

# E-NEWSLETTER

Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation and Prevention Bureau

ISSUE: 1

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER



**GHANA AND NAMIBIA  
STRENGTHEN COOPERATION ON  
AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT  
INVESTIGATION**

PAGE 1

**GHANA TRANSPORT AND  
LOGISTIC FAIR 2025**

PAGE 4





**HE NAANA JANE OPOKU-AGYEMANG, PHD, FGA**  
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA



**HON. DORCAS ATTO-TOFFEY**  
**DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT**



## GHANA AND NAMIBIA STRENGTHEN COOPERATION ON AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

The Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation and Prevention Bureau (AIB Ghana) has successfully hosted a high-level delegation from Namibia's Ministry of Works and Transport to discuss and formalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on aviation safety and accident investigation.

The Namibian delegation, led by Acting Director Philippine Lundama, engaged with AIB Ghana officials to explore areas of technical cooperation, capacity building, and the exchange of best practices in aircraft accident investigation and safety management.

During the visit, the delegation was briefed on Ghana's comprehensive accident investigation systems, including evidence management procedures, documentation frameworks, and operational protocols that support effective aviation safety oversight.

The engagements also included facility tours and technical sessions designed to provide practical insights into Ghana's aviation safety infrastructure.

The Acting Commissioner of AIB Ghana, Mr John M.K. Wumborti, noted that the collaboration marks a significant step toward strengthening aviation safety standards across the African continent. He emphasized that the MoU will enable both nations to share expertise and resources, ultimately enhancing their respective investigative capabilities and promoting safer skies.

Mr. Daniel Acquah, the Chairman of AIB Ghana's Governing Board, expressed his support for enhancing collaboration between AIB Ghana and the Directorate responsible for Aircraft Accident Investigation in Namibia. He stated that such partnerships will establish a foundation for achieving a more effective and efficient accident investigation authority, ultimately ensuring safer skies and improving global aviation safety.

The successful conclusion of the discussions reaffirms Ghana and Namibia's shared commitment to advancing regional cooperation and ensuring the highest standards of





## TRANSPORT MINISTER REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO AVIATION SAFETY AT RE-INAUGURATION OF NASCG



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has reaffirmed the government's strong commitment to maintaining the highest aviation safety standards in Ghana.

Speaking on his behalf at the re-inauguration of the National Aviation Safety Coordination Group (NASCG), Mrs. Mabel Sagoe, Chief Director at the Ministry of Transport, described the event as "another significant milestone in our collective effort to strengthen aviation safety oversight and ensure that Ghana's airspace remains safe, secure, and aligned with international best practices.

She noted that the re-inauguration of the NASCG demonstrates government's unwavering commitment to aviation safety as a top national priority and highlights the critical need for effective coordination and collaboration among stakeholders.

In his remarks, the Director-General of the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), Mr. Stephen Wilfred Arthur, emphasized that the NASCG provides a vital platform for cooperation between state institutions and industry players under Ghana's State Safety Programme (SSP). He commended members of the Group for their continued dedication and reaffirmed GCAA's commitment to supporting the initiative with technical expertise and regulatory oversight.

Delivering a goodwill message, the Commissioner of the Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation and Prevention Bureau (AIB Ghana), Mr. John M. K. Wumborti, lauded the establishment of the NASCG as a demonstration of shared responsibility in promoting aviation safety.

The NASCG serves as a coordinated platform for implementing Ghana's SSP in line with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) recommendations, ensuring that Ghana's aviation system remains safe, proactive, and internationally compliant.

The event was held at the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority Headquarters in Accra.



# Ghana Transport & Logistics Fair 2025

## GTLF





## **CAPACITY-BUILDING**

As part of efforts to strengthen institutional capacity and enhance staff understanding of its mandate and operations, the Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation and Prevention Bureau (AIB Ghana) organized a three-day staff workshop from 15th to 17th October 2025 at the Bureau's Conference Room.

