \$)

	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991
<u>Trade balance (f.o.b)</u>	<u>13712</u>	<u>2666</u>	<u>17013</u>	<u>32932</u>	<u>20311</u>
GCC countries	24306	12700	23646	39888	27074
Non-oil diversified economies	-8942	-8658	-5516	-5777	-5986
Least developed member country	-1652	-1376	-1117	-1179	-777
<u>Services (net) b/</u>	<u>-15081</u>	<u>-1867</u>	<u>-6541</u>	<u>-15519</u>	<u>-30999</u>
GCC countries	-13309	-1935	-5890	-15713	-32135
Non-oil diversified economies	-1596	484	-208	658	1379
Least developed member country	-176	-417	-443	-464	-243
<u>Balance on goods and services</u>	<u>-1369</u>	<u>800</u>	<u>10472</u>	<u>17413</u>	<u>-10688</u>
GCC countries	10997	10766	17756	24175	-5061
Non-oil diversified economies	-10538	-8174	-5724	-5119	-4607
Least developed member country	-1828	-1792	-1560	-1643	-1020
<u>Net unrequited transfers</u>	<u>-2795</u>	<u>-3700</u>	<u>-6565</u>	<u>-9515</u>	<u>-27064</u>
GCC countries	-11260	-11077	-13102	-17790	-35703
Non-oil diversified economies	7155	6684	5971	7016	7718
Least developed member country	1310	693	566	1259	921
<u>Balance on current account</u>	<u>-4163</u>	<u>-2900</u>	<u>3907</u>	<u>7898</u>	<u>-37752</u>
GCC countries	-263	-312	4654	6385	-40764
Non-oil diversified economies	-3382	-1490	247	1897	3111
Least developed member country	-518	-1098	-994	-384	-98.6
<u>Net capital flows</u>	<u>11668</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>-2624</u>	<u>-13401</u>	<u>28901</u>
GCC countries	8924	-2417	-3525	-2429	31505
Non-oil diversified economies	2418	1767	-13	-11337	-2872
Least developed member country	326	792	914	365	268

Table 15 (continued)

<b><u>Errors and omissions</u></b>	<b><u>-7132</u></b>	<b><u>-1368</u></b>	<b><u>-1285</u></b>	<b><u>-39</u></b>	<b><u>2126</u></b>
GCC countries	-7728	-1167	-1826	-414	1107
Non-oil diversified economies	538	-205	485	358	1056
Least developed member country	58	4	56	17	-37
<b><u>Overall balance</u></b>	<b><u>570</u></b>	<b><u>-4107</u></b>	<b><u>-2</u></b>	<b><u>-7906</u></b>	<b><u>3605</u></b>
GCC countries	1131	-3876	-697	1178	2178
Non-oil diversified economies	-427	72	719	-9082	1295
Least developed member country	-134	-303	-24	-2	132
<b><u>Counterpart items, exceptional financing and others</u></b>	<b><u>363</u></b>	<b><u>65</u></b>	<b><u>156</u></b>	<b><u>12781</u></b>	<b><u>4485</u></b>
GCC countries	--	--	--	--	--
Non-oil diversified economies	350	7	139	12781	4485
Least developed member country	13	58	17	--	--
<b><u>Total change in reserves</u></b>	<b><u>-933</u></b>	<b><u>4042</u></b>	<b><u>-120</u></b>	<b><u>-8464</u></b>	<b><u>2240</u></b>
GCC countries	-1131	3876	697	-4768	8152
Non-oil diversified economies	77	-79	-824	-3698	-5780
Least developed member country	121	245	7	2	-132

Source : Compilations by ESCWA secretariat, based on data given in national and international sources. Figures might not add up to totals because of rounding.

a/ Data covers 10 countries namely: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (GCC countries), Egypt, Jordan, Syrian Arab Republic (non-oil diversified economies), and the Republic of Yemen ( the region's least developed member country). Iraq and Lebanon were excluded owing to lack of data.

b/ Including non-factor services plus investment income.

-- = Nil or negligible.



trade surplus, and the increase in their deficits on services and unrequited transfers. Their trade surplus declined by \$12.8 billion while the deficit on services and transfers widened by about \$16.4 billion and \$18 billion, respectively.

While the trade surplus declined in most GCC countries in 1991, the main cause of the overall decline was the trade deficit of Kuwait which amounted to \$5.8 billion. This reflected the sharp increase in imports (\$6.3 billion) to meet the needs of re-construction and of re-constituting stocks, while exports proceeds did not exceed \$0.5 billion. The large increase in the services deficit of the group was entirely due to the deficit registered by Saudi Arabia, mainly due to the large presence of foreign troops during the Gulf war. The increase in the deficit on unrequited transfers by \$18 billion, on the other hand, resulted from the increase in net private and official transfers by all countries of the group, of which Kuwait alone accounted for \$10 billion. These exceptional transfers arose partly because of the Gulf war obligations, and partly because of the transfer of savings by returnees.

Apart from the United Arab Emirates, all GCC countries recorded deficits in their current accounts. However, the deficit was very large in Saudi Arabia (\$25.7 billion) and Kuwait (\$15.8 billion). The former covered the deficit entirely by long-term capital inflows; while the latter relied partly on capital inflows (a commercial loan of \$5.5 billion was obtained from international banks), but resorted mainly to drawing on reserves (see annex table 9).

In contrast to the GCC countries, the current account of the non-oil diversified economies (excluding Lebanon because of lack of data) was in surplus for the third year in succession. The increase in the surplus by \$1.2 billion between 1990 and 1991 reflected a decline in the deficit on goods and services by \$0.5 billion, and an increase in net unrequited transfers by \$0.7 billion. The improvement was mainly due to Egypt where the trade deficit fell by \$0.7 billion and the surplus on services rose by one billion dollars. The improvement in the services account reflected the recovery in tourism in the latter part of 1991. In addition, dues from the Suez Canal fees increased in dollar terms. The current account of Jordan moved from a deficit of \$0.1 billion in 1990 to a surplus of \$0.4 billion in 1991, mainly because of the relatively large surplus recorded on private transfers of \$1.1 billion, i.e., higher than 1990 by \$0.5 billion because of the large number of returnees who brought their savings with them. In the Syrian Arab Republic, however, and because of the decline in the trade surplus by 50 per cent (from \$2.2 billion to \$1.1 billion), and the increase in the services deficit by \$0.2 billion, the current account surplus declined by one billion dollars.

The current account surplus of \$3.1 billion of the non-oil diversified economies was largely absorbed by net capital outflows amounting \$2.9 billion. The increase in the group's reserves by \$5.8 billion<sup>24/</sup> came mostly from "exceptional financing" (grants received by Egypt from the GCC countries following the Gulf war). Jordan increased its reserves by \$2 billion

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<sup>24/</sup> As reported in the balance of payments.

compared to only \$0.4 billion in 1990, while Egypt recorded another positive change in reserves of \$2.8 billion after an increase of \$2.6 billion in 1990.

The region's least-developed member country, the Republic of Yemen, recorded in 1991 its lowest current account deficit since 1985. The deficit dropped to \$0.1 billion, compared to \$0.4 billion in 1990 and \$1 billion in each of 1988 and 1989. The decline was mainly caused by a drop in the goods and services deficit. Net capital inflows in 1991 amounted to \$0.3 billion and were partly used to cover the current account deficit, and partly to add to reserves (see annex table 9).

#### B. International reserves

The region's aggregate international reserves (excluding Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Yemen because of lack of data) recovered in 1991, following the sharp drop in 1990 (see annex table 10). The decline in reserves from an average of \$36.8 billion in 1988-1989 to \$31.4 billion in 1990 was entirely due to the decline in the reserves of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. However, in 1991 reserves rose again to \$36.4 billion as a result of an increase by \$2.3 billion in the GCC countries' reserves and \$2.6 billion in those of in other ESCWA countries. The latter was chiefly due to the increase in Egypt's reserves and, to a much lesser extent, those of Lebanon. Figures for 1992 indicate a further substantial improvement in the reserves of Egypt and Kuwait, and a sharp decline in those of Saudi Arabia.

Comparing 1992 with 1985 shows that in the former year 90 per cent of the region's reserves belonged to the GCC countries, with the remaining 10 per cent held by other ESCWA countries. In 1992, however, the share of GCC countries dropped to 57.2 per cent of the total while that of other countries increased to 42.8 per cent. The reserves of Saudi Arabia, by far the largest held by any country in the region, dropped from \$25.2 billion in 1985 to only \$6.2 billion in 1992. Despite the fact that the Gulf crisis and war raised the obligations and disbursements of the GCC countries while increasing the gains and receipts of some other ESCWA countries, the trend was in evidence before the Gulf crisis and war.

The increase in international reserves in 1991 improved the region's ability to provide for imports and other necessary foreign exchange outlays. The improvement, however, was not evenly distributed (see table 16).

For the region as a whole, the ratio of reserves/current imports increased from 5.4 to 6.1 months, and in terms of 1985 imports from 5.5 to 6.4 months. The GCC countries as a group recorded a small decline in the former and improvement in the latter. In contrast, other ESCWA countries were able to improve substantially their reserves/imports coverage which increased from 6.4 to 8.3 months in terms of 1985 imports, and from 5.7 to 7.2 months in terms of current imports. The improvement in other ESCWA countries in 1991 is more impressive when compared to 1985 as reserves were then enough to cover less than three months of imports.

Moreover, if imports of both the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Yemen were excluded (as their reserves were excluded), the reserves/imports ratio for the ESCWA region and for other ESCWA countries would be much higher.

Table 16. ESCWA region: reserves/imports coverage<sup>a/</sup>  
1985 and 1988-1991

(1985 Imports and current imports)

	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991
<u>ESCWA region</u>					
1985 imports	7.29	6.67	6.26	5.51	6.39
Current imports	7.29	6.73	6.31	5.36	6.05
<u>GCC countries</u>					
1985 imports	10.19	8.24	7.58	6.13	6.78
Current imports	10.19	8.57	7.56	5.82	5.65
<u>Other ESCWA countries<sup>b/</sup></u>					
1985 imports	2.92	5.54	5.62	6.37	8.28
Current imports	2.92	5.07	5.89	5.70	7.15

Source: Compilations by ESCWA, based on data given in national and international sources.

a/ Number of months of imports covered by reserves.

b/ Including the region's least developed country, the Republic of Yemen in 1990 and 1991; and Democratic Yemen and Yemen in previous year.

