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## Climate change and global cooperations: Opportunities and Challenges

### (1) Introduction

(2) Climate change provides opportunities as well as challenges for global cooperation

(3) Climate change grants opportunity for global cooperation

(a) Brings leadership from across the globe under institutional framework to address the phenomena of climate change

(b) Paves the road for engagement between global north and global south over the losses, damages and economic cost of climate change

(c) Provides developing world <sup>with</sup> opportunity to coordinate with developed world in shifting to renewable energy sources

(d) Unites climate activists worldwide to launch movements to save Earth from harms of climate change.

(e) Enhances public private partnership in various domains to foster adaptability to climate-induced changes

(f) Integrates various media outlets for awareness campaigns regarding the mitigation measures

4) Climate change initiates multiple challenges for global cooperation.

(a) Geopolitical rivalries have permeated into the institutions addressing climate change thus rendering these dysfunctional.

(b) Developed world is reluctant to assist developing countries to lessen the economic burden of climate induced challenges.

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- (c) Technologically advanced and climate adapted countries are less inclined to offer assistance to shift their technology to under-developed states.
- (d) Tug of war continues between industrial tycoons and climate activists for greater say in <sup>mitigation</sup> ~~adaptation~~ efforts and adaptive measures.
- (e) Media has polarised the public over climate change as a myth or reality by highlighting the climate skeptics in media discourses.
- (f) States are reluctant to ~~sacrifice~~ sacrifice economic development ~~at the cost of~~ for climate mitigation leading to paucity of policy measures at international level.

### 5) Pathways for addressing challenges and enhancing cooperation

- a) Limit the scope of climate related institutions to climate related debates only.
- b) Enhance public-partnership collaboration for greater mitigation and adaptive measures.
- c) Media needs to play active role by highlighting the catastrophes of climate change for greater awareness.

### 6) Conclusion

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Climate change has engulfed the whole planet Earth in its totality. It has not only shifted weather patterns but has also ensued a cycle of catastrophes damaging for Earth and its inhabitants. These rapid changes in climate patterns are attributed to human activities such as industrialization. Human induced climate change has brought miseries to the man and manifestation of these distresses are in the form of floods, cyclones, tornados, wildfires, droughts, melting of ice sheets, ~~and~~ rising sea levels and global warming. Climate change is a global phenomena as it transcends the traditional boundaries of states. Although these devastations are not felt equally by all countries, these provide opportunities as well as challenges for global cooperation. The havoc wrecked by climate change provides world leaders an opportunity to formally negotiate on adaptation and mitigation measures besides containing impacts in the form of economic and technological support. Climate change paves the road for several actors in the world affairs to have a coordinated response to address the root cause of the phenomena. It opens avenues for greater unity to deal with the losses incurred by the changing patterns of weather. Despite all these opportunities for cooperation climate change initiates multiple challenges for global cooperation. The institutions addressing climate

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change have been plagued by geopolitical rivalries rendering them dysfunctional. Besides countries' reluctance to share the economic burden of climate induced impacts is another hindrance for global unified vision on climate change. Thus, climate change provides opportunities as well as challenges for global cooperation. Opportunities for cooperation includes institutional frameworks, sharing the burden of economic losses and acquiring technology for adaptive and mitigation measures. Despite these, diverse challenges in various domain pose challenge for global cooperation.

Climate induced challenges such as global warming which in turn ensures a cycle of devastations has posed an existential threat to humans. As Thomas Hobbes stated that fear is the ultimate object that triggers alliances. Likewise, the fear of being threatened by climate change has brought all stakeholders together in the form of institutional frameworks. These institutions such as UNFCCC, UNEP are at source of global cooperation on the climate change. Under the umbrella of UNFCCC conference of parties (COP) taking place which in turn further solidify the opportunities for collaborating in the domain of climate change. The collaborations are in the form of sharing economic burden as was devised by Paris

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Climate Agreement 2015 in the form of loss and damage fund. Despite all these opportunities multiple challenges halt the cooperation in climate change. The issues of developing and developed world are divergent. Lacking converging avenues for collaboration. Consequently the multi-pronged challenges have threatened the cooperation in the domain of climate change globally.

To begin with, climate change provides opportunity for global cooperation as it brings leadership from across the globe under institutional frameworks to address the phenomena of climate change. These multilateral institutions are nothing short of a miracle in the domain of global cooperation for climate change as these set targets to reduce and eradicate the factors contributing to this rapid change. Besides, these also bound the member countries to contribute towards mitigation measures and to enhance resilience and adaptations to counter the impacts of climate change. These institutions set broader agenda addressing causes, impacts, preventative measures and solutions to the phenomena of climate change.

