International

Aotearoa NZ, Pacific

World Parks Congress 2014

Water Matters Pacific and NZ orientations

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Pacific Orientation to Responsibility

Reciprocity

Water shares a genealogy with land who in turn shares a genealogy with man, the cosmos and the gods. This genealogy is sacred and invests a legacy of responsibility on all living things (trees, clouds, volcanoes, water, animals, people) to respect through reciprocity, the divine balance or harmony they share. This is what Samoans call the va tapuia – the sacred relations. H.H. Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi

Leadership

Power/wisdom is acquired through working with others and working the land. For instance Logovae refers to power as 'both a gift and a burden' and adds that 'while it is a privilege, responsibilities are its constant companion

Contextual Knowledge and Resilience

- Indigenous knowledge contexts of SIDS Pacific
- Pacific imagination – Water continent
- Relational
- Obligation, duty, responsibility
- Community priorities
- Connection to cosmos, interdependence of all living things

Water Matters

- New Zealand lowland freshwater is in a degraded state.

- Challenges in Water Governance
  - Water quality
  - Dairy farming
  - Maori interests. Iwi own river beds and the Crown governs water columns - a system of fragmented governance.
    - RMA

Water Interest in Aotearoa NZ

- Vesting of water as a 'person' in law, as in Whanganui and Te Urewera

- Sale of hydro State assets activates Māori claim for recognition of Māori interests in fresh water, on basis that sales cannot proceed until Maori interests are settled.

- A new approach based on shared responsibility for the ecological integrity of water, working with a legal framework of trusteeship
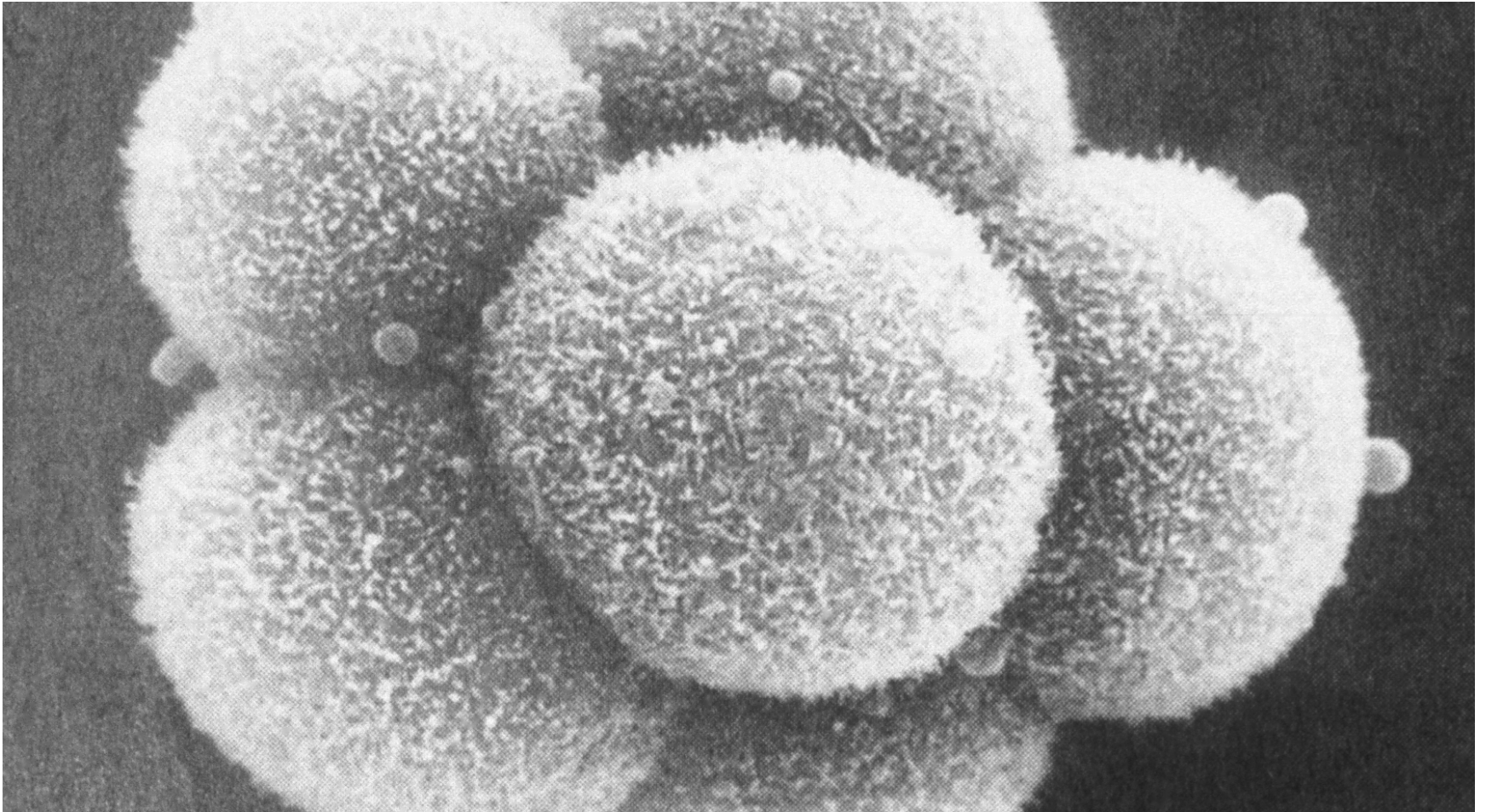
Respons-ability

