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MEDIA RELEASE

RELEASE OF FINAL REPORT ON NORTH COAST AVIATION LTD PAC 750XL AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT AT BUNGAWAT AIRSTRIP, MOROBE PROVINCE, PNG.

The Papua New Guinea Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) today published the Final Report on the investigation conducted into an accident involving a PAC 750XL aircraft that occurred at Bungawat Airstrip, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea.

On 8 January 2024, at 09:26 local (23:26 UTC), a PAC 750XL aircraft registered P2-NCA, owned and operated by North Coast Aviation Limited (NCA) was conducting a VFR unscheduled passenger flight from Nadzab Tomodachi International Airport to Bungawat Airstrip, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea, when during landing, the aircraft experienced a loss of directional control on touchdown and subsequent runway excursion. There were 13 persons on board the aircraft: 2 pilots and 11 passengers (8 adults and 3 children). No injuries were reported.

The AIC was notified on 9 January 2024 at 08:30 local time (22:30 UTC) of the accident and immediately commenced an investigation in accordance with its mandate under the *PNG Civil Aviation Act 2000* and pursuant to *ICAO Annex 13 to the convention on International Civil Aviation*.

The Final report identifies factors related to operational, weather, airstrip condition, geographical location, topography of the airstrip and aircraft handling/manoeuvring techniques by the pilot from final approach to touchdown that contributed to the accident.

The Final report includes safety recommendations made by the AIC to the operator, with the intention of enhancing operational safety. According to *ICAO Annex 13 Standards*, identified safety deficiencies and concerns must be raised with the persons or organisations best placed to take safety action. Unless safety action is taken to address the identified safety deficiencies, death or injury might result in a future accident.

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

Authorised for release by:

Maryanne J. Wal
Chief Commissioner