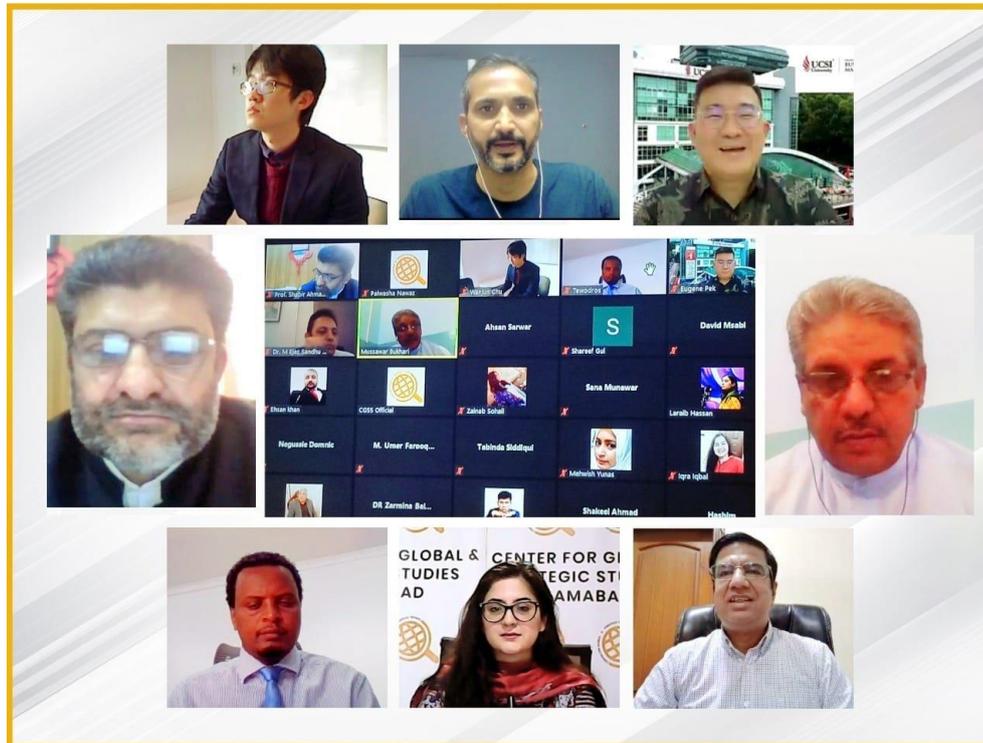




Online International Conference Report

“Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges”



Organized by
Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared
Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China on
20th April, 2021



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CONCEPT NOTE

The idea of “Community with Shared Future for Mankind”, presented by President Xi in 2013, envisions a globalized world of sustainable peace, prosperity, security, and cooperation rather than a competitive world. In such a world, cooperation in different sectors supports handling the common global challenges.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been proved that the entire humanity is a community with shared destiny and that multilateralism is the right approach to handling the common global challenges. It has also highlighted the need for strengthened global governance.

Pursuing a win-win situation and shared benefits through collaboration and consultation are the fundamental principles of the idea of Community with a Shared Future. The countries, regardless of their position in the international arena, power, economic capacity, strength, etc. are all members of the international community. Hence, the global governance system must be established by the members of the international community.

The shortcomings of today’s global governance system have especially been highlighted after the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. At present, different countries of the world are struggling with challenges which include health emergencies, economic, food scarcity, climate change, population growth, resource depletion, water scarcity, changing disease patterns, etc.

These challenges cannot be addressed by a state, government, or institution acting alone. They require collaborative efforts of governments, states, international institutions, etc.

Keeping in view the above, Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future is organizing an Online International Conference on “Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges” to bring subject experts on a single platform to discuss the multilateral approaches, initiatives, and solutions to the common global challenges.



BRIEF OF THE CONFERENCE

On 20th April 2021, an Online International Conference on “Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges” was organized by the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China.

The conference aimed to bring together intellectuals from partner research centers together at one platform to share their expertise and knowledge on the Chinese concept “Community with Shared Future for Mankind” and how it can be used to address common global challenges.

Renowned subject experts from Pakistan, China, Tanzania and Malaysia will participated as Guest Speakers

The conference was attended by 50 participants and was also viewed live on social media platforms by 200 viewers.

PROFILES OF SPEAKERS & SPEECH TOPICS

1. Prof. Dr. Shabir Ahmed Khan, Director, Area Study Center (Russia, China & Central Asia), University of Peshawar, Pakistan

Topic of Speech: Community with Shared Future: An Inclusive Approach to Tackling Global Challenges



Prof. Dr. Shabir Ahmad Khan is the Director of Area Study Centre, (Russia, China & Central Asia) University of Peshawar, Pakistan. He has various research publications in HEC recognized Journals to his credit. He also translated Noor Sultan Nazarbayov, Kazakh President's Book "V Patok-e- Istoriie" Almaati 1999, from Russian into Urdu. He has taught various courses to M.Phil and Ph.D students. He has participated and organized several national and international Conference and Seminars. He is also Member Board of Experts of Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad.

2. Mr. Tewodros Girma Abebe, Minister Counsellor, Ethiopian Embassy in Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Topic of Speech: Community with Shared Future and need to improve Security Governance



Mr. Tewodros's first Degree is from Gonder University, Ethiopia, in Literature. He completed MA in Diplomacy and International Relations from the Civil Service University of Ethiopia. He has worked at the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for 8 years at different capacity. He also worked as Ethiopian Diplomat (Minister Counsellor) at the Ethiopian Embassy in Berlin.

Currently he is working again as Minister Counsellor at the Ethiopian Embassy in Tanzania.

3. Dr. Musavir Hussain Bukhari, Chairman, Political Science Department, Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Pakistan

Topic of Speech: Is Conflict Resolution a prerequisite for building a Community with Shared Future?



Dr. Musavir Hussain Bukhari completed his PhD Degree from Monash University, Australia. Currently, he is Associate Professor/Chairman/Director (CPCR)/Coordinator (Public Admin.) at , Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB). His research interests include Ethnicity & South Asia, Foreign Policy of Major Powers, HRM, Comparative Pubic Administration, Theory of Public Administration, Pakistan Politics. He also has various national and international publications to his credit.

4. Mr. Wanjun Chu, Doctor of Philosophy, Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China

Topic of Speech: Community with Shared Future & Need for Trans institutional Solutions to Global Challenges



Mr. Wanjun Chu is currently Doctor of Philosophy at the Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China. He completed his PhD Degree from Linköping University, Sweden. His research areas include design for sustainability transition, sustainability-oriented innovation, design for sustainability, sustainable behavior change.

5. Mr. Shakeel Ahmed Ramay, Director, Member Board of Advisors, Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad, Pakistan

Topic of Speech: Community with Shared Future: Inclusive Approach to achieving SDGs



Mr. Shakeel Ahmad has a strong background in, global governance, diplomacy, political economy, development economic, CPEC, BRI, stakeholder engagement, climate change security and diplomacy, climate change, UNFCCC negotiation working with parliamentarian, environment, food security, carbon financing and economic studies, Disaster Risk Management. He has strong and effective leadership skills. He has a keen insight into the needs of developing countries in today's world. He is a member of different parliamentary and government committees including foreign relation committee, Defence Committee, Human right committee, Ministry of Foreign affairs, Human Rights etc. He also teaches

negotiation skills, conflict transformation and digital diplomacy at Foreign Service Academy of Pakistan.

6. Dr. PEK Chuen Khee, Eugene, Head of UCSI Graduate Business School, UCSI University and Director of UCSI Poll Research Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Topic of Speech: How the idea of “Community with Shared Future” can contribute to improved Global Governance?



Dr PEK Chuen Khee, Eugene, is currently an Associate Professor and Head of UCSI Graduate Business School in UCSI University and Director of UCSI Poll Research Centre. He is committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) #4 Quality Education, #9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, and #13 Climate Action and has elaborated teaching profiles and corporate experiences in training and development. Pek obtained his Bachelor of Science (Economics) Honours from the University of London in 1997. He then received his Master of Economics and Ph.D in Economics from the School of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Business, National University of Malaysia (UKM) in 2000 and 2009, respectively. Pek also earned his Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (PGCHE) from the University of Nottingham in 2016.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, ANALYSIS & KEY TAKEAWAYS



Executive Summary, Analysis & Key-Takeaways

(Based on the speeches of respective panelists)

a. Community with a Shared Future: An Inclusive Approach to Tackle Global Challenges

- Global challenges like inequality, governance issues, political differences, climate change, and many others call for global solutions.
- Therefore, it is a dire need of time to cooperate to counter the transnational challenges. To counter traditional and non-traditional challenges, states require highly cooperative measures and a pro-developmental attitude.
- To address the basic framework of human security, a multilateral approach is an utmost requirement. Multilateralism should be adopted as an essential component of the constitutional schemes by the international and regional organizations.
- The multilateral-international cooperation and global security are two sides of the same coin. However, the guiding principles in human services to international communities should comprise specific prerequisites like equality, harmony, and respecting each other's sovereignty.
- Furthermore, joint efforts are required to maintain global security. It can be done via advocating high positive regional and global responses and abandoning the zero-sum game. In this regard, a community with a shared future for mankind provides significant grounds for joint ventures.
- Developmental projects like the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) are some of China's very encouraging schemes that have provided underdeveloped or developing nations to enhance their participation in the global arena.

b. Trans Institutional Solutions to Counter the Covid-19 Pandemic

- In the sincere efforts to provide safety to the world, the UN-Covid-19 response group identified four major challenges of the pandemic-struck times. For example, development of Covid-testing measures, contact tracing and development, and provision of vaccines.



