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**Press Release**

**16 April 2015**

**Bank of Jamaica Reduces Benchmark Interest Rate**

Bank of Jamaica announces that with effect from 17 April 2015 the rate offered on its benchmark 30-day Certificate of Deposit will be reduced from 5.75 per cent to 5.50 per cent.

This adjustment to the BOJ policy rate reflects the Bank’s expectation that the rate of increase in consumer prices is likely to remain low in the coming year.

The recently announced inflation rate of 4.0 per cent for FY 2014/15 is the lowest in 48 years. The sharper than expected decline in inflation for the fiscal year was due in part to the fall in oil prices but also to the moderation in price increases that has resulted from fiscal consolidation and economic reforms. The impact of these changes will help to moderate inflation impulses over the medium term.