

### THE NATIONAL STRATEGIC VISION AND SECURITY FRAMEWORK BILL, 2025

Presented to the Parliament of the Republic of Ruekehi by Mr. Jafari Ramadhan Aristide, Honourable Prime Minister, on behalf of the Government

Bill No.: RPS/01/2025

**Date:** 20th 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

### MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Whereas the Republic of Ruekehi has emerged from a period of authoritarian rule and civil war into a fragile democracy;

*Whereas* the nation faces multifaceted threats to its security, sovereignty, and economic stability, including ethnic tensions, transnational crime, regional instability, and institutional weakness;

Whereas the legacy of colonialism, economic mismanagement, and corruption has hindered national unity and development;

Whereas regional dynamics involving Tangaza, Ujima, and the failed state of Zikomo pose significant diplomatic and security challenges;

*Whereas* the Ruekehi Security Forces are critically under-resourced, overstaffed, undertrained, ill equipped and incapable of meeting contemporary threats;

*Whereas* the national budget faces structural deficits with unsustainable allocations, particularly within the defence sector;

Whereas the people of Ruekehi demand transparency, accountable governance, economic opportunity, reconciliation and lasting peace;

*Now therefore*, this Bill seeks to establish a comprehensive, integrated National Strategic Vision and Security Framework to guide Ruekehi's renewal, ensuring its sovereignty, prosperity, and democratic resilience for the next two decades, in strict accordance with national and international law.

# THE NATIONAL STRATEGIC VISION AND SECURITY FRAMEWORK ACT, 2025

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

#### **PART I: PRELIMINARY**

- 1. Short Title and Commencement
- 2. Interpretation
- 3. Guiding Principles
- 4. Supremacy of this Framework

## PART II: NATIONAL STRATEGIC VISION

- 5 Vision Statement
- 6 Core National Interests
- 7 Grand Strategic Objectives

### PART III: PILLARS OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY FRAMEWORK

- 8 Pillar 1: Security and Sovereignty
- 9 Pillar 2: Democratic Governance and Rule of Law
- 10 Pillar 3: Economic Resilience and Sustainable Development
- 11 Pillar 4: Social Cohesion and Human Security
- 12 Pillar 5: Regional Stability and Cooperative Diplomacy

### PART IV: INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS & IMPLEMENTATION

- 13 National Security Council (NSC)
- Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Strategy and Security (POCSS)
- 15 Integrated Planning and Budgeting Framework
- 16 Performance Monitoring and Evaluation
- 17 Reporting Requirements

### PART V: RESOURCE ALLOCATION & BUDGETARY REFORMS

- 18 Defence and Security Sector Reform
- 19 Fiscal Reprioritisation and Anti-Corruption Measures
- 20 International Partnerships and Financing

#### **PART VI: FINAL PROVISIONS**

- 21 Amendments
- 22 Sunset Clause and Review
- 23 Commencement

# **PART I: PRELIMINARY**

### 1 Short Title and Commencement

This Act may be cited as the National Strategic Vision and Security Framework Act, 2025, and shall come into force on 1st July 2025.

### 2 Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

- i. "**Drug Clan**" means the illicit network operating in the South-Western Province involved in narcotics production and trafficking.
- ii. "EDECO" means the Economic Development Commission of the region.
- iii. **"Failed Equipment"** means military assets declared non-operational due to age, lack of spares, or maintenance failure.

- iv. "**Grand Strategy**" means the integration of diplomatic, informational, military, and economic tools to achieve national objectives.
- v. "Human Security" means the protection of individuals and communities from threats to life, livelihood, and dignity, encompassing health, economic, food, environmental, and personal safety.
- vi. "RESECO" means the sub-regional Security Council.
- vii. "Shadow Economy" refers to the unregulated sector, including illicit cannabis production.
- viii. **"Zikomo Spillover"** refers to threats emanating from Zikomo, including refugees, banditry, arms trafficking, and cross-border attacks.

