Vote 6

International Relations and Cooperation

Adjusted budget summary

R thousand	2025/26 Appropriation	Special appropriation	Adjustments appropriation Decrease	Increase	Adjusted appropriation
Amount to be appropriated	**7 090 174**	**–**	**–**	**218 955**	**7 309 129**
of which:					
Current payments	5 980 640	–	–	205 164	6 185 804
Transfers and subsidies	924 055	–	–	–	924 055
Payments for capital assets	185 479	–	–	13 791	199 270

Executive authority	Minister of International Relations and Cooperation
Accounting officer	Director-General of International Relations and Cooperation
Website	www.dirco.gov.za

Vote purpose

Formulate, coordinate, implement and manage South Africa's foreign policy and international relations programmes.

Performance

Indicator	Programme	MTDP outcome	Annual performance: Projected for 2025/26 as published in the 2025 ENE	Achieved in the first half of 2025/26 (April to September)	Changed target for 2025/26
Number of structured bilateral mechanisms, high-level engagements and other engagements on political, economic and social relations held per year	International Relations	Outcome 7: Increased investment, trade and tourism	60	22	–
Number of economic diplomacy engagements/initiatives hosted to promote tourism, trade and investment per year	International Relations		60	80	–
Number of engagements per year to facilitate financing opportunities for South African direct foreign investment	International Relations		20	10	–
Number of engagements per year to promote peace and stability, socioeconomic development, good governance, democracy and regional integration on the continent	International Cooperation		5	8	–

Performance (continued)

Indicator	Programme	MTDP outcome	Annual performance: Projected for 2025/26 as published in the 2025 ENE	Annual performance: Achieved in the first half of 2025/26 (April to September)	Annual performance: Changed target for 2025/26
Number of summits and high-level meetings of the United Nations system and other International organisations attended per year to achieve the objectives of the National Development Plan	International Cooperation	Outcome 21: Effective border management and development in Africa and globally	3	1	–
Number of reports per year on the outcomes of South-South engagements reflecting South Africa’s participation and interests, including that of the African Agenda	International Cooperation		4	2	–
Number of reports per year on the outcomes of North-South engagements reflecting South Africa’s participation and interests, including that of the African Agenda	International Cooperation		2	1	–
Number of platforms used per year to inform and promote South Africa’s foreign policy to domestic and international audiences through:	Public Diplomacy and Protocol Services	Outcome 7: Increased investment, trade and tourism			–
– public participation programmes			12	11	
– key messages			80	54	
– opinion pieces published			12	7	
Percentage of requests for consular assistance attended to per year	Public Diplomacy and Protocol Services	Departmental mandate	100%	100% (541)	–

Progress

As a result of hosting events related to South Africa’s G20 presidency, the department conducted more domestic development activities than planned during the period under review. Additional opportunities through these activities were identified to promote tourism, trade and investment, resulting in the department hosting 80 engagements by mid-year against an annual target of 60. Similarly, the department hosted 8 engagements by mid-year against an annual target of 5 to promote peace and stability, socioeconomic development, good governance, democracy and regional integration on the continent. As part of G20-related activities, the department also hosted more public participation programmes than planned to inform and promote South Africa’s foreign policy to domestic and international audiences.

Adjusted estimates

Programme	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments[1]	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
Administration	1 658 184	–	–	20 000	–	118 955	–	138 955	1 797 139
International Relations	3 471 438	–	–	(20 000)	–	–	–	(20 000)	3 451 438
International Cooperation	585 383	–	–	(35 000)	–	–	–	(35 000)	550 383
Public Diplomacy and Protocol Services	486 272	–	–	35 000	–	–	100 000	135 000	621 272
International Transfers	888 897	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	888 897
Total	**7 090 174**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**118 955**	**100 000**	**218 955**	**7 309 129**
Economic classification									
Current payments	**5 980 640**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**105 164**	**100 000**	**205 164**	**6 185 804**
Compensation of employees	3 235 882	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3 235 882
Goods and services	2 555 038	–	–	–	–	105 164	100 000	205 164	2 760 202
Interest and rent on land	189 720	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	189 720
Transfers and subsidies	**924 055**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**924 055**
Departmental agencies and accounts	54 466	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	54 466
Foreign governments and international organisations	834 431	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	834 431
Households	35 158	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	35 158
Payments for capital assets	**185 479**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**13 791**	**–**	**13 791**	**199 270**
Buildings and other fixed structures	98 680	–	–	–	–	13 791	–	13 791	112 471
Machinery and equipment	86 799	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	86 799
Total	**7 090 174**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**118 955**	**100 000**	**218 955**	**7 309 129**

