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MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION SUCCESSFULLY DOWNLOADS DATA FROM THE FLIGHT DATA AND COCKPIT VOICE RECORDERS.

Mr Hubert Namani, Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission today announced that “on Wednesday 10 October, 2018 investigators from the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) successfully downloaded the data from the Flight Data Recorder from the Boeing 737 that crashed in Chuuk lagoon of September 28, 2018. This was followed on Thursday 11 October by the successful download of the data from the Cockpit Voice Recorder.

“The meticulous preparation and cleaning and drying of the data chip boards by the AIC investigators and the use of the state of the art *MARS* recorder download and analysis system brought in from Canada, was instrumental to the success of the downloads, and speeded up what would otherwise have been a much longer process. This process was conducted in the AIC’s Flight Recorder Laboratory in Port Moresby in the presence of an investigator from the FSM.

Mr Namani said that the FSM Investigator-in-Charge has informed him that “the data will now be jointly analysed by the FSM TC&I investigators and investigation teams from the US NTSB and the PNG AIC to determine the factors that contributed to this accident.

“The AIC will analyse the data using the latest version of the *Insight Analysis* software and the *Flight Animation System (FAS)* developed by Plane Sciences in Ottawa, Canada. This will provide the FSM Investigation team with the highest possible quality animated visual reproduction of the recovered data.”

Mr. Namani added, “our respective Nations’ resources are finite, so it is important that small countries such as PNG and the FSM share resources and draw on available expertise in the interest of aviation safety improvement. The people of FSM and PNG are assured that their safety is paramount whether they are travelling in FSM, PNG, or flying beyond our borders.

Mr. Massy Halbert, FSM Investigator-in-Charge said “the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia is grateful for the ongoing support from the PNG and USA Governments to achieve the best possible safety outcome for aviation globally and particularly in our region.”

Approved

Hubert Namani
Chief Commissioner