- Speaks to governance and decision-making

- A framework for integration of social, environment and economy for development of a green economy (which addresses poverty).

- Responsibility is the foundation of community - provides for accountability and responsiveness

- Counterpoint to rights and addresses implementation side of rights

Rationale for Respons-ability

- Globalized world creates interdependence and common human destiny – can Responsibility be a guiding ethic for common wellbeing?

- Could Respons-ability provide a framework for transcending sovereign (state) for human and planetary benefit?

- Respons-ability – accountable and responsive dimensions of transitions to sustainable societies .

Embryo – Division that is connection and differentiation

Quantum Matter and Respons-ability

- Difference is never discrete or absolute – it arises out of 'entanglement'

- 'Phenomena' (identities) emerge out of intra-actions

- We are responsible because we are part of others from which we take form

- Hospitality – expression of relationality and putting an Other before self interest – water to drink and food entangles us in waterways and land and systems of food production

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1943 provided platform for the development of law and implementation which evolved over following decades.

- Proposal for a charter for Universal Responsibilities - History examples:

  - Unanimous Declaration of Interdependence 1969

  - Universal Declaration of Interdependence 2002

  - Treaty on Environmental Education for Sustainable Societies & Global Responsibility 1992

  - Universal Declaration of Human Responsibilities 1997/1998

  - Youth Charter of Responsibilities 'Lets Take Care of the Planet' 2010

  - Caux round table principles for Corporate Business 1992

  - World Charter for Nature 1982

  - Earth Charter

  - Universal Declaration of Rights of Mother Earth 2010

Respons-Ability for Solutions to Sustainable Development

- **Unprecedented challenge of prospective responsibility**

- **Intergenerational accountability**

- **Responsibility proportionate to power**

- **Relational ethic and basis for collaboration**

- **Aligned with integrated decision-making and indigenous practices of kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga and sustainability**

A CHARTER OF UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Preamble :

   We acknowledge that the scope and irreversibility of the <u>interdependencies</u> among human beings, among societies, and between humankind and the biosphere, creating it into <u>a community of destiny</u>.

   We affirm that global interdependencies require recognition of <u>common though differentiated responsibilities and accountability at international and State levels.</u>

- Article

   We recognize that the fundamental problem underlying the present environmental, economic, financial and social crises is <u>the absence of an unequivocal international agreement</u> on common though differentiated <u>responsibilities</u> that could serve as a <u>regulatory framework for future international law.</u>

   A Charter of Universal Responsibilities as a necessary complement to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

- Article

   We acknowledge the responsibility of the private sector in the promotion of sustainable development. This responsibility goes together with accountability not only to their own constituency, but to the larger global community as well. A Charter of Universal Responsibilities would create the basis for future international law pertaining to responsibilities and accountability of the private sector.

Freedom

Knowledge for power

Rights

Conflict (over access to resources)

Private property entitlements

Private interests

Extractive economy

Priority of National sovereignty

Platform of Agreement for navigating climate futures

Reduce emissions

Ecosystem values

Safeguard ecosystems at all scales

Respons-able decision-making

Relational priority

Air, water, oceans forests, soil as Commons

Collective provision

Economy of stewardship

Adjust tax system to incentivize

Restraint

Shared knowledge for common good

Obligations

Collaboration

Recovery of Commons

Hospitality, generosity

All use to be sustainable for trajectory of green economy

National interests in context of regional and global responsibilities