**Reyana Lalani**

**Thursday, November 10th, 2016**

**TMS School**

**Global Climate Change Policies in Somalia**

One of the most prominent challenges that society faces today is the issue of climate change. Climate change is having an increasingly large effect on human health, as well as the environment, and can be attributed to many different activities, mainly deforestation and the burning of fossil fuels. These activities along with many others have increased the global temperature by 1.7˚F since the year 1880, and nine of the hottest recorded years on earth have been after the year 2000. In addition, Arctic sea ice is constantly declining, and is up to a 13.4% decline per decade. By the year 2100, sea levels are expected to rise by 1-4 feet. Somalia recognizes the negative effects that climate change is having on not only our country, but on the world as a whole.

With the constant increase in global climate, Somalia is working to combat climate change, and has participated in many different UN conferences, including the climate change Conference that took place in Paris in 2015. In addition to participating in the conference, Somalia has acknowledged the impact that climate change will have on their temperature, as well as their agriculture and main export- charcoal, and has began exploring mitigation possibilities. These possibilities include reforestation, as well as switching to solar and wind energy. Since Somalia is considered a developing country, it does not have the funds in order to carry out these mitigation plans, so it has been working with other larger countries in order to help combat the issue of climate change.

Climate change is an important issue that is affecting our quality of life, our health, and the environment globally. Though there is no immediate solution, there are steps that the UN can take to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced by each country. In 2015, Canada announced that they would be giving $2.65 billion to developing countries to assist in their efforts to combat climate change. Somalia currently has all the right ideas on how they can contribute to stopping climate change, however they are not taking part in any international activities to do so. In the future, Somalia should work together with Canada, as they are offering the money needed in order to start mitigation techniques. In addition, Somalia can take advantage of the fact that their main resource is charcoal, and export charcoal to other countries in exchange for assistance in stopping climate change. With the financial help of other countries such as Canada, Somalia can begin to use solar energy and wind energy, and reduce their overall climate change. Though Somalia is in an ongoing civil war, and does not have the means to take part in international activities to stop climate change, there is still lots that they can do. If they can work together with other more prosperous countries, they will be able to make their own contribution.

**Sources:**

Somali Civil War. (n.d.). Retrieved November 10, 2016, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Somali\_Civil\_War

Barton, R. (2015). Government announces $2.65B to help developing countries fight climate change. Retrieved November 10, 2016, from http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/funding-for-climate-change-chogm-1.3339907

Somalia and Climate Change - Global Greenhouse Warming. (n.d.). Retrieved November 10, 2016, from http://www.global-greenhouse-warming.com/somalia-and-climate-change.html

Global Climate Change. (n.d.). Retrieved November 10, 2016, from http://climate.nasa.gov/