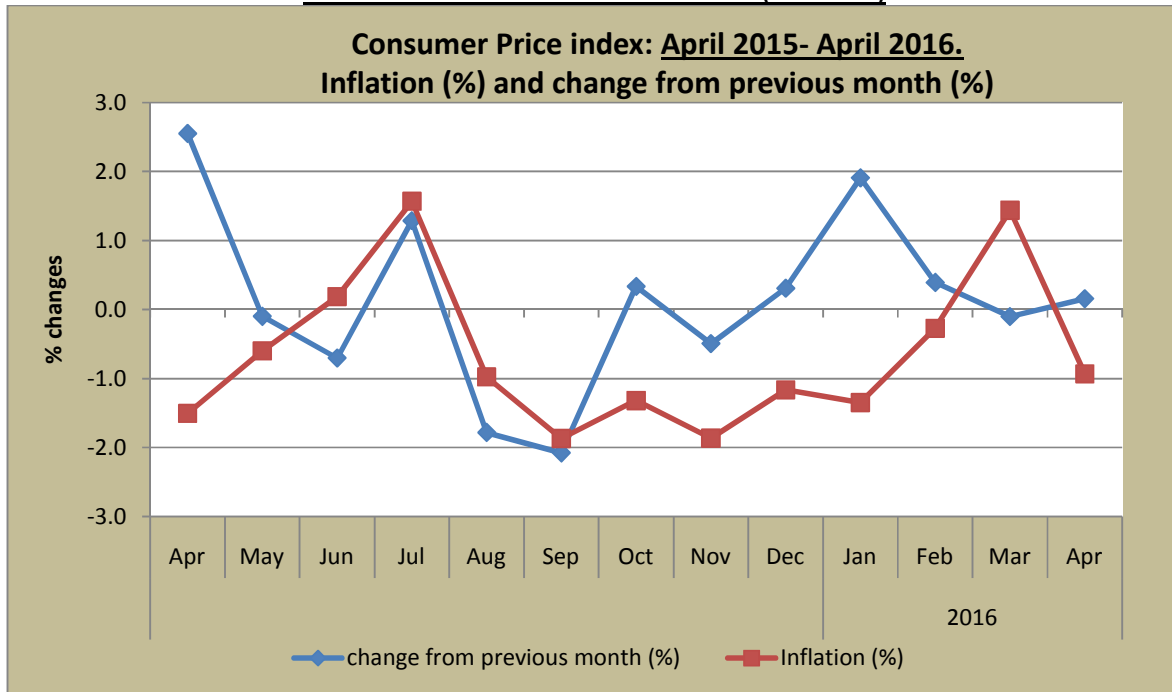




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

Consumer Price Index for April 2016 recorded an increase of 0.2%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of -0.9% (Deflation)



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **April 2016** recorded an increase of **0.2%** from **March 2016 (108.4)** and now stands at **108.6**. In comparison with the previous month, local index recorded an increase of **0.1%** and import index increased by **0.2%**. For the previous two months, **March 2016** recorded a decrease of **0.1%** and **February 2016** increased by **0.4%**.

The **annual rate of inflation for April 2016 declined by 0.9% (Deflation)** compares to **1.4% inflation** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **April 2015 was -1.5%**. **Local Index** marked an increase by **6.6%** while **Imported Index** decreased by **6.5%** in **April 2016**.

Food Group recorded an increase of **0.1%** towards the index position of **April 2016**. This was due to increase in prices of some **fruits and vegetables and meat, fish and poultry** items. Prices of some imported items (tinned & packaged food, frozen meat) also increased throughout the months.

Housing Group recorded **no change** in the index position of **April 2016** compares to the previous month.

Household Operation group recorded no change towards the index position of **April 2016** compares to the previous month.

Tobacco, alcohol & kava Tonga group index marked an increase by **1.1%** compares to the previous month. This was due to increase in price of **Winfield blue and kava roots** .

Clothing & footwear groups index recorded no change compares to the previous month.

Transportation group index recorded an increase by **0.5%** in the index position of **April 2016**. This was due to increase in price of **Diesel** compares to the previous month.

Misc. Goods and Services group index recorded an increase of **0.1%** due to increase in price of **cosmetics and toiletries** items compared to the previous month.

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