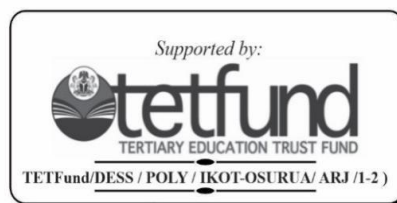


POLITICS, MYTHS AND FACTS OR CACOPHONY OF CLIMATE CHANGE: AN APPRAISAL OF THE PROLIFERATION OF REFINERIES AND RELATED PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES IN NIGERIA



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Abstract

This paper interrogated the politics, facts and myths of the climate change phenomenon using doctrinal and qualitative research methods. The work found that none of the continents of the world has been decisive on outright phase out of fossil fuels, which have been adjudged to be the direct human activity that ruins the global atmospheric condition with attendant climate change and related public health challenges. The developed and developing countries are in sync with the scientific findings concerning climate variability and its negative impacts on the natural (forest resources, ocean and Agricultural land) and built environments (buildings, roads, bridges etc.) respectively. The small inland states have continued to groan about the impact of climate change on them but to no avail as the much needed climate funds or pledged financial assistance for climate change funds and/or interventions are not

redeemed religiously. The work, therefore, recommends, among other things, that the developed countries should embark on extensive low carbon equipment, electric and hydrogen powered vehicles and other appliances production with in-built low carbon. The developed nations should also stop exporting fossil fuel powered electrical equipment and appliances to developing countries. Also, they should rather increase financial assistance to less-developed and developing countries, to enable these countries to carry out low carbon related production activities in their jurisdictions.

Key words: *Climate change, developed countries, developing countries, fossil fuels, greenhouse gas emissions.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The term climate change (CC) is technically defined as “a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity or natural climate variability that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time period”¹ This definition recognizes the existence of natural causes of CC and arguably human contributions of 33 percent atmospheric carbon dioxide through unregulated human activities.(See Gibson, E.(2024) LNG Imports: Is coal 'twice as bad' as liquefied natural gas for emissions? (<https://www.rnz.co.nz>) These natural occurrences and the concomitant human rapacious activities negatively affect the global atmospheric condition with attendant negative impacts on C.C. This implies that in a global atmosphere what harmful practices are against the atmosphere in one country, region or continent will impact the human planet and the entire ecosystem. By extension, peaceful human existence which depends on food security, healthy and clean habitats or environments both natural and built environment will continue to be threatened with resulting hunger, insecurity, various known or unknown rainfalls, storms and sicknesses. Worse still, the growing and strident argument and glaring policy

summersault between the cogitated and perceived safety and cost-effective deployment of fossil fuelled and coal powered energy resources in the Australia, New Zealand, US etc by modern day experts, stakeholders and/or academia is not only signposting a regrettable non-suit to quick and decisive global stance, mitigation measures or resolution of climate change phenomenon but it is also deeply prophesying a degenerative or cacophony theatre or proverbial biblical shifting sand inimical for generations yet unborn appertaining to the global dearth political will of our leaders to garner requisite efforts to rekindle the globally continuously plagued atmospheric conditions by human activities and adverse natural climate conditions as foretold In the Bible.

Globally, both the pre-industrial and post-industrial revolution unclean production and dearth of technologies in manufacturing concerns of the developed countries, unarguably, produced the present greenhouse gas emissions with attendant impact on global atmosphere.

Sadly, the economies of many developing countries and/or less developed had since swung from agriculture to crude oil exploration and exploitation, between 18th and 20th centuries and got swayed from agriculture, trading in cash crops, animal husbandry etc by the discovery of petroleum in commercial quantity by interventional oil companies (IOCs). Paradoxically, the hitherto agricultural activities and other related economic activities that engaged and sustained the economic development and growth of these developing countries or LDCs employed most of the adults and youth of such countries more than the emerging petroleum sector. The consequences of such impulsive decisions by these countries arising from the attractive royalties and/or profit oil on the economic and political sovereignty and the resultant poverty, hunger and sicknesses fueled by oil spills and gas flaring have devastated the national life and lives of the citizens in these countries.

The petroleum activities, from the upstream to downstream, are dominated in the subservient countries by oil and gas companies owned by the developed nations. Ironically, oil and gas exploration has affected negatively the livelihood of the people as well as the ecosystem in the various host communities across Africa. The governments in the subservient petroleum producing countries are confronted with the resulting hunger flooding², malnutrition and high rate of unemployment with overwhelming insecurity and incidents of military coups.

