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# MEDIA RELEASE

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## RELEASE OF PRELIMINARY REPORT ON KOBIO AVIATION LIMITED DHC-6-300 TWIN OTTER ACCIDENT AT KAIRIK AIRSTRIP, ENGA PROVINCE, PNG.

The PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) today announced the public release of the Preliminary Report, AIC 24-1002, related to the accident involving a Kobio Aviation Limited DHC-6-300 Twin Otter aircraft, registered P2-KAL, at Kairik Airstrip, Enga Province on 19 October 2024.

It is the policy of the AIC to publicly release a preliminary investigation report for each accident or serious incident being investigated, 30 days after 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 roll, the aircraft began to veer left of the runway centreline. The pilot flying the aircraft, who was the pilot in command under supervision, attempted to get the aircraft back onto centreline, however, the aircraft continued to drift to the left towards the edge of the runway and onto the grass.

The pilot flying immediately aborted take-off, however, according to him, the wet grass surface was slippery due to rain on the day of the accident, and on the days prior to the accident. As a result, the aircraft skidded further left where the aircraft's left wingtip clipped the airport fencing before the aircraft rolled into a ditch which runs along the left side of the runway. The aircraft impacted the embankment of the ditch where it came to rest.

There were five (5) persons onboard the aircraft; two (2) pilots and three (3) passengers.

The investigation is continuing and intends to understand the reason for the runway excursion. The investigation will include but not limited to the environmental, operational, organisational and technical aspects and other areas as applicable. The analysis and findings of the investigation, safety actions taken, and any recommendations to address safety concerns will be included in the *Final Report*.

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 organisation.

More information about this investigation can be found on the AIC's website: [www.aic.gov.pg](http://www.aic.gov.pg)

*Authorised for release by:*

**Maryanne Wal**  
*Chief Commissioner*  
18 November 2024