

# REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA



## BUDGET SPEECH

BY

**HON. LUCIA IPUMBU, MP**

**MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, IMMIGRATION, SAFETY AND  
SECURITY, ON THE OCCASION OF MOTIVATING VOTE 39,**

**MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, IMMIGRATION, SAFETY AND  
SECURITY**

**BEYOND 35 FOR A PROSPEROUS FUTURE**



**8 MAY 2025**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
WINDHOEK**

**Honourable Chairperson of the whole House Committee, Honourable Members,**

Allow me first and foremost to extend a word of congratulations to H.E. Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah for her victorious election as the 5<sup>th</sup> and first female President of the Republic of Namibia. Let me also make use of this platform to appreciate her for the trust bestowed on me to serve as a Minister responsible for Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security.

I also wish to congratulate Dr. Saara Kuugongelwa Amadhila on her election as Speaker of the National Assembly and you Hon. Katamelolo as her Deputy. I equally wish to congratulate Right Honourable Dr. Elijah Ngurare, Prime Minister and his Deputy Hon. Natangwe Ithete. I also want to recognise my mentor and political father figure Hon. Alpheus !Naruseb who shaped my political career as my first supervisor at the SWAPO Party Headquarters at the Department of Information and Mobilization.

To the rest of the leaders from all sides of this house, many of you we've crossed paths or served together, and I see this as a generational call to duty so we must deliver without fail to give a good example to the generation behind us of which some of them are already here I can single out my son Hon. Ballotti and my bodyguard (she knows herself).

I dedicate this budget speech to my late grandmother Kuku Johanna Shipahu ya Andreas Uukule who passed way on 7 November 2024 and her birthday is tomorrow on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May when she could have turned 99 years old. She was not only my prayer warrior, but a source of inspiration and my cheerleader. Kuku followed my activities through radio and would always complement and convey her best wishes especially when she listened to reports from far away (kiilongo yokokule) like she referred to. Continue to rest peacefully you have now transformed into my guardian Angel and joined the pool of my Ancestors that includes H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma and H.E. Dr. Hage Geingob.

**Honourable Chairperson of the whole House Committee, Honourable Members of this august House,**

Today we stand here to discuss and consider the National Budget for Vote 39: Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security. Allow me to join other Honourables of this August House to congratulate and thank the Minister of Finance and the Director General of the National Planning

Commission (NPC) and their teams for tabling a budget under the theme: Beyond 35 for a prosperous future”. It is my distinct honour to present the budget of Vote. This Ministry will always be grateful for the financial support it has been receiving over the years.

Dear Honourable members I seek your diligent support and approval of budget allocation for 2025/26 Financial Year to the amount of **Seven billion, eight hundred and eighty-four million, two hundred and six thousand Namibian dollars (N\$ 7,884,206,000) including four hundred and thirty-five thousand Dollars (435,000,000)** earmarked for the Development Budget.

**The total budget of N\$ 7,884,206,000 is allocated as follows:**

Personnel Expenditure	N\$6,174,828,000
Goods and Other Services	N\$1,120,328,000
Subsidies & Other Current Transfers	N\$ 2,191,000
Acquisition of Capital Assets	N\$ 151,859,000
Development Budget	N\$ 435,000,000

Allow me to present the budget allocations for each Programme as follows:

01. Establishment and Regulation of Population Register	N\$178,122,000
02. Immigration Control and Citizenship	N\$252,594,000
03. International Refugees Management	N\$14,032,000
04. Combating of Crime	N\$4,734,260,000
05. VIP Protection Services	N\$379,367,000
06. Training and Development	N\$354,073,000
07. Forensic Science Services	N\$57,877,000
08. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Management	N\$106,564,000
09. Safe Custody	N\$1,045,567,000
10. Rehabilitation and Re-integration	N\$19,296,000
99. Policy Coordination and Support Services	N\$742,454,000

**Honourable Chairperson of the whole House Committee, Honourable Members,**

As per the Ministry’s motto “*Serving with Excellence*” the Ministry has attained several achievements during 2024/2025 Financial Year. Allow me to outline them as follows:

## **PROGRAMME 01: ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATION OF POPULATION REGISTER**

- Conducted Mass Registration campaign for national documents from 5 February 2024 to 31 July 2024 during which a total number of **110 620** national documents were issued and **14 976** undocumented and/or stateless persons were recorded;
- A new draft law, the Stateless Determination and Protection Bill was drafted to address the issue of statelessness and undocumented persons in Namibia;
- A new law, the Regularisation of the Status of Certain Residents of Namibia, their Dependants and Foreign Spouses Act of 2024 was passed;
- Another important piece of legislation passed last year (December 2024) is the Civil Registration and Identification Act, which will repeal the Births, Marriages and Deaths Registration Act and the Identification Act;
- In addition, the Marriage Act of 2024 was also passed, this Act will repeal the Marriage Act of 1961.