- The following phases brought hurdles where great managerial tests were tackled via awareness campaigns. These were an essential part of information communication and the provision of healthcare facilities to save lives.
- The phase of promoting healthcare and health treatments in public again referred to the necessity of information and communication. This prolonged phase of solutions relies heavily on trans-institutional propositions to establish overall global safety from the pandemic.
- The introduction of the vaccine tests, development via the construction of the 3D Coronavirus model are the true milestones achieved from multi-stakeholder partnerships and cross-disciplinary collaborations.
- The 5G technology, Artificial Intelligence, advanced algorithms, and thermal cameras to scan crowds and identify potentially infected people are few achievements of the cross-disciplinary collaboration.
- The governments, information technology, scientists, researchers, public sectors, private companies have proven to be significant stakeholders to regulate cooperation worldwide.
- The adoption of 3D printing technologies for medical devices and protective medical face shields are the turnovers of the new normal medical implications. This shall serve in the high interest of global health security and formulation of the post-pandemic future policies.
- The quick-to-market knowledge transition is the major outlet for the governments to tackle the insufficient financial and human resources in the present scenario.
- In this aspect, the 3R strategy i.e., reacts in the short term, resolve in the mid-term, and reinvent in the long-term, should be adopted as new parameters to fill possible similar gaps in the future.

c- Conflict Resolution as a Prerequisite: Building a Community with Shared Future

- The Community with a Shared Future is a new and improved definition of a Global Commonality concept. Economic integration is the significant way to establish a systematic global growth.



- The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a unique initiative globally, which offers a plethora of opportunities for sustainable development across and within countries.
- In this aspect, attaining BRI goals in the conflict-struck regions seeks logical conclusions on the financial frontiers.
- The dialogue development requires the functional diplomacy of the investor states to push forward the conflict resolution mechanisms.
- The communicational-connectivity driven by BRI is complimenting the futuristic approach to structure the norms and move towards the Dialogue of Civilizations.

d. Improving Global Governance: Idea of A Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

- The realignment of global governance occurs through the five pillars of the community, i.e., politics, development, security, culture, and environment. In this aspect, the fifth pillar has become the focal area in the post-pandemic world.
- China can play an essential role in reframing International Relations by three major notions i.e., promotion of equality regardless of regime type, stressing to resonate voices from the developing countries, and vanishing dominance of any country upon others.
- Therefore, modernity needs open space to flourish via carrying social development as a counterpart of economic development.
- Environmental commitments are as significant for a peaceful global community. Considering the shared future on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the two big states like China and the USA, need to collaborate with smaller states to implement Sustainable Development Goals.
- The cooperation between China and the USA to fight climate challenges can lead to several promising prospects. The advocacy provided in emission reduction and financial help to the developing countries would achieve the common targets.
- Clean energy has become the driving force in the global pathway to establish economic prospects and mutually collaborative regional gains. This shall constitute the setting of new transits between the countries, enabling them to attain benefits.



- In this aspect, another significant area regarding climate action is the fund sharing between the big countries. The utility of the funds in the co-creation of technologies would mobilize international financial support at various levels. Thereby, enhance the overall cooperation in numerous energy sectors.

**e. Community with Shared Future and Need to Improve Security Governance:
A Case Study of the Nile Basin**

- The Community with a Shared Future has put forward a requisite of improved security governance. The Nile River is the longest river basin in the world. However, its rural areas remain water scarce.
- The current disputes of the riparian countries date back to the three treaties, i.e., from the Anglo-Egyptian treaty to the Cooperative Framework Agreement (1929-2010). The major reason is the dominance provided to Egypt to utilize its water tributaries.
- Apart from Egypt's 55.5 billion and Sudan's 18.5 billion cubic meters of water, the remaining 10 billion cubic meters of water have left for seepage and evaporation. Thus, multilateral cooperation is required to establish a robust water security framework for the Nile basin communities.
- The third agreement is a Cooperative Frame of Agreement (CFOA). Its projection agreement by Sudan and Egypt lead to the gap that requires the urgent establishment of an all-inclusive Nile basin cooperation or accords.
- The building of the Grand Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile river has taken the riparian countries into hydropower generation and exploration of the economic potential. Therefore, resolving issues among them is vital to frame progressive regional schemes.



ANNEXURES



ANNEXURE 1: TRANSCRIPT'S OF THE SPEECHES

Opening Remarks

Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram, Director, Pakistan Community of Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future

On behalf of the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, I would like to welcome all the panellists and participants. Let me just in very few words introduce you to the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future. This centre was established on 26th October 2020 with the collaboration of the Communication University of China in Beijing. Now, this centre is not only connected with China but our centre is also connected with all the seven centres of the world. Today, we are honoured that we have a speaker from our sister centre in Tanzania, China Communication University and Malaysia. As you already know about the topic, it is the Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach for Tackling the Global Challenges. In the pandemic period, we have seen that the pandemic has turned out to be the biggest challenge of this century and all the countries for resolving this challenge have to work together. Similarly, in times to come, we will be seeing that the post-pandemic period will not only bring the world together, but also, we will have many new normals in the post-pandemic period. In today's conference the speakers will not only talk on the global challenges but also the post-pandemic period challenges. Thank you very much.



Speaker 1

Prof. Dr. Shabir Ahmed Khan, Director, Area Study Center (Russia, China & Central Asia), University of Peshawar, Pakistan

Topic: Community with Shared Future: An Inclusive Approach to Tackling Global Challenges

Bi-smi llāhi r-Raḥmāni r-Raḥīm. Very distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen, greetings from Peshawar. It is really an honour for me to address this privileged forum online, "Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Global Challenges." The world, the globe is faced with numerous traditional and non-traditional challenges including poverty, inequality, the class difference between the haves and have not, pandemics, armed conflicts, political divide, deteriorated global governance, under-development and climate change-just to name a few of the challenges. In fact, competition dominates cooperation in the contemporary era, unfortunately. While resolving the myriad of challenges that humanity faces today, it is beyond the capacity of a single power or a group of few countries or a single institution or organization. Though the world is politically divided. However, it is so closely interconnected that not any nation or state can achieve peace, development and prosperity in isolation. Undoubtedly, a multilateral approach with mutual understanding and keeping in view the interests of the entire humanity is needed to address the challenges. Multilateralism was given institutional form when the UN was formed in the post-World War II period. However, this institution has been used and abused by some mega-powers to implement their own decisions and give legitimacy to some controversial decisions, causing huge loss and damage to humanity. According to Mary Robinson, she remained the President of Ireland from 1990 to 1997 and she was also UN high commissioner for human rights from 1997 to 2002. I will quote her. "Too many members not least those with special responsibility of holding permanent seat, treated the UN Security Council as a forum for advancing their own narrow interests, rather than addressing common challenges". The UN itself needs to be reformed and given its due central role by the international community in resolving global issues. The institutions are dead bodies. They are given life by human beings. It is imperative that humanity with shared responsibility utilize all global and regional organizations on the principle of equality and justice. Community with Shared Future is the ideal concept to work collectively towards peaceful coexistence, resolving conflicts through dialogue and consultations and to achieve inclusive and common prosperity. The



culmination of multipolarity has been prolonged by the pandemic. During this transition unilateralism and protectionism will keep on rising giving birth to further governance and development challenges at global level. This will further undermine the fragile peace at various regional and global levels while confrontation will intensify. To address these challenges, need for multilateral international cooperation for peace and development is all-time high. The concept of Community with Shared Future upholds a vision of mutual respect, justice, inclusive growth, equality and common prosperity through a win-win cooperation. It talks of unity and diversity and order out of chaos by achieving peace through partnerships, rather than imposed by compulsion. Every nation aspires in dreams, growth and prosperity. So, this is shared by all humanity. Similarly, every nation has the right to choose its own path of development. No interference in other nation's internal affairs shall be the norm to respect each other's sovereignty. Making partnerships through mutual respects for sovereignty are the basic principles of the community with a shared future. Global security can only be achieved through mutual support and to support and protect each other's security. Climate change, terrorism, natural disasters, pandemics, cybersecurity and refugee's problem should be tackled by common efforts through regional and global responses. The issues of Kashmir, Palestine, Syria and Afghanistan need to be resolved through dialogue and consultation. The mentality of zero-sum game has to be abandoned in the best interest of humanity. The notion of hegemony has to be buried as hegemony leads towards confrontation and is always disliked and challenged. No country has the right to dominate and dictate to others and exploit the weak or small nations. Discrimination in trading and investment have to be avoided while providing fair and equal ground to all countries, in particular, help to smaller states to benefit from international trade as well as access to markets. This demands shared responsibilities because future of humanity is interlinked and humanity has to show solidarity for all win cooperation. Win-win cooperation is the only way forward to advance in a harmonized manner in order to address global challenges. It is to share the dividends of technological and economic advancements in the best interest of humanity so that benefits are shared by all. Today, the human soul has lost the purpose of its existence i.e., to serve to protect and to help other human beings. The dream of happiness and prosperity shared by all people ensures the development. The concept of Community of Shared Future reinvigorates multilateralism i.e., to address the challenges with collective efforts through dialogue and consultation. This vision has



deepened and broadened the concept and practice of multilateralism. It serves the interests of all the people classes and countries and sets the right direction for a global landscape undergoing a major transformation. The guiding principles are mutual consultation, collective efforts, joint collaboration, sharing responsibilities and sharing benefits in the prom of common development and prosperity. The BRI interconnects various continents and ultimately the world. It truly provides a platform for building a community with a shared future for humanity. The initiative provides opportunities to all countries irrespective of size or strength for access to regional and global markets. BRI helps all the countries to develop better, be interconnected, inter and intra-regionally and globally to reap the fruits of smooth movement of labour, goods, capital, services and enhanced people-to-people contact across borders for sharing experiences and learnings. China has been joined by an increasing number of countries as partners due to this grand vision for the benefit of humanity. China has time and again denied and rejected the notions of hegemony or creating a sphere of influence. While advocating and pursuing a policy of peaceful rights, peaceful coexistence, non-interference, mutual benefit, respect for sovereignty and equality. As President Xi Jinping stated in his address to Geneva in 2017, I quote: “We are committed to peaceful development, whatever shapes the world order takes or international landscape evolves China will never pursue hegemony, expansion or sphere of influence. And will continue to contribute to global development and uphold the international order in the best interest of humanity. China will stay committed to the path of development through regional and global cooperation. (Unquote). President Xi Jinping’s vision of Community with Shared Future is also based on the same principles to address the global challenges. With these words, I thank you all.

