

**Honourable Speaker, Distinguished Members of Parliament,**

I rise today to present a transformational vision for the security of our Republic—one that safeguards our sovereignty, unites our diverse communities, consolidates our democracy, fortifies our economy, and strengthens our standing in the region. Over the next 15 mins, I will outline our Combined strategic objectives, the force structure, roles mission and budget that will deliver lean mean, right sized and modernised defence forces along with, a fiscally responsible multi-year budget framework, and the governance measures that will ensure transparency and accountability.

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## **I. National Defence Strategic Objectives**

1. **Sovereignty & Integrity**  
Control territory, waters and airspace via integrated border management and AI surveillance.
  2. **Deterrence**  
Combine conventional forces, cyber/electronic warfare and strategic messaging with joint exercises.
  3. **Hybrid Threats**  
Create joint counter-terrorism/insurgency units and a National Counter-Hybrid Threat Centre.
  4. **Readiness & Modernization**  
Maintain modular forces, updated training, resilient logistics/C4ISR and domestic R&D.
  5. **Cyber-Space Security**  
Establish Joint Cyber-Space Command for defensive/offensive cyber and space resilience.
  6. **Strategic Partnerships**  
Deepen REDECO/EDECO/AU cooperation and balance great-power relationships.
  7. **Power Projection**  
Sustain expeditionary forces for UN/AU peacekeeping, stabilization and relief.
  8. **Infrastructure Security**  
Harden ports, pipelines and networks; secure trade routes and reserves.
  9. **Resilience & Unity**  
Codify civil-military support, civic education and community engagement.
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## **II. Force Structure, Roles & Budget**

### **1. Foundational Principles**

- **Ethno-Regional Representation Framework**  
We will phase recruitment to achieve equitable representation:
  - Year 1 (2025): 75 percent Chogo, 22 percent Sandawi, 3 percent minorities.
  - Year 3 (2027): 70 percent Chogo, 25 percent Sandawi, 5 percent minorities.

- **Gender Integration Pathway**  
Increase female combat roles from 3 percent today to 15 percent by 2027.
- **Leadership Equity**  
Promote strategic leadership opportunities for officers from all regions.
- **Civilian Control Architecture**  
Strengthen civilian command mechanisms to ensure our armed forces remain firmly under democratic direction.

## 2. Right-Sized Force Structure (2025–2030)

Component	2025	2027	2030	Transformation Measures
<b>Total Personnel</b>	120 000	85 000	45 000	Annual reduction of 7 200 via voluntary retirements, natural attrition, and skills conversion
<b>Land Forces</b>	54 600	40 000	25 000	Decommission obsolete equipment; form motorized brigades; create a Mountain Warfare Unit for the Zikomo border
<b>Air Force</b>	34 845	15 000	8 000	Retire non-operational aircraft; maintain transport capability; establish Surveillance Operations Command
<b>Special Operations</b>	1 679	3 000	3 500	Establish Counter-Drug Trafficking and Counter-Terrorism units
<b>Integrated Border Units</b>	3 000	6 000	8 000	Merge Nomad Guard, Customs, and Police; deploy along smuggling routes

## 3. Capability Development Matrix

Domain	Current Status	2027 Target
<b>Border Surveillance</b>	10 percent electronic coverage	70 percent integrated coverage
<b>Rapid Deployment</b>	72 hours mobilization time	6-hour response threshold
<b>Cyber Defence</b>	None	National Cyber Command established
<b>Medical Resilience</b>	40 percent HIV infection rate	Reduce to 15 percent

# III. Multi-Year Defence Budget Framework

## 2025–26 Fiscal Year Revenue & Expenditure

- **Total Revenue:** 3 500 million RS
  - Tax Revenue: 2 400 million RS
  - Aid & Subsidies: 400 million RS
  - New Streams (cannabis, oil & gas, mining, assets abroad, remittances): 850 million RS
- **Expenditure:** 3 500 million RS
  - Defence: 20 percent (700 M RS)
  - Debt Service: 19.2 percent (670 M RS)
  - Education & Research: 15 percent (525 M RS)

- Health: 7.5 percent (262.5 M RS)
- Other priorities: transport, agriculture, social affairs, operating costs, community aid.

### Key Adjustments:

- Debt service reduced from 29.5 percent to 19.2 percent, freeing up 362.5 M RS.
- Defence held steady at 20 percent to maintain readiness amid fiscal discipline.
- Education and Health allocations increased to bolster human capital and force resilience.
- New revenue from formalized cannabis, hydrocarbons, mining, and diaspora remittances will sustain growth and reduce aid dependency.

### Five-Year MTEF Projections

Fiscal Year	Total Revenue (M RS)	Defence (%)	Defence Amt (M RS)	Debt Service (%)	Debt Amt (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

We assume annual revenue growth of 300 M RS and gradual drawdown of defence and debt service by 2 percentage points per annum, in line with our restructuring plans.

## IV. Implementation Governance & Parliamentary Oversight

To enshrine this vision in law, I propose the **Defence & Debt Rationalization Act of 2025**, which will:

- Set Multi-Year Spending Ceilings**
  - Defence capped at 20 percent of revenue in 2025–26, stepping down to 12 percent by 2029–30.
  - Debt service capped at 19.2 percent, reducing to 11 percent by 2029–30.
- Mandate Transparency**
  - Annual publication of a five-year MTEF for defence and debt alongside the budget bill.
  - Live, public online dashboard on approved versus executed security expenditures.
- Strengthen Parliamentary Powers**
  - Quarterly briefings by the Minister of Defence and Chief of Defence Staff.
  - Annual budget-scrutiny workshops to deepen committee expertise in defence economics.

- Empower the Defence & Security Committee to enforce spending caps, with semi-annual compliance reports.
  - 4. **Ensure Independent Assurance**
    - A Security Expenditure Audit Unit within the Auditor-General's Office for forensic value-for-money reviews.
    - An Independent Security Budget Advisory Forum—including former officers, economists, and civil society—to provide non-binding expert guidance.
  - 5. **Link Performance to Funding**
    - Up to 10 percent of the annual defence budget tied to achievement of KPIs: readiness rates, training hours, and maintenance backlog reductions.
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## V. Regional Cooperation Framework

We will cement our strategic partnership with Ujima and Tangaza through a **Rotating RESECO Command** structure, standardized communications, shared drone surveillance, and a cross-border hot-pursuit agreement with pre-approved pursuit radii and joint investigative teams.

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**Honourable Members**, this New Security Compact strikes the delicate balance between fiscal responsibility and strategic necessity. By reducing personnel costs by 40 percent while doubling operational effectiveness, we safeguard our democratic institutions, secure our economic lifelines, and honor our commitment to the rule of law. Let us seize this moment to build a leaner, more agile, and more accountable security establishment that stands as a bulwark for Ruekehi's democratic future.

I commend this blueprint to the House and look forward to your support in passing the Defence & Debt Rationalization Act of 2025, and thereby forging a safer, stronger, and more prosperous nation for all our citizens.

**Thank you.**