Under the umbrella of UNFCCC Kyoto protocol was adopted in 1997. Kyoto protocol set targets for countries involved in

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Industrial processes produce greenhouse gas emissions. COP conferences each year are also carried out under the UNFCCC to address multipronged challenges related to climate change.

Moving on, climate change also paves the road for engagement between global north and global south over the losses, damages and economic cost of climate change. As it has been made clear by various researchers that climate change's major contribution are countries of global north but the victims of climate change's impact are the countries of global south due to their geographical and climatic conditions.

This has created a huge loss for global south despite being not a major contributor to the climate change. For instance Pakistan's contribution to (GHG) emissions is less than 2% but it is among the 30 countries hit by climate change. 80% of Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are attributed to global north but 90% of victims of climate induced changes are in global south. Thus this phenomena provides an opportunity to both global north and south to coordinate regarding the losses wreaked by climate change. In Paris Agreement (2015) member parties agreed to set loss and

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damage fund for countries most affected by climate change. It was materialised in COP 28 which was held in Dubai. It still faces financial crunch due to lack of funds but at least the developed world is ~~not~~ conceded to share the burden. This paves opportunity for coordination.

Adding to this, climate change also provides developing world with opportunity to coordinate with developed world in shifting to renewable energy sources. The developed world or global norm has quickly shifted to climate friendly and sustainable sources of energy. This shift is attributed to their strong economic strength which enabled them to acquire these expensive but long term technologies. Thus, the under-developed and developing world can coordinate in technological transfers especially in regard to the renewable energy sources. These ~~whole~~ countries can learn from the expertise of global norm besides coordinating in technological domains. The countries such as France, Japan and even China are reverting to renewable energy sources and they have set target to become carbon neutral or carbon zero by the end of this century. Japan is involved in helping Pacific Island nations' transition to renewable

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energy. This includes providing financial assistance, and expertise particularly in solar and wind energy.

Adding on, climate change also unites climate activists worldwide to launch movements to save Earth from the harms of climate change. These movements have not been limited to a single country rather have been ensued by ~~where~~ all the states in global arena. The aim of such movements ~~are~~ is to save Earth from further harms induced by climate change. These movements ~~are~~ also target governmental policies if those policies fail to consider climate change as an existential threat for all the human kind or if governmental policies fail to address climate change as a disaster. Climate activists around the world despite being separated by traditional borders, collaborate to reverse harmful policies of governments, industrialist and world leaders for the sake of saving the planet Earth. Fridays for future movement initiated by Greta Thunberg in 2018 has ~~been~~ since expanded globally where activists protest and demand for stronger climate action.

Heading on, climate change has also ~~increased~~ enhanced public-private partnerships in various domains to foster adaptation to climate induced changes.



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Public-private collaboration provides platform for governments to engage with private entities for coordinated actions regarding climate change. This coordination is especially crucial for the developing world as countries in developing world are the biggest victims of financial ~~constraints~~ constraints. Financial challenges have rendered these states helpless thus, they are unable to sort out the issue of climate change. This collaboration brings private entities in unity with governments to address the issues of climate change.

The Green Climate Fund established under UNFCCC to help developing countries reduce emissions and adapt to climate <sup>change</sup> is based on public-private partnerships model.

In addition, climate change also integrates various media outlets for awareness campaigns regarding mitigation measures. Media through various documentaries, films, news reports and surveys serves as an ~~ess~~ essential tool in raising awareness about the significance of mitigation measures to educate people, amplify the voices of activists and leaders and fosters public opinion towards mitigating climate change. Thus various media outlets in the world get united under the umbrella of climate <sup>change</sup> mitigation giving rise to

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Global cooperation in the domain of media for climate change. The global news coverage by renowned media outlets such as BBC, CNN, New York Times and Al Jazeera regarding the 2022 floods in Pakistan brought to the limelight the demand of mitigation measures for climate change.

Despite of all these cooperative opportunities climate change indicates multiple challenges for global cooperation. To begin with, global institutions working for climate change have ~~been~~ <sup>are</sup> on the verge of collapse as geopolitical rivalries have permeated into the domain of such organizations. These rivalries have rendered these institutions dysfunctional. As a result climate change and global response have ~~diverged~~ <sup>blown</sup> ~~into~~ <sup>diverged</sup> paths. 2015 Paris Agreement set the agenda for limiting temperature to 1.5°C while not letting it go beyond 2°C. For this purpose various actions were planned however even in 2025 these actions are far behind the targets. According to United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) carbon emissions ~~have~~ have continued to rise, falling short of target needed to meet the Paris Agreement's goal. This is due to geopolitical rivalries among the state which ~~prevents~~ <sup>prevents</sup> all members to take unanimous

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actions. The lack of unanimity due to geopolitics have brought zero convergence in major policy measures.

