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## MEDIA RELEASE

### AIR NIUGINI RABAUL FLIGHTS

Air Niugini wishes to advise the traveling public that our flights to and from Rabaul have been further downgraded from Q400 aircraft to Dash 8 due to the continuous runway repair works at Tokua airport, Rabaul.

The National Airports Corporation (NAC) has reduced the operating runway length to allow for critical repairs. And to ensure safe operations, Air Niugini is restricted to limited Dash 8 operations.

Air Niugini's Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr Gary Seddon said "In addition to the runway shortening, we are only permitted to use the runway for half a day. Though this causes additional challenge to the Air Niugini operation, we appreciate that it's a necessary step to ensure fit-for-purpose infrastructure."

"This is as per Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) issued by NAC two weeks ago. The runway work is expected to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> June." Mr Seddon said

With the presently restricted runway length, and the current wet weather, should it rain in the morning, this may also mean Air Niugini suspending all flights for the day, something the airline has been forced to do recently.

Air Niugini has appealed for understanding and patience from our valued customers, whilst the runway maintenance works are being conducted. Our dedicated staff will do everything to assist you with your travel to and from East New Britain.

Mr. Seddon said "We are grateful to our customers for their continuous support and patience. Where possible, consider rescheduling travel plans until after the maintenance program. Air Niugini will resume Fokker jet operations from 1<sup>st</sup> July."

“Air Niugini plans to introduce the new Airbus A220 service to Rabaul in late 2025.”

Air Niugini regrets the inconvenience caused, however safety is always of paramount importance in our operations.

Ends...//

Corporate Communications Department

Thursday 02<sup>nd</sup> May, 2024

◆ 部 分 要 約 ◆

ラバウル空港の滑走路改修工事の継続により、運航機材Q400型機から小型のダッシュ8型機への変更を余儀なくされていることをご案内申し上げます。

また、必要なインフラ整備ではありますが、滑走路の短縮に加えて使用できるのは半日に制限されていることを付け加えさせていただきます。

そして、現在の天候状態では、午前中の降雨により、やむを得ずその日の全便を運休せざるを得ない場合があることを予めご了承くださいませようお願いいたします。

滑走路の保守作業が行われている間、お客様には誠にご不便をお掛けして申し訳ございませんが、引き続きご理解、ご了承を賜りますようお願い申し上げます。

滑走路工事完了が予定されている6月30日までの間、ラバウルへのご旅行日程は再考されるようお願い申し上げます。7月1日からジェット機材による運航を再開する予定です。