



RUEKEHI NATIONALIST PARTY PROPOSAL

NATIONAL DEFENCE STRATEGY FOR THE REPUBLIC OF RUEKEHI



Ruekehi Nationalist Party Headquarters

(SHADOW GOVERNMENT)

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1 INTRODUCTION

Ruekehi's National Defence Strategy provides the detailed military dimension of our broader National Security Strategy by specifying how we will organise, equip and employ the Armed Forces to protect the nation's sovereignty, people and interests.

The National Defence Strategy clarifies:

- **Scope and Rationale:** Why a dedicated Defence Strategy is required in light of regional tensions, border disputes, non-state threats and hybrid warfare.
- **Relationship to National Security:** How defence objectives support national interests, including territorial integrity, internal stability, economic resilience and regional cooperation.
- **Expected Outcomes:** What the Armed Forces must achieve in deterrence, crisis response, capability development and partnership by 2045.

By articulating a clear defence vision and guiding principles, defining core objectives, and establishing implementation mechanisms, this Strategy ensures that defence activities remain fully aligned with democratic oversight, effective governance, and fiscal responsibility.

The following sections outline the strategic context, vision and principles, detailed defence objectives, force posture requirements, capability modernisation plans, personnel and training reforms, governance arrangements, diplomatic initiatives, joint operations doctrine, implementation modalities, and monitoring arrangements that will underpin Ruekehi's defence posture for the next two decades.

2 DEFENCE STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Ruekehi's defence posture must respond to a complex security environment shaped by both conventional and unconventional threats. On our borders, longstanding disputes over the Lake Liuli and Lake Vomela regions with Ujima and Tangaza have produced periodic incursions and diplomatic tension. The superior capabilities of neighbouring militaries require that we maintain vigilant surveillance and rapid-response units along our frontiers.

Regionally, Tangaza's larger force and Ujima's economic resilience create an unstable balance of power. Both states have competed for influence in Zikomo, where hybrid threats, including proxy insurgencies and organised crime networks, continue to spill across our southern border. These non-state actors exploit porous frontiers, undermining local authority and endangering civilian populations.

At the same time, Ruekehi faces emerging risks in the cyber and information domains. Adversaries may launch cyber-attacks against critical military and civilian infrastructure or employ disinformation campaigns to undermine public trust in our defence institutions. Climate-driven events such as floods and droughts could further exacerbate the situation by displacing populations and creating security vacuums at the border regions.

To address these challenges, our Defence Strategy emphasises a balanced military force, integrated joint operations, and close cooperation with civilian agencies and regional partners. It establishes the foundation for a military posture that is agile.



3 DEFENCE VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

3.1 Vision Statement

“A modern, agile and accountable Armed Forces under firm civilian control, capable of defending Ruekehi’s sovereignty, supporting national development and contributing to regional peace.”

3.2 Mission Statement

“To guide the Armed Forces in deterring aggression, neutralising internal threats, securing our borders and supporting national resilience through disciplined operations, innovation and partnership.”

3.3 Guiding Principles

The following will be the guiding principles:

- a. **Civilian Oversight:** Defence institutions function under clear political and parliamentary authority, ensuring democratic accountability and transparency.
- b. **Subsidiarity:** Military action is undertaken only when civil authorities lack the capacity, thereby preserving civil primacy in governance and crisis response.
- c. **Interoperability:** Forces are structured, equipped, and trained to operate seamlessly alongside police, intelligence services, and international partners.
- d. **Resilience and Sustainability:** Capabilities and logistics systems are designed for longevity, rapid replenishment, and adaptability to evolving threats and environmental challenges.
- e. **Respect for Human Rights and International Law:** All operations adhere to the rule of law, protect civilians, and meet obligations under international law conventions.
- f. **Innovation and Professional Development:** Encourage research, technological advancement, and ongoing training to maintain a competitive edge and professionalism ethos.

3.4 Core Objectives

- a. **Defend Ruekehi’s territorial integrity and sovereignty:** Maintain a credible deterrent posture to protect all land, inland waters and airspace against external aggression.
- b. **Counter and suppress internal armed threats (e.g., Drug Clan, separatists):** Deploy joint task forces to dismantle organised-crime networks and insurgent groups, safeguarding public order.
- c. **Deter foreign aggression and subversion and information warfare:** Conduct joint exercises, intelligence-sharing, strategic communications and cyber-defence operations to prevent hostile actions and counter misinformation campaigns.
- d. **Support civil authority in times of national crisis (natural disasters, insurgency):** Provide disciplined, rule-governed military assistance during natural disasters, public-health emergencies, economic shocks and large-scale insurgencies.