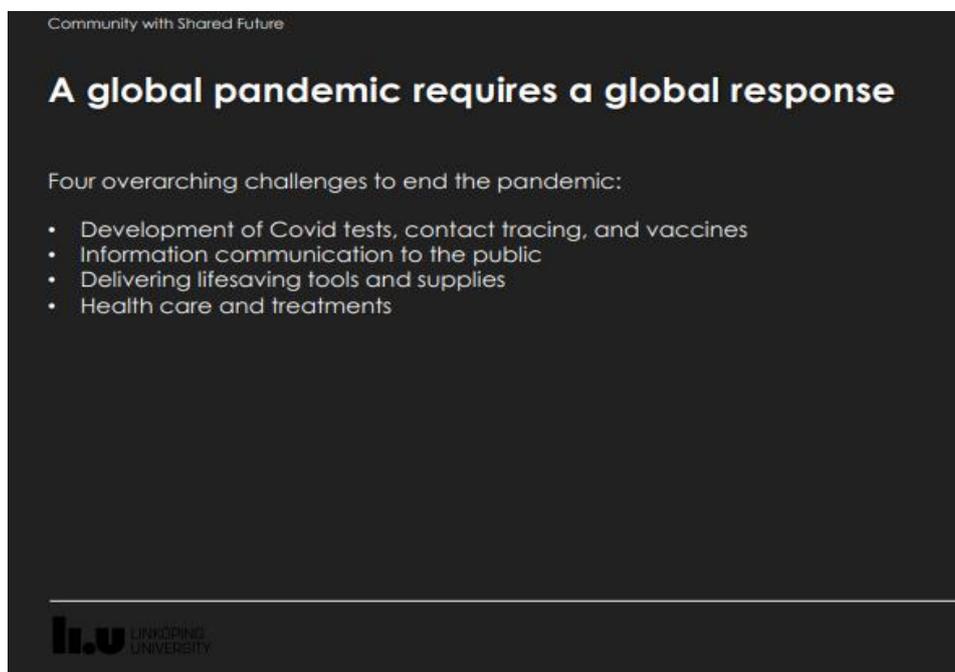
Speaker 2

Mr. Wanjun Chu, Doctor of Philosophy, Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China

Topic: Community with Shared Future & Need for Trans Institutional Solutions to Global Challenges

Thank you very much for inviting me into the panel discussion. Today, I would like to share some thoughts about the Community with Shared Future and the need for trans-institutional solutions to global challenges. I would like to begin the talk by referring to

the speech given by Ursula von der Leyen. She is the president of the European Commission and she said that “a global pandemic requires a world effort to end it-none of us will be safe until everyone is safe.” Indeed, a global pandemic requires a global response. According to the UN-Covid-19 response group and the World Health Organization (WHO), four overarching challenges merges. The first one is the development of COVID testing, contact tracing and vaccines. Second is the information communication to the public. This raises public awareness towards the pandemic. Then delivering lifesaving tools and supplies to the hospitals to the frontline workers and to the public and also to promote health care and health treatments to the public.



Given these challenges and based on my background, what I want to discuss today is what science and technology-informed trans-institutional solutions have been applied to resolve global challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic? learning from what we have already done and extracting insights of how to build resilience to future shocks? How can we improve the way in which trans-institutional solutions are harnessed to resolve similar global challenges in the future? Such as human-induced climate challenges.

Community with Shared Future

Questions in mind

What science and technology-informed trans-institutional solutions have been applied to resolve global challenges brought by the Covid-19 pandemic?

↓

Build resilience to future shocks

↓

How can we improve the way in which trans-institutional solutions are harnessed to resolve similar global challenges in the future?

In order to break down the questions and for each of the challenges identified in the previous slides, I used one case study to illustrate how multi-stakeholder partnership and cross-disciplinary collaborations are used to tackle the corresponding challenges. I would like to start with first challenge in terms of the development of the COVID tests and vaccines. For example, early genome sequencing of the virus by scientists in China allowed researchers in Germany to rapidly build their PCR-based testing kits which later used commercially all over the world and permitted by WHO. After that, it allowed the 3D modelling construction of the virus to better understand the infection mechanism, and later the rapid identification of the vaccine prototypes all over the world.

Community with Shared Future

Trans-institutional collaboration in the development of Covid tests and vaccines

- Early genome sequencing of the SARS-CoV-2 by scientist in China
- Germany researchers to build PCR testing kits
- 3D model of the virus developed by researchers in the U.S.
- WHO & Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
- Vaccine early prototype development and human-testing

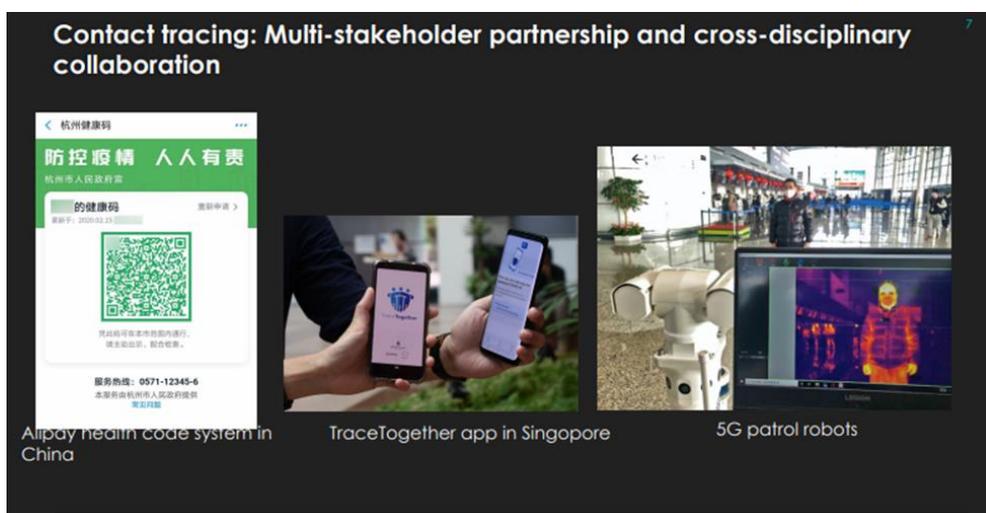
As partnership between public and private sectors, WHO and CEPI and that is Coalition of epidemic preparedness Innovation organization, they accelerated the development of

vaccines. This ongoing work has cut the expected development time for COVID-19 vaccines to only 12-18 months, and that is great achievement enabled by trans-institutional collaboration all over the world. Another example of multi-stakeholder partnership and cross-disciplinary collaboration can be found in contact tracing.

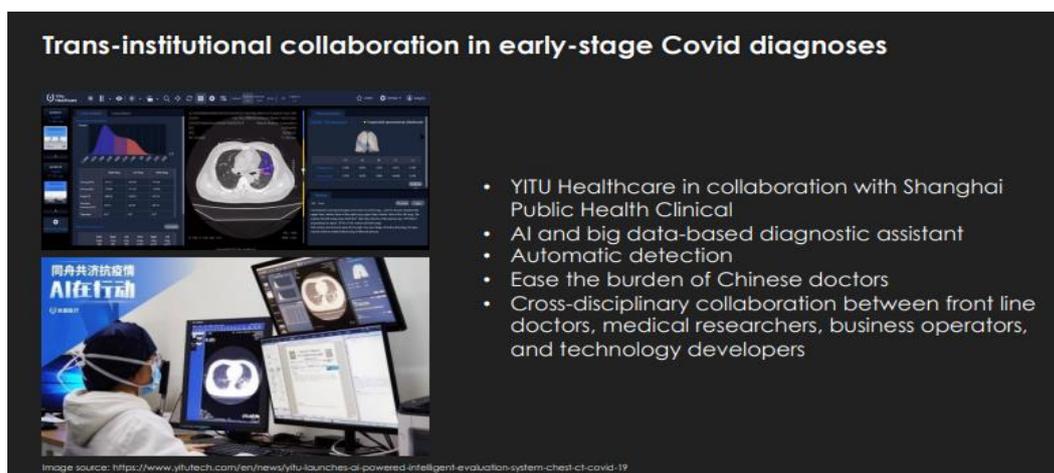
Science and technology-informed trans-instructional solutions

Challenges to end the pandemic	Multi-stakeholder partnership and cross-disciplinary collaboration
Development of Covid tests and vaccines	Research data shared across nations
Contact tracing	Digital mobile apps
Early-stage diagnoses	YITU Healthcare (AI assistant and big data)
Information communication to the public	Government and private information portals
Delivering lifesaving tools and supplies	3D printed medical equipment

For example, by employing advance ICT technology, China and Singapore were one of the first countries to implement contact racing technology such as Alipay health code system in China and Trace Together app in Singapore. Basically, if one person becomes infected, the user of these apps receives notification in their mobile phone, which allows immediate self-testing and self-isolation. The patrol robots which have been deployed at airports and public places such as train stations in China, driven by the 5G technology and artificial intelligence, they use facial recognition, advanced algorithms and thermal cameras to scan crowds and identify potentially infected people.