**ANNEX TABLES**

Table A-1. World: value of merchandise trade flows in 1985 and 1988-1992  
( millions of US dollars)

	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
<u>World</u> <u>Exports</u>	1929210	2804331	3025462	3415799	3406099	3640272
<u>Developed</u> <u>market</u> <u>economy</u> <u>countries</u>						
Exports	1281264	1979133	2145217	2465111	2489150	2648490
Imports	1387259	2079212	2269392	2591407	2587922	2707983
<u>Developing</u> <u>countries</u>						
Exports	453016	616312	689606	778235	826281	902340
Imports	410823	622482	686778	773125	848288	949571
<u>China</u>						
Exports	27349	47521	52538	62091	71910	84635
Imports	42252	55264	59140	53345	63791	80315
<u>Countries</u> <u>in Central</u> <u>and Eastern</u> <u>Europe</u>						
Exports	80301	98327	81467	68276	44395	45682
Imports	83193	99620	83648	75171	45720	48256
<u>Former</u> <u>Soviet</u> <u>Union</u>						
Exports	87281	110559	109173	104177	46274	43761 <sup>a/</sup>
Imports	83140	107229	114567	120651	43458	38653

Source: United Nations, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, Vol. XLVII, no. 6.  
June 1993.

a/ Figures for Former Soviet Union/ Europe only.

Table A-2. ESCWA region: Overall trade flows, 1985 and ESCWA region: Overall trade flows, 1985 and 1988-1991  
(millions of US dollars)

	Exports (f.o.b.)					Imports (c.i.f.)				
	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991
Total ESCWA region	79951	67861	88591	102614	89864	68292	67672	67664	70092	74566
Major oil exporters a/	74864	62179	80675	93700	80976	51721	49560	51856	51570	55375
Iraq	10731	11052	14600	9521 b/	---	7619	7146	7675	5100 b/	---
GCC countries	64133	51127	66075	84179	80976	44102	42414	44181	46470	55375
Bahrain	2897	2411	2831	3758	3404	3107	2593	3134	3711	4061
Kuwait	10479	7765	11476	5839 b/	528	6531	6046	6303	3260 b/	6332
Oman	4972	3268	3933	5215	4874	3153	2202	2255	2681	3194
Qatar	3541	1696	2115	2960	3150	1139	1267	1326	1550	1720
Saudi Arabia	27480	23737	28369	44417	48794	23623	21784	21153	24069	27391
United Arab Emirates	14764	12250	17351	21990	20226	6549	8522	10010	11199	12677
Other ESCWA countries	5087	5682	7916	8914	8888	16571	18112	15808	18522	19191
Egypt	1838	2120	2565	2582	3617	5495	8657	7434	9202	7754
Jordan	790	1036	1098	1063	1132	2732	2786	2133	2603	2512
Lebanon	400	629	484	496	490	2066	2408	2263	2578	3748
Syrian Arab Republic	1637	1345	3009	4062	3143	3967	2231	2097	2526	3151
Of which:										
The region's least developed country:										
(Republic of Yemen)	422	552	763	711	506	2311	2030	1981	1613	2026
a. Yemen	108	472	650	543	---	1632	1384	1401	1193	---
b. Democratic Yemen	314	81	113	168	---	679	647	580	420	---

Source: United Nations, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), based on national and international sources.

a/ GCC countries plus Iraq.

b/ covers 7 months only (January- July).

.... = Not available.

Table A-3 ESCWA region : Overall commodity structure of trade. a/ b/  
(Millions of U.S dollars)

Year	Total trade 0-9	All food items 0+1+22+4	Agricultural raw materials 2 less (22+27+28	Fuels 3	Ores & metals 27+28+68	Manufactured goods 5 to 8 less 68	Chemical products 5	Of which:		
								Other manufactured goods. (6+8) less 68	Machinery & equipment 7	Unallocated 9
1980	66032.47	9768.64	69.79	5344.46	1912.87	48555.31	3423.27	22530.15	22601.89	381.60
1985	57642.18	9312.24	--	4222.85	1723.84	41595.73	3802.84	19462.14	18330.80	787.71
1988	58301.93	10354.90	545.40	2693.00	1423.63	42296.44	5299.50	19468.19	17528.74	988.56
1989	51565.33	9560.71	576.61	2686.73	1350.29	36239.52	4378.45	16051.59	15809.48	1170.50
1990	59545.36	10844.88	907.35	3415.43	1950.50	40325.69	5704.15	16340.15	18281.39	2037.00
1991	68770.96	10343.32	--	1414.66	4047.29	49141.81	5986.14	22873.39	19937.26	1823.65
<b>A. Imports (c.i.f.)</b>										
<b>ESCWA region</b>										
1980	52145.52	6728.45	--	3528.21	1114.34	40427.70	2376.86	18979.20	19071.64	345.82
1985	43575.83	6250.44	--	2111.73	833.73	33991.52	2621.09	16065.75	15304.70	388.41
1988	42513.88	6549.80	--	1541.67	943.58	32854.50	3414.97	15680.90	13778.50	624.33
1989	37882.97	5642.70	--	1641.00	905.22	28618.90	2730.62	12984.30	12903.90	1075.06
1990	43628.10	5810.30	--	2373.12	916.18	32554.99	3591.79	14004.65	14958.60	1973.78
1991	51816.40	6508.60	--	2170.47	1386.19	40000.99	3990.40	19044.90	16965.70	1723.07
<b>GCC countries</b>										
<b>Bahrain</b>										
1980	3482.76	234.22	--	2034.22	32.36	1177.45	132.89	522.81	521.75	4.51
1985	3106.65	252.13	--	1448.94	44.41	1354.52	160.11	554.52	639.89	6.65
1988	2593.30	261.17	--	1085.64	38.03	1201.56	170.74	501.86	528.99	6.91
1989	3133.52	290.16	--	1268.09	39.10	1526.86	231.91	614.10	680.85	9.31
1990	3711.17	306.12	--	1827.13	38.56	1460.63	293.88	603.19	563.56	78.72
1991	4068.60	309.57	--	1717.80	93.61	1839.63	237.23	882.45	719.95	107.98
<b>Oman</b>										
1980	1781.63	254.04	--	236.55	37.88	1152.30	60.28	409.55	682.47	100.87
1985	3152.67	411.12	--	57.06	55.27	2547.40	124.67	1105.53	1317.20	81.82
1988	2201.56	423.67	--	33.29	23.93	1578.41	124.32	715.47	738.62	142.26
1989	2260.33	434.33	--	48.37	24.71	1676.20	130.30	730.04	815.86	76.72
1990	2681.14	480.62	--	107.67	23.41	1866.23	155.79	771.39	989.05	173.21
1991	3198.40	588.01	--	54.94	36.97	2421.34	182.96	889.84	1336.54	97.13

1980	1440.50	208.91	--	17.45	1188.21	76.89	473.78	637.54	--
1985	1139.18	198.10	--	9.04	883.63	58.79	379.04	445.80	4.87
1988	1267.34	238.21	--	9.29	968.29	81.81	388.32	500.16	5.82
1989	1326.02	221.18	--	10.41	1034.70	79.48	464.48	490.74	0.66
1990	1694.99	285.71	--	11.92	1331.84	92.94	479.75	759.15	3.79
1991	1720.10	291.66	--	11.97	1364.22	108.81	527.63	729.78	--
<u>Qatar</u>									
1980	30164.91	4049.75	--	191.27	707.85	25084.02	1425.20	11727.96	132.02
1985	23622.76	3371.52	--	120.10	409.15	19456.67	1523.70	8446.48	265.32
1988	21784.25	3281.17	--	61.68	500.40	17678.78	1972.50	7491.86	282.22
1989	21153.02	3163.42	--	60.08	460.08	16500.41	1572.76	6974.37	968.03
1990	24069.16	3170.36	--	203.60	503.60	18695.33	2228.04	8991.99	1640.59
1991	29074.48	3710.56	--	78.24	516.96	13300.88	2507.61	9034.12	1467.29
<u>Saudi Arabia</u>									
<u>United Arab Emirates</u>									
1980	8745.26	1049.01	--	999.00	177.70	6450.23	406.46	3141.28	70.02
1985	6548.91	1066.47	--	436.67	184.69	4846.10	398.53	2038.14	14.98
1988	8523.28	1286.68	--	243.53	199.67	6775.81	592.48	2745.85	37.59
1989	10010.62	1533.64	--	254.15	322.26	7880.69	716.43	2862.95	19.34
1990	11471.97	1567.47	--	366.85	289.21	9170.96	821.14	3674.80	77.47
1991	13745.85	1808.80	--	307.55	712.90	11065.92	945.79	5143.30	50.67
<u>Other ESCWA countries</u>									
1980	13887.3	3040.19	69.79	1816.25	797.63	8127.66	1046.41	3530.25	35.78
1985	14066.34	3061.80	--	2111.12	889.91	7604.21	1181.75	3026.07	399.3
1988	15788.10	3805.10	545.40	1151.32	480.05	9441.97	1884.52	3750.14	364.22
1989	13682.36	3918.01	576.61	1025.63	445.07	7621.60	1647.83	2925.54	95.44
1990	15917.26	5034.56	972.47	1042.31	1034.32	7770.65	2112.36	3322.79	63.21
1991	14693.48	3534.73	--	927.39	850.85	9149.82	1995.74	3325.57	100.58
<u>Egypt</u>									
1980	4860.00	1350.00	--	52.86	560.00	2895.71	458.57	1328.57	1.48
1985	5359.72	1338.51	--	203.07	511.68	3305.23	1456.80	1359.42	1.23
1988	8657.30	2294.20	545.40	216.40	173.20	5419.50	1991.20	2294.20	8.60
1989	7447.50	2368.30	528.69	171.30	156.40	4215.30	1564.00	1712.90	7.50
1990	8183.79	2918.68	869.02	349.40	924.10	4132.57	676.71	2073.91	--
1991	7676.23	1912.82	--	171.60	724.51	4865.41	1101.62	1945.70	1.89



