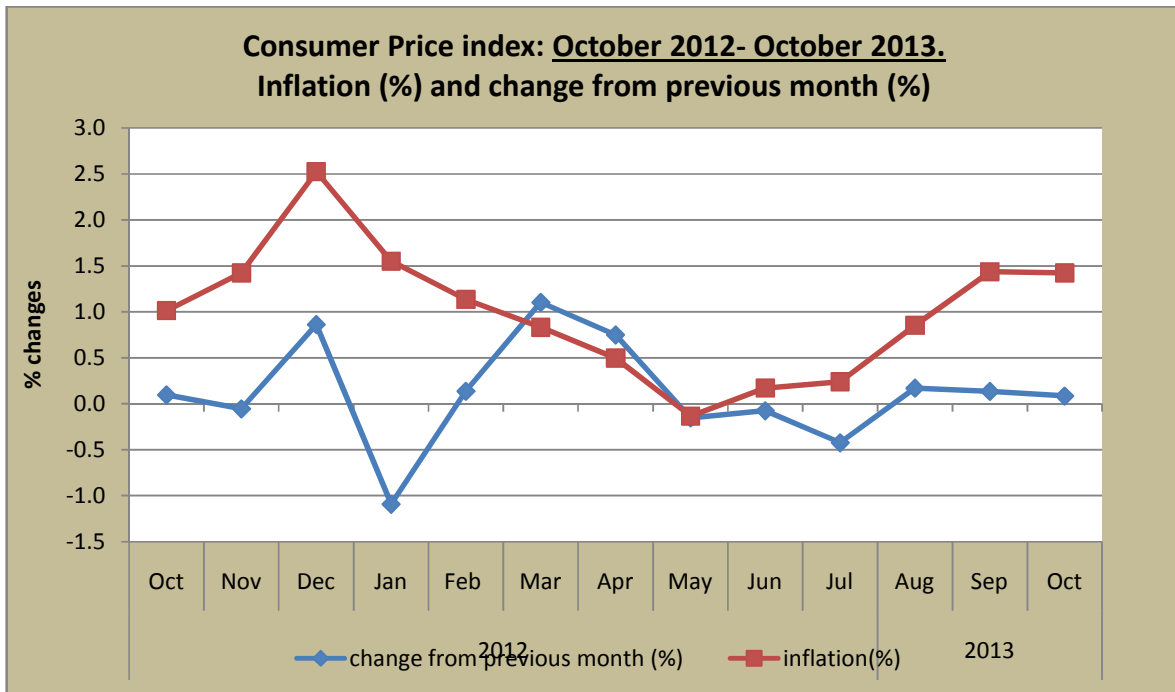




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

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



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **October 2013** recorded an increase of **0.1%** from **September 2013 (106.8)** and now stands at **106.9**. In comparison with the previous month, local index decreased by **0.5%** while import index increased by **0.5%**. From the previous two months, **August 2013** recorded an increase of **0.2%** while **September 2013** increased by **0.1%**

The **Annual Inflation Rate** for **October 2013** was **1.4%** the same in the previous month, the second highest for this year since **1.6%** in **January 2013**. The annual inflation for the same month of previous year, **October 2012** was **1.0%**. Local Index marked an inflation of **0.2%** while Imported Index was **2.2%**.

The **Food Group** marked an increase of **0.3%** towards the index position of **October 2013**, due mainly to increase in prices of some Imported **Meats** such as mutton flap and Lamp chops. Also increase for **Cereal** and **Cereal products** and **dairy and vegetables products**.

A decreased of **0.6%** in the index position of **Transportation group** was due mainly to decreasing prices of **petrol**.

Household Operations, Clothing and Footwear, Tobacco, Alcohol & Kava Tonga, Housing and Misc. Goods and Services groups recorded no change throughout the month.

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