THE POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Bill Gates - Green Premium

Politics is the science of governance. It takes two to tango. Politics as a game can be played between two or more people, and it is not just a game of numbers. It is making good use of numbers. As a game, it has its rules and regulations, and where these are not defined, chaos and war are always the end result. We play politics in our homes, at our jobs, in our worship centers (mosques, churches or synagogues) at various levels of governance, such as communities, local governments, states, and even at the national level. Politics as a game has to be competitive where winners and losers are to emerge. There are also factors that affect how we play politics. These include our personalities, culture, and traditions, ideologies as well as our religions. Regardless of what is our motivating factor, playing a game according to its rules guarantees peace, and if actually politics is the science of governance, it contemplates people and events, and to this end, the exercise of governance can only be successful where there is peace. Economic activities also are believed to thrive where there is peace.

Climate change is a subject that most people have heard about, seen with their naked eyes, and in some cases, experienced by either one's self, a close relation, friend or neighbors, but with little or no concerns shown. Now, the acknowledgement of rapid climate change and its disastrous effects in the future cannot be overemphasized. The situation that we have in our hands as humans, living in a global village, is such that if allowed to continue, we end up with a catastrophic effect such that may have its extreme in the extinction of the human civilization, the death of billions of people, and where some humans are still remaining on the planet earth, they will be forced to live with a very hostile earth. This calls for immediate actions from humanity towards salvaging the earth that humanity may not be wiped out of creation.

Paris Conference, 2015

The magnitude of the problem that we have in our hands in rapid climate change has assumed a global dimension and therefore demands international collaboration and cooperation to achieve success. Because of the sensitivity of the nature of the problems that we have, it has attracted contributions from different quarters as well as individuals, corporate organizations and professionals, all with the sole aim of converting the problem of climate change.

Human activities from pollution to overpopulation are driving up the earth's temperature and are fundamentally changing the world around us. The main cause is a phenomenon known as the Greenhouse Effect.

Gases in the atmosphere such as water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and chlorofluorocarbons let the sun's light in but keep some of the heat from escaping, like the glass walls of a greenhouse. The more greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, the more heat gets trapped strengthening the Greenhouse Effect and increasing the earth's temperature. Human activities, like the burning of fossil fuels have increased the amount of CO2 in the atmosphere by more than one third since the Industrial Revolution. The rapid increase in greenhouses gases in the atmosphere has warmed the planet at an alarming rate. While earth's climate has fluctuated in the past, atmospheric carbon dioxide hasn't reached today's levels in hundreds of thousands of years.

Climate change has consequences for our oceans, our weather, our food sources, and our health. Ice sheets such as Greenland and Antarctica are melting. The extra water that was once held in glaciers causes sea levels to rise, and spills out of the oceans flooding coastal regions. Warmer temperatures also make weather more extreme. This means not only more intense major storms, floods, and heavy snowfall, but also longer and more frequent droughts. These changes in weather pose challenges. Growing crops becomes more difficult. The areas where plants and animals can live shift, and water supplies are diminished.

In addition to creating new agricultural challenges, climate change can directly affect people's physical health. In urban areas the warmer atmosphere creates an environment that traps and increases the amount of smog. This is because smog contains ozone particles, which increase rapidly at higher temperatures. Exposure to higher levels of smog can cause health problems such as asthma, heart disease, and lung cancer.

While the rapid rate of climate change is caused by humans, humans are also the ones who can combat it. We need to work to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy sources, like solar and wind, which don't produce greenhouse gas.

More often than not, fossil fuel is the most popular and easily identifiable causes of the rapid climate change whereas there are other sources which have a lot to do with human activities that are also a major source of the problems of climate change.

Bill Gates is not left out amongst those who are in the front lines of the fight against the problem of climate change. In his opinion, from a YouTube interview, climate change is leading humanity into a disastrous end. This is avoidable though difficult and hard to achieve. Granting interview on the subject of climate change and in relation to his book titled "Decarbonizing Our Economy and the Society," he described himself as an imperfect messenger on climate change because of his high carbon footprint.

In proffering solutions to the problem of rapid climate change, he discusses some of the things that we already have, which include solar and wind, things we need to have such as carbon-free cement, carbon-free steel, and long energy storage. He also discusses the economy of it all, which is the concept of Green Premium. According to Bill Gates, avoiding a climate disaster will require that we act and now. "The greenhouse gases that we put in to the atmosphere, particularly CO2, stay there for thousands of years and so it's really the sum of all those emissions are forcing the temperature higher and higher, which will have disastrous effects, and so we have to take these emissions, which are presently over 51 billion tons per year and drive those all the way down to zero, and that's when the temperature will stop increasing and the disastrous weather events won't get worse and worse. So it's pretty demanding, it's not a 50% reduction, it's all the way down to zero."

In helping us to register or visualize the magnitude of the problems that we have in our hands, which are the direct effects or consequences of climate change, he goes further to say this. "The key is to understand all the different forces, and people are mostly aware of the production of electricity with natural gas and coal being a big source, that's about 27%, and they're also aware of transportation, including passenger cars. Passenger cars are 7% and transportation overall is 16%. There is far less awareness of the other three segments: agriculture, which is 19%; heating including buildings including natural gas are 7%; and then sadly the biggest segment of all, manufacturing including steel and cement, people are least aware of that one. In fact, that is the most difficult for us to solve. The size of all the steel plants, cement plants, paper, plastic. The industrial economy is gigantic and we're asking that to be changed over in this 30 year period when we don't even know how to make that change right now."

Noteworthy is the fact that the problem of rapid climate change has been foreseen by scientists since decades ago but with no positive action taken to forestall the continuation of the causes of the problem as well as mitigating against the negative effects, which may take hundreds or thousands of years to come to fruition, and fruition in the sense of making the earth inhabitable for humans, a disaster that may signal the end of human civilization.

It is also discovered that humans are designed to react only to potential threats that are visible , have historical precedent, immediate, and which are considered as environmental problems. Examples of visible threats are the appearance of a lion, fire outbreaks, pandemics, and so on and so forth. Climate change is not visible as a potential threat because even with the accumulation of the CO2 that we have in the atmosphere already, we still witness the breaking of new days and beautiful mornings. Climate change has no historical precedent in that it is ongoing right now, and historically, we have never seen the beginning and the end of climate change before, and climate change is yet to be seen as an environmental problem just like the 2nd World War. As time goes on, climate change will not only be seen as an environmental problem but as a problem that will destroy our environment and make life difficult for the inhabitants of the earth.

Apart from these factors, there is also the lack of agreement on the part of the climate change scientists and most of the governments of the world on a clear path that will illuminate further the consequences of climate change if not forestalled as well as how to collectively see the problem as universal and not limited to one nation or the other.

Some opponents of climate change are of the opinion that it is just a scientific propaganda, and to this end have gone to frustrate the efforts of relevant institutions that are the proponents of the action on climate change.

So many factors are attributable to the nonchalant attitude or the lackadaisical behavior of humanity against the danger of climate change, which when compared in terms of the attendant disaster or destruction, will make COVID-19 as nothing.

Whether climate change is a scientific issue or not, Dan Miller, one of the crusaders of climate change, believes and is of the opinion that climate change is not a subject of scientific controversy. In his words, "Climate change is not a scientific controversy. Every major scientific academy in the world agrees. In 2003, a heat wave in Europe, that has been directly linked to global warming, killed over 50000 people and in 2010 another heat wave linked to global warming, this time in Russia, caused global footprints to spike and helped trigger the Arab Spring. And of course here in Texas, in the Midwest, and now in California, extreme heat waves and droughts have had and are having severe economic impacts. A few months ago, NASA announced that we have officially crossed the climate tipping point. They said that the major west Antarctic ice sheets are collapsing, and their loss is "unstoppable."

"This is going to lead to 10 feet of sea level rise over the next few hundred years, and when combined with sea level rise from other sources such as the melting of the Greenland ice sheet, this is going to result in 15 feet of sea level rise in the next 100 to 300 years.

"This means that the bottom third of Florida and many island nations and coastal cities are going to be submerged. This is a slow moving tipping point, but it's still a tipping point. We can reduce our emissions and slow down sea level rise but we can't stop it. And there are many other climate tipping points, potential climate tipping points that could lead to a climate system spiraling out of control of our children so it really makes sense to address the problem now and try to stop that.

"One of the biggest impacts this century is going to be extreme drought and famine. This is from a very recent study that looks at the probabilities of a ten-year mega-drought if we continue business as usual with emissions. It shows that Texas has about a 75% chance and California about a 50% chance, and of course the chances of a 5 year drought are much higher and there's even a small chance of a 35 year mega-drought so it really makes sense to take actions now. So one thing that most people don't understand is that CO2 is unlike all other kinds of pollution. You have a river that's polluted by industrial runoff, you can basically shut down the factory causing the pollution and take some other steps and then afterwhile the water will be clean enough to go fishing and swimming again. But CO2 lasts in the atmosphere for hundreds to thousands of years. Things don't get better when you finally stop emitting it. That's why it's important for us to immediately begin reducing global emissions. If we start now, the outcome will be very different than if we start 10 years from now. Well, we've known about the dangers of climate change for many decades and yet we've done virtually nothing."

Bill Gates and Dan Miller are crusaders fit for description as ambassadors on climate change. These are individuals in their own right, contributing their quotas towards finding a lasting solution to the problem of climate change, which is a global problem. Having realized from the above discussions that the problem of climate change is the problem of all, and, from the past and present experiences of global problems and interventions, the important place occupied by the United States of America cannot be overemphasized.

We are all living witnesses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath, and under normal circumstances, one would expect the same kind of global cooperation that was achieved in fighting against COVID-19 to apply to the problem of climate change. In an attempt to seek global cooperation in waging war against the problem of rapid climate change, the Paris Conference of 2015 on climate change was initiated with 196 countries in attendance.

The main purpose of the Paris Climate Conference was to seek global cooperation to fight against a common enemy called climate change. Areas of focus and commitment include: making the agreement universal and legally binding; fair and differentiated; and sustainable and dynamic. Also important was to ensure a financial component to guarantee international solidarity for more vulnerable countries. Worthy of note is one of the main goals of the conference which targets keeping the global warming at

a temperature of 1.5 - 2 degrees Celsius, in accordance with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Achieving these goals needs a lot of finance from member countries in accordance with their political and economic weights, as well as their identified carbon footprints. This was a step in the right direction, but motivating all the member countries to follow suit and do the right thing is the task that has to be vigorously pursued and done.

It is notable that in spite of all the credits of the COP21 and what it stood for, the world benefited from the leadership provided by the United States of America and the United Nations. President Donald Trump, on assumption of office, unilaterally withdrew the membership of America from the Paris Agreement. This was a big blow to the global cooperation initiated and achieved towards confronting climate change. This was catastrophic going by the vantage position of the United States of America and the political will mustered by the former President Barack Obama towards providing leadership as well as financial support to the cause of the Paris Agreement.. On the assumption of office by President Joe Biden, COP26 was convened and held in Glasgow from October 31 through November 12, 2021. Recognizing the benefits of science, the need to stay on track to keep global warming to 1.5°C between now and the end of the century, and the pressing need to take action in this decade, COP26 produced progress in three areas: scaling up global climate ambition; climate adaptation finance; and finalization of the Paris Agreement rules.

The above conferences held in Paris and Glasgow on climate change reveal the extent of how global cooperation was sought as well as the agreed upon strategies through which concerted efforts at mitigating the effects of climate change on the climate. The initiative behind the two global climate conferences held was applauded and seen as a welcome development by climate scientists and crusaders. They see the conferences as steps in the right direction. In spite of these commendations, there are suggestions and ideas put forward by individuals as well as private organizations with regard to how best the problem of rapid climate change can be tackled leveraging on the global cooperation. They consider the efforts of the United Nations and the United States of America in inspiring and motivating all the member nations of the United Nations to contribute towards confronting climate change as not too promising for the achievement of the set goals. This is born out of the observed disunity among the member nations who, in one way or the other, have been impacted negatively by some of the divisive actions of the United Nations, which include lopsided appointments of the membership of the Security Council; racism; and preferential treatment of the member nations, where some member states are given more opportunities and attention than the others. These preconceived grievances can frustrate the good intentions of the United States of America and the United Nations on climate change.

The major areas deserving intervention in confronting the problem of climate change will be that of mitigation and adaptation. Notably, the area of adaptation is more beneficial to the vulnerable farmers who engage in subsistence farming, especially in the developing countries who are already victims of overflooding, droughts, and terrible and fluctuating weather conditions. Some of the suggested intervention efforts include the economic concept of confronting climate change by Bill Gates, which he calls Green Premium, and the concept proposed by Dan Miller, which is referred to as Fee and Dividend. There is also the technological intervention which is referred to as Carbon Capture and The Payment of Offsets, by individuals and companies based on their calculated carbon footprints.

The Green Premium, which is considered as an economy concept of confronting the problem of rapid climate change put forward by Bill Gates, is described as follows. "So the Green Premium varies from emissions sources. It's the cost to buy that product where there's been no emissions versus the cost we have today. And so for an electric car, the green premium is reasonably modest, you pay a little more up front, you save a bit on the maintenance and gasoline, you give up some range, you have a longer charging time, but over the next fifteen years, because the volume is there and R & D is being done, we can expect that the electric car will be preferable, it won't cost more, it will have a much higher range, and so that green premium which today is about 15% is headed to be zero even without any government subsidies, and so that's magic, that's exactly what we need to do for every other category.

"Now an area like cement, where we haven't really gotten started yet, the green premium today is almost double the price, that is you pay $125 for a ton of cement today but it would be almost double that if you insisted that it be green cement. And so the way I think of this is in 2050, we'll be talking to India and saying to them please use the green products as you're building basic shelter, simple air conditioning, which they'll need because of the heat increase, or lighting at night for students. Unless we're willing to subsidize it, or unless the price is very low, they'll say no, this is a problem that the rich countries created and India's suffering from, and you need to take care of it. So only by bringing that green premium down, very dramatically, by about 95% across all categories will that conversation go well so that India can make that shift. And so the key thing here is that the US's responsibility is not just to zero out its emissions. That's a very hard thing. But we're only 15%. Unless we, through our power of innovation, make it so cheap for all countries to switch all categories, then we simply aren't going to get there, so the US really has to step up and use all its innovative capacity every year for the next 30 years."

On what needs to occur for the breakthroughs to happen and on who the players are, Bill Gates had this to say. "Well, innovation usually happens at a pace of its own. Here we have this deadline, 2050, so we have to do everything we can to accelerate it, we need to raise the R & D budgets in these areas. In 2015, I organized along with Presidents Francois Hollande and Barack Obama a side event to the Paris climate talks. The goal was to double R & D budgets over a 5 year period and all the big countries came in and made that pledge.

"Governments can decide through tax incentives to improve those green products but this is not just about reporting numbers. It's good to report numbers, but the steel industry is providing a vital service, even gasoline for 98% of the cars being purchased today allows people to get to their jobs. So, just divestment alone is not going to be the thing that creates a new alternative and brings the cost of that down. So, the finance side will be important because the speed of deployment, solar wind being accelerated dramatically beyond anything we've done today, in fact on average we'll have to deploy three times as much every year as the peak year so far, so those are a key part of the solution, they're not the whole solution. But people sometimes think by putting numbers, by disclosing numbers, that somehow it all changes or that by divesting it all changes. The financial sector is important, but without the innovation, there is nothing they can do."

