## Synopsis

**Date and time**
- Thursday 25 December 2003 at 13 h 59

**Aircraft**
- Boeing 727-223 registered 3X-GDO

**Site of accident**
- Cotonou Cadjèhoun Aerodrome (Republic of Benin)

**Owner**
- Financial Advisory Group Sharjah (United Arab Emirates)

**Nature of flight**
- Public transport of passengers
- Scheduled flight GIH 141
- Conakry - Cotonou - Beirut - Dubai

**Operator**
- Union des Transports Africains

**Persons on board**
- Crew 10
- Passengers 150, including six babies

## Summary

On 25 December 2003, arriving from Conakry (Guinea), the Boeing 727-223 registered 3X-GDO undertaking flight GIH 141 to Kufra (Libya) and Beirut (Lebanon) and Dubai (United Arab Emirates) stopped over at Cotonou. During takeoff the airplane, overloaded in an anarchic manner, was not able to climb at the usual rate and struck an airport building located a hundred and eighteen meters past the runway end on the extended runway centerline, crashed onto the beach and ended up in the ocean.

The government of the Republic of Benin set up a National Commission of Inquiry to shed light on the causes of the accident. The President of the Commission delegated the technical investigation to the BEA, the French aircraft accident investigation bureau, and invited the States involved to nominate Accredited Representatives to participate in the investigation, in accordance with the provisions of Annex 13 to the Chicago Convention.