



Press Release

National Accounts update on Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

As part of the macroeconomic statistics reform on national accounts in PNG, in particular GDP, the National Statistical Office (NSO) with the technical assistance from the Australian Bureau of Statistic (ABS) has updated the national accounts to be consistent with the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008) and PNG Standard of Industry Classification 2014 (PNGSIC 2014). This led to the increase in coverage to 9 economic sectors to a total of 18 economic sectors.

The official release of the updated national accounts on nominal GDP was published on 23rd March, 2016 covering the periods from 2006 to 2013 from all economic sectors. These updated GDP figures were used by the Department of Treasury to project GDP from 2014 onwards including the medium-term outlook. These were also used to derive key Government's fiscal anchors such as debt to GDP ratio and deficit as a percent of GDP as contained in the Volume 1 on Economic and Development Policies, 2017 National Budget.

However, NSO has again revised both the nominal (current) and real (constant) GDP on 23rd December, 2016 including the publication of the 2014 GDP actuals. The revision was done in light of the availability of new data and information which has increased slightly the nominal GDP relative to the original nominal GDP publication for the period 2007 to 2013. The real GDP, on the other hand, has decreased slightly for the same period.

In light of these changes to the GDP figures, the Department of Treasury has again updated its GDP figures to reflect these changes. Hence, PNG's projected total economic growth remained at 2.0 per cent for 2016 and 2.8 per cent for 2017 as per the 2017 Budget. Key fiscal anchors such as debt to GDP has not changed much from the original information provided in the 2017 Budget. This update will be published in the upcoming 2017 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) Report.

For further information, please refer to the Department of Treasury website: www.treasury.gov.pg

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