Additionally, Developed world is reluctant to assist developing countries to lessen the economic burden of climate change. The finance has always been the biggest challenge in the domain of climate.

The reluctance to help the victims<sup>to</sup> bear the cost of actions they have not contributed for is the hurdle in global climate cooperation.

The blame game has ensued where the global north targets developing countries for their greater contribution especially towards GHG. China is the ~~second~~ largest emitter of CO<sub>2</sub> this America wants China to equally contribute. On the contrary, countries in global south want greater contribution from the industrialist countries as 80% of changes are due to their actions. They also demand a room for development especially

in the economic domain which further infuriates global North. Thus, the <sup>big</sup> war between developing and developed world is weakening the coordination in climate change.

The conference of parties (COP 29) was able to secure only \$ 300bn for developing world despite the demand of \$1.3 trillion per year due to these diverging opinions.

Moving on, Technologically advance

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and climate adaptive countries are less inclined to offer assistance to shift their technology to under-developed world. The cost of transfer is unbearable for the developing world and the Global North is reluctant to offer emissions in the form of grants or aids. Consequently, the shift to climate adaptive technology is a rare phenomenon. In the global south, Agricultural societies in global south has suffered miserably due to climate induced floods and cycles of droughts. This has rendered them more vulnerable to all other social and economic issues. Pakistan faced \$30 billion economic losses in 2022 floods but was unable to secure investment more than \$9 billion for adaptive measures.

Adding more, the tug of war between industrial tycoons and climate activists for their greater say in mitigation efforts and adaptive measures have further worsened the situation for climate change. The emission targets, carbon reducing agenda are not in the interests of industrial tycoons thus, they want greater say on climate affairs to set minimal targets which does not harm their industrial base. On the contrary, climate activists want greater say in climate politics for rapid changes and in the traditional industrial system based on fossil fuels.

Besides this, Media has also polarised the public over climate change

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As many still consider climate change as a myth. Media has highlighted the opinions of climate sceptists consequently there is a wide divide in the global climate opinions. Some consider it truth while others consider it myth. This has caused a lot of harm to the phenomena of climate change. It has also widened the global gap regarding climate change. Media has given equal attention to climate sceptists as well consequently the whole of world is polarised over climate change. Donald Trump considered climate change as a conspiracy to ~~stop~~ <sup>stop</sup> American development.

Moreover, states are reluctant to sacrifice economic development for climate mitigation leading to failure of policy measures at international level. Carbon tax reduction ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> harmful to traditional base of fossil industries. This <sup>intern</sup> harms the economy of the states. Besides, the renewable energy is expensive and countries are unable to shift from fossil base to sustainable energy sources without sacrificing economic growth. Currently very few states are ready to compromise economic development for climate mitigation.

According to UNEP Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are not sufficient to avoid dangerous levels of climate change.

In spite of the challenges there are

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Pathways for addressing challenges and enhancing cooperation. Policy makers need to limit the scope of climate related institutions to climate related debates only this would prevent geopolitical rivalries to interfere in the domain of politics. Greta Thunberg says politicisation of climate needs an end to have pragmatic results for climate change's impacts.

Secondly, Public-private partnerships (PPP) needs to be enhanced for greater mitigation and adaptive measures. This will remove the burden from states and governments this greater collaboration can be achieved without sacrificing on other major developments such as on education and health.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres urged countries in global south to acquire this model of development for greater climate actions.

Lastly, Media needs to play an active role by highlighting the catastrophes of climate change for greater awareness and to reduce climate skepticism. Media has to spread out all its tools to enhance the awareness campaign and <sup>it needs to be</sup> bring to the limelight the devastations faced by people which are victims of climate change. Media have to prove it to all the stakeholders that climate changes an existential

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threat for whole world. Then, it is possible to have ~~been~~ unanimity in climate politics. UNEP

To sum up, climate change has been the most lethal source to harm the mankind in the post industrialist societies. The disasters caused by climate change are nothing short of cataclysm. Floods, droughts, cyclones, wildfires and global warming have become a common phenomena. The impacts of climate change has transcended the boundaries of states and has engulfed the whole planet in totality. Climate change grants opportunity for global cooperation but it also provides challenges for global cooperation. Leadership across the globe under institutional frameworks to address the menace of climate change. Besides, it also lessens the gulf between global north and global south as both worlds cooperate for reducing the impacts. The issues related to <sup>sharing</sup> economic cost and burden of climate impacts has created challenge for global stakeholders. Besides, technology transfer, mitigation measures and adaptation efforts provide challenges for cooperation. However, all these challenges can be countered by proper policy measures.