

NATIONAL DEFENCE STRATEGY

Presented to the Parliament of the Republic of Ruekehi by Honourable Mr. MR Ally

Minister of Defence, Republic of Ruekehi, on behalf of the Government

Date: 22st June 2025

Sponsor: The Prime Minister (Peoples Movement for Democracy - PMD)

Co-Sponsors: Minister of Defence, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Finance, Minister of Interior and Justice, Minister of Transport and Communication

PART I: STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR THE SECURITY ESTABLISHMENT

(Aligned with National Security Strategy Core Interests)

National Interest	Threat	Security Establishment Tasks	Key Performance Indicators
1. Territorial Integrity	Zikomo separatist incursions & Drug Clan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Deploy Battalions to southern border regions- Establish integrated surveillance network- Conduct bi-monthly cross-border intelligence fusion with UNIZIKO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 70% reduction in cross-border raids by 2027- 24/7 surveillance coverage of high-risk zones
2. National Unity	Ethnic imbalances	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Establish Ethnic Liaison Units in all regional commands- Mandatory cultural competency training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 100% unit compliance with quotas by 2026- 50% reduction in ethnic grievance reports
3. Democratic Consolidation	Military distrust of government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Civilian oversight deputies in all service HQs- Public quarterly readiness reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 100% promotion vetting compliance- 30% increase in public trust metrics
4. Economic Security	Critical infrastructure threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dedicated Security for oil/gas facilities- Blockchain-tracked resource convoys- Mining zone rapid-response units	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Zero sabotage incidents- 48-hour incident response time
5. Regional Stability	Transnational criminal networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Joint RESECO patrols - Real-time intelligence sharing- Cross-border hotlines for crisis management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 60% reduction in trafficking incidents- Monthly regional threat assessments

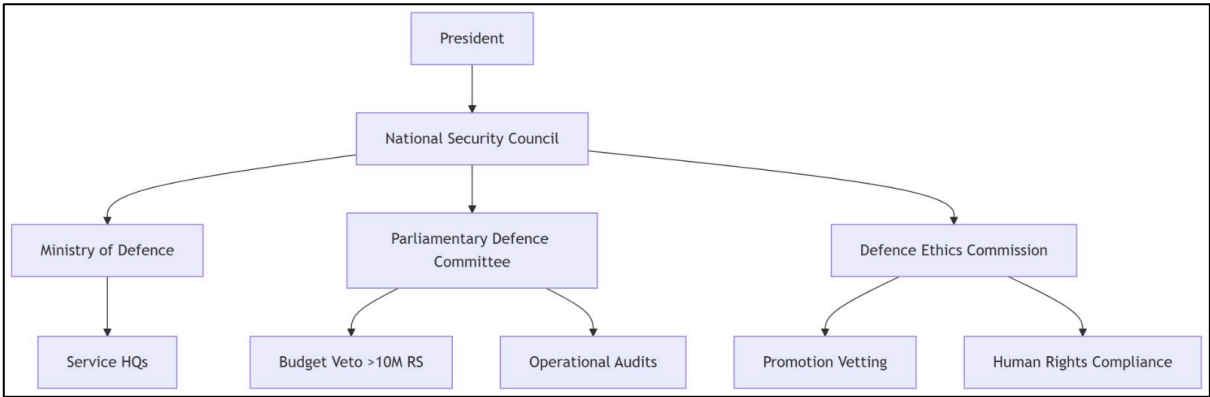
PART II: FORCE STRUCTURE, ROLES & BUDGET

Section 1: Foundational Principles

1.1 Ethno-Regional Representation Framework

- **Recruitment Allocation:**
 - *Year 1 (2025):* 75% Chogo / 22% Sandawi / 3% minorities
 - *Year 3 (2027):* 70% Chogo / 25% Sandawi / 5% minorities
- **Gender Integration Pathway:**
 - 15% female combat roles by 2027 (currently 3%)
- **Leadership Equity:**
 - Promote leadership equity and strategic leadership among senior officers.

