

Wednesday, 17 June 2026]

No 105—2026] THIRD SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

PARLIAMENT
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ANNOUNCEMENTS,
TABLINGS AND
COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Assembly

1. Revival of *Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Allegations made by Lieutenant-General Nhlanhla Mkhwanazi* 2
2. Membership of Committees 2

National Council of Provinces

1. Referral to Committees of papers tabled 3

TABLINGS

National Assembly

1. Speaker 3

COMMITTEE REPORTS

National Council of Provinces

1. Social Services..... 9
 2. Social Services..... 27
-

ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Assembly

The Speaker

1. Revival of the *Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Allegations made by Lieutenant-General Nhlanhla Mkhwanazi*

- (1) In terms of Assembly Rule 253(6)(c), an *ad hoc* committee may be revived by decision of the Speaker or resolution of the House, if it has not completed its task by the date set for completion of the task.

On 12 May 2026, I invoked the said Rule to revive the *Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Allegations made by Lieutenant-General Nhlanhla Mkhwanazi* which had expired on 30 April 2026 and extended the term to 12 June 2026.

The *Ad Hoc* Committee proceeded with its work but could not complete it by the extended date of 12 June 2026.

Therefore, I have decided, in terms of Assembly Rule 253(6)(c), to revive the *Ad Hoc* Committee, the Committee to –

- (a) maintain the same mandate and membership as agreed by the Assembly on 23 July 2025;
- (b) incorporate in its work the proceedings and all the work done up to and including 12 June 2026; and
- (c) report to the Assembly by no later than 31 July 2026.

2. Membership of Committees

- (1) The following committee membership changes have been made:

(a) **uMkhonto weSizwe Party**

(i) **Committee on The Presidency**

Discharged:	Mokoena-Zondi, Mrs SMN
Discharged:	Van Rooyen, Mr DDD [Alternate]

Appointed: Mkhize, Ms P
 Appointed: Hlophe, Dr MJ [Alternate]

(b) **Economic Freedom Fighters**

(i) **Executive Undertakings and Petitions Committee**

Discharged: Mkhalihi, Ms HO [Alternate]
 Appointed: Ntlangwini, Mrs EN [Alternate]

National Council of Provinces

The Chairperson

1. Referral to Committees of papers tabled

- (1) The following paper is referred to the **Select Committee on Economic Development and Trade** for consideration.

- (a) South Africa's Industrial Development Strategy – 2026.

TABLINGS

National Assembly

1. The Speaker

- (a) Letter from the President of the Republic of South Africa, dated 11 June 2026, informing the Assembly of the employment of Members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) to continue to counter piracy and other illicit maritime activities under the Southern African Development Community Maritime Security Strategy (SADC MSS) Operation COPPER.



11 June 2026

Honourable Speaker,

EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE FOR SERVICE IN FULFILMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA TOWARDS THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY MARTIME SECURITY STRATEGY.

This serves to inform the National Assembly that I have extended the employment of **Two Hundred (200)** members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for service in fulfilment of an international obligation of the Republic of South Africa in support of the Southern African Development Community Maritime Security Strategy (SADC MSS) as well as the bilateral Agreement between the Government of Mozambique and the Government of the Republic of South Africa on the Conduct of Combined Maritime Patrols within the Territory of the Republic of Mozambique signed on 01 June 2011, in order to counter the threat of piracy and other related illegal maritime activities under Operation COPPER.

Members of the SANDF employed will continue to counter piracy and other illicit maritime activities under the SADC MSS Operation COPPER for the period 01 April 2026 to 31 March 2027

The employment is authorised in accordance with the provisions of Section 201(2)(c) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

The expenditure expected to be incurred is estimated to amounts to **R 33 992 978, 00.**

I will communicate this report to Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces and I kindly request that you bring the contents hereof to the attention of the members of the National Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa

Ms Thoko Didiza, MP
Speaker of the National Assembly
Parliament of the Republic of South Africa
Cape Town

- (b) Letter from the President of the Republic of South Africa, dated 12 June 2026, informing the Assembly of the withdrawal of Members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) from the Southern African Development Community mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) under Operation THIBA.



