

# Ntinga O.R Tambo Development Agency



## BUDGET POLICY

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<b>RESPONSIBLE MANAGER</b>	Chief Financial Officer

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**TOP TEN BASIC VALUES AND PRINCIPLES  
(PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION)**

Chapter 10, Section 195 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa  
(Act No. 108 of 1996)

**Public Service must be:**

1. Governed by the democratic values and principles enshrined in the Constitution;
2. Maintaining and promoting a high standard of professional ethics;
3. Promoting efficient, economic and effective use of resources;
4. Orientated towards development;
5. Delivering services impartially, fairly, equitably and without bias;
6. Responding to people's needs and encouraging public participation;
7. Accountable for its actions;
8. Transparent by providing the public with timely, accessible and accurate information;
9. Cultivating good human resource management and career development practices to maximize human potential; and
10. Broadly representative of the South African people, with employment and personnel management practices based on ability, objectivity, fairness and the need to redress the imbalances of the past.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>Page No.</b>	
Disclaimer.....	1
Top Ten Basic Values and Principles.....	2
<b>FOREWORD .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1. INTERPRETATION, PURPOSE, SCOPE AND REVIEWAL .....	5
1.1 INTERPRETATION AND DEFINITIONS OF TERMS .....	5
1.2 PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY .....	6
1.3 APPLICATION AND SCOPE OF THIS POLICY.....	6
1.4 PERIODIC REVIEWAL OF THIS POLICY.....	7
1.5 RELEVANT AND APPLICABLE LEGISLATION (ACTS, POLICES ETC).....	8
2 BUDGETING PRINCIPLES TO BE FOLLOWED.....	9
3 VIREMENT BEWTEEN MAIN DIVISIONS WITHIN VOTES.....	10
4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER .....	11
5. ANNEXURE : LEGAL REQUIREMENTS.....	12
5.1 SECTION 87 OF THE MFMA – MUNCIPAL ENTITY BUDGETS.....	12
5.2 BUDGET REVISION.....	13
5.3 SECTION 88 OF THE MFMA – MID-YEAR BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT.....	15
5.4 SECTION 75 OF THE MFMA – INFORMATION TO BE PLACED ON WEBSUTES OF MUNCIPALITIES .....	15
6. APPROVAL AND SIGNATURES.....	15

## **FOREWORD**

In terms of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) Act No. 56 of 2003, the Board of Directors of the municipal entity for each financial year submit a proposed budget for the entity to its parent municipality not later than 150 days before the start of the financial year and obtain recommendations and inputs from the parent, assess and consider those recommendations and submit it not later than 100 days before the start of the financial year.

The MFMA states that the Board of Directors of a municipal entity must approve the budget of the municipal entity not later than 30 days before the start of the financial year taking into account any hearings or recommendations of the Council of the parent Municipality.

The MFMA also states that the Board of Directors of the municipal entity with the approval of the Mayor may revise the budget of the municipal entity.

## **1. INTERPRETATION, PURPOSE, SCOPE AND REVIEWAL**

### **1.1 Interpretation and Definition of Terms**

In this Budget Monitoring policy, unless the context indicates otherwise: -

- “Board”** means the Board of Directors of the municipal entity;
- “Key stakeholders”** refers to those individuals, group of people and/or organisations that are directly affected by the policy, including those responsible for implementation and compliance monitoring, and must be consulted during development or revision (reviewal) of the policy and its associated procedures. Key stakeholders may include management and other staff members, Board of Directors, parent municipal entity, business partners or members of the community.
- “MFMA”** refers to the Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003);
- “Entity”** stands for Ntinga O.R. Tambo Development Agency which is a municipal entity established in terms of Section 86H of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Amendment Act, 2003 (Act No. 44 of 2003), by the O.R. Tambo District Municipal entity which is a parent municipal entity;
- “CEO”** Person appointed as the Accounting Officer of the Municipal Entity and appointed in terms of Section 93J of the Municipal Systems Act;
- “CFO”** Person appointed as the Chief Financial Officer of the Municipal Entity;

- “HOD”** are those employees, irrespective of designation, appointed by Ntinga to head a Department and, where the text so requires, a Division, Section or Operational Unit of the Entity and includes any employee acting in such a position.
- “Virements”** Utilisation of savings of an amount appropriated within a vote to defray excess expenditure within a vote.
- “Vote”** means one of the main segments into which a budget of a municipal entity is divided for the appropriation of money for the different departments or functional areas of the municipal entity and which specifies the total amount that is appropriated for the purposes of the department or functional area concerned.
- “Appropriated”** To set aside an amount of money for a particular use.

