Final report on serious incident of Boeing 747-47UF freighter published

The Air Accident Investigation Authority (AAIA) today (November 19) published the final report (3/2020) on the investigation into an aircraft serious incident involving a Boeing 747-47UF freighter (registration mark N415MC) operated by Atlas Air at Hong Kong International Airport on August 30, 2018.

At touchdown on Runway 25R at 11.53am, the aircraft first veered to the right of the runway centreline, then reversed abruptly to the left of the centreline, and sharply banked to the right of the centreline again. The right bank caused the right wing to drop so low that the bottom of No. 3 and No. 4 engine cowlings contacted the runway. No one was injured in the incident. The occurrence was classified as a serious incident according to the criteria of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

"The investigation report was published by the AAIA with the objective of identifying the circumstances and causes of the serious incident with a view to preventing a recurrence," an AAIA spokesperson said.

The investigation was conducted by a team of professional investigators in strict adherence to international standards established by the ICAO. The investigation identified that the damage to the underside of the inlet cowl, fan cowl and translating cowl of No. 3 and No. 4 engines was due to a sharp right yaw and significant right roll corresponding to the exaggerated inputs made by the pilot flying. The investigation team has made one safety recommendation.

Throughout the investigation, all parties concerned were properly consulted on the report. The report is available for download at the AAIA webpage (www.thb.gov.hk/aaia/eng/investigation reports/index.htm).