



خطوط الكويت
KUWAIT AIRWAYS

OPERATIONS DEPT.

FLIGHT SAFETY BULLETIN

FOR QUICK DISSEMINATION OF AVIATION NEWS

NO.1, MAY 2007

Crash of Kenya Airways B-737-800 in Cameroon



A Kenya Airways Boeing 737-800, with 114 people on board has crashed in southern Cameroon, state radio reports. The flight, which originated in Ivory Coast, was reported missing on Saturday after it failed to arrive in Nairobi.

Flight KQ 507 originated in Abidjan in Ivory Coast and left Douala in Cameroon at 2305 local time (0005 GMT) on Friday. It was due to arrive in Nairobi at 0615 (0315 GMT), but came down near the town of Niete, Cameroon. This aircraft was part of the new fleet bought recently by the airline, raising questions whether other aircraft will be taken out of service.

According to Kenya Airways, the last communication with the missing plane was received by the control tower in Douala, Cameroon, shortly after take-off. Kenya Airways said people from at least 23 different nationalities were on board, and had a crew of 9. Kenya Airways CEO, Titus Naikuni, said a distress signal was detected on the west coast of Africa and a Cameroon search and rescue team dispatched at about 0900 GMT. A Crisis management centre has been set up in Nairobi.

Poor weather is reported to be hampering the rescue effort. Mr. Naikuni said a team of Kenya Airways and government officials would leave for Douala later on Saturday.

The Kenya Airways with 23 strong fleet is 26%-owned by Air France KLM's Dutch company KLM. Kenya airways has a good safety record. In January 2000, however, a Kenya Airways plane crashed into the sea after taking off from Abidjan airport in Ivory Coast killing 169 people.

