



Fiji Islands Revenue and Customs Authority

## PRESS RELEASE

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Phone: 3301 551  
Fax : 3315 537

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### TAX REVENUE COLLECTION REMAINED POSITIVE IN FEBRUARY

“Positive tax revenue collection continued in February” said Mr. Jitoko Tikolevu, the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority. For the month of February, net tax revenue collection totaled **\$72.3m**, representing an increase of **12.1%** over the same period last year and surpassed the monthly forecast by **\$0.2m**.

Mr. Tikolevu added that relative to last year’s level, increases were noted across all major components of revenue. **Net Income Tax** collection for the month of February exceeded the forecast by **\$3.0m**. “Better-than-expected performance in Income Tax collection was attributed to favorable collection from PAYE tax, withholding & dividend and provisional taxes” Tikolevu explained.

**Net VAT** collection for the month of February reentered **\$30.4m**, representing an increase of **4.6%** over the corresponding period in 2007. Positive VAT collection was attributable to strong collection from Import VAT. “There has been a marked improvement in Import VAT collection on an annual basis” confirmed Tikolevu. VAT collection from Imports was **10.5%** higher compared to the comparable period in 2007.

**Net Customs** collection in February amounted to **\$23.4m**, higher by **25.3%** compared to the same period last year. According to FIRCA, this was mainly attributable to good collection from fiscal duty and import excise.

In the coming months, the outlook for tax revenue collection remains generally favorable although, a lot of work still needs to be carried out by the Authority to improve compliance and collection.

**JITOKO TIKOLEVU**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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