

Policy Advocacy Training

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PUBLIC POLICY CONCEPTS



BASIC CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES



A policy is a plan of action to guide decisions and actions. The term may apply to government, private sector organizations and groups, and individuals.

A bill is a draft proposal of a required law before it is approved and passed by parliament

When a bill is approved and passed by parliament as well as receiving the president's assent, it becomes an **Act (of parliament)**



Ordinance is a term used instead of law among commonwealth countries which are still under colonial domination

A by law is a rule made by a local authority. Local governments always make their district specific rules but these rules must not contradict with the public policy



Law

A body of rules of conduct of binding legal force and effect, prescribed, recognized, and enforced by controlling authority. Law is enforced by threat of punishment if violated

A regulation is a form of secondary legislation, which is used to implement a primary piece of legislation appropriately, or to take account of particular circumstances or factors emerging during the gradual implementation of, or during the period of, a primary piece of legislation.



★ Legislation

The act of making law or forming law is called the legislative process

- ★ Legislation is law which has been promulgated (enacted) by the a legislature. The term may refer to a single law or a body of enacted law. The single law can also be called a statute.



- ★ A **policy** is a deliberate plan of action to guide decisions and achieve rational outcome(s). The term may apply to government, private sector organizations and groups, and individuals. Presidential executive orders, corporate privacy policies, and parliamentary rules of order are all examples of policy. Policy differs from rules or law. While law can compel or prohibit behaviors (e.g. a law requiring the payment of taxes on income) policy merely guides actions toward those that are most likely to achieve a desired outcome.



What is public policy?

Public policy is understood as a course of action, authorised by government, to achieve certain goals. Such a course of action may take many forms. It could, for example, take the form of a law, a strategy or a programme. Even a speech made by a president or a minister could outline a government's planned course of action.

- ★ Public policies are not created in a vacuum. Many people affected by these policies have an interest in determining the content of that policy. Policies can also be seen as processes: they change as they are implemented and rarely conform to plan. Policies can have intended and unintended



- ★ **Public policy** is a course of action or inaction chosen by public authorities to address a problem. Public policy is expressed in the body of laws, regulations, decisions and actions of government. Policy analysis may be used to formulate public policy and to evaluate its effectiveness.
- ★ **Public Policy** is the basic policy or set of policies forming the foundation of public laws, especially such policy not yet formally enunciated.



- ★ Public Policies are conceptual “road maps”, reflecting aspirations, values, intents, commitments and priorities.
- ★ They are select courses of action that guide governmental decisions affecting the lives of the citizens. Public Policy is arguably the primary output of Government.

While service delivery is increasingly being privatized, contracted out or delivered through partnerships, public policy, for the most part, continues to be prepared by public servants & decided upon by the political leadership.

