**Objective #1: Appreciation of Problems that Transcend National Boundaries**

Student's Name

Institution Affiliation

Course

Instructor

Date

**Objective #1: Appreciation of Problems that Transcend National Boundaries**

A myriad of issues plagues the planet earth making life relatively complex for a significant population of people. The problems range mainly from poverty to conflicts, inequality, inadequate health care, climate change [to mention a few], as cited by the Concern Worldwide.US. Org (2020). This paper discusses a few of the issues: Climate change, poverty, inequality and discrimination, and inadequate healthcare system, hunger, and Malaria that transcend the national boundaries as an initial step into solving them while noting how coursework influenced my understanding of these topics. The move to make the world better through significant decision-making needs a profound knowledge of the global issues, the causes, the progress, and the pending cases for a better address.

**Poverty**

Reports show that at least 689 million people live in abject poverty—this is the population that spends $1.90 or less for their daily upkeep. The absolute poverty definition by World Vision (2020) is when individuals are unable to afford clothing, nutrition, or shelter, even at its minimum, in their country. According to World Vision (2020), domestic violence, poor governance, lack of basics like water, education, shelter, proper healthcare, gender/ethnic discrimination, and exploitation cause poverty. They do so by restricting individuals from accessing social services critical in overcoming poverty. Even though these disparities exist, it will be unjustifiable to overlook the current progress that humanitarian organizations have made in combating poverty, not only here in the United States but also other areas like Africa and other parts of the world. UNICEF's 2018 Annual Report indicates that while there are children still struggling with healthcare access, nutrition and education, a significant population is doing better, and others' initiatives to help address the issue are essential. My contemplation of all these aspects from coursework influences my understanding that poverty is a global issue that requires everyone's responsibility to tackle.

**Hunger, inadequate healthcare system, and diseases**

The issues of the inadequate or insufficient healthcare system, hunger, and diseases such as Malaria have an interconnection with poverty. Concern Worldwide US.org (2020) acknowledges the interconnection between healthcare and poverty, primarily affecting mothers and children. Hunger and inadequate health care are causing stunted growth yet are preventable. Recognizing these issues as global problems have led to various humanitarians' involvement in addressing the issues, consequently improving lives. Taking Malaria as a worldwide issue, for instance, has led to the launch of multiple programs to eliminate Malaria by close to 90% by 2030, as postulated by World Health Organization (2020). That is not all; the 2020 report indicates that malaria cases in 2019 globally affected 229 million people. While this is a drop from 2000 that had reported 238 million, acknowledging Malaria as a global issue has caused significant improvements. For example, while Tanzania may be a third-world country, their knowledge of Malaria as a worldwide issue sparked intensive research. According to Okumu (2017), their investigation led to identifying hundreds of mosquito species in Africa and other parts of the world. Their continued research will contribute to the *global* elimination of the disease. In essence, viewing these issues as global concerns has helped address the issues better. After studying the topics mentioned above, my understanding has helped me understand that addressing issues from a global perspective leads to more practical solutions.

**Inequality and discrimination**

Ending inequality is one of the sustainable development goals by the United Nations. The rate at which inequality affects people is alarming. Concern Worldwide US.org (2020) defines inequality as systematic barriers that rob people of voice or representation in their communities. There is inequality of income, social-economic status, gender everywhere. For example, according to Unequal scenes, even though Brazil features among the top five largest countries worldwide with around 211 million people, the inequality level is the highest in income categories. Unequal scenes document that many people live in poverty, and the income concentration is only in the top 1 %. Checking Africa, for instance, Nairobi, Kenya, is true not only in the income but also in poverty. The United States is no different; there are places like Minneapolis with high discrimination/inequality rates where black people, primarily, earn close to half of their white counterparts' earnings. That is inequality and discrimination in just a segment of the world population. Studying this helped me understand that to achieve sustainable development goals, we need to address inequality and discrimination as a global issue and everyone's responsibility to achieve it because the cases are rampant.

**Climate change**

Climate change is a critical issue taking a toll on people in almost all parts of the world. Like inequality, discrimination, lack of proper healthcare, climate change also leads to poverty. According to Concern Worldwide US.org (2020), severe climatic conditions such as the lack of or excessive rains lead to poverty because it controls people's agricultural plans. While others may be privileged to have food reserves, some third-world countries do not, and therefore the climatic changes weigh heavily on them. Due to poor climate, many countries experience poor sanitation and a lack of clean water for drinking. Addressing the issue as a global concern has rescued a significant population experiencing water shortages due to climate change. For example, the 2019 UNICEF report points to providing 42.8 million people access to clean water, which is enormous. Yet, these are not the only impacts of climate change; other continents are facing different versions of the effects of climate change. Studying this topic helped me understand that taking a global perspective at solving issues of climate is essential.

In conclusion, to make the world better through significant decision-making, there is a need to understand the profundity of the global issues, the causes, and the progress made is essential to address them better. Many problems such as poverty, inequality, climate change, inadequate healthcare, and diseases like Malaria require a global perspective for effective address.

**References**

Concern Worldwide US.org. (2020). "11 Top Causes of Global Poverty." Retrieved from https://www.concernusa.org/story/causes-of-poverty/

Okumu, F. (2017). *Why I study the most dangerous animal on earth – mosquitos.* TEDGlobal 2017, https://www.ted.com/talks/fredros\_okumu\_why\_i\_study\_the\_most\_dangerous\_animal\_on\_earth\_mosquitoes

Peer, A. (2020). "Global poverty: Facts, FAQs, and how to help." World Vision. Retrieved from https://www.worldvision.org/sponsorship-news-stories/global-poverty-facts

Unequal Scenes (n.d). *Unequal Scenes.* Retrieved from https://unequalscenes.com

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (2018). Annual Report For every child, every right. Retrieved from https://www.unicef.org/media/55486/file/UNICEF-annual-report-2018%20revised%201.pdf

World Health Organization (WHO) (2020). World Malaria Report 2020. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240015791