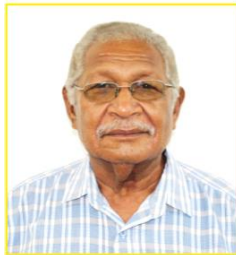


# MEDIA RELEASE

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## BELL 407 HELICOPTER, P2-HSN, IMPACTED TERRAIN DURING LANDING AT WARD 1, GEBRAU, MADANG PROVINCE.

The Acting Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Captain Aria Bouraga today announced the public release of the Preliminary Report, AIC 23-1006, related to the Heli Solutions Limited Bell 407 helicopter, registered P2-HSN, which impacted terrain during landing at Ward 1, Gebrau, Madang Province on 22 September 2023.



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 30 days from the occurrence date pursuant to requirements of Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.”* Captain Bouraga stated, *“The AIC was notified of the accident by Niusky Pacific via a phone call at 16:50 local time.”*

At this stage, the AIC has established that the pilot was not able to maintain visual reference with the outside and impacted terrain during landing. The helicopter was destroyed. There was one fatality; a local bystander and injuries sustained by the Pilot, Load Master, 4 passengers and several local bystanders.

The AIC is in the process of analysing and verifying information and evidence relevant to the investigation which includes Flight Operations, Organisational, Regulatory aspects, and other areas as applicable. 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 organisation.

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