# **3** Guiding Objectives

This Framework shall be implemented based on the following objectives:

- (a) **Effective Statecraft:** Rational, evidence-based decision-making prioritizing national interests.
- (b) **Transparency & Accountability:** Open governance, rigorous auditing, digitalisation and zero tolerance for corruption.
- (c) **Decolonisation:** Elimination of colonial-era divisions, ethnic discrimination, and external undue influence.
- (d) **Democratic Consolidation:** Deepening political reforms, strengthening institutions, and protecting civil liberties.
- (e) **Prosperity & Equity:** Building a resilient, diversified economy providing opportunity for all citizens.
- (f) **Establish a Prosperous Society:** Health, Housing and Education on priority for the government.
- (g) **Rule of Law:** Strict adherence to national and international law, treaties, and conventions.
  - (h) **Regional Cooperation and alliances to defeat Terrorism:** Pursuing peace, security and fight against terrorism through multilateral engagement within EDECO/RESCO, AU and the UN.

### 4 Supremacy of this Framework

This National Strategic Vision and Security Framework shall constitute the supreme guiding document for all branches of government and state institutions in matters of national strategy, security policy, and resource allocation pertaining thereto. All existing policies, plans, and budgetary allocations shall be aligned with this Framework within 18 months of its commencement.

#### PART II: NATIONAL STRATEGIC VISION

### **5** 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 and equal opportunity, and actively contributes to a stable, peaceful, and cooperative region."

#### **6** Core National Interests

The fundamental, enduring interests of the Republic of Ruekehi are:

- (a) **Sovereignty & Territorial Integrity:** Defending Ruekehi's borders, inland waters (including Lake Vomela islands), and constitutional order against internal and external threats.
- (b) **National Unity:** Fostering reconciliation and social cohesion between the Chogo and Sandawi peoples, eliminating ethnic-based discrimination and violence.
- (c) **Democratic Survival:** Protecting and strengthening the multi-party democratic system, ensuring peaceful transfers of power, and guaranteeing fundamental freedoms.
- (d) **Economic Survival & Prosperity:** Achieving sustainable, diversified economic growth, reducing poverty and unemployment, formalising the shadow economy, and ensuring fiscal stability.
- (e) **Citizen Security:** Guaranteeing the safety, health (especially combating HIV/AIDS), and well-being of all Ruekehians.
- (f) **Regional Stability:** Promoting peace and security in the sub-region, particularly resolving conflicts in Zikomo and managing relations with Tangaza and Ujima constructively.

# **7** Grand Strategic Priorities (2025-2045)

To safeguard and advance Ruekehi's Core National Interests, the Government shall pursue the following objectives:

**Security:** Neutralise immediate threats (Drug Clan, Zikomo spillover, border insecurity) and build a professional, accountable, affordable, and effective security apparatus by 2028.

**Governance:** Establish transparent, efficient, and responsive state institutions, eradicate systemic corruption, and embed the rule of law by 2027. Provide incentives for two years to allow 40% of corrupt siphoned money to be returned to the country.

**Economy:** Achieve macroeconomic stability, diversify the economy beyond oil (reducing dependence to <40% of exports by 2035), create 500,000 formal sector jobs, and integrate the shadow economy by 2035.

**Social:** Reduce ethnic tensions through inclusive policies, improve life expectancy to 55+ years by 2045 (focus on HIV/AIDS treatment), increase literacy to 60%, and ensure equitable access to basic services.

**Diplomacy:** Resolve territorial disputes (Lake Liuli Basin, Lake Vomela Islands) through peaceful means within EDECO/RESCO frameworks, stabilise Zikomo through coordinated regional/international action, and balance relations with Tangaza and Ujima to preserve sovereignty.

### PART III: PILLARS OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY FRAMEWORK

# 8 Pillar 1: Security and Sovereignty

Goal: Protect Ruekehi from internal and external threats with effective, legitimate, and affordable security forces.

#### **8.1** Defence Transformation:

- (a) **Rationalise Manpower:** Reduce active military personnel by 40% (to approx. 70,000) over 10 years through voluntary retirement schemes (prioritising over-age personnel) and natural attrition, focusing on eliminating ghost soldiers.
- (b) **Modernise Force Structure:** Shift from large, static garrisons to smaller, mobile rapid-reaction units. Prioritise border security (Zikomo, Ujima), counter-insurgency (SW Province), and critical infrastructure protection.
- (c) **Overhaul Budgeting:** Limit personnel costs at 60% of the Defence Budget by 2030. Reallocate savings to:
  - (i) **Equipment Maintenance & Spares (20%):** Achieve 70% operational readiness for core assets (helicopters, transports, artillery).
  - (ii) **Training (15%):** Establish a National Defence Academy; mandate annual unit exercises; expand international training partnerships (beyond Tangaza).

