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27<sup>th</sup> July 2020

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## UPDATE ON AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT NEAR PAPA LEALEA, PORT MORESBY, NATIONAL CAPITAL DISTRICT

The Chief Commissioner of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC), Mr. Hubert Namani today announced that the AIC is investigating an aircraft accident occurred on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020 near Papa Lealea, Port Moresby, NCD.

Mr. Namani said "On 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020, the AIC was informed by PNG Air Services Limited (PNG ASL), about the activation of an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) near Papa Lealea, Port Moresby, National Capital District. PNG ASL also reported that all aircraft had been accounted for.

"A team of investigators was sent to the area of the distress signal to conduct on-site activities. Early this morning, the team arrived to the area and found the location of the wreckage, which allowed to confirm the occurrence of an accident involving an Australian registered Cessna 402C twin engine airplane.

"As mandated by the *Civil Aviation Act 2000 (As Amended)* and aligned with *Annex 13* to the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, the AIC commenced an investigation to establish the circumstances in which the accident happened, its probable causes and contributing factors, in order to propose recommendations to enhance aviation safety."

The PNG AIC conducts independent, no-blame accident and serious incident investigations. These investigations, as per the *Civil Aviation Act 2000 (As Amended)*, are conducted with complete independence from any other Statutory organisation or aviation stakeholder, with the main purpose of avoid similar occurrences in the future. Further information on AIC investigations can be found on its website [www.aic.gov.pg](http://www.aic.gov.pg)