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Anthropogenic Activities and Ethical Dilemma towards Climate Change and Future Security

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The scientific community has reached an overwhelming consensus that all our anthropogenic activities are damaging and irreparable changes to the global climate. This include increased production of carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases raising the planet temperatures in the recent past, as evidenced by receding glaciers, melting icecaps, and record-breaking heat waves as well as too cold winter and too hot summer.

Damage control is the need of the hour – But taking into consideration bioethical practices is very much needed at this point of time. So far bioethics has traditionally focused on dilemmas and decisions related to medical field such as interactions among patients, medical professionals, and health care organizations. Topics such as abortion, euthanasia, informed consent, privacy, reproductive health, and access to health care are the bread and butter of bioethics research, education, and consultation in medicine. But the scenario is fast changing both in awareness and in urgency.

We should focus on the issues related to environment and other related subjects in view of the importance for our sustainable livelihood and future security. To reduce the potentially destructive social, environmental and economic consequences of climate change, greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) need to be lowered. A number of different writers and scientists have argued that bioethicists and health policy analysts should consider how the environment affects human health and how the health care system impacts the environment. If we want to live a meaningful life, we need to consider bioethics as the fundamental factor of our consideration.

It must be recognized that the ecological problem is first of all a problem of public ethos, hard to solve without challenging certain ways of organizing society, without questioning the way we live together and the value system of civil society. It is time to understand that humanity is part of nature and is internal as well as endemic to it. The concept of sustainable development calls upon all individuals who are interested on the mother earth to protect and preserve the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations. In preserving the basis of life for future generations we are at the same time safeguarding the future of existing societies. Bioethics provides the matrix for consideration and to draw concrete practical programmes. Therefore, bioethics should have clear

agenda on environmental issues, specially related to climate change so that the problems could be addressed in more comprehensive and holistic manner. This will enable us to tackle the issues in a more positive manner for the betterment of humanity to live an enriched and meaningful life. The paper indicates that bioethics paves the way to harmony in nature – especially the climate and our life, and among inanimate and animate as well as human lives.