

MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION INVESTIGATING OCCURRENCE INVOLVING TWIN OTTER AIRCRAFT OPERATED BY AIR SANGA LIMITED IN WOBAGEN, WESTERN PROVINCE

The Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Mr. Hubert Namani yesterday announced that the AIC was investigating an occurrence that took place on 1st December 2020 at Wobagen Airstrip, Western Province.

Mr. Namani said *“On 1st December 2020, at about 9:00 am local time, a De Havilland Canada DHC8-300 ‘Twin Otter’ aircraft registered P2-ASM was involved in a runway excursion occurrence while operating at Wobagen Airstrip, Western Province.*

Information provided to the AIC indicates that as a result of the occurrence, a child resulted injured and the aircraft sustained damage.

The child was later airlifted to a hospital in Kiunga to receive medical attention.”

The AIC became aware of the events the same day of the occurrence and immediately commenced an investigation under the Civil Aviation Act 2000 (As Amended) and aligned with Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

Mr. Namani explained that *“As part of the investigation process to determine the causes and circumstances of the occurrence with a view of improving safety, rather than to ascribe blame or liability, the AIC appointed a team of investigators who immediately commenced to gather information and to conduct on-site activities.*

The investigation will include all relevant areas necessary to explain how and why the occurrence happened and, as a result of it, safety lessons are expected to be provided to the aviation community, for the improvement of the aviation system in PNG.”

In accordance with International Standards, the AIC will issue a Preliminary report within 30 days. More information about the AIC can be found on its website www.aic.gov.pg