This is another example of cross-disciplinary collaboration between the governments and also the information technology, scientists and researchers and public sectors, private companies. The third example is the early-stage diagnosis. The Intelligent Evaluation System of chest computed tomography (CT) for COVID-19, developed by YITU Healthcare under the guidance of Shanghai Public Health Clinical, was officially launched and put to the front-line battle against COVID-19 outbreak on January 28 that is only three weeks after the initial outbreak. This won't be achieved until there is no collaboration between the private sector and the public sector such as Public Health Clinical Organization-Shanghai. It is the very first AI-equipped diagnostic assistant, which significantly improves efficiency in identifying coronavirus through automatic detection and quantitative analysis within 2-3 seconds. It eases the burden of Chinese doctors in the early-stage of the outbreak.



The fourth example is the Information Communication to the Public. During the COVID-19 pandemic and according to the UN report, governments started providing information to the public on national portals, (through mobile phones, mobile apps and through social media platforms. A review of the national portal of 193 United Nations members showed that by 25 March, 2020, 57% and around 110 countries, have put in place some kind of the information on COVID-19. While just two weeks after that on April 8, 2020 around 86 % (167 countries) have included information and guidance about COVID-19. So that a great achievement in terms of communication to the public. By June, 2020 around 100 apps were developed to help public to better cope with COVID-19, including alerting, contact tracing, information communication, medical reporting, self-diagnostics, quarantine enforcement and so on. One of the most visited platforms is the real-time

tracking map developed by John Hopkins University's Center for System Science and Engineering.



It aims to following the cases of COVID-19 across the world, using the big data collected from US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control, the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC) and private owned Chinese website DXY.cn. That is another example of global collaboration and cooperation between the public sector, the university and the research centres and private owned companies.

Fifth example is problem delivering about the life saving tools and supplies and this is a really great example of cross-disciplinary solutions for tackling the global challenges. During the pandemic demand for medical equipment has exponentially increased, creating shortages, often exposing medical personal to greater risk. 3D printing technologies have been adopted to produce replacement valves for medical devices and protective medical face shields to address these shortages.

Delivering lifesaving tools and supplies: cross-disciplinary solutions

Image source: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42247-021-00164-y>

Image source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-51911070>

- Additive manufacturing/ 3D printing for producing medical equipment
- A 3D-printer company has designed and printed 100 life-saving respirator valves in 24 hours for a hospital in Italy
- The 3D-printed valves cost less than €1 (90p)

To the right side of the slide there you can see that I and my colleagues were also developing this kind of glass holder by using laser colour and additive manufacturing. Even though, we don't work with medical workers, we don't have medical science knowledge or background, we can still use our knowledge to help the medical workers to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, compared with the traditional companies which produce this kind of equipment, the 3D printed valves just cost significantly less than the traditionally manufactured valves. This is another benefit of the cross-disciplinary solutions. Drawing up the emerging solutions to tackle the global challenges, based on my personal reflections, I would like to present a set of recommendations to improve the way in which trans-institutional solutions are harnessed to resolve global challenges such as climate change in the future.

To improve the way in which trans-institutional solutions are harnessed to resolve global challenges in the future: Some personal reflections and recommendations

To facilitate multi-stakeholder partnership and cross-disciplinary collaboration:

- Lead collaboration with private technology companies, social entrepreneurs and international organizations
- Actively seek for effective ways to implement existing technologies to resolve complex issues
- Stimulate quick-to-market knowledge transition when facing crises
- Promote knowledge and data sharing across research disciplines, different sectors and nations
- Ensure universal access to research and technology-based solutions/expertise/tools, especially for developing countries (with limited research foundation)
- 3R strategy to cope with the pandemic: react (short-term), resolve (mid-term), and reinvent (long-term)

First, governments often lack the financial and human resource capabilities to quickly and efficiently response to the crisis and building partnership with private technology companies such as special enterprises or other national or international organizations. This can represent an effective way for governments to make use of the existing technologies to meet the needs of the people and soften the impact of crisis in peoples' lives. Of course, government should play the leading role in this kind of collaborations and actively seek ways to implement technologies. Governments should also stimulate quick-to-market knowledge transition when facing crises and promote knowledge and data sharing across research disciplines, different sectors and nations. Especially, when it comes to developed countries and less developed countries, researchers or people there don't have access to advance technology. Thus, by collaborating between different nations, government also work on ensuring universal access to research and technology-based solutions or tools, especially for the developed countries. The 3R strategy which is react in a short term, resolve in mid-term and reinvent in the long-term could be a potential path for the government in the future to fight similar crisis. To react in a short time, to resolve problems in a mid-term and then reinvent the solutions, including the technological solutions or any other kinds of solutions in the long-term. So, we are more resilient to future challenges, future shocks.

"The COVID-19 pandemic is more than a health crisis; it is an economic crisis, a humanitarian crisis, a security crisis, and a human rights crisis[...] Coming out of this crisis will require a whole-of-society, whole-of-government and whole-of-the-world approach driven by compassion and solidarity."

– UN Response to COVID-19

I would like to end the speech by quoting the response that UN advocates to resolve the COVID-19 pandemic, "the pandemic is more than a health crisis; it is an economic crisis, a humanitarian crisis, a security crisis, and a human rights crisis-Coming out of this crisis will require a whole-of-society, whole-of-government and whole-of-the-world approach driven by compassion and solidarity." In other words, by collaborating together we can



build a community with shared sustainable future and that is my speech today. Thank you very much.

Speaker 3

Dr. Musavir Hussain Bukhari, Chairman, Political Science Department, Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Pakistan

Topic: Is Conflict Resolution a prerequisite for building a Community with Shared Future?

Good morning to all. It's nice for me to interact with a global community for such a topic which is part of global community perspective. Although Community with Shared Future is not a new concept. It was started almost from the League of Nations, then the United Nations. It was the concept of Global Commonality, then it was opted in European Steel and Coal Community, which was the basic model started by David Mitrany and after that Haas and Harrison. They gave us the model of functionalism and neo-functionalism. In international relations the functionalism and neo-functionalism was based on the economic integration. That was really a successful model because before we saw that between the first and Second World War, during the First World War and Second World War, there were sharp conflicts among the European nations. And most of the Europe and outside the Europe, they are in the state of conflict. They have a conflict of interest; they have economic interest's conflict and political conflict. But the biggest violence was the Second World War. The Second World War gave us a lesson. That lesson was, humanism and humanity are the origin for the earth and if the humanity is safe and the people are safe, then you are able to develop the systematic growth of the whole community. Although that model was a lesson for Europe and ultimately the United States of America gave its Marshall plan and the support of the Marshall plan redeveloped Europe. That European community which was started from the Coal and Steel Community and European community is known as the end of it-it may be possible. It may be possible that beyond that is the ultimate result of that model of functionalism and neo-functionalism. The shared community concept was opted by China and the mission of that community model was based on the collective mechanism which is called the BRI. BRI is basically relevant with three continents. These three continents are; Asia, Africa and the Europe. If we study the concept of BRI, the policy of BRI is relevant with almost seven corridors,



different corridors and these corridors are linked by tri-dimensional communication mechanism. The tri-dimensional communication mechanism is based on the air, sea and road links. These three links develop the communicational channels for the sake of socio-economic growth of that region. If we study briefly that region, these three continents, one is the developed region but other two regions Asia and specifically Africa, are both involved at the time in severe conflicts. Although in Europe there are also conflicts just like Bosnia, Kosovo, Chechnya, Ukraine. These conflicts are also relevant with Europe. We saw in Asia that there is a conflict of Kashmir. There is a conflict of the oldest and strongest at the time is Afghanistan. The Middle East is also facing to many conflicts; Libya, Iraq, Saudi-Iran conflict, Persian Gulf conflict of Persian Gulf states and there are so many other. So, in other way when we enter especially Africa; Sudan, Nigeria, Libya and there are a lot of other conflicts. If we study these regions, these are full of conflicts. So how can we be able to develop the Belt and Road Initiative? It is possible? It's the question of today. One answer is yes, it is possible. Why it is possible? It is possible because the stakeholder of BRI is almost more than 138 countries. Almost the 60% of population is also the stakeholder of BRI. The population which is almost 60% of the world is facing the collective challenges, just like climate change, terrorism, shortage of food and there is a long list. These majority of the nations as nation-states are poorest of the world. These states are interested to develop their interest with the economic activities. These are interested to develop their interest with social growth. These are interested to develop their interest with social and economic activities and their interest to resolve their problem. If we study the BRI, the major stakeholder is the Bank of China and the other all banks, the African banks, Asian banks, American development Bank, all these have only 490 billion investment. China has 600 billion investment in BRI. If China has 600 billion investment in BRI then definitely the other states are receiving the foreign direct investment. The Foreign Direct Investment is an opportunity to develop the economic activity. To decrease the unemployment in their own states and to develop a socio-economic and industrial infrastructure of the state. It is a direct mechanism to elevate the poverty that is the major cause of the conflict. Poverty is the major cause of the conflict and there are so many others. If the investor states and investor, banks and communities are interested to resolve, to develop the dialogue and mediation, to develop the different mechanism of the conflict resolution, is it possible for the poorer states, for the underdeveloped states, they will be in a position to negotiate. They will be in position



to rethink the interest. There are different approaches for conflict resolution mechanism. Suppose one of them which the sociologists use is the futuristic approach. They said that in future if you develop such kinds of alternate thinking, it may be possible that you would be able to develop a better future. The other one is that sometimes third-party mediation, another one is that some big states develop indirect diplomacy which is called the functional diplomacy. So, there are different mechanisms of mediations, negotiations and to develop the concept of the collective interest. It may be possible in future if the state of China and the major partner of BRI will be on the same page and they consider that future is save because of negotiations and ultimately the economic and social development will lead towards the Dialogue of Civilizations. It may be possible that old model of the conflict or clash of civilizations will be shifted towards the Dialogue of Civilizations. The Dialogue of civilizations will ultimately build the future prospects of Asia, Africa and Europe and their collective regions. The BRI is the communicational-connectivity for the future perspective and ultimately in conflict resolution mechanism. It may be possible with the neo-functionalist approach and BRI that will definitely get a better future. Hope for the best. Thankyou.

