



International



Aotearoa NZ, Pacific

Responsibility, Governance and Rio+20

**RESPONSE – and International Forum on
Ethics and Responsibility**

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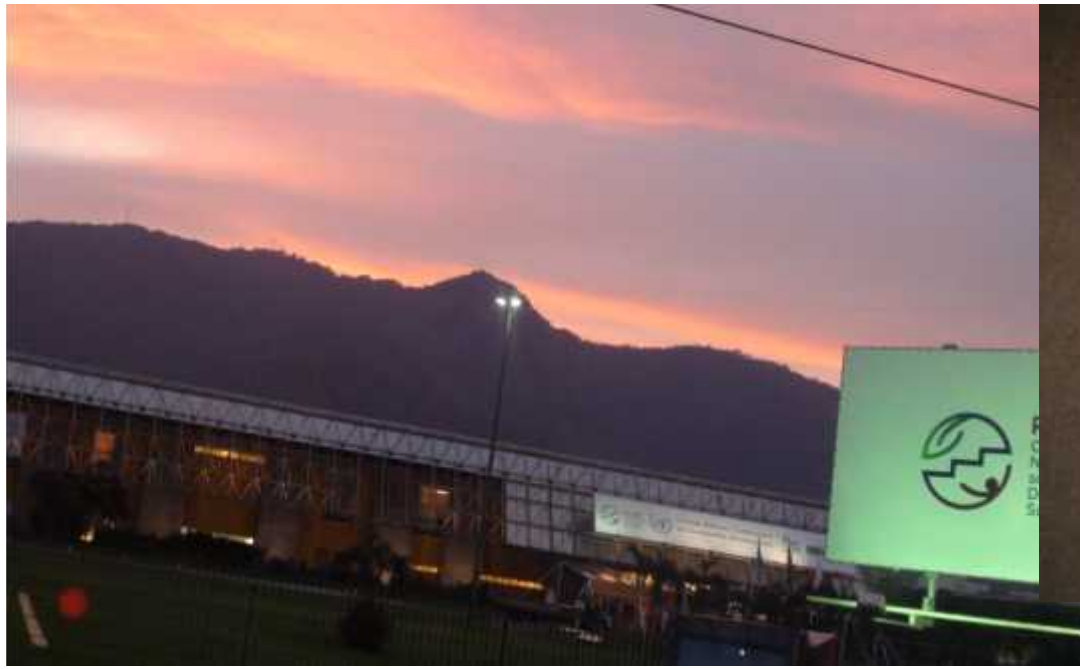
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Respons-ability

- A framework for governance and decision-making
- A means for integrating social, environment and economy for a green economy (which addresses poverty).
- Responsibility addresses accountability and responsiveness
- Counterpart to rights and addresses implementation side of rights

Rationale for Respons-ability at Rio+20

- 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) interests for human and planetary benefit?
- Responsibility is proposed for an institutional framework to navigate towards integration of economy, environment and social sectors to achieve sustainable development.



Respons-ability at Rio+20

- Rio+20 failed to address global interdependence
- Rio+20 did not take adequate account of climate change nor the responsibility for the transition to stopping carbon emissions
- The Outcome document does include provisions for Oceans, and removal of subsidies on fossil fuels
- Small Island developing States emerge as the kaitiaki of interdependence and sustainable development – their vulnerability is entirely induced by forces of the ‘red economy’ (the bleeding earth) outside their control.

Steps to Respons-ability Post Rio+20

- **Common and differentiated responsibilities** (Section 15, 191 re Climate). Retained from the 1992 Earth Summit. Needs development:
 - Refers to differentiated accountabilities for carbon emissions between developing and developed countries. Causes tensions between G77 and US/developed group. The need for solidarity has not been realized.
 - While responsibility is ‘common’ and universal it does need to recognize proportionate responsibility
 - Responsibility is a paradigm for collective accountability and responsiveness – includes capacity for governance of global Commons of oceans, fresh water, atmosphere, forests
 - Includes notion that all are entitled to share in the benefits of earth’s resources
 - Refers to transition to economy of stewardship
 - Requires legal development (trusteeship, duty)

Steps to Respons-ability Post Rio+20

- **Sustainable Development Goals** (Section 246)
 - Build on and continue MDG's post 2015
 - Identify models being developed and implemented (Denmark, Colombia, Bhutan)
 - Framework for measuring human and environmental wellbeing – including reducing poverty and inequality: UN to 'launch a programme of work' (Sect. 38)
 - Possible to develop as an international comparative measure to support transition to green economy
 - Debates on whether to expand GDP or develop new measures

Steps to Respons-ability Post Rio+20

High Level Political Forum (Section 84) to replace Commission for Sustainable Development.

