

MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION REPORTS AIR NIUGINI LIMITED HAS TAKEN IMMEDIATE SAFETY ACTION TO RECTIFY SAFETY ON BOARD CARD ERROR

Mr. Hubert Namani, Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) announced that “on Wednesday, 5 December, 2018 Air Niugini Limited replaced the *Safety on Board* cards in their Boeing 737-700 and -800 aircraft.

“The new cards address the AIC’s safety concerns about inaccurate information on the *Safety on Board* cards, that if not rectified could have resulted in injury or loss of life in a water ditching accident. The AIC is assisting the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) to conduct the investigation. The FSM investigator in charge requested that the PNG AIC issue the safety recommendation.”

The changes to the *Safety on Board* cards were brought about by the AIC’s Safety Recommendation.

Mr Namani said, “the Boeing 737 *Safety on Board* cards now clearly depict the correct path to the door for raft deployment from door L1, and adds a footnote to the diagram on the card stating:

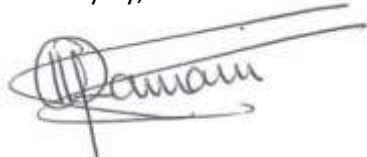
“NOTE: FORWARD RIGHT EXIT ALTERNATIVELY MAY BE USED IF FORWARD LEFT EXIT IS UNUSABLE.

“The card also has a *No bags, No shoes* symbol in the *Upon Exiting* section. That is aimed at ensuring passengers remove their shoes that could tear the life raft, and that they do not take their carry-on baggage during the evacuation, because carry-on bags are known to create evacuation path obstructions that could result in loss of life or serious injury.”



Air Niugini Limited has revised their internal document *Cabin Standing Order Boeing Operational Notice No: 007/2018* that informs Cabin Crew of the changes to the *Safety on Board* cards.

Mr. Namani said “the prompt and positive safety action taken by Air Niugini Limited will ensure passengers are better informed and prepared for a water ditching emergency. No one can become complacent, and passengers must listen carefully to Cabin Crew safety briefings and review the *Safety on Board* cards each time they fly, no matter how often they fly. We can never be too prepared.”



Hubert Namani, LLB
Chief Commissioner