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Impact of the COVID-19 Outbreak on the World and the Inspirations

By Dr. Zou Lixing

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Keywords: *novel coronavirus, balanced thinking, global governance, united nations agenda.*

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COVID-19 rages on worldwide, impacting the human world in all aspects. Responding to the pandemic requires not only study on targeted countermeasures at the moment, but also consideration of its long-term implications and making of overall plans. Only by drawing up the overall blueprint, can one deal with a single composition.

I. Impact of the Pandemic on the World in Five Areas

a) Impacting Human knowledge on the world.

The outbreak tells us in a vivid and profound way that mankind is a closely tied community with a shared future, with no country or region able to independently tackle various challenges faced by mankind and no country or region able to retreat to islands of self-isolation. Under the pandemic, "home quarantine" seems a most primitive traditional measure, but is actually the most effective approach that is about life or death. We also come to fuller awareness that though science and technology of mankind have developed to an unprecedented level, a tiny virus is sufficient to cause a devastating blow for mankind; as fragile as we are, mankind need a sense of vigilance against their natural enemies and a sense of awe for the nature[1]. The coronavirus may also change evaluation of many people on risks of living in large cities, because larger cities indicate greater influence from various disasters, which makes medium and small-sized cities and countryside a safer place in relative terms. Also, some people of insight start to deliberate on the evolvement of world pattern and the direction of human development. For instance, Prof. Walter from Harvard Kennedy School believed that COVID-19 may intensify the shifts of international power structure and its influence from the west to the east[2]. Robin Niblett, Director of Chatham House, held that under the current circumstance, it is almost impossible for the world to go back to the globalization of win-win mutual benefit as it was at the beginning of the 21st century[3]. Henry Kissinger said the coronavirus pandemic will forever alter the world order[4]. These assertions need attract due attention.

b) Impacting Ways of human behaving in daily life

The outbreak may also change some ways we behave. The first is to change ways of etiquette. Replacing handshake and direct contact with traditional fist-palm salute and salute with putting palms together is a way of social communication for preventing and controlling disease transmission. It should be greatly advocated and become a universal polite manner. The second is to alter lifestyles. Washing hands more often and wearing a mask if necessary can protect both ourselves and others. The third is to radically stop the hideous behavior of eating wild animals. Doing so is not only illegal, but will incur a heavy price to pay and damage the entire mankind. After the pandemic, such market is believed to be no longer existent and such greed is believed to be no more. The fourth is to correct some misunderstanding on domesticated animals. For instance, Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs especially pointed out recently that dogs are a

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"companion animal" for human, rather than a "traditional livestock", and should not be listed as an edible "livestock"[5]. The fifth is to upgrade the forms of conferences. People rely more on video-conferencing, instead of traditional face-to-face gathering for meetings. Some sectors have started to design and construct video conferencing-oriented meeting space by creating a comfortable environment for remote teamwork and transforming regular video conferencing and instant messaging to virtual-reality conferencing that enables submission of working materials and discussions. The sixth is to make work from home a trend. COVID-19 promotes people to further recognize "home quarantine and remote working", which, to some extent, is a more efficient way of working, as it can avoid loads of meetings, reduce heavy traffic and improve business efficiency.

c) Impacting Global economic policies

The outbreak has taken its toll on every aspect of global production and demand. Wall Street stock market plunged to trigger a circuit breaker four times in a row within two weeks in mid-to-late March and the capital market experienced serious liquidity crisis. Some sovereign wealth funds were fully withdrawn, investor risk parity exposed massive risk position and banks need reduce liquidity supply under the "Volcker Rule", all of which further exacerbated the "economic outbreak". Especially in some least developed countries, even if there is no epidemic, their per capita income is likely to stagnate or decline in 2020. Now, under the impact of the global epidemic, a new round of debt crisis is likely to occur.