1. *Other adjustments include the shifting of funds between votes, the shifting of funds within a vote following a function shift, declared unspent funds, significant and unforeseeable economic and financial events, and expenditure of an exceptional nature in terms of section 6(1)(b) of the Appropriation Act (2025).*

Programme 1: Administration

Subprogramme	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
Ministry	7 757	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7 757
Departmental Management	13 160	–	–	1 300	–	–	–	1 300	14 460
Audit Services	17 888	–	–	2 400	–	–	–	2 400	20 288
Financial Management	201 995	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	201 995
Corporate Services	771 673	–	–	10 300	–	–	–	10 300	781 973
Diplomatic Training, Research and Development	48 749	–	–	6 000	–	–	–	6 000	54 749
Foreign Fixed Assets Management	106 550	–	–	–	–	118 955	–	118 955	225 505
Office Accommodation	477 058	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	477 058
African Renaissance and International Cooperation Fund Secretariat	13 354	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	13 354
Total	**1 658 184**	**–**	**–**	**20 000**	**–**	**118 955**	**–**	**138 955**	**1 797 139**

Programme 1: Administration (continued)

Economic classification	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
Current payments	**1 481 758**	**–**	**–**	**20 000**	**–**	**105 164**	**–**	**125 164**	**1 606 922**
Compensation of employees	524 506	–	–	20 000	–	–	–	20 000	544 506
Goods and services	767 532	–	–	–	–	105 164	–	105 164	872 696
Interest and rent on land	189 720	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	189 720
Transfers and subsidies	**2 002**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**2 002**
Households	2 002	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 002
Payments for capital assets	**174 424**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**13 791**	**–**	**13 791**	**188 215**
Buildings and other fixed structures	98 680	–	–	–	–	13 791	–	13 791	112 471
Machinery and equipment	75 744	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	75 744
Total	**1 658 184**	**–**	**–**	**20 000**	**–**	**118 955**	**–**	**138 955**	**1 797 139**

Programme 2: International Relations

Subprogramme	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
Africa	1 097 441	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 097 441
Asia and Middle East	1 010 261	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 010 261
Americas and Caribbean	521 966	–	–	(20 000)	–	–	–	(20 000)	501 966
Europe	841 770	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	841 770
Total	**3 471 438**	**–**	**–**	**(20 000)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(20 000)**	**3 451 438**
Economic classification									
Current payments	**3 436 603**	**–**	**–**	**(20 000)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(20 000)**	**3 416 603**
Compensation of employees	2 141 726	–	–	(20 000)	–	–	–	(20 000)	2 121 726
Goods and services	1 294 877	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 294 877
Transfers and subsidies	**27 563**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**27 563**
Households	27 563	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	27 563
Payments for capital assets	**7 272**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**7 272**
Machinery and equipment	7 272	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7 272
Total	**3 471 438**	**–**	**–**	**(20 000)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(20 000)**	**3 451 438**

Programme 3: International Cooperation

Subprogramme	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
Global System of Governance	394 809	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	394 809
Continental Cooperation	88 837	–	–	(10 000)	–	–	–	(10 000)	78 837
South-South Cooperation	5 711	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5 711
North-South Dialogue	96 026	–	–	(25 000)	–	–	–	(25 000)	71 026
Total	**585 383**	**–**	**–**	**(35 000)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(35 000)**	**550 383**

Programme 3: International Cooperation (continued)

Economic classification	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
Current payments	**578 024**	**–**	**–**	**(35 000)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(35 000)**	**543 024**
Compensation of employees	389 601	–	–	(35 000)	–	–	–	(35 000)	354 601
Goods and services	188 423	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	188 423
Transfers and subsidies	**3 639**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3 639**
Households	3 639	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3 639
Payments for capital assets	**3 720**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3 720**
Machinery and equipment	3 720	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3 720
Total	**585 383**	**–**	**–**	**(35 000)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(35 000)**	**550 383**

Programme 4: Public Diplomacy and Protocol Services

Subprogramme	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
Public Diplomacy	68 718	–	–	7 150	–	–	–	7 150	75 868
Protocol Services	417 554	–	–	27 850	–	–	100 000	127 850	545 404
Total	**486 272**	**–**	**–**	**35 000**	**–**	**–**	**100 000**	**135 000**	**621 272**
Economic classification									
Current payments	**484 255**	**–**	**–**	**35 000**	**–**	**–**	**100 000**	**135 000**	**619 255**
Compensation of employees	180 049	–	–	35 000	–	–	–	35 000	215 049
Goods and services	304 206	–	–	–	–	–	100 000	100 000	404 206
Transfers and subsidies	**1 954**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**1 954**
Households	1 954	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 954
Payments for capital assets	**63**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**63**
Machinery and equipment	63	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	63
Total	**486 272**	**–**	**–**	**35 000**	**–**	**–**	**100 000**	**135 000**	**621 272**

