



NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY

Presented to the Parliament of the Republic of Ruekehi by Honourable Mr. Cecil Sakanya Minister for Interior and Justice, Republic of Ruekehi, on behalf of the Government

Date: 21st 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

Honorable Speaker, Distinguished Members of Parliament,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, I stand before you to present our Nation's blueprint for our security and stability, a comprehensive strategy that not only safeguards Ruekehi's sovereignty but also underpins our fiscal renewal and social progress. In an era defined by transnational threats and fiscal pressures, we must marshal every instrument of statecraft, diplomatic, economic, legal, and military, in service of our people's well-being.

Vision Statement

"By 2045, Ruekehi shall be a secure, united, and prosperous democratic nation, governed justly under the rule of law, where every citizen lives with dignity, equal opportunity, and actively contributes to a stable, peaceful, and cooperative region."

In articulating the National Security Strategy, the focus is anchored on the national interests of this Republic. More details are found in the documents that are attached.

Defending Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity

Our first priority is to protect our borders and uphold constitutional order against incursions by Zikomo separatists, arms and drug smugglers, and the pernicious threats that sap our readiness. To meet this challenge, we will build an agile, integrated border-security apparatus: a Joint Border Command uniting our Army, Nomad Guard, and Customs along the Tangaza and Ujima frontiers. By modernizing our defence and security institutions and maintaining a lean, mean yet capable force posture, we ensure rapid detection, a decisive response, and deterrence that preserves our territorial integrity.

Fostering National Unity

We recognize that true security springs from the trust and cohesion of our citizens. To reconcile the Chogo, Sandawi, and minority communities, whose divisions were deepened by colonial rule and the civil conflict, we will launch a Reconciliation Commission, which will embody key stake holders to this government including our Religious, Traditional and Political Leaders and not forgetting the business communities, Non-

Government Organisation and Faith Based Organisation. This body will confront historical grievances head-on, while affirmative-action quotas in the civil service, security forces, and education will secure fair representation for Sandawi and other groups. In healing these wounds, we bind the social fabric that sustains our nation.

Ensuring Democratic Survival

Our multi-party system is the foundation of legitimacy and popular consent. To safeguard our democracy, we will empower an Independent Anti-Corruption Commission with prosecutorial authority, enforce open contracting and asset-declaration mandates, and adopt biometric voter registration. Strengthened parliamentary oversight of intelligence and defence budgets will cement civilian control and preserve the rule of law.

Securing Economic Survival and Prosperity

Without a resilient economy, our security ambitions falter. Our overreliance on oil revenue and the shadow economy has engendered budget deficits and stifled job creation, especially among our youth. To rectify this, we commit to fiscal discipline: broadening the tax base, reducing our deficit of GDP, and implementing the Industry Transparency Initiative. We will incentivize agriculture, mining, entrepreneurship and light industry, and formally regulate medicinal cannabis to replace illicit trade with legitimate revenue streams.

Protecting Citizen Security

The safety, health, and well-being of every Ruekehian is a security imperative. The HIV/AIDS epidemic, rising crime, and under-resourced police and justice systems threaten our collective resilience. Accordingly, we will integrate security, education, and health strategies: mandating HIV/AIDS testing and treatment across our nation; enhancing our police force with a hybrid community-policing focus; and overhauling our courts and prisons to ensure justice is swift, fair, and restorative.

Advancing Regional Stability

Finally, our security is also bound to our neighbours. Unresolved disputes over Lake Vomela and Liuli, instability in Zikomo, and external meddling by Tangaza and Ujima demand a robust diplomatic response. We will pursue joint-development mechanisms: establishing an AU/UN-backed authority for Lake Vomela, engaging EDECO-mediated talks on Lake Liuli, and creating Ruekehi as a hub for regional counter-terrorism

and refugee management under the UNIZIKO framework. By co-leading RESECO initiatives, we demonstrate our commitment to a peaceful, prosperous sub-region.

Budget Highlights in Support of Strategy

To finance this vision, our 2025–26 budget 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** is reduced from 29.5 percent to 19.2 percent of total spending (a savings of 362.5 million RS), freeing funds for critical social programs.
- ii. **Defence** remains at 20 percent, ensuring continuity in our modernization efforts even as we plan a gradual drawdown over five years. Within the allotted budget, we are re-appropriating the funds from the personnel salary to training, maintenance, and operations.
- iii. **Education & Research** climbs from 10 percent to 15 percent, equipping our youth with the skills to drive diversification.
- iv. **Health** rises from 5 percent to 7.5 percent, strengthening HIV/AIDS treatment and broader public-health capacity.
- v. **Other Productive Sectors** (transport, agriculture, industry) increase to 15.8 percent to support new oil, gas, and mining ventures, regulated cannabis, and enhanced revenue collection.
- vi. **The following revenue projection will supplement the financing of the new budget:**
 - o **Medicinal Cannabis Production:** 170 M RS
 - o **Oil & Gas Exploitation:** 240 M RS
 - o **Mining Royalties:** 160 M RS
 - o **Assets Abroad (40% Repatriation):** 100 M RS
 - o **Diaspora Remittances:** 50 M RS
 - o **Rationale:** Formalizes shadow-economy activities, taps hydrocarbon potential, and mobilizes external assets to broaden the tax base and reduce aid dependence.