In order to save the world economy from reducing to recession, central banks of many countries have adopted new quantitative easing policies. The Federal Reserve made an emergency rate cut twice consecutively in March, reduced the required reserve ratio to 0%, announced the unlimited quantitative easing policy, expanded the collateral spectrum of Money Market Mutual Fund Liquidity Facility (MMLF) and Commercial Paper Funding Facility (CPFF) and supported credit for the real economy. European Central Bank launched the Pandemic Emergency Purchase Programme of nearly EUR1 trillion. Meanwhile, quite a few countries have adopted targeted proactive fiscal policy to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on economic life. The U.S. passed the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act* and planned to spend USD2 trillion on supporting people and enterprises as victims of the COVID-19 pandemic[6], the greatest fiscal stimulus plan ever in the history of the U.S. German government also proposed a relief package, and Britain and France arranged for an economic stimulus program of tens of billions dollars and government loans of hundreds of billions dollars. In order to enhance international macroeconomic policy coordination, G20 held an emergency conference and made a joint announcement of investing USD5 trillion into global economy as a part of targeted fiscal policies, economic measures and security programs, so as to cope with the impact of COVID-19 socially, economically and financially. The world being injected with such massive funds within a short span of time can of course get support in dealing with the emergency, but may also trigger inflation at a global scale. It's very worrying, and this is where we must remain highly vigilant.

d) Impacting Global industrial structure adjustment

Under the impact of the coronavirus, global industrial structure adjustment displays five new trends (Table 1):. *First, promoting the industrialization of health products.* production of medical supplies and medicines (masks, gloves, ventilators, rubbing alcohol and vaccines), cleaning supplies and remote working facilities will continue to develop vigorously and maintain growth above the trend for a period to come. Tourism and related industries are beaten heavily and many people become more prudent about long-distance traveling, which cuts the demand for services such as catering, transport, retail and entertainment. For instance, Delta Air Lines said it expected second-quarter revenue to plunge 90% and it was burning more than USD60 million in cash a day [7]. Second, supply chain is diversified to lower dependence. For example, on March 16, 2020, Peter Navarro, Director of White House National Trade Council, said the U.S. was ready to shift the medical supply chain from countries such as China back to the.

U.S. to reduce its dependence on other countries [8]. Expectedly, after the crisis, some industrialized countries will probably further deepen "reindustrialization" and increase supply chains in their own countries and regions to ensure supply of key daily necessities. Third, cross-border industrialization. For example, some companies that originally produced high perfumes went to produce epidemic prevention products such as hand washing liquid in time. Fifth, clustering of industrial chains is deepening to improve the anti-risk capacity. During the pandemic, some enterprises face closedown due to decrease in international orders, but some electronic manufacturers in Suzhou and Chongqing, China have seen their orders increased by a large margin, instead of being decreased. As for the reason, these areas have developed industrial chain clusters and for electronic manufacturing-related parts and components, more than 80% are produced locally. Such clustered production mitigates the risk from global purchase. Therefore, China is likely to further enhance the "development strategy of industrial chain clustering" and build up a group of spatially highly aggregated emerging industrial chain clusters consisting of intensive and efficient supply chains with close coordination

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between upper- and down-stream sectors in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region, Yangtze River Delta and Chengdu-Chongqing economic circle. In North America and Europe, a group of industrial chain clusters of strategic importance may also emerge. Industrial clustering will become an important feature of global industrial chain reconstruction.

Table 1: New industrial forms strengthened by epidemic situation

new industrial forms	Important features
Industrialization of health products	Rapid development of medical protective equipment and drug industry
Industrialization of remote office facilities	Rapid development of remote office facilities
Supply chain diversification	Increase domestic and regional supply chain
Cross border industrialization	Rapid mass production change
Industrial chain clustering	Spatial agglomeration, upstream and downstream synergy

e) *Impacting Global economic integration*

COVID-19 may affect global economic integration in three aspects. First, unilateralism may replace multilateral cooperation. Some countries and regions speed up in going their own way and further prioritize their own interests. Some governments, enterprises and society are forced to improve the self-governance capacity and their motivation for safeguarding global economic integration and creating shared interests is undermined, which will pose negative impact on global economic governance framework. Second, geopolitical conflicts will be further intensified. Under the pandemic, some countries, taking a continued arrogant view on the world, further protect their vested interest and predominant position globally, and aggravate the competition in "political system". They may take extreme containing measures against some countries of different systems by launching more trade wars, increasing long arm jurisdiction, controlling the energy market, disturbing the surrounding environment and increasing the development cost, and also seem likely to adopt measures such as local wars for all-round geopolitical gaming politically, economically and militarily. Third, while global public health governance attracts greater attention and is strengthened to some extent, general willingness or commitment for addressing regional or global problems may be reduced. The coronavirus will cause some countries and regions to turn their attention to domestic development rather than international issues, thus taking a toll on global economic system reform and construction.

