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Summary:

The world is in peril. The livelihood of the masses is threatened with lack of basic needs for their daily existence from energy to climate, food & financial meltdown- a downturn that is more fatal than the depression in 1930 and 1989. The scheme to find an alternative, a substitute to avert each of the crises, makes it much worse. An approach to improve the livelihood of people, in each society, must be presented. Each point of view of the factors that shaped the crises should be critically examined.

Essay:

The crisis the world is faced with today stems from web of events which sprout out in different pattern in the world, from the wars and civil crisis in different continents, to the climatic change we face, from the weakening of the dollar which is the benchmark of oil trading and the craving of *Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries* willing to make similar profit of their commodity led to the rocketing of crude oil price and the ambition of seeking an alternative led to the discovery of bio-fuel, which have been hailed as an answer to fossil fuel burning and climate change - a clean, renewable energy that can reduce industrial nations' emissions of greenhouse gases, blamed for global warming, never mind about the utilization of food crops. Ethanol producers in US and Brazil use maize and sugar cane respectively as raw materials and are the largest producers; a major element that the Bush administration made to cut dependence on oil from foreign and hostile countries.

According to Economics, human's basic need is food, which no doubt is a scarce commodity. This is in relation to its inadequate availability and use for energy which is needed for running daily routines i.e. businesses, transportations, even for extreme conditions where there is shortage of electricity for manufacturing and processing companies to meet market demands of households. No doubt the crisis would cause a horror in the future if extreme measures are not taken. In all continents, impact of economic depression has been felt, with job cuts by companies to meet target profits, European Countries such as Ukraine borrowing from International Monetary Fund to

cushion the despair, uneasiness to combat the climate change with variation in weather condition which has led to low harvested crops and resulting to imports in Africa, the gloominess of the market system from Stock Exchanges in Asia, steeping downwards daily which is an area of manufacturing of machinery and electronic equipment. Food and Agriculture Organisation Director noted, "that as a result of high food prices, the number of hungry people increased by about 50 million in 2007". We are now at a crossroad to seek for the necessity of living, the struggle to survive when we cannot have our basic daily needs.

Living standards are in downward trend by the impact of the high pitch of food and energy crisis, which daily is becoming rampant. The circumstances in Africa, Asia and other parts of the world is very frightening, same reports were practically experienced in various continents that families stopped sending their children to school and instead put them to work like street hawking, extremely poor ones have been forced to beg, significant number of people were found cutting on meals -taking two meals daily instead of three and also swapped to substandard food items, I wonder what happens in countries they survive with an income less than a dollar per day, where they are mutilated by poor economic management by their respective governments in conflict rages. Also, noticed that people have been selling both fixed and variable assets such as electronic gadgets, lands, cars, stocks and bonds at cheap values to cope with the inflation and borrowing at higher lending rates. It was also discovered that people have switched to self-medication, this is a major setback to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals pledged to be fulfilled by 2015, where development bank speculated "that high food prices are unlikely to fall dramatically before 2015" and citing the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Meeting that "the current food and energy crisis will make meeting the Millennium Development Goals even harder to reach". What is next?

To ensure sustainability, local processes in various nations is the best practice to ensure we have a global reality in subduing the prevalent crisis, where concentration should be giving by various nations to local farmers, who are more efficient and less profit driven than larger farmers, tax cut on produce and more loans should be allotted to them to procure farm machineries and utilities, they should be assisted through Land reform acts, building of modern storage facilities. We could ensure that governments' tend to spend less or totally divert funds for war such as USA government spending a colossal amount

estimated at 3 billion dollars for war in Iraq, Afghanistan, emphasis to governments' on restraining the research and development of biological and nuclear weapons while such funds should contribute to human, capital and sustainable development. Also, reflecting on parts of the global environment which has led to nations to prioritize the imports over local production of food crops, agencies such as UN, FAO and Civil Societies should start abandoning policies which are overstretched and affirm policies that will backup more production of local produce and restriction of imports and less exports of food crops except selective and scarce commodities needed in different countries that cannot be grown and also driving the wealthy countries re-commitment towards meeting the MDGs timeframe. In energy sector, the concept of nationalism must be introduced; self production for self consumption where African oil should be for Africa and Americas' for America, this would result into self-sustainable development.

Leaders are talking and showing concern for the future, Indian Finance Minister said in a statement, calling an end to subsidies for food-derived fuels that "In a world where there is hunger and poverty, there is no policy justification for diverting food crops towards bio-fuels" and in addition, the World Bank reported that "US ethanol ate up nearly all of the increased global maize production from 2004-2007, when the crop's prices increased by 83%, also Wheat, soya, edible and palm oil prices have been hit due to increased bio- fuel production". The last songs may have been unheard about the world crisis that has crept to every home in every continent, if action does not follow their comments but cautious consideration is agreed and interest of the society is exerted, the future would not be what it used to be.