



PRESS RELEASE

3 December 2020

**National Reserve Bank of Tonga conducted technical training and
Consultation with Commercial Banks on Tonga National Payment System**

The National Reserve Bank of Tonga conducted technical training and consultation with all commercial banks on Tonga's new National Payment System this Wednesday 2nd December 2020 at the Reserve Bank's Level 4 Conference Centre. The purpose of the consultation is to provide a high-level overview of Tonga's National Payment System as well as hands-on exercises and training on operating the National Payment System. The Tonga National Payment System project is an initiative of the National Reserve Bank of Tonga, in partnership with KlickEx Pacific Limited of New Zealand. The project is to modernise and automate Tonga's payment system which will improve efficiencies and timely delivery of financial payments and other financial transactions. This will in turn contribute to the financial and payment system stability of Tonga.

The training was conducted by the National Reserve Bank of Tonga staff and was attended by senior technical staff from all commercial banks in relevant departments such as settlement, information technology, and compliance. The Tonga National Payment System is currently at the final stages of testing before the system goes live towards the first half of 2021.



Attendees from Commercial Banks (BSP, TDB, ANZ and MBf) together with National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) Staff. Front row second from the right is the NRBT's Assistant Governor of Operations, Mr. Lata Tangimana who leads the internal working group on the national payment system, and the Chief Manager Financial System, Mr. Tevita Vaha'i (front row center)



TDB staff putting in to practice the instructions on how to operate the National Payment System with NRBT Training Facilitator, Mrs. Pateli Vailea (standing), Senior Manager Banking Supervision, Mrs. Kueni Fifita(center), and Manager for Settlement, Ms 'Isapela Hufanga (seated at the back).



ANZ Staff during the Hand-on practical exercises with NRBT Settlement Officer, Mrs Taufa Lutui and the Financial Institution Examiner for ANZ, Mr. Sateki Seau (seated behind ANZ staff)



NRBT Senior Financial Institution Examiner for BSP, Mrs. Tapule Moala Kuluka assisted with the training instructions to BSP Staff



NRBT Senior Settlement Officer, Mrs. Katrina Taufatofua (front center) and Financial Institution Examiner for MBf, Mrs Louveve Leone (back center), led MBf Staff in operating the National Payment System.