



Republic of Namibia

Ministry of Defence and Veterans Affairs

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

ESTIMATES FOR VOTE 31

FINANCIAL YEAR

2026/2027

01 APRIL 2026 - 31 March 2027

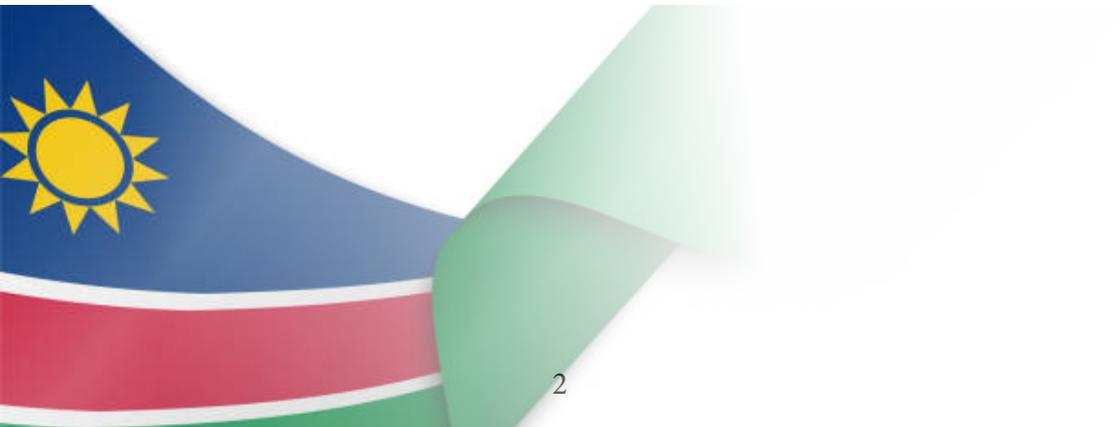


30 March 2026



2026

***“People: Productivity, and Prudence.”***







# **STATEMENT OF BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR VOTE 31: VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2026/2027 BY HONOURABLE FRANS KAPOFI, MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

## **Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee Honourable Members**

1. It is my profound honour to present before this House the budget allocation for Vote 31: Veterans Affairs for the Financial Year 2026/2027. This Vote outlines the projects and programmes to be undertaken in fulfilment of one of the Ministry's core mandates: addressing the needs and challenges faced by veterans of the national liberation struggle. Through these programmes, we aim not only to improve the welfare of our veterans, but also to preserve and promote the rich and treasured history of Namibia's Liberation Struggle.

2. At the outset, I wish to express my deepest appreciation to Honourable Ericah Shafudah, Minister of Finance, and Honourable Dr. Kaire Mbuende, Director-General of the National Planning Commission, together with their dedicated teams, for their unwavering commitment and commendable efforts in ensuring budgetary allocations that support activities aimed at enhancing the welfare of our veterans.

## **Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members,**

3. As we present this budget motivation, it is worthy repeating that the peace and unity we enjoy today are the fruits of freedom and independence secured through the immense sacrifices of the gallant sons and daughters of our soil; the veterans of Namibia's Liberation Struggle. This truth can never be over-emphasized, particularly as we deliberate on a budget designed to support effort meant to improve the psychosocial and well-being of our veterans.



4. In presenting the Budget for Vote 31, it is imperative that we remain mindful of the socio-economic challenges confronting our veterans. These realities include underlying post-traumatic stress disorders, the growing demand for specialized medical services among an aging veteran population and demands for accelerated payment of outstanding Individual Veterans Projects (IVPs), among others.

5. Allow me to highlight the key achievements of Vote 31 during the 2025/2026 Financial Year. In that period, Veterans Affairs received an allocation of **One Billion, Five Hundred and Thirty-Five Million Namibian Dollars (N\$1,535,000,000)**, of which **94.16%** was effectively utilized. This expenditure was primarily directed towards initiatives enhancing veterans' welfare and preserving the history of the Liberation Struggle for future generations.

6. The largest cost driver within the budget was the payment of monthly grants to veterans. A total of **One Billion, Fifty Million, Ninety-Three Thousand and Ten Namibian Dollars (N\$1,050,093,010)** was expended on monthly financial assistance, benefitting **23,694** veterans by March 2026. This accounted for 68.41% of the total allocation.



Veterans of the National Liberation Struggle



7. It is important to note that the cost of financial assistance continues to rise, driven by retirements and medical boarding of those that are gainfully employed, and the inheritable nature of the monthly subvention grant.



