



## **The 36th IFATCA-AFM Regional Meeting Takes Flight in Victoria Falls,**

### **Zimbabwe**

#### **Enhancing Air Traffic Management Capacity Amid the Majestic Falls**

The beautiful and vibrant city of Victoria Falls is currently abuzz with preparatory activities for the much anticipated 36th IFATCA -AFM Regional Meeting in November 2025. This conference brings together delegates from across the Africa and Middle East region under the theme, **“Securing the skies: Strengthening ATM Capacity through strategic recruitment, training and retention”**.

The esteemed regional meeting, underscoring the critical role of air traffic controllers in ensuring safe and efficient skies will be proudly hosted by the Air Traffic Controllers Association of Zimbabwe (ATCAZ), ably supported by the association’s parent ANSP and line ministry, Civil Aviation Authority of Zimbabwe (CAAZ) and the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructural Development, respectively.

The five-day event taking place at the **Peniel Retreat Centre** from **3rd to 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025** draws participation from countries in the Africa and Middle East region with keynote addresses, panel discussions, working papers and strategy-focused sessions aimed at achieving recruitment, efficient training and retention of air traffic controllers. The meeting will run for the traditional 3 days (3-5 November), and a two-day training workshop from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of November will ensue. As part of the IFATCA AFM’s Strategic Plan, regional meetings will now include two days of training in various useful areas, to foster growth and development among professional ATCOs. The 36<sup>th</sup> Regional Meeting will be a first of this structure.



**The Peniel Retreat Center Vic Falls**

### **Victoria Falls: A Natural Wonder and Strategic Venue**

Apart from the breakaway rooms and discussions lies a rare opportunity to experience the magnificence of Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Commonly known as *Mosi-oa-Tunya* or “The Smoke that Thunders,” the Victoria Falls present a breathtaking spectacle where the mighty Zambezi River plunges over a 100-meter cliff, creating a thundering curtain of mist and rainbows. Victoria Falls is not just a tourist attraction but a symbol of Zimbabwe’s resilience and character where the town offers luxurious lodges, rich wildlife, sunset cruises, and cultural excursions that reflect the warmth and diversity of Zimbabwean heritage.

### **What to expect...**

As discussions progress on recruitment, training and retention, the goal of strengthening air traffic management in the Africa- Middle East region will be focused on and worked on until strategies are devised for implementation. A high-level panel discussion involving 3 or 4 ministers as well as the President of IFATCA is being planned as the main highlight of the opening day. The outcomes from the Victoria Falls regional meeting will be consolidated into the AFM’s Strategic Plan and related goals, targets, and tasks to ensure maximum benefit.

Victoria Falls, a recent host city for the ICAO Africa and Indian Ocean (AFI) Aviation Week (26 to 31 May 2025), will once again prove that it is not only an epitome of natural beauty but also a capable host for strategic and high-impact events as it makes delegates depart with deeper knowledge coupled with memories of a city that blends professionalism with unforgettable scenery.