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GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

File Ref: (6/4/4b)

## MINISTRY OF FINANCE STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - March 2007

(Based Period: Average Prices March 2004 = 100)

#### SUMMARY

The All Items Consumer Price Index for the month of March 2007 registered a decrease of 0.5 percent when compared to the previous month, and an increase of 6.1 percent when compared to the same month of last year. The 0.5 percent decrease in the overall Index is attributed mainly to a decrease of 0.8 percent in the Food group index. Decreases were also recorded for other groups such as Housing and household Operation (0.5%), Miscellaneous (0.4%), Transport and Communication (0.2%) and Clothing and Footwear (0.1%). On the contrary, Alcohol and Tobacco registered an increase of 0.1 percent.

The decrease of 0.6 percent in the imported component resulted from lower prices recorded for mutton flap, rice, petrol and kerosene. Decreased prices recorded for taro, yam, coconut, fresh fish and some of the vegetables are the main contributors to the 0.5 percent decrease in the local component.

The 0.5 percent decrease in the Housing and Household Operation group is primarily due to lower prices recorded for kerosene, kerosene stove, nails and local timber.

Decreased prices recorded for medicine (paracetamol) is reflected in the 0.4 percent decrease in the Miscellaneous group index.

The All Items Underlying Index for March 2007 shows a decrease of 0.4 percent when compared to February this year, and an increase of 6.1 percent when compared to March last year. The 0.4 percent decrease in the All Underlying Index is attributed to a decrease of 0.4 percent in the imported component, while local component remained the same.

The twelve months ending March 2007 compared to the twelve months ending March 2006 registered an increase of 3.9 percent.

The attached Tables and Graphs provide the user with more details.



Muagututia S Reupena.

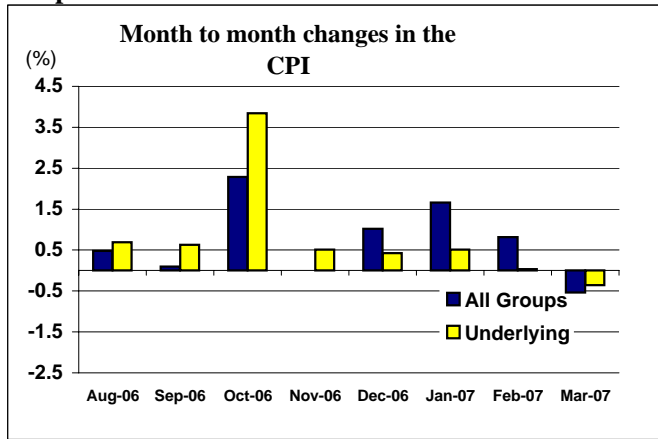
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Statistical Department

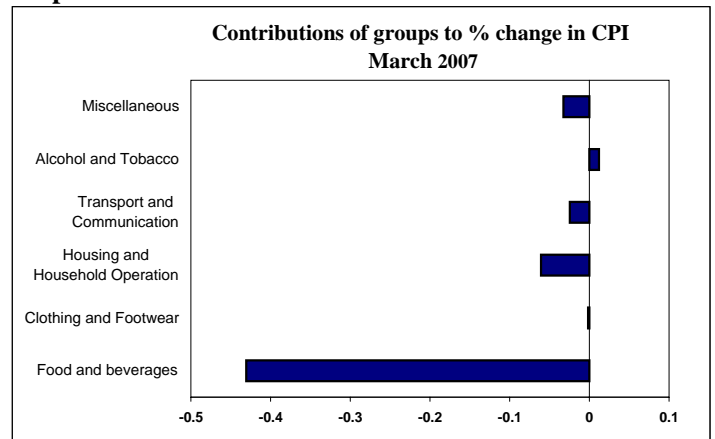
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cc : Chief Executive Officer - MOF

