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Safety recommendation: AIC 20-R19/19-1004

Addressed to: Air Sanga Limited

Date issued: 12 August 2020

Investigation link: AIC 19-1004

Action status: Active

Introduction

On 7 October 2019, at about 11:30 (01:30 UTC) a PAC 750XL aircraft, registered P2-ASZ, owned and operated by Air Sanga Limited, was involved in a landing accident subsequent to touchdown at the Efogi airstrip in the Central Province.

On 9 October 2019, PNG instituted an investigation into the occurrence by initially authorising the commencement of the investigation, and the appointment of an Investigator-In-Charge (IIC) in accordance with PNG Legislation, Civil Aviation Act (as amended 2016) and ICAO Annex 13 standards.

Occurrence

On 7 October 2019, at about 11:30 (01:30 UTC) a PAC 750XL aircraft, registered P2-ASZ, owned and operated by Air Sanga Limited, was involved in a landing accident subsequent to touchdown at the Efogi airstrip in the Central Province.

The aircraft departed Jacksons International Airport at 11:10 on a VFR charter flight to Efogi with six passengers onboard. The flight was a VFR charter flight transporting six passengers and cargo.

According to the pilot, when he arrived at Efogi, the weather was fine with patches of cloud around the area but clear of his approach path. During the final approach, he encountered tailwind and several downdrafts. He subsequently increased airspeed and maintained his approach profile. Upon touchdown, the aircraft reportedly lifted back off the ground.

The aircraft remained airborne and travelled about 50 m above the airstrip before the nosewheel impacted a soft opposing face of a depression in the ground. The aircraft bounced as the nosewheel separated from the strut. As the aircraft returned to the ground the propeller blades struck the ground and the nose landing gear strut collapsed. The aircraft scraped on its bare nose for about 10 meters before eventually coming to rest.

The aircraft came to a complete stop less than 100 m from its touchdown point with its nose and cargo pod resting on the ground.

All the passengers and pilot evacuated without injuries.

Safety deficiency description

The Manager Quality and Safety was responsible to the Chief Executive for developing, implementing and managing the company's *Safety Management System (SMS)* and *Quality Management System (QMS)* outlined on *PNG Civil Aviation Rule Part 100*.

The investigation found that there were no proper quality assurance processes in place to ensure operational, maintenance and safety related documents were maintained and records kept up-to-date, including training records in the areas of safety management system and emergency response.

It was also found that there were no records of hazards identified nor safety actions taken, as part of the Safety Management System processes.

Recommendation number AIC 20-R19/19-1004 to Air Sanga Limited

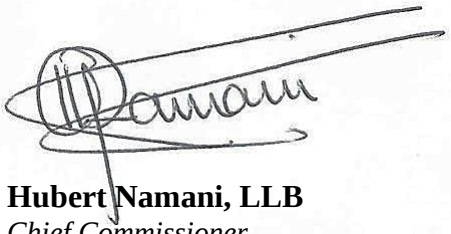
On 12 August 2020, the PNG AIC issued the following recommendation:

The PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) recommends that Air Sanga Limited should ensure Safety Management System procedures are effectively in place to allow proper hazard identification and timely risk management.

Action requested

The AIC requests that Air Sanga Limited note recommendation AIC 20-R19/19-1004, and provide a response to the AIC within 90 days, but no later than 10 November 2020, and explain including evidence how Air Sanga has addressed the safety deficiency identified in the safety recommendation.

Status of the AIC Safety Recommendation: Active

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hubert Namani', is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'H' being particularly large and stylized. The circular stamp is partially obscured by the signature.

Hubert Namani, LLB
Chief Commissioner

12 August 2020

Air Sanga Limited Response

The AIC released Safety Recommendation AIC 20-R19/19-1004 to Air Sanga Limited on 12 August 2020, requiring a response within a 90-day period. The expected response from Air Sanga Limited was due on 10 November 2020. However, to this date Air Sanga Limited has not provided a response to the AIC, regardless of the follow up conducted by the AIC after the due date.

Due to the lack of response from Air Sanga Limited, the AIC is of the view that no effective safety actions have been adopted or are planned to be adopted to address the safety deficiencies identified and, therefore, the residual risk and the identified safety deficiencies will remain in the system and may jeopardize safety in the future.

AIC Assessment

According to AIC assessment, due to no response provided by Air Sanga Limited regarding the subject Safety Recommendation, the AIC assigned this response as *unable to assess* rating. The AIC may reassess the rating of this safety recommendation in the future if Air Sanga Limited provides substantiated evidence about safety actions adopted.

The AIC has recorded the **Status of the Recommendation: CLOSED.**



HUBERT NAMANI, LLB
Chief Commissioner

23 August 2021