- Stronger integrating framework for UN
- Responsibility for future generations
- Provide forum for discussion and sharing best practice
- Follow up on Agenda21, Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, BarbadosImplementation, Mauritius Strategy, Rio+20.

Respons-ability Beyond Rio+20

- Juridical responsibility and development of Law – an assembly of judges and lawyers with expertise in:
 - environmental law (including land, fresh water, oceans, fisheries)
 - indigenous systems of integrated governance and law
 - Social policy, social equity and wellbeing
 - Climate change and accountability for carbon emissions
 - Economic development
 - Trade
 - Legal concepts of Commons
 - International systems of accountability

Example of Responsibility: Oceans

- Governments do a post Rio+20 review of Oceans governance for the purpose of establishing policy coherence to take account of climate change, the interdependence of land, ocean and water ecosystems, security for SIDS, restoration of fisheries and international co-operation for stewardship of High Seas.
- That Ocean governance provides for integration of High Seas (beyond national jurisdiction), Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ's) coastal marine regulation and the effects of land based activities on oceans. Responsibility includes governance of marine ecosystems in the common interest
- That Governments increase and effectively implement Marine Protected areas.
- The Blue Economy is governed by sustainability criteria. Provide for SIDS representation in the development of Sustainable Development Goals post Rio+20 and linked to MDG's
- A Forum/Commission for SIDS and Indigenous Coastal Peoples will define criteria for equitable and sustainable fishing practices and coastal management.
- That existing agreements including UNCLOS, CBD, JPOI, be implemented. Key references for SIDS are the Mauritius Strategy and the 1994 Barbados Plan of Action.
- State and Private sector investment interests be included in accountability for the impacts of use and exploitation of ocean resources, fisheries and bio-tech resources

And the Long view for Responsibility

• **A UN Declaration for Responsibility**

Would this be the basis for collaboration between the various environmental and social movements for planetary and human wellbeing?

- Earth Charter
- Rights of Mother Earth
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Climate: Generation Zero; 350.org; Green Cross (Al Gore)
- Poverty reduction and accountability for inequality
- Economies of stewardship
- Recognition of solidarity and collective wellbeing (rather than competition and individualized self interest)

Respons-ability

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948 provided a platform for the development of law. Implementation evolved over following decades.
- Proposal for a charter for Universal Responsibilities -
Examples of historic development:
 - 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

- Unprecedented challenge of prospective responsibility
- Intergenerational accountability
- Responsibility proportionate to power
- Relational ethic and basis for collaboration
- Aligned with indigenous systems of integrated decision-making and aspirations for kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga and sustainability

Mana and tikanga: responsibility and accountability

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- **INSERTIONS on a ROADMAP towards a CHARTER OF UNIVERSAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Preamble : Article 2.sex:

- We acknowledge that the scope and irreversibility of the interdependencies that have been generated among human beings, among societies, and between humankind and the biosphere constitute a radically new situation in the history of humankind, changing it irrevocably into a community of destiny. We therefore affirm that global interdependencies require recognition of common though differentiated responsibilities and accountability at international level. **We recognize that States are responsible for transposing also in their national laws the principle of universal responsibility.**

- Article 5 ter

- We recognize that the fundamental problem underlying the present environmental, economic, financial and social crises is the absence of an unequivocal international agreement on common though differentiated responsibilities that could serve as a regulatory framework for future international law. We therefore urge to take the bold and decisive action to set out a roadmap towards an additional founding pillar of international life: a Charter of Universal Responsibilities as a necessary complement to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

- Article 16 bis addition

- (...G 77) Such a holistic approach should be made concrete in an international agreement on universally shared responsibilities and accountability for the environmental sustainability of our planet and a life of dignity for present and future generations, in a Charter of Universal Responsibilities.

- 19. 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.

- That States include in their submission to the Rio+20 The Future We Want zero draft, a proposal for system of Sustainability Measurements be developed and agreed to by parties to the Un Convention on Sustainability.

Diagram for Respons-ability

