



MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION INVESTIGATING AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT IN YENKISA AIRSTRIP, ENGA PROVINCE

The Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Mr. Hubert Namani today announced that the AIC was investigating an aircraft accident that occurred yesterday in Yenkisa airstrip, Enga Province.

Mr. Namani said “On 19th March 2020 a single-engine Cessna 208 aircraft operated by one Mission Aviation Fellowship pilot, was in a flight from Kompam airstrip to Yenkisa airstrip, Enga Province.

“According to the information gathered at the initial stage of the investigation, around 1:00pm, while the pilot was landing on Yenkisa airstrip, the aircraft suffered a runway overrun. During its trajectory out of the runway, the aircraft impacted with the vegetation surrounding the area, resulting damaged.

“The pilot and the 3 passengers on board the aircraft at the time of the occurrence received no injuries as a consequence of the occurrence.”

PNG as a signatory State of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* has an international obligation of conducting independent, no-blame accident and serious incident investigations. The *Civil Aviation Act 2000 (as amended)* require these investigations to be conducted by the AIC with complete independence from any other Statutory organisation, to determine the circumstances and causes of accidents and incidents with a view to avoiding similar occurrences in the future, rather than to ascribe blame to any person.

Mr Namani said “a team of investigators has been appointed by the AIC to investigate this occurrence. The investigation will include the examination of technical, operational, human, organisational and environmental factors as appropriate, to determine how and why the accident happened and to establish Safety recommendations to contribute to make aviation safer for PNG citizens.”

In accordance with International Standards, the AIC will issue a Preliminary Report within 30 days.