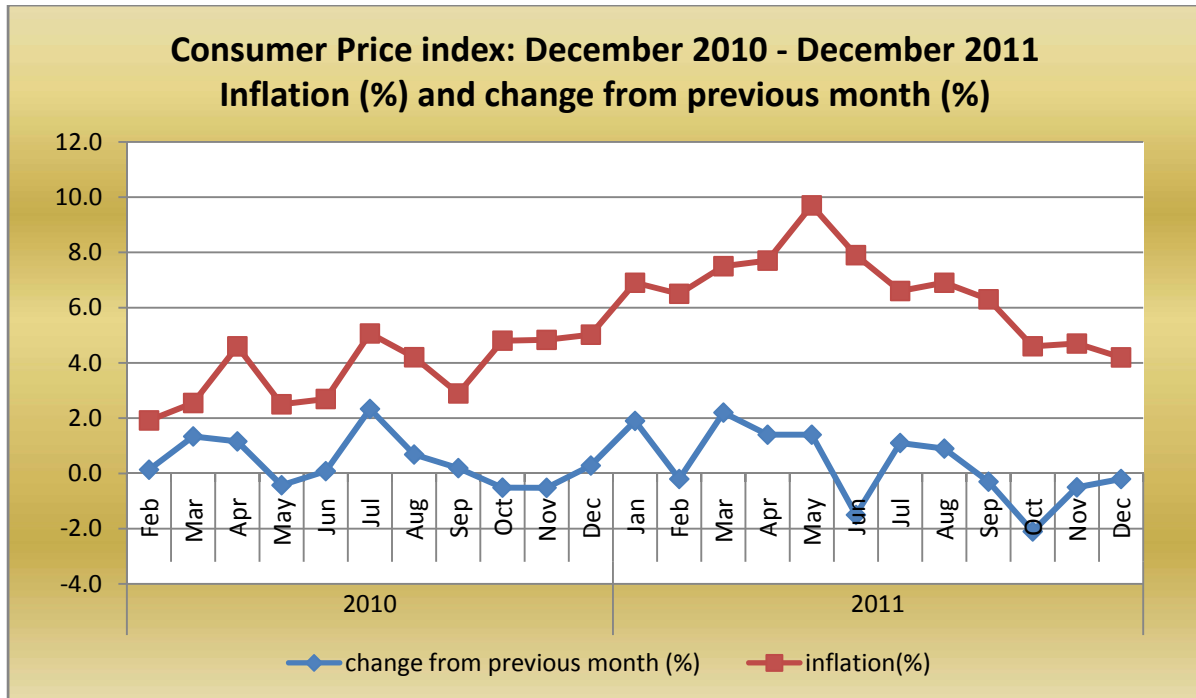


# Statistics Department

## MEDIA RELEASE

Consumer Price Index for December 2011 decreased by 0.2%  
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 4.2%



The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for December 2011 decreased by 0.2% over November 2011 (104.2) and now stands at 103.9. For the previous months, both October 2011 and November 2011 decreased by 2.1% and 0.5% respectively. When comparing December 2011 to November 2011, the Local Index increased by 0.4% and the Imported Index decreased by 0.6%.

The **Annual Rate of Inflation** for December 2011 stood at 4.2%, the lowest for the year 2011. It was 5.0% in December 2010. The Local Index recorded an Annual Inflation Rate of 1.8% while the Imported Index was 5.9%.

The Food Group marked a price decrease of 0.3%. This was mainly due to decreases in prices of both local and imported meats, fish & poultry. Price decreases were recorded on mutton flaps, chicken pieces, frozen fish, tuna fish, clam, sea urchin and some other items. Housing Group, Household Operation Group and Miscellaneous Goods & Services Group were all decreased by 0.1% due mainly to decreases in prices recorded for imported house maintenance goods, liquid petroleum gas and imported cosmetics and toiletries.

Transportation Group marked the largest price decreased by 0.5% towards the index position of December 2011. This was due mainly to decrease in price recorded of petrol from previous month.

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

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