II. Severe Challenges on Global Governance Capacity

a) *The World Health Organization (WHO) does not receive due attention for its professional authority*

To answer questions on international public health security, the most qualified are WHO and related experts in infectious diseases or disease control. Some countries don't think so and override professional authority with political opinions and public health with individual interests, only ending up to miss the valuable time window and incur irreparable loss for their own and the whole world. For instance, WHO warned the countries of the epidemic back in mid January and announced COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern on January 30, but some countries failed to pay sufficient attention or make any resource preparations for the fight against the coronavirus in a large scale in time, causing a heavy price to pay. For another instance, regarding naming and traceability of the virus, WHO named it scientifically in time and pointed out several times stigmatization and racist practice were unreasonable. However, some political figures and media outlets in some countries. disregarded the WHO authority and went their own way, seriously disturbing the whole world and damaging the global efforts in fighting the outbreak. Wuhan, China was indeed the first place that was publicly known for detecting the coronavirus, *but where did the coronavirus exactly appear first? When exactly? These serious questions should be in the hands of professionals for study.* Recently, some findings from science authorities and professionals have been reported. For example, researchers with Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and with NYU Grossman School of Medicine came to surprisingly similar conclusion that based on the current genomes, most New York coronavirus cases came from Europe [9]. Some world's top academic journals also published some views. British magazine *Nature* noted: "That we did so was an error on our part, for which we take responsibility and apologize" and "viruses do not discriminate and everyone is at risk"[10]. These views are worth noticing and respecting. The coronavirus that is raging on across the world has caused harm on mankind and loss for all countries beyond measurement, and seeking source of the virus is necessary for preventing and controlling the pandemic this time and ones to come in the future. No matter where it is sourced, China is a victim like other

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countries under the pandemic, and is willing to contain further spread of the coronavirus together with people of other countries. The COVID-19 is neither a Wuhan virus nor a U.S. virus, but a world virus, one of the most serious global public health crises. In the face of the pandemic, WHO need play a leading role and depending on WHO, the world should enhance information sharing on COVID-19 prevention and control and popularize comprehensive, systematic and effective guides for prevention and control. At this critical conjuncture of fighting the pandemic in synergies, countries and regions worldwide should cooperate with international organizations, especially the WHO. As underlined by the world's authoritative medical journal *The Lancet*, the WHO remains the only institution that can provide global health leadership and inspire the trust needed to intervene, and WHO's core role in coordinating efforts of the whole world must continue.

b) *The United Nations institutions are not capable enough in coordination and self-survival*

The wide spread of COVID-19 shocks the world. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on April 1, 2020 that the coronavirus pandemic is the most challenging global crisis since the World War II. The intensified economic impact destabilizes the world and may even cause turmoil and conflict. He noted that COVID-19 represents a threat to everybody in the world and has an economic impact that will bring a recession that probably has no parallel in the recent past. He called upon the world to quicken the pace of fighting the virus and take more actions. However, except for "appealing", the UN is unable to take other concrete measures. The UN and other international organizations can perform work within the scope of their current responsibilities only with the commitment and support of G20. U.S. President Donald Trump sharply criticized the WHO that "the WHO really blew it" and "for some reason, funded largely by the United States, yet very China centric" and said he will halt U.S. funding to the WHO. This was explicit in telling people that survival of the UN and its institutions is controlled by others. It is true in fact and it's difficult for the UN to do something on its own. For instance, Guterres recently emphasized "investigating the source of the virus", but wielded little real power in his capacity as UN Secretary-General. In order to conduct the investigation in the name of the UN, "authorization" from the Security Council is required, while if the Security Council will pass the "authorization" depends on if the five permanent members can reach an agreement. Without an agreement, the UN investigation will be unlikely to carry out or proceed. The UN lacks a global coordination mechanism that advances with the times, *which severely undermines the validity of the UN and its international institutions.* Therefore, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appealed to the international community multiple times and urged all parties to keep high vigilance. The test for the UN is also a common test for the international community.

c) *Major powers lack close cooperation*

In response to the pandemic, no country can defeat the virus on its own. When dealing with this crisis at the national level, leaders should also pay attention to and support coordinated global action. This time, however, it is not the case with some country leaders. For instance, at the G7 meeting of foreign ministers, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had the opportunity of playing a leading role in the first place, but insisted on referring to the coronavirus as "Wuhan virus" in the communiqué, which was objected by other foreign ministers. His signal was clear that for the current U.S. administration, scores in the public opinion warfare against China outweigh the consensus with its close allies such as Britain, France and Germany.

