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Interim Authorisation of Fares and Charges for Taxi Services in Fiji

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Interim Authorisation of Fares and Charges for Taxi Services in Fiji

Pursuant to sections 39 and 41 of the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission Act 2010 and the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (Control of Fares and Charges for Public Service Vehicles) Order 2023, the Commission hereby makes this Authorisation.

Citation and commencement

This Authorisation may be cited as the Interim Authorisation for Fares and Charges for Taxi services in Fiji (other than Airport Taxis) and is effective from 1 March 2024.

Maximum Fares

- (1) The fares set out in Schedules 1 and 2 are the maximum fares applicable at which taxi services may be charged.
- (2) If a taxi permit holder allows another person to lease or borrow their taxi permit for the provision of taxi services under the permit's authority, the maximum fee for this leasing or lending arrangement shall be the amount applicable immediately before the commencement of this Interim Authorisation, without any additional increases.

Conditions to this Interim Authorisation

The following conditions apply for this Interim Authorisation:

- (a) Where the maximum fares listed in Schedules 1 and 2 are required to be rounded off to the nearest whole number, it should be done on the total fare rather than on individual unit(s).
- (b) The Commission's Interim Authorisation of Fares and Charges for Taxi Services in Fiji must be displayed in a prominent place where it can easily be seen by the hirer.
- (c) For the avoidance of doubt, the fares listed in the schedules are the maximum fares applicable and as such a driver or operator of a taxi service may charge lower fares at his or her discretion.
- (d) No charge is to be made for a period during which a vehicle is delayed because of a shortage of petrol or diesel or because of any accident or as a result of a mechanical or other defect, or through any event or happening or which is within the power of the driver to prevent.
- (e) No charge is to be made for a period during which a vehicle is delayed because of the instructions of a police or authorised officer given under the provisions of the Land Transport Act 1998.
- (f) If a taxi driver by appointment travels to a pickup point ("the specified place") to pick up a hirer or luggage or goods from the specified place in order to convey the hirer or luggage or goods to another place, no charge is to be made for the journey of the taxi to the specified place and the following procedure applies:-

- i. the driver must, on arrival at the specified place, give reasonable notice to the hirer personally of the arrival of the taxi; and
- ii. the driver must set the taximeter in motion at the time of giving notice of arrival of the taxi at the specified place, whichever is the later, and the hiring and the journey must be regarded as commencing when the taximeter is so set in motion and no sooner
 - (g) For persons with disabilities that have been certified and issued with identification cards by the relevant agency the fare shall be charged at a 20% discount for up to 20 kilometres of distance travelled.
 - (h) Taxi operators must supply, upon request, a receipt for taxi fare paid, which must include the following, as applicable: (i) taxi number, (ii) date, (iii) taxi fare, (iv) VAT component, (v) distance travel/journey details
 - (i) Taxis shall at all times display the photograph of the driver, including the drivers name and public service vehicle licence number.
 - (j) If a taxi permit holder leases or lends a taxi permit to a person for that person to provide taxi services under the authority of the taxi permit, the arrangement for the leasing or lending of the taxi permit must be in writing and a copy of the written agreement must be provided to the Commission.
 - (k) The Commission reserves the right to review the Fares and Charges for Taxi Services at any time it may consider necessary. The Commission may consult relevant stakeholders for the review process.

Validity

This Interim Authorisation shall remain valid until the expiration of the Fijian Competition & Consumer Commission (Control of Fares and Charges for Public Service Vehicles) Order 2023, or until this Authorisation is earlier revised, varied or revoked, whichever occurs first.

This Interim Authorisation supersedes all previous authorisations, determinations or understandings in connection with its subject matter.

Fares to be authorised

No new fares and charges for Taxi Services in Fiji are to be levied, applied or charged unless authorised in writing by the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission.

Made and authorised this 15 day of February 2024

Commissioners/Board Members:

	Approved	
Mr. Isikeli Tikoduadua	Mr. Romil Patel	Mr. Vimlesh Sagar
Chairperson	Deputy Chairperson	Commissioner

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SCHEDULE 1:

Taxi Service Authorised Fares and Charges for All Taxis in Viti Levu excluding Airport

Taxis

Item Description	Maximum Authorised Fare	Unit
Flag Fall Charge (6:00 am to 9:00 pm)	\$2.00	Per hire
Flag Fall Charge (9:00 pm to 6:00 am)	\$3.00	Per hire
Drop Charge	\$0.10	Per 100 metres
Waiting Charge	\$0.18	Per 1 minute

SCHEDULE 2:
Taxi Service Authorised Fares and Charges for All Taxis in Vanua Levu/ Ovalau/
Taveuni/ Kadavu excluding Airport Taxis

Item Description	Maximum Authorised Fare	Unit
Flag Fall Charge (6:00 am to 9:00 pm)	\$2.30	Per hire
Flag Fall Charge (9:00 pm to 6:00 am)	\$3.30	Per hire
Drop Charge	\$0.10	Per 100 metres
Waiting Charge	\$0.18	Per 1 minute