**Expectations of an increase in armed conflicts in African due to climate change and the deterioration of biological diversity**

**Climate change has a high economic cost. Not many countries can afford this cost**

**By: Ahmed Mostafa**

Competition over resources has always been the common denominator in fueling conflicts and wars since the beginning of human life. If this is the reason since the beginning of humanity, then what will be the case with climate changes that are accompanied by a greater decline in resources, especially in African countries that depend on agriculture and grazing Primarily in their food security, which are the same sectors most affected by climate change. Specialists believe that the upcoming conflicts will be primarily climate conflicts and wars.

Climate change is a threat to all countries of the world, but developing countries are the most vulnerable to the negative repercussions of climate change and the deterioration of biological diversity. It is estimated that they will bear about 75-80% of the costs of damages resulting from climate change.

An increase of the Earth's temperature by two degrees Celsius will lead to a permanent decrease in the gross domestic product of -4-5% for Africa and South Asia. Developing countries rely heavily on natural capital for production in climate-sensitive sectors. Many of the population live in naturally exposed sites, with dangerous economic conditions, and limited financial and institutional capabilities to adapt to climate changes. It is expected that more of its development budgets will be transferred for the purpose of overcoming weather-related emergencies.

Several studies have confirmed that conflicts can intensify due to climatic changes. The study “Climate as a risk factor for armed conflicts”, published in the journal Nature in June 2019, showed that 20% of the conflicts of the last century were affected by climate change. It is also expected that this percentage will increase in the future in light of more climate fluctuations, which would increase the risks of climate conflicts and wars. A number of studies indicated that a 4% increase in temperatures will increase the impact of climate on conflicts by 26%. This means that the effect will increase at a rate of up to 5 times the current effect

Studies warn that several African countries will be exposed to significant risks by 2050, due to coastal erosion and sea level rise, and reports indicate that climate change is threatening the human cultural heritage in African countries.

Mahmoud Kassem, an academic researcher, said in a paper published by the Egyptian Center for Thought and Strategic Studies that the outbreak of conflicts and internal strife: Climate changes and the accompanying rise in temperatures, droughts, declining rainfall, and conflict over resources lead to an escalation of armed conflicts, which may turn later. To a civil war whose repercussions extend to internal stability. This pattern of influence can be observed in a number of conflicts, foremost of which is the extended conflict in Nigeria between nomadic herders and farmers over resources. That killed more than 3,600 people in just three years. This conflict also reached its climax in the first half of the same year, recording more than 1,300 victims, which is more than 6 times the repercussions resulting from the operations of the “Boko Haram” organization in Nigeria during the same period.

On the other hand, a number of analyzes confirmed the link between the roots of the conflict in Darfur and climatic changes. In light of the decrease in rainfall by 30%, the decline in agricultural production by 70%, and the temperature increase by 1.5 degrees, which contributed to the exacerbation of the conflict.

This was expressed by the former Secretary-General of the United Nations "Ban Ki-moon", who saw that the conflict in Darfur is the first conflict caused by climate change in the world.

According to the Fragile States Index issued by the Peace Fund Foundation, the Horn of Africa suffers from exacerbating climate problems and there are countries that suffer from climate fluctuations continuously, such as Somalia, Kenya, and Eritrea.

A new report in which multiple agencies participated, in coordination with the World Meteorological Organization, the African Union and other partners in Geneva, stated that “changing rainfall patterns, rising temperatures and increasing weather extremes, all contributed to the escalation of food insecurity, poverty and displacement in Africa in 2020, in addition to the socio-economic and health crisis caused by the Corona pandemic.

**Climate change has a significant cost on the environmental, social and economic It is certain that developing countries and emerging economies will bear the bulk of this bill.. BUT** **it is certain that the peoples at the developing countries and emerging economies will bear the bulk of this bill.**