A Veteran Funeral

8. Other expenditures included:
- a. An amount of **Three Hundred and Thirteen Million, Three Hundred and Sixty-Two Thousand, and Fifty-Two Namibian Dollars (N\$313,362,052)** to pay **1,840** veterans for Individual Veterans' Projects (IVPs).
  - b. Thirty Million and Forty Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$30,040,000) for once-off gratuities to 609 beneficiaries granted veteran status through successful appeals.
  - c. **Two Million, Five Hundred and Thirty-Five Thousand, and Five Hundred Namibian Dollars (N\$2,535,500)** was spent on funeral assistance of **363** veterans.
  - d. **Eight Hundred and Thirty-Four Thousand, Five Hundred and Twenty-Three Namibian Dollars and Six Cents (N\$834,523.06)** for medical assistance to **37** veterans.



Tombstone of a Veteran of National Liberation Struggle

**Honourable Chairperson,  
Honourable Members,**

9. Having outlined the performance of Vote 31 in the past year, I now present the 2026/2027 budget as articulated in the Estimates of Revenue, Income and Expenditure, focusing on three key programmes:

### **Programme 1: Veterans Welfare Programmes**

10. The main objective of the Veterans' Welfare programme is to coordinate the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of activities aimed at improving the welfare of veterans of the liberation struggle. For the financial year 2026/2027, the programme has been allocated an amount of **One Billion, Three Hundred and Eight-Two Million, Three Hundred and Ninety-Four Thousand, Six Hundred Namibian Dollars (N\$1,382,394,600)** to pay the Monthly Subvention; Improvement of Welfare Grant for Ex-PLAN Combatant Veterans; Once-off Gratuity (Lump-sum); Individual Veterans Projects (IVPs); Medical assistance and Psychosocial support; and for the activities of the Veterans Board and National Honours Advisory Committee.



The Minister and Deputy Minister with Leadership of Namibia National Liberation Veterans Association at a Joint Induction Meeting (28-30 March 2026)



The Minister and Deputy Minister with Members of the Veterans Board during a Joint Induction Meeting (28-30 March 2026)



The Minister and Deputy Minister with members of Veterans Appeal Board during Joint Induction Meeting (28-30 March 2026)

## **Programme 2: Liberation Struggle Heritage**

11. The main objective of the Liberation Struggle Heritage programme is to ensure that the history of the liberation struggle of Namibia is preserved and kept alive. This is achieved through research and documentation, collection and preservation of materials or artifacts, identification and marking of sites where acts of the liberation struggle occurred, and erection of monuments. For the fiscal year 2026/2027, the program is allocated an amount of **Thirteen million and Eight Hundred**



**Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$13,800,000)** for funeral assistance to families of deceased veterans, erection of tombstones, identification and marking of heritage sites, exhumation and re-interment of the remains of the martyrs.



The recent Exhumation Exercise conducted at, Kunene Region

### **Programme 3: Policy Coordination and Support Services**

12. To ensure effective administration and personnel support to this programme, the Ministry has been allocated an amount of **One Hundred and Twenty-Six Million, Three Hundred and Five Thousand, Four Hundred namibian Dollars (N\$126,305,400)** towards the payment of personnel expenditure and administrative activities for Vote 31 – Veterans Affairs.

13. The Ministry remains committed to implementing programmes that enhance veterans’ socio-economic well-being while preserving Namibia’s liberation heritage. Regular monitoring and evaluation will ensure effective service delivery and improved organizational performance.



Hon. Dr. Charles Mubita engaging Veterans of National Liberation Struggle at //Karas and Hardap Regions



14. In conclusion, I wish to emphasise that, the Government of the Republic of Namibia will continue to honour the veterans and strive to improve their living standards for their immense contribution and sacrifices.

15. I therefore request Honourable Members to support and approve the budget allocation of **One Billion, Five Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$1,522,500,000)** for Vote 31: Veterans Affairs for the 2026/2027 Financial Year.

16. I extend my sincere gratitude to you, Honourable Chairperson, and to all Honourable Members of this August House, and I rely on your continued support as we strive to improve the lives of our veterans.

I thank you!



## **VISION**

To be a reliable and committed National Defence Organisation with the capacity to defend Namibia and render effective peacetime support and be recognized for excellence, and unwaveringly uphold our values.

## **MISSION**

To operate a cost effective, professional and highly mobile National Defence System that safeguards Namibia's territory, its inhabitants and national interests, contribute to national development and world peace and provide socio-economic support to veterans of the national liberation struggle and preserve heritage of the liberation struggle.

## **CORE VALUES**

- Patriotism
- Respect for Rule of Law
- Resilience
- Transparency
- Professionalism
- Accountability



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