

14 June 2013

PRESS RELEASE

**OFFICIAL FOREIGN RESERVES
May 2013**

Official foreign reserves held by the National Reserve Bank of Tonga (NRBT) rose by \$0.8 million over May 2013, to \$259.2 million, or 9.1 months of goods imports. The rise in foreign reserves was slower than the increase recorded in the previous month, mainly reflecting an increase in import payments and a decline in investment receipts. Official foreign reserves have risen by \$14.2 million over the past year.

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

	<u>Level</u>	Changes		Ratio of official foreign reserves to imports (months)
		Month	12 Months	
<u>2011</u>				
Nov	212.9	-1.0	44.9	7.8
Dec	226.0	13.1	48.5	8.2
<u>2012</u>				
Jan	229.5	3.5	64.3	8.2
Feb	230.6	1.1	71.8	8.2
Mar	239.2	8.6	82.1	8.6
Apr	240.3	1.1	80.2	8.5
May	245.0	4.7	74.7	8.5
Jun	246.1	1.1	42.3	8.5
Jul	251.1	5.0	53.5	8.6®
Aug	252.7	1.6	40.3	8.6
Sep	247.9	-4.8	39.8	8.5
Oct	246.2	-1.7	32.3	8.6®
Nov	253.7	7.5	40.8	8.8
Dec	257.3	3.6	31.3	9.3
<u>2013</u>				
Jan	260.3	3.0	30.8	9.4
Feb	258.0	-2.3	27.4	9.1
Mar	244.8	-13.3	5.6	8.5
Apr	258.4	13.6	18.1	9.0
May	259.2	0.8	14.2	9.1

Note: ® - Revised figure

Source: National Reserve Bank of Tonga