

MEDIA RELEASE

PNGAIC and CAA of Solomon Islands Sign MoU on Aviation Safety Investigations

On 27 September, the Papua New Guinea Accident Investigation Commission (PNGAIC) signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Civil Aviation Authority of Solomon Islands (CAASI). The signing took place in Montréal, Canada, during the 42nd Triennial Session of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Assembly.



The MoU was formally executed by the Hon. Wake Goi, PNG Minister for Civil Aviation, and the Hon. Fredrick Kologeto, Solomon Islands Minister for Communication and Aviation.

The MoU establishes formal cooperation between PNGAIC and CAASI in the field of aviation safety investigations. It enables the sharing of technical expertise, resources, training, and capacity-building programs, while maintaining the independence of accident and incident investigations from regulatory and

operational functions, in accordance with ICAO Annex 13 and Annex 19.

For small island developing States such as PNG and Solomon Islands, resources are often limited. By working together, we can strengthen our investigation capabilities, improve safety outcomes, and contribute to raising the Asia Pacific region's overall level of compliance with ICAO standards.

PNG currently maintains a 95.18% Effective Implementation score in ICAO's audit area of accident and incident investigation, the highest in the Pacific SIDS and ranked among the top 10 globally. Partnerships like this one are essential for helping neighboring States such as Solomon Islands strengthen their own systems, which in turn lifts regional safety performance.

This MoU directly supports ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative and reflects the global recognition that thorough, independent investigations and regional cooperation are key to enhancing safety. It is also consistent with the Asia Pacific Regions Code of Conduct on Cooperation Relating to Civil Aviation Accident/Incident Investigation, reinforcing both States' commitment to regional collaboration and solidarity in aviation safety.

The AIC is committed to supporting Pacific neighboring States by sharing expertise and resources to enhance regional aviation safety, while also working with the Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO) on a potential multilateral framework to strengthen cooperation in accident investigation.

Authorised for release by:

Maryanne J. Wal
Chief Commissioner