12 June 2026

Honourable Speaker,

EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE FOR PURPOSE OF WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY MISSION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

This serves to inform the National Assembly that I have extended the employment of Twenty-Five (25) members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for service in fulfilment of an international obligation of the Republic of South Africa towards the Southern African Development Community (SADC) under Operation THIBA, thereby ensuring the phased and orderly withdrawal of the remaining SANDF personnel and/or equipment, vehicles, armament and ammunition from the United Republic of Tanzania to the Republic of South Africa (RSA).

Mindful that the mandate of SADC mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) under Operation THIBA was terminated, the purpose of this employment is for the SANDF to successfully and safely repatriate RSA personnel and equipment from DRC to RSA via Tanzania. The withdrawal will be conducted for period of six months, from the 16 December 2025 to 30 June 2026.

The employment is authorised in accordance with the provisions of section 201(2)(c) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

The expenditure expected to incurred for the employment is R 37 744 815.

I will communicate this report to the Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces. I kindly request that you bring the contents of this letter to the attention of Members of the National Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa

Ms Thoko Didiza, MP
Speaker of the National Assembly
Parliament of the Republic of South Africa
CAPE TOWN

- (c) Letter from the President of the Republic of South Africa, dated 12 June 2026, informing the Assembly of the employment of the Members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for service in fulfillment of an international obligation of the Republic of South Africa towards the Republic of Mozambique under Operation CLIMATE CHANGE.



12 June 2026

Honourable Speaker,

EMPLOYMENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE FOR SERVICE IN FULFILMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA TOWARDS THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE UNDER OPERATION CLIMATE CHANGE

This serves to inform the National Assembly that I have employed One Hundred (100) members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for service in fulfilment of an international obligation of the Republic of South Africa towards the Republic of Mozambique (Mozambique) under Operation CLIMATE CHANGE to provide humanitarian assistance through disaster relief support to Mozambique after the central and southern parts of the country was severely affected by disastrous and widespread flooding.

Owing to the urgent and exceptional nature of the request received from the Government of the Republic of Mozambique, the deployment of members of the SANDF was executed and completed on 18 April 2026. I therefore extend our sincere apologies for the delayed submission of this correspondence and seeks Parliament's understanding in light of the emergency circumstances under which the deployment was effected.

The employment was for the period 18 January 2026 until 18 April 2026.

This employment was authorised in accordance with the provisions of section 201(2) (c) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

The expenditure for the employment was estimated in the amount of R 39 284 620, 00.

I will communicate this report to the Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces. I kindly request that you bring the contents of this letter to the attention of Members of the National Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa

Ms Thoko Didiza, MP
Speaker of the National Assembly
Parliament of the Republic of South Africa
CAPE TOWN

COMMITTEE REPORTS

National Council of Provinces

1. Policy Assessment and Recommendations Report of the Select Committee on Social Services on the Annual Performance Plan and Budget of the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities - Vote 20, Dated 17 June 2026

Table of Contents

List of Figures and Tables.....	iii
Abbreviations and Acronyms.....	iv
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Strategic Priorities.....	1
3. Mandate, Legislation, and Policy.....	3
3.1 Mandate.....	3
3.2 Legislation.....	4
4. Budget Overview	4
4.1 Budget 2026/2027	4
5. Annual Performance Plans: Programmes	5
5.1 Budget Appropriations per programmes.....	5
5.1.1 Programme 1: Administration	6
5.1.2 Programme 2: Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the rights of women	7
5.1.3 Programme 3: Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Co-ordination	8
5.1.4 Programme 4: Rights of Persons with Disabilities	9
5.1.4 Programme 5: Rights of Youth	10
6. Human Resources	11
7. Committee Deliberations	12
8. Committee Recommendations	13
9. Conclusion	13
Bibliography	14

List of Figures and Tables

Figure 1: Mission, Vision and Values of the Department	4
Figure 2: Overall allocations in the 2026/27 financial year.....	5
Table 1: Allocation of financial and human resources per programme	5
Table 2: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Administration Programme)	6
Table 3: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the rights of women Programme).....	7
Table 4: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Co-ordination Programme)	8
Table 5: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Rights of Persons with Disabilities Programme)	9
Table 6: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Rights of Youth Programme)	10

Abbreviations and Acronyms

APP	: Annual Performance Plan
CGE	: Commission for Gender Equality
DWYPD	: Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities
EEW	: Economic Empowerment of Women
GBV	: Gender-Based Violence
GBVF	: Gender-Based Violence and Femicide
MTEF	: Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
NYDA	: National Youth Development Agency
NYS	: National Youth Service
SANDF	: South African National Defence Force
SEEWI	: Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women Index
SEW	: Social Empowerment of Women
WECONA	: Women Economic Assembly
WYPD	: Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities

