ANGUILLA'S CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
March 2003

The Anguilla Consumer Price Index (AXACPI) recorded a decline of 0.2%, for the month of March. This compares with an increase of 1.4% for the month of February 2003. When compared to the same period for 2002 the CPI shows a decline of 1.4%, which means that inflation, as measured by the CPI is on a decline.

Table 1
Quarterly and Annual % change for the Anguilla CPI by category and weights

	Weights	Mar-02	Feb-03	Mar-03	% change Mar 03/Feb 03	% change Mar 03/Mar 02
FOOD	321.20	101.8	99.6	99.6	0.0%	-2.1%
DRINKS & TOBACCO	2.90	99.2	98.5	98.4	-0.1%	-0.8%
ACCOMMODATION	171.50	108.8	93.3	90.9	-2.5%	-16.4%
FUEL	68.55	94.2	97.0	99.3	2.3%	5.4%
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	30.65	116.3	114.8	115.0	0.2%	-1.2%
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	97.30	101.7	106.3	105.7	-0.6%	3.8%
TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION	235.28	100.3	103.0	103.3	0.3%	3.0%
MEDICAL	30.85	97.8	128.6	128.6	0.0%	31.4%
EDUCATION	9.94	108.4	110.3	111.6	1.2%	3.0%
SERVICES	16.42	114.8	116.6	117.0	0.3%	1.9%
OTHER	15.30	104.0	99.7	97.4	-2.3%	-6.3%
ALL ITEMS	**1000**	**102.7**	**101.5**	**101.3**	**-0.2%**	**-1.4%**

Weights revised – 1998
Base year Dec. 2000 = 100

The largest increase for the month occurred in the Fuel category, which increased by 2.3% as shown in Table 1. This increase was caused by the fuel surcharge on electricity consumed.

The index also saw an increase in the Education category of 1.2% caused by price changes in school supplies.

There were minor increases in the Transport & Communication and Services categories of 0.3% each and in Clothing & Footwear of 0.2%.

The category experiencing the largest decline in prices for the month amounting to 2.5% was the Accommodation category with building materials being the major contributor. This was followed closely by the Other category with 2.3%.

There were slight declines in the Household Goods category of 0.6% and 0.1% in the Drinks and Tobacco category.

There were no changes in the Food and Medical categories.

For more information please feel free to contact the Statistics Department on 497-3901/5731 or visit our website **http://gov.ai/statistics/statistics.htm**