



**MOTIVATION OF THE  
BUDGETARY ALLOCATION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL  
(VOTE 11) FOR THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**BY**

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SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
WINDHOEK  
KHOMAS REGION**

## 1. Introduction and Background

**Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee and Honourable Members,**

- 1.1. I am pleased to motivate the budgetary allocation for the National Council for the 2025/2026 Financial Year. This budget is aimed at supporting the implementation of the objectives of the Namibian government as were ably stated by Her Excellency, Dr. Netumbo Nandi Ndaitwa, the President of the Republic of Namibia, during her maiden State of the Nation Address (SONA).
- 1.2. The National Council in accordance with the Constitution of Namibia (Articles 41, 69 and 74) will continue to review the laws referred to it by the National Assembly, exercise oversight of the work of the executive and represent all the people of Namibia, especially at the regional level.
- 1.3. The Council is committed to be *“a modern House of legislative review that represents the interest of the people of Namibia.”*
- 1.4. In the 2024/2025 Financial Year, the National Council received an amount of **One hundred and thirty six million, six hundred and sixty two thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$136,662,000)** for its operational and other activities.

1.5. Activities of the National Council are aimed at strengthening Namibia's democracy and governance. The achievements and proposed activities for the current financial year will briefly be highlighted here below.

## **2. Implementation of the National Council (Vote 11) Budget**

### **2.1 Administration**

- a. The allocation to National Council will facilitate the administration and operations of the Council. The Council is undertaking to fill all its vacancies in order to effectively render the required services and support to the Members.
- b. Additionally, and in response to an important directive from the Ministry of Finance (MoF) to relieve the burden of youth unemployment, the National Council has committed itself to recruit a number of interns and graduate interns. This is an unforeseen expense but which of national importance.

### **2.2 Public Participation**

- a. In order to promote participatory and inclusive governance, the National Council successfully held a Conference with all the fourteen (14) Regional Councils on 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024, in Tsumeb, Oshikoto region. The objective was to reflect on the interrelated mandates of the National Council and the Regional Councils and how best to strengthen the cooperation.

- b.** The National Council, as part of its mandate, undertakes outreach and public participation initiatives. These include the Junior National Council's Session where the youth from across the country undertake a parliamentary session.
- c.** The Council also promotes the participation of Women in governance. This will be achieved through the Rural Women's Parliament which will be held during this financial year. The Rural Women's Parliament draws its participation from the regions which have predominantly have rural areas.
- d.** The Council has embarked on and will continue to popularize the work and importance of the institution of Parliament to the governance architecture of Namibia.
- e.** There is an effective media strategy which is making use of all available media platforms, including social media platforms. The public is actively engaging the Council on these avenues.
- f.** In this regard, the National Council will upgrade the internet bandwidth in order to improve its Information Communications Technologies (ICTs).

## 2.2 Legislative Review

### **Furthermore, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee and Honourable Members,**

- a. The Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) National Council, in terms of Article 75(2) of the Namibian Constitution, received and considered fifteen (15) Bills which were referred to it by the National Assembly.
- b. Thirteen (13) bills were passed without amendments.
- c. The Electoral Amendment Bill (B.15-2024) and the Marriage Bill (B5-2024) were passed with amendments.
- d. However, the proposed amendments were not accepted by the National Assembly.
- e. Further, in March 2025, the National Council held a Special Session which considered and passed the NASFAF bill, amongst other bills.
- f. Special sessions deals with urgent legislative business and they are not usually budgeted for and may therefore strain the budget for planned activities.

## **2.3 Oversight**

**Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee and Honourable Members,**

- a.** The National Council, in line with its mandate, undertakes oversight of the implementation of government projects and programs through its Standing Committees which are aligned to the respective mandates of the Offices, Ministries and Agencies (O/M/As).
- b.** The Standing Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources will continue to monitor the the developments in the emerging oil and gas sector. Oversight activities to ensure that the Namibians get maximum benefits from the country's resources will be undertaken.
- c.** The Council, is therefore, ready to scrutinize and support legislative initiatives which will support the development of this sector.
- d.** We highly welcome and support Namibia's commitment to finally achieve universal free education up to tertiary level. Thank you Madam President for providing leadership in this regard.
- e.** The Standing Committee on Education, ICT and Youth Development will, therefore, ensure that this important national objective is achieved by monitoring the implementation. It is important that Namibia learns from countries such as Finland and others which have achieved universal free education.

- f. The National Council Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Economy in conjunction with the Office of the Auditor General, Ministry of Finance and other relevant stakeholders will continue to engage local authorities and Regional Councils regarding their finances and general administration.
  
- g. We welcome the continuation of the referral of the Auditor Generals' Reports to our Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Economy as we have now built capacity in this area.

### **3. National Council (Vote 11) Budget**

**Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee and  
Honourable Members,**

- a. We highly welcome the budget allocation of **One hundred and forty million, two hundred and seventy-four thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$140,274,000)** for the 2025/2026 Financial Year.
  
- b. The allocated budget includes an additional amount of **Twelve million six hundred and fifty thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$12,650,000)**.

- c.** The additional allocation will cater for the following:
- i.** the induction of the new Members of the Council after this year's Regional and Local authority elections *(N\$2,000,000)*
  - ii.** the acquisition of new vehicles *(N\$6,000,000)*
  - iii.** enhancement of safety and security of National Council *(N\$1,300,000)*
  - iv.** upgrade of the internet bandwidth *(N\$750,000)* and
  - v.** the payment of separation benefits of contract employees *(N\$2,600,000)*.
- d.** National Council is proud to announce that it has successfully completed the first phase of its capital project which was the installation of a new digital system in its chamber.
- e.** This achievement is an important milestone towards the attainment of the objectives of the E-Parliament strategy of the Parliament of Namibia. The second phase entails the upgrade of all conference rooms.
- f.** This is, however, challenged by the fact that only N\$1,000,000 of the initially allocated N\$4,000,000 is being proposed for the current financial year.
- g.** We trust that consideration shall be given to ensuring that the second phase of the upgrade of the Chamber of the National Council is realised.



#### **4. Enhancing Parliamentary Diplomacy**

- a.** The National Council, as part of the Namibian Parliament, is a member of Inter-parliamentary Organizations (IPOs) and enhances Namibia's parliamentary diplomacy through these important fora. Resolutions taken at these fora are generally shared with Standing Committees and other structures for implementation.
  
- b.** The National Council will, therefore, continue to participate in the activities of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Pan African Parliament (PAP), Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and the SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF). Participation in the activities of these organizations requires financial resources.

In conclusion, I now present to the august House the approval of an amount of **One hundred and forty million, two hundred and seventy four thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$140,274,000) for the National Council (Vote 11)** for the 2025/2026 Financial Year.

*I Thank You.*