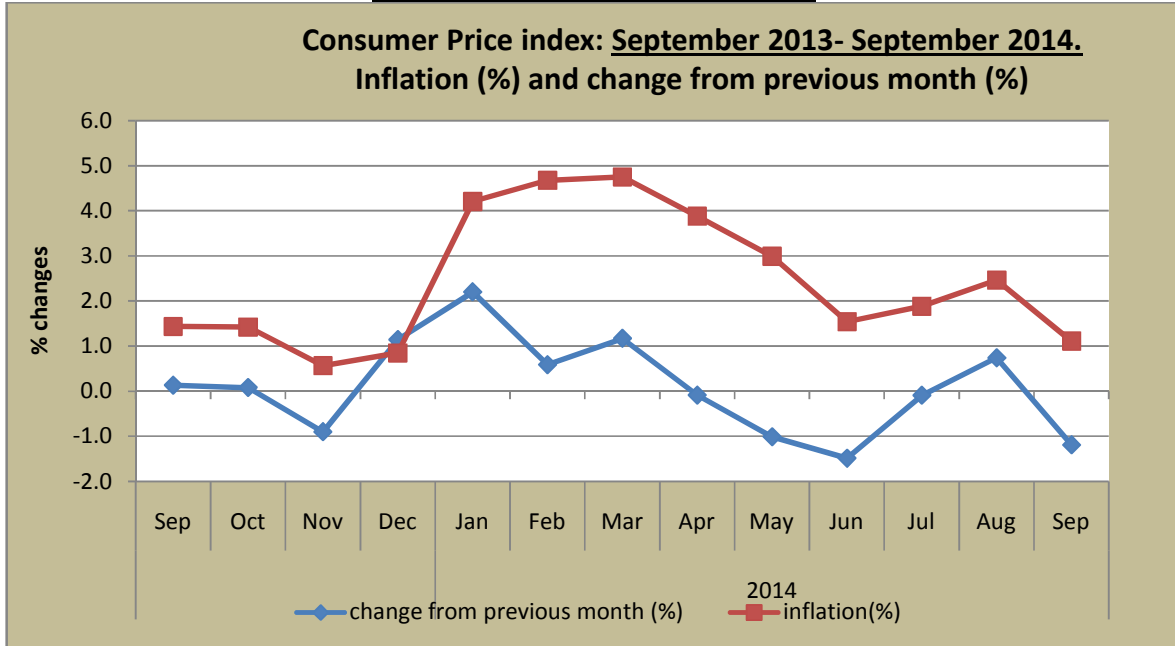




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

Consumer Price Index for August 2014 recorded a decrease of 1.2%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 1.1%



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **September 2014** recorded a decrease of **1.2%** from **August 2014 (109.2)** and now stands at **107.9**. In comparison with the previous month, local index recorded a decrease of **01.2%** and import index also decreased by **1.2%**. For the previous two months, **August 2014** recorded an increase of **0.7%** while **July 2014** decreased by **0.1%**

The **Annual Inflation Rate** for **September 2014** was **1.1%** compares to **2.5%** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **September 2013** was **1.4%**. Local Index marked a decrease by **1.1%** while Imported Index increased by **2.6%**.

The **Food Group** recorded the most significant decrease of **2.3%** towards the index position of **September 2014**, due mainly to increase in prices of some **fruits and vegetables, Meat, fish & poultry** and **Cereal products**. Prices of some imported items such as tinned & packaged food and frozen meat decreased throughout the months.

Housing index marked a decrease of **0.3%** compared to the previous month due to decrease in price of Paint.

Clothing and Footwear index marked an increase of **0.3 %** compared to the previous month due to increased in price of footwear.

Household Operations, Misc. Goods and Services and Alcohol & Kava Tonga groups index marked no change compared to the previous month.

Transportation group recorded a decrease of **1.8%** in the index position of **September 2014** due to decrease in price of both Petrol and Diesel.

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