When leaders of countries and regions worldwide are striving to contain COVID-19, some leading figures in the U.S. act like the pandemic has never happened while going wild about beating others. Take their "maximum pressure" on Iran for example. As Iran records one of the world's highest infection rates, even close allies of U.S. such as Britain are calling upon the Trump administration to relax sanctions against Iran and allow transportation of medical supplies and humanitarian relief to 80 million people in the country. However, some U.S. leaders take the coronavirus as a tool of "maximum pressure" and disregard the possibility that massive innocent civilians may consequently die, which further exposes the political factors of the U.S. humanitarianism.

It's worth noticing that the COVID-19 pandemic has moved the U.S. and China a big step closer to a new cold war. As the virus infected more than two million people, killed over one hundred thousand and wreaked economic havoc around the world, some officials and media outlets of the two superpowers have heaped blame on each other. Some U.S. officials and media have pressed for international censure of China's "culpability" in the health crisis and attacked the network of manufacturing and other economic ties that have grown between the two countries over the last 40 years. China had to slam the "racist and xenophobic" statements and actions of America's "irresponsible and incompetent" political elites. The war of words and the race of shifting the blame are continuing and mutual criticism and mocking proceed day by day online. The opportunity of resuming a friendly relationship and realizing Sino-U.S. cooperation while fighting together against COVID-19 is drifting away. Meanwhile, the tariffs that U.S. imposed on billions of dollars in goods from China (including badly needed protective medical gear such as masks, gloves and goggles) and the counter-tariffs from China remain in place, adding to the cost of

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trade at a time when many businesses are struggling to stay afloat. "It was revealing of just how hostile U.S.-China relations have become that they couldn't even bring themselves to just kind of hold their noses and reach out to one another to coordinate their efforts very well," said Susan Shirk, chair of the 21st Century China Center at UC San Diego[11]. Apparently, Sino-U.S. relations face the risk of deteriorating rapidly, which is detrimental to the peaceful development of the two countries and harmful for the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

The coronavirus knows no national boundary. To politicize and stigmatize COVID-19 contributes nothing to the world's joint efforts in containing the spread of this most serious infectious disease pandemic over the past few decades, nothing to healthy development of the Sino-U.S. relations and nothing to well-being of people in China, U.S. and the whole world. Countries should unite and cooperate, rather than blame and condemn each other and shirk responsibility. As the world's two major powers,

China and U.S. should influence the world in cooperation, respect science and cherish life amid the joint battle against COVID-19, and protect people of all countries from further harms.

The pandemic may cause unilateralism and populism to rise high, become a catalyst for the change of world order, severely impact the international system after the World War II, and undermine global governance capacity. The first root cause is lack of strategic mutual trust among major powers, which promotes generalization and conspiracy theories to prevail, tends to politicize the coronavirus crisis and some economic and trade issues, and results in zero-sum game. The second cause is need of a global coordination mechanism that advances with the times. Without so, it is difficult to shape a universal global discourse system and easy to trigger political sentiments and foster conservatism. The third cause is void in theories guiding development in the new era globally. Analysis on comprehensive effect and related links of various factors of economic and social development is insufficient and systematic and in-depth studies on global governance system reform, multilateralism and the community with a shared future for mankind are needed.

It should be noticed that the pandemic may make the problems today worse, but may also create once-in-a-lifetime opportunities[12]. It can be contained, but this does not mean social psychology can be recovered soon. It may change some organizational behaviors, but will not easily alter the basic order of the world. It brings setbacks to economic globalization, but the course of economic globalization is irreversible. Its impact on human health may be temporary, but its implications on human history and impact on human mind are lasting. Will any new epidemic emerge after this one? What to do in that case? We must take these questions into consideration when analyzing the epidemic.

III. Reflections on the Pandemic

a) What are root causes of the COVID-19 outbreak?