In 1992, about 154 countries came together realizing the devastating impacts of the oil and gas activities on the atmospheric conditions and signed on to the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro. The Earth summit or the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) entered into force on 21 March, 1994. The Earth Summit aimed at limiting dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. The Earth Summit established the United Nations Framework on Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) to limit or reduce from the outset global warming by greenhouse gases majorly from the emerging fossil fuel and coal etc.

The foregoing objective was to be driven by the Kyoto protocol of 1997 and which instrument entered into force on 6th February 2005. The Kyoto Protocol apart from extending the objective of the UNFCCC, was founded on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities wherein every country irrespective of those countries that signed on to it but later withdrew such as Canada -effective 2012, or those countries that failed to sign on to it such as the United States of America and South Sudan etc was expected to prevent greenhouse gases from their domains and their economic activities which negatively impact global atmospheric conditions. But the instrument requires the developed countries which are adjudged to be historically

responsible for the current level of greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere to be more responsible in their words and actions toward effort at reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

And, the Kyoto Protocol contains seven different greenhouse gases to be reduced by member states as listed in Annex A of the protocol. The Kyoto Protocol had two commitments to limit greenhouse gases by member states starting from 2008 to 2012 and from 2012 to 2020. The 2012 to 2020 and commitment of the Kyoto Protocol was decided at Doha Amendment to Kyoto Protocol commitment one. The first commitment under reference had 36 developed countries participating. However, 7 countries out of the 36 countries that participated in the first Kyoto Protocol commitment decided to resort to the adoption of what is called “flexibility mechanisms” which is the policy of funding emission reductions in other countries because their national emissions were slightly greater than their targets.

Again, in 2015, a separate instrument from the Kyoto Protocol called the “Paris Agreement” under the UNFCCC was agreed upon and it came into force in 2016 with the aim of limiting the rise in the global temperature to well below 2⁰C (above sea level) before the Industrial Revolution and with the concomitant desire to hold the limit at 1.5⁰C, which is scientifically recommended for permissible level of global climate change. The Paris Agreement creates some categories of member states to wit:

- (a) The developed countries. These countries as contained in Annex A of Kyoto protocol have special financial responsibility based on the adoption of the concepts of common but differentiated responsibilities and flexibility mechanisms. There is also the category of developing countries which have the responsibility of reducing their greenhouse emissions aimed at achieving low carbon, carbon trading or embarking on carbon sequestration measures.

Ironically, most of the countries listed in Annex A in question have failed to adhere to their individual commitments as will be shown later in this paper. They even contribute to the rising greenhouse gas emissions in the developing countries, such as Nigeria. The developed countries have done these colossal harms to the global atmosphere through the manufacturing of fossil fuel powered generators and also exporting of fairly used vehicles, and electrical electronic wastes to the developing countries with associated dearth of buy-back policy guarantee of the end-life-use of such electrical electronic wastes or the new electrical generators.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

The paper will examine and interrogate the inherent politics of climate change between the developed and developing countries. The paper will further consider the inherent politics, myths and facts or cacophony of climate change phenomenon as well as address the paradox of proliferation of refineries in Nigeria - in the face of the Conference of Parties (COP) 28, which for the first time since COP 1 agreed on fossil fuels and energy transition between 2030 and 2050. The associated public health challenges posed by climate change policies in US and EU member States, in recent times, will briefly though engage the attention of this paper.

The work adopts doctrinal and qualitative research methods and it is hoped that these research methods would aid the realization of the object of this paper. And the paper will make recommendations toward the mitigation and/or resolution of the seemingly latent or patent politics, myths, facts or cacophony of the climate change phenomenon between the developed and major oil and gas producing nations of the world.

