

MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION RELEASES PRELIMINARY REPORT ON A PAC 750XL AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

The Acting Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Capt. Aria Bouraga today announced the public release of the Preliminary Report, AIC 23-1001, related to the North Coast Aviation Limited PAC 750XL aircraft, registered P2-BJD, that had an accident during take-off at Giramben Airstrip, Jiwaka Province on 9 February 2023.



Capt. Bouraga explained, *“it is the policy of the AIC to publicly release a preliminary investigation report for each accident being investigated 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 during take-off, the main landing gears got caught on a 1.13 m high wire fencing of the airstrip. The aircraft subsequently impacted the terrain by its right main landing gear and wing about 95 m from the end of the runway. The right main landing gear and the outboard wing section detached from the aircraft as a result of the initial impact while the aircraft continued with the momentum and came to rest, in a local village garden about 160 m from the end of the runway.

The AIC is in the process of analysing and verifying information and evidence relevant to the investigation which include flight operation, aircraft systems, airworthiness and serviceability, performance, organisational aspects, airstrip conditions, weather etc. All relevant information will be published in the final investigation report.

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.