

MEDIA RELEASE

AIC RELEASES PRELIMINARY REPORT ON CESSNA 208B GRAND CARAVAN AIRCRAFT 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 23-1002, related to the Helifix Operations Ltd Cessna 208B Grand Caravan aircraft registered P2-HFA, which rolled off the end of the Eliptamin airstrip, during the landing roll and impacted a drainage embankment which runs along the end of the airstrip.



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.”*

The damage sustained by the aircraft during the impact was substantial. The nose landing gear collapsed, and the propeller blades were bent. It was reported that none of the persons onboard sustained injury during the accident and subsequent evacuation.

The AIC is continuing its investigation process; gathering evidence and conducting analysis on data and evidence related to the accident. The aspects of the investigation related directly and/or indirectly are being considered in the areas of Flight Operation, Environmental, Organisational and Technical/maintenance aspects. 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.

The Final Report of the investigation is available on AIC's website www.aic.gov.pg.