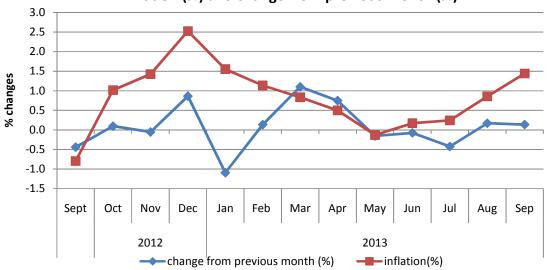


Consumer Price Index for September 2013 recorded an increase of 0.1% With an Annual Inflation Rate of 1.4%

Consumer Price index: <u>September 2012- September 2013.</u> Inflation (%) and change from previous month (%)



The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for September 2013 recorded an increase of 0.1% from August 2013 (106.6) and now stands at 106.8. In comparison with the previous month, local index decreased by 0.9% while import index increased by 0.8%. From the previous two months, July 2013 recorded a decrease of 0.4% while August 2013 increased by 0.2%

The Annual Inflation Rate for September 2013 was 1.4% the highest since 1.6% in January 2013. The previous month was 0.9%. The annual inflation for the same month of previous year, September 2012 was - 0.8% (Deflation). Local Index marked an inflation of 0.3% while Imported Index was 2.2%.

The **Food Group** marked an increase of **0.1**%towards the index position of **September 2013**, due mainly to increase in prices of some **local fruit and vegetables and Meat**, **Fish and poultry** such as Talo Leaves, suckling pigs, string fish and mutton flap compared to previous month. Prices of other food items decreased.

An increase of **0.3%** in the index of **Household Operations** was recorded for the month was due to increase in price of LP Gas.

An increase of **0.2%** in the index position of **Transportation group** was due mainly to increasing prices of diesel.

Clothing and Footwear, Tobacco, Alcohol & Kava Tonga, Housing and Misc. Goods and Services groups recorded no change

Detailed information from this release is available from the Statistics Department Or visit our website at www.spc.int/prism/tonga/