The Select Committee on Social Services (henceforth, the Committee), having considered and deliberated on the Annual Performance Plan of the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities and Budget Vote 20 on 17 June 2026, reports as follows:

1. Introduction

Section 92(2) of the Constitution of South Africa sets out the role of Parliamentary committees in overseeing the performance of government departments, public entities, as well as Chapter 9 and 10 institutions. As part of conducting Parliamentary oversight, Committees have the constitutional mandate to scrutinise the budgets of the Executive. In this regard, the Committee considered the Annual Performance Plan (APP) and budget of the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities.

The Select Committee on Social Services (henceforth, the Committee), in performing its constitutional oversight mandate, engaged with the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (henceforth, the Department or DWYPD), on the 2026/27 APP and budget.

This report summarises the presentation received from the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, focusing on the 2026/27 APP and allocations over the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) period. This report details the deliberations, observations and recommendations made by the Committee relating to Budget Vote 20.

2. Strategic Priorities

In its 2026/27 APP, the Department highlights the following:

“As a centre of government department in the Presidency, DWYPD is not an implementing department but contributes to transformative change by influencing the work of government as a whole and the non-state sector”

This is achieved through several mechanisms, including the provision of strategic leadership and coordination across government and the non-state sector; strategic partnerships, advocacy and mainstreaming; the development and implementation of policy, legislation and regulations; and country and sector women, youth, and persons with disabilities (WYPD) responsive planning, monitoring and

evaluation, and research.

In its 2026/27 Annual Performance Plan, the Department highlights that it is not an implementing department but rather operates as a centre-of-government department in the presidency, focusing on leadership, coordination, policy influence, research, and monitoring.

The Department notes that ensuring equitable economic empowerment, addressing multidimensional poverty, and building a capable, developmental state that is responsive to the needs of WYPD remain top priorities for 2026/27 and in the medium term towards the end of the current term of office of the 7th Administration in 2029.

The Department's mandate has changed from its 2025/26 version, which was "to lead on socio-economic transformation and implementation of the empowerment and participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities through mainstreaming, advocacy, monitoring and evaluation.

Among the Department's strategic priorities identified for 2026/27 are the following:

- *Advancing socio-economic empowerment*: This includes the development of a Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women Index (SEEWI) and a baseline scorecard, which will enable the annual measurement of the country's performance on a range of critical indicators. Initiatives such as the Women Economic Assembly (WECONA) to drive equal economic participation of women in the mainstream economy will continue. It is envisaged that WECONA will also be rolled out across various provinces to ensure implementation at the local level.
- *Responding to gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF)*: The Department will continue to provide strategic leadership in implementing the National Strategic Plan on GBVF, particularly following the classification of GBVF as a national disaster.
- *Addressing social vulnerabilities*: The Sanitary Dignity Programme contributes directly to school attendance, dignity, gender equality and poverty reduction, particularly for learners in Quintiles 1–3, special and farm schools. The Department is also developing a National Strategic Plan on adolescent pregnancy, recognising the link between early pregnancy, poverty, school dropout and gender inequality.

- *Law reform and institutional strengthening:* The Department is advancing law reform to promote and protect the rights of women, youth and persons with disabilities, including new legislation on youth development, women's rights and disability rights. In addition, national machinery and focal points for WYPD are being strengthened to improve coordination, implementation, and accountability across all spheres of government.

