

MEDIA RELEASE

PNG ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMMISSION RELEASES PRELIMINARY REPORT ON AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT IN YENKISA AIRSTRIP, ENGA PROVINCE

The Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Mr. Hubert Namani today announced the public release of the Preliminary Report on the investigation regarding the aircraft accident occurred on 19th March 2020, involving a Cessna 208 aircraft registered P2-MAF owned and operated by Mission Aviation Fellowship PNG Limited (MAF) in Yenkisa airstrip, Enga Province.

Mr. Namani said “On 19th March 2020 at 13:10 local time, a single-engine Cessna 208 aircraft owned and operated by Mission Aviation Fellowship PNG Limited (MAF), landed in Yenkisa airstrip, Enga Province, in a non-scheduled passenger flight from Kompam airstrip, Enga Province.

“During its landing roll at Yenkisa strip 32, the aircraft exceeded the end of the strip where, as a result of the conformation of the terrain and vegetation in that area, it overturned on its left side, coming to a complete stop in that position, 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.”

The AIC was notified by MAF minutes after the accident occurred, and immediately commenced an investigation in accordance with the provisions of *Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation* and the *Civil Aviation Act 2000 (as amended)*.

As part of the international obligations of a State signatory to the Convention on International Civil Aviation the AIC on behalf of PNG shall send a Preliminary report to certain States and parties within 30 days from the date of an accident or a serious incident. The AIC has also made this Preliminary report publicly available in its website www.aic.gov.pg

Mr. Namani explained that “the *Preliminary Report* is entirely based on the evidence gathered at the initial stages of the investigation. Further stages of the process will include operational and organisational aspects, aircraft performance and handling characteristics, environmental influences, safety management, and airstrip data, to determine causal and contributing factors and to identify opportunities for safety enhancement in the aviation system.