

13 January, 2010

**PRESS RELEASE**

**OFFICIAL FOREIGN RESERVES  
December 2010**

In December 2010, official foreign reserves held by the National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) rose by \$9.5 million to \$177.5 million, compared to \$168.0 million in November 2010 and \$160.4 million recorded in December 2009. This is equivalent to 7.9 months of imports of goods. The rise in foreign reserves during the month was mainly due to the receipt of foreign aid for the government.

**OFFICIAL FOREIGN RESERVES  
(millions of pa'anga)**

	<u>Level</u>	Changes		Ratio of official foreign reserves to imports (months)
		Month	12 Months	
<b><u>2009</u></b>				
Apr	132.6	2.0	42.8	5.1
May	132.1	-0.5	42.6	5.0
Jun	136.3	4.2	47.2	5.3
Jul	139.4	3.1	51.1	5.6
Aug	159.2	19.8	67.9	6.5
Sep	163.3	4.1	34.8	6.8
Oct	160.7	2.6	39.1	6.6
Nov	159.9	0.8	37.2	6.6
Dec	160.4	0.5	36.5	6.6
<b><u>2010</u></b>				
Jan	160.8	0.4	30.4	6.7
Feb	153.5	-7.3	22.4	6.4
Mar	155.5	2.0	24.9	6.5
Apr	161.4	5.9	28.8	6.6®
May	166.7	5.3	34.6	7.0®
Jun	170.5	3.8	34.2	7.2®
Jul	178.0	7.5	38.6	7.5®
Aug	174.1	3.9	14.9	7.4®
Sep	172.7	-1.4	9.4	7.3
Oct	176.5	3.8	15.8	7.7
Nov	168.0	-8.5	8.1	7.3
Dec	177.5	9.5	17.1	7.9

Note: ® - Revised figures

Source: National Reserve Bank of Tonga