	Jordan		Syrian Arab Republic	
1980	2403.56	416.45	69.79	410.10
1985	2726.92	456.40	--	566.68
1988	2752.36	483.71	--	424.76
1989	2156.39	362.03	--	412.69
1990	2599.14	656.00	65.11	470.10
1991	2493.40	657.21	--	360.72
			85.88	1369.50
			1369.74	318.69
			1494.50	131.72
			1395.41	171.68
			1578.27	270.52
			1233.17	235.45
			544.18	453.54
			590.20	492.80
			614.87	435.98
1980	4118.57	546.70	--	1069.45
1985	3967.01	682.04	--	1162.29
1988	2230.71	390.16	--	198.68
1989	2097.47	497.27	--	123.04
1990	2399.65	712.18	--	71.91
1991	2767.60	639.36	--	65.49
			65.62	1918.87
			182.70	2307.47
			1905.12	375.36
			1543.53	309.80
			1352.09	350.58
			1505.18	324.10
			1918.87	429.61
			1081.86	887.67
			784.15	745.61
			660.08	573.65
			631.31	370.20
			689.29	481.79
			890.37	598.89
			12.25	12.25
			22.34	22.34
			7.90	7.90
			23.42	23.42
			23.96	23.96
			78.24	78.24

The Region's least developed country:

	Republic of Yemen	
1980	2505.16	727.04
1985	2012.70	584.85
1988	2147.71	637.03
1989	1981.00	690.40
1990	1724.70	747.70
1991	2026.30	625.31
	283.84	1429.98
	54.93	118.18
	73.32	998.45
	86.85	899.67
	103.04	821.04
	23.80	763.40
	74.84	995.80
	145.62	145.62
	118.18	118.18
	145.70	145.70
	170.12	170.12
	123.40	123.40
	119.80	119.80
	145.62	145.62
	669.06	642.74
	458.08	394.67
	476.33	253.22
	327.80	368.90
	369.30	274.30
	505.16	345.00
	9.38	9.38
	177.00	177.00
	213.68	213.68
	--	--
	0.55	0.55
	0.65	0.65



Saudi Arabia										
1980	109113.05	109.11	10.91	108229.20	76.40	678.43	109.11	458.30	120.02	--
1985	27840.55	107.95	--	25937.33	60.19	1372.71	768.90	221.42	392.39	362.30
1988	24375.96	363.15	173.83	20204.27	--	3602.13	2715.62	484.11	402.40	32.58
1989	26362.91	409.88	243.52	24094.53	--	3615.22	2626.97	624.30	363.95	19.76
1990	44416.29	339.65	233.38	40128.17	--	3712.95	2510.81	721.50	480.64	2.14
1991	47790.17	449.68	--	43696.40	100.14	3541.54	2367.99	343.18	719.37	2.41
United Arab Emirates										
1980	20451.88	253.41	46.37	19389.87	--	756.46	47.07	439.90	269.49	5.77
1985	13090.98	243.80	--	11621.08	38.82	1065.81	69.68	595.37	400.76	121.47
1988	11089.64	425.33	64.04	8580.77	--	1926.94	100.90	1259.11	566.93	92.56
1989	14318.90	536.23	102.07	11304.82	--	2255.30	130.02	1489.76	635.52	120.48
1990	19508.88	558.54	109.67	16071.92	--	2619.88	159.82	1694.52	765.54	148.87
1991	19946.00	909.91	--	15663.31	122.60	3518.44	136.80	1396.73	1984.91	20.76
Other ESCWA countries										
1980	5788.50	411.69	751.17	3622.73	181.85	641.69	58.73	544.26	38.70	179.42
1985	4317.95	294.07	465.70	2474.23	267.27	671.47	196.00	453.29	21.88	145.20
1988	4887.82	469.37	332.94	1744.09	672.47	1668.94	486.47	1159.42	23.05	2.97
1989	7355.60	766.78	486.89	2622.62	664.58	2811.46	755.21	2010.26	45.99	3.26
1990	8452.26	1003.71	289.94	3325.80	704.86	3124.65	953.80	2123.06	47.77	3.39
1991	8688.50	909.91	--	4242.25	700.23	2569.53	526.12	1859.20	184.31	253.03
Egypt										
1980	3045.71	195.71	535.00	1957.14	0.71	355.72	18.57	334.29	2.86	1.43
1985	1838.20	102.94	222.42	1251.80	75.37	185.66	14.71	169.11	1.84	--
1988	2120.40	190.84	199.32	703.97	277.77	748.50	65.73	676.41	6.36	--
1989	2647.80	235.65	301.85	807.58	270.08	1029.99	121.80	897.60	10.59	2.65
1990	2575.49	283.48	34.50	763.14	346.85	1147.54	128.20	1003.50	115.84	--
1991	3619.87	294.43	--	1953.36	105.05	1266.89	162.62	1045.85	44.91	0.19
Jordan										
1980	575.53	97.62	9.67	1.01	158.44	136.45	36.72	91.71	8.02	172.34
1985	789.06	115.48	82.84	0.03	167.72	282.23	129.34	147.79	5.10	140.96
1988	873.09	86.40	--	0.91	394.70	388.45	246.30	132.04	10.11	2.60
1989	937.03	94.60	--	0.01	394.50	447.81	273.64	155.04	19.13	0.11
1990	922.11	97.70	--	0.01	354.30	470.10	284.60	164.00	21.50	--
1991	1132.10	137.21	--	0.03	338.82	403.25	260.06	10.93	132.26	252.82

	Syrian Arab Republic													
	1980	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1980	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991		
	2107.69	1637.33	1344.56	3005.76	4212.23	3430.20	195.30	1662.04	22.70	138.49	2.80	113.55	22.14	0.28
	88.92	44.92	111.03	346.04	573.84	451.70	160.64	1212.51	19.26	199.03	50.42	133.68	14.93	0.97
	59.57	53.37	549.77	765.01	742.52	506.32	117.38	590.21	--	525.62	173.38	346.54	5.70	0.31
	30.73	81.10	90.49	48.71	26.57	29.44	158.88	1177.06	--	1323.28	355.71	951.55	16.02	0.50
	29.44	30.73	81.10	90.49	48.71	26.57	231.68	1903.35	--	1503.07	540.18	952.59	10.30	0.29
	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	--	1831.90	237.15	909.44	101.94	800.42	7.08	--

The region's least developed country:

	The Republic of Yemen													
	1980	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1980	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991		
	59.57	53.37	549.77	765.01	742.52	506.32	11.20	2.54	--	11.03	0.64	4.71	5.68	5.37
	30.73	81.10	90.49	48.71	26.57	29.44	--	9.89	4.92	4.55	1.53	3.01	0.01	3.27
	29.44	30.73	81.10	90.49	48.71	26.57	16.24	446.00	--	6.37	1.06	4.43	0.88	0.06
	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.16	637.98	--	10.38	4.06	6.07	0.25	--
	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	23.76	659.30	3.71	3.94	0.82	2.87	0.15	3.10
	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	26.57	--	456.94	19.21	3.58	1.50	2.02	0.06	0.02

Source : ESCWA secretariat compilations, based on data in national and international sources.

a/ Excluding Iraq Kuwait and Lebanon.

b/ Figures of countries' exports and imports may differ from those in table A-2, because of difference in sources and/or different systems of compilation.

-- = Nil or negligible.

.... = Not available.

Table A-4 ESCWA region : Overall commodity structure of trade a/b/  
( percentage)

Year	Total value millions of US dollars	All					Of which :				
		Food Items 0+1+22+4	Agricultural raw materials 2 less (22+27+28)	Fuels 3	Ores & metals 27+28+68	Manufactured goods 5 to 8	Chemical Products 5	Other manufac- tured goods. (6+8)	Machinery & equipment 7	Unallocated 9	
<b>A. Imports (c.i.f.)</b>											
<b>ESCWA region</b>											
1980	66032.47	14.79	0.10	8.10	2.90	75.53	5.18	34.12	34.23	0.58	
1985	57642.18	16.16	--	7.33	2.99	72.16	6.60	33.76	31.80	1.36	
1988	58301.93	17.80	0.90	4.60	2.40	72.50	9.10	33.50	29.90	1.70	
1989	51565.33	18.50	1.10	5.20	2.60	70.30	8.50	31.10	30.70	2.30	
1990	59545.36	18.20	1.60	5.70	3.30	67.70	9.60	27.40	30.70	3.40	
1991	66770.96	15.50	--	4.60	3.50	73.60	9.00	34.30	29.90	2.70	
<b>GCC countries</b>											
1980	52145.52	12.90	--	6.80	2.10	77.50	7.30	36.40	36.60	0.70	
1985	43575.83	14.40	--	4.80	1.90	78.00	6.00	36.90	35.10	1.00	
1988	42513.88	15.40	--	3.60	2.20	77.30	8.00	36.80	32.40	1.50	
1989	37882.97	14.90	--	4.30	2.40	75.60	7.20	34.30	34.10	2.80	
1990	43628.10	13.30	--	5.40	2.10	74.70	8.20	32.10	34.30	4.50	
1991	51616.40	12.60	--	4.20	2.70	77.20	7.70	36.80	32.80	3.30	
<b>Bahrain</b>											
1980	3482.76	6.72	--	58.41	0.93	33.81	3.82	15.01	14.98	0.13	
1985	3106.65	8.12	--	46.60	1.43	43.64	5.20	17.85	20.60	0.21	
1988	2593.30	10.07	--	41.86	1.47	46.33	6.58	19.35	20.40	0.27	
1989	3133.52	9.26	--	40.47	1.25	48.73	7.40	19.60	21.73	0.30	
1990	3711.17	8.25	--	49.23	1.04	39.36	7.92	16.25	15.19	2.12	
1991	4068.60	7.61	--	42.22	2.31	45.22	5.83	21.69	17.70	2.64	
<b>Oman</b>											
1980	1781.63	14.26	--	13.28	2.12	64.68	3.38	22.99	38.31	5.66	
1985	3152.67	13.04	--	1.81	1.75	80.80	3.95	35.07	41.78	2.60	
1988	2201.56	19.24	--	1.51	1.09	71.70	5.60	32.50	33.55	6.46	
1989	2260.33	19.22	--	2.14	1.09	74.16	5.76	32.30	36.09	3.39	
1990	2681.14	17.93	--	4.02	0.87	70.72	5.81	28.77	36.14	6.46	
1991	3198.40	18.38	--	1.71	1.15	75.70	6.03	27.82	41.85	3.06	



	Syrian Arab Republic									
1980	4118.57	13.27	--	25.87	4.43	56.03	8.21	26.27	21.55	0.30
1985	3987.01	17.19	--	29.31	4.92	48.02	9.46	19.77	18.80	0.56
1988	2230.71	17.49	--	8.95	4.01	69.20	13.89	29.59	25.72	0.35
1989	2097.47	23.70	--	5.87	4.85	64.46	16.71	30.10	17.65	1.12
1990	2399.65	29.67	--	3.00	3.60	62.73	13.51	29.14	20.08	1.00
1991	2767.60	25.05	--	2.36	2.37	69.32	15.52	32.17	21.63	0.90

