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MEDIA RELEASE

PNG Accident Investigation Commission conducts Investigation Training

Mr. Hubert Namani, Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) today announced that the AIC has just completed two weeks of accident and serious incident investigation training. Two courses were conducted between 14 and 26 January 2019.

Mr. Namani said “The 44-hour *Investigation Basics* course between Monday and Saturday of the first week covered 28 modules, including PNG Legislation and international obligations under the Convention on International Civil Aviation, on-site investigations hazard awareness, evidence gathering, preserving and documenting, interaction with families of victims, Coroners, Police and Media. These modules address all the Investigation Basics training recommended by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

“The second week of training covered a further 44 hours of intensive training in Accident and Serious Incident Report Writing and included practical group activities to develop reports from set scenarios and evidence. The course is designed to meet the ICAO Investigation Report writing guidelines for standardised reporting.

“Participants on both courses included the AIC’s new CEO and new investigators and Investigation support officer, and two investigators from the Civil Aviation Authority of the Republic of Vanuatu. There are limited placements available on AIC in-house training courses and on this occasion as a result of long-standing requests, the AIC accepted participants from Safety Quality and Compliance staff of PNGDF, Air Niugini, Mission Aviation, and SIL Aviation. There were at total of 18 participants on the courses.

“It is a strong sign of how far the AIC has come over the last 2 years, that these courses were completely conducted by PNG AIC trained and experienced investigators, subject matter experts in the relevant modules.

“I am pleased that the intensive two weeks of training exceeded the participants expectations. It has provided a sound foundation for the AIC moving forward as a leader in the Pacific Region. The industry participation was extremely beneficial to both the operators’ staff and the AIC investigators, providing a greater understanding of investigation and reporting standards and guidelines used by the AIC and investigation agencies globally.”

Mr Namani added, “PNG’s Accident Investigation Commission is a strong independent investigation body in the Pacific Region. There are many synergies through training and liaison opportunities with our Pacific neighbours that will keep PNG at the forefront of aviation safety in the Region. I expect that future courses will involve investigators from the Pacific States’ investigation agencies as Memorandums of Understanding with those States are signed in the near future.”

Hubert Namani, LLB
Chief Commissioner