

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
Aircraft Accident Investigation and Inquiry Board
S. Incident Interim Report

BASIC INFORMATION

Aircraft Registration No.	:	RP-C3192
Aircraft Type/Model	:	A319-111
Owner/Operator	:	CEBU AIR, INC.
Address of Operator	:	C/O Cebu Pacific Building Domestic Road, Bgy 191, Zone 20, Pasay City
Date/Time of S. Incident	:	December 26, 2016
Type of Operation	:	Scheduled Commercial
Phase of Operation	:	Cruise
Type of Occurrence	:	Fuel leak requiring to declare emergency due to low on fuel
Place of S. Incident	:	On cruise over CP IPATA FL 330 Manila-Cebu route Philippines

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT:

On December 26, 2016 at about 0045H (Local) Cebu Pacific Flight 5J 561, an A319 with Registry No. RP-C3192 (Route: RPLL-RPVM) while on cruise at vicinity over checkpoint IPATA at FL330 encountered Fuel Imbalance indication on ECAM. While performing fuel imbalance procedure per QRH, another ECAM warning appeared, “to check fuel leak”. With possible fuel leak, the pilots requested for clearance to return back to Point of Departure which was granted. There was indication of delay in performing Engine shut down procedure of affected engine, Engine # 1 with bad weather interference and poor communication with ATC as reported. (Confirmation upon read-out of Flight Recorders).

After cleared by ATC for approach Runway 24, ECAM indicated “LAND ASAP” that triggered pilot to declare Emergency. The aircraft landed safely at NAIA Runway 24 and Engine Shutdown was performed at Bay 124R with only about 500kgs indicated fuel remaining. All passengers disembarked safely and transferred to a replacement aircraft provided by the Operator.

Initial inspection conducted by AMO on the aircraft system related to fuel leak identified the loose Union of Fuel Filter assembly of Engine #1 and with surrounding accessories soaked by fuel. The fuel filter nipple was detached from the fuel filter housing due to damaged threads on filter housing. The aircraft was declared AOG.