

PRESS RELEASE ON URBAN WATER END USER TARIFFS

On 13th May 2019, a joint press briefing on urban water end-user tariffs was held at RURA Headquarters by the Ministry of Infrastructure, RURA and WASAC.

The press briefing aims at clarifying the rationale of the current water tariffs.

The current urban water tariffs became effective on Friday 1st February 2019 revising the previous tariffs that came into force in August 2015.

The revision of water tariffs took into consideration the following:

- The Water Utility should be financially sustainable by recovering efficient operational costs including the cost of water production , including treatment, pumping, distribution and sale;
- The current water tariff represent 26.2% of the actual cost of water supply while the Government covers 73.8%. through subsidized investment
- Water is a scarce resource and therefore needs to be conserved. When tariffs are below costs, consumers tend to waste or over utilize water rather than consuming the needed quantity.
- Improvement of quality of service and increase access to water services.
- Adjustment due to currency depreciation and inflation.
- Increasing affordability of water service to low income earners where the previous water tariffs for public taps were maintained while the increase for the first block (0-5m³) is insignificant.
- The previous water tariffs for industries were maintained to attract investors and mitigate the increase of other products and services on the market.
- The residential tariff structure is designed in such a manner that the more you consume, the more you pay(increasing block tariff) as indicated in the table below:

