



AMREF INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION MAY-AUGUST 2026

UNIT CODE: HSM 717

UNIT TITLE: HEALTH POLICY AND PLANNING

PAPER 1

DATE: 5TH April, 2026

TIME: Three Hours

Start: 5:30 PM

Finish: 8:30 PM

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This exam is marked out of 100 marks
2. This Examination comprises TWO Sections
Section A: Compulsory Question (25 marks)
Section B: Long Answer Questions (75 marks)

SECTION A: COMPULSORY (25 Marks)

Short Answer Questions

1. Differentiate five characteristics of a public policy from those of operational guidelines. (5 Marks)
2. Identify five factors that influence successful implementation of health policies. (5 Marks)
3. Examine five roles played by stakeholders during health policy development. (5 Marks)
4. Describe five criteria used in analysing the quality of a health policy. (5 Marks)
5. Explain five challenges that may hinder evidence-informed health policy development. (5 Marks)

SECTION B (75 MARKS)

ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS

6. A county government has developed a new health policy aimed at improving access to primary healthcare services, but implementation has remained below expectations.
 - a) Analyse five factors that may contribute to poor implementation of the policy. (10 Marks)
 - b) Recommend five interventions that could strengthen policy implementation. (15 Marks)
7. A Ministry of Health task force has been established to develop a national policy on adolescent mental health.
 - a) Evaluate five stakeholder groups whose participation would be critical during policy development. (10 Marks)
 - b) Formulate five mechanisms for ensuring meaningful stakeholder engagement throughout the policy process. (15 Marks)
8. A review of an existing national health policy has revealed that several intended outcomes have not been achieved.
 - a) Evaluate five policy analysis approaches that could be used to assess the policy. (10 Marks)
 - b) Develop five criteria that should guide decisions regarding policy revision. (15 Marks)
9. A country intends to introduce Universal Health Coverage reforms through a new national health financing policy.
 - a) Evaluate five considerations that should inform development of the policy. (10 Marks)
 - b) Propose five policy components that could promote equitable access to healthcare services. (15 Marks)
10. Several health sector reforms have been implemented over the past decade, yet health outcomes remain below national targets.
 - a) Analyse five factors that may limit effectiveness of health sector reforms. (10 Marks)
 - b) Propose five monitoring and evaluation measures that could be used to assess performance of the reforms. (15 Marks)