All these three Acts, passed in 2024, are not yet operational pending the drafting of the relevant Regulations.

## **PROGRAMME 02: IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND CITIZENSHIP**

- **The Oshikango/Santa Clara Border is now operating on a 24-hour basis.** Oshikango now joins Noordoewer, Trans Kalahari and Katima Mulilo to provide this 24/7 operation.
- The Ministry has introduced an **online visa application service** for tourists to apply for their visas in advance from the comfort of their homes wherever they are in the world.
- **911** permanent residence permits applications were received of which **169** were approved
- 4,689 applications for employment permits (for a period 24 months or longer) were received, of which 2960 were approved.
- 14,398 short-term employment permits (issued up to 6 months) were approved
- 3,364 Employment Permits were renewed.
- 3,507 applications for Student Permits were received and 2577 were approved.
- **1,220** manual holiday/tourist/visit visa were approved
- **5,351** online holiday/tourist/visit visas were approved
- **57,691** passports were issued.

- The Ministry facilitated **1,463,205** arrivals and **2,039,105** departures totalling **3,502,310** travellers processed.
- A total of **1,505** arrests of illegal immigrants were made countrywide with the highest number of 1,027 being recorded in the northern regions of Kunene and Omusati.
- **26,684** travellers used ID cards to cross the borders. This figure is made up of **17,322** Batswana and **9,362** Namibians.

### **PROGRAMME 03: REFUGEES MANAGEMENT**

- During the period under review, **646** asylum seekers were received and registered on the system, out of this number, 595 applications for refugee status were considered.
- **205** refugee statuses were granted.
- **16** refugees were resettled to Canada and 16 to the United States of America.
- 1240 applications for Africa Guest identity Cards (refugee ID Cards) were facilitated.

### **PROGRAMME 04: COMBATING OF CRIME**

- **NamPol conducted fourteen (14) National Operations and secured all national events with a view to enhance public safety.**
- **NamPol participated in Anti-Poaching operations, resulted in the reduction of wildlife crime with 45%.**
- **NamPol also took part in the Namibia/Zambia Border Clearance, De-bushing and Affirmation** Project covered the distance of 24 km from Singalamwe/Imusho toward Katima Mulilo/Wenela border Post in Zambezi Region.
- Illicit drugs estimated street value over fifty-eight million (58 000 000.00) were confiscated during Police Operations where, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-six (1756) suspects were arrested.
- Additionally, seven (7) cases for trafficking in persons were reported involving eighteen (18) victims, profiled as follows: twelve (12) Ethiopians, two (2) Namibians, two (2) Angolans, one (1) Zambian and one (1) Motswana.
- Regarding the Wildlife Crimes, two hundred and thirty-nine (239) cases were recorded with five hundred and five (505) suspects arrested across the country.
- The road crash statistics have increased by 4% during 2024/2025 which is a serious concern to the nation. To this effect, strategies (including mobile speed detection units, deployment

of targeted enforcement measures and mass national campaigns) have been devised to mitigate road accidents.

- Furthermore, NamPol procured operational equipment to the amount of thirty million seven hundred and thirteen thousand and eight hundred Namibian Dollars (N\$30,713,800.00).
- In addition, the Force procured seventeen (17) K9 (**short for Canines dogs**) to enhance crime combating efforts countrywide.

#### **PROGRAMME 05: VIP PROTECTION SERVICES**

- The police rendered the required security services and protection to both local and international VIPP and VIP, without any notable major incidents.

#### **PROGRAMME 06: TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

- NamPol recruited and trained one thousand seven hundred and eight-two (1782) Cadet Constables during the 2024/2025 FY and the graduation ceremony will take place on 23 May 2025.
- NamPol managed to internally capacitate one thousand three hundred and seventy-nine (1379) members and six hundred and two (602) members on external courses, such as: generic and specialized investigation as well leadership development (SARPCCO Women Leadership).

#### **PROGRAMME 07: FORENSIC SCIENCE SERVICES**

- The lab processed two thousand, eight hundred and ninety-eight (2,898) cases, completing one thousand, eight hundred and seventy-five (1,875) within the 90-day turnaround time, resulting in a 70% performance rate.