3. DISCUSSION

The paper intends to present empirical assertions and material evidence of the perceived politics of climate change, the facts and myths thereto, in a tabular form to make for ease of understanding and clarity.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Africa	America	Asia	EU	Inland States	OPEC	UN
The position of Africa on climate change is driven by the stance of African Leaders' Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action". This declaration took place from 4th to 6th September, 2023. The declaration in part was based on flexibility mechanisms with regard to the giving of financial support to less-developed and developing states, reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and to phase out unabated fossil fuels. The declaration equally called for the operationalization of the loss and damage fund instead of compensation fund. Africa does not support complete phase out of fossil fuels Africa has the majority of oil and gas producing	The US climate change policy is very complex and same is political. This is in spite of the fact that US is the 2nd largest greenhouse gas emitter in the world after China. Each administration in US evidently introduces its own policy on climate change and sometimes reviews the existing policies and laws on the climate change. The democrats and the Republican Congressional each time either of them gains power, new policy on climate change is promoted and implemented. Hence, in US climate change measures such as climate sequestration, climate neutrality and financial support to other countries meet their greenhouse gas emission targets are the preferred policy thrusts. Ironically, US is not signatory to the Kyoto Protocol for the banning of certain gases which	Countries in Asia produce more greenhouse gas globally. At the same time, they are the most affected. The Asian countries prefer such policies as energy sequestration, low carbon technologies, financial support and carbon neutrality. Hence, the Asian countries do not support outright phase out of fossil fuels. ⁴	The EU member states policy is tied to climate change neutrality by 2050 and adaptation. The member states are encouraged to mainstream climate change measures in the activities of both public and private industries. The EU has therefore reviewed the existing laws and EU Directives to constantly monitor levels of compliance with climatic change measures. ⁵ However, with increased insecurity and economic downturn affecting the world with particular reference to EU member States, many have cut their aids related budgets at varying levels. This development unarguably, signals a major or significant	These are small inland developing states (SIDS). There are worst affected by climate change because they situate in the coastal areas. They suffer from sea level rise, heavy rainfalls or storm. The SIDS are vulnerable because they lack the means to protect themselves from the effect of global climate change. Hence, the SIDS vehemently supports an outright phase out of fossil fuels.	The OPEC member states and its allies that is, OPEC+ control nearly 80% of the proven oil resources. The majority of OPEC members depend on petroleum revenue with which to grow their economies. In this connection, OPEC does not support the phase out of subsidy on fossil fuel for citizens of its member states. OPEC does not also support out-right phase out of fossil fuels but rather support the phase out of unabated fossil fuels. OPEC for the first time attended the UN-backed COP 28 meeting and at the meeting kicked against the phase out of fossil fuels and rather supported the phase out of unabated fossil fuels. OPEC however, advocates measures on low carbon	The UN Secretary General who is the official face of the United Nations- Antonio Guterres opined at COP 28 that fossil fuels should be stopped out-rightly because the question of abatement or reduction in their use will not be enough to stop global warming. He however admonished the IOCs to go into massive renewable energy sources while the UN member states should make laws and regulations to force the IOCs to promote renewable energy resources. This could be achieved through, for example, the imposition of windfalls tax on the profits of the IOCs. ⁷

countries ³ and these countries depend much on the oil revenue with which to grow their economies hence a complete phase out of fossil fuels will hurt their social, economic, political and human capital development.	contribute negatively to climate change. The US therefore does not support outright phase cut of fossil fuels because doing so will hurt its economy and most of the IOCs which are owned by American will be affected. For instance, President Donald Trump has, in his re-election into the White House for the second time, banned the use of climate change language and all that its represents, by public and private institutions in US, thereby further authenticating or re-enforcing the thesis that the Democrats and Republicans paradoxically perceive climate change differently with huge negative or positive consequences on the national, regional and global environmental and human rights,	drop in aids and the proportional financial contributions to global climate change mitigation, adaptation and sequestration measures especially as it affects island and developing nations.(Lahiri, 2025). The recent situational cuts in aids by the EU member States are geared towards tackling the current existential insecurity and economic issues- which for example, snowball from the Russia and Ukraine war and the Trump led US administration withdrawing from and stopping funding to many international health and climate change related interventionist bodies.	technologies and increase in energy mix production. ⁶
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From the table above, it can be deduced that the leaders have shown deep concerns toward addressing the climate change phenomenon thereby save the planet and human beings from the negative impact of human activities and the natural variability in climatic conditions against the ecosystems and human lives on earth. However, there is no consensus among the leaders as to the exact global measures to be taken to stop the production of fossil fuels that have been scientifically proved to be the major agent instigating climate change and indeed global warming.

The developed countries are, from the economic and industrial development standpoints, the major culprits of the greenhouse gas emitting facilities, equipment and electrical electronic waste producing nations in the world. Nevertheless, they have introduced several environment and public health related friendly concepts, laws, regulations and policies aimed at producing and promoting low carbon dioxide, carbon sequestration, climate or carbon neutrality, free public related medical out-reach to treat climate related airborne diseases and provision of financial assistance to less developed and developing countries to meet their carbon reduction targets, energy needs and poverty alleviation towards the rural women and the vulnerable groups in the society. Regrettably, though, some of the developed countries have not redeemed their pledges to wit: to make financial contributions towards the climate funds in order to support the developing and less developed countries respectively.

