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MEDIA RELEASE

BOEING 737-800 AIRCRAFT, P2-PXC, FUSELAGE DAMAGE BY LAVATORY SERVICE VEHICLE AT NINYOY AQUINO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, MANILA, PHILIPPINES

The Papua New Guinea Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) today announced the completion of its assessment of an incident involving an Air Niugini Boeing 737-800 aircraft that occurred on August 16, 2024, at Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila, Philippines. The aircraft sustained fuselage damage after being struck by a lavatory service truck.

The AIC was informed of the occurrence on August 20, 2024, at 08:32 local time by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) PNG and immediately notified the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of the Philippines.

The incident occurred at approximately 00:43 local time while the aircraft was stationary and unoccupied, awaiting refuelling and servicing. The lavatory service truck collided with the lower left aft fuselage, causing significant damage. Following an engineer's assessment, the aircraft was deemed unairworthy and subsequently grounded, leading to the cancellation of the scheduled flight.

After conducting its assessment, the AIC determined that this event does not meet the criteria for an accident or serious incident as defined in Annex 13 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation. As a result, the AIC concluded that this occurrence does not warrant an investigation by the State investigation authority.

Notwithstanding our assessment, the AIC shall support the investigation authority of the Philippines (State of occurrence) should they decide to investigate the incident under ICAO Annex 13.

Authorised for release by:

Maryanne J. Wal
Chief Commissioner