#### **PROGRAMME 08: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) MANAGEMENT**

- NamPol made some tremendous improvement on its two-way radio communication system, by acquiring modern state of the Art Digital Mobile Radios, repeaters and base stations to gradually replacing the outdated analogue radio system to continue until the whole country is fully covered.

## **PROGRAMME 09: SAFE CUSTODY**

- NCS has decreased incidents and rolled out the integrated security system to two (2) more correctional institutions, i.e the Elizabeth Nepemba Correctional Facility, and the Continental Building, which is part of the NCS National Headquarters, making it eight (8) out of sixteen (16) institutions to which the system is now rolled out to.
- The NCS has sixteen (16) correctional facilities countrywide and strives to comply with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules) which dictate that every inmate shall be provided, by the administration, at the usual hours with food of nutritional value adequate for health and strength, of wholesome quality and well prepared and served. Hence, the NCS has established six (6) production farms which are producing maize, wheat, vegetables, beef and pork for inmates' rations. The aim of establishing these production farms, is to attain organizational self-sufficiency and reduce government expenditure in the procurement of inmates' rations while imparting much needed knowledge and skills to inmates for use when they are released.
- **Two (2) new correctional facilities were established for the purpose of food production, namely Katima Mulilo Correctional Facility and Kaoko-Otavi Correctional Facility:**

### **Katima Mulilo Correctional Facility**

Katima Mulilo Correctional Facility is situated in Zambezi Region, 5 kilometer from Katima Mulilo town near Wenela Border Post. The land at this facility is measuring eight hundred and thirty (830) hectares that is envisaged to include the 30 hectares for administration of the correctional facility and a farming area of 800 hectares. The plan is to commence with cultivation of maize in this financial year.

### **Kaoko - Otavi Correctional Facility**

Kaoko Otavi Correctional Facility is situated in Kunene Region, 40 kilometers from Opuwo town. The facility measures three hundred and eighty-six (386) hectares that will include the 36 hectares of administration of the correctional facility and a farming area of 350 hectares. At the moment 71 hectares are de-bushed and cleared. The facility is under construction and there is no irrigation systems established. Siting for borehole drilling was recently conducted and it was discovered that

the area is having enough water for irrigation. The plan is to commence with cultivation of maize in this financial year.

#### **PROGRAMME 10: REHABILITATION AND RE-INTEGRATION**

- **2159 inmates were enrolled in various educational, vocational training and psychosocial rehabilitation programmes as a means of reducing their chances of re-offending post release from custody.**
- The Windhoek Correctional Facility was accredited as a Vocational Training Provider.
- (4) Generic Subject Teachers and one (1) Assessment and Quality Assurance Officer were recruited for this Vocational.
- NCS expanded the reach of its reintegration services by rolling out the Community Service Orders programme to 4 magistrate's courts in the Central and Karas regions, which brought the total number of courts to where the programme has been rolled out, to 58 of the 71 targeted magistrate's courts countrywide.

#### **PROGRAMME 99: POLICY COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

- Implemented Web Interpol System for Document Management – this is the development and implementation of the API/interfacing between Passport system with Interpol to seamlessly capture and report all Lost and Stolen travel documents.
- The Ministry executed 99.3% of its budget
- The Ministry implemented Integrated Financial Management System Cash Collection System at Hosea Kutako International Airport, HQ, Opuwo, Outjo, Khorixas and Otjiwarongo.
- Construction of the Karas Civic Affairs Regional Office was completed.
- Construction of Regional Offices in **Nkurenkuru, Kavango West and Katima Mulilo, Zambezi** has commenced. The above-mentioned two projects are expected to be completed within this 2025/2026 Financial Year.
- Renovation of **Karasburg Sub-Regional Office** and several border posts in the Karas was completed during the year under review was completed.
- Machenje Border Post (in Zambezi bordering Zambia) was constructed and operationalised during the year under review.



- New Office and staff accommodation was constructed and inaugurated at **Impalila Island and Kasika Border Posts.**
- Procurement of Upgrade of existing Identity Personalization System
- A total revenue of **One hundred and eighty million, nine hundred and thirty thousand, one hundred and fifty-nine Namibia Dollars and eighty-one cents (N\$108,930,159.81)** was collected from the issuance of passports, citizenship, visas and permits.
- During the previous financial year, an amount of **fifteen million, thirty thousand, two hundred and ninety Namibia Dollars (N\$15,030,290.00)** was collected from issuing duplicate national documents.

