

Topic:

Water for Health: Access to WASH, including the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

In July of 2010, the United Nations General Assembly “explicitly recognized the human right to water and sanitation and acknowledged that clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realization of all human rights” in Resolution A/RES/64/292.

International human rights law obliges States to work towards achieving universal access to water and sanitation for all, without any discrimination, while prioritizing those most in need. The key elements of the rights to water and sanitation are:

- Availability; Accessibility; Affordability; Quality and Safety; and Acceptability.

Safe drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene are crucial to human health and well-being. Safe WASH is not only a prerequisite to health, but contributes to livelihoods and dignity and helps to create resilient communities living in healthy environments.

I considered among others factors the unending struggle, debate, conferences, here and there, etc. in bringing to an end the challenges of water to be a Rat Race. Solutions are not scares but the pursuit of profits has prolonged challenges to linger on with occasional pain killer or antidote as a palliatives measures to the pain and suffering of the humanity by humanity. To find answer is to consider three basic principles in no order

1. Law. 2. Politics and 3. Policies

What does it mean in practice?

The Law: Law is a rule and measure of acts, whereby man is induced to act or is restrained from acting: for *lex* [law] is derived from *ligare* [to bind], because it binds one to act

What is the purpose of water laws?

More specifically, water law concerns: (1) the balance between public rights and private rights to use water; (2) the relative rights of individual water users; and (3) water quality and the regulation of discharges to water.

The essence is to meet their obligations to protect, respect and fulfill human rights. This means that it matters *how* development happens

The Politics:

What is politics about? At its core, politics is about resolving matters that are contested in a society or group.

The principles of universality and indivisibility, participation and inclusion, equity and non-discrimination, and accountability and rule of law. For example, means that communities and vulnerable groups will be empowered to take part in decision-making processes. It strengthens their voice so that they are not excluded when services are rendered and expanded and allows them to demand accountability from institutions in charge of allocating scarce resources.

The Policy

It is a process for which the government needs to choose the best, comprehensive, action-oriented and executable alternative out of numerous alternatives. In other words, the policy making process must identify a goal to be achieved and a course of action.

Always, I ask, if Gold, Crude Oil, other Raw Naturals can be Exported, can water be exported to meet needs in order areas to address shortages of water in urban and rural areas, among water users. [Allan, 1992] reminds us that countries such as Egypt conceal their growing water deficit in the form of imports of food ("virtual water").

From:

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