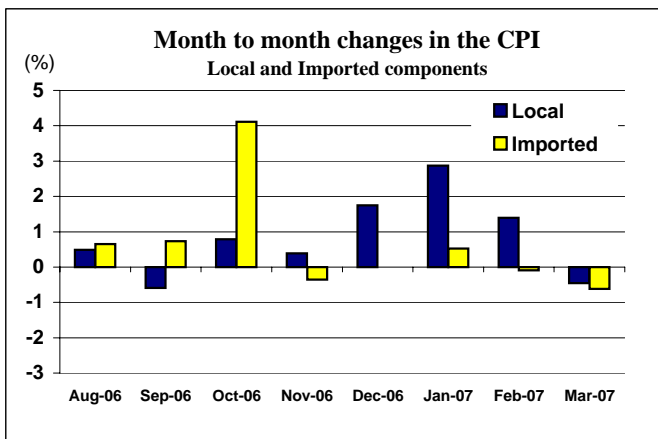
**Graph.1**



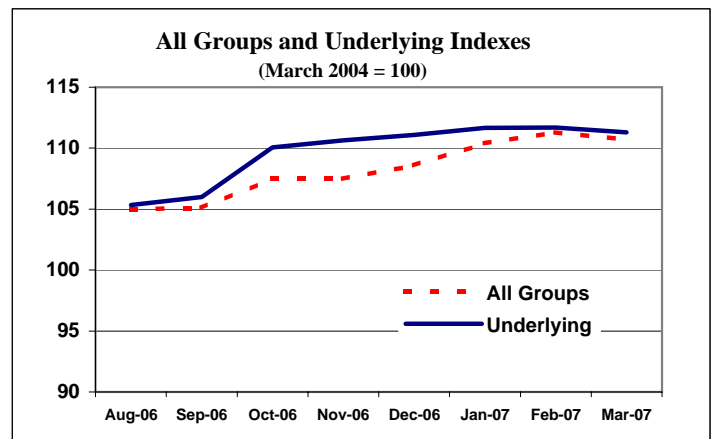
**Graph.2**



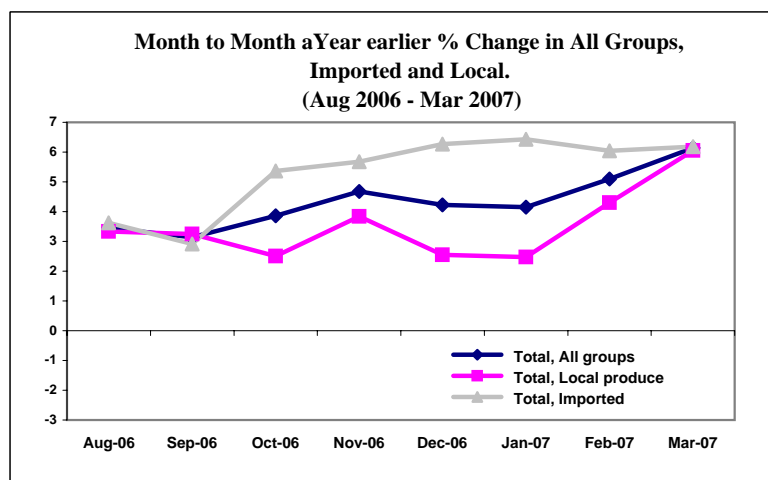
**Graph.3**



**Graph.4**



**Graph 5**



**Table 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX.**
**(Base Period : Average Prices March 2004 = 100)**

Group	All Items	Food	Clothing and Footwear	Housing and Household Operations	Transport and Communications	Alcohol and Tobacco	Miscellaneous
<i>Weights</i>	<b>1000</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>100</b>
2005	101.9	99.9	88.8	107.7	108.1	100.2	101.0
2006	105.8	103.9	85.0	111.0	113.9	104.8	102.8
2006							
March	104.3	102.1	85.2	110.4	115.4	100.6	101.5
April	105.2	103.6	85.4	110.6	116.2	100.6	101.5
May	105.3	102.7	85.7	110.9	117.8	102.3	101.5
June	104.1	101.3	85.6	111.7	114.0	102.3	101.5
July	104.5	101.7	85.3	111.3	113.9	104.1	101.7
August	105.0	102.5	84.8	111.1	113.9	105.4	102.1
September	105.1	102.5	83.9	111.5	114.0	105.4	102.1
October	107.5	105.3	84.5	112.1	112.4	111.7	105.4
November	107.5	106.0	85.1	110.9	110.3	112.0	106.0
December	108.6	108.2	84.0	110.8	109.7	111.6	107.5
2007							
January	110.4	111.7	83.9	111.0	110.7	111.9	107.0
February	111.3	111.7	82.9	116.1	110.7	116.0	104.5
March (a)	110.7	110.8	82.8	115.5	110.5	116.1	104.1
<b><u>Percentage Change (a)</u></b>							
Mar 2007 over Feb 2007	-0.5	-0.8	-0.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.1	-0.4
Mar 2007 over Mar 2006	6.1	8.5	-2.8	4.6	-4.2	15.4	2.6
<b>ALL ITEMS UNDERLYING INDEX</b>							
Group	All Items	Food	Clothing and Footwear	Housing and Household Operations	Transport and Communications	Alcohol and Tobacco	Miscellaneous
<i>Weights</i>	<b>514</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>48</b>
2005	102.9	103.5	88.8	104.1	103.4		102.1
2006	106.3	107.8	85.0	104.3	107.3		105.8
2006							
March	104.9	106.3	85.2	104.0	105.4		103.0
April	104.8	106.1	85.4	104.3	105.4		103.0
May	104.1	105.2	85.7	103.9	105.4		103.1
June	103.8	104.8	85.6	104.0	108.0		103.0
July	104.6	105.8	85.3	103.8	107.2		103.4
August	105.3	106.8	84.8	103.0	108.1		104.4
September	106.0	107.7	83.9	103.6	109.1		104.4
October	110.1	112.0	84.5	104.7	110.7		111.1
November	110.6	112.6	85.1	104.6	110.7		112.4
December	111.1	112.8	84.0	105.2	110.7		115.5
2007							
January	111.7	113.7	83.9	105.4	110.7		114.6
February	111.7	114.3	82.9	106.1	110.3		109.3
March (a)	111.3	114.0	82.8	105.5	110.3		108.6
<b><u>Percentage Change (a)</u></b>							
Mar 2007 over Feb 2007	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	-0.6	0.0		-0.6
Mar 2007 over Mar 2006	6.1	7.2	-2.8	1.4	4.6		5.4

