

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND TREASURY



MEDIA RELEASE – JUNE 2007

HONIARA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MAY 2007

The Statistics Office of the Ministry of Finance has today released the Honiara Consumer Price Index for May 2007.

The Honiara Consumer Price Index for May slightly rose by 0.4 % from 347.1 in April to 348.4 in May.

The raise in the index was due to increases in the prices of rice, local beer and household furniture. The price of a 20kg bag of rice rose on average by 5.6% (\$103.21 to \$109.00), Solbrew beer by 5.3% (\$7.60 to \$8.00), whilst notable increases were recorded for double-bed with headboard by 15.6% (\$1021.00 to \$1180.50); dinning table by 25.3% (\$1142.67 – \$1431.67 and food safe by 24% (\$898.00 - \$1121.50) in the household furniture sub index.

However, these increases were offset by price drop of market produce notably kumara heaps, -11.8% (\$2.90/Kg to \$2.56/Kg), green pepper -38.9% (\$22.00/KG to \$13.44/Kg), ripe banana –6.5% (\$3.52/Kg to \$3.29/Kg) and betel nut -7.3% (\$0.69 to \$0.64 per fruit) to result in the moderate change .

Annual inflation, measured on a 3-months moving average basis as at the end of May was 6.0% compared to 6.5% in April The inflation rates for imported and domestically produced items were 8.0% and 4.4% respectively.

Honiara Annual Inflation Rates
(3 months moving average)