As far as the government commitment is concerned, there is need for a political will by those in power, who are expected to put the interest of the people above that of the parties. However, this is what obtains right now in the United States of America, which is the strongest democracy. According to Bill Gates, "the leaders are ultimately responding to voters' interests. Most of the countries we're talking about are democracies. And there are resources that will need to be planned like tax credits that involve buying green products or government purchasing of green products at slightly higher prices. You know those are real tradeoffs, making sure that the areas where there're lots of jobs in coal mining or things where the demand will go down, having that political sensitivity and thinking through

" can we put the new jobs in that area? "

This is a tough political problem. And my admonition to people is not only to get educated themselves but to get other people, and often, like in the US, if it's people of both parties, that's even better. The level of interest is high, but it needs to get even higher. Almost like a moral mission of all young people to go beyond their individual successes that they believe that getting to zero by 2050 is critical."

Furthermore, Bill Gates provides other great innovative ideas in confronting the problem of rapid climate change, and some of these include the use of hydrogen for the production of fertilizer without using natural gas and the manufacturing of steel without the use of coal. Other innovations include the direct carbon capture and offsets. Carbon capture and storage or carbon capture and sequestration is the process of capturing carbon dioxide before it enters the atmosphere, transporting it, and storing it for centuries or millennia. A carbon offset is a reduction or removal of emissions of carbon dioxide

Dan Miller - Fee and Dividend

or other greenhouse gases made in order to compensate for emissions made elsewhere. Carbon capture is very expensive and will cost trillions of dollars to carry out. If that is the only method that needs to be deployed to remove all the carbon dioxide that you have in the atmosphere before the deadline of 2050, this could be one of the reasons why there has been apathy on the part of those who are believed to know better, especially the disastrous end that we are headed to if nothing is done to correct the effects of the problem of rapid climate change. The cost of removing a ton of carbon is estimated at $600, and going after the billions of tons of carbon that is already in the atmosphere, which is estimated as 51 billion per year is indeed a Herculean task. Nevertheless, wherever there is a will, there is a way.

Companies who calculate their carbon footprints and pay their offsets are better than those who do not.

With all the innovative ideas that are on ground, it will take an unprecedented political will for the required action to be taken in order to put humanity on a safe side and convert the disastrous effects of climate change.

John Kerry - U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate

Bear in mind also that the problem of rapid climate change is the problem of all, and this requires efforts from all to overcome it.

The economic concept of green premium and the Paris Agreement where all member countries agreed to double up their R & D budget are not considered as the easiest and the best, according to Dan Miller. To this end, he proposes the "fee and dividend" concept, which he believes will make all countries involved do the right thing. In his opinion: "We need to urgently and dramatically lower fossil fuel emissions. The good news is there's a way to do it that almost everybody would like. It would create millions of jobs, grow the economy, and cut emissions in half. It's called "fee and dividend." A "fee and dividend" policy is actually pretty simple. We put a fee on the CO2 content of fossil fuels and the fossil fuel companies pay that fee at the well, mine, or port of entry and so there's not a lot of places where you need to collect the money. And the fee starts out small, maybe $10 a ton of CO2, which translates to about 10 cents on a gallon of gasoline. And then the fee raises $10 or so a year every year for 10 years. So this is going to raise the price of fuel, food, and everything else that depends on fossil fuels. So you might not be too happy about that but just wait. We then take all of the many collected, every single penny, and we dividend it out to every legal resident on an equal basis. So you and Bill Gates get the same check every month. Now this is going to give you money not only to pay the higher prices but also to change your light bulbs to LED's to light your house, buy a fuel efficient car and other things. So you and everyone else will lower their carbon footprint which of course is the goal of the policy. But, you might ask, sounds great for me but this will raise the price of American products and will make our exports less competitive, and besides it won't really matter if we lower our emissions if China and India keep increasing theirs, and you're right. And that's why there's a second part to "fee and dividend."