The coronavirus acts as a warning to the human society: the world need follow the law of ecological equilibrium. Despite our unparalleled human civilization and highly developed information society, tiny primitive viruses may still cause a fatal blow for the human world and a devastating crash on China's comprehensive realization of modernization and rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. More importantly, emergence of the viruses may be the accompanying "product" of inappropriate development of human society and will possibly emerge in new viral forms in the future. The underlying cause is that we have overlooked ecological equilibrium and factors of natural environment changes in our development. 50 years later since now, life will be different and the environment that will be warmer could breed new viruses. In the course of development, as we increasingly invade the natural habitats of animals and plants and raise wildlife to meet the demand in human life, microorganisms living in animals by nature are more likely to invade human bodies. Meanwhile, the highly populous group-living environment in the human world, the highly developed network of human and material flow and especially the practice of some people taking wildlife as food have offered the breeding ground for infectious diseases to go rampant. It's believed that Ebola, SARS, avian influenza and COVID-19 all have started from pathogen transmission from animals to human and that roughly three fourths of new human diseases are originated from animals. Impact of human on biodiversity loss could aggravate epidemic diseases in the future. Given so, in order to fundamentally prevent and control epidemics, it's imperative to strictly respect the law of ecological equilibrium, study in depth the complicated social-economic-natural compound ecosystem [13], properly deal with the mutual effect of human in the ecosystem and human society and coordinate the relationship between human and society and between society and nature, so as to promote the coordinated development among economy, society and nature globally and the sustainable development of human.

b) How to maintain smooth circulation of information flow and material flow?

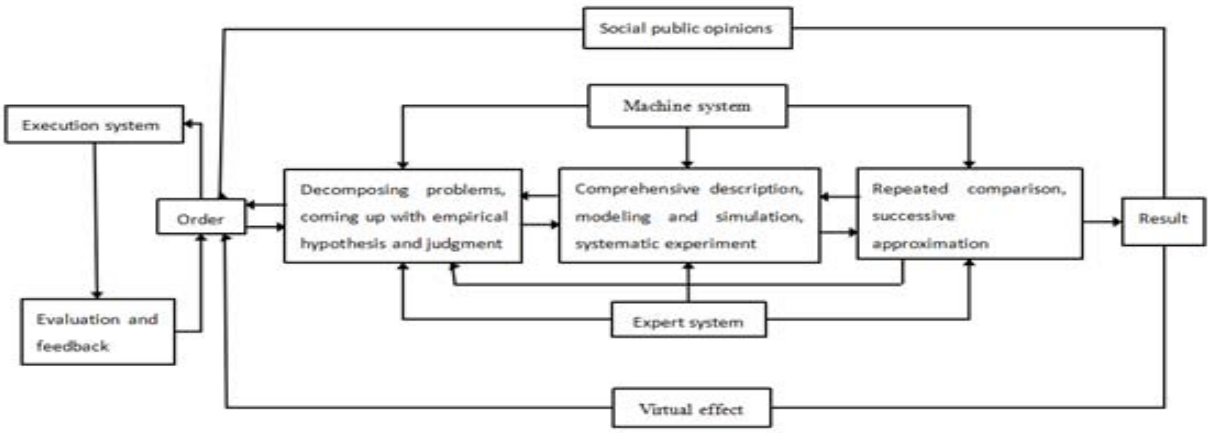
Under the pandemic, it's important to pay close attention to the "balanced development of economic globalization". We hope information exchange will be more accurate and timely on the one hand and on the other, attach greater importance to dominance over our national security and basic livelihood and speed up remedying and improving complete industrial chains in countries and regions. This tells us in some sense that

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though globalization is the general trend of human social development, extreme dependence on globalization is unreasonable and trusting countries and regions to entirely allocate resources from different corners of the world is unreliable. Even if we exclude artificial factors in consideration, it's a must to consider the impact of disasters that are beyond our control such as "epidemics" and other natural disasters. In the meantime, excessive return to and emphasis on "economy sovereignty" and entire self-sufficiency are neither economical and realistic nor possible. *It is against the law of economic development.* Under the context of the already established labor division in global industrial chains and supply chains, driving enterprises that have settled overseas to flow back to their country incurs a cost. It's only proper to start from the "community with a shared future" for the human society, spare no effort to jointly safeguard the stable operation of industrial chains and supply chains, ensure the smooth circulation of information flow and material flow and try to avoid obstructions from quarantine measures on economic operation, plant production and consumer shopping. The world economy need further rationalized and balanced integration [14].

c) *How to establish a regular epidemic prevention mechanism?*

Since the outbreak, WHO and some country health authorities have played a positive role in situation study and judgment, disease prevention and treatment and information exchange, but shortcomings in the public health safety management mechanism are also exposed. In the face of the epidemic, in order not to have our hands tied or miss the strategic opportunities, what's needed in the first place is scientific, authoritative and timely "whistle blowing" and "conduct guide", i.e. a scientific and systematic decision-making system. Applying innovation and practice in social system engineering is helpful for establishing and refining the decision-making system [15]. Starting from the fundamental requirement for healthy development of human, we should set up a qualitative – quantitative – qualitative analysis and support system for overall decision-making in social huge-system public health and epidemic prevention. The system is a highly sophisticated human-machine interactive system consisting of expert teams and high-tech facilities. To be specific, it covers four parts. The first is expert system, including experts in health and related sectors. The second is public health database, including historical and raw data. The third is tool system, including computing equipment, virtual devices and network equipment. The fourth is knowledge system, including knowledge in medicine, public health policies, social governance, balanced thinking and meta-synthesis. The four parts constitute a highly intelligent decision-making supportive system that supports integration of knowledge on science and public health and qualitative and quantitative knowledge. As it realizes the greater knowledge depth from qualitative to quantitative knowledge and supports generation of new concepts, new policies and new knowledge, it makes a system that produces new knowledge based on new situations, a scientific technical system that supports compilation of master plans against emergency epidemics and central decision-making (Fig. 1), and a regular strategic measure for coping with the epidemic [16].



执行体系Execution system；评估与反馈Evaluation and feedback；指令Order；社会舆情Social public opinions；机器体系Machine system；分解问题、形成经验性假设和判断Decomposing problems, coming up with empirical hypothesis and judgment；综合描述、建模仿真、系统实验Comprehensive description, modeling and simulation, systematic experiment；反复比较、逐次逼近Repeated comparison, successive approximation；结果Result；专家体系Expert system；虚拟效果Virtual effect

Figure 1: Qualitative-quantitative-qualitative analysis and support system for overall decision-making in public health and epidemic prevention

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d) How to strengthen new forces for building the society?

In the efforts of tackling COVID-19, we have seen a new force of building the society that plays an admirable role. The force combines traditional and modern efforts, humanitarian material aid and humanistic care, medical work and social work, clinical treatment and prevention, centralized forces and community self-governance, and individual behaviors and social norms, shaping a scientific behavior pattern for building the society. For instances, Medical social workers are committed to reducing medical differences, traditional Chinese medicine and western medicine are taking effect at the same time and the "breathing method with mashed garlic" was proposed to enhance human immunity; the words "rivers low, mountains high, the same moon in the sky" warmed everyone; with an order given by Chinese government, more than 40,000 doctors and nurses rushed to the rescue of Hubei; upon the call from New York Mayor for help, over 60,000 medical volunteers across the U.S. hurried to victim areas in active response; in order to reduce transmission and ease burden, community residents answered the call and willingly stayed home to work and study from home, helping fight the coronavirus in a special way; some researchers devoted themselves to applying big data, artificial intelligence and other advanced technologies in time to prevail over the epidemic. All of these highly reflect the social responsibility of mankind in the new era and make an extraordinary feat of building the society in a scientific way. This feat is extremely valuable for the battle against COVID-19 and also for the healthy development of the human society. All the biases and pure absorption in complaining, only pessimism, only demeaning others, only shifting the blame, only arrognce, only mocking, only criticism, only hostility and only sentiments are inadvisable. In the face of comamon difficulties and a shared future for mankind, constructive words and deeds are the most powerful weapon, and we need scientific forces for building the society. No matter which perspectives we take in thinking and acting, everything should be constructive, helpful for shaping a better social environment and natural environment and conducive to construction of the human society [17].

e) How to reflect responsibility in a community with a shared future?

The world is already a "global village", where an epidemic that breaks out in any place will spread faster and wreak more serious havoc than any other time before. In the face of the pandemic, all countries and regions, large and small, should spare no effort and contribute to the fight against the outbreak, and large powers and important economies should especially undertake greater responsibility and contribute more. The COVID-19 outbreak can help enhance the concept of community with a shared future for mankind. We can only be truly better if the world is better, truly safe if the world is safe and truly healthy if the world is healthy. The coronavirus can also help call forth the humanitarian spirit in the new era. It's imperative to abandon political games, reinforce rescue, support each other, learn from each other and stand closely together in difficult times. No values or cultures are superior to another developed in different geographical and historical conditions, and neither eastern civilization nor western civilization is superior to the other as they are both the precious wealth of human civilization. It's always necessary to respect each other, seek common ground while reserving differences, learn widely from others' strong points and keep refining and adjusting one's own ways of behavior, so as to bring greater comfort, pleasure, safety and care to the society.

IV. Suggestions on Improving Global Governance

How to support the WHO in playing a leading role? How to buttress up real power of the UN and its international organizations? How to further improve global governance? Here are some proposition of the framework of separating science from politics, matching authority with responsibility and adhering to development in ecological balance.

a) Matching authority with responsibility and properly resorting to the "law of balance" to improve global governance and coordination mechanism

As deepened as globalization is today, the United Nations and its international institutions are needed for playing a greater role. They are assuming greater responsibilities in coordinating global development and correspondingly, their power in dealing with issues should also be enhanced, which is only the requirement of the law of things going on. It's suggested to systematically categorize responsibilities of the UN and its international institutions into two groups. The first is duties on education, science, culture, health and environmental protection and they can be ranked by urgency and size of expenses. Issues within a said scope can be entirely decided by the UN Secretary-General for implementation with the support of UN livelihood fund, without authorization of the UN Security Council. For instance, "investigating the source of coronavirus" recently put forward by the UN Secretary-General could be entirely decided by the UN Secretary-General. The second is duties on international political and military security. For disputes among countries or regions, as per the current practice, it depends on if the "authorization" is passed by the UN Security Council. Meanwhile, fund-raising channels for the UN livelihood fund can be expanded in market-based ways. Firstly, national and regional government can collect part of carbon tax as contribution to the fund; secondly, global

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development tax can be set and directly paid by multinationals of certain size to the UN livelihood fund; thirdly, countries, regions, companies and individuals are encouraged to donate. In doing so, real power of the UN Secretary-General could be increased, helping strike a certain balance between authority and responsibility of the UN. Such design is an attempt of abiding by and applying the law of balanced movement to promote the improvement of global governance and coordination mechanism. Based on the law of balance, the world we live in is interconnected, not only between human and society, but also between human and nature. All things need always maintain a balanced status, always in the dynamics from imbalance to balance and then to re-balance. The UN also need strike a balance between its authority and responsibility before playing a better role.

b) *Separating science from politics and wisely adopting the "balanced thinking" to expand global discourse system*