The workshop aimed to deepen staff knowledge of AIB Ghana's mandate, organizational structure, legislation, manuals, and operational procedures, while promoting teamwork and alignment with the Bureau's mission, vision, and core values. Opening the workshop, the Commissioner, Mr. John M.K.Wumborti, emphasized the importance of every staff member fully understanding the Bureau's objectives and operational framework to ensure effective service delivery.

Alhaji Saani Adams led interactive sessions on AIB Ghana's history, establishment, organizational structure, and values. Discussions highlighted the importance of professionalism, integrity, confidentiality, and continuous improvement as guiding principles for staff conduct.

The Head of Corporate Planning of AIB Ghana, Ms. Rebecca Sampson, elaborated on the vision and mission of AIB Ghana and how they guide behavior and decision-making. Deputy Director PPME - Ministry of Transport, Mr. Edward Agbodjan, took participants through the key legal and regulatory frameworks, including ICAO Annex 13 and the AIB Ghana Act, 2020 (Act 1028), which form the foundation of the Bureau's investigative work.

The Head of Accounts - AIB Ghana, Mr. Azu Crabbe Jnr, also followed with a presentation on financial accountability and compliance, stressing the need for transparency and prudent resource management. Aviation Safety Inspector - GCAA, Mr. Ebenezer Adjei, guided staff through the Bureau's Investigation Manuals and Safety Recommendations Process, outlining procedures from notification to reporting.

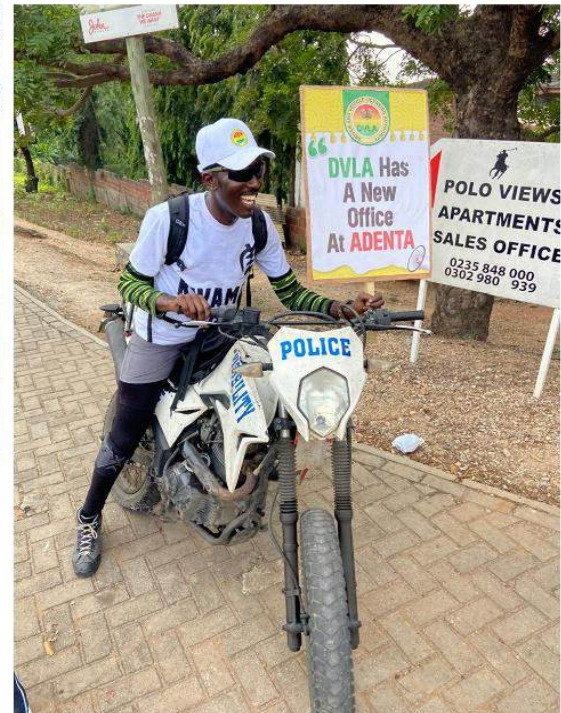
The final day focused on the practical application of investigative processes. Captain Paul Forjoe and Engineer (Ing.) Eric Ewusie facilitated sessions featuring real case studies of past accident and incident investigations. Their presentations illustrated how AIB Ghana applies the ICAO Annex 13 framework and the importance of timely and accurate occurrence reporting.

Mr. Daniel Aquah, the Board Chairman, participated in the first session of the three-day staff workshop, where he shared insights on the topics discussed. He expressed his approval and support for the initiative to enhance staff capacity regarding the Bureau's mandate, policies, and relevant operational documents and procedures.

The workshop concluded with an evaluation session, followed by closing remarks from the Commissioner, who commended staff for their participation and encouraged them to apply the knowledge gained to enhance AIB Ghana's operational excellence.



# Ministry of Transport Health Walk





# 42ND ICAO ASSEMBLY , MONTRÉAL-CANADA



Ghana was strongly represented at the 42nd ICAO Assembly, held from 23 September to 3 October 2025, with a high-level delegation led by the Hon. Minister of Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe.

He was accompanied by the Ag. Commissioner of the Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation and Prevention Bureau (AIB), Mr. John M.K. Wumborti, the Director-General of the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), Mr. Stephen Wilfred Arthur and the Managing Director of Ghana Airports Company Limited (GACL), Mrs. Yvonne Nana Afriyie Opare.