1.2 Civilian Control Architecture



Section 2: Right-Sized Force Structure (2025-2030)

<u>Component</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>Transformation Measures</u>
Total Personnel	120,000	85,000	45,000	-7,200 annual reduction via: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voluntary retirement packages• Natural attrition• Skills conversion programs
Land Forces	54,600	40,000	25,000	- Decommission obsolete equipment (2025-2027) - Established motorized brigades - Create Mountain Warfare Unit for Zikomo border
Air Force	34,845	15,000	8,000	- Decommission non-operational and obsolete aircraft (2025) - Maintain transport aircraft capability - Establish Surveillance Operations Command
Special Operations	1,679	3,000	3,500	- New Counter-Drug Trafficking units - New Counter-Terrorism units
Integrated Border Units	3,000	6,000	8,000	- Merge Nomad Guard/Customs/Police - Deploy along smuggling routes

Section 3: Capability Development Matrix

Capability Domain	Current Status	2027 Target
Border Surveillance	10% electronic coverage	70% integrated coverage
Rapid Deployment	72h mobilization time	6h response threshold
Cyber Defence	No dedicated capability	National Cyber Command (NCC)
Medical Resilience	40% HIV infection rate	15% infection rate

PART III: MULTI-YEAR DEFENCE BUDGET FRAMEWORK

Budget for the year 2025-26 and **five-year Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF)** for Ruekehi is presented below. The budget explicitly is geared toward **debt**

reduction and defence-budget restraint, coupled with draft legislative measures to empower Parliament in defence oversight and multi-year fiscal planning.

REVENUES 2025 - 2026 FISCAL YEAR

	Revenue Percentage (%)	Amount (Millions RS)		
Tax Revenue				
Income Tax	20.0	480		
Corporate Tax	10.0	240		
Petroleum Products Tax	20.0	480		
Value Added Tax (goods & services)	43.0	1,032		
Other Tax Revenues	7.0	168		
Total	100	2,400		
Other Revenues: (including aid and subsidies)		400		
New Revenue (Formalising Cannabis production)		170		
New Revenue (Oil and Gas)		240		
New Revenue (Mining)		160		
40% Assets held abroad		100		
Diaspora Remittance		50		
Revenue Total		3500		

EXPENDITURES

	INITIAL 2025-26		CURRENT	
	Budgetary Allocation	Amount (Millions RS)	Budgetary Allocation	Amount (Millions RS)

	(%)		(%)	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	0.5	17.5	0.5	17.5
Ministry of Justice and Interior	5.0	175	5	175
Ministry of Defence	20.0	700	20	700
Ministry of Education and Research	10.0	350	15	525
Ministry of Health	5.0	175	7.5	262.5
Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment	2.0	70	2	70
Ministry of Finance	5.0	175	5	175
Other Ministry: Transportation, Agriculture, Industry, Housing, Equipment	13.0	455	15.8	555
Departmental and Governmental Operating Costs	5.0	175	5	175
Local Community Aid	5.0	175	5	175
Debt Service	29.5	1,032.5	19.2	670
Expenditure Total	100	3,500	100	3500

Detailed Summary of 2025–26 Budget

The 2025–26 Budget Presentation for Ruekehi reflects a clear re-orientation toward debt reduction, human-capital investment and revenue diversification, while holding defence spending steady as debts are being driven down. Key changes vis-à-vis the initial proposal are:

i. Debt Service

- a. **Change:** Reduced from **29.5 % (1,032.5 M RS)** to **19.2 % (670 M RS)** of total expenditure.

- b. **Rationale:** Frees up 362.5 M RS (10.3 % of budget) to fund socio-economic priorities; signals commitment to fiscal discipline and lowers interest burden in future years by the new democratic government.
- ii. **Ministry of Defence**
 - a. **Change:** Remains at **20 % (700 M RS)**.
 - b. **Rationale:** Maintains current force readiness while debt servicing is cut; provides budgetary breathing-room for gradual draw-down of defence allocations in a controlled, multi-year framework.
- iii. **Education & Research**
 - a. **Change:** Increased from **10 % (350 M RS)** to **15 % (525 M RS)**.
 - b. **Rationale:** Prioritizes long-term human-capital development to underpin economic diversification and social stability.
- iv. **Health**
 - a. **Change:** Increased from **5 % (175 M RS)** to **7.5 % (262.5 M RS)**.
 - b. **Rationale:** Strengthens public-health systems, including HIV/AIDS treatment in security forces, boosting force readiness and broader resilience.
- v. **“Other” Ministries (Transport, Agriculture, Industry, Housing, Equipment)**
 - a. **Change:** Up from **13 % (455 M RS)** to **15.8 % (555 M RS)**.
 - b. **Rationale:** Invests in infrastructure and productive sectors to support export diversification (e.g., mining, regulated cannabis, new oil & gas fields).
- vi. **New Revenue Projections**
 - a. **Medicinal Cannabis Production:** 170 M RS
 - b. **Oil & Gas Exploitation:** 240 M RS
 - c. **Mining Royalties:** 160 M RS
 - d. **Assets Abroad (40% Repatriation):** 100 M RS
 - e. **Diaspora Remittances:** 50 M RS
 - f. **Rationale:** Formalizes shadow-economy activities, taps hydrocarbon potential, and mobilizes external assets to broaden the tax base and reduce aid dependence.