3. Mandate, Legislation, and Policy

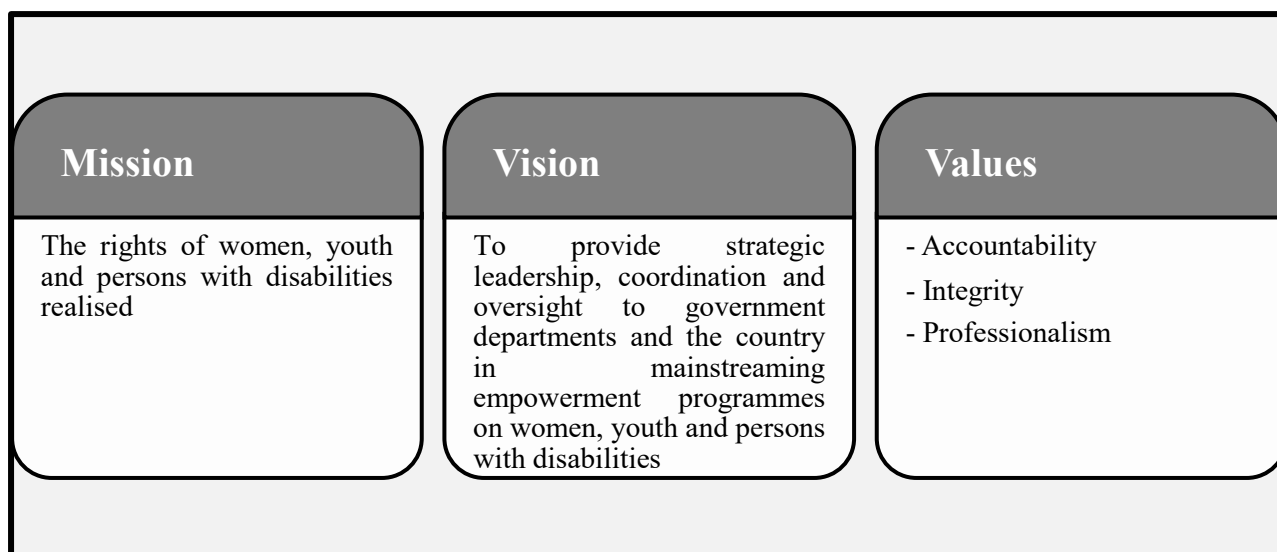
The work of the DWYPD is guided by its mandate, legislation and numerous policies.

3.1 Mandate

The DWYPD is required to champion socioeconomic transformation and the empowerment and participation of women, youth and people with disabilities through mainstreaming, advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation. Its purpose is to lead, coordinate, and oversee the transformation agenda for the socioeconomic empowerment, rights, and equal treatment of WYPD. The essence of this mandate lies in the government's dedication to transforming, empowering, and transitioning women, youth, and individuals with disabilities into agents of socio-economic change and impact, guaranteeing inclusivity for all.

The mission, vision, and values of the DWYPD are outlined in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Mission, Vision and Values of the Department



3.2 Legislation

The Department highlighted the following legislative imperatives to focus on over the five-year strategic period. These include the development of the following:

- Promotion of Women's Rights, Empowerment and Gender Equality Bill
- Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill
- South African Youth Development Bill.

4. Budget Overview

The figures in this section and across all programme allocations have been sourced from National Treasury documents, specifically the 2026 Estimates of National Expenditure.

4.1 Budget 2026/2027

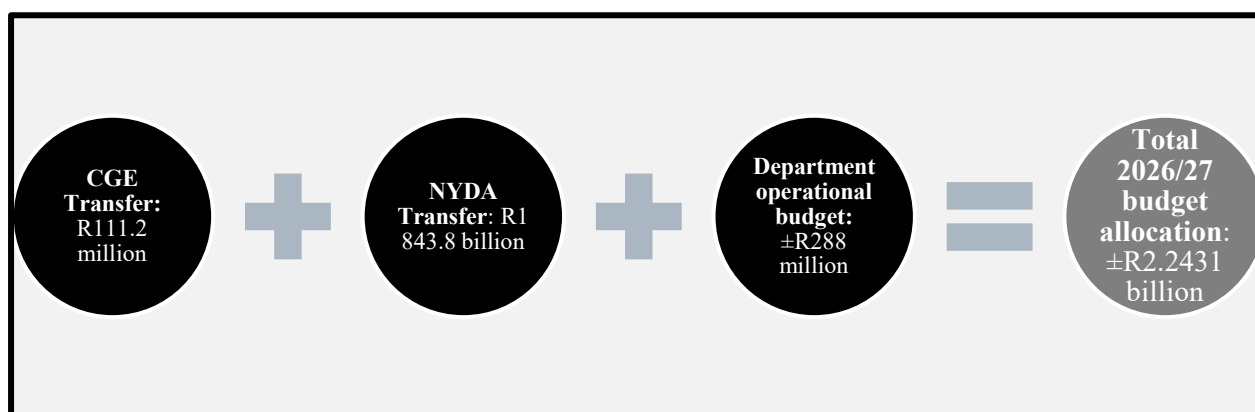
Over the MTEF period, the Department will continue to focus on strengthening the coordination of the national response to gender-based violence; promoting responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation in government; protecting the rights of people with disabilities; and supporting the participation of young people in the economy.