(a): Provisional figures

Note: n.a. Not applicable

**Table 2. AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED COMMODITIES**

Commodities	Unit	2006			2007		
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar (a)
1. Biscuits	5lb carton	14.36	14.36	14.36	15.68	15.53	15.53
2. Bread	1 loaf	1.09	1.10	1.11	1.13	1.14	1.14
3. Flour	1 lb	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.87	0.82	0.87
4. Rice	1 lb	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.13	1.13	1.04
5. Eggs	1 doz	4.11	4.41	4.36	5.00	5.33	5.54
6. Butter	1 lb	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.61	5.61	5.51
7. Vegetable Oil	500 grm	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.73	2.73	2.79
8. Taamu	1 lb	0.99	0.83	0.74	1.20	0.92	0.93
9. Potatoes	1 lb	1.21	1.29	1.21	1.46	1.54	1.53
10. Taro	1 lb	0.83	0.85	0.84	1.09	1.00	0.95
11. Yam	1 lb	1.53	1.26	1.29	1.36	1.36	1.18
12. Chinese Cabbage	1 lb	2.86	3.63	2.08	3.33	3.81	2.35
13. Cucumbers	1 lb	1.21	1.78	1.55	1.25	1.44	1.67
14. Taro Leaves	1 lb	2.43	2.13	1.78	2.48	2.67	2.50
15. Onions	1 lb	1.11	1.10	0.94	1.39	1.36	1.46
16. Pumpkins	1 lb	1.00	1.45	1.56	0.70	1.07	1.04
17. Tomatoes	1 lb	5.24	5.63	5.97	4.06	5.09	5.90
18. Bananas	1 lb	0.38	0.39	0.35	0.39	0.35	0.41
19. Breadfruit	1 lb	0.34	0.38	0.36	0.24	0.20	0.45
20. Coconuts	1 lb	0.22	0.22	0.18	0.21	0.18	0.17
21. Canned fish	15 oz can	2.13	2.13	2.13	2.34	2.35	2.37
22. Fresh Fish	1lb	7.04	4.84	4.86	6.47	6.06	5.89
23. Canned Beef	12 oz can	8.18	8.18	8.21	8.48	8.53	8.46
24. Mutton Flaps	1 lb	2.93	3.01	2.91	3.26	3.31	3.23
25. Turkey Tails	1 lb	1.79	1.79	1.70	2.04	2.05	2.05
26. Chicken leg quarters	1 lb	2.09	1.99	1.90	2.01	2.03	2.06
27. Koko Samoa	small cup	4.19	4.19	4.90	4.71	4.21	4.21
28. Coffee (local)	100 grm pkt	3.90	3.88	3.88	3.90	3.88	3.88
29. Tea	0.5 lb	2.81	2.81	2.73	2.58	2.69	2.69
30. Brown sugar	1 lb	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.85	0.85	0.85
31. Salt	1 lb	0.53	0.52	0.52	0.54	0.53	0.53
32. Electricity	kwh	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.79	0.79
33. Kerosene	1 ltr	2.02	2.14	2.20	2.17	2.13	2.07
34. Petrol	1 ltr	2.08	2.13	2.17	2.15	2.17	2.11
35. Diesel	1 ltr	2.11	2.19	2.20	2.27	2.19	2.21
36. Beer (Vailima)	350 mls	3.11	3.11	3.11	3.51	3.53	3.54
37. Cigarettes (Rothmans)	1 pkt	5.94	5.94	5.94	6.40	7.03	7.03

(a): Provisional figures

