

**All letters to be addressed to:**  
CEO, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE,  
CONSUMER, TRADE, INNOVATION AND  
LABOUR



**Ministry of Commerce, Consumer, Trade,  
Innovation & Labour  
PO BOX 110  
Nuku'alofa,  
KINGDOM OF TONGA**

Phone : +676-23 688 Fax: +676-23 887  
Email : [moanat@mctl.gov.to](mailto:moanat@mctl.gov.to)  
Website: [www.mctl.gov.to](http://www.mctl.gov.to)

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **New LPG Prices for June - August 2017**

The Ministry of Commerce, Consumer, Trade, Innovation & Labour wishes to advise that the Tonga Competent Authority (TCA) has approved the new LPG prices for June – August 2017 to be effective **from Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017.**

There is a slight decrease in the LPG price for Tongatapu and an increase in the price for Vava'u for June – August 2017 compared to the LPG prices approved by the TCA in March – May 2017. The retail price for Tongatapu decreases by 02 seniti per kilogram. The retail price for Vava'u increases by 15 seniti per kilogram.

LPG prices fell during this quarter as the Northern Hemisphere peak winter demand ended and refineries returned from maintenance. While prices dropped during the quarter, the quarterly average butane price was only marginally down to USD493/tonne (about 2.3 percent lower) on the previous quarter average.

Global demand has continued to drop, particularly the Chinese demand after the Lunar New Year holidays (February), and following a mild Northern Hemisphere winter, stock levels are at a record high. This is continuing to put downward pressure on LPG prices. As a result, Saudi Arabia has reversed the price increase made earlier in 2017 (butane went up to USD600/tonne) and bought the LPG prices back into the line with the longer-term relationship with crude oil

Overall this quarter, there is a small decrease in Tongatapu in line with lower Saudi CP prices and a slightly stronger Pa'anga. However, Vava'u prices have increased due to receiving a larger parcel when prices were higher (March with a USD600/mt Saudi CP price) combined with a weaker Pa'anga in the delivery period. Vava'u LPG price had been low relative to Tongatapu, as in the previous period it received cargoes when prices were low.

	Tongatapu	Vava'u
LPG Wholesale Price	\$3.65	\$3.80
LPG Retail Price	\$4.08	\$4.24

For further information please contact the Ministry of Commerce, Consumer, Trade, Innovation & Labour at telephone 23688

**Ministry of Commerce, Consumer, Trade, Innovation & Labour**  
**15<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**END**