- (iii) **Procurement (5%):** Competitive bidding for essential items (communications, light transport, border surveillance tech). Scrap 80% of inoperable tanks/jets.
- (d) **Combat HIV/AIDS:** Implement mandatory testing and comprehensive treatment programs within the security forces, funded jointly by MoD and MoH.
- (e) **Border Security:** Integrate Army, Nomad Guard, and Customs under a Joint Border Command. Deploy surveillance assets (drones, sensors) and mobile patrols on Zikomo/Ujima borders.
- (f) **Counter Narcotics & Terrorism:** Establish a National Counter-Narcotics and Terrorism Task Force (MoD, MoIJ, Intelligence) targeting the Drug Clan and its links to Zikomo separatists. Enhance financial intelligence capabilities.
- (g) **Disband Presidential Guard:** Complete transition of VIP protection to a reformed Police Presidential Protection Unit by 2026.

#### **8.2** Police and Justice Reform:

- (a) **Professionalise Police:** Double Police force size to 20,000 over 5 years, focusing on community policing. Establish a National Police Academy. Increase salaries, coupled with strict anti-corruption measures and oversight.
- (b) **Judicial Reform:** Strengthen courts to prosecute corruption, organised crime, and human rights abuses. Train judges/Magistrates/prosecutors. Improve prison conditions.
- (c) **Intelligence Reform:** Restructure agencies under clear legislative mandate focusing on transnational threats (crime, terrorism) and internal subversion. Enhance coordination and civilian oversight.

### 9 Pillar 2: Democratic Governance and Rule of Law

Goal: Consolidate democracy, ensure accountable institutions, and uphold the rule of law.

### 9.1 Constitutional & Institutional Strengthening:

- (a) **Constitutional Review:** Initiate an inclusive process to address ethnic power-sharing, devolution, and strengthen checks and balances by 2030.
- (b) **Anti-Corruption Drive:** Establish an Independent Anti-Corruption Commission (IACC) with prosecutorial powers. Mandate public asset declarations for all senior officials. Enforce open contracting laws. Recover assets held abroad.
- (c) **Security Sector Governance:** Enact legislation for Parliamentary oversight of intelligence agencies, defence budgeting, and senior military appointments.
- (d) **Electoral Integrity:** Reform electoral commission; implement biometric voter registration; ensure security force neutrality codified in law.

(e) **Public Administration Reform:** Streamline civil service; merit-based appointments; performance contracts for senior officials; digitise services.

## 9.2 National Reconciliation & Inclusivity:

- (a) **Truth & Reconciliation Process:** Establish a commission to address grievances from colonial era, Maj Gen Komba regime and civil war, focusing on marginalisation.
- (b) **Ethnic Balance:** Implement quotas/affirmative action in civil service, security forces (especially officer corps) and education to ensure equitable Sandawi representation.
- (c) **Protect Minorities:** Guarantee rights of all minority groups (5%).

# 10 Pillar 3: Economic Resilience and Sustainable Development

Goal: Build a diversified, inclusive, and sustainable economy.

### 10.1 Macroeconomic Stabilisation & Diversification:

- (a) **Fiscal Discipline:** Maintain IMF/World Bank program. Broaden tax base (reduce VAT reliance); improve customs revenue; rationalise subsidies. Target deficit reduction to budget.
- (b) **Diversify Exports:** Incentivise non-oil sectors:
  - (i) *Agriculture:* Modernise food crops, cotton, coffee, cocoa; invest in irrigation (Lake Vomela basin).
  - (ii) *Mining:* Transparent, competitive licensing for coal, copper, iron; resolve Lake Liuli mineral dispute via EDECO arbitration.
  - (iii) Light Industry: Develop processing for agricultural/mineral products; textile manufacturing.
- (c) **Financial Sector Reform:** Strengthen banking regulation; develop capital markets; encourage diaspora investment.

# **10.2** Tackling Unemployment & Shadow Economy:

- (a) **Labour Market Policies:** Expand vocational training aligned with diversification goals; youth entrepreneurship funds.
- (b) **Formalise Cannabis:** Pilot regulated medicinal cannabis production in SW Province (replacing illicit trade) with international partners, ensuring revenue benefits local communities.
- (c) **Infrastructure:** Prioritise rehabilitating roads/rail links to ports (via Tangaza/Ujima) and mining/agricultural zones. Upgrade inland port facilities.

