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NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (NCPI) FOR MARCH, 2023

1. METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

1.1 Definition

The NCPI measure changes over time in the cost of a fixed basket of goods and services that are purchased by a representative sample of households in Tanzania. Currently, the NCPI basket comprises of 383 goods and services, of which 132 are Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages and 251 are Non-Food items. With regard to geographical coverage, the NCPI uses price data collected from all 26 regional headquarters in Tanzania Mainland.

1.2 Weights and a Reference Period

The NCPI weights are based on monetary expenditures relating to consumption of all households in 26 regions of Tanzania Mainland. The index weights are based on expenditures of both urban and rural households derived from 2017/18 Household Budget Survey. The reference period for base prices is the average of January to December, 2020 and the index reference period is year 2020.

1.3 Classification

The NCPI uses the UN Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose, 2018 (UN COICOP, 2018) and is being disseminated using 13 COICOP. In addition, the rebased NCPI is disseminated together with several additional index aggregations which includes: - Core index; Energy, fuel and utilities; Non core index; services index; Goods index; Education services and products ancillary to education index and All items less food and non-alcoholic beverages.

1.4 Elementary and Higher-Level Indices

Compilation of the NCPI use geometric mean of price relatives for compiling elementary index aggregates and the Lowe Index formula (which is Laspeyres index formula type) is used for computing higher level aggregates.

2.0 ANNUAL HEADLINE INFLATION FOR MARCH, 2023 REACHED 4.7 PERCENT

Table 1: Changes in the NCPI for March 2023, (2020 = 100)

S/N	Main Groups	Weight	March, 2022	February, 2023	March, 2023	1 Month Percent Change	12 Month Percent Change
1	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	28.2	110.64	119.09	121.39	1.9	9.7
2	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	1.9	103.29	103.75	103.81	0.1	0.5
3	Clothing and footwear	10.8	106.95	109.08	109.52	0.4	2.4
4	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	15.1	107.31	108.08	108.49	0.4	1.1
5	Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	7.9	105.74	108.58	108.75	0.2	2.9
6	Health	2.5	103.64	105.39	105.43	0.0	1.7
7	Transport	14.1	105.94	111.81	111.97	0.1	5.7
8	Information and communication	5.4	102.44	104.02	104.05	0.0	1.6
9	Recreation, sport and culture	1.6	103.99	105.23	105.59	0.3	1.5
10	Education services	2.0	101.45	104.78	104.85	0.1	3.4
11	Restaurants and accommodation services	6.6	106.95	109.42	110.26	0.8	3.1
12	Insurance and financial services	2.1	100.49	100.42	100.02	-0.4	-0.5
13	Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services	2.1	105.00	106.44	106.41	0.0	1.3
TOTAL – ALL ITEMS INDEX		100.0	107.09	111.28	112.13	0.8	4.7
Other Selected Groups							
1	Core Index	73.9	106.33	108.49	108.74	0.2	2.3
2	Non-Core Index	26.1	109.24	119.17	121.72	2.1	11.4
3	Energy, Fuel and Utilities Index	5.7	108.97	113.26	114.44	1.0	5.0
4	Services Index	37.2	104.73	107.41	107.61	0.2	2.7
5	Goods Index	62.8	108.48	113.57	114.80	1.1	5.8
6	Education services and products ancillary to education Index	4.1	104.69	106.83	106.81	0.0	2.0
7	All items Less Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	71.8	105.69	108.21	108.49	0.3	2.7

2.1 Headline Inflation Rate

The Headline Inflation Rate measures inflation rate when all items in the fixed CPI basket are included. Table number 1 indicates that, Annual Headline Inflation Rate for the month of March, 2023 was 4.7 percent from 4.8 percent recorded for the month of February, 2023. The decrease of the headline inflation explains that, the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended March, 2023 has slightly decreased compared to the speed that was recorded for the year ended February, 2023. The overall index went up from 107.09 recorded in March, 2022 to 112.13 in March, 2023.

2.2 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Inflation Rates

Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Inflation Rate for March, 2023 has slightly increased to 9.7 percent from 9.6 percent that was recorded in February, 2023. On the other hand, Annual Inflation Rate for all items without food and non-alcoholic beverages for March, 2023 slightly decreased to 2.7 percent from 2.8 percent that was recorded in February, 2023.

2.3 Core Inflation Rates

Computation of the Core Index, excludes items with volatile prices that is unprocessed food; energy and utilities with exception to maize flour. Exclusion of volatile prices from the total NCPI provides a more stable Inflation Rate figure for Policy Makers. The Core Index covers 297 items and the share of weight to total NCPI weight is 73.9 percent. The inflation rate for Core Index in March, 2023 has slightly decreased to 2.3 percent from 2.4 percent that was recorded in February, 2023.