According to the above-mentioned categorization of responsibilities, fight against COVID-19 is a pure issue on public health, which requires the professional leadership of the WHO without any political interference. Nobody wants the coronavirus. In the face of such a dangerous and fatal new virus, which is as infectious as flu, but more deadly than flu, and the uncertainty of epidemic development, given the many uncertainties and unknown factors in the progression of the virus, it's understandable that human experience is insufficient, that all parties need some time to draw up an emergency plan and that scientists also need time to devise countermeasures, and possible tortuous paths should be allowed. All parties, including international organizations, are believed to earnestly sum up experience and lessons afterwards and keep refining their work to do a better job in the future. Focus of the efforts now should be put on fighting the pandemic. All countries and regions should unite, put aside differences in party, religious belief or ideology, and stand closely together. It is normal that different countries and regions have different cultural customs and geographical conditions and different anti-epidemic strategies. There is neither absolute good nor absolute bad. Any anti-epidemic strategies can only be used as reference for each other. The pandemic cannot be beaten overnight and it may be necessary for mankind to get ready for mid and long-term fights and make regular anti-coronavirus working arrangements. We believe that this crisis promotes countries and regions to reach consensus on the agenda of constructing and consolidating a global health and epidemic prevention system more easily. The problem is that factors taking a toll on healthy development of human are plenty, including not only viruses, but also environment and other artificial and natural factors. Therefore, fundamentally speaking, it's necessary to enhance global discourse system with maximum binding power over countries and regions. In the complex huge social system, in order to cope with various factors with impact on the healthy development of human, we may need take a step beyond the epidemic and actively discuss innovation in ways of thinking. Balanced thinking is a way of perceiving things and dealing with issues from the perspective of balance and a way of thinking that applies the law of balance in the process of thinking, takes balance among things as research object and regards balance as both motivation and purpose. It is a method of exploring healthy development by combining logical thinking and thinking in images and integrating qualitative and quantitative analysis at both macro and micro level, and in another word, a method of system balancing analysis [18]. Only when the intrinsic balance of human and the balance between human and environment are realized, can human health and healthy development be attained. In order to realize the balance, we need first pay great attention to imbalance, take corresponding measures against main factors undermining balance, and promote the translation from imbalance to balance, so as to realize healthy development. For example, the currently prevailing "human-centered" development philosophy revolves entirely around human and fails to take into consideration other accompanying lives and environment, which is improper and biased. With a balanced thinking, we must emphasize the equal importance of human and natural environment. Therefore, it's necessary to adjust our development philosophy, establish an education system and social atmosphere with human and nature relying on each other and guide the society for good will. We should reflect on not only the impact of our work at the social and moral level, but also our responsibility for and protection of the nature.

c) *Adhering to development in ecological balance and well using the "balance theory" to support global sustainable development*

COVID-19 goes rampant around the world fundamentally because global ecological development is suffering certain imbalance. In order to prevail over the pandemic, we need adhere to development in ecological balance, i.e. development in balance and balance in development. What is development intended for? It is intended for reaching a new balance out of imbalance. Striking a balance should be our purpose of development. What to do to realize balance? Balance can only be stricken by respecting and applying the law of balance. Neither insufficient development and excessively slow development nor rush in development and excessive development is balanced development or likely to realize balance, only possible to trigger problems. Therefore, balance is both the motivation of sustainable development and its purpose. The thinking

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of balanced development persists with overall coordination and general balance in dealing with the relations between human and society, and highlights abiding by and applying the law of balance to promote sustained, stable, healthy and coordinated economic and social development. It emphasizes the interaction between market and government and the necessity of putting into full play both the role of market, the invisible hand, in economic activities and the role of government, the visible hand, in public affair administration. As for development motivation, it stresses transforming development from element input-driven to innovation-driven, including innovation in theories, market and technology, exploring fine development, optimizing behaviors of economic entities and saving resources to improve benefits amid high quality and seek development with characteristics. It pays attention to enhancing the credit system and promoting the interaction between domestic and international market. The theory of balanced development adheres to the harmonious co-existence between human and nature in dealing with their relations and advocates rational use of renewable resources as per the speed of resource recycling, reasonable use of non-renewable resources based on alternative length of resources, rational discharge of wastes according to environmental absorption capacity, and reasonable organization of production, circulation and consumption activities as required by the healthy development of human. It calls upon proper dealing with the relations between human and other living things in the nature in accordance with the requirement of development in ecological balance and the relations between human and social groups as well as among countries and regions. It's imperative to enhance cooperation, learn from each other and join hands in the difficult time. Only by uniting, can mankind master the winning power and share life safety [19].

The thoughts are not brand-new, as many UN institutions and some academic groups have conducted rich researches on ecological balance over years and the World Bank and EU have come up with systematic theories on sustainable development. In response to the call of the UN, the paper integrates related knowledge from the perspective of the balance law as academic reference for actively participating in global governance. In the practical work, it's advised to take easier steps first and fully tap into and explore the functions and role of currently available window platforms of the UN and its international institutions.

Currently, the coronavirus is now effectively under control in China, which is great for the global efforts of fighting the pandemic. Since the outbreak, with the support and help of people worldwide and with the unity and difficult struggles nationwide, China has made the hard-won achievement. In gratitude to the international community for its support and help, China is willing to share its experience in fighting COVID-19 with other countries and provide assistance within its capacity to others. China sincerely expects to closely cooperate with the international community, including the U.S., hopes for international cooperation to thrive again globally, and calls upon all countries to stand together and cooperate closely to respond to the common enemy of human health.

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