For 2026/27, the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities receives an overall budget

allocation of R2 243.1 billion, of which R1 843.8 billion will be transferred to the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and R111.3 million to the Commission for Gender Equality (CGE). This will leave the Department with approximately R288 million for its own operations for 2026/27. This is approximately R48 million (or 20%) more than in 2025/26, when the Department had an operational budget of R239.8 million.

Overall, allocations are expected to decrease in 2027/28, primarily because of the cessation of allocations to the NYDA for the implementation of the Presidential Employment Initiative – the last allocation will be made during this financial year.

Figure 2: Overall allocations in the 2026/27 financial year



5. Annual Performance Plans: Programmes

5.1 Budget Appropriations per programmes

The DWYPD has five programmes. Table 1 provides an overview of allocations per programme. The Administration Programme receives the bulk of the budget and has the highest staff complement. Programme 5 receives the smallest budget and has the smallest staff complement.

Table 1: Allocation of financial and human resources per programme

	Administration <i>(Programme 1)</i>	Advocacy & Mainstreaming for the Rights of Women <i>(Programme 2)</i>	Monitoring, Evaluation, Research & Coordination <i>(Programme 3)</i>	Rights of Persons with Disabilities <i>(Programme 4)</i>	Rights of Youth <i>(Programme 5)</i>
Budget allocation (R'million)	130.5	75.4	49.6	19.0	13.3

Percentage of total operational budget	45.3%	26.1%	17.2%	6.5%	4.6%
Number of posts	83	17	26	11	9
Number of targets	10	16	11	15	8

5.1.1 Programme 1: Administration

The purpose of the Administration programme is to provide strategic leadership, management, and support services to the Department.

The Administration Programme is divided into the following sub-programmes:

- *Ministry:* Provide executive support to political principals.
- *Departmental Management:* Provide executive support, strategic leadership and management of the DWYPD.
- *Corporate Management:* Provide effective human capital management, legal support, security and work environment management, and communication technology systems for the DWYPD.
- *Financial Management:* Provide and ensure effective, efficient financial management and supply chain services. This includes budget planning and expenditure monitoring, as well as the management of procurement, acquisition, logistics, assets, and financial transactions.

The programme budget is allocated across the 5 sub-programmes:

Table 2: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Administration Programme)

Sub-programme	Financial Year 2025/26 (R'million)	Financial Year 2026/27 (R'million)
Ministry	27.9	26.9
Departmental management	20.6	20.8
Corporate services	42.6	46.8
Financial management	23.5	25.1
Office accommodation	10.4	10.7
Total	R125.2	R130.5
Compensation of employees	R69.3 (55.8%)	R71.5 (54.7%)
Goods and Services	R47.0 (37.5%)	R53.6 (41%)

As indicated, the Administration programme continues to consume the largest share of funds and staff within the Department. Overall, the targets for 2026/27 remain largely similar to those of the previous financial year for Programme 1. One target has been removed, while 2 new targets have been introduced.

The Administration programme receives the bulk of the financial and human resource allocation, while it has a total of 9 targets. The remaining 4 programmes must achieve a total of 50 targets, with 54% of the budget and 43% of the personnel.

5.1.2 Programme 2: Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the rights of women

The purpose of this programme is to promote good governance regarding the rights and the transformation of women's social and economic empowerment.

The Department indicates that the programme is divided into 4 sub-programmes – three operational and one “external”, namely the Commission for Gender Equality. However, the National Council on GBVF is listed as a sub-programme with a standalone allocation. See Table 3.

The sub-programmes are:

- *Management - Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Women*: Provides strategic leadership and management to the programme.
- *Social Empowerment of Women (SEW)*: Promote good governance regarding the rights, transformation, social justice and empowerment of women.
- *Economic Empowerment of Women (EEW)*: Mainstreams and promotes good governance to further transformation, economic justice, empowerment and rights of women.
- *Commission for Gender Equality (CGE)*: Facilitates transfer payments to the Commission for Gender Equality, which promotes gender equality and respect for women’s rights.