The region's least developed country:

	Republic of Yemen									
1980	2505.16	29.00	11.30	2.20	57.10	4.70	26.70	25.70	0.40	
1985	2012.70	29.10	--	8.90	3.60	49.60	7.20	22.80	19.60	8.80
1988	2147.71	29.70	--	14.50	4.00	41.90	7.90	22.20	11.80	9.90
1989	1981.00	34.90	2.40	16.10	5.20	41.50	6.20	16.60	18.60	--
1990	1724.70	43.30	2.20	8.80	1.40	44.30	7.00	21.40	15.90	--
1991	2026.30	30.86	--	16.26	3.69	49.13	7.18	24.93	17.02	0.06

**B. Exports (f.o.b.)**

	ESCWA region											
	1980	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1980	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991
	168381.17	67563.22	53844.95	59622.15	85152.26	84764.90	96.20	89.30	77.40	77.10	82.70	83.30
	0.60	1.20	2.80	3.10	2.40	2.50	0.20	0.60	1.30	0.80	1.10	1.10
	2.40	7.20	17.20	16.90	13.00	12.30	0.30	1.90	6.70	4.80	3.80	3.80
	1.40	3.00	7.70	8.20	6.40	4.40	1.40	2.30	7.70	6.40	4.40	4.40
	0.70	2.30	2.80	2.20	1.80	1.80	0.70	2.30	2.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
	0.10	1.00	0.40	0.40	0.30	0.80	0.10	1.00	0.40	0.30	0.80	0.80
	162592.87	62456.21	48957.17	52266.55	76699.91	76076.40	97.38	91.54	81.59	82.93	87.53	87.20
	0.33	0.82	1.90	2.03	1.31	1.60	0.13	0.26	--	--	0.30	0.30
	2.09	6.52	15.51	13.93	10.36	10.30	0.27	1.71	6.43	6.08	4.13	3.50
	1.10	2.44	6.04	5.47	4.31	2.50	1.10	2.44	6.04	5.47	4.31	2.50
	0.70	2.38	3.04	2.40	1.97	4.30	0.70	2.38	3.04	2.40	1.97	4.30
	0.01	0.86	0.43	0.41	0.32	0.60	0.01	0.86	0.43	0.41	0.32	0.60
	3600.80	2896.83	2411.44	2831.12	3757.71	3468.90	88.82	88.10	75.90	75.20	78.21	78.57
	1.09	0.19	0.44	0.92	0.67	0.79	--	--	--	--	0.48	0.48
	9.78	11.46	23.19	23.50	20.72	20.02	9.78	11.46	23.19	23.50	20.72	20.02
	6.47	9.03	15.81	18.29	16.29	1.65	6.47	9.03	15.81	18.29	16.29	1.65
	3.04	2.25	3.52	2.70	1.19	14.39	3.04	2.25	3.52	2.70	1.19	14.39
	--	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.18	0.14	--	--	--	--	--	--
	3748.00	4971.05	3315.99	4048.81	5487.65	4871.30	96.16	93.01	88.63	89.20	91.66	88.98
	0.82	1.24	1.86	2.12	1.44	1.57	0.06	0.12	--	--	0.12	0.12
	2.85	4.79	7.62	6.77	5.13	1.88	2.85	4.79	7.62	6.77	5.13	1.88
	0.31	0.84	2.03	2.19	1.54	--	0.31	0.84	2.03	2.19	1.54	--
	2.53	3.89	5.41	4.43	3.44	1.56	2.53	3.89	5.41	4.43	3.44	1.56
	0.11	0.84	1.77	1.79	1.64	9.45	0.11	0.84	1.77	1.79	1.64	9.45
	5788.00	3061.00	2686.81	3529.38	3175.50	5788.00	95.99	97.06	82.05	84.07	82.05	84.07
	0.03	--	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.03	2.22	0.68	--	--	--	--
	1.70	2.16	17.58	15.68	10.28	1.70	1.70	2.16	17.58	15.68	10.28	1.70
	0.12	0.47	5.17	5.41	5.41	0.12	1.29	1.40	12.42	10.28	5.41	5.41
	0.29	0.29	--	--	--	0.29	0.29	0.29	--	--	--	--
	0.14	0.09	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.14	0.14	0.09	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01

**GCC countries**

**Bahrain**

**Oman**

**Qatar**



		Saudi Arabia											
1980	109113.05	0.10	99.19	0.07	0.64	0.10	0.42	0.12	0.12	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
1985	27840.55	0.39	93.17	0.22	4.93	2.76	0.80	1.37	1.37	--	--	1.30	1.30
1988	24375.96	1.49	82.89	--	14.78	11.14	1.99	1.65	1.65	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13
1989	28382.91	1.44	84.89	--	12.74	9.26	2.20	1.28	1.28	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07
1990	44416.29	0.77	90.35	--	8.36	5.65	1.62	1.08	1.08	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
1991	47790.17	0.94	91.44	0.21	7.41	5.00	0.91	1.50	1.50	--	--	--	--
<u>United Arab Emirates</u>													
1980	20451.88	1.24	94.81	--	3.70	0.23	2.15	1.32	1.32	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
1985	13090.98	1.86	88.77	0.30	8.14	0.53	4.55	3.06	3.06	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.93
1988	11089.64	3.84	77.38	--	17.38	0.91	11.35	5.11	5.11	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82
1989	14318.90	3.75	78.95	--	15.75	0.91	10.40	4.44	4.44	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84
1990	19508.88	2.86	82.38	--	13.43	0.82	8.69	3.92	3.92	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77
1991	19946.00	3.12	78.50	0.60	17.64	0.69	6.87	9.96	9.96	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09
<u>Other ESCWA Countries</u>													
1980	5788.50	6.70	63.20	3.20	11.00	1.00	9.40	0.60	0.60	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
1985	4338.05	6.20	57.80	6.20	15.60	4.60	10.60	0.50	0.50	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
1988	4887.82	8.90	29.90	15.50	38.30	11.20	26.80	0.50	0.50	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
1989	7355.60	10.30	30.10	10.10	42.50	11.40	30.40	0.70	0.70	--	--	--	--
1990	8452.26	12.40	34.60	9.00	40.50	12.40	27.50	0.60	0.60	--	--	--	--
1991	8688.50	10.50	48.80	8.10	29.70	6.10	21.40	2.10	2.10	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
<u>Egypt</u>													
1980	3045.71	6.43	64.26	0.02	11.68	0.61	10.98	0.09	0.09	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
1985	1838.20	5.60	68.10	4.10	10.10	0.80	9.20	0.10	0.10	--	--	--	--
1988	2120.40	9.00	33.20	13.10	35.30	3.10	31.90	0.30	0.30	--	--	--	--
1989	2647.80	8.90	30.50	10.20	38.90	4.94	36.37	0.43	0.43	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11
1990	2575.49	11.20	29.63	13.47	44.56	4.98	38.96	0.60	0.60	--	--	--	--
1991	3619.87	8.10	54.00	2.90	35.00	4.54	28.90	1.28	1.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>Jordan</u>													
1980	575.53	16.96	0.18	27.53	23.71	6.38	15.93	1.39	1.39	29.94	29.94	29.94	29.94
1985	789.06	14.64	0.01	21.26	35.77	16.39	18.73	0.65	0.65	17.86	17.86	17.86	17.86
1988	873.09	9.90	0.10	45.21	44.48	28.20	15.12	1.16	1.16	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
1989	937.03	10.10	--	42.10	47.79	29.20	16.55	2.04	2.04	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
1990	922.11	10.60	--	38.42	50.98	30.86	17.79	2.33	2.33	--	--	--	--
1991	1132.10	12.12	0.01	29.93	35.62	22.98	0.97	11.69	11.69	22.32	22.32	22.32	22.32

	Syrian Arab Republic									
1980	2107.69	4.22	9.27	78.86	1.08	6.57	0.13	5.39	1.05	0.01
1985	1637.33	2.74	9.81	74.05	1.18	12.16	3.08	8.16	0.91	0.05
1988	1344.56	8.26	8.73	43.90	--	39.08	12.89	25.77	0.42	0.02
1989	3005.76	11.51	5.29	39.16	--	44.02	11.83	31.66	0.53	0.01
1990	4212.23	13.62	5.50	45.19	--	35.68	12.62	22.62	0.24	0.01
1991	3430.20	13.17	--	53.41	6.91	26.51	2.98	23.34	0.21	--

The region's least developed country:

	Republic of Yemen									
1980	59.57	49.42	18.80	4.26	--	18.52	1.07	7.91	9.54	9.00
1985	53.37	57.58	--	18.53	9.22	8.53	2.87	5.64	0.02	6.14
1988	549.77	14.75	2.95	81.12	--	1.16	0.19	0.81	0.16	0.02
1989	765.01	11.83	3.42	83.40	--	1.35	0.53	0.79	0.03	--
1990	742.52	6.56	3.20	88.79	0.50	0.53	0.11	0.40	0.02	0.42
1991	506.32	5.30	--	90.30	3.80	0.70	0.30	0.40	--	--

Source : ESCWA secretariat compilations based on data given in national and international sources.

a/ Excluding Iraq, Kuwait and Lebanon.

b/ Figures of countries' exports and imports may differ from those in table A-2 because of differences in sources and/or different systems of compilation.

-- = Nil or negligible.

....= Not available.