Speaker 4

Dr PEK Chuen Khee, Eugene, Head of UCSI Graduate Business School, UCSI University and Director of USCI Poll Research Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Topic: How the idea of “Community with Shared Future” can contribute to improved Global Governance?

Thank you very much. for inviting me. I would like to wish our Muslim friends Ramadan Karim! I am invited today to basically share with all of us a little bit of my thoughts of how the idea of a community with shared future can actually contribute to improved global governance.



If we look into the pillars of a community that China is looking at, we do understand very much that China has actually taken the initiative to realign global governance across these five pillars of community. Maybe the politics, development, security, culture, and environment. In these five pillars of community, I would like to put emphasis on the final pillar, and I will be focusing a little bit more on how global governance can actually be done through this pillar of environment.

Pillars of Community and Global Governance

China is realigning global governance across these 5 pillars of community:

- Politics
- Development
- Security
- Culture
- Environment

During this COVID-19 pandemic period, there are huge opportunities for China and also big nations like US, UK and the rest of the world to be part of the group, to look into improving the environmental quality and also to look into climate change issues. If you look into the politics briefly, China has been always encouraging democracy and



partnerships, where they look into alignment of domestic political requirements and international system. To China democracy can be done through consultations. The consultations that China is propagating as basically based on three notions. The first equality, regardless of regime type is important. The second point that China is stressing is to allow growing voices from the developing countries and currently the absence of dominance by any particular country on the rest of the world. In terms of development, China focuses on modernity, which goes beyond economics to include social development, technology and innovation as well. We have heard the earlier three speakers sharing on different areas. And, and we do see, you know, in the sharing of the earlier three speakers, multiple speakers, we do see that development has been advancing into social areas, innovation areas, and in fact, in the technological area as well. Now in terms of security, we realized that China would like to resolve crisis through dialogues via United Nation as the mediator and of course, the Security Council to control and to keep the peace in the world. In terms of culture, we realized that China is looking into advancing the culture to create more concrete measures and especially so to develop a great socialist culture. And as I said, my focus of the discussion today will be on the environment. So, let's put our time into focusing on the environment as the pillar to reform global governance. Now, when we look at the pillar of environment, it is important to realize and recognize that China puts in a lot of effort in circular and low carbon community. The environmental progress has already been given a higher political priority. And the aim of China is basically to build what they term as a Beautiful China. China supports UN-SDGs, and that's especially so to highlight three specific SDGs that China is now working hard. The first one is obviously SDG one-no poverty followed by SDG 13 climate action and SDG 16 peace, justice, and strong institutions. Calls for climate change global governance mechanism with developed nations, providing funding and know how to developing countries to pursue the environmental commitments are crucial. And this partnership is always important to come from China and United States. What we are looking at here is a community with shared future, especially with the cooperation between the two big nations on efforts to fight climate change. As I said, we move on looking at the five main pillars, specifically look at environment, and then we look at environment, we are looking at SDG 13 the climate action. And let's see how China and US through this community of shared prosperity have actually developed into more promising cooperation between the two nations.

Pillar of Environment

- Circular and low-carbon community
- Supporting UN SDGs
 - SDG1- No Poverty
 - SDG 13- Climate Action
 - SDG 16- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- Calls for climate change global governance mechanism with developed nations providing funding and know-how to developing countries to pursue their environmental commitments
- A community with shared future with cooperation with U.S. and other nations on climate change efforts



In April, 2020 with recently both US and China have committed to partner to fight climate change with the visits of John Kerry, to Shanghai meeting with his counterpart, Shenhua. The both countries work on dire issue for the common good and shared prosperity and this is critically important. US has also invited the China to be part of the virtual summit of climate change that is scheduled to happen in the next two days. Both countries would be looking into how emission reduction can be further advanced and maximize financing developing countries to switch to low carbon energy. China splashed to become a carbon neutral country by 2060, and aims to reach the peak of emissions in 2030, reducing the common carbon emission per unit of economic output by 18% over the next five years. Looking into this particular discourse of how both these nations who are the bigger contributor of carbon emission in the world, and the promising partnerships that both the countries get advanced into, we can anticipate you know, a better relationship between the regions and also these two big nations. Now, in terms of looking at what is happening, in the environment these days, we have seen huge efforts put by China into promoting what they call as the green village. A village that is full of greener East, a village that is low in carbon emission and a village, which is sustainable. Now, with the understanding that China has towards promoting a green economy, it has created huge opportunities for collaboration with US and all other nations as well. In order to speed up and to ensure that things go on well in the right scale, high level political support is always very important. In looking at how China and United States can actually move forward to collaborate further, I would like to put forward three main points that. We can also



ponder upon how these three points that I am going to share here can also be the form of partnerships between our nations with China.

Promising cooperation between China and U.S.

- April 2021- Both countries committed to partner to fight climate change following John Kerry's visit to Shanghai meeting counterpart, Xie Zhenhua
- Both countries could work on dire issue for the common good and shared prosperity
- U.S. has invited China to join the virtual summit on climate change on Earth Day (22/4/2021)
- Both countries shall look forward to emission reduction and maximise financing developing countries to switch to low-carbon energy
- China aims to be carbon-neutral by 2060 and aims to reach the peak of emissions in 2030 and reduce carbon emissions per unit of economic output by 18% over the next five years

The first point is that this nation can actually cooperate to build a clean energy framework. Now, the term clean energy is seen to be less provocative as compared to the term climate change. So, when we look into replacing the terminologies that we should use in our discussion to clean energy, it would be somewhat more cordial. Because clean energy encourages us to highlight issues that provide economic opportunities and also opens up avenues for cooperation in better established policies.

When we talk about transiting the economics from the power generation, transportation, manufacturing sectors to a low carbon economy fighting global warming, it calls a lot of cooperative resources. Now, focus on clean energy can help highlight benefits in areas ranging from air pollution reduction to economic recovery. Henceforth also involving the nations' security. In order to ensure that this can take space, bilateral cooperation will be useful and there will be avenues and opportunities again for this nation to take an expensive approach into looking at how energy efficiency, renewable energies can take place and to replace the coal energy. Looking into the next point, that is important for the nations to cooperate and to look into the right scale, to fight climate change. We can also look into the co-creation of new technologies between nations. Now, I see that the United States and China, are having complementary strengths with regards to technological advancement. US has all the resources for research to commercialization while China has substantial technical capabilities. Providing good opportunities to be done in the country.

Now, with this cooperation in terms of the technology, what we can see here is that both nations can partner to advance clean energy. We should be looking into methods and mechanisms that can actually connect people from these nations. And to work together to co-create technologies, which will be contributing to the climate change actions in these nations. Both the countries can actually share funding to mobilized international financial support at some level. Coming to the tough point, which is the last point, which I would like to share is that it will be good that both nations and even any partnering nations with China will be able to seek common for common commitments.

The steps forward

- Opportunities for collaboration
- The right scale and speed must come from high-level political support
- Three pointers:
 - **Build a clean energy framework for cooperation**
 - **Co-create new technologies to fight climate change**
 - **Seek common grounds for common commitments**
- Community with Shared Future for stronger Global Governance

We know very well from the reports China and United States have not actually accepted any internationally binding commitments to control emissions of greenhouse gases. Henceforth, we can encourage both nations to address the positions, especially in terms of the potential of considering, enhancing cooperation on energy and climate change efforts together. United States can look into preparing to accept a cap on emissions of greenhouse gases. While China can be prepared to accept commitments, reflecting the state's development and the imperative of controlling emissions. With this said we really hope that partnering universities, countries or nations can actually shape broader multilateral agreements to fight global warming together. This point said we hope and we urged nations to really look seriously into Community with Shared Future for stronger global governance through environment as what I have shared with all of us this moment. Thank you very much for listening.



Speaker 5

Mr. Shakeel Ahmed Ramay, Director, Member Board of Advisors, Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad, Pakistan

Topic: Community with Shared Future: Inclusive Approach to Achieving SDGs

It is a pleasure to listen to people from different parts of the world and I was thoroughly enjoying their discussion. My subject is how we can move forward for inclusive development with the concept of the shared community. First of all, we have to see what does shared community mean or what the genesis of the shared community is. I will not go into the detail but I will highlight two or three things. The shared community concept is built on two or three very concrete initiatives. One, Belt and Road Initiative because without extending the cooperation of development opportunities we cannot talk about the shared community. The shared community really means where everybody wants to live in peace and harmony and everybody has an equal opportunity to develop in a true sense. Not in the type of rhetoric and in the type of giving some speeches. For me in this context when I look at that, the shared community concept being presented by China. They try to compliment the initiative with BRI and other forums which have established across the world and also some FTAs like the RECP agreement and also the comprehensive agreement with the European Union on investment. These are the few initiatives, which give me a hope that when China talks about the shared community concept, they really mean business. It does not mean only the rhetoric. Now, when I look at that in this context on SDGs, it gives us a hope that means that we are really moving towards the concept of shared community. Why I say so? Because if we look closely at the SDGs main agenda points, so what are the complementarity between SDGs and shared community? For the shared communities, I will try to focus on the development and economic opportunities which has been presented under that concept and that is the BRI. If we look at SDGs relevance for the BRI. One, SDGs talk about the infrastructure improvement. Definitely, when we look at the world around, there is a huge investment required in the infrastructure. A report being done by the G20 hub for Infrastructure, they came up with the figure that world at the point of time is short of \$ 15 trillion till 2040 from the required investment for infrastructure. This prediction has been made by keeping in mind only the existing growth rates or existing reality. If we talk about the

future and especially the fourth industrial revolution that means it will increase the investment level will increase. Second thing, the report had considered only 56 countries. As we know we are living in a world of more than 200 countries. If we include all other countries, the required investment will be increased. Then energy for all. SDG's start of energy for all. If we look at the BRI the major investment is coming in the last five or six years under energy. Investment was helping countries to mend the energy shortfall. As we know in the case of Pakistan before the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), was going through the worst energy crisis. But due to the CPEC investment in the energy sector we were able to come over the energy crisis.