The total programme budget is R186.7 million. However, this includes the transfer payment to the CGE. This transfer amounts to R111.2 million, leaving the programme with an operating budget of just over R75 million. The programme budget is allocated across 4 operational sub-programmes, excluding the CGE programme.

Table 3: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the rights of women Programme)

Sub-programme	Financial Year 2025/26 (R'million)	Financial Year 2026/27 (R'million)
Management: Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Women	4.2	2.3
Social Empowerment of Women	16.9	17.5
Economic Empowerment of Women	18.6	8.9
National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide	3.5	46.5
Total	R43.2	R75.2
Compensation of employees	R28.7 (66.4%)	R22.9 (30.4%)
Goods and Services	R14.5 (33.5%)	R48.8 (64.8%)

The programme sees a significant increase year-on-year, with the additional funding going towards the establishment of the National Council on Gender-based Violence and Femicide. A significant proportion of the programme budget goes towards goods and services – a much larger proportion than in 2025/26. The 2026 ENE indicates that, under programme 2, R26.8 million has been allocated for expenditure on consultants' business and advisory services. This constitutes 55% of the goods and services budget and 36% of the total programme budget.

5.1.3 Programme 3: Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Co-ordination

The purpose of this programme is to provide research, knowledge management, international relations, stakeholder management and monitoring and evaluation for women, youth and persons with disabilities.

The programme budget is allocated across 4 sub-programmes:

- *Management - Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Coordination*: Provides strategic leadership and management to the programme.
- *Research and Knowledge Management*: provides research and knowledge management services on the transformation of the rights of women, youth and persons with disabilities.
- *International Relations, Stakeholder Management and Capacity Building*: Manage and coordinate the provision of international relations, stakeholder participation and capacity building for women, youth and persons with disabilities.
- *Monitoring and Evaluation: Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities*: Ensures the effective government-wide monitoring and evaluation of policy priorities towards the transformation and empowerment of women, youth and persons with disabilities.

Table 4: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Co-ordination Programme)

Programme	Financial Year 2025/26 (R'million)	Financial Year 2026/27 (R'million)
Management: Monitoring, Evaluation, Research & Coordination	3.7	4.0
Research & Knowledge Management	8.8	10.9
International Relations, Stakeholder Management & Capacity Building	21.7	22.7
Monitoring and Evaluation: WYPD	8.5	11.8
Total	R42.9	49.6
Compensation of employees	R28.9 (67.3%)	R30.7 (61.8%)
Goods and Services	R12.2 (28.4%)	R16.9 (34.0%)

5.1.4 Programme 4: Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The purpose of Programme 4 is to advocate and monitor mainstreaming of the rights of persons with disabilities.

See Table 5. The sub-programmes are:

- *Management-Rights of Persons with Disabilities.* This sub-programme provides strategic leadership and management to the programme.
- *Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.* The purpose of the subprogramme is to advocate and mainstream for the transformation and empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

Table 5: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Rights of Persons with Disabilities Programme)

Programme	Financial Year 2025/26 (R'million)	Financial Year 2026/27 (R'million)
Management: Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	0.6	0.6
Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	14.7	18.5
Total	15.3	19.1
Compensation of employees	10.5	11.1
Goods and Services	4.4	7.7

Programme 4 has several new targets (New = 5), these are:

- Percentage of decisions of the National Disability Rights Machinery assigned to DWYPD implemented towards realising the rights of women, youth and persons with disabilities (New)
- Number of capacity-building interventions for Disability Focal Points facilitated (New)
- Disability Advocacy and Mainstreaming Strategy consulted (New)
- Number of National Annual Plans of Action on Disability Rights priorities developed (New)
- Number of Concept Documents on the Disability Centre of Excellence developed (New)

Targets have been reduced from 19 to 15. The following targets have been removed:

- Number of Rights of Persons with Disabilities machinery meetings convened.
- Number of Presidential Working Group on Disability engagements/meetings convened.
- Number of International Day of Persons with Disabilities commemorations held.
- A 365-day awareness-raising campaign (for example, 11 awareness-raising articles).
- Number of policies of government departments analysed for alignment with the White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

5.1.4 Programme 5: Rights of Youth

The purpose of Programme 5 is to advocate for the mainstreaming of youth rights.

