

MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE CESSNA TU206G AIRCRAFT OCCURRENCE AT EFOGI AIRSTRIP

The Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Mr. Hubert Namani today announced that the AIC was investigating an occurrence happened on 16th February 2021 at Efogi Airstrip, Central Province.

Mr. Namani said *"On 16 February 2021, at about 7:15am, a Cessna TU206G aircraft registered P2-ALP, operated by Airborne Logistics PNG landed at Efogi Airstrip, Central Province, in a charter passenger flight from Jacksons International Airport. During landing roll, the aircraft encountered a soft area and its nose landing gear dug into soft ground and collapsed."*

"There were four occupants on board the aircraft, two pilots and two passengers. No injuries were reported as a result of the occurrence. The aircraft was damaged mainly in its nose landing gear and potential damage to the propeller and engine is being assessed."

Mr. Namani added that: *"The AIC was notified about the occurrence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority of PNG (CASA PNG). After gathering and assessing initial information about the particulars of the occurrence, the AIC appointed a team to commence an investigation under the Civil Aviation Act 2000 (as amended) and aligned with the international standards of Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation."*

Investigation of accidents and serious incidents to improve safety in the aviation system is an international obligation for PNG as a State contracting to the Convention on International Civil Aviation. The Convention, its Annexes and the guidance of the International Civil Aviation Organization set the International Standards that the AIC, on behalf of PNG, should meet or exceed when conducting an aviation safety investigation.

In line with Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, the Civil Aviation Act 2000 (as amended) established the AIC as a State agency with complete independence from other State authorities including CASA PNG, aviation service providers including National Airport Corporation (NAC) and Niusky Pacific Limited (formerly PNG Air Services Limited) and aviation stakeholders. The Civil Aviation Act 2000 (as amended) mandates the AIC to conduct investigations with the sole purpose of improving safety in the aviation system and without apportioning blame or liability.

More information about the AIC and this investigation can be found on www.aic.gov.pg