Five-Year Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF)

Projected MTEF showing a *gradual reduction* in both Defence and Debt-Service allocations, enabled by revenue growth from improved governance, IMF/World Bank support, and new resource streams.

Fiscal Year	Total Revenue (M RS)	Defence	Defence Amount (M RS)	Debt Service	Debt Amount (M RS)
2025–26	3,500	20.0 %	700	19.2 %	670

Fiscal Year	Total Revenue
(M RS)	Defence	Defence Amount
(M RS)	Debt Service	Debt Amount
(M RS)
2026–27	3,800	18.0 %	684	17.0 %	646
2027–28	4,100	16.0 %	656	15.0 %	615
2028–29	4,400	14.0 %	616	13.0 %	572
2029–30	4,700	12.0 %	564	11.0 %	517

Assumptions & Drivers:

- i. **Revenue Growth:** +300 M RS per annum from formalized medicinal cannabis production, new oil/gas fields, mining, diaspora remittance, anti-corruption measures, tax-base expansion, and IMF/World Bank budget support.
- ii. **Defence Drawdown:** -2 percentage of total revenue share per annum, allowing for planned force restructuring and modernization.
- iii. **Debt Service Relief:** -2 percentage per annum, reflecting refinancing, negotiation of concessional loans.

PART IV: IMPLEMENTATION GOVERNANCE

Draft Legislation: “Defence & Debt Rationalization Act, 2025”

Preamble:

Recognizing the imperative of sustainable public finances and a balanced security posture, this Act establishes multi-year ceilings on Defence and Debt-Service expenditures, enhances parliamentary oversight, and mandates annual performance reporting.

Key Provisions:

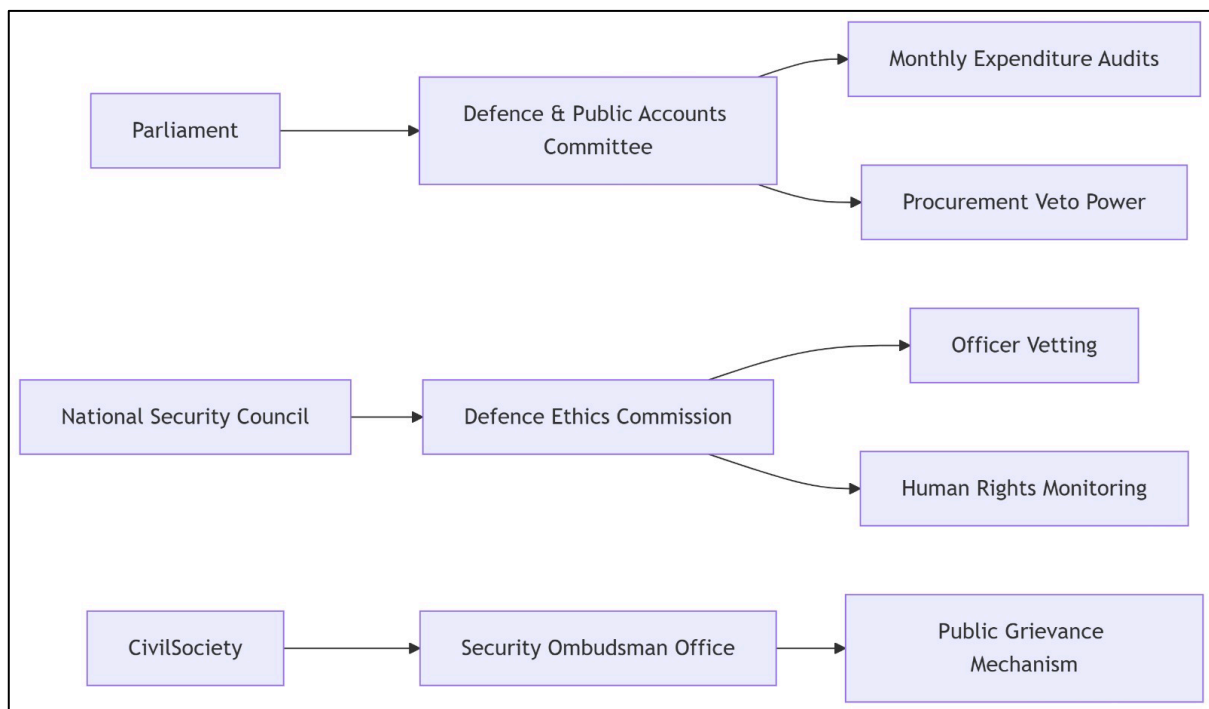
- i. **Definitions**
 - a. “Defence Expenditure”: All budgetary allocations to the Ministry of Defence.
 - b. “Debt Service”: All outlays on interest and principal repayment for domestic and external public debt.
- ii. **Spending Ceilings**
 - a. **Clause 5(1):** Caps Defence Expenditure at **20 %** of total revenue in FY 2025–26, reducing by **2 pp** each subsequent year until **12 %** cap in FY 2029-30.