The Assembly, hosted by Canada, serves as the world's premier platform for governments and aviation stakeholders to deliberate on the future of international civil aviation. Ghana's participation underscores its commitment to advancing aviation safety, security, sustainability, and innovation in line with ICAO's principle of "no country left behind."

Opening the conference, Canada's Minister of Transport, Steven MacKinnon, stressed the importance of cooperation, innovation, accessibility, and sustainability in international aviation.

Canada also reaffirmed its dedication to upholding strong safety, security, and inclusion in the sector.

On the sidelines of the Assembly, delegates also attended the ICAO Innovation Fair (21-22 September) held under the theme “Global Horizons: Inclusive Innovations for Aviation.” The Fair provided a platform for showcasing transformative technologies and inclusive solutions to strengthen global aviation.

Speaking at the event, the Hon. Minister of Transport, Joseph Bukari Nikpe, stated: “Ghana remains committed to working with ICAO and the global aviation community to ensure that safety, security, and sustainability are at the heart of our aviation development. We believe that no nation should be left behind in shaping



# AIB GHANA INVESTIGATOR AIRSIDE TRAINING



As part of ongoing capacity-building initiatives and in order to stay aligned with modern and efficient investigative techniques, Investigation Assistants from the Bureau participated in the Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) Training Programme offered by the University of Mines and Technology (UMaT).

The four-week programme combined both virtual theoretical instruction and on-site practical training, aimed at enhancing the team's competence in UAV operations in support of aircraft accident and incident investigations.

Prior to enrollment, all participants underwent a Class 3 Medical Assessment in line with Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) requirements to ensure their fitness to operate UAVs.

The theoretical component covered fourteen (14) modules, providing a comprehensive foundation in RPAS systems. Topics ranged from the Fundamentals of RPAS Technology and Flight Dynamics to Mission Planning, Airspace Classification, and advanced areas such as Digital Image Processing and Analysis.

The practical training focused on the essential operational procedures for drone deployment, including pre-flight checks, flight techniques, post-flight activities, and proper completion of UAV flight logbooks.

This training forms part of the Bureau's commitment to strengthening investigative capability and integrating modern technologies into safety investigations.

# A HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT INVESTIGATION IN GHANA

## Early Beginnings under the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority

In the early 2000s, Ghana's aircraft accident and incident investigations were conducted solely by the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA). The Safety Regulation Department handled both oversight of aviation operations and investigation of occurrences, a dual role that placed Ghana at odds with ICAO Annex 13, which insists that accident investigations must be independent, impartial, and free from regulatory or operational influence.

This arrangement raised concerns among aviation professionals, industry stakeholders, and the public. How can one institution regulate aviation safety and investigate its own oversight failures without conflict? The need for transparency and public trust became increasingly apparent.

## The 2019 Transition Phase

By the mid-2010s, the Ministry of Aviation began exploring frameworks to create a distinct institution dedicated to investigation and prevention, separate from regulatory oversight.

A major turning point came with the Ghana Civil Aviation (Amendment) Act, 2019 (Act 985), which transferred responsibility for aircraft accident and incident investigations from the GCAA to the Minister for Aviation.

To give effect to this provision, an Accident Investigation Bureau (AIB) was formed on 27 March 2019 as an interim unit under the

## How ICAO's USOAP-CMA Accelerated National Reform

During ICAO's Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme Continuous Monitoring Approach (USOAP-CMA), ICAO identified a key shortcoming in Ghana's aviation safety system: accident investigations were not independent of the regulatory authority. This raised conflict-of-interest concerns and did not meet Annex 13 requirements.

ICAO recommended that Ghana establish a fully autonomous aircraft accident investigation authority with legal, administrative, and operational independence. These recommendations became the primary catalyst for creating a legally independent investigation body capable of functioning without influence from regulatory, operational, or political entities.



## Legal Establishment of AIB Ghana

In response to ICAO's recommendations, Government initiated legislative measures to create an independent Bureau. This effort culminated in the passage of the Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation and Prevention Bureau Act, 2020 (Act 1028), approved by Parliament on 6 October 2020.