"We're going to put a border duty or a tariff on goods coming from countries that don't have their own price with CO2. So China, which is actually planning to put a price on CO2 in a couple of years will be able to continue to export to us normally. But let's say that Australia doesn't put a price on CO2. So the products they export to us will be subject to a tariff based on their estimated carbon footprint. So Australia and all other countries that don't have a price on CO2 will be faced with the following choice: Do I want to send lots of money to the United States or do I want to keep it myself? Well, they're all going to choose to keep it themselves by putting a price on CO2. This will accelerate the adoption of a global carbon fee much faster than the failed attempts of the United Nations to get countries to do the right thing.

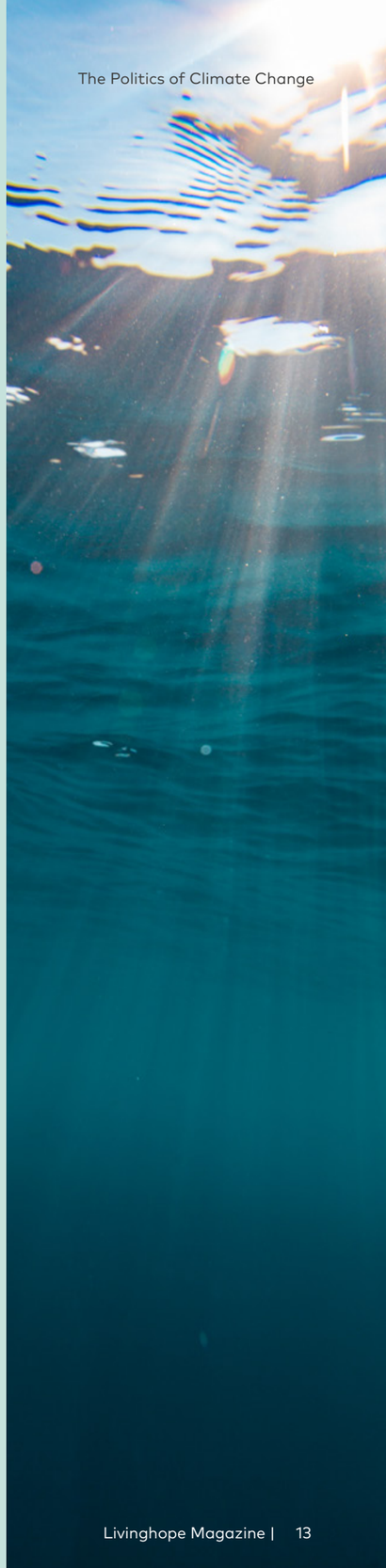
"So, as I mentioned, the price on CO2 is going to raise the price of fossil fuels, so people will use less and they'll also use alternatives such as renewable energy. And it turns out that wealthy people use a lot more CO2 than the average person, plus the government uses a lot of CO2 and doesn't get a dividend. So it turns out that most people earn more money on the dividend than they pay in higher prices. So unlike other plans, the poor and the middle class will do better under this policy. And the price on CO2 will spur so much investment and innovation that it will create a renaissance in clean energy technology.

"A recent economic study shows that a "fee and dividend" policy will decrease emissions by 52% in 20 years and create 2.8 million jobs over that same time period, and increase GDP by 1.4 trillion dollars. Hey, that's better than free. It will also save 227,000 lives in the United States because of reduced fossil fuel pollution.

Now you might say because of our broken dysfunctional political system, there's no chance that any action on climate change will happen. Well, like the tipping point of the legalization of gay marriage, action on climate change is going to go from impossible to inevitable without ever passing through probable—it will happen!

But the question is will it happen before we cross more climate tipping points. The answer to that is up to all of us."

On a final note, there is an urgent need for all stakeholders, both government and private, as well as individuals, to rise to this occasion and prevent a disastrous end for humanity. Bill Gates and Dan Miller see the need these ways. According to Bill Gates: "...the biggest lesson is that government's got to, on our behalf, avoid disastrous future outcomes. We have to make it an imperative that governments, hopefully of any party, join into this.