# 10.3 Resource Management & Transparency:

- (a) **Oil Revenue Governance:** Join Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). Establish Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) with clear rules for saving/investing oil revenues.
- (b) **Anti-Corruption in Resources:** Mandate open bidding for all extraction licenses; audit national oil company.

### 11 Pillar 4: Social Cohesion and Human Security

Goal: Foster national unity, improve well-being, and empower citizens.

# 11.1 National Unity & Social Healing:

- (a) **National Dialogue:** Support civil society-led forums for inter-ethnic dialogue, especially Chogo-Sandawi.
- (b) **Education Reform:** Revise curricula to promote national identity over ethnicity; teach shared history/languages (English/Kiswahili). Invest in teacher training.
- (c) **Media & Culture:** Support independent media; promote cultural exchanges showcasing both Chogo and Sandawi heritage.

# 11.2 Human Development & Services:

- (a) **Healthcare Emergency:** Declare emergency measures on HIV/AIDS. Scale up testing/treatment access (target 90% coverage by 2027). Integrate military/civilian health logistics. Improve maternal/child health awareness programs.
- (b) **Education Access:** Increase education budget to 20% by 2035. Focus on primary enrolment (especially girls) and adult literacy programs.
- (c) **Social Safety Nets:** Expand targeted cash transfers for vulnerable groups (refugees, HIV/AIDS affected, elderly).
- (d) **Refugee Management:** Work with UNHCR on Zikomo refugees improve camp conditions, explore local integration pathways for some, plan for eventual repatriation linked to Zikomo stabilisation.

# 12 Pillar 5: Regional Stability and Cooperative Diplomacy

Goal: Resolve conflicts, build trust, and foster economic integration.

### **12.1** Diplomatic Engagement:

#### (a) **Resolve Territorial Disputes:**

- (i) Lake Vomela Islands: Propose joint development authority with Tangaza for oil resources under AU/UN auspices, deferring sovereignty.
- (ii) Lake Liuli Basin: Accept EDECO mediation with Ujima; propose no-militarised zone/joint patrols pending final settlement.

## (b) Manage Relations:

- (i) *Tangaza:* Assert Ruekehi independence; seek phased reduction of subsidies; demand verifiable end to support for Chogo separatists; offer economic partnership (transit fees for goods via Tangaza ports).
- (ii) *Ujima:* Deepen security cooperation against Drug Clan/Zikomo threats; joint border management; address Ujima concerns on arms/drug flows.
- (c) **Zikomo Crisis:** Champion robust regional/international (UNIZIKO+) intervention to stabilise Zikomo, including DDR (Disarmament, Demobilisation, Reintegration) and political reconciliation. Offer Ruekehi as logistics hub. Advocate for addressing root causes of conflict.

### 12.2 Strengthen Regional Architecture:

- (a) **Reform RESECO:** Advocate for equitable power-sharing and funding within RESECO, reducing Ujima dominance. Offer Ruekehi/Tangaza co-leadership on specific portfolios (e.g., Counter-Terrorism, Refugee Management).
- (b) **Revitalise EDECO:** Prioritise economic integration projects: regional infrastructure (roads, power grids), trade facilitation, harmonised investment codes.(c) **Leverage AU/UN:** Seek AU support for conflict mediation, security sector reform, and election observation. Maintain strong UN engagement, especially on Zikomo and refugees.

#### PART IV: INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS & IMPLEMENTATION

# 13 National Security Council (NSC)

- (a) A statutory NSC is established, chaired by the President, with members: Prime Minister, Ministers of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Interior & Justice, Chief of Defence Staff, Intelligence Chiefs, and Chief of Police.
- (b) **Functions:** Integrate strategy across pillars; oversee crisis management; approve national security budgets; monitor threat assessments. Meets monthly.

# 14 Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Strategy and Security (POCSS)

- (a) A joint, multi-party Parliamentary Committee is established with access to classified information (under oath).
- (b) **Functions:** Scrutinise NSC reports; approve defence/intelligence budgets *before* executive allocation; conduct inquiries into security matters; vet senior security appointments.

## 15 Integrated Planning and Budgeting Framework

- (a) All Ministries must align their 5-year Strategic Plans and Annual Budgets with this Framework's Pillars and Objectives.
- (b) The Ministry of Finance, guided by the NSC, will issue binding Multi-Year Budgeting Guidelines, allowing limited carry-over of unspent funds in critical capital/training budgets.