The sub-programmes are:

- *Management: Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Youth:* The purpose of the subprogramme is to manage the unit that advocates and mainstreams for the transformation and empowerment of youth.
- *Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Youth:* The purpose of the sub-programme is to advocate and mainstream for the Rights of Youth through policy and legislation development.
- *Governance and Compliance for the Rights of Youth:* The purpose of the sub-programme is to facilitate national and international stakeholder engagements and promote governance and compliance for the rights of youth.

Table 6: Budget allocation by sub-programme (Rights of Youth Programme)

Programme	Financial Year 2025/26 (R'million)	Financial Year 2026/27 (R'million)
Management: Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Youth	1.6	1.7
Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Youth	11.1	11.6
National Youth Development Agency*	1 024.6	1 843.8
Total	1 037.3	1 857.1
Compensation of employees	8.9	9.5
Goods and Services	3.8	3.8

Half of Programme 5's targets are new (New=4). These are the following:

- Percentage of National Youth Machinery decisions assigned to DWYPD implemented
- Number of National Annual Plans of Action on Youth Development Priorities developed
- Number of interventions to increase the economic participation of youth implemented
- Number of year-long programmes to commemorate the Golden Jubilee (50th Anniversary) of the 1976 Youth Uprising tabled in the cabinet system.

The following targets have been removed:

- Four South African National Defence Force (SANDF)-led National Youth Service (NYS) monitoring reports produced
- Two SANDF-led NYS Indabas convened.

- Four national youth machinery meetings convened.
- South African Youth Development Bill processed to be tabled in Cabinet (Removed from Programme 5. In 2026/27, the South African Youth Development Bill was handled under Programme 1.

6. Human Resources

The 2026 Estimates of National Expenditure indicate that, for 2026/27, the Department has a staff complement of 157, while its APP states it can fund 146 employees from the MTEF Compensation of Employees allocation. This discrepancy must be clarified.

The Department indicates in its APP that almost 57% (83 posts) have been allocated to the Administration programme. It justifies this by noting the *“immense compliance and regulatory burden that is placed on all departments in the public service, regardless of their size or capability.”*

It motivates this staff allocation by highlighting that failure to perform mandatory, highly regulated services in line with prescribed requirements may result in irregular, wasteful, or unauthorised expenditure. Consequently, posts have been prioritised for core programmes, leaving support functions significantly under-resourced. Several units, including risk and integrity management, strategic planning and reporting, internal operational efficiency, human resource development, labour relations, employee health and wellness, and legal services, each have only one employee; Communications has two, and Information and Communication Technology has only three.

The Department acknowledges that limited financial and human resources weaken its capacity to implement programmes efficiently and broaden its impact. Insufficient resourcing and staffing limit the department's ability to meet expectations, potentially harming its standing. Additionally, since funding for employee compensation has not increased significantly from the baseline, no new positions can be created, leaving many core and support functions either unfunded or inadequately resourced. As an example, the Department notes that under Programme 4: The Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the sub-programme advocacy and mainstreaming is under-resourced, having only a Chief Director, Director, Assistant Director, two Personal Aides, and a Projects Officer on contract.

The Department also notes a deficiency in health and wellness programmes. To address this, it plans to contract a service provider to deliver these programmes, which aim to boost productivity and improve

performance.

7. Committee Deliberations

Having considered the APP and the Department's budget, this section summarises the Committee's deliberations.

The Committee Members raised the following key issues.

- Can the R77 million be considered fiscal dumping?
- What are the criteria used for the 80% disability rights, and how is it verified?
- What are the 2 planned youth interventions?
- Why is the department not shifting progressively worse indicators?
- Are the targets realistic, and are they impacting on the ground?
- Is there any difference in implementation from last year?
- Is the R20 million donation to international bodies justified?
- Are the youth prioritised?
- What is the turnaround time for filling vacancies, and how is the performance of the department affected?
- What is the capacity for programme implementation after the deduction of compensation?
- Are there skills transferred from consultants?

The Department provided the following responses:

- The monitoring and evaluation unit is comprised of 3 persons, who work closely with the office of the premier and government departments for capacity building, self-monitoring and creating a footprint for impact. Annual progress reports are submitted to implement the 9 pillars. Also, 2 consultative meetings with the stakeholders. A practice note has been developed to show the departments how to implement the 7%.
- Skills transfer was done with the employees and consultants. Specialised surveys require the assistance of consultants. The 2026 disaster management policy is indicative of this.
- Indicators are realistic as they address challenges.
- Youth interventions address various challenges, such as substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, mental health and gender-based violence (GBV). It raises awareness, builds capacity, and fosters partnerships and continuous action.