EXERCISE SECRET
FICTITIOUS MATERIAL

- e. **Participate in peacekeeping and regional stabilization missions:** Contribute trained forces, strategic communications teams and logistics support to UN, AU and sub-regional missions, reinforcing collective security.
- f. **Promote national unity, professionalism, and civil-military trust:** Engage traditional and religious leaders and communities in confidence-building measures, uphold the highest standards of military conduct and foster public resilience against economic and information threats.
- g. **Support the sustainability of inclusive economic development and good governance:** Embed transparent defence budgeting, parliamentary scrutiny and anti-corruption safeguards and coordinate with economic ministries to secure critical industries and maintain fiscal stability.
- h. **Sustain Force Readiness and Modernisation:** Right-size personnel, modernise training curricula and invest in command, control, mobility and cyber-defence systems so all units meet declared readiness standards.

4 FORCE STRUCTURE AND POSTURE

Ruekehi's Armed Forces will adopt a balanced, modular posture to address the full spectrum of threats, from high-intensity warfare to low-level insurgency and humanitarian assistance. Our force structure emphasises regional coverage, rapid mobility, and joint integration. We organise our structure into the Land Force, Air Force, and Joint/Special Operations Element, which will be drawn from the Land and Air forces. Annexe A contains the proposed force structure.

4.1 Land Component

The structure of the Ruekehi Land Force shall be as follows:

- **Two Mechanised Brigades:** There shall be two brigades at strategic border points (northwest and southeast) for deterrence and first-response, including lake patrol units for inland waterways.
- **Three Territorial Defence Regiments:** There shall be three defence regiments in key provinces to support internal security, counter-insurgency and coastal-lake security operations.
- **One Rapid Reaction Battalion:** There shall be one rapid reaction battalion with airborne and airmobile capabilities for crisis intervention across land and water environments.

4.2 Air Forces

The structure of the Ruekehi Air Force shall be as follows:

- **Surveillance Squadron:** There shall be a Surveillance Wing, operating medium-altitude drones and fixed-wing reconnaissance aircraft to maintain airspace, border and maritime monitoring.
- **Transport Squadron:** There shall be a Transport Squadron with tactical airlifters and helicopters for logistics, troop movement and medical evacuation.
- **Close Air Support Squadron:** There shall be a Close Air Support Squadron operating light attack aircraft providing precision firepower in support of ground and littoral operations.



4.3 Special Operations Command

The structure of the Special Operations Command elements enables forces to deliver high-value, precise tasks that go beyond conventional units. This includes:

- **Joint Command Centre:** The centre will be responsible for coordinating operations across services and civilian agencies.
- **Special Operations Task Force:** The Task Force will be responsible for and trained in counterterrorism, hostage rescue, deep reconnaissance, and clandestine maritime operations.
- **Engineer and Logistics Regiment:** The Regiment will be responsible for providing construction, demolition, and sustainment support in contested or disaster-affected areas zones.

This posture ensures continuous coverage of critical areas, rapid mobilisation to emerging crises, and seamless interoperability across our land, sea, and air domains. Set out priorities for equipment, logistics, and technology will be as follows:

- a. Phased acquisition plan for high-priority platforms.
- b. Investments in command, control and communications systems.
- c. Research and development in unmanned systems and cyber defence.

5 CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT AND MODERNISATION

To maintain a technological edge and robust logistical support, Ruekehi will prioritise the following:

- a. **Phased Acquisition Plan:** Implement a multi-year procurement schedule for high-priority platforms, including armoured vehicles, air surveillance assets and secure communications equipment.
- b. **Command, Control and Communications (C3) Enhancements:** Upgrade headquarters and field C3 systems with hardened networks, satellite links and encrypted data-sharing capabilities.
- c. **Logistics and Sustainment:** Establish regional logistics hubs with pre-positioned stockpiles and maintenance facilities to reduce supply-chain vulnerabilities.
- d. **Unmanned Systems and Robotics:** Develop and integrate drones and unmanned ground vehicles for reconnaissance, surveillance and explosive-ordnance disposal tasks.
- e. **Cyber Defence and Electronic Warfare:** Build dedicated cyber-defence units to protect military networks and acquire electronic-warfare capabilities to counter adversary communications and radar systems.
- f. **Research and Development Partnerships:** Collaborate with domestic universities, defence industries and international partners to foster innovation in materials, propulsion and artificial intelligence.

