



11/2022
13 May 2022

MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION RELEASES FINAL REPORT ON AIR SANGA AIRCRAFT INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT

The PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) has today published the Accident Investigation Final Report for investigation AIC 20-1006, involving a Twin Otter DHC-6-300 aircraft, registered P2-ASM which experienced a runway excursion during take-off at Wobagen Airstrip, Sandaun Province on 1 December 2020. The accident flight was a charter flight from Wobagen Airstrip to Bak Airstrip, Sandaun Province.

Capt. Bouraga, the Acting Chief Commissioner, explained that *“The AIC was made aware of the occurrence on the same day, 1 December 2020 at 14:37 local time. The AIC initiated an investigation into the accident 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.*

Capt. Bouraga stated that during the investigation, it was established that upon take-off the aircraft ran off the side of the airstrip into a drainage ditch adjacent to the airstrip and sustained significant damage to the cockpit forward bulkhead, nose landing gear (NLG) assembly and the left propeller and wing.

The investigation found that the crews' inaction of the appropriate take-off checklist caused them to miss crucial checks and actions, resulting in the abnormal engine parameters remaining unnoticed until impact. The parameters of the right engine indicated that it was performing at a considerably lower power than the left engine which was operating to the manufacturer's specifications. The difference in engine parameters caused the aircraft to veer right. The PIC's efforts to steer the aircraft back towards the centreline was not effective as the wet deteriorated clay/silt surface did not allow the aircraft's tires to gain sufficient traction to follow PIC's control inputs.

The AIC's report further elaborates on the issue and additionally discusses some other safety related factors. The Final Report is available at <https://www.aic.gov.pg/investigation>