Curiously, the developed nations do not feel obliged to adopt a complete phase out of fossil fuels because doing so will hurt their economies. Some of the super powers have objectionably refused to sign on to the Kyoto protocol. This posturing does not epitomize a sense of mutual commitment towards dealing with the negative environmental impacts posed by climate change on public health and the environment. The scale in the developed nations as far as the efforts toward reversing negative impacts of climate change is concerned tilts

in favour of their political economies rather than the promotion of a safe, public health and the environment generally.

The Asian countries, the US³, EU⁴ member states and China fossil fuels consumption is high accounting for 47 percent of global fossil fuels consumption. These countries, no doubt, recognize the negative impacts of fossil fuels and they have amended their existing legal frameworks aimed at mainstreaming climate change measures toward low carbon production and manufacturing. This means that these countries have encouraged climate change policies of adaptation and climate neutrality devoid of complete fossil fuels phase out.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) which has 13 member states of oil producing countries supplies 44 percent of the world's oil demand with about 81.5 percent world's oil reserves. OPEC has about 10 members from African countries.⁵ The rest of the members of this intergovernmental body are from Asia and South America. These figures do not include OPEC+ member countries.

OPEC truly acknowledges the obvious fact that the majority of its member countries are in the continent of Africa and judging by the paradox of the continent whereby the continent is blessed with huge natural resources including hydrocarbon, yet the people and the continent are backward in terms of socio-economic and technological development.

The question is what accounts for the backwardness of the African continent? The answer is directly proportional to the factor of non-inclusion of Africa in the high policy making bodies such as the United Nations Security Council, G6 countries and G20 group respectively- with the exception of South Africa having US as its ally. The effect of the non-inclusion of Africa in high powered international bodies such

as the ones listed herein has far-reaching effect on the economies, politics, social and technological development of Africa. Yet, the continent and its backyards have been turned into dumping ground for second hand vehicles, electrical electronic equipment, and industrial wastes etc. with associated air pollution. Also, the African leaders because of dearth of leadership drive and vision have mismanaged the abundant natural resources in most African countries in connivance with foreign companies thereby impoverishing their citizens and indeed the continent. The World Bank, IMF and Chinese government more than ever gleefully grant loan requests often tied to cut-throat conditions to African Countries thereby turning Africa into a feeding bottle nations that constantly require aid or loan, or grant to survive. This in turn makes African countries vulnerable to the whims and caprices or dictate of the World Bank, IMF and Chinese government respectively.

The majority of the IOCs are foreign companies without much interest in the development of Africa and their negative oil and gas exploitation activities result in huge unabated gas flaring and monumental oil spills with attendant negative impact on global atmospheric condition and the ecosystems. The activities of these ICOs also negatively impact on ~~environmental~~ land and aquatic lives with the impairment of the traditional fishing and agricultural occupations of the average African. The negative activities of the IOCs, to a greater extent, have equally affected the sources of drinking water and residences of the natives and people in their host communities due to daily oil spills and gas flaring in these host communities.

Nevertheless, some African countries have enacted laws, regulations and policies on local content development and host communities development. The aim of these frameworks is towards providing the IOCs with a template to create equal opportunities to African youth, women and their companies to carry out contracts and supplies for the IOCs and the Nigerian oil and gas companies. This way Africans will

be able to participate effectively in the petroleum sector. Also, the IOCs and the Nigerian oil and gas companies are expected to provide social, economic and environmental protection assistance to the people and residents in their host communities so as to create prosperity and sustainable development within the host communities with peaceful co-existent with the IOCs in view.

3. Climate Change Law and Policy in Nigeria: An Appraisal.

The Federal Government of Nigeria enacted the climate change law on 8th November 2021 and this law is referred to as the “Climate Change Act, 2021”. This legal framework drives the Nigeria's National Policy on Climate Change (NCCP) from 2021 – 2030. The long title of the Act provides for two focal points, to wit: the mainstreaming of climate change actions and establishment of the regulatory framework called the "National Council on Climate Change" (the Council). And, the Act applies to all the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the Federal Government of Nigeria, and to public and private entities within Nigeria. Incidentally, the Act does not extend its application to the sub-nationals and their MDAs.⁶