Honourable Members, this is more than a budget—it is a declaration of our values and our resolve. By integrating robust security measures with fiscal prudence and social investment, we lay the foundation for a Ruekehi that is secure at home, influential abroad, and prosperous for all its citizens. I commend this strategy and budget to the House.

Thank you.

<u>NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY</u>			
National Interest	Threats	Approach	Policy
1. Sovereignty & Territorial Integrity (Defend borders & constitutional order)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Border incursions by Zikomo separatists (Zikomo Spillover) • Arms/drug trafficking • Ghost soldiers undermining readiness 	Build an agile, integrated border-security apparatus; rationalize forces; strengthen intelligence, modernize the defence and security institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Border Command uniting Army, Nomad Guard & Customs with along Tangaza/Ujima frontiers • Maintain a small and efficient defence and security organs
2. National Unity (Reconcile Chogo Sandawi & minority peoples)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnic tensions and discrimination rooted in colonial divisions • Legacy grievances from civil war 	Promote inclusive governance and social healing/reconciliation; embed representation across institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truth & Reconciliation Commission to address colonial & civil-war grievances • Affirmative-action quotas in civil service, security forces & education for Sandawi and other groups representation
3. Democratic Survival (Protect multi-party system)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corruption eroding legitimacy • Weak oversight of security agencies • Flawed elections 	Strengthen the judiciary and the rule of law, with constitutional checks and transparency. Establishment of the House of Chiefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Anti-Corruption Commission with prosecutorial powers; open contracting; asset-declaration mandates • Biometric voter registration; codify security-force neutrality; bolster

NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY

National Interest	Threats	Approach	Policy
			Parliamentary oversight of intelligence & defence budgets
4. Economic Survival & Prosperity (Sustainable, diversified growth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependence on oil revenue & shadow economy • Budget deficits & corruption leakages • Youth unemployment 	Enforce fiscal discipline; diversify exports; integrate informal sectors; invest in human capital.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broaden tax base; deficit target reduction; create Sovereign Wealth Fund • Incentivize agriculture, mining & light industry; formalize medicinal cannabis to replace illicit trade and enhance revenue collection
5. Citizen Security (Safety, health & well-being)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV/AIDS epidemic • Rising crime & banditry • Under-resourced police & justice systems • Reducing life expectancy • Low literacy rate 	Integrate security, education & health strategies; professionalize police; strengthen justice system and hybrid community policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory HIV/AIDS testing & treatment; scale up national treatment access • Increase community-policing focus; enhance Police/Judicial training & prison reforms
6. Regional Stability (Peaceful sub-region & alliances)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unresolved territorial disputes (Lake Vomela, Liuli) • Instability in Zikomo • External meddling by Tangaza/Ujima 	Leverage multilateral diplomacy; strengthen regional institutions; pursue joint development mechanisms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint development authority for Lake Vomela with Tangaza under AU/UN auspices; EDECO-mediated talks on Liuli with Ujima • Champion UNIZIKO intervention, offer enhance economic cooperation with Zikomo; co-lead RESECO portfolios on counter-terrorism & refugee management

Dated this 21st day of June 2025.

Honourable Mr. Cecil Sakanya

Minister for Interior and Justice, Republic of Ruekehi.

On Behalf of the Government.



BUDGET PRESENTATION FOR YEAR 2025/26

**Presented to the Parliament of the Republic of Ruekehi by Honourable Mr. Cecil Sakanya,
Minister for Interior and Justice, on behalf of the Government**

Date: 21st June 2025

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

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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

1. 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.

2. 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
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.

3. 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.

4. 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).

Together, these measures and the proposed Act will embed a culture of fiscal restraint, transparency, and strategic prioritization—ensuring Ruekehi's security needs are met sustainably, while freeing resources for socio-economic development.

Dated this 21st day of June 2025.

Honourable Mr. Cecil Sakanya

Minister for Interior and Justice, Republic of Ruekehi.

On Behalf of the Government.