**NOTE 10: TYPES OF DIPLOMACY**

**10.0. INTRODUCTION**

In the conduct of Diplomacy, there exist specific characteristics in the way and manner international actors (states and non-state) utilise that give it a distinct identity. These identities have distinct nomenclatures that allow their activities to be easily singled out. All of these form the foundation of identifying the types of Diplomacy in the International System. Yet, in the study of Diplomacy is carried out. Hence, it may be unfeasible to enumerate them all but their major niche, which will remain the focus of today’s class.

**10.1. CLASSIFICATION OF THE TYPES OF DIPLOMACY**

Classification entails the systematic process in which ideas and objects are recognised, differentiated and understood by grouping them into their similarities and differences. Classification of the types of Diplomacy is essential for this topis as there exist various types of Diplomacy. Hence, for **the purpose of this topic**, the various types of Diplomacy can be **classified** under **four** headings. These are;

1. TYPE OF DIPLOMACY BY PARTICIPANT
2. TYPE OF DIPLOMACY BY CHANNELS
3. TYPES OF DIPLOMACY BY ERAS
4. TYPE OF DIPLOMACY BY PURPOSE

**10.2. TYPE OF DIPLOMACY BY PARTICIPANT**

Here, the type of Diplomacy is based on the numbers of state actors involved. Type of Diplomacy under this classification are;

**10.2.1. BILATERAL DIPLOMACY**

It is a type of Diplomacy that covers relations between **two** states. It could be general or specific. E.g. Nigeria – South Africa Relations (General), France – Germany Economic Relations (specific) etc.

**10.2.2. MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY**

Here, Diplomacy covers Diplomatic interactions between **three** or **more** states. Most (not all) of Multilateral Diplomacy is conducted within the confines of International Organisation, e.g. the United Nation (UN), the African Union (AU) etc.

**10.3. TYPE OF DIPLOMACY BY CHANNELS**

This classification of Diplomacy is based on the Channel or Medium of Diplomatic engagement between and amongst international actors. Here we have;

**10.3.1. PERSONAL DIPLOMACY**

In this type of Diplomacy, the **Head of State** or the **Foreign Minister** sidetrack the permanent traditional Diplomatic Channel for **personal initiative**. These may involve travelling from country to country to promote a Diplomatic Agenda. E.g. President Muhamadu Buhari Working visit to South Africa 2019, etc.

**10.3.2. SUMMIT DIPLOMACY**

Here, Diplomacy is carried out via **one on one** interaction by leaders of sovereign states or their designated representative. E.g. US- North Korea Summit inn Hanoi and Singapore.

**10.3.3. PERMANENT TRADITIONAL DIPLOMACY**

Here, Diplomatic interactions flow from **established structures**. Such structures could from the **Head of State** to the **Minister of Foreign Affairs**, to the **Ambassador**, to the **Charge de Affaires**, to the **Protocol Officer**. In this type of Diplomacy, the Minister of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry makes all foreign policy pronouncement on behalf of their state. Also, if the head of state was to do so, most times, it will be with the input the minister or ministry of foreign Affaires and the state legislature. The permanence of this type of Diplomacy lies in the fundamental that the structure of **rarely change** when there is a **change in government (elections),** but personnel must likely will.

**10.3.4. CONFERENCE DIPLOMACY**

Here, Diplomacy takes place with the gathering of the Official of two or more state to carry out Diplomatic interactions, E.g. the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (to Discuss Global Trade Issues). In conference Diplomacy, officials of states meet to discuss issues that go beyond the ability of state independent on their own to resolve. Under Conference Diplomacy, we have related branch such as;

1. Annual Conference Diplomacy
2. Extra-Ordinary Conference Diplomacy
3. Parliamentary Conference Diplomacy
4. Ad-Hoc Conference Diplomacy

**10.3.5. TRACK DIPLOMACY**

In Track Diplomacy it involves interactions around Diplomatic between international actors on different levels or strata of engagement. It includes;

1. **TRACK 1 DIPLOMACY:** Here, Diplomacy is conducted by **officials (Government to Government)**. The officials are **high level political** and **military leaders.** Diplomacy here is used to achieve aims such as a ceasefire, peace talks, treaty negotiation, international agreement and others.
2. **TRACK 1.5 DIPLOMACY:** It is a hybrid between Track 1 and 2 Diplomacy. Also, it is positioned as a midway situation between Official, and Non-Official communication or engagement means as well as are used to achieve Diplomatic aims.
3. **TRACK 2 DIPLOMACY**: Here, unofficial (CSOs, NGOs etc.) means are used to conduct Diplomacy. It mostly involves non-state actors (academia, influential individual, etc.) who interacts freely with state officials.
4. **TRACK 3 DIPLOMACY**: For this Track of Diplomacy, interactions exist between private interest groups and other private interest groups (Business Interest). They aim to raise awareness or empower communities. It is facilitated by media coverage, political and legal advocacy.
5. **TRACK 4 DIPLOMACY**: Here, more that one Track of Diplomacy can be employed

**10.4. TYPE OF DIPLOMACY BY ERA**

An Era means a **period of history**. Diplomacy here is classified according to historical timeframes. For this we have;

**10.4.1. OLD OR TRADITIONAL DIPLOMACY**

Scholars differ on why period does this type of Diplomacy cover. For some, it covers from Antiquity till the early 20th century (1914). Other gauges it to entail the period from the 18th century to the dawn of the 20th century (1914). Scholars of the later view are in the majority.

**10.4.2. NEW OR MODERN DIPLOMACY**

Here, it covers the period from the 20th century to date. Its emergence is shaped by globalisation and the role of technology.

**10.5. TYPE OF DIPLOMACY BY PURPOSE**

Here, Diplomacy is classified by the aim it seeks to achieve. Type of Diplomacy under this classification includes;

**10.5.1.** **PUBLIC DIPLOMACY**

It is a type of Diplomacy that exercise influence through communication with the general public in another nation. Public Diplomacy does not try to influence the national government directly. Propaganda is a medium of communication in public Diplomacy. The citizen of another state is the target of Diplomacy. Here, the operators of public Diplomacy attempt to gains favourable perception of citizens of a foreign state to your culture, policy and actions.

**10.5.2. ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY**

Economic Diplomacy is the use of the economic endowment of a state to promote their interest and policy. It could be in the form of an economic foreign aid package.

**10.5.3. COERCIVE DIPLOMACY**

It is the use of the instrument of military strength intimidation to exact influence on others. Here, you apply pressure to coerce another state to act in a way and manner you desire, irrespective of their protest.

**10.5.4. CULTURAL DIPLOMACY**

Cultural Diplomacy relies on the use of **social** and **historical similarities** between people or the appeal and favourable perception a culture already enjoy in the international system to influence Diplomatic interactions. It is viewed as **soft power**, used to influence **the hearts and minds** of others and gain their **admiration, respect and friendship**. It is also considered as the opposite of coercive Diplomacy.

**10.5.5. PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY**

Preventive Diplomacy aims to forestall the actions of another state via the diplomatic process. It conducted to prevent disputes or deter the activities a belligerent power.