

**PRESS RELEASE - EXTERNAL TRADE BULLETIN  
JANUARY- NOVEMBER 2002**

The January to November 2002 External Trade Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that imports were valued at US\$3,255.5 million, while exports amounted to US\$1,034.0 million. When compared with the same period of 2001, these figures show an increase of 4.2 percent for imports and a decline of 9.2 percent for exports. The balance of trade at the end of the 2002 period under review decreased to US\$2,221.5 million compared with US\$1,985.8 million at the end of the corresponding period of 2001.

The value of imports in the major end-use category, 'Raw Material/Intermediate Goods' declined by 1.3 percent. "Consumer Goods" and 'Capital Goods' increased by 10.2 percent and 11.5 percent respectively.

Earnings from Traditional Domestic Exports declined by 4.8 percent to earn US\$802.2 million. Non-traditional exports declined by 21.6 percent to earn US\$213.4 million.

Imports from CARICOM for the period January to November 2002 were valued at US\$366.3 million, 9.4 percent less than the US\$404.5 million spent in the similar period of 2001. Total exports declined by 4.4 percent to US\$47.4 million. The trade gap with the region moved from 357.1 million in the 2001 period to US\$321.0 in the 2002 period under review.

The External Trade bulletin further outlines additional information and may be obtained at our Distribution Centre located at 9 Swallowfield Road Kingston 5.