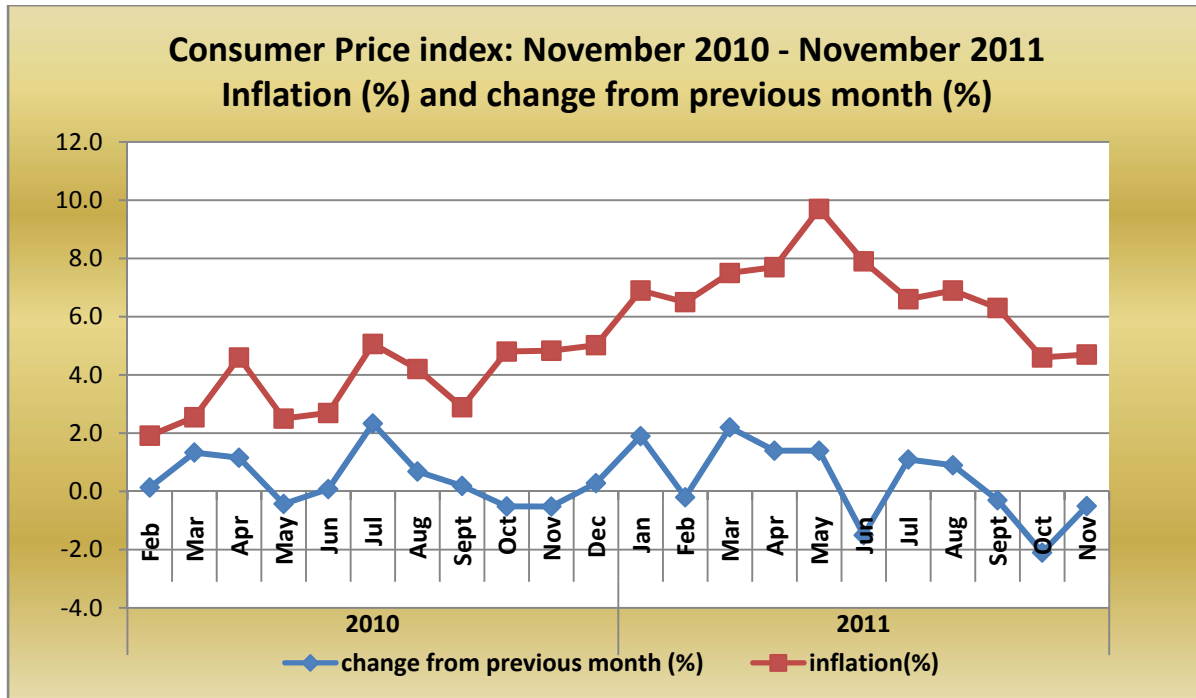


Statistics Department

MEDIA RELEASE

Consumer Price Index for November 2011 decreased by 0.5%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 4.7%



The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for November 2011 decreased by 0.5% over October 2011 (104.6) and now stands at 104.2. For the previous months, both September 2011 and October 2011 decreased by 0.3% and 2.1% respectively. When comparing November 2011 to October 2011, the Local Index increased by 0.1% and the Imported Index decreased by 0.9%.

The **Annual Rate of Inflation** for November 2011 stood at 4.7%, compares to 4.6% in October 2011. It was 4.8% in November 2010. The Local Index recorded an Annual Inflation Rate of 1.6% while the Imported Index was 7.0%.

The Food Group marked the largest price decrease of 1.1%. This was mainly due to decreases in prices of local fruits and vegetables, local root crops and imported meats especially the price of chicken pieces and some other items. Price decreases were recorded on pineapples, peanuts, tomatoes, capsicum, dryland taro, wetland taro, late yams and cassava. The Miscellaneous Goods & Services Group also decreased by 0.1% due mainly to decreases in prices recorded for imported cosmetics and toiletries.

Transportation Group was the only group marked a price increased by and 1.0% towards the index position of November 2011. This was mainly due to increases in prices recorded for petrol and diesel from previous month.

Items for the Housing, Household Operations, Clothing and Footwear, and Tobacco, Alcohol & Kava Tonga Groups remained unchanged, thus resulting in no change to these groups' indexes during November 2011.

Detailed information from this release is available from the Statistics Department.