The Act formally established the Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation and Prevention Bureau (AIB Ghana) as an autonomous state institution with the mandate to investigate, regulate, and manage matters related to aircraft accidents and incidents occurring within Ghana and the Accra Flight Information Region (FIR).

## Strengthening Safety through Independence

The establishment of AIB Ghana fundamentally transformed the nation's aviation safety framework, separating investigative functions from regulatory oversight and institutionalizing a system of continuous learning and safety data management.

Through methodical investigations, evidence-based findings, and targeted safety recommendations, AIB Ghana has helped turn lessons from incidents into preventive safety actions across the aviation sector.



# OBJECTIVE OF AN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

When an aircraft accident happens, one important question follows: Is anyone to blame?

It is important to note, that is not the purpose of an aircraft accident investigation. Under ICAO Annex 13 (the Internationally accepted Standards and Recommended Practices for aircraft accident investigations), the sole objective is simple and powerful; Prevention, Not Punishment.

Aircraft accident investigations exist for one reason only, to prevent future accidents and incidents. They are not conducted to apportion blame or liability. Any court cases, insurance claims, or disciplinary actions happen separately from the safety investigation. The investigation itself remains focused on one mission, making flying safer for everyone.

## What Do Investigators Really Look For?

Every accident reveals more than damage, it reveals hidden problems in the aviation system. Investigators study important areas such as; Human actions, Aircraft systems, Training methods, Weather conditions, Maintenance practices, Oversight and regulations, Organisational culture among others, and ask powerful questions such as; Why did this happen? Not: Who should be punished?

Investigations also ask: Could survivability have been improved? This includes studying: Crash impact forces, Exit accessibility, Fire protection, Cabin structure, Seat and restraint systems aimed at Reducing injury and saving lives in future

## The Final Report

At the end of every investigation, one powerful document is produced; The Final Report.

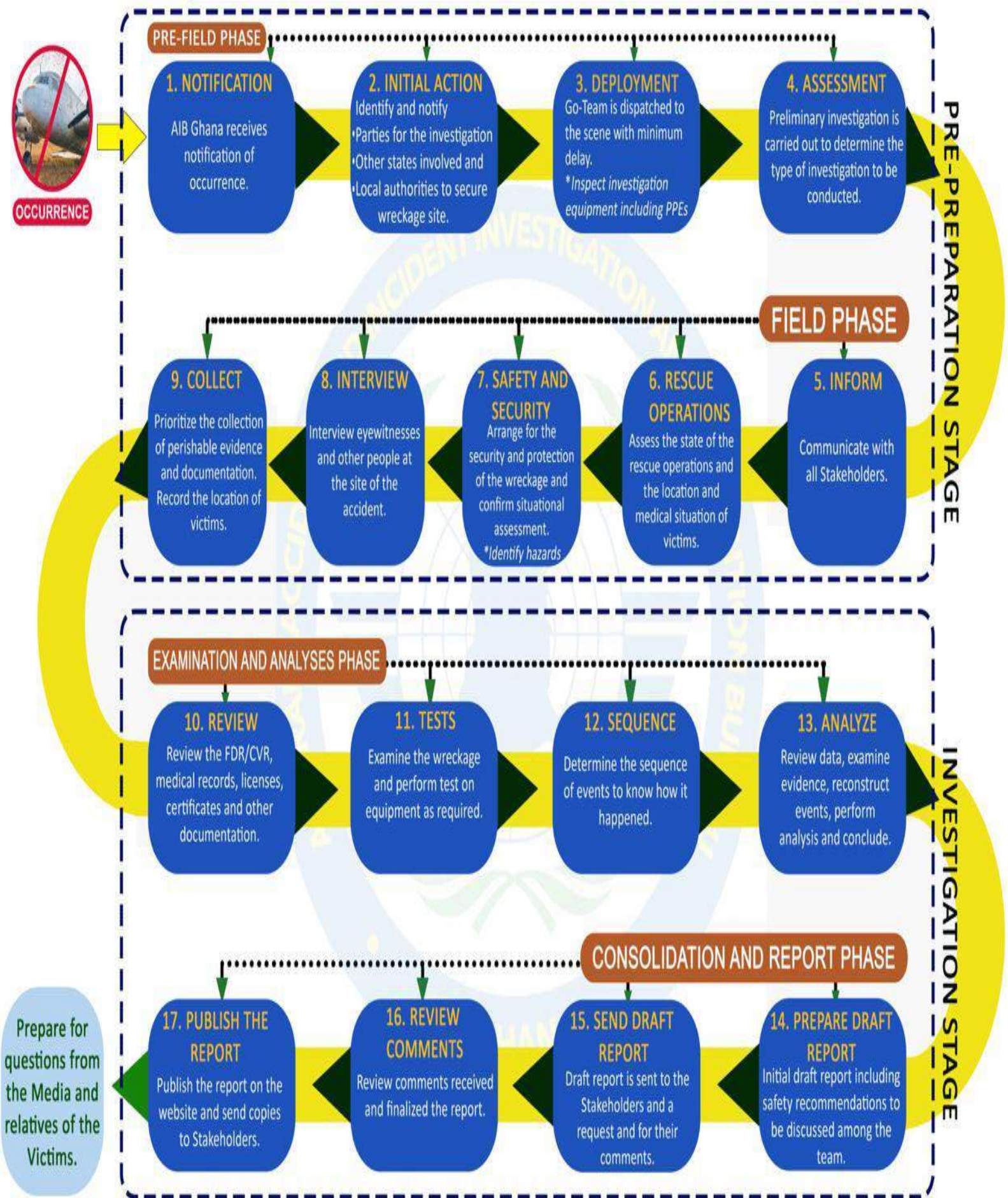
The Final Report should provide:

