



INTERIM STATEMENT ON ACCIDENT INVOLVING BRISTOW HELICOPTERS NIGERIA LIMITED SIKORSKY S-76C++ AIRCRAFT WITH REGISTRATION 5N-BQJ WHICH DITCHED IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN ON 3RD FEBRUARY,2016.

On 3rd February, 2016 at about 10.25am, 5N-BQJ, Sikorsky S-76C++ Helicopter, a domestic charter flight operated by Bristow Helicopters (Nig.) Ltd, departed Lagos for ERHA FPSO. An Instrument Meteorological condition prevailed, and IFR flight plan was filed. Two flight crew members and nine passengers were on-board the out bound flight that was uneventful. The Captain was in command on this flight.

5N-BQJ departed Erha for its in-bound flight to Lagos at 0950hrs at altitude 3000ft. The Co-pilot was the PF while the Captain was PM with nine passengers. The accident occurred on the inbound flight from Erha station where it had previously landed.

The aircraft Landed on water (ditched) in the sea 77Nm offshore from Murtala Muhammed airport on 139Radial. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time with visibility above 5Km. No fatality was recorded and the aircraft was destroyed while it submerged in the salty water.

The investigation has reached an advanced stage; various units such as the Flight Control Computers, Air Data display unit, Enhanced Ground Proximity Warning System (EGPWS), Health Usage Monitoring System (HUMS) were shipped to the manufacturer for Downloads which have been successfully completed.

The draft final report is ongoing and will be sent to stake holders for 60 days review and comments in line with the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization Annex 13.