Chart 1: Movement of National Consumer Price Indices (NCPI) and Inflation Rates from March, 2022 – March, 2023. (2020 = 100)

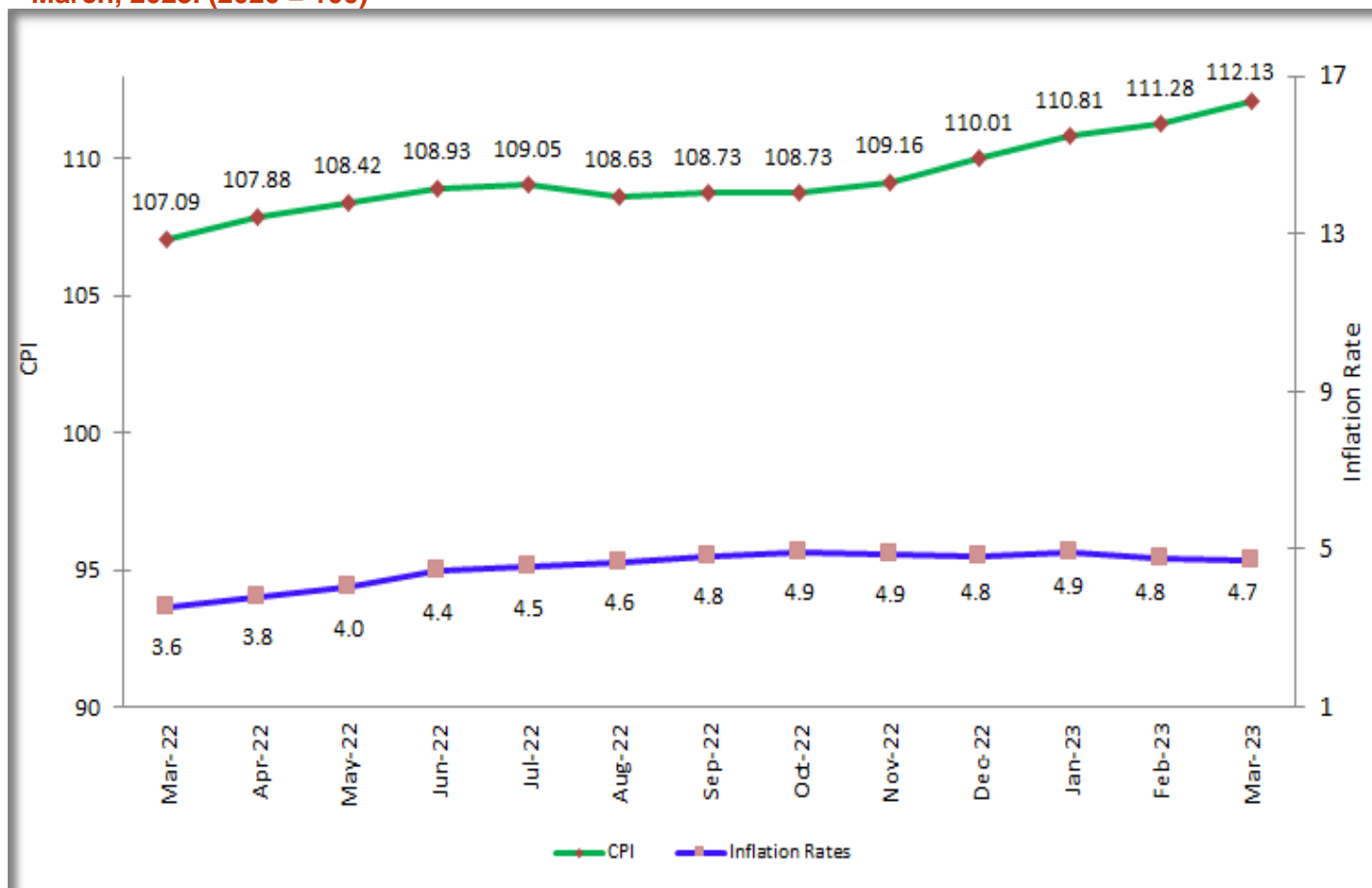


Chart 1 indicates that; NCPI has shown a relatively stable price movement from March, 2022 to March, 2023 ranging between 107.09 and 112.13 respectively. In addition, Annual Headline Inflation Rates over the same period have shown a stable trend that ranges between 3.6 percent and 4.9 percent.

3.0 MONTHLY CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BETWEEN FEBRUARY, 2023 AND MARCH, 2023

The National Consumer Price Index between February 2023 and March 2023 has increased by 0.8 percent. The increase of the overall index is attributed to price increase for some food and non-food items. Some food items that contributed to an increase of the index include; wheat by 1.6 percent, rice by 2.4 percent, sorghum grains by 4.9 percent, finger millet grains by 3.3 percent, maize grains by 2.8 percent, maize flour by 5.0 percent, bread by 2.9 percent, poultry by 3.4 percent, fresh fish by 2.9 percent, sardines by 3.4 percent, fruits by 3.7 percent, groundnuts by 2.4 percent, vegetables by 1.0 percent, fresh cassava by 5.5 percent, dry cassava by 7.4 percent and cassava flour by 5.2 percent. On the other hand, some non-food items that contributed to an increase of the index include; footwear for women by 1.0 percent, charcoal by 4.5 percent and petrol by 4.1 percent.

Table 2: NCPI Release Schedule for the Coming Months

NCPI Release Months	Release date
April, 2023	08 th May, 2023
May, 2023	08 th June, 2023
June, 2023	10 th July, 2023

Further information pertaining to methodology and related aspects of the NCPI process can be obtained by directing inquiries to:

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