Programme 5: International Transfers

Subprogramme	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
Departmental Agencies	54 466	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	54 466
Membership contribution	834 431	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	834 431
Total	**888 897**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**888 897**
Economic classification									
Transfers and subsidies	**888 897**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**888 897**
Departmental agencies and accounts	54 466	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	54 466
Foreign governments and international organisations	834 431	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	834 431
Total	**888 897**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**888 897**

Details of adjustments to the 2025 ENE

Virements and shifts within the vote

Programmes

1. Administration
2. International Relations
3. International Cooperation
4. Public Diplomacy and Protocol Services
5. International Transfers

From:			To:		
Programme by economic classification	**Motivation**	**R thousand**	**Programme by economic classification**	**Motivation**	**R thousand**
Programme 2		**(20 000)**	**Programme 1**		**20 000**
Compensation of employees	Salaries and wages	(20 000)	Compensation of employees	Cost-of-living adjustments	20 000
Shifts within the programme as a percentage of the programme budget		0%			
Virements to other programmes as a percentage of the programme budget		**0.6%**			
Programme 3		**(35 000)**	**Programme 4**		**35 000**
Compensation of employees	Salaries and wages	(35 000)	Compensation of employees	Cost-of-living adjustments	35 000
Shifts within the programme as a percentage of the programme budget		0%			
Virements to other programmes as a percentage of the programme budget		**6%**			
Total		**(55 000)**			**55 000**

Self-financing expenditure – R118.955 million

Programme 1: Administration

Revenue of R118.955 million was expected to be generated from the sale of properties in Namibia, Switzerland and Portugal. Of this amount, R9.488 million has been paid to the department from the sale of a property in Portugal, while the remaining R109.467 million is expected to be generated from the sale of properties in Namibia and Switzerland. These funds will enable the department to finance construction, refurbishment and acquisition projects in India, Botswana, Denmark, Angola, Ethiopia and Belgium.

Other adjustments – R100 million

Funds shifted between votes

R100 million is transferred from other departments’ declared savings to cover a budget shortfall for the G20 Leaders’ Summit.

Expenditure outcome for 2024/25 and actual expenditure for 2025/26

Programme	2024/25					2025/26			
		Outcome						Actual expenditure	
R thousand	Adjusted appropriation	Apr 24 - Sep 24	Apr 24 - Sep 24 % of adjusted appropriation	Apr 24 - Mar 25	Apr 24 - Mar 25 % of adjusted appropriation	Adjusted appropriation	Adjusted appropriation/ Total (%)	Apr 25 - Sep 25	Apr 25 - Sep 25 % of adjusted appropriation
Administration	1 787 236	785 787	44.0	1 635 984	91.5	1 797 139	24.6	910 158	50.6
International Relations	3 550 095	1 850 826	52.1	3 516 229	99.0	3 451 438	47.2	1 802 896	52.2
International Cooperation	592 860	308 554	52.0	595 962	100.5	550 383	7.5	303 531	55.1
Public Diplomacy and Protocol Services	294 681	142 374	48.3	418 617	142.1	621 272	8.5	416 471	67.0
International Transfers	856 359	541 788	63.3	844 349	98.6	888 897	12.2	485 733	54.6
Total	**7 081 231**	**3 629 329**	**51.3**	**7 011 141**	**99.0**	**7 309 129**	**100.0**	**3 918 789**	**53.6**

Expenditure outcome for 2024/25 and actual expenditure for 2025/26 (continued)