The National Council on Climate Change (NCCC) is formally established⁷ with its functions and powers spelt out in Section 4 (a-q). There is also established the Carbon Budget and National Climate Change Action Plan referred to in the long title of the Act.⁸ This Action Plan deals with carbon budget for Nigeria with the aim of keeping the average increases in global temperature within 2⁰C and to pursue efforts aimed at limiting the temperature increase to 1.5⁰C. It is expected that the carbon budget should be prepared by the secretariat of the National Council on Climate Change in conjunction with the Ministries of Environment as well as Budget and National Planning. The carbon budget is required to be approved by the Federal Executive

Council (FEC) through the Council. The lifespan of each carbon budget is five years.⁹ Equally, the Action Plan identifies the activities and prescribes the measures and mechanisms with which to ensure that national emissions profile is consistent with the carbon budget goals and measures and mechanisms to deal with climate change impact on vulnerable communities, the population and the ecosystems.¹⁰

Equally worthy of note in the Act is the fact that the MDAs have been assigned climate change obligations in an attempt to mainstream the Action Plan. Under these obligations, the MDAs are expected to make provision for climate change related activities in their budgets respectively.¹¹ The public and private entities also have their own obligations to mainstream CC measures in their operations in line with the Action Plan. This Action Plan, therefore, is akin to the new EU Industrial Transformation Impacts of Industry Emissions Directive 2024/1785 on climate neutrality.¹² The Act encourages the Council through its secretariat to partner with Civil Society Organizations, youth, women and others to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan and the Carbon Budget. Equally, the Act encourages the secretariat of the Council to seek and pursue the integration of climate change phenomenon into various disciplines and subjects from primary school level to tertiary institutions. There is also the inclusion of nature based solutions in the Act towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions as well as mitigate the impacts of climate change in the country.¹³ These nature based solutions include REDD+ that is, reducing emission from deforestation and forest degradation. The state

governments that are the owners of forests in Nigeria are to be partnered with for the purpose of promoting forest conservation and sustainability in order that these forests could play their natural role of carbon capturing.¹⁴

The National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) which is driven by the Climate Change Act (CCA) has lofty provisions and policy thrusts such as policy direction – with thematic topics such as policy vision, policy mission, policy goal, strategic objectives and guiding principles. Mitigation - with emphasis on agriculture, forests, and other land use, energy, health, industry, oil and gas, transport, waste and water. Adaptation – with focal point on agriculture, forest, energy, water, environment, industry, health, Information and Communications Technology (ICT), human settlements and security.

Both the CCA and NCCP are relevant instruments that member states and as signatories to the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement are enjoined to provide and replicate in legislations in their domains so as to facilitate efficient and effective implementation of the provisions in the existing international obligations on climate change and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. However, as good as the CCA and NCCP are in form and substance, their practical implementation by the MDAs and integration into the various school curriculum are not felt and by extension, the various agencies saddled with the functions of implementing the CCA and NCCP including individuals, public entities are still far from making appreciative impact towards realizing the objectives of the NCCA and NCCP.

Nevertheless, the Council has routinely been embarking on public enlightenment campaigns on the dangers of deforestation and bush burning etc. However, cases of oil spillage and gas flaring have overwhelmed both the frontline regulator, that is, the National Oil

Spills Detection and Remediation Agency (NOSDRA) and the National Council on Climate Change (NCCC).

In the focal point of waste the NCCC has not fared better. Municipal, institutional, agricultural and industrial wastes are indiscriminately disposed in the Federal Capital Territory and cities across the 36 states in Nigeria. Indeed, waste disposal accounts for 9 percent gas emissions while energy and agricultural sectors account for 60 and 25% respectively.¹⁵ Also, the NCCC has not been able to curb daily carbon emissions from tokumbo vehicles, that is, second hand cars shipped into Nigeria or through Cotonou and millions of Nigerian of low income go there and purchase such vehicle for their use. These second hand vehicles are one of the main sources of greenhouse gas emissions in Nigeria. Again, due to high level of unemployment, poverty and illiteracy many Nigerian youth, women and adults have gone into the business roasting of yam, plantains and fish including suya – roasted cow meat otherwise called boli. The process of preparing these delicacies contributes to greenhouse gas emissions.

