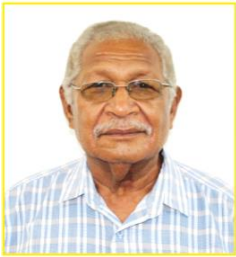


# MEDIA RELEASE

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## AIC RELEASES PRELIMINARY REPORT ON A BELL 206L3 ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

The Acting Board Chairman of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Captain Aria Bouraga, MBE, today announced the public release of the Preliminary Report, AIC 22-1003, related to the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) Aviation Bell 206L3 helicopter, registered P2-SIL, that experienced a tail rotor strike during take-off.



Captain Bouraga explained, *“it is the policy of the AIC to publicly release a preliminary investigation report for each accident or serious incident being investigated within 30 days from the occurrence date pursuant to requirements of Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.”*

At this stage, the AIC has established that the helicopter struck a power line at Aiyura National School, in Ukarumpa, Eastern Highlands Province during take-off to go to Nadzab Airport, Lae, Morobe Province. The helicopter subsequently landed

without further event.

The AIC is in the process of analysing and verifying information and evidence relevant to the investigation which include Flight Operation, Environmental, Organisational and Technical aspects, to the appropriate extent. All relevant information will be published in the Final Report of the investigation.

The AIC investigation will determine the circumstances and contributing factors to ensure all safety lessons which can help improve aviation safety are learned.

In accordance with its legal mandate, all AIC investigations are conducted with the sole purpose of improving safety for the travelling public, with complete independence from other State authorities, aviation service providers and stakeholders. AIC investigations do not apportion blame or liability to any person or organization.

More information about this investigation can be found at [www.aic.gov.pg](http://www.aic.gov.pg).