**Hon Speaker and Chairperson of the whole House Committee, Hon members,**

Allow me to further outline the plans of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security per Programme

- The Ministry **will expand ID services** to two existing offices, i.e, **Omungwelume Sub-regional Office in Ohangwena Region and Karasburg Sub-regional Office** in //Kharas Region.
- The project will be carried out jointly by our Ministry and Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare during the **2025/2026 Financial Year for the San community**
- **The Biometric Fingerprint System (BFS)** was first piloted at Khomas Regional Office and is now being rolled out to other offices across the country.

- Add one border post namely **Mushangara** in the Zambezi Region.
- Add **Hosea Kutako International Airport** to this list to the number of **border posts using IDs as a travel document.**
- Two more services will be added to the online **portal, namely long-term employment permits and students permits during the current financial year.**
- The Ministry has planned to **increase crime combatting efforts from 50% to 80% to improve public safety, through the implementation of crime-combating strategies by 2031.**
- The Ministry plan to conduct eight (08) National Operations per annum, coordinated from National Police Headquarters, targeting violence, properties, economic, drug related, wildlife, Trans National Organized Crime, etc.
- The Ministry will address emerging crime (Cybercrime, Online Child Exploitation, Trafficking in Person, and Theft on f Copper Wire, among others) and crime of concern

(Murder, Rape, Armed Robbery, Assault GBH, Gender Based Violence (GBV), House Breaking and Theft, Fraud, Corruption, among others).

- To improve clearance rate from 35% 2024/2025 to 42% 2025/2026 by capacitating Investigators and Detectives, increase Docket Operations, enhance collaboration between NamPol and Prosecution, as well as system integration.
- The Ministry will continue participating in **Anti-Poaching Operations** in compliance to Cabinet Decision No. 10<sup>th</sup>/01.07.14/003,
- In addition, NamPol is expected to **recruit two thousand (2000)** Cadet Constables and fill one hundred and sixty-three (163) vacant civilian positions during 2025/2026 FY.
- During the 2025/2026 FY, the Force plans to train one thousand (1000) members in the areas of basic and generic investigations, leadership and managerial skill program as well administrative workshop such as basic stock control course.
- At Forensic, backlog of eight thousand, four hundred and ninety-eight (8,498) cases has developed, including one thousand, and twenty-three (1,023) new cases added this fiscal year.
- Funding will be allocated to reduce backlog and manage new forensic examinations; and support the operations of various divisions, including Scene of Crime, Namibian Police Criminal Record Bureau and Forensic Pathology.
- The Ministry will streamline and re-engineer the process of acquiring **certificates of conduct to reduce the current waiting period from five (5) working days to 24 hours** and make it accessible online.
- The Ministry will prioritize the **identification of finger and palm prints** from scenes of crimes to speed up the identification process of possible suspects.
- The Ministry with the social grant to the amount of ninety-eight million Chinese Yuan (98,000, 000.00) from Peoples' Republic of China will embark upon a **Smart City Project**, whereby **surveillance cameras** will be deployed at key infrastructures and crime hot spot areas in Windhoek and Swakopmund and thereafter Oshakati, Walvis Bay Keetmanshoop, Rundu and the rest of the towns when resources are available.
- **The Ministry will increase capacity to prevent prohibited articles from being smuggled** into correctional facilities.

- The Ministry also plans **to increase its food production initiatives** by installing irrigation systems at its new food production correctional facilities as well as obtaining more machinery and implements.
- The Ministry will focus on the **appointments and training of specialized officers** to facilitate the expansion of existing rehabilitation and reintegration programmes.
- The Ministry will further roll out Community Service Orders programmes to 7 more courts in the Central and Southern Regions, to increase coverage to 65 of the 71 targeted magistrate courts.
- Staff complement will need to be strengthened, as well as the **procurement of vehicles for both NAMPOL, NCS and other resources.**
- The Ministry plans to complete the Construction of Regional Offices in Kavango West, Nkurenkuru and Zambezi, Katima Mulilo within 2025/2026 Financial Year.
- As part of the Ministry's ongoing efforts to address the lack of office space, feasibility studies for the construction of new regional offices in Ohangwena, Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa Regions, expansion of Omusati Regional office as well as sub regional office in Erongo are planned to take place this year, with construction earmarked to commence in 2026/2027.

With these words, I would implore on you Honourable Members to support this budget Vote and let me thank you in advance for heading to this call.