**Table 3. IMPORTED GOODS COMPONENT OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX****(Base Period : Average Prices March 2004 = 100)**

Group	All Items	Food	Clothing and Footwear	Housing and Household Operations	Transport and Communications	Alcohol and Tobacco	Miscellaneous
<i>Weights</i>	<b>437</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>35</b>
2005	104.5	103.1	88.8	110.8	122.6	98.9	102.9
2006	109.2	107.3	85.0	113.9	140.1	104.8	108.0
2006							
March	106.8	105.5	85.2	112.9	131.2	99.2	104.2
April	107.0	105.3	85.4	113.5	135.5	99.2	104.2
May	106.8	104.1	85.7	113.6	142.4	101.9	104.3
June	107.3	103.5	85.6	115.7	151.6	101.9	104.2
July	108.0	104.6	85.3	114.5	151.4	103.7	104.8
August	108.7	105.7	84.8	113.9	151.6	103.7	106.1
September	109.5	106.7	83.9	114.9	152.2	103.7	106.1
October	114.0	112.3	84.5	116.1	144.3	116.1	115.4
November	113.6	112.9	85.1	113.3	134.0	116.1	117.2
December	113.6	113.1	84.0	113.0	131.2	113.3	121.5
2007							
January	114.2	113.9	83.9	113.3	132.0	113.3	120.2
February	114.1	114.7	82.9	113.3	132.6	112.7	112.9
March (a)	113.4	114.2	82.8	112.1	130.4	112.7	111.9
<b><u>Percentage Change (a)</u></b>							
Mar 2007 over Feb 2007	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1	-1.1	-1.7	0.0	-0.9
Mar 2007 over Mar 2006	6.2	8.2	-2.8	-0.7	-0.6	13.6	7.4
<b>IMPORTED ITEMS UNDERLYING INDEX</b>							
Group	All Items	Food	Clothing and Footwear	Housing and Household Operations	Transport and Communications	Alcohol and Tobacco	Miscellaneous
<i>Weights</i>	<b>385</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<b>35</b>
2005	102.6	103.1	88.8	105.4	107.0		102.9
2006	105.9	107.3	85.0	104.3	107.8		108.0
2006							
March	104.2	105.5	85.2	104.4	106.7		104.2
April	104.1	105.3	85.4	104.8	106.7		104.2
May	103.1	104.1	85.7	103.9	106.7		104.3
June	102.7	103.5	85.6	104.1	107.7		104.2
July	103.5	104.6	85.3	103.7	106.1		104.8
August	104.3	105.7	84.8	102.4	107.9		106.1
September	105.1	106.7	83.9	103.2	110.0		106.1
October	110.3	112.3	84.5	104.5	109.4		115.4
November	110.9	112.9	85.1	104.3	109.4		117.2
December	111.4	113.1	84.0	105.0	109.2		121.5
2007							
January	112.0	113.9	83.9	105.2	109.2		120.2
February	111.9	114.7	82.9	105.7	108.5		112.9
March (a)	111.4	114.2	82.8	105.2	108.5		111.9
<b><u>Percentage Change (a)</u></b>							
Mar 2007 over Feb 2007	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	-0.5	0.0		-0.9
Mar 2007 over Mar 2006	6.9	8.2	-2.8	0.8	1.7		7.4

