



## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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### NAC AND AFIA PNG SIGN HISTORIC LEASE AGREEMENT FOR NADZAB CARGO HUB

The National Airports Corporation (NAC) and AFIA PNG Limited (AFIA PNG), a 100% nationally owned import-export enterprise, today signed a landmark 40-year Lease Agreement, paving the way for the establishment of an integrated Air Freight Cargo Terminal at Nadzab Tomodachi International Airport (NTIA) specifically for storing and exporting agriculture and marine products.

This historic agreement represents the first lease of its kind at Nadzab for a local import-export business, positioning the airport as a key gateway for facilitating market access and economic opportunity across Papua New Guinea. The initiative enables AFIA PNG to develop and operate a modern "Cargo Terminal and Systems" that will support the movement of both dry and perishable goods, offering a transformative supply chain solution for rural producers.

Earlier in April this year, AFIA PNG accepted NAC's initial lease offer—a critical milestone that confirmed both parties' commitment to this shared vision. With the final lease now signed, attention now turns to implementing a nationwide airfreight network that connects buying points in rural communities with domestic and international markets via Nadzab.

AFIA PNG's platform will allow for streamlined collection, storage, and shipment of fresh produce and seafood. The model aims to increase income for farmers and fishermen, support food security, and unlock access to high-value export markets.

Dominic Kaumu, Acting CEO of NAC, said: *"The National Government has made major capital investments in the airport infrastructure at Nadzab. The current phase is about unlocking revenue from that infrastructure, through land leases, business partnerships, service concessions, and public-private co-developments."*

*"We're proud to support projects that unlock new value chains for PNG producers. This agreement signals the beginning of Nadzab's evolution as a secondary international gateway, equipped for both passenger and cargo operations that support our nation's economic growth." He added.*

Mr Kaumu also stated that the Lease Agreement aligns with NAC's broader strategy to diversify revenue streams and strengthen its commercial position. "This is a tangible step in expanding our non-aeronautical business. By unlocking long-term value from airport land, we're positioning our airports to be self-sustaining to support operational requirements."

Jerry Karl, Project Director for AFIA PNG, shared: *"This is about enabling our people. PNG's rural population has the resources and resilience—what they need are the right enablers. By signing this lease, we're one*

*step closer to connecting our farmers and fishermen to the world. That's the kind of legacy we want to build at 50 years of independence."*

**About AFIA PNG Limited** AFIA PNG Ltd is a 100 percent nationally owned company focused on integrating aviation into the agricultural and fisheries value chain by developing key infrastructure that enhances rural producer access to local and export markets.

**About the National Airports Corporation (NAC)** NAC is a State-Owned Company established under the Civil Aviation Act 2000 and incorporated in 2009. It owns and operates Papua New Guinea's 22 national airports, with a mission to deliver safe, compliant, and sustainable airport services that connect communities and support national development.

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