Table A-5. ESCWA region: geographical distribution of exports (f.o.b.), 1985 and 1988-1992

Year	(percentage shares)												
	Other developing regions							Eastern Europe and Former Soviet Union				World	
	ESCWA	Total	Asia	America	Africa	North Africa	EC	USA	Japan	China	Rest of World		
1985	7.7	23.1	15.7	5.1	1.6	0.6	25.6	4.3	24.2	1.8	0.1	13.2	100
1988	11.7	23.9	17.6	3.8	1.5	0.9	19.0	12.1	18.1	1.9	0.5	12.8	100
1989	11.4	21.7	16.2	3.4	1.4	0.7	18.6	14.1	18.1	2.5	0.4	13.2	100
1990	10.4	22.8	17.3	3.0	1.7	0.8	16.8	15.0	20.2	2.4	0.3	12.1	100
1991	9.0	23.0	18.9	1.8	1.6	0.7	18.3	12.4	23.3	1.5	0.6	11.9	100
1992	10.4	23.0	19.1	1.7	1.5	0.7	18.7	11.9	23.0	1.5	0.7	10.8	100
Major oil exporters													
1985	7.2	24.1	16.5	5.4	1.6	0.6	24.8	4.5	25.7	0.4	0.1	13.2	100
1988	11.1	25.0	18.3	4.2	1.6	0.9	18.0	12.7	19.5	0.6	0.5	12.6	100
1989	10.9	23.2	17.3	3.8	1.4	0.7	17.1	15.0	19.7	0.6	0.4	13.1	100
1990	9.9	24.3	18.5	3.3	1.8	0.7	15.3	15.9	22.1	0.7	0.3	11.5	100
1991	8.4	24.5	20.5	2.0	1.6	0.4	16.5	13.3	25.6	0.4	0.7	10.6	100
1992	10.0	24.2	20.3	1.9	1.6	0.4	15.8	12.7	25.3	0.1	0.7	11.2	100
Bahrain													
1985	26.8	28.4	19.9	--	8.5	--	1.4	9.7	11.8	--	0.2	21.7	100
1988	26.7	32.6	24.1	--	8.5	--	1.4	9.7	11.8	--	0.2	17.6	100
1989	26.8	28.4	19.9	--	8.5	--	1.4	9.7	11.8	--	0.2	21.7	100
1990	20.2	33.4	23.3	--	10.0	0.1	2.8	6.8	13.1	--	0.1	23.6	100
1991	18.7	38.6	28.6	--	9.9	0.1	4.3	2.9	12.9	--	--	22.6	100
1992	21.6	37.6	26.9	--	10.6	0.1	5.6	2.1	8.8	--	0.1	24.3	100
Iraq													
1985	2.6	23.1	4.3	17.4	0.1	1.3	43.6	4.3	5.5	2.4	0.1	16.4	100
1988	5.2	20.2	4.3	13.5	0.1	2.3	28.8	15.0	7.8	2.2	0.1	20.7	100
1989	4.4	21.3	4.7	13.2	0.5	2.9	27.2	19.0	8.9	1.9	0.5	16.8	100
1990	4.8	19.3	6.6	10.2	0.8	1.9	24.2	28.3	7.8	2.2	0.6	12.8	100
1991	88.2	0.3	--	0.3	--	--	10.1	--	--	--	0.3	1.1	100
Kuwait													
1985	10.2	29.8	27.6	--	1.6	0.6	30.2	1.8	18.0	--	0.1	9.7	100
1988	7.4	32.7	27.8	1.0	1.9	1.9	25.5	5.5	17.3	2.1	0.8	8.7	100
1989	6.5	32.7	27.8	2.3	1.8	0.8	23.6	8.6	19.2	1.4	0.5	7.5	100
1990	5.9	35.7	30.8	1.9	2.3	0.7	23.9	7.0	19.1	0.5	0.5	7.4	100
1991	10.2	11.1	11.1	--	--	--	55.0	8.3	12.3	--	--	3.1	100
1992	--	13.4	13.4	--	--	--	30.3	11.0	42.6	--	0.1	2.6	100

1985	--	27.8	24.9	1.6	1.3	--	17.5	6.8	38.9	--	--	9.0	100
1988	57.3	19.7	18.2	--	1.4	0.1	11.5	4.6	0.9	--	--	6.0	100
1989	67.0	13.7	12.6	--	0.9	0.1	7.7	3.4	1.1	--	0.4	6.7	100
1990	61.3	16.1	11.8	--	4.1	0.2	10.3	3.7	2.1	--	--	6.5	100
1991	36.6	23.8	21.0	0.3	2.3	0.2	2.1	1.6	27.2	--	5.0	3.7	100
1992	33.7	29.3	26.5	0.3	2.5	--	2.3	2.5	23.8	--	5.4	3.0	100
							<u>Qatar</u>						
1985	3.1	15.6	8.5	6.6	0.5	--	43.2	0.2	33.3	--	0.2	4.4	100
1988	9.8	28.0	22.2	5.8	--	--	3.5	--	49.8	--	2.1	6.8	100
1989	9.0	21.7	15.7	5.9	0.1	--	4.7	2.1	56.1	--	1.6	4.8	100
1990	6.5	25.7	16.8	8.9	--	--	2.3	1.6	59.5	--	0.7	3.7	100
1991	8.1	22.6	17.0	5.6	--	--	2.3	0.9	61.4	--	2.3	4.3	100
1992	6.5	24.8	20.2	4.5	0.1	--	2.6	2.1	59.0	--	1.9	3.1	100
							<u>Saudi Arabia</u>						
1985	8.1	27.7	20.8	4.4	1.6	0.9	22.6	5.5	30.0	0.1	--	6.0	100
1988	8.4	25.2	19.4	4.0	1.2	0.6	22.6	22.2	17.3	0.1	0.5	3.7	100
1989	8.8	22.0	18.2	2.4	1.1	0.3	19.7	26.3	17.8	0.3	0.4	4.7	100
1990	9.2	24.7	18.9	3.3	1.6	0.9	17.7	24.0	19.0	0.7	0.2	4.5	100
1991	5.8	25.5	20.9	2.7	1.3	0.8	23.6	21.4	17.7	0.6	0.2	5.2	100
1992	7.3	23.9	19.4	2.7	1.2	0.8	22.5	20.2	18.4	0.2	0.2	7.3	100
							<u>United Arab Emirates</u>						
1985	6.1	13.6	6.9	4.8	1.9	--	13.6	4.0	34.8	--	--	27.9	100
1988	6.2	23.2	19.0	1.6	2.0	0.6	5.2	4.0	34.8	--	0.5	26.1	100
1989	5.3	22.4	19.1	1.7	1.6	0.1	8.3	3.8	31.1	--	0.3	28.8	100
1990	4.1	21.9	19.6	0.8	1.2	0.3	8.2	3.7	35.1	0.4	0.2	26.4	100
1991	3.5	21.9	19.4	1.0	1.3	0.3	8.5	2.9	39.4	--	0.3	23.5	100
1992	8.3	22.7	20.4	0.7	1.4	0.3	7.4	3.2	35.9	0.1	0.3	22.1	100
							<u>Other ESCWA countries</u>						
1985	15.5	6.8	4.5	0.6	0.8	0.9	37.7	0.7	2.5	23.0	0.2	13.6	100
1988	18.2	12.0	9.8	0.1	1.1	1.0	29.5	5.6	3.8	15.4	0.8	14.7	100
1989	16.1	7.7	5.6	0.1	0.9	1.1	33.0	5.9	3.0	20.2	0.3	13.6	100
1990	15.7	7.8	5.2	--	1.0	1.6	31.9	6.7	1.8	19.5	0.4	16.2	100
1991	14.8	9.3	4.9	0.1	0.9	3.4	34.0	4.5	2.2	11.9	0.5	22.8	100
1992	14.3	12.2	7.8	0.2	1.1	3.1	45.3	5.1	1.2	13.8	0.3	7.8	100
							<u>Egypt</u>						
1985	4.5	4.4	3.1	1.0	--	0.3	43.9	0.9	3.1	19.3	--	23.9	100
1988	8.5	9.7	8.1	0.3	0.3	1.0	37.1	6.3	4.7	16.2	0.1	17.4	100
1989	8.7	8.6	6.8	0.3	0.3	1.2	42.5	5.2	3.6	16.1	0.2	15.1	100
1990	6.4	4.7	1.1	--	0.8	2.8	15.4	8.6	2.7	19.1	0.2	42.9	100
1991	6.8	7.0	1.8	--	0.8	4.4	28.3	7.6	1.4	9.8	--	39.1	100
1992	5.3	14.2	9.1	0.3	1.1	3.7	54.8	8.7	1.7	8.8	--	6.5	100

	Jordan												
1985	48.2	22.5	20.3	1.2	0.8	0.1	4.4	--	2.2	5.7	0.8	16.2	100
1988	33.6	27.5	23.5	0.3	2.8	0.9	6.8	0.3	1.5	3.6	4.0	22.7	100
1989	34.9	20.3	17.3	--	3.0	--	4.0	0.7	2.9	5.0	1.8	30.4	100
1990	40.2	43.9	37.2	0.2	5.1	6.4	3.6	0.6	2.1	2.6	2.6	4.4	100
1991	24.7	38.8	32.5	0.4	2.7	3.2	3.1	0.4	1.8	3.6	5.4	22.2	100
1992	18.0	38.9	34.6	0.6	3.5	0.2	8.8	1.8	2.3	3.9	2.5	23.8	100
	Lebanon												
1985	63.5	5.4	0.4	--	2.5	2.5	15.3	4.5	0.3	4.3	--	6.7	100
1988	55.9	3.9	0.8	0.1	2.3	0.7	19.9	6.1	0.5	0.5	--	13.2	100
1989	51.1	5.4	1.0	--	3.2	1.2	22.4	5.9	1.2	0.5	--	13.5	100
1990	48.3	4.9	1.9	0.1	2.1	0.8	23.2	4.5	0.8	1.4	--	16.9	100
1991	42.9	5.1	1.1	0.1	2.3	1.6	22.7	5.3	0.3	3.7	--	19.9	100
1992	51.4	6.6	1.2	0.1	3.9	1.4	19.2	4.9	0.4	3.2	--	14.3	100
	Syrian Arab Republic												
1985	3.4	2.2	--	--	0.4	1.8	45.8	--	0.1	43.3	--	5.2	100
1988	11.0	2.3	0.1	--	0.2	2.0	33.8	1.7	--	39.6	0.1	11.5	100
1989	14.8	2.0	0.1	--	0.1	1.8	31.0	2.4	0.1	40.8	0.1	8.8	100
1990	17.0	1.8	0.1	--	--	1.7	41.4	1.0	0.1	33.0	--	5.8	100
1991	19.9	3.6	0.1	0.1	--	3.4	45.7	0.5	0.1	21.1	0.1	9.0	100
1992	19.9	3.6	0.3	0.1	--	3.2	45.7	1.1	0.2	24.6	--	4.9	100
	The region's least developed country :												
	Republic of Yemen												
1985	10.9	13.4	8.1	--	5.3	--	58.6	0.5	15.1	--	0.6	0.9	100
1988	6.9	21.5	19.8	--	1.7	--	38.0	16.4	12.8	--	--	4.4	100
1989	4.2	10.3	8.4	--	1.6	0.3	48.0	21.4	10.2	--	0.1	5.8	100
1990	2.8	9.7	8.1	--	1.4	0.2	52.7	22.9	5.1	--	0.1	6.6	100
1991	6.0	14.1	10.6	--	2.1	1.4	43.9	9.6	12.6	--	--	13.8	100
	a. Democratic Yemen												
1985	2.6	15.7	9.1	--	6.5	--	66.3	0.4	13.9	--	0.7	0.4	100
1988	9.6	12.2	5.6	--	6.6	--	54.4	9.5	8.6	--	--	5.7	100
1989	6.3	12.3	3.2	--	9.1	--	61.2	0.4	12.5	--	0.5	6.8	100
1990	3.3	23.6	11.1	--	12.3	0.2	47.0	11.1	5.9	--	--	9.1	100
1991	6.5	43.7	4.3	--	25.1	14.3	--	--	--	--	--	49.8	100

	b. Yemen												
	1985	4.6	4.2	--	0.4	--	28.7	0.9	19.6	--	0.1	3.1	100
1988	6.0	24.4	24.2	--	0.2	--	33.0	18.5	14.2	--	--	3.9	100
1989	3.7	10.0	9.5	--	0.1	--	45.3	25.7	9.7	--	--	5.6	100
1990	2.8	8.1	7.8	--	0.1	--	53.5	24.4	5.1	--	--	6.1	100
1991	5.9	11.6	11.1	--	0.1	--	47.6	10.4	13.7	--	--	10.8	100

Source: ESCWA secretariat compilations, based on data given in International Monetary Fund (IMF), Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook 1992, and, Direction of Trade Statistics monthly bulletin, June 1993.

