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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—December, 2007 (Base: January, 2003 = 100)

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

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Acting Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of December, 2007 was 137.0 representing a decrease of 0.1 point or 0.1% below the Index for November, 2007.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January–December, 2007, over that for the period January–December, 2006, was 7.9%. This compares with an increase of 8.3% observed in the average All Items Index for the period January–December, 2006, over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2005.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages decreased from 238.4 in November, 2007 to 237.5 in December, 2007, reflecting a decrease of 0.4%. Contributing significantly to this decrease was the general downward movement in the prices of sweet potatoes, dasheen, tomatoes, oranges, limes, melongene, christophene, celery, watercress, cucumber, pawpaw, green bananas and onions. However, the full impact of these price decreases were offset by the general rise in the prices of white bread, whole chicken, eggs, yams, irish potatoes, ochroes, sweet peppers, hot peppers, melon, apples, grapes, coconut water, carite, cavalli, king fish and other fish.

Price changes in this section, for the month of December, 2007 accounted for a net overall decrease of 0.2 point in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for December, 2007, compared with November, 2007, indicated increases in the sub-indices for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 1.0%; Water and Electricity 0.2%; Clothing and Footwear 0.5%. On the other hand the sub-index for Health declined by 0.1%.

Price changes in these sections, for the month of December 2007, accounted for a net overall increase of 0.1 point in the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in December, 2007 compared with those of December, 2006, reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change December, 2007–December, 2006
All Items	7.6
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	16.8
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	13.0
Clothing and Footwear	4.6
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	3.8
Home Ownership	4.1
Rent	5.4
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.8
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	0.7
Health	4.8
Transport	3.2
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	-1.0
Education	14.0
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	14.4
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.1

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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES
(Base: January, 2003 =100)

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for December, 2007

Period	Section Indices															
	All Items Jan 2003 =100	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	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	180	25	53	262	180	24	58	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36	
Annual Average																
2005	112.9	150.4	106.3	91.8	105.8	106.1	111.9	102.4	100.9	108.1	87.4	108.3	108.1	110.4	103.0	
2006	122.3	185.3	119.4	91.3	108.9	109.6	116.0	103.7	104.0	118.5	78.5	118.5	122.7	117.3	105.3	
2007	132.0	217.6	134.2	93.3	113.5	115.2	120.8	105.5	105.9	124.8	78.5	121.7	137.4	127.8	110.8	
2005 January	109.4	135.4	105.1	91.8	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.4	87.4	105.1	103.3	106.4	101.7	
February	110.5	141.5	105.8	91.5	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.6	87.4	105.1	103.3	106.4	101.7	
March	111.2	144.9	105.8	92.0	105.6	107.7	110.2	102.5	100.6	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
April	111.6	145.0	105.8	92.1	105.6	105.9	111.5	102.4	100.5	107.6	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
May	111.7	145.9	105.8	91.9	105.6	105.9	111.5	102.5	100.5	107.6	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
June	112.1	147.8	106.1	91.6	105.7	105.9	111.5	102.6	100.5	107.8	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
July	113.5	151.8	106.2	91.4	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.5	101.0	108.7	87.4	111.9	107.1	112.0	103.2	
August	113.8	153.0	106.5	92.0	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.4	101.0	109.2	87.4	111.9	107.1	112.0	103.2	
September	114.1	154.9	106.5	92.1	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.4	101.0	109.1	87.4	111.9	107.1	112.0	103.2	
October	114.8	156.4	106.6	92.2	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	109.9	87.4	110.0	118.7	112.7	103.8	
November	115.7	161.6	107.2	91.8	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	109.7	87.4	110.0	118.7	112.7	103.8	
December	116.7	166.7	107.9	91.3	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	110.4	87.4	110.0	118.7	112.7	103.8	
2006 January	117.1	166.3	109.7	91.6	108.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	112.2	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
February	117.7	169.6	109.4	91.6	108.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	113.3	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
March	118.5	172.8	110.1	92.4	107.2	107.4	114.0	103.8	102.8	114.9	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
April	119.3	173.1	111.3	91.5	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	117.9	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.6	
May	120.6	179.1	119.2	91.4	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	118.0	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.6	
June	121.8	185.8	120.7	91.3	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	118.5	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.6	
July	123.3	187.0	121.8	91.3	108.2	110.4	116.7	104.0	104.1	120.7	78.5	122.9	120.0	118.0	105.5	
August	124.0	190.8	122.5	91.3	109.5	110.4	116.7	103.9	104.1	120.6	78.5	122.9	120.0	118.0	105.5	
September	125.1	197.4	122.6	91.1	109.5	110.4	116.7	103.8	104.1	120.8	78.5	122.9	120.0	118.0	105.5	
October	126.3	197.8	127.1	91.1	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	122.3	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
November	126.8	200.8	128.4	90.7	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	121.4	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
December	127.3	203.4	129.7	90.5	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	121.5	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
2007 January	127.2	201.0	130.2	92.9	111.5	113.2	117.5	103.8	105.6	121.6	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
February	127.6	203.0	130.5	92.8	111.7	113.2	117.5	104.8	105.6	121.8	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
March	128.0	205.3	130.4	92.2	111.9	113.2	117.5	105.5	105.6	121.6	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
April	129.3	205.8	131.6	92.9	113.6	115.3	120.8	106.2	106.2	124.2	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
May	130.1	210.0	130.7	92.1	113.7	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.3	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
June	130.7	213.1	131.0	93.4	113.7	115.3	120.8	106.2	106.2	124.5	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
July	133.1	219.1	132.0	93.4	113.7	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	125.8	78.5	120.3	133.8	126.9	111.4	
August	133.8	222.7	132.7	93.6	113.8	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	126.1	78.5	120.3	133.8	126.9	111.4	
September	134.2	225.0	132.9	93.5	114.8	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	126.1	78.5	120.3	133.8	126.9	111.4	
October	135.5	230.5	136.4	94.1	114.9	116.8	123.2	105.8	106.1	127.0	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
November	137.1	236.4	145.1	94.2	114.9	116.8	123.2	105.7	106.1	127.4	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
December	137.0	237.5	146.5	94.7	115.0	116.8	123.2	105.9	106.1	127.3	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	

NOTE: To link the previous or old base (September 1993 = 100) to the new base (January 2003 = 100), at the All Items level, multiply the All Items Index of the new base by 1.509.