Economic classification	2024/25					2025/26			
		Outcome						Actual expenditure	
R thousand	Adjusted appropriation	Apr 24 - Sep 24	Apr 24 - Sep 24 % of adjusted appropriation	Apr 24 - Mar 25	Apr 24 - Mar 25 % of adjusted appropriation	Adjusted appropriation	Adjusted appropriation/ Total (%)	Apr 25 - Sep 25	Apr 25 - Sep 25 % of adjusted appropriation
Current payments	**5 987 923**	**3 040 861**	**50.8**	**6 042 293**	**100.9**	**6 185 804**	**84.6**	**3 382 601**	**54.7**
Compensation of employees	3 257 419	1 629 637	50.0	3 270 000	100.4	3 235 882	44.3	1 602 335	49.5
Goods and services	2 580 371	1 322 442	51.3	2 594 730	100.6	2 760 202	37.8	1 686 232	61.1
Interest and rent on land	150 133	88 782	59.1	177 563	118.3	189 720	2.6	94 034	49.6
Transfers and subsidies	**883 602**	**559 047**	**63.3**	**890 594**	**100.8**	**924 055**	**12.6**	**501 204**	**54.2**
Departmental agencies and accounts	52 131	52 131	100.0	52 131	100.0	54 466	0.7	54 466	100.0
Foreign governments and international organisations	804 228	489 657	60.9	792 218	98.5	834 431	11.4	431 267	51.7
Households	27 243	17 259	63.4	46 245	169.8	35 158	0.5	15 471	44.0
Payments for capital assets	**209 706**	**27 728**	**13.2**	**48 891**	**23.3**	**199 270**	**2.7**	**34 939**	**17.5**
Buildings and other fixed structures	123 044	22 128	18.0	31 725	25.8	112 471	1.5	27 892	24.8
Machinery and equipment	86 662	5 058	5.8	16 624	19.2	86 799	1.2	7 047	8.1
Software and other intangible assets	–	542	–	542	–	–	–	–	–
Payments for financial assets	**–**	**1 693**	**–**	**29 363**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**45**	**–**
Total	**7 081 231**	**3 629 329**	**51.3**	**7 011 141**	**99.0**	**7 309 129**	**100.0**	**3 918 789**	**53.6**

Expenditure trends

Total expenditure in 2024/25 was R7 billion, 99 per cent of the adjusted appropriation of R7.1 billion for the year. Mid-year expenditure in 2024/25 was R3.6 billion, 51.3 per cent of the adjusted appropriation, whereas expenditure in the first half of 2025/26 was R3.9 billion, 53.6 per cent of the adjusted appropriation of R7.3 billion. Compared to the first half of 2024/25, expenditure over the same period in 2025/26 increased by R289.5 million, 8 per cent. This was mainly due to expenditure on the G20 summit, cost-of-living adjustments and ICT.

Departmental receipts

	2024/25					2025/26				
		Outcome							Actual receipts	
R thousand	Adjusted estimate	Apr 24 - Sep 24	Apr 24 - Sep 24 % of adjusted estimate	Apr 24 - Mar 25	Apr 24 - Mar 25 % of adjusted estimate	Budget estimate	Adjusted estimate	Adjusted receipts estimate/ Total (%)	Apr 25 - Sep 25	Apr 25 - Sep 25 % of adjusted estimate
Departmental receipts	**58 417**	**30 270**	**51.8**	**191 591**	**328.0**	**59 350**	**71 981**	**100.0**	**47 170**	**65.5**
Sales of goods and services produced by the department	2 086	409	19.6	841	40.3	2 200	2 200	3.1	459	20.9
Sales of scrap, waste, arms and other used current goods	9	9	100.0	19	211.1	–	1	0.0	1	100.0
Fines, penalties and forfeits	–	–	–	–	–	–	742	1.0	742	100.0
Interest, dividends and rent on land	869	537	61.8	840	96.7	912	1 532	2.1	1 532	100.0
Sales of capital assets	2 207	919	41.6	137 743	6 241.2	2 317	13 585	18.9	13 585	100.0
Transactions in financial assets and liabilities	53 246	28 396	53.3	52 148	97.9	53 921	53 921	74.9	30 851	57.2
Total	**58 417**	**30 270**	**51.8**	**191 591**	**328.0**	**59 350**	**71 981**	**100.0**	**47 170**	**65.5**

Revenue trends

Mid-year revenue in 2024/25 was R30.3 million, 51.8 per cent of the adjusted estimate, whereas revenue for the first half of 2025/26 was R47.2 million, 65.5 per cent of the adjusted estimate of R71.9 million. Compared to the first half of 2024/25, revenue over the same period in 2025/26 increased by R16.9 million, 55.8 per cent. This was mainly due to revenue generated through the sale of state properties abroad.

Summary of changes to transfers and subsidies per programme

	2025/26								
		Adjustments appropriation							
R thousand	Appropriation	Expenditure announced in the budget	Unforeseeable /Unavoidable	Virements and shifts	Roll-overs	Self-financing	Other adjustments	Total adjustments appropriation	Adjusted appropriation
International									
Transfers									
Foreign governments and international organisations									
Current	**206 007**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**206 007**
United Nations Development Programme	18 494	–	–	8 964	–	–	–	8 964	27 458
Commonwealth of Nations	7 446	–	–	19	–	–	–	19	7 465
Southern African Development Community	180 067	–	–	(8 983)	–	–	–	(8 983)	171 084