## **1.2 Purpose of this Policy**

The overall purpose of this policy is to set out the budgeting principles which the Entity shall follow in preparing each annual budget, as well as the responsibilities of the chief financial officer in compiling such budget.

## **1.3 Application and Scope of this Policy**

- 1.3.1 Once this policy has been approved by the Board, its content applies and is binding to:-
- a) All employees of Ntinga O.R. Tambo Development Agency and related parties over which Ntinga Board has authority on, including its subsidiary companies, business units, entities or projects;

- b) Engaged consultants, suppliers, contractors and other providers of goods or services to Ntinga O.R. Tambo Development Entity;
- c) Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's) and other parties receiving financial and non-financial benefits from Ntinga;
- d) All organisations, programmes or projects that are directly under Ntinga management; and
- e) All organisations that have partnerships with Ntinga and their areas of partnership relate to some parts of this policy.

1.3.2 The content of this policy, based on vision, mission and values of Ntinga, is the expression of Ntinga's commitment to good governance by producing quality public policies. Ntinga believes that developing quality public policies can help raise revenue, improve service delivery, stimulate growth and increase public confidence and participation.

1.3.3 In the event of any inconsistency or contradiction between a section of this policy and the Constitution, Act or By-Law, the Constitution, Act or By-Law prevails or takes precedence.

1.3.4 In effecting and implementing this policy the following will have to be taken into consideration:-

- a) The financial viability and sustainability of Ntinga from time to time as determined by the available resources; and
- b) Avoiding wasteful and fruitless expenditure.

#### **1.4 Periodic Reviewal of this Policy**

1.4.1 This policy shall be reviewed on a regular basis. Due to the dynamic and developing nature of local government, twelve months would be an acceptable review period for this policy



Minor editorial updates that do not affect the title or substance of the policy (purpose, scope, policy statement) shall not go through the formal approvals process. These include correction of typographical errors or changes to:

- stakeholders;
- responsible manager;
- contact person; and
- key words and definitions.

1.4.2 These policy must be reviewed at least once after every twelve (12) months cycle, from the previous approval date by the Board, as follows:

a) The CFO shall circulate the existing policy to senior staff members and other relevant stakeholders inviting any proposed amendments. Request for amendments should be in writing with a cut off submission date not less than 14 working days from the date of request. Amendments may be due to changes in:

- legislation;
- other related policies;
- mandate of the entity;
- mode of operation;
- implementation strategy;
- internal and external environment where operations take place; and
- community needs;

b) Proposed amendments shall be consolidated, evaluated, inserted in the policy document and circulated to the Ntinga Penultimate Body (highlighting revised areas in red colour) for at least five working days for final comments and inputs. It might be necessary for the Penultimate Body members to further consult staff members within their departments to deepen internal participation;

c) Relevant and Applicable Legislation (Acts, Policies, etc.)

**1.4.3 This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following Acts:-**

- a) Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996);
- b) Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act No. 117 of 1998);
- c) Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 200 (Act No. 32 of 2000);
- d) Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003);
- d) It is the duty of the Company Secretary to record the following:-
  - resolution number and conditions of approval if applicable;
  - the date of the approval;
  - the date of implementation of the approved amendments; and
  - any other condition or information that relates to the Board approval of the policy.
- e) The reviewal of this policy is necessary even if there are no changes anticipated or effected. When there are no changes identified, a report will have to be submitted to the Board, through the relevant Committee of the Board, indicating that the policy has been reviewed and there were no changes necessary.

**1.4.4 Besides alignment with relevant legislative framework, reviewal is aimed at assessing progress in implementation of this policy.**

## **1.5 Relevant and Applicable Legislation (Standards, Acts, Policies, etc.)**

**1.5.1 This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following:-**

- e) Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003);
- f) Generally Accepted Municipal Accounting Practice;
- g) Generally Recognised Accounting Practice;
- h) International Financial Reporting Standards;
- i) International Accounting Standards

1.5.2 The following policies, strategies and publications are relevant to the development of this policy:

- a) National Treasury Regulations;
- b) Ntinga Risk Management Policy; and
- c) Internal and External Audit Reports.

