

MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION RELEASES FINAL REPORT ON AIR NIUGINI LIMITED F100 AIRCRAFT LOSS OF CABIN PRESSURE SERIOUS INCIDENT

The Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Mr. Hubert Namani today announced the public release of the Serious Incident Investigation Final Report involving a Fokker 100 aircraft which occurred on 18 March 2020. The aircraft, P2-ANF sustained a loss of cabin pressure resulting in the deployment of oxygen masks, causing the crew to divert and subsequently conduct an emergency descent into Madang Airport. The passenger flight was originally enroute from Boram Airport, East Sepik Province to Jackson Airport, Port Moresby.

Mr, Namani explained that *"The AIC was made aware about the serious incident on 19 March 2020 and initiated an investigation on the same day, in accordance with its mandate under the Civil Aviation Act 2000 (As Amended) and pursuant to Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation."*

Mr. Namani stated that during the investigation, it was identified that the cabin pressure loss occurred due to defective components within the aircraft engine bleed systems. Because the components are suspected to have been operating intermittently, it was difficult for the Operator's engineers to identify any issues when conducting checks within the Manufacturer's Maintenance guidelines and requirements following the crews' bleed fault report earlier on the day of the occurrence. With no faults identified, the engineers released the aircraft back to service.

The investigation identified procedural operational safety issues in relation to the operation of the aircraft, during the cabin pressure loss emergency event and Defect recording systems. The AIC issued Safety Recommendations in relation to these deficiencies and the Operator has accepted and has taken steps to address the safety deficiencies identified. Further details of these findings can be found on the public report on the AIC's website.

The AIC's report elaborates on the issue and also discusses some other safety related factors. The Final Report is available following the link below.

[https://www.aic.gov.pg/index.php/investigation.](https://www.aic.gov.pg/index.php/investigation)

