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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES – NOVEMBER, 2003

(Base: January, 2003 = 100)

The following Memorandum on the Index of Retail Prices is published for general information.

Peter Pariag
Ag. Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of November 2003 was 103.2 representing an increase of 0.3% over the Index for October 2003, and an increase of 3.2% in the general price level over the 11 month period: January 2003 - November 2003.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January – November, 2003 over that for the period January - November, 2002 was 3.9%. This compares with an increase of 4.2% observed in the average All Items Index for January - November 2002 over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2001.

The percentage change in the All Items Index of November 2003 when compared with November 2002 was 3.8%.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 111.2 in October 2003 to 112.9 in November 2003, an increase of 1.5%. Contributing significantly to this increase was a general rise in the prices of fish, tomatoes, green peas, sweet peppers and garlic. Partly offsetting these increases were significant price decreases for the following items: chicken, oranges, carrots, and Irish potatoes.

Price changes in this section accounted for a net overall increase of 0.3 point in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for November 2003 compared with October 2003 indicated increases for the following: Health, 0.2%; and Miscellaneous Goods and Services, 0.1%. Decreases were recorded for the section: Clothing and Footwear, 0.4%.

Prices changes in these sections, for the month of November had a negligible net overall effect on the All Items Index.

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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES (Base: January, 2003 = 100)		The following memorandum on the Index of Retail Prices is published for general information															
GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES Figures for November 2003		Peter Parlag Ag. Director of Statistics															
Period	Section Indices																
	General Index	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels				Furnishings, Household equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House		Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	Miscellaneous Goods and Services			
Weights	All Items Sept 1993 = 100	All Items Jan 2003 = 100	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Total	Home-ownership	Rent	Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36
Average	1000	1000	180	25	53	262	180	24	58	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36
January-November 2002	147.8																
January-November 2003	153.5	101.8	108.0	99.8	99.1	100.5	100.5	101.0	100.3	100.6	101.3	100.7	100.0	99.9	100.6	100.2	100.4
2003																	
January	150.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
February	150.9	100.3	101.4	99.9	100.1	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.6	100.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
March	151.6	100.8	104.1	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.5	100.5	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.1
April	153.0	101.4	106.9	100.0	99.8	100.4	100.6	100.2	100.1	100.8	100.8	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.2	99.9	100.6
May	153.5	101.7	108.3	99.7	99.5	100.4	100.6	100.2	99.9	100.8	101.5	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.2	99.9	100.6
June	153.8	101.9	109.9	99.5	99.4	100.3	100.6	100.2	99.3	100.8	101.5	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.2	99.9	100.6
July	154.5	102.4	111.5	99.6	99.4	100.9	100.9	101.4	100.5	100.7	102.4	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.5
August	154.4	102.3	111.1	99.6	98.9	100.8	100.9	101.4	100.3	100.7	102.0	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.5
September	154.4	102.3	111.0	99.8	98.7	100.8	100.9	101.4	100.4	100.7	101.9	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.5
October	155.3	102.9	111.2	99.7	97.2	100.7	100.4	103.1	100.6	100.7	101.9	103.7	100.0	100.1	103.0	100.5	100.5
November	155.7	103.2	112.9	99.7	96.8	100.7	100.4	103.1	100.8	100.7	102.1	103.7	100.0	100.1	103.0	100.5	100.6

NOTE: From the month of April, the figures for the All Items Index (September 1993 = 100) were not derived independently but were linked to the All Items Index (January 2003 = 100).