## **2. Budgeting principles to be followed**

- 2.1 Except in so far as capital projects represent a contractual commitment to the Entity extending over more than one financial year, the annual capital budget shall be prepared from a zero base.
- 2.2 The capital budget component of the annual or adjustments budget shall only be approved by the Board if it has been properly balanced, that is, if the sources of finance which are realistically envisaged to fund the budget equal the proposed capital expenses.
- 2.3 Each annual and adjustments budget shall reflect realistic excess, however nominal, of current revenues over expenses.
- 2.4 Any unappropriated surplus from previous financial years set aside for the asset financing reserve, that is fully cash-backed, shall not be used to balance any annual or adjustments budget, but shall be appropriated to the municipal entity's asset financing reserve.
- 2.5 An impending operating deficit shall be made good in an adjustments budget, but if an operating deficit arises at the end of a financial year, notwithstanding the precautionary measures adopted by the Entity, such deficit shall immediately be made good in the annual or adjustments budget for the ensuing financial year, and shall not be offset against any unappropriated surplus carried forward from preceding financial years.

- 2.6 The Entity shall establish and maintain a provision for accrued leave entitlements equal to 100% of the accrued leave entitlement of officials as at 30 June of each financial year, and shall budget appropriately for contributions to such provision in each annual and adjustments budget.
- 2.7 The Entity shall establish and maintain a provision for bad debts in accordance with its credit control policies, and shall budget appropriately for contributions to such provision in each annual and adjustments budget.
- 2.8 The Entity shall establish and maintain a provision for the obsolescence and deterioration of stock in accordance with its stock management policy, and shall budget appropriately for contributions to such provision in each annual and adjustments budget.
- 2.9 All expenses, including depreciation expenses, shall be cash-funded. The cash received in respect of depreciation expenses on fixed assets financed from external borrowings shall be transferred to the investments created to redeem such borrowings.
- 2.10 Finance charges payable by the Entity shall be apportioned between departments or votes on the basis of the proportion at the last balance sheet date of the carrying value of the fixed assets belonging to such department or vote to the aggregate carrying value of all fixed assets in the Entity.
- 2.11 The allocation of interest earned on the Entity's investments shall be budgeted for in terms of the banking and investment policy.
- 2.12 In the preparation of the draft operating budget component of the annual budget, the allowable budgetary increment shall relate to the total amount provided for each budget vote, and the head of the department, service or function concerned shall have the right to allocate the total budgeted amount to the line-items within such vote, except in so far as the line-item provisions relate to matters determined by the chief financial officer in terms of the municipal entity's approved policies and contractual and statutory commitments (for example,

depreciation charges, finance charges, insurance costs, skills development levies payable).

- 2.13 Notwithstanding the preceding principle, the budget for salaries, allowances and salaries-related benefits shall be separately prepared, and shall not exceed 30% of the aggregate operating budget component of the annual or adjustments budget. Where this exceeds the budget due to budget cuts by the parent municipality, the Board has to approve it.
- 2.14 The head of the department to which each budget vote relates shall justify the allocation of the aggregate budget for such vote to the various line-items within the vote to the CEO. In motivating the allocations made to and within the vote, the head of department concerned shall provide the CEO with appropriate quarterly performance indicators and service delivery targets pertaining to the budget. Such indicators and targets shall be prepared with the approval of the CEO.

### **3. Virement between main divisions within Votes**

- 3.1 The CEO may utilize a saving in the amount appropriated under a main division within a vote towards the defrayment of excess expenditure under another main division within the same vote. Virements between votes are only permitted where the proposed shifts in funding facilitate sound risk and financial management. Poor planning is not a valid reason for shifting of funds.
- 3.2 The amount of a saving under a main division of a vote that may be utilized in terms of 3.1, may not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the amount appropriated under the main division as approved by the CEO. Any amount in excess of the twenty percent of the amount appropriated under the main division must have the Board of Directors' approval.
- 3.3 In the case where the savings are between different votes, this shall be approved by the CEO and catered for in the adjustment budget.