Notes: Definition of markets:

Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Romania.

EC: European Communities comprises Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom.

ESCWA: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia comprises

Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Republic of Yemen, Saudi Arabia, The Syrian Arab Republic and the United Arab Emirates.

Major oil exporters: Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

Other ESCWA Countries: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic.

The region's least developed country: The Republic of Yemen came into being in May 1990 as a result of the unification of Democratic Yemen and Yemen.

Other developing regions: defined to include Asia (excluding ESCWA), Latin America, Africa (excluding North Africa) and North Africa (excluding Egypt).

Details may not add up to totals because of rounding.

-- = Nil or negligible.

....= Not available.

Table A-6. ESCWA region: geographic distribution of imports (o.i.t.), 1985 and 1988-1992.  
(percentage shares)

Year	ESCWA	Other developing regions										World	
		Total	Asia	America	Africa	North Africa	EC	USA	Japan	Eastern Europe & Former Soviet Union	China		Rest of World
1985	8.6	11.6	8.3	2.1	0.6	0.5	35.0	11.0	15.5	3.7	1.1	13.5	100
1988	9.2	14.1	11.2	2.0	0.6	0.3	33.2	12.3	11.5	3.8	1.7	14.2	100
1989	10.4	13.0	10.2	2.1	0.5	0.3	33.4	13.6	10.6	2.6	1.8	14.5	100
1990	10.4	12.6	10.0	1.5	0.7	0.4	31.6	11.5	14.7	1.9	2.0	15.3	100
1991	7.7	15.3	13.1	1.2	0.7	0.3	34.0	15.9	10.8	1.4	1.5	13.4	100
1992	6.0	14.6	12.2	1.6	0.5	0.3	35.2	16.8	11.6	1.2	1.7	12.9	100
<u>Major oil exporters</u>													
1985	8.5	12.6	9.6	2.4	0.5	0.2	34.3	11.5	18.5	2.3	1.1	11.2	100
1988	9.5	15.5	12.6	2.0	0.5	0.3	31.4	13.2	13.5	2.1	1.9	12.9	100
1989	10.8	13.9	11.4	2.3	0.4	0.3	32.2	13.9	12.5	1.3	1.9	13.5	100
1990	10.8	14.3	11.8	1.6	0.6	0.4	32.6	13.5	12.9	0.8	2.1	13.0	100
1991	7.0	16.7	14.9	1.0	0.6	0.3	34.6	17.4	12.9	0.5	1.4	9.4	100
1992	6.5	16.1	13.9	1.4	0.5	0.3	35.2	17.1	14.1	0.4	1.7	8.9	100
<u>Bahrain</u>													
1985	48.9	6.3	5.8	0.4	0.1	--	21.1	7.4	9.9	--	0.4	6.0	100
1988	48.9	6.3	5.8	0.4	0.1	--	21.1	7.4	9.9	--	0.4	6.0	100
1989	48.8	6.3	5.8	0.4	0.1	--	21.1	7.4	9.9	--	0.4	6.1	100
1990	45.4	5.6	5.1	0.4	0.1	--	18.8	18.5	6.7	--	0.3	6.7	100
1991	43.9	7.1	6.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	22.4	13.8	4.6	--	0.3	7.9	100
1992	35.3	8.2	7.1	0.9	0.1	0.1	23.1	12.2	5.3	--	0.3	15.6	100
<u>Iraq</u>													
1985	5.8	9.7	2.4	6.6	0.2	0.4	34.5	4.5	13.7	9.9	1.3	20.6	100
1988	7.7	7.6	3.2	3.9	--	0.5	32.9	13.5	4.8	8.1	0.9	24.5	100
1989	8.9	8.0	2.9	4.1	--	1.0	36.0	12.7	5.3	3.5	0.7	24.9	100
1990	8.0	9.4	4.5	3.6	--	1.3	41.8	10.7	4.5	2.7	0.6	22.3	100
1991	--	--	--	--	--	--	40.0	--	--	--	--	60.0	100
<u>Kuwait</u>													
1985	5.2	14.0	12.8	1.0	0.1	0.1	33.0	8.8	27.1	0.8	1.6	9.5	100
1988	13.3	17.8	15.8	1.7	0.2	0.1	26.9	12.1	13.3	1.5	3.0	12.1	100
1989	12.7	8.5	6.7	1.5	0.3	0.1	29.4	13.0	12.7	1.4	3.4	18.9	100
1990	13.2	16.5	14.7	1.6	0.2	--	33.4	10.9	11.4	1.3	1.8	11.5	100
1991	0.6	7.0	7.0	--	--	--	24.8	34.8	12.4	0.1	0.5	19.8	100
1992	--	6.0	5.3	0.7	--	--	42.2	27.9	16.2	--	1.2	6.5	100

1985	22.9	8.8	8.1	0.7	--	--	5.7	20.2	--	0.4	5.3	100
1988	23.3	12.0	11.0	0.9	0.1	--	36.7	16.8	0.1	0.4	7.0	100
1989	28.0	10.0	9.2	0.7	0.1	--	31.6	8.8	0.1	0.5	8.7	100
1990	26.7	10.2	9.4	0.4	0.4	--	28.5	8.5	0.1	0.4	9.3	100
1991	21.9	12.9	12.2	0.3	0.3	--	27.4	9.2	--	0.3	6.3	100
1992	21.1	13.9	13.3	0.3	0.3	--	31.4	6.8	--	0.2	5.5	100
							31.9	7.1	--			
							<u>Qatar</u>					
1985	5.5	11.3	9.4	1.8	0.1	--	43.3	6.5	--	0.5	14.7	100
1988	9.4	14.9	11.5	3.3	0.1	--	35.1	9.3	--	0.9	12.8	100
1989	11.2	15.0	11.7	3.1	0.2	--	37.6	8.8	--	1.0	7.6	100
1990	11.9	13.2	10.8	2.1	0.2	--	41.9	9.5	--	1.0	7.9	100
1991	10.3	13.0	10.8	1.9	0.2	--	44.2	8.7	--	0.4	11.0	100
1992	12.8	12.3	9.5	2.5	0.3	--	38.3	10.8	--	0.5	8.6	100
							<u>Saudi Arabia</u>					
1985	3.3	14.5	11.7	1.7	0.9	0.1	35.2	17.0	0.6	0.9	9.5	100
1988	4.1	17.8	14.5	2.0	0.9	0.4	33.5	16.3	0.9	1.8	9.6	100
1989	4.6	15.4	12.9	1.6	0.6	0.3	32.8	18.2	0.9	1.9	12.0	100
1990	3.8	14.4	11.3	1.6	1.0	0.5	34.1	16.7	0.8	1.8	13.1	100
1991	2.4	15.3	12.8	1.3	0.8	0.5	38.5	20.9	0.8	1.2	8.5	100
1992	2.8	14.2	11.1	1.9	0.7	0.5	37.5	21.0	0.7	1.3	8.3	100
							<u>United Arab Emirates</u>					
1985	8.5	14.5	12.9	1.0	0.5	0.1	35.2	11.0	20.0	0.4	8.6	100
1988	6.6	20.1	18.4	1.1	0.5	0.1	30.3	9.5	16.4	0.7	13.1	100
1989	7.7	22.6	21.0	1.1	0.4	0.1	31.1	9.7	15.0	1.1	9.9	100
1990	8.0	19.8	18.3	1.0	0.5	--	29.0	9.1	14.2	0.5	14.3	100
1991	5.4	26.1	24.9	0.7	0.4	0.1	31.3	10.0	14.8	0.3	9.3	100
1992	8.5	24.6	23.5	0.7	0.4	--	31.1	8.7	15.3	0.2	8.5	100
							<u>Other ESCWA countries</u>					
1985	9.1	8.1	4.2	1.4	0.7	1.8	37.7	9.3	5.6	6.2	20.9	100
1988	8.4	9.9	7.0	1.8	0.8	0.3	38.4	9.5	5.7	8.8	18.0	100
1989	9.1	8.9	6.4	1.5	1.0	0.2	37.3	12.3	4.0	7.0	20.0	100
1990	9.5	8.1	5.1	1.5	1.1	0.4	28.7	5.9	19.7	4.9	21.8	100
1991	9.6	11.0	7.3	2.1	1.1	0.5	32.3	11.1	4.1	4.4	25.7	100
1992	4.3	10.7	7.9	2.0	0.5	0.3	35.4	16.2	5.1	3.4	23.3	100
							<u>Egypt</u>					
1985	2.2	6.5	4.2	1.8	0.4	0.1	42.2	13.0	5.2	9.3	21.2	100
1988	2.0	9.7	6.5	2.5	0.5	0.1	40.8	11.9	5.0	9.2	20.7	100
1989	1.6	9.2	6.4	2.0	0.7	0.1	38.6	17.6	3.9	8.6	19.7	100
1990	1.4	4.6	2.0	1.8	0.6	0.3	22.7	2.0	37.2	5.0	26.1	100
1991	2.9	7.6	3.4	3.2	0.6	0.4	27.6	16.1	4.1	4.0	36.4	100
1992	1.4	8.1	5.8	1.7	0.3	0.3	31.4	22.4	4.2	2.4	28.8	100



