



# MEDIA RELEASE

## MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED BY PAPUA NEW GUINEA SAFETY AGENCIES

Separate Memorandums of Understanding between the Civil Aviation Safety Authority of PNG (CASA), and the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), and PNG Air Services Limited (PNGASL), place a renewed emphasis on cooperation to improve aviation safety in PNG.

Mr Hubert Namani, the AIC Chief Commissioner, Mr Wilson Sagati OBE, the Chief Executive Officer and Director of CASA, signed a MoU on 6 July 2017.

Mr Namani for the AIC, and Capt. Ted Pakii, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of PNGASL signed an MOU on 10 October 2017.

Mr Namani said, *"The MOUs spell out how the agencies will cooperate in the interests of improving aviation safety. We are working together, with the AIC identifying safety issues through its investigations and findings, and CASA PNG and PNGASL and the industry responding to those issues, as appropriate, to promote high standards of aviation safety."*

The MoUs contain protocols for interactions between the agencies. They cover notifications of accidents and incidents and procedures around access to evidence, exchange of information and initiating safety action, noting that the AIC conducts no-blame investigations, and therefore some data and information obtained by the AIC may be classified as restricted and may not be shared with CASA PNG and PNGASL.

Mr Sagati said, *"We recognise the importance for CASA PNG and the AIC to share safety information, while acknowledging there are necessary limitations on what the AIC can share with CASA. Where those limitations exist, the AIC will decide what information is shared, and any CASA request for information will be only for that which is considered necessary in the demonstrable interests of safety. CASA is committed to providing AIC with information it believes is relevant to an AIC investigation."*

Capt. Pakii said, *"PNGASL welcomes the MOU and is committed to enhancing aviation safety by facilitating cooperation between PNGASL and the AIC, while maintaining each agencies independence and capacity to perform their separate, but complementary functions."*

The MoUs are for one year and may be extended, with an annual review of their content.

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