In September, the decrease of vessels accessing ports refers in particular to the Al Hudaydah port, where vessels were not allowed entering the port. However, the situation is reported to be resolved and an increase of ships is expected to be reported in October.

**Monthly food imports and price fluctuation**

In September, the level of food imports increased by 64% compared to August, with 271,945 mt of food imported, compared to 175,673 mt in the previous month. Low level of imports and poor supply persistently led to scarcity of food commodities in most markets of the country. Prices of wheat flour further declined in September but still remain 24% higher than the pre-crisis levels (137 YER/KG). In terms of geographic pattern of prices, many of the governorates under active fighting and airstrikes such as Taiz and Sa’ada continued to suffer from the highest food prices in September.

**Average delays in entering ports (July-September 2016)**

Significant delays are still experienced in the ports of Aden, Al Hudaydah and Saleef. The number of days corresponds to the average time that vessels spend at anchor, waiting for berth permit. The longest delays at anchorage in September remain Saleef port, with 4 vessels waiting for berth an average of 54 days. Delays at the port can be attributed to the very limited infrastructure with two berths only, impeding rapid offloading times.

**Monthly fuel imports vs fuel needs**

September saw a decrease of fuel imports, with 109,764 mt of fuel imported to Al Hudaydah, compared to 130,338 mt in August. September imports correspond to 20% of the monthly fuel needs, estimated at 544,000 mt. The fuel supplies continued to be poor and scarcely available across most of the local markets in Yemen. However, informal sources of information suggested significant level of overland imports through various border routes.

Final Note: Imports figures vary every month, depending on available information. Sources: UNVIM, September Market Watch, Williamsen ports updates, WFP, OCHA.