1985	25.3	4.0	2.6	1.0	0.2	0.2	11.9	6.3	4.6	1.3	17.0	100
1988	25.1	8.7	6.4	1.3	0.6	0.4	29.7	12.1	5.4	1.7	12.6	100
1989	27.5	3.3	2.1	1.2	--	--	29.2	13.7	2.9	1.8	17.9	100
1990	25.1	10.6	7.5	1.3	1.5	0.3	28.6	17.3	3.3	1.4	10.6	100
1991	20.0	16.1	11.5	1.9	2.1	0.7	29.9	10.4	3.9	1.7	14.4	100
1992	8.4	21.6	16.4	3.0	2.1	0.1	35.1	8.9	3.9	2.5	13.4	100
<u>Lebanon</u>												
1985	7.8	6.2	2.9	2.9	0.3	0.1	51.1	7.5	8.9	0.9	12.4	100
1988	7.2	13.0	10.4	2.2	0.3	0.1	46.2	5.6	9.8	1.3	13.3	100
1989	12.1	10.6	9.1	1.1	0.4	0.0	45.1	4.5	8.6	1.3	14.1	100
1990	16.6	12.4	10.5	1.0	0.6	0.2	40.7	4.2	8.7	1.2	12.4	100
1991	14.7	12.2	10.7	0.8	0.5	0.2	46.8	4.9	5.6	1.4	11.2	100
1992	12.8	13.0	10.9	1.5	0.3	0.2	45.6	8.4	1.7	1.7	13.1	100
<u>Syrian Arab Republic</u>												
1985	3.7	9.9	1.7	0.7	0.1	7.4	33.9	6.1	12.5	0.8	30.3	100
1988	4.1	3.5	1.3	1.1	0.1	1.0	36.2	6.4	16.9	1.3	20.4	100
1989	4.7	3.0	0.7	1.2	0.1	1.0	42.0	7.9	9.1	1.3	27.8	100
1990	4.9	5.4	1.7	1.9	0.5	1.3	40.4	10.7	6.7	1.3	27.3	100
1991	3.8	6.0	2.8	2.2	0.1	0.9	38.8	8.4	7.0	2.7	28.9	100
1992	3.4	9.4	5.8	2.8	--	0.8	40.9	5.1	8.7	2.3	21.1	100
<u>The region's least developed country:</u>												
<u>The Republic of Yemen</u>												
1985	17.3	16.9	12.4	0.4	3.9	0.1	30.0	4.2	0.9	3.0	15.8	100
1988	17.9	15.6	11.4	0.1	4.1	0.1	34.1	4.0	1.6	3.4	17.4	100
1989	17.0	19.3	13.5	0.7	4.8	0.2	27.6	4.3	0.8	3.1	22.9	100
1990	20.4	16.9	12.0	0.6	4.1	0.3	27.5	5.1	0.7	3.4	21.8	100
1991	20.1	20.9	15.7	0.6	4.3	0.3	21.7	8.3	1.4	3.1	19.1	100
<u>a. Democratic Yemen</u>												
1985	29.2	16.6	11.2	--	5.4	--	29.4	1.4	0.5	4.2	12.8	100
1988	11.0	14.2	6.9	--	7.2	0.2	26.2	1.1	--	5.8	36.1	100
1989	20.2	16.8	9.1	0.4	7.4	--	19.6	1.1	--	3.1	35.0	100
1990	25.1	16.3	8.9	0.4	6.5	0.5	21.1	0.6	--	0.6	35.1	100
1991	35.3	15.5	4.9	0.5	9.4	0.7	0.6	--	3.3	--	45.3	100
<u>b. Yemen</u>												
1985	10.6	17.0	13.1	0.7	3.2	--	30.3	5.7	1.1	2.3	17.7	100
1988	21.3	16.3	13.7	0.1	2.5	0.1	36.1	5.5	2.4	2.1	8.0	100
1989	15.0	20.8	16.3	0.9	3.3	0.4	32.6	6.3	1.4	3.1	15.3	100
1990	18.2	17.2	13.4	0.7	2.9	0.2	30.6	7.2	1.0	4.7	15.4	100
1991	15.3	22.5	19.0	0.7	2.7	0.2	28.2	10.8	0.9	4.0	11.0	100

Source and Notes: As in table A-5.

Table A-7. ESCWA region : leading partners in intraregional trade, 1991 a/  
(Percentage shares)

	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>
Bahrain	United Arab Emirates(65.5), Saudi Arabia (14.9) Republic of Yemen(6.6), Lebanon (4.2).	Saudi Arabia (94.5), United Arab Emirates (1.8), Oman(1.3), Jordan(1.1).
Egypt	Saudi Arabia(45.5), Jordan (14.5), Republic of Yemen(8.8), Iraq (8.5).	Saudi Arabia(59.0), Kuwait(19.5), Lebanon(7.9), Iraq(4.9).
Iraq	Jordan (95.8), Egypt(4.2).	Jordan(79.3), Egypt(20.7).
Jordan	Iraq(38.2), United Arab Emirates(17.6), Bahrain(7.9), Saudi Arabia(7.4).	Iraq(54.8),Syrian Arab Republic(11.4), Saudi Arabia(8.1), Egypt(6.7).
Kuwait	Egypt (97.0).	Egypt(70.8), Syrian Arab Republic(29.2).
Lebanon	Saudi Arabia(35.3), United Arab Emirates(21.0), Jordan(13.4), Syrian Arab Republic(12.2).	Syrian Arab Republic(78.0), Saudi Arabia(6.7), Bahrain (5.0), Egypt(3.3).
Oman	United Arab Emirates(80.7), Saudi Arabia(12.7), Republic of Yemen(3.0), Qatar(1.6).	United Arab Emirates (85.9), Saudi Arabia (8.1), Bahrain(3.7), Qatar(1.4).
Qatar	United Arab Emirates(59.8), Saudi Arabia(24.1), Egypt(4.9), Oman(4.8).	Saudi Arabia (36.8), United Arab Emirates(26.9), Bahrain(9.6), Jordan (9.0).
Saudi Arabia	Bahrain(52.7), United Arab Emirates(26.9), Republic of Yemen(6.2), Egypt(4.3).	Syrian Arab Republic (22.0), United Arab Emirates (20.0), Egypt(18.9), Bahrain(14.1).
Syrian Arab Republic	Lebanon (52.9), Saudi Arabia (27.6), United Arab Emirates(7.9),Jordan(7.1).	Saudi Arabia (38.3), Lebanon(25.6), Egypt(18.3), Jordan (11.6).
United Arab Emirates	Oman (66.5), Saudi Arabia(17.7), Qatar(5.4), Republic of Yemen(4.5).	Saudi Arabia(47.9), Bahrain (16.9), Qatar (14.9), Lebanon(6.8).
Republic of Yemen	Jordan(41.4), Saudi Arabia(38.4), Egypt(10.3), United Arab Emirates(6.1).	Saudi Arabia (50.8), Oman (22.0), United Arab Emirates(9.2), Bahrain(8.8).

Source : ESCWA secretariat compilations, based on data given in International Monetary Fund,(IMF), Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook 1992.  
a/ The first four partners.

Table A-8.

**ESCWA region: Gross earnings from and payments for international transactions in services by major item and country, 1985 and 1990.**

(millions of US dollars)

	Credit		Debit	
	1985	1990	1985	1990
<b><u>A. Non-factor services</u></b>	<b><u>10816</u></b>	<b><u>12455</u></b>	<b><u>36986</u></b>	<b><u>29647</u></b>
Bahrain	911	874	489	651
Egypt	3025	6285	3190	3788
Jordan	1168	1447	1286	1268
Kuwait	1137	....	4075	....
Oman	14	10	712	706
Republic of Yemen	258	....	437	....
-Democratic Yemen	103	....	206	....
-Yemen	155	....	231	....
Saudi Arabia	3647	2999	25822	22414
Syrian Arab Republic	656	839	975	819
<b><u>A.1 Shipment.</u></b>	<b><u>459</u></b>	<b><u>71</u></b>	<b><u>6554</u></b>	<b><u>5140</u></b>
Bahrain	--	....	311	371
Egypt	--	26	927	1318
Jordan	79	2	300	284
Kuwait	346	....	838	....
Oman	--	....	336	280
Republic of Yemen	12	....	193	....
-Democratic Yemen	2	....	71	....
-Yemen	10	....	122	....
Saudi Arabia	--	--	3258	2579
Syrian Arab Republic	22	43	391	308
<b><u>A.2 Other transportation</u></b>	<b><u>3040</u></b>	<b><u>3592</u></b>	<b><u>1229</u></b>	<b><u>828</u></b>
Bahrain	41	231	22	143
Egypt	1805	2704	350	261
Jordan	400	369	314	349
Kuwait	495	....	412	....
Oman	14	10	--	....
Republic of Yemen	50	....	22	....
-Democratic Yemen	45	....	16	....
-Yemen	5	....	6	....
Saudi Arabia	86	120	....	....
Syrian Arab Republic	149	158	109	75

<u>A.3 Travel</u>	<u>1579</u>	<u>2051</u>	<u>2983</u>	<u>796</u>
Bahrain	175	135	125	94
Egypt	417	1100	106	129
Jordan	518	511	424	336
Kuwait	103	....	1988	....
Oman	--	....	52	47
Republic of Yemen	106	....	67	....
-Democratic Yemen	8	....	15	....
-Yemen	98	....	52	....
Saudi Arabia	--	....	--	--
Syrian Arab Republic	260	305	221	190
<u>A.4 Other official goods and services</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>1311</u>	<u>13663</u>	<u>10553</u>
Bahrain	36	1	4	....
Egypt	106	1159	335	462
Jordan	8	17	203	150
Kuwait	193	....	771	....
Oman	--	....	--	....
Republic of Yemen	30	....	114	....
-Democratic Yemen	12	....	85	....
-Yemen	18	....	29	....
Saudi Arabia	--	....	12001	9720
Syrian Arab Republic	191	134	235	221
<u>A.5 Other private goods and services.</u>	<u>5174</u>	<u>5430</u>	<u>12557</u>	<u>12330</u>
Bahrain	659	506	27	43
Egypt	697	1297	1472	1619
Jordan	163	548	45	148
Kuwait	--	....	66	....
Oman	--	....	324	380
Republic of Yemen	60	....	41	....
-Democratic Yemen	36	....	19	....
-Yemen	24	....	22	....
Saudi Arabia	3561	2879	10563	10115
Syrian Arab Republic	34	200	19	25

