NATIONAL RESERVE BANK OF TONGA



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PRESS RELEASE

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<u>Public Notice National Reserve Bank of Tonga</u> Return and Exchange of Mutilated Currency

The National Reserve Bank of Tonga has received several mutilated coins in which the effigy of His Majesty King Tupou VI and images on the reverse side are no longer visible due to excess usage or the normal wear and tear. The general public, businesses, super markets and companies are to return and exchange such mutilated coins either at the Reserve Bank or to a Commercial Bank to be exchanged with good quality coins.

The National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) is vested with the responsibility to issue, withdrawal and exchange of good quality currency in Tonga. The NRBT works closely with Commercial Banks to maintain high quality banknotes and coins in circulation. This is to ensure the general public has confidence in using Tongan currency and has access to good quality, clean and authentic banknotes and coins, thus making it more difficult for counterfeit banknotes and coins to be passed or remain in circulation. Mutilated currency means a genuine banknote/coin that is no longer fit for circulation and use by the general public in accordance with the quality standards as set out by the NRBT.

The general public is hereby reminded that defacement of currency is prohibited pursuant to Section 23 of the NRBT Amendment Act (2014)

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