Relevance-SDGs



Then industrialization that is one of another key areas of BRI and also in SDGs. The reason for so is that if you have to provide jobs to the youth, unemployed people that means you need industry, economic opportunities. Industry does not mean only a big industry. It can also mean small or medium industry which can give impetus to job creation in the long run. Then the fourth one, decent jobs as I already talked about. SDGs and BRI both they are talking about the jobs. If we look at the World Bank report which was conducted in 2019, they clearly mentioned that some millions of jobs will be created due to BRI-Belt & Road Initiative. If you look that in the first phase of five years the World Bank, try to give a few estimations on the investment of \$ 500 billion for the initial investment. They did not consider the investment till 2030 which will be around 8 to 9 trillion dollars. It was predicted only in case of Pakistan that is it play well then, we can create 4 million jobs so same is the case for other countries till 2030. They can produce so many jobs only due to



the infrastructure of 500 billion dollar. If we include A to A 900 trillion dollars that means the spectrum of jobs will increase many times. Fifth one, if we look at that that is the poverty eradication. We already know that the World Bank report again predicted that BRI 32 million people will come out of the poverty track. That is a huge number if we look at the statistic and keep in mind, I am repeating it. These estimations were done on the basis of 500-billion-dollar investment. It did not include 8 to 9 trillion dollars. Then if we look at the connectivity- the fourth industrial revolution, especially in the post-pandemic situation. The connectivity has emerged as the key area. Connectivity not only in terms of road, railway or aeroplanes. Connectivity also means through the internet. We have seen that due to better connectivity or better utilization of the modern technology in China, it was able to overcome the initial impacts of the COVID-19. Because they managed the event for the lock down and they managed the supply chain through the mechanization. It is expected that also due to BRI other countries connectivity will also increase. Then the policy for coordination and shared community. Coordination does not mean that you share your policy. Coordination means everybody have to come together, sit and decide what is best for the planet? That is a main genesis for me if I look at the concept of a shared community. Everybody come together, sit together and work on what is best for us and how we can move towards that best? That will be the key question. If I start talking about connectivity or propaganda a lot of is going on? If we look around the world, they are talking a lot of negativity about china. As my other colleague was talking about clean energy. A clean energy is a very important concept. But there are double standards. If you look at that few days back Japan has discharged the waste into the sea and USA was appreciating it. I was astonished. What is this double standard now? For some country which is discharging nuclear waste in the sea, which is definitely harmful for the sea life. But some country which has just started to invite the world leaders for the Climate Summit and they are appreciating it. I was wondering what would be the agenda of this upcoming Climate Summit. That was worrisome situation for me because I am sure that my other colleagues who are following the Japan move would also agree with me. Another thing which is happening is the countries are coming with their own initiatives. It is good that as I have mentioned that by 2040, on the basis of 56 countries requirements infrastructure, the 15 trillion-dollar gap is here. That means 8-9 trillion dollars from China is helping that but more is needed. That is why more initiatives are required like the USA. But the problem if we look at the BRI, the concept of BRI is shared prosperity

and shared future. If we look at USA foreign policy objectives of US that is the killing instrument I say. Not only for the US if you also look from Australia, they are also lined a program for the Pacific Island countries. But if we look ad Japan and India, they have aligned at Asia growth corridor. But by exclusion. They are excluding China and other countries which are part of BRI.

BRI-BUILD



BRI- "Shared Prosperity"
"Shared Future"



BUILD- "Foreign Policy
Objectives of USA"

But BRI is trying to create harmony. That is the spirit behind SDGs. When we talk about it, if we look at the SDG sustainable development goals, they talked about "no one left behind." That means everybody march together towards a shared future. That is the genesis of BRI. I think that BRI and SDGs they are complimenting each other. The SDG which has foreseen some investment, BRI is trying to bring that investment to make the future secure and shared for everyone. In this context my message would be if other countries learn this lesson 'no one left behind'. If you don't want to listen to the Chinese BRI shared future, please look at the SDG slogan which you try to invent. No one left behind, how is it possible? Only one way-cooperation. Through that cooperation we move together and we move towards a shared future. Thank you so much.



Speaker 6

Mr. Tewodros Girma Abebe, Minister Counsellor, Ethiopian Embassy in Tanzania,

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Topic: Community with Shared Future and need to Improve Security Governance

Thank you for inviting me for this very wonderful conference. Today, I would also like to thank all those presenters who made very wonderful speech before me. I am actually going to talk on the topic of the 'Nile Basin Community with the Shared Future and the Need to Improve Security Governance'. I won't go into the details for the framework because given me was the general framework for working in collaboration between states and other actors. To give you a highlight about the basin, the Nile River is the longest river basin in the world with estimated length of over 6800 km. It is fed by two main tributaries, the White Nile and the Blue Nile. The White Nile originates in the territories of Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda. While the Blue Nile have the source from highlands of Ethiopia. The Nile river cross in general about eleven African countries mainly through Bruinae, Egypt Eritrea, Ethiopia, Uganda, Sudan, South Sudan and Tanzania. These countries are home to more three hundred million people. The majority of whom are living in rural areas without the supply of clean water and without any connectivity through electric power supply. The Nile basin is among the water stressed part of the world. In general, you can imagine we have one of the biggest or the longest river basin but still this region is highly susceptible to water shortage most of the time. The basin receives annual average rainfall of 650 millimetres per year. It is very small in amount. For example, if you compare it with European line valley it gets only 10% of it of annual rainfall. Again, poor water management is another problem in the basin. On average about 30% of the region's rainfall is lost before it can be used. The population growth is also adding to the pressure on the water resource and impose a more immediate demand for the better management and review of how water share is allocated. At present, around 10% of the basin's population faces very chronic water scarcity which is becoming a very major threat to the human security in the region. By 2040, according to some researchers, the number of people facing water scarcity would reach to 35%. When we put it in numbers it's about more than 18 million people will live



without enough water for their daily life means. It is very scary figures. As a community with a shared future intertwined by nature, the Nile Basin countries need to work together to formulate a multilateral framework to guarantee the water security of the entire community. Having said this let me try to look into those treaties that are governing the water sharing in the Nile Basin countries. Again, when I am referring to the Nile Basin in another way, I am meant the Nile Basin communities. The Nile Basin are also characterized by absence of an all-inclusive water sharing agreement. Historically, there are three agreements signed on the use of the Nile water and there is no consensus all riparian on all the three agreements. The first agreement was signed in 1929. It is called an Anglo-Egyptian treaty between Egypt and Great Britain. The second treaty was signed in 1959 between Egypt and Sudan when Sudan became independent form the British colony. The third one is Cooperative Framework Agreement and this was signed very late in 2010. The first agreement of 1929 was made between, as I said between the Great Britain representing its colonies in Eastern part of Africa with Egypt. The British had riparian colonies at that time including Sudan, Uganda, Kenya, and the current Tanzania. They were not consulted with this agreement. The treaty was signed. The Great Britain as a synchronizer entered into this treaty with Egypt. This treaty heavily favours Egypt and undermines the national interest of those other riparian countries. Under the term which Egypt receives under this treaty is like Egypt receives 48 billion cubic meters of water. It also gives like 4 billion cubic meters of water to Sudan. The treaty also gives Egypt the right not to take consent from the other riparian countries to undertake water projects in its own territory. But on the contrary, it gives Egypt the right to veto projects on any tributaries of the Nile of upstream countries. The second agreement of the 1959 was made between Egypt and Sudan after the independence of Sudan from the British. It was basically made to renew the 1929 agreement. The renewed agreement gave more power to Egypt again. It gives them like 55.5 billion cubic meters of water i.e., more than 48 billion cubic meters water before. Now, they got more additions. At same time give 18.5 billion cubic meters water for Sudan. The remaining 10 billion cubic meters of water that Nile river carries throughout the year has been left for seepage and evaporation. These treaties give entirely zero percent of water share for the upper riparian countries despite the fact that the water originates from the tributaries of upper riparian countries. These two bilateral agreements totally ignored the needs of upper riparian countries including Ethiopia which acquires 86% of the annual flow of the Nile. It gives 100% of the