- b. **Clause 5(2):** Caps Debt Service at **19.2 %** in FY 2025–26, reducing by **2 pp** annually to **11 %** by FY 2029-30.
- iii. **Multi-Year Framework**
 - a. **Clause 8:** Requires the Ministry of Finance to publish a five-year MTEF table for Defence and Debt Service alongside the annual budget bill.
- iv. **Parliamentary Oversight**
 - a. **Clause 12:** Empowers the Defence & Security Committee to review compliance with spending ceilings and report to Parliament semi-annually.
 - b. **Clause 13:** Mandates submission of audited Defence and Debt-Service accounts by the Auditor-General within six months of year-end.
- v. **Enforcement & Penalties**
 - a. **Clause 16:** Any over-expenditure in violation of the caps triggers a mandatory re-appropriation within the same financial year and potential censure of responsible ministers.

Specific Measures to Strengthen Parliamentary Role in Defence Oversight

- i. **Empower the Defence Committee**
 - a. **Mandate Quarterly Briefings:** Require the Minister of Defence and Chief of Defence Staff to present updates on force posture, major procurements, operations and maintenance.
 - b. **Budget Scrutiny Workshops:** Institute annual capacity-building sessions for committee members on defence economics and audit techniques.
- ii. **Integrated Defence Expenditure Dashboard**
 - a. **Digital Transparency:** Ministry of Finance to host a live online dashboard showing approved vs. executed Defence and Security budgets, accessible to Parliament and the public.
- iii. **Independent Audit & Assurance**
 - a. **Special Audit Unit:** Within the Auditor-General’s Office, create a “Security Expenditure Audit Unit” staffed by experienced forensic auditors to conduct value-for-money reviews.
- iv. **Civil Society & Expert Panels**
 - a. **Advisory Forum:** Establish an “Independent Security Budget Advisory Forum” comprising former senior officers, defence economists, and civil-society representatives to provide non-binding reviews.
- v. **Performance-Linked Budgeting**
 - a. **Defence KPI Framework:** Tie up to 10 % of annual Defence budget to achievement of Key Performance Indicators (readiness rates, training-hours, maintenance backlog reduction).

Section 1: Oversight Mechanisms



Section 2: Regional Cooperation Framework

- **RESECO Joint Operations Protocol:**
 - Rotating command structure (Ruekehi-Ujima-Tangaza)
 - Standardized radio frequencies and encryption
 - Shared drone surveillance footage
- **Cross-Border Hot Pursuit Agreement:**
 - Pre-approved pursuit radius
 - Joint investigation teams for trafficking cases

CONCLUSION: A NEW SECURITY COMPACT

This transformation delivers a security establishment that is **leaner, more agile, and fundamentally reconfigured** to protect Ruekehi's democratic future. By reducing personnel costs by 40% while doubling operational capabilities, we reconcile fiscal responsibility with strategic necessity. The integrated border corps and regional cooperation mechanisms directly address transnational threats at their source, while ethnic quotas and civilian oversight rebuild public trust.