- 3.4 The CEO must submit a report containing the prescribed particulars concerning the utilization of the savings in terms of 3.1 to the Board of Directors at the next Board meeting.
- 3.5 No Virements shall be made from Employees Related Budget to finance Ntinga Operations.
- 3.6 Virements towards personnel expenditure are not permitted;
- 3.7 Virements cannot be made in the first quarter of the financial year.
- 3.8 Virements are not permitted in relation to the revenue side of the budget.
- 3.9 Virements from the capital budget to the operating budget are not permitted;
- 3.10 Virements to or from the following items are not permitted: bulk purchases; debt impairment, interest charges; depreciation, grants to individuals, revenue foregone, insurance and VAT.
- 3.11 Virements should not result in adding 'new' projects to the Capital Budget.
- 3.12 Virements of conditional grant funds to purposes outside of that specified in the relevant conditional grant framework are not be permitted; and
- 3.13 This section does not authorize the utilization of a saving in:-
- An amount appropriated for transfer to another institution
  - An amount appropriated for capital expenditure in order defray current expenditure

#### **4. Responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer**

- 4.1 Without derogating in any way from the legal responsibilities of the CEO as accounting officer, the CFO shall be responsible for preparing the draft annual capital and operating budgets (including the budget components required for the ensuing financial years), any required adjustments budgets, the projections of revenues and expenses for the service delivery and budget implementation plan (including the alignment of such projections with the cash management programme prepared in terms of the banking and investments policy), and shall be accountable to the CEO in regard to the performance of these functions.
- 4.2 The CEO shall ensure that all heads of departments provide the inputs required by the CFO into these budget processes.
- 4.3 The CFO shall draft the budget timetable for the ensuing financial year for the Board's approval, and shall indicate in such timetable the target dates for the draft revision of the annual budget and the preparation of the annual budget for the ensuing financial year, which target dates shall follow the prescriptions of the Municipal Finance Management Act, and target dates for the submission of all the budget-related documentation to the Board of Directors and the District Municipality.
- 4.4 Except where the CFO, with the consent of CEO, decides otherwise, the sequence in which each annual budget and adjustments budget shall be prepared, shall be: first, the capital component, and second, the operating component. The operating component shall duly reflect the impact of the capital component on:
- depreciation charges
  - repairs and maintenance expenses
  - interest payable on external borrowings (if any)
  - other operating expenses.

- 4.5 In preparing the operating budget, the CFO shall determine the number and type of votes to be used and the line-items to be shown under each vote, provided that in so doing the CFO shall properly and adequately reflect the organisational structure of the Entity, and further in so doing shall comply – in so far as the organisational structure permits – also with the prescribed budget format of National Treasury.
- 4.6 The CFO shall determine the depreciation expenses to be charged to each vote, the apportionment of interest payable to the appropriate votes (where applicable), the estimates of the contributions to the provisions for bad debts, accrued leave entitlements and performance bonuses (with the assistance of the Corporate Services Manager).
- 4.7 The CFO shall also, again with the approval of the Board and the CEO, and having regard to the municipal entity's current financial performance, determine the recommended aggregate growth factor(s) according to which the budgets for the various votes shall be drafted based on National Treasury Budgetary regulations.
- 4.8 The CFO shall compile monthly budget reports, with recommendations, comparing actual results with budgeted projections, and the heads of departments shall timeously and adequately furnish the CFO with all explanations required for deviations from the budget. The CFO shall submit these monthly reports to the CEO, Management Committee and the District Municipality and all other prescribed parties, in accordance with the prescriptions of the Municipal Finance Management Act.
- 4.9 The CFO shall provide technical and administrative support to the Board in the preparation and approval of the annual and adjustment budgets, as well as in the consultative processes, which must precede the approval of such budgets.



- 4.10 The CFO and All heads of Department shall ensure that the annual and adjustments budgets comply with the requirements of the National Treasury reflect the budget priorities determined by the CEO, are aligned with the Annual Business Plan and the Entity's Strategy.

## **5. Annexure : Legal Requirements**

### **5.1 Section 87 Municipal Entity Budgets**

- The board of directors of a Entity must for each financial year submit a proposed budget for the Entity to the District Municipality not later than 150 days before the start of the Entity's financial year or earlier if requested by the parent municipality.
- The District Municipality must consider the proposed budget of the Entity and assess the Entity's priorities and objectives. If the District Municipality makes any recommendations on the proposed budget, the board of directors must consider those recommendations and, if necessary, submit a revised budget to the District Municipality not later than 100 days before the start of the financial year.
- The mayor of the District Municipality must table the proposed budget of the Entity in the council when the annual budget of the District Municipality for the relevant year is tabled.
- The board of directors must approve the budget not later than 30 days before the start of the financial year, taking into account any hearings or recommendations of the council of the District municipality.
- The budget must—
  - (a) be balanced;
  - (b) be consistent with any service delivery agreement or other agreement between the Entity and the District municipality;
  - (c) be within any limits determined by the District Municipality, including any limits on tariffs, revenue, expenditure and borrowing;
  - (d) include a multi-year business plan for the Entity that—
    - (i) sets key financial and non-financial performance objectives and measurement criteria as agreed with the District municipality;