- Youth evaluation is monitored every quarter, resolves challenges, and site visits will be conducted at NYDA offices to improve youth outcomes
- There is low economic growth, which impacts growth
- The R200 million for international bodies is an estimate. There is a financial challenge in meeting this obligation.

8. Committee Recommendations

Having considered the APP and budget of the Department, the Committee makes the following recommendations to the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities:

The Department indicated that it would respond in writing to all unanswered questions within 7 days.

9. Conclusion

The Committee recognises the critical role the Department plays, which involves coordination, policymaking, planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting. However, the Committee encourages the Department to adopt a more proactive approach and collaborate closely with both the private and public sectors to combat the issue of gender-based violence and femicide in the country.

Unless otherwise indicated, the Department should respond to the Committee's recommendations within three months of the day the report is adopted by the House.

Report to be considered.

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2. Report of the Select Committee on Social Services on the 6th Convention of all forms of Discrimination against Women Periodic Report, dated 17 June 2026

The Select Committee on Social Services (henceforth, the Committee), having considered the South African periodic report on the 6th Convention of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) presented by the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD), reports as follows:

1. Background

South Africa acceded to the CEDAW on 29 January 1993 and ratified the Convention in December 1995. In fulfilling its international obligation, South Africa is required to submit periodic reports on the measures it has taken to implement the Convention. The periodic report is due for submission to the Secretariat of the United Nations (UN) office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

2. Purpose

The report builds upon South Africa's 5th periodic report (2009-2014) and incorporates recommendations, highlighting progress made toward achieving substantive equality between women and men. The adoption of the report would ensure that South Africa has met its international obligations.

3. Value proposition for South Africa

Signing and ratifying this Convention strengthens the multilateral and international measures established in Africa to safeguard the interests of women. In addition, it demonstrates South Africa's commitment to dismantling discrimination against women in all forms.

4. Periodic report overview

- Notable gains have been made, including efforts to combat gender-based violence (GBV), enhance women's political representation, and promote socio-economic inclusion.
- In accordance with articles 1 and 2 of the Convention, Section 9 (Equality Clause) of the South African Constitution prohibits direct and indirect discrimination by the state (public sector) and by private persons or organisations (private sector). The Constitution protects all individuals from discrimination; Chapter 2 contains the Bill of Rights.
- The South African Constitution establishes equality, human dignity and non-sexism as founding values. Section 9 guarantees equality before the law and prohibits discrimination on the grounds of sex, gender, pregnancy, marital status and related grounds.
- Parliament launched the Women's Charter for Accelerated Development in 2021. The national framework sets a 25-year vision for improving the lives of women in South Africa. It is meant to guide government planning, budgeting, and legislation so that women's needs are fully included. As encapsulated in the Women's Charter for Accelerated Development (2021), some of the key issues for priority action hence include: effecting specific gender sensitive amendments to development policy design, budget policy and legislative framework design, including all the government's strategic development programmes (which are key for anchoring mandatory, gender sensitive state actions and processes).
- Gender legislation and frameworks were introduced during the current reporting period to help address the scourge of GBV and reinforce the existing national policy framework. These include the:
 - Gender Responsive Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring, Evaluation and Auditing Framework (GRPBMEA).

- National Strategic Plan (NSP) on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF).
- National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Act 9 of 2024.
- The National Gender Machinery (NGM) serves as the coordination mechanism for implementing CEDAW. It comprises the DWYPD, the CGE, Gender Focal Points (GFPs) across all government departments and municipalities, the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) Women's Commission, Parliament, independent bodies, and civil society.

However, South Africa notes the challenges that continue to hinder the full realisation of these rights, including high levels of GBV, economic inequality, limited access to resources for rural and marginalised women, and gaps in effective implementation and accountability.

5. Parliament Process

The DWYPD tabled this matter before Parliament on 13 May 2026. The National Council of Provinces referred it to the Committee on 08 June 2026. The Committee received a briefing from the DWYPD on the periodic report on 17 June 2026.

The Committee endorses the periodic report.

Report to be considered.