<b>B. Factor services</b>	<b>18980</b>	<b>10832</b>	<b>5388</b>	<b>5384</b>
Bahrain	323	322	693	907
Egypt	418	862	1210	1879
Jordan	101	67	190	282
Kuwait	5280	....	665	....
Oman	362	356	688	631
Republic of Yemen	49	....	47	....
-Democratic Yemen	14	....	18	....
-Yemen	35	....	29	....
Saudi Arabia	12418	9199	1756	854
Syrian Arab Republic	29	25	139	831
<b>B.1 Direct Investment</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>2320</b>	<b>1256</b>
<u>Income</u>				
Bahrain	--	....	....	....
Egypt	70	247	14	14
Jordan	--	....	....	....
Kuwait	--	....	....	....
Oman	--	....	550	388
Republic of Yemen	--	....	....	....
-Democratic Yemen	--	....	....	....
-Yemen	--	....	....	....
Saudi Arabia	--	--	1756	854
Syrian Arab Republic	--	...	--	---
<b>B.2 Other Investment</b>	<b>18910</b>	<b>10579</b>	<b>2516</b>	<b>3474</b>
<u>Income</u>				
Bahrain	323	322	143	280
Egypt	348	610	1196	1839
Jordan	101	67	190	282
Kuwait	5280	....	665	....
Oman	362	356	136	242
Republic of Yemen	49	....	47	....
-Democratic Yemen	14	....	18	....
-Yemen	35	....	29	....
Saudi Arabia	12418	9199	....	--
Syrian Arab Republic	29	25	139	831

<b>B.3 Private transfers.</b>	--	<b>6</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>654</b>
Bahrain	--	--	550	627
Egypt	--	6	--	27
Jordan	--	....	--	....
Kuwait	--	....	--	....
Oman	--	....	--	....
Republic of Yemen	--	....	--	....
-Democratic Yemen	--	....	--	....
-Yemen	--	....	--	....
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	--
Syrian Arab Republic	--	....	--	....

Source : IMF, Balance of Payments Statistics yearbook, Volume 3, part 2, 1992.

.... = Not available.

-- = Nil or negligible.

Table A-9. ESCWA region: Major balance of payments flows, 1985 and 1988-1991  
(millions of US dollars)

	Trade Balance	Services (net)	Balance on Goods and services	Unrequited Transfers (net)		Balance on Current Account	Capital Flows (net)		Errors & Omissions	Overall Balance	Counterpart Items, exceptional Financing & Others			Total Change in Reserve
				Private	Official		Long Term	Short Term			Counterpart Items	Exceptional Financing	Others	
<b>ESCWA region</b>														
1985	13712	-15081	-1369	-2795	-4163	11688	-7132	570	363	-933				
1988	2666	-1867	800	-3700	-2800	142	-1368	-4107	65	4042				
1989	17013	-6541	10472	-6565	3907	-2624	-1285	-2	156	-120				
1990	32932	-15519	17413	-9515	7898	-13401	-7806	-7806	12781	-8484				
1991	20311	-30999	-10688	-27064	-37752	26901	2126	3605	4465	2240				
<b>GCC Countries</b>														
1985	24308	-13309	10997	-11260	-263	8924	-7728	1131		-1131				
1988	12700	-1835	10766	-11077	-312	-2417	-1167	-3876		3876				
1989	23646	-5890	17756	-13102	4654	-3525	-1826	-687		687				
1990	39888	-15713	24175	-17780	6385	-2428	-414	1178		-4768				
1991	27074	-32135	-5061	-35703	-40764	31505	1107	2178		8152				
<b>Bahrain</b>														
1985	101	52	153	-235	38	5	766	357		-357				
1988	101	-60	42	-183	216	205	93	85		-95				
1989	38	-45	-7	-199	102	84	-189	189		189				
1990	421	-363	58	-272	245	-97	553	569		-568				
1991	-193	-342	-535	-303	102	-58	874	-103		103				
<b>Kuwait</b>														
1985	5047	1676	6723	-1044	529	-712	-2271	544		-544				
1988	2262	4065	6347	-1179	140	-620	-254	-1896		1896				
1989	5671	5212	11083	-1283	211	-843	-6753	1255		-1255				
1990	3287	293	3590		3590			3590		-3590				
1991	-5604		-5804	-10026	-15630	5500		-10330		10330				
<b>Oman</b>														
1985	1943	-1025	918	-807	-26	308	-323	120		-120				
1988	1235	-825	410	-762	42	273	-52	-468		468				
1989	1917	-819	1098	-791	18	162	-139	282		-282				
1990	2969	-871	1998	-845	57	1096	-248	304		-304				
1991	1545	-1662	-117		-117	558	133	574		-574				
<b>Qatar</b>														
1985	1959	-1410	549		549	-648		99		-99				
1988	943	-1204	-261		-261	-353		-614		614				
1989	1361	-1373	-12		-12	-25		-37		37				
1990	1835	-1602	233		233	-39		194		-194				
1991	1430	-1332	98	-241	-143			-143		143				
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>														
1985	7029	-11513	-4484	-5199	-3249	8904	3319	-709		709				
1988	4510	-2642	1668	-6510	-2498	2728	3082	-1520		1520				
1989	9068	-7776	1292	-8264	-2200	-2075	7739	-3508		3508				
1990	22808	-11070	11736	-11602	-4401	160	-1270	-5377		5377				
1991	22096	-27599	-5503	-13746	-6489	26385	-597	50		-50				
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>														
1985	8227	-1089	7138		6947	-327		720		-720				
1988	3648	-1089	2560		2356	-1122		627		-627				
1989	5391	-1089	4302		4030	-1228		1500		-1500				
1990	8560	-2000	6560		5488			5488		-5488				
1991	8000	-1200	6800		1800			1800		-1800				

Non-oil Diversified										
Economies										
1985	-10594	-1772	-12366	8465	-12539	2744	586	-561	636	188
1986	-10034	68	-9866	7377	-2586	2559	201	-231	65	166
1989	-6633	-651	-7302	8537	-747	901	541	695	156	-817
1990	-6956	194	-6762	8275	1513	-10972	375	-8084	12781	-3688
1991	-6763	1136.2	-5627	8639	-3012.4	-2604	1019	1427	4485	-5912
<u>Egypt</u>										
1985	-5214	-958	-6172	3216	-2165	1716	-335	-189	350	-151
1988	-6608	1125	-5483	3770	-1047	1486	-178	-101	7	94
1989	-5934	452	-5462	3295	-1306	1748	-1387	-531	122	409
1990	-6699	1480	-5219	4284	184	-6372	-1667	-10224	12781	-2556
1991	-5975	2444	-3531	4054	1903	-1775	-2567	-1709	4485	-2776
<u>Jordan</u>										
1985	-1638	-209	-1847	846	-260	303	-55	-43	--	43
1988	-1412	-233	-1645	800	-293	37	337	204	--	-204
1989	-774	-21	-795	565	383	185	-105	463	--	-463
1990	-1237	-36	-1273	570	-115	422	36	420	--	-420
1991	-1085	-96	-1191	1124	409	271	924	2024	--	-2024
<u>Syrian Arab Republic</u>										
1985	-2080	-429	-2519	350	-857	-120	809	-185	--	185
1988	-638	-408	-1046	360	-150	297	-212	-31	--	31
1989	1192	-639	553	395	1170	-472	18	767	17	-770
1990	2159	-766	1373	375	1826	-785	37	722	--	-722
1991	1084	-969	115	450	799	-35	310	980	--	-980
<u>The region's least developed country:</u>										
<u>Republic of Yemen</u>										
1985	-1652	-176	-1828	1189	-518	176	150	-134	13	121
1988	-1376	-416	-1792	567	-1098	707	85	-303	58	245
1989	-1117	-443	-1560	414	-894	829	85	-24	17	7
1990	-1179	-464	-1643	1378	-384	331	34	-2	--	2
1991	-777	-243	-1020	798	-89	268	-37	132	--	-132
<u>a. Democratic Yemen</u>										
1985	-581	-108	-689	426	-231	78	27	-80	--	80
1988	-514	-180	-694	253	-404	258	58	-26	21	5
1989	-440	-203	-643	172	-417	335	68	-16	17	-1
<u>b. Yemen</u>										
1985	-1071	-68	-1139	793	-287	98	123	-44	13	31
1988	-862	-236	-1098	314	-684	449	27	-277	37	240
1989	-677	-240	-917	242	-579	494	17	-10	--	10

Source: ESCWA Secretariat compilations, based on data given in: International Monetary Fund (IMF), Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook, volume 43, part 2, 1992, and national sources.

... = Not available.  
 -- = Nil or negligible.



Table A-10 ESCWA region: International reserves a/  
(millions of US dollars)

	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
ESCWA region	41513.6	37972.8	35627.7	31363.7	36377.2	37929.9
GCC countries	37470.2	30319.6	27862.2	22554.0	24932.0	21072.5
Bahrain	1666.3	1258.3	1056.6	1241.5	1521.2	1405.1
Kuwait	5580.4	2035.7	3210.5	1949.2	3520.5	5215.6
Oman	1166.2	1122.5	1422.6	1740.7	1731.0	b/ 1677.2
Qatar	487.4	516.0	574.9	672.6	709.2	724.8
Saudi Arabia	25181.0	20769.0	16959.0	11897.0	11903.0	6156.0
United Arab Emirates	3388.9	4618.1	4638.6	4765.0	5547.1	5893.8
Other ESCWA countries	4043.4	7653.2	7765.5	8809.7	11445.2	16857.4
Egypt	1370.0	2057.0	2199.0	3325.0	5980.0	11426.0
Jordan	612.6	247.9	573.2	949.4	929.6	868.6
Lebanon	1463.2	4759.0	4635.0	4213.9	4535.6	4562.8
Syrian Arab Republic	112.0	222.0	....	....	....	....
Republic of Yemen	485.5	367.3	358.3	c/ 321.4	....	....

Source: International Monetary Fund, IMF, International Financial Statistics, Vol. XLVI, No. 8 August 1993.

a/ End of period data on gold (national valuation) and foreign exchange reserves holdings by monetary authorities; reserve position in the Fund plus Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), where applicable. The annual changes depicted in this table, however, may differ from those reported as "change in reserves" in the balance of payments due to differences in coverage.

b/ end of July.

c/ end of first quarter.

.... = Not available.