- (ii) is consistent with the budget and integrated development plan of the District municipality;
- (iii) is consistent with any service delivery agreement or other agreement between the Entity and the District municipality; and
- (iv) reflects actual and potential liabilities and commitments, including particulars of any proposed borrowing of money during the period to which the plan relates; and
- (e) otherwise comply with the requirements of section 17(1) and (2) to the extent that such requirements can reasonably be applied to the Entity.

## **5.2 Budget Revision**

- The Board of Directors may, with the approval of the Mayor, revise the budget of the Entity, but only for the following reasons:
  - (a) To adjust the revenue and expenditure estimates downwards if there is material under-collection of revenue during the current year;
  - (b) to authorise expenditure of any additional allocations to the Entity from the District municipality;
  - (c) to authorise, within a prescribed framework, any unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure approved by the mayor of the District Municipality;
  - (d) to authorise any other expenditure within a prescribed framework.
- Any projected allocation to the Entity from the District Municipality must be provided for in the annual budget of the District municipality, and to the extent not so provided, the Entity's budget must be adjusted.
- The Entity may incur expenditure only in accordance with its approved budget or an adjustments budget.
- The mayor must table the budget or adjusted budget and any adjustments budget of the Entity as approved by the Board of Directors, at the next council meeting of the District municipality.

- The Entity's approved budget or adjusted budget must be made public in substantially the same way as the budget of a District Municipality must be made public.
- The CEO must by no later than seven working days after the end of each month submit to the Municipal Manager of the District Municipality a statement in the prescribed format on the state of the Entity's budget reflecting the following particulars for that month and for the financial year up to the end of that month:
  - (a) Actual revenue, per revenue source;
  - (b) actual borrowings;
  - (c) actual expenditure;
  - (d) actual capital expenditure;
  - (e) the amount of any allocations received;
  - (f) actual expenditure on those allocations, excluding expenditure on allocations exempted by the annual Division of Revenue Act from compliance with this paragraph; and
  - (g) when necessary, an explanation of—
    - (i) any material variances from the Entity's projected revenue by source, and from the Entity's expenditure projections;
    - (ii) any material variances from the service delivery agreement and the business plan; and
    - (iii) any remedial or corrective steps taken or to be taken to ensure that projected revenue and expenditure remain within the Entity's approved budget.
- The statement must include a projection of revenue and expenditure for the rest of the financial year, and any revisions from initial projections.
- The amounts reflected in the statement must in each case be compared with the corresponding amounts budgeted for in the Entity's approved budget.
- The statement to the Municipal Manager of the District Municipality must be in the format of a signed document.

### **5.3 Section 88 of the MFMA - Mid-year budget and performance assessment**

The CEO must by 20 January of each year—

- assess the performance of the Entity during the first half of the financial year, taking into account—
  - the monthly statements referred to in section 87 for the first half of the financial year and the targets set in the service delivery, business plan or other agreement with the Entity's parent municipality; and
  - the Entity's annual report for the past year, and progress on resolving problems identified in the annual report; and
- submit a report on such assessment to—
  - the board of directors; and
  - the District Municipality.

The mid year budget and performance assessment report must be made public.

### **5.4 Section 75 of the MFMA - Information to be placed on websites of municipalities**

The CEO must place on the Entity's official website (inter alia) the following:

- the annual and adjustments budgets and all budget-related documents;
- the annual report;
- all performance agreements;
- all service delivery agreements;
- all long-term borrowing contracts;
- all quarterly reports submitted to the Board of Directors and the District Municipality on the implementation of the budget and the financial state of affairs of the Entity.

**APPROVAL AND SIGNATURES**

Formulated by: *[Signature]*.....

Date: *03 August 2020*.....

CEO Recommendation: *[Signature]*.....

Date: *03 August 2020*.....

Board approval: *[Signature]*.....

Date: *03/08/2020*.....

**BOARD APPROVED COPY**  
**NTINGA O.R. TAMBO DEV. AGENCY**  
Date:.....  
S.O.C  
Signature:.....