

20 March 2014

Press Release No. 3/2014
Counterfeit Notes

The National Reserve Bank of Tonga has received \$50 pa'anga of the old designed notes and \$10 pa'anga of the new designed notes confirmed to be counterfeit notes. These counterfeit notes lacked the following security features present in the genuine pa'anga notes.

1. the water mark of HM King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV on the old designed notes and HM King George Tupou V on the new designed notes which can be clearly seen when it is held up to the light, and
2. a security thread embedded in the note.

The Reserve Bank is concerned that there could be more of such \$50 and \$10 counterfeit notes circulating around.

The Reserve Bank has prepared a pamphlet outlining security features on a genuine pa'anga note to assist members of the public in identifying genuine pa'anga notes and counterfeits. Pamphlets are available free of charge from the National Reserve Bank or can be downloaded from the reserve bank website on www.reservebank.to

The public is hereby advised to check all notes particularly the \$50 pa'anga notes before accepting them. Counterfeit notes carry zero value and will not be accepted by the banks or the Reserve Bank.

The public is urged to take any counterfeit notes to the National Reserve Bank of Tonga. Makers and distributors of counterfeits are breaching Section 59 and 61 of the Criminal Offences Act 1988.

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