ownership to the most downstream countries if they don't have any contribution to the annual flow of the river. Consequently, none of the upper riparian countries have ever approved those colonial time agreements. They were signed between the Great Britain and Egypt and between the two low riparian countries. Especially as an independent country, Ethiopia at that was not colonized by any European power. During those three treaties were signed Ethiopia was writing a protest letter to the United Nations and to Great Britain and Egypt when those three treaties were signed because it will undermine its national interest. Unfortunately to this day, Egypt argues that the 1929 Anglo-Egyptian treaty and its modified version of 1959 agreement is still valid and this is becoming the source of confrontation among the riparian countries. The third agreement is a CFAO that we call the Cooperative Frame of Agreement. This agreement is negotiated by eight of the eleven riparian countries and was signed in 2010. Comparatively this is the first all-inclusive treaty that gives the way for equitable and reasonable implementation of the Nile water without causing significant harm to the surrounding countries. This agreement is also projected again by Sudan and Egypt. So, this shows you that there is not an all-inclusive or an agreement that can be acceptable to all riparian countries has not been produced so far in the basin. There is need for increased use of water of the Nile River is creating much contentions between the riparian countries. After the signing of the Grand Renaissance Dam which helps in the equitable and reasonable implementation of the Nile water, Ethiopia started the production of the Grand Renaissance Dam which is mega hydro power generation dam which has generation capacity of 6000 Megawatt. As I said producing 86 % of the annual profit of the Nile river and one of the tributaries called the Blue Nile originates is where the dam will be built. By now the dam is 80% completed. The first filling of the dam has been done last year. Now, the dam is storing like 4.5billion cubic meters of water. The second filling will start in the upcoming rainy season which starts usually on July and August. This year the dam will also start the energy production where the first two turbines will be commissioned. Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt are still negotiating on the procedures, first filling and annual operation of the dam. Technically, there are agree on several issues. But still there are certain difference that exist mainly on the colonial time treaties. The two downstream countries especially Egypt is demanding to impose those colonial times treaties which are completely zero-sum game which gives entire water flow to Egypt and Sudan and denies the upstream countries right to use their own natural resources. There is a big contention between the states. The



current equation is being led by the African Union by the current chairperson, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Still there were round of talks which were unsuccessful to reach an agreement. In fact, the three countries initiated in good phase, reaching one agreement was very possible but unfortunately Egypt and Sudan are engaged in provocative activities. Even the leaders of the two countries sometimes threatening the use of force, which is not productive in resolving the problem at hand. Apparently, operation and the spirit of the African brotherhood are the best option for the proper management of the Nile water. Again, Egypt and Sudan out the context are trying to politicize the issue of this entire economic dam. They are trying to internationalize the matter narrating the story like water trade posed against the Arab world which is not true. This type of politicization and antagonization will not do with these countries and entire Nile Basin countries. They need to come together and have to draw their better future. Having said this what can be done to ease the tension already smearing at the basin. The critical step is to create an equitable water allocation scheme among themselves to address the need of all riparian countries which need water to build their economy. Otherwise, the hegemony that is being tried to be imposed by certain countries will not bring about solution. Then entire peace and security of the region will be heavily undermined. Cooperative water sharing within the basin could also help to avert the contagious situation. In the future world with more people and less water as I said that the population growth is increasing in the basin. In the contrary, the water supply is diminishing. The future will be very complicated. Countries in the Nile Basin will need to work together to ensure the best use of the region's resource and store rain fall in wet and flood seasons and equally distribute it in the dry years. If the region's governments failed to work together to prepare for the shared future, the consequences for the people can be very catastrophic. This is what I would like to share to you and I would like to thank you for giving me your attention.



Closing Remarks

Prof. Dr Shabir Ahmed Khan, Director, Area Study Center (Russia, China & Central Asia), University of Peshawar, Pakistan

Well starting from Mr Chu, very well said, "no one is safe until everyone is safe". It underlines the importance of the concept which is shared by the entire humanity. The trans-institutional solutions, he talked about-the testing, the diagnosis and vaccination during this pandemic, COVID-19 has been facilitated by the cooperation amongst the various institutions; private and public sector institutions. Then the organizations regionally and globally. This cross-disciplinary collaboration made possible these supplies in these various times of crisis. These various institutions, organizations, Mr Chu very rightly said that they need to work jointly to address the issue of pandemic and coming out of the crisis as the main part of the COVID-19 pandemic and collaboration and global responses in this regard. Dr. Musavir, said that Community with Shared Future is an old concept and that focuses on the safety and development of humanity for the sake of the entire planet. He said that the concept of BRI connects in fact three continents; African, Asian and European. Amongst the three, two are the poorest, the least developed-Asian and African. That is why the people, the nations in these two continents will collaborate, will cooperate under the BRI because these two continents in large face common challenge i.e., underdevelopment. So, to address these challenges most of the countries in the African and Asian continent they will collaborate under the BRI. Therefore, they will be more interested to working together to achieve common prosperity. Dr. Pek, talked on Community with Shared Future and Global Governance and he talked of five pillars that China is realigning the global governance on these pillars of politics, development, security, culture and environment. In politics, he said that China is allowing voices from the developing countries. He said that China also advocates no domination by single power. Then he talked on the environment, low carbon community. In the end he suggested closed collaboration between two major powers China and US for addressing this climate change and environment issues with the joint efforts. The way forward is better relation between US and China to cooperate in the best interest of humanity. Bilaterally as well as both the powers need to collaborate on the multilateral forums also to fight climate change. Mr. Shakeel Ahmed Ramay interestingly compared the UN-SDGs with the concept of the Community with Shared Future under the BRI.



Energy for all is the component of sustainable development goals under the UN. While BRI also addresses this issue. Industrialization, job creation, power eradication, connectivity all are addressed by both the SDGs and BRI. He concluded that coordinated efforts are needed for inclusive growth and development of humanity. Ambassador Tewodros, talked on the water issues of the Nile River which is shared by the eleven African countries. People are generally poor and he also talked of collective efforts to manage water for human security. He said that a multilateral approach and new water-sharing agreements are needed to sign for better water security and water management to benefit all the riparian countries-upper and lower. Thank you



ANNEXURE 2: PRESS RELEASE

On 20th April 2021 an Online International Conference on “Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges” was organized by the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China.

The conference commenced with the opening remarks of Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram, Director, Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing.

He briefly explained the concept of Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future. Discussing the topic of the conference he stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has turned out to be the biggest challenge of the century, and for resolving this challenge all countries had to work together.

Prof. Dr. Shabir Ahmed, Director, Area Study Center (Russia, China, Central Asia), University of Peshawar, Pakistan discussed community with a shared future as an inclusive approach to tackling global challenges.

He stated that the world is faced with many traditional and nontraditional challenges like poverty, class difference between the haves and have nots and pandemics, etc. A single entity or any two institutions can't deal with these challenges.

There is a need for a multilateral approach, inclusive growth, and global unity to deal with these challenges. He also suggested making partnerships with mutual respect's sovereignty and protecting each other in terms of security. He concluded by mentioning that China has always denied global hegemony and has advocated for peaceful co-existence among all countries through its idea of community with a shared future.

Dr. Mussawar Hussain Bukhari, Chairman, Political Science Department, Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB) discussed Conflict Resolution as a prerequisite for building a Community with Shared Future.

He discussed that community with a shared future is not a new concept it started from the league of nations and then the United Nations. He emphasized that we saw this system fail during the second world war, and it gave us a lesson that humanity is the origin of all development, if humanity and people are safe then you can develop systematic growth.

Commenting on the Belt and Road initiative, he stated more than 60% of the global population will be impacted through this project. All of these people are facing similar problems including climate change, terrorism, and poverty. BRI is an initiative to deal with these problems collectively with enhanced economic integration. Furthermore, this will also make way for the dialogue of civilization as opposed to the clash of civilizations.

Dr. PEK Chuen Khee, Eugene, Dean, Faculty of Business and Management, UCSI University and CEO, UCSI Poll Research Centre discussed that how the idea of “Community with Shared Future” can contribute to improved Global Governance.

Dr. Pek highlighted China focuses on five pillars of the community and global governance including Politics, development, security, culture, and most importantly the environment. He emphasized that China has always supported democracy in the world and negated the idea of a hegemon state or government. Moreover, China also advocates for equality that allows equal voices from all countries of the world.



Discussing the idea of security he mentioned that a community with a shared future proposes to solve conflicts by dialogue supported by the United Nations and the Security Council. Lastly, the environment is one of the most important pillars to reform global governance. He also suggested to co-create technologies to fight climate change and to promote community with a shared future for stronger governance.

Mr. Wanjun Chu, Doctor of Philosophy, Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China discussed the need for trans-institutional solutions to Global Challenges.

The main focus of his remarks was the inclusion of technology and innovation in solving global challenges. By presenting the idea of dealing with global pandemic COVID-19 he suggested science and technology informed trans-instructional solutions and multi-stakeholder partnerships and cross, disciplinary collaborations. He mentioned the example of patrol robots that were deployed in airports and public places in China, these robots used facial recognition and thermal cameras to identify potentially infected people. He recommended ensuring universal access to research and technology-based expertise and tools, especially for developing countries.

Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, Member Board of Advisors, Center for Global Strategic Studies (CGSS) discussed Community with Shared Future as an Inclusive Approach to achieving SDGs.

He briefly discussed the idea of a community with a shared future and its relevance with the Sustainable development goals of the United Nations. He highlighted that this concept is built on the idea that everyone has equal opportunities in its true sense. The initiatives taken by the Belt and Road projects have given hope that global challenges can be solved by a collective approach. Mr. Shakeel further compared SDGs and the initiatives of BRI and how they are helping countries achieve various crises, it is estimated that through the Belt and Road initiative 32 billion people will come out of poverty globally. He further highlighted that SDGs related to infrastructure development, energy, employment, and global connectivity are also being achieved by the concept of a community with a shared future.

Mr. Tewodros Girma Abebe, Minister Counsellor, Ethiopian Embassy in Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania discussed Community with Shared Future and the need to improve Security Governance.

He discussed the Nile river and its basins and stated that this river crosses 11 African countries and these countries are home to people who are living in rural areas without the supply of clean drinking water and energy. The region is water-deprived because of poor water management and this chronic water scarcity is endangering human security. This requires an immediate demand of management and review for the security of the entire community.

He emphasized that under the concept of community with a shared future the countries must be focusing on securing the future of underdeveloped countries through effective governance policies, multilateral approach, and new water-sharing policies.

The conference was moderated by Ms. Palwasha Nawaz, Deputy Director, Pakistan Research center for a Community with Shared Future. The conference was attended by 50 participants and was also viewed live on social media platforms by 200 viewers.