4. Establishment of more Refineries in Nigeria

The need for more refineries arises from the cost of imported refined crude oil into Nigeria. The current exchange rate of Nigerian currency to the dollars is also a factor. Indeed, the burden of paying subsidy on refined crude oil made the President of the Federal Government of Nigeria on 29th May 2023 to announce that subsidy on imported refined crude oil is over. This policy has further necessitated the need for entrepreneurs to go into the establishment of modular refineries and large refineries as the case may be. The issue of refinery establishment involves political, economic and environmental considerations. The establishment of new refineries in addition to the four existing refineries (two in Rivers State, one in Delta and one in Kaduna state respectively) in Nigeria may be viewed as a positive development for

Nigeria's economy. And at the same time, the policy may impact negatively on climate change policy of the federal government. This is so because refineries constitute significant sources of air and water pollutions vis-à-vis greenhouse gas emissions.

It is therefore, necessary to state that Nigeria like other African countries that are rich in oil and gas resources will naturally not support outright phase out of fossil fuels because petro-dollar has come to be instant foreign exchange earner to grow and develop critical infrastructure, human capital and ICT etc in Africa in general. The subsidiary issue of renewable energy is still at all dream in Nigeria in particular and Africa in general because Nigeria and other oil producing countries in Africa are yet to go into or encourage the manufacturing of solar panels and the associated batteries to power the solar system. Curiously, Nigeria for example, has a good source of renewable energy in the area of all round sun in northern Nigeria and massive waterfalls in the southern part of Nigeria, to produce 24/7 electricity, yet the political leaders in Nigeria are yet to galvanize the needed political will to provide the citizens with constant energy to enable them carry out their small and medium enterprises.

5 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

Climate change is scientifically concluded to be the negative change in atmospheric conditions due largely to harmful human activities and natural atmospheric variations, whereby the consequences include ozone layer depletion with attendance huge heat, warm weather and unusual rate and frequency or unrelenting global heavy rain fall and of course, draught. The earth surface and the flora and fauna thereto, the oceans and the aquatic lives thereto, the human and built environment etc are equally negatively impacted. In sum total, the dysfunctionalities between these entities unarguably pose great public health challenges among poor and developing nations of the world. For instance, flood incidents have devastated many communities across the states in

Nigeria. These incidents have greater public health implications among slums residents in locations in Lagos and Ogun States for example.

The gutters and the surrounding areas in these slums are filled with solid waste and the residents habitually defecate within the filthy resistances and environment. Paradoxically, the State and Local Government relevant agencies are overwhelmed and/or often do not have the fund with which to plan the cities, provide habitable residences and medical healthcare for the residents and citizens generally. Because budgetary provision cannot meet the healthcare finances in the developing countries, the international aids and philanthropy donations have the alternative sources of funding health needs of the citizens and residents in poor and developing nations across the world.

It has been established that climate change resilient requires huge public and private funding thresholds, including international aids from the United Nations specialized programmes and bodies. These programmes and bodies are funded through international aid funding budgets by developed nations such as US and EU. Incidentally, in recent times, due to perceived trade war and its logic between the US and China on the one hand, and on the other hand, the President Trump's policy of American first, and in the EU member States, the issues of insecurity arising from the Russia-Ukraine war, etc have led to the slashing or outright cut of international aids with negative impact on climate change resilient measures, usually being carried out especially in inland and developing nations. Indeed, this is a death sentence passed on citizens in the poor and developing nations as far as climate change is involved.

6. CONCLUSION

Climate Change admittedly, is a national, regional and global malady and it has therefore, engaged the attention of world leaders and non-governmental organizations in efforts to check increasing negative

human activities aside from the natural causes of climate change. Fossil fuels have scientifically been identified to be the major agents of greenhouse gas emissions, which impact negatively on the global environment or atmospheric conditions with associated constant heavy downpour, floods, drought, global warming, ocean rising and wind storms etc. Much as climate change is real, the world powers do not live by example in their actions plans and programmes toward encouraging the developing countries to attain low carbon production or manufacturing activities, while being able to grow their economies. The developed countries have more roles to play going forward in words and actions coupled with sincerity towards the developing countries in the global efforts towards reducing the increasing damage by human activities to the global atmosphere.

4. RECOMMENDATION

Apart from the general recommendations in this paper, the following are specific recommendations:

That developed countries should honour their pledge of financial assistance to the developing countries to meet their carbon emissions reduction targets.

That developed countries should stop manufacturing fossil fuel powered electrical and vehicular equipment and appliances and exporting them to developing countries.

That the developing countries should embark on low carbon producing technologies so as to reduce their greenhouse carbon emissions. That the developing countries should mainstream climate change laws, policies and action plans into the various curriculums of primary, secondary and post-secondary schools.

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