6 PERSONNEL, TRAINING AND READINESS

To ensure operational effectiveness and adaptability, Ruekehi's Defence Strategy prioritises the following:



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- a. **Force Resizing and Career Reform:** Align personnel levels with strategic requirements, introduce merit-based promotion, and standardise career paths across all services.
- b. **Enhanced Training Curricula:** Develop modern basic and advanced programmes emphasising joint operations, asymmetric warfare, cyber-defence and peacekeeping skills.
- c. **Reserve Force Frameworks:** Establish a trained reserve force with defined mobilisation triggers to surge capacity during crises or large-scale operations.
- d. **Professional Development:** Implement continuous education, leadership courses and international exchange programmes to build a professional military ethos.
- e. **Wellbeing:** Introduce support services, family assistance and incentive schemes to improve morale, and long-term service viability.

In addition the personnel strength will be down-sized in accordance with the government initiatives gradually. The project size for 2030 is shown below:

Table 1: Force Structure Target by 2030

Branch	Target Personnel	Percentage %	Purpose
Land Forces	62,880	65.5%	National defence, counterinsurgency
Air Force	15,840	16.5%	Air force defence
Special Operations Command	7,680	8%	Deliver high-value, precise tasks that go beyond conventional units
Reserve Force	9,600	10%	Mobilization for national emergencies
Total	96,000	100%	<i>A leaner, more professional force than the current 120,000</i>

NB: The number of personnel will be reduced to 20% by 2030 whereby 4,800 will be reduced annually

Furthermore, in accordance with government directives, female and ethnic representation will be addressed for. The gender and ethnic inclusion is shown below.

Table 2: Gender and Ethnic inclusion in the Ruekehi Defence Force

Defence Capability	Gender		Ethnic		
	Male	Female	Chogo	Sandawi	Others
96,000	80%	20%	50%	30%	20%

7 BUDGETING AND FINANCE

A proposal for the National defence budget and a five year budget is proposed, taking cognisance of downsizing. It allocates the 630M RS, amounting to 18% of the National budget for Year 2025/2026:



EXERCISE SECRET
FICTITIOUS MATERIAL

Table 3: National Defence Budget Breakdown (2025/2026)

Category	Budget allocation (M RS)	% of Defence Budget	Strategic Purpose
Equipment and Modernization	189	30%	Purchase new equipment, replacing obsolete Soviet-era gear. Focus on light infantry, surveillance tech, and transport.
Personnel and Welfare	157.5	25%	Fund salaries, healthcare (incl. HIV/AIDS programs), and a fair retirement/downsizing package for the bloated force.
Infrastructure and Surveillance	126	20%	Build and equip Forward Operating Bases, a national surveillance network and Presidential protection
Training and Capacity Building	94.5	15%	Fund the new Defence Academy, joint exercises, and specialized training for Rapid Reaction Battalions.
Civil-Military Engagement and Oversight	63	10%	Support the Military Ombudsman, public outreach programs, and the Civil Support Unit's activities.
Total	630	100%	

Five-Year Medium-Term Expenditure Framework

The projected **Medium-Term Expenditure Framework** shows a *gradual reduction* in the defence budget by 2% of the total national budget.

Fiscal Year	Total Revenue (M RS)	Defence	Defence Amount (M RS)	The defence budget will be reduced by 2% of the total national budget annually
2025–26	3,500	18.0 %	630	
2026–27	3,710	16.0 %	593.6	
2027–28	3,933	14.0 %	550.6	
2028–29	4,167	12.0 %	500	
2029–30	4,417	10.0 %	442	

Funding Sources:

- Government allocations (from oil and tax revenue)
- Peacekeeping reimbursements (UN/AU)
- Foreign military aid (conditional and transparent)



8 MONITORING, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND TRANSPARENCY

- Annual **Defence White Paper** to be tabled before Parliament
- Establish the **Internal Inspectorate-General for Military Affairs**
- Launch **Military Audit Division** under the Office of the Auditor General
- Enable **civil society oversight** and reporting on defence conduct

Implementation timeline

Year	Key Milestone
2025	Pass Defence Reform Law, Launch Security Sector Audit
2026	Establish the National Defence Academy and Ombudsman
2027	Deploy Rapid Reaction Units, Begin Local Manufacturing
2028	Complete Border Surveillance Network
2029	Begin Joint Regional Defence Exercises
2030	Review Strategy and Release National Defence Status Report

9 CONCLUSION

Ruekehi's National Defence Strategy is a bold roadmap to reshape the military into a modern, inclusive, and accountable force. It emphasises defence readiness, internal stability, and regional cooperation to protect democracy and secure the future of all Ruekehians.



PROPOSED FORCE STRUCTURE FOR RUEKEHI ARMED FORCES