ANNEXURE 3: MEDIA COVERAGE

Center for Global & Strategic Studies

<https://cgss.com.pk/index.php?CGSS/seminardetails/659>

Online International Conference on “Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges” organized by Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China



On 20th April 2021 an Online International Conference on “Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges” was organized by the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China.

The conference commenced with the opening remarks of Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram, Director, Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing.

He briefly explained the concept of Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future. Discussing the topic of the conference he stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has turned out to be the biggest challenge of the century, and for resolving this challenge all countries had to work together.

Prof. Dr. Shabir Ahmed, Director, Area Study Center (Russia, China, Central Asia), University of Peshawar, Pakistan discussed community with a shared future as an inclusive approach to tackling global challenges.

He stated that the world is faced with many traditional and nontraditional challenges like poverty, class difference between the haves and have nots and pandemics, etc. A single entity or any two institutions can't deal with these challenges.

There is a need for a multilateral approach, inclusive growth, and global unity to deal with these challenges. He also suggested making partnerships with mutual respect's sovereignty protecting each other in terms of security. He concluded by mentioning that China has always denied global hegemony and has advocated for peaceful co-existence among all countries through its idea of community with a shared future.

Dr. Mussawar Hussain Bukhari, Chairman, Political Science Department, Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB) discussed Conflict Resolution as a prerequisite for building a Community with Shared Future. He discussed that community with a shared future is not a new concept it started from the league of nations and then the United Nations. He emphasized that we saw this system fail during the second world war, and it gave us a lesson that humanity is the origin of all development. If humanity and people are safe then you can develop systematic growth. Commenting on the Belt and Road initiative, he stated more than 60% of the global population will be impacted through this project. All of these people are facing similar problems including climate change, terrorism, and poverty. BRI is an initiative to deal with these problems collectively with enhanced economic integration. Furthermore, this will also make way for the dialogue of civilization as opposed to the clash of civilizations.

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Institute for a Community with Shared Future

<http://icsf.cuc.edu.cn/en/2021/0421/c6810a180244/page.htm>

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Online International Conference on “Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges”

Press time : 2021-04-21 Number of views : 43

Online International Conference on “Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges” organized by Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China



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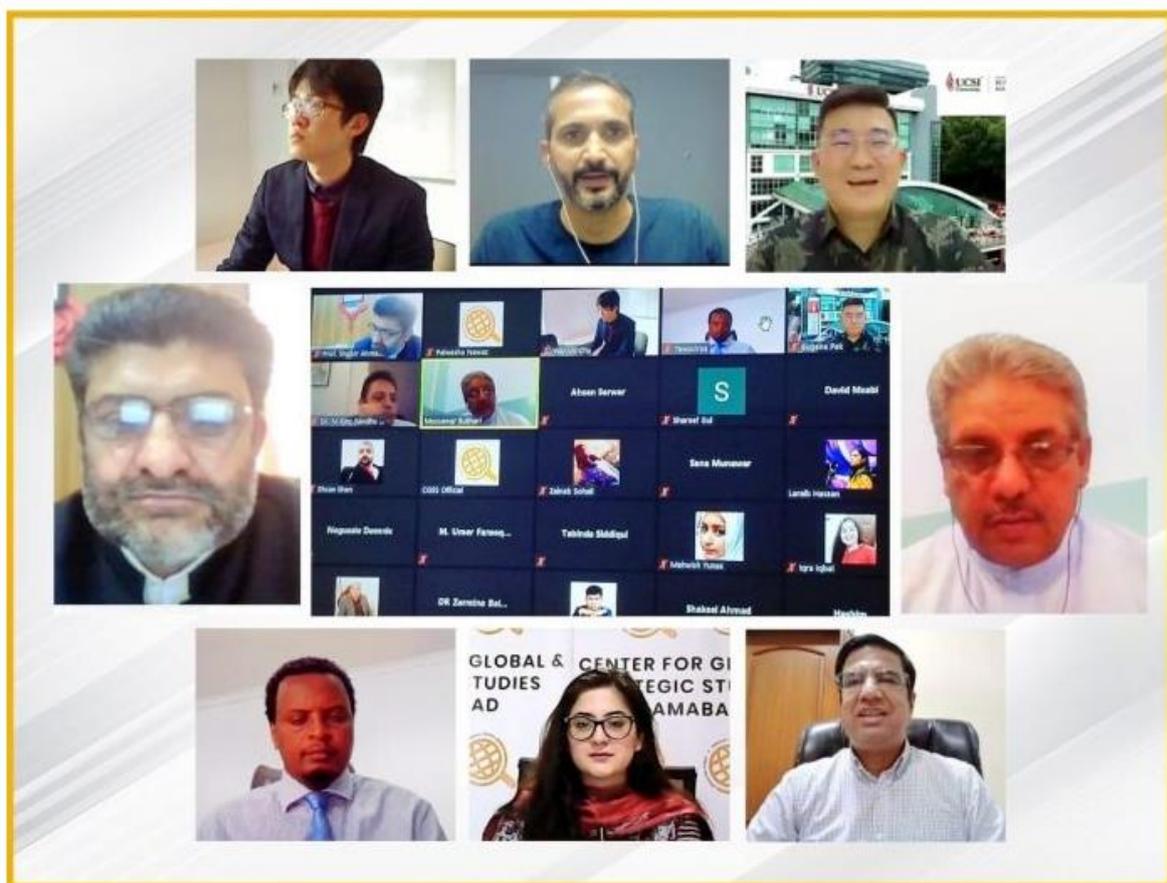
<https://dailymailnews.pk/2021/04/21/speakers-of-intl-moot-for-efforts-to-tackle-global-challenges/>

Metropolitan

Speakers of Int'l moot for efforts to tackle global challenges

By DM NEWS April 21, 2021

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National Herald Tribune

WORLD DIGEST

5

ONLINE INT'L CONFERENCE ON "COMMUNITY WITH SHARED FUTURE: A MULTILATERAL APPROACH TO TACKLING GLOBAL CHALLENGES" ORGANIZED BY PRC FOR A COMMUNITY WITH SHARED FUTURE, COMMUNICATION UNIVERSITY OF CHINA, BEIJING, CHINA

Mr. Wanjun Chu mentions example of patrol robots deployed at airports and public places in China to identify potentially COVID infected people

FOR RESOLVING COVID-19 CHALLENGE ALL COUNTRIES WILL HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER: MR. KHALID TAJMUR AKRAM

SALEEM RAIS

ISLAMABAD, April 20: An Online International Conference on "Community with Shared Future: A Multilateral Approach to Tackling Global Challenges" was organized by the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing, China on Tuesday.

The conference commenced with the opening remarks of Mr. Khalid Tajmura Akram, Director, Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China, Beijing.

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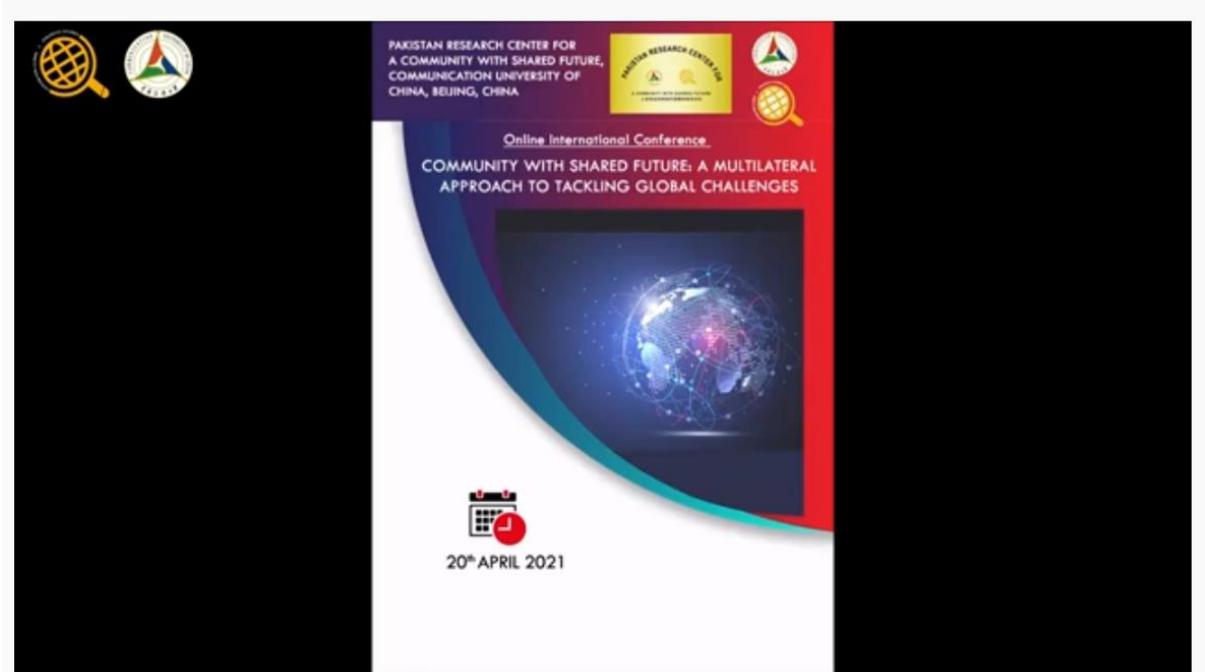
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ANNEXURE 4: VIDEO COVERAGE

CGSS Youtube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxKULvnXOfA>



PAKISTAN RESEARCH CENTER FOR A COMMUNITY WITH SHARED FUTURE, COMMUNICATION UNIVERSITY OF CHINA, BEIJING, CHINA

PAKISTAN RESEARCH CENTER FOR A COMMUNITY WITH SHARED FUTURE

Online International Conference

COMMUNITY WITH SHARED FUTURE: A MULTILATERAL APPROACH TO TACKLING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

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