SYNOPSIS

Date and time of air occurrence: 11.03.2018, 9:46 AM UTC (11:46 AM local time).

B737-400 aircraft, operated by TAILWIND AIRLINES, TC-TLC registration marks, was conducting an Antalya-Zurich flight with 89 passengers and 7-member crew on board. At overflying the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, at an altitude of 33700 ft, the cabin was depressurized. The crew put on oxygen masks and released oxygen masks in the passenger compartment. The crew undertook an emergency descent and performed a forced landing at Sofia Airport at 10:08 UTC. The landing was performed without any problems for the passengers, crew and aircraft. The passengers were transferred to another airplane to continue the flight to the final destination.

The Safety Investigation Commission indicated as a reason for realization of the serious incident: Failure of the heater of the outflow valve seal and possibly icing of the valve during the flight due to its inability to move. The right safety relief valve remains in open position after its activation.