### 16 Performance Monitoring and Evaluation

- (a) An independent National Strategy Monitoring Unit (NSMU), reporting jointly to the President and POCSS, is established.
- (b) **Functions:** Develop measurable indicators for each Objective; publish annual public scorecard; conduct mid-term (2027) and final (2030) reviews of Framework implementation.

# 17 Reporting Requirements

- (a) The Prime Minister shall present an Annual Report to Parliament on Framework implementation, incorporating NSMU findings and POCSS recommendations.
- (b) The NSC shall provide classified quarterly briefings to POCSS.

## PART V: RESOURCE ALLOCATION & BUDGETARY REFORMS

- 18 Defence and Security Sector Reform (Immediate Actions FY 2025/26)
- (a) Defence Budget Reallocation (Total Defence Allocation: 700 MRS):

- i. **Personnel (Reduce to 60%):** 420 M RS (Savings: 140 M RS from current 560MRS via accelerated retirement of 10,000 personnel).
- ii. **Operations & Maintenance (Increase to 25%):** 175 M RS (Focus: Spares, fuel, border ops, counter-narcotics).
- iii. **Training (Increase to 10%):** 70 M RS (Establish Academy, unit exercises, international courses).
- iv. **Procurement (Maintain 5%):** 35 M RS (Priority: Communications, light vehicles, border surveillance).
- (b) **Police Budget Increase:** Allocate additional 50 M RS annually (doubling MoIJ budget) for recruitment, training, equipment.
- (c) **Intelligence Budget:** Separate classified budget line, subject to POCSS approval.
- 19 Fiscal Reprioritisation and Anti-Corruption Measures
- (a) **Overall Budget Reprioritisation:** 
  - i. **Increase Health:** From 175M RS (5%) to 262.5M RS (7.5%) Focus: HIV/AIDS.
  - ii. **Increase Education:** From 350M RS (10%) to 525M RS (15%).
  - Increase Economic Diversification (Industry/Agri): From part of "Other Ministries"
    (455M RS) Allocate additional 100M RS specifically for diversification grants/infrastructure.
  - iv. **Reduce Local Community Aid:** From 1,032.5M RS (29.5%) to 832.5M RS (23.8%) Redirect 200M RS to Health/Education/Economic Diversification. (*Rationale: Improve targeting via safety nets, not blanket aid*).
  - v. **Deficit Target:** Reduce from 700M RS (20%) to 525M RS (15%) through growth, improved revenue collection (VAT, customs), and reduced corruption leaks.
- (b) **Asset Recovery:** Task IACC and MoF to recover 40% of national assets held abroad by <del>2045</del> years.
- (c) **Oil Revenue Management:** Draft SWF legislation for Parliamentary debate within 12 months.
- 20 International Partnerships and Financing
- (a) **Security Assistance:** Seek targeted donor support (EU, US, UK, India) for:
  - Security Sector Reform (SSR) advisors.
  - Training (especially counter-narcotics, border security).
  - Non-lethal equipment (communications, transport, medical).
  - HIV/AIDS programs in security forces.
- (b) **Development Finance:** Engage World Bank, AfDB, IMF on:
  - Infrastructure loans (roads, energy).
  - Budget support tied to governance reforms (IACC, SWF).

- Technical assistance for economic diversification/agriculture.
- (c) **Regional Funding:** Advocate for dedicated EDECO/RESCO funds for Zikomo stabilisation and border security, with equitable contributions.

#### **PART VI: FINAL PROVISIONS**

#### 21 Amendments

This Act may only be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of Parliament, following public consultation and recommendation by the NSC and POCSS.

#### 22 Sunset Clause and Review

This Framework shall remain in force until 31st December 2030. A comprehensive review, informing the next Framework, shall commence in 2029 led by the NSMU and an independent commission.

# 23 Commencement

This Act comes into force on 1st July 2025.

### **SCHEDULES**

(Note: Schedules would detail specific timelines, key performance indicators (KPIs), organisational charts for NSC/POCSS/NSMU, and initial budget reallocation tables)

Dated this 20th day of June 2025.

# HONOURABLE MR. JAFARI RAMADHAN ARISTIDE

Prime Minister of the Republic of Ruekehi. On Behalf of the Government of National Unity.