The Politics of Climate Change

"The pandemic, we did eventually get global cooperation. The US didn't play its normal role there, but the private sector of the nation created the vaccine. Now sadly, with climate, the pain it's causing gets worse over time. So with the pandemic, we had all these people who were like, "wow, we should do something." With climate, you can't wait. The coral reefs will have died off, the species will be gone, and so if you say "okay, well when it get's bad, we'll invent something like a vaccine that doesn't work because with emissions you have to change, every steel plant, cement plant, car, things that have massive lead times and literally trillions of dollars of investment. The pandemic, we messed up. People like myself said it was a problem but now we're getting our way out of it through innovation. But climate's harder, a much harder problem, and so the political will to get it right needs to be unprecedented compared to the pandemic or almost any other political cost."

Dan Miller, on his own part, poses a question that further emphasizes the urgency of action in confronting the climate change problems: "Imagine that we find out tomorrow that all the excess CO2 in the world is being released by al Qaeda in order to destabilize the climate. Now ask yourself would we then do something about it. Of course we would. Now even though we have these limitations, we can overcome them, and besides calamity is becoming more feasible and more immediate every day."

From all the above revelations, which help us in understanding the sources of our problems, the disastrous effects of the problem as well as the actions that are expected to be taken by all and sundry to combat our problems, one important thing to take notice of is the fact that in the center of all the possible solutions to the problem of rapid climate change is humanity. The climate change problem has no regard for the rich, the poor, the developed or the developing nations. Unlike the COVID-19 global cooperation, which after the production of the vaccine, the distribution was inequitable and discriminatory, the problem of climate change is the problem of all, which requires an unprecedented political will on the part of the rich countries, which in actual fact, have contributed more to the problems of climate change than the poor or the developing countries.

Getting global cooperation is key to overcoming the problem of climate change, but with the present situation at the United Nations, where member countries have grievances relating to discrimination, favoritism, and inaction when it pertains to some countries that are considered as not very strong or developed, then the possibility of getting global cooperation on climate change will have to begin by harnessing all these grievances and bringing them to a roundtable where they can be addressed once and for all. Until the United Nations gets effective global cooperation on political, social and economic issues, considering diversities of all the member countries, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to get the needed global cooperation to achieve the desired goal of converting the climate change.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is far from being resolved. The Russian Ukrainian War is dividing the member countries of the United Nations.

All these are serious challenges that will have to be taken care of. Climate change is the problem that requires the cooperation of all to overcome. Bear in mind also that the 2015 Paris Convention on Climate Change, where all participating countries agreed to double up their R & D budgets, is just the most ambitious goal, but that does not guarantee bringing down the amount of CO2 that we have in the atmosphere, which is estimated at 51 billion tons per year, to zero.

Farmers in the poor and developing countries who engage in subsistence farming, who also are victims of the negative effects of climate change such as drought and wild fires, need to be considered by providing adequate funding on adaptation. The funding needs to be jacked up from where it currently stands at less than 1 billion dollars per year. The younger generation also has as a duty the task of speaking up to the authorities that be with a view to preventing a hostile earth in the future. The situation is already getting worse but if time is not taken the situation will look like that of a king in the Bible named Hezekiah. He was told by a prophet about the evils that were to come upon the nation of Israel after his reign. Being a selfish and inconsiderate king, his response was that as long as the evils spoken about would not come until after his reign, it was fine.

The younger ones of today should not give the parents of today the chance of creating a disastrous tomorrow for them. Everyone who feels the problem of climate change is the problem of all should also vote with their wallets and vote with their ballots. Only leaders who are pro-climate change should be elected into their offices, and bills that are favorable toward climate change should be encouraged to pass. Unlike the COVID-19 pandemic, the world cannot be insensitive and careless to allow the evil that we can see coming to take us unawares. This is not the time to sit on the fence. It is time to come together and choose the path of salvaging the Mother Earth, as opposed to allowing the human civilization to go into extinction. Now is the time to act, procrastination is the thief of time.

Samuel 'Tunji Adeyanju