



**INTERIM STATEMENT**  
**AERO/2017/04/18/INTR/01**

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**Accident Investigation Bureau**

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Interim statement on the serious incident involving Aero Contractors Company of Nigeria Limited Bombardier DHC-8-Q400 aircraft with nationality and registration marks 5N-BPU at Murtala Muhammed International Airport, Ikeja, Lagos on 18th April, 2017

**AIB REPORT No.:**       **AERO/2017/04/18/INTR/01**

**REPORT FORMAT:**       **INTERIM STATEMENT**

**PUBLISHED:**           **18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2019**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, 2017 at 17:00 h, a Bombardier DHC-8-Q400 aircraft with nationality and registration marks 5N-BPU, operated by Aero Contractors Company of Nigeria Limited as a scheduled flight NIG316, on an Instrument Flight Rule (IFR) Flight Plan, departed Port Harcourt International Airport for Murtala Muhammed International Airport Lagos with 4 crew and 53 passengers on board. The captain was the pilot flying (PF) while the co-pilot was the pilot monitoring (PM). The incident flight was the sixth sector and the last flight scheduled for the day as the aircraft had operated five previous sectors.

At about 17:50 h while the aircraft was cruising at FL240, 80 NM to Lagos, the Lead crew informed the cockpit crew about the appearance of an odourless and non-irritant smoke in the cabin. The forward lavatory smoke detector activated.

At 17:55 h, the crew donned their oxygen mask and established contact with Lagos ATC and requested for descent due to smoke in the cockpit and cabin. The crew also requested for emergency services assistance on ground.

ATC cleared the aircraft for rapid descent to altitude of 2,200 feet and requested crew to contact Lagos Approach. The Captain reported, "during descent we observed the "SMOKE" and "CHECK FIRE DET" warning lights illuminated, immediately followed by "AFT BAGGAGE" light on the fire panel above."

The crew immediately executed the DHC-8-Q400 Quick Reference Handbook (QRH) procedures.

At 18:03 h the aircraft landed safely on Runway 18L and taxied to MMA GAT where it was parked. All passengers disembarked normally without any injuries.

The incident occurred in daylight.

**The Draft Final report has been completed and technical review of same is ongoing, following which, the report will be sent to stakeholders for their substantial comments in line with the requirements of section 6.3 of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex 13 to the convention.**