(a): Provisional figures

Note: n.a. Not applicable

**Table 4. LOCAL GOODS COMPONENT OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX**
**(Base Period : Average Prices March 2004 = 100)**

Group	All Items	Food	Housing and Household Operations	Transport and Communications	Alcohol and Tobacco	Miscellaneous
<i>Weights</i>	<b>563</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>65</b>
2005	99.9	95.7	105.4	104.3	100.4	100.0
2006	103.1	99.4	108.9	107.0	104.8	100.0
2006						
March	102.4	97.4	108.6	111.2	100.8	100.0
April	103.9	101.2	108.5	111.2	100.8	100.0
May	104.1	100.9	108.8	111.4	102.3	100.0
June	101.6	98.3	108.7	104.1	102.4	100.0
July	101.7	97.8	108.8	104.0	104.2	100.0
August	102.2	98.2	109.0	103.9	105.7	100.0
September	101.6	96.8	109.0	103.9	105.7	100.0
October	102.4	96.0	109.2	104.0	111.0	100.0
November	102.8	96.9	109.1	104.0	111.4	100.0
December	104.6	101.7	109.1	104.0	111.3	100.0
2007						
January	107.6	108.7	109.2	105.1	111.7	100.0
February	109.1	107.8	118.3	105.0	116.6	100.0
March (a)	108.6	106.2	118.1	105.3	116.7	100.0
<b><i>Percentage Change (a)</i></b>						
Mar 2007 over Feb 2007	-0.5	-1.5	-0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0
Mar 2007 over Mar 2006	6.1	9.0	8.7	-5.3	15.8	0.0
<b>LOCAL ITEMS UNDERLYING INDEX</b>						
Group	All Items	Food	Housing and Household Operations	Transport and Communications	Alcohol and Tobacco	Miscellaneous
<i>Weights</i>	<b>129</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<b>13</b>
2005	103.7	104.7	100.8	100.0		100.0
2006	107.7	109.3	104.3	106.8		100.0
2006						
March	106.9	108.4	103.0	104.2		100.0
April	106.8	108.4	102.9	104.2		100.0
May	107.0	108.4	104.1	104.2		100.0
June	107.0	108.4	103.8	108.3		100.0
July	107.9	109.6	104.1	108.3		100.0
August	108.5	110.2	104.7	108.3		100.0
September	108.6	110.4	104.9	108.3		100.0
October	109.4	111.2	105.5	112.0		100.0
November	109.9	111.8	105.3	112.0		100.0
December	110.1	112.1	105.5	112.0		100.0
2007						
January	110.8	113.0	105.8	112.0		100.0
February	111.2	113.3	107.3	112.0		100.0
March (a)	111.2	113.4	106.5	112.0		100.0
<b><i>Percentage Change (a)</i></b>						
Mar 2007 over Feb 2007	0.0	0.1	-0.7	0.0		0.0
Mar 2007 over Mar 2006	4.0	4.6	3.4	7.5		0.0

(a): Provisional figures

Note: n.a. Not applicable