- a) a record of all the relevant facts (including any conflicting evidence);
- b) an analysis of the relevant facts;
- c) conclusions in the form of findings, causes and/or contributing factors; and
- d) safety recommendations.

The Final Report of an aircraft accident investigation is the foundation for initiating the safety actions which are necessary to prevent further accidents from similar causes. Therefore, the Final Report on an accident must establish in detail what happened, how it happened and why it happened. The findings, causes and/or contributing factors of the Final Report should lead to safety recommendations so that appropriate preventive measures can be taken to prevent recurrence and promote aviation safety.



# AIB GHANA INVESTIGATION PROCESS



**TO NOTIFY AN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT or INCIDENT**  
**Telephone the Aircraft Accidents and Incident Investigation and**  
**Prevention Bureau**  
**(AIB GHANA)**

**on Toll Free No.: (+233) 80 000 6007**

**and**

**short code \*899\*14# (24 Hours)**

**TO REPORT AN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT OR INCIDENT**

**EMAIL THE STATE SAFETY PROGRAMME TEAM**

**On: [safetyreporting@caa.com](mailto:safetyreporting@caa.com)**

### **GENERAL ENQUIRIES**

**Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation and Prevention Bureau**  
**(AIB-GH),**

**LA-WIRELESS, ADJACENT AU VILLAGE**  
**CANTONMENTS-ACCRA**

**Tel: +233 50 239 6070, +233 57 200 0888**

**E-mail: [info@aibghana.gov.gh](mailto:info@aibghana.gov.gh) (monitored 0800-1700 hrs Mon to**  
**Fri)**

**Website: [www.aibghana.gov.gh](http://www.aibghana.gov.gh)**

**P.O.BOX KA 16412**

**GREATER ACCRA-KIA Post Office**



## AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT INVESTIGATION AND PREVENTION BUREAU

# CONTACT US

ENQUIRIES, INFORMATION, COMPLIMENTS & COMPLAINTS

**(+233) 057 200 0888**

**(+233) 050 239 6070**

**TOLL FREE**

**(+233) 080 000 6007**

**E-mail: [info@aibghana.gov.gh](mailto:info@aibghana.gov.gh)**

**FOLLOW US**

