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MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION ACCEPTED AS FULL MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ASSOCIATION

AIC Chief Commissioner, Mr. Hubert Namani, today announced that the Accident Investigation Commission has been accepted as a full member of the International Transportation Safety Association (ITSA).

Mr. Namani said, "ITSA is an international network of heads (Chairpersons, Directors or the equivalent) of independent safety investigation authorities (SIA) throughout the world. ITSA covers all modes of transportation, including aviation, maritime, railways, road transport, pipelines and underground infrastructure.

"On October 22nd 1993, the SIA's of the United States, Canada, Sweden and the Netherlands met and agreed to form the International Transportation Safety Association (ITSA).

"The Association was founded on the notion that independent non-judicial investigations of transportation accidents and serious incidents contribute significantly to the safety of the traveling public, and that an international network, which brings together the safety investigation agencies from many nations, would be a mutually beneficial forum to share safety information."

Mr. Namani said, "ITSA is composed of independent safety investigation authorities from 16 of the leading Countries (States) from the 193 that are Signatories to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

"The mission of ITSA is to improve transportation safety in each member country by learning from the experiences of others.

"In recognition of the achievements of the PNGAIC in national and international transportation safety, on 6th April 2019 the ITSA Secretariat wrote inviting me in my capacity of AIC Chief Commissioner to attend the June 2019 ITSA Meeting in Quebec, Canada, and to make a presentation on behalf of the PNG AIC to present the AIC's justification for full membership of ITSA."

On 5th June 2019, Mr. Namani represented the PNG AIC at this prestigious meeting of heads of the leading world Transportation investigation agencies in Quebec City. In his presentation Mr. Namani said that the sole support for funding for the AIC was through PNG Government appropriations. He showcased the dedicated team of safety professionals at the AIC and their outstanding achievements nationally and internationally through direct assistance to Pacific Region States by conducting investigations on their behalf.



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Major aircraft accident investigations have been fully delegated to PNG by the Republic of Vanuatu, and the Federated States of Micronesia in accordance with the International protocols of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Safety Recommendations issued by the AIC have resulted in safety action for global aviation. The AIC has state-of-the-art Flight Recorder replay and analysis, and flight reconstruction animation capability.

Mr. Namani said, "I also met with Chairpersons of the leading multi-modal transport investigation agencies of the world, which enabled him to gain insights, particularly in the area of maritime accident investigations conducted under the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Standards as the AIC moves toward being a multi-modal investigation agency.

Mr. Namani said," the PNG Accident Investigation Commission has full member status of the global safety organisations Flight Safety Foundation (FSF), and the International Society of Air Safety Investigators (ISASI). This ITSA full membership is a highlight of recognition for the achievements of the small but dedicated AIC team."

Hubert Namani, LLB
Chief Commissioner