Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

3rd Meeting of Range States for the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI3)

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 7 – 10 December 2026

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS

About Zimbabwe and Victoria Falls

Zimbabwe, officially the Republic of Zimbabwe, is a landlocked Southern African country bordering South Africa, Botswana, Zambia and Mozambique.

The meeting will be held in Victoria Falls, in north-western Zimbabwe, on the southern bank of the Zambezi River near Zambia. A major tourism centre, the city offers a wide range of hotels, restaurants and services for international visitors. Victoria Falls International Airport is approximately 20 km from the city centre.

Victoria Falls takes its name from the nearby waterfall, one of the world's largest and best-known natural landmarks. The city and surrounding area are also recognised for their biodiversity and proximity to important wildlife areas and protected sites.

Zimbabwe has 16 official languages, with Shona and Ndebele the most commonly used. English is widely used in government, business and tourism, and commonly spoken in Victoria Falls, especially in hotels, restaurants and visitor facilities.



Quick facts

Calling code: +263
Driving side: Left
Time zone: Zimbabwe observes Central Africa Time (CAT) all year (UTC + 2)

Passports and visa requirements

All persons intending to come to Zimbabwe are required to apply for and obtain a visa online. Application can be made at:

https://evisa.gov.zw/app/index.htmlZimbabwe eVisa Platform - Secure Your Entry with Ease

You will need to present a valid travel document of not less than 6 months validity to the Immigration officer at the port of entry.

Delegates are also required to check the possible necessity of a transit visa, depending on their respective itinerary, and obtain it as necessary.

Health and Vaccination Requirements

Zimbabwe does not require any vaccinations for entry unless you are arriving from a country with Yellow Fever transmission, in which case a valid Yellow Fever certificate is mandatory.

Recommended Vaccinations (CDC & WHO guidance)

These are not required for entry but strongly recommended for most travellers:

Core Recommendations

Hepatitis A – Food & water risk.
Hepatitis B – Blood & body fluid exposure risk.
Typhoid – Food & water risk, especially in rural areas.
MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) – Due to global measles outbreaks.

Additional Recommendations

Rabies – For outdoor activities, wildlife exposure, or remote travel.
Cholera – Consider for long stays or humanitarian work; outbreaks occur.
Malaria prophylaxis – Zimbabwe has year-round malaria risk, especially in low-lying areas; medication is strongly advised.

Travel and medical insurance

All participants are recommended to have valid travel and medical insurance covering the period of their stay in Zimbabwe. Participants are responsible for the cost of medical attention at any public or private institution.

Weather

Victoria Falls in December sees very high temperatures, with highs around 31°C and overnight lows of 20°C. With the rainy season in full effect, expect around 179 mm of rainfall and regular showers throughout the month. The days are predominantly sunny. Rain is often only seen in the afternoon or evening, leaving clear skies for most of the day.

Currency

Zimbabwe has a unique dual-currency system using both the ZiG (Zimbabwe Gold= Zimbabwe dollar) and US Dollar. US Dollar (USD) is the preferred currency for all transactions, is used for tourism, hotels, and restaurants, is accepted everywhere in Zimbabwe.

Electrical current

In Zimbabwe, power plugs and sockets (electrical outlets) of Type D (BS 546, three large round pins in triangular pattern, grounded) and Type G (BS 1363, three rectangular pins in triangular pattern, grounded) are used. Wall sockets run at 240V and 50Hz.





Venue

The Meeting will take place at the Victoria Falls Rainbow Hotel at 278 Parkway Drive.

Travel and Accommodation

Sponsored participants

The CITES and CMS Secretariats will provide sponsored participants with a return economy-class air ticket based on the most economical available route.

Accommodation at the meeting venue, including breakfast and dinner, will be arranged and paid for by the organizers. Lunch will also be provided during the meeting. Airport transfers between Victoria Falls International Airport and the meeting venue will be provided by the hotel and covered by the organizers.

Sponsored participants will receive a residual Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) and terminal expenses to cover other eligible incidental costs, including visa fees and transportation between their residence or duty station and the airport of departure and return. Further information on payment arrangements will be communicated to eligible participants.

Non-sponsored participants

Non-sponsored participants are responsible for making and covering the cost of their own travel, accommodation and airport transfer arrangements. Subject to availability, they may book accommodation at the meeting hotel directly and at their own expense.

Lunch is not included for non-sponsored participants but may be purchased directly from the hotel restaurant during the meeting.

A list of hotels recommended by the Government of Zimbabwe is available in annex to this document.

On-site registration and access badges

On-site registration will begin on Monday, 7 December at 8 AM.

All delegates will receive an identification badge to access the meeting hall at the registration. You are kindly requested to wear this badge during the meeting.

Working languages of the Meeting

The meeting will be conducted in English and French, with simultaneous interpretation during plenary sessions.

Internet

Wi-Fi will be provided at the venue / hotel for all participants.

Safety and security

All emergencies: 999
Emergency, 112, Econet subscribers Toll free number
Emergency, 114, NetOne subscribers Toll free number
Emergency, 0800 3222 911, Toll free landline

Contacts

Please do not hesitate to contact Nathan Mesnildrey at nathan.mesnildrey@un.org from the CMS Secretariat or Thea Carroll at thea.carroll@un.org from the CITES Secretariat on any substantive or logistical matters related to this meeting.