



**Global Expert Meeting on Agriculture and Agro-industries Development towards Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems  
to inform the 2017 ECOSOC Special Meeting on Innovations for Infrastructure Development and Promoting Sustainable Industrialization**

**24-26 April 2017**

**Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe**

**Convened by the President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council  
(ECOSOC)**

**H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava**

**INFORMATION AND LOGISTICS NOTE**

Collaborating entities: FAO, OSAA, UNCTAD, UNDESA, UNDP, UNECA, UN-HABITAT, UNIDO, UNOHRLLS, WIPO



Delegates are encouraged to retain this copy throughout the duration of the meeting, as it will not be reprinted, in the interests of the environment.

Welcome to Victoria Falls and to the Global Expert Meeting, which will focus on agriculture and agro-industry, based on an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient food systems approach.

## 1. General information about Victoria Falls

Republic of Zimbabwe is a landlocked country in the southern part of [Africa](#), between the [Zambezi](#) and Limpopo rivers. Victoria Falls is a town in the province of [Matabeleland North](#) of Zimbabwe. It is one of the most famous tourist sites in Africa. It lies on the southern bank of the [Zambezi River](#) at the western end of the [Victoria Falls](#) themselves. It is connected by road and railway to [Hwange](#) (109 km away) and [Bulawayo](#) (440 km away), both to the southeast. Victoria Falls is one of the Seven Wonders of the World, stretching 1.7 kilometers wide and 100m deep and shared by the countries of Zambia and [Zimbabwe](#). It is one of the most spectacular falls in the world. There are 16 official languages in Zimbabwe but English, Shona, Ndebele and Tonga are widely used in Victoria Falls.

[Victoria Falls Airport](#) is located 18 km south of the town and has international services to [Johannesburg](#) and [Namibia](#).

Victoria Falls has a sub-tropical climate, with a mild and dry winter from mid-May to mid-August, during which, the nights are cool to cold. The rainy season is from mid-November to mid-April. The raining season would be coming to an end during the meeting and we do expect hot days and warm nights.

Electric current in Victoria Falls is between 220 and 240 volts. Three-pin round and rectangular sockets are in use.

Zimbabwe uses basket of currencies, comprising the US Dollars, British Pound Sterling, Euros, Chinese Renminbi, Botswana Pula, South Africa Rand, and Zimbabwe Bonds Notes. However, the USD, British Pounds, Euros and South African Rands are the most commonly used currencies. Credit cards are accepted for many services. ATMs are also available but there are limits on what they can dispense.

## 2. Conference venue

The Global Expert Meeting will take place from 24 to 26 April 2017, at the Elephant Hills Resort, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The resort lies at the top of a hill outside of Victoria Falls, affording many of the rooms sweeping views of the Zambezi River across to Zambia. The resort offers a variety of facilities among them, a complimentary shuttle bus to the falls, which departs from the hotel four times daily for Victoria Falls.

## 3. Registration and badges

Registration for the event would commence at 1 p.m. on 24 April 2017, at the Conference Venue. Participants can pick up their badges during registration.

#### **4. Visa and immigration requirements**

Nationals of most countries are eligible to enter Zimbabwe without a visa or are eligible to obtain visa on arrival. Participants are urged to visit this website (<https://www.evisa.gov.zw>), to check their visa eligibility.

All confirmed participants are eligible for visas upon arrival. Meeting organisers will transmit a letter certifying your attendance and eligibility for obtaining a visa upon arrival in order to facilitate airline requirements. Participants should please carry a hard copy of this letter with you when departing for Victoria Falls in order to help facilitate your entry into the country. Holders of diplomatic and service passports and United Nations laissez-passer will be issued visas gratis at the port of entry unless they are in category A.

#### **5. Vaccines and medicines**

All travelers, should be up-to-date on routine vaccinations while travelling to any destination. You will need to take prescription medicine before, during and after your trip to prevent malaria. Your doctor can help you decide which medicine is right for you, and discuss other steps that you can take to prevent malaria.

#### **6. Guidelines on personal security and safety of participants**

The security situation in the country is relatively stable. Participants are advised to remain vigilant and exercise a high degree of caution, especially at night. The Victoria Falls is situated in a Game Park where people and wild animals cohabit.

#### **7. Airport reception and transportation**

As long as your flight details are received in time, you will be met on arrival at the Victoria Falls International Airport by the hotel shuttle bus, which costs \$US 14 per person.

#### **8. Hotel accommodation**

A block booking has been made at Elephant Resort Hills Hotel at special rate of \$110/night (bed and breakfast). Eligible participants whose participation is being sponsored by a UN entity will have rooms reserved by that entity's travel focal point. For further information on hotel reservations and payment of sponsored participants, please contact your respective travel focal point.

Self-funding participants should confirm the reserved rooms by 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 by e-mail to Siphon – [ssibanda@legacyafricahotels.com](mailto:ssibanda@legacyafricahotels.com), Noma- [nmpofu@legacyafricahotels.com](mailto:nmpofu@legacyafricahotels.com), Eunice - [ezemba@legacyafricahotels.com](mailto:ezemba@legacyafricahotels.com), Nokuthaba - [nnyandoro@legacyafricahotels.com](mailto:nnyandoro@legacyafricahotels.com), Contact Number is +263 13 44793-9 or +263 8677004956. After this date, the reserved rooms will be released and the hotel will accept accommodation requests from self-funding participants based on room availability.

Participants will be responsible for all additional costs and must pay for these directly when checking out, including breakfast (where not included), telephone, Internet/fax, room service, mini-bar, laundry, and other meals (dinner).

### **9. Daily subsistence allowance (DSA)**

Eligible participants in receipt of a daily subsistence allowance as part of their sponsorship by a UN entity should contact their respective travel focal point for further instructions.

### **10. Interpretation**

Simultaneous interpretation will be available for the official meetings of the second Preparatory Meeting for Expert Group on Agriculture and Agro-Industry Experts, in the following languages: English and French.

**For more information, please contact any of the following:**

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