

FOREWORD

During 2002, the New Zealand Centre for Environmental Law based within the Law School of the University of Auckland produced its first monograph series publications. Volume 1, titled *Environmental Law for a Sustainable Society*, includes chapters written by academic contributors covering the history and development of environmental law and the movement towards sustainable development, primarily within the New Zealand context. In addition, the publication includes an extensive bibliography of New Zealand environmental writing, which should be of significant interest to researchers and consultants. A second volume, titled *Climate Change in New Zealand: Scientific and Legal Assessments*, explores this vital aspect of global environmental management.

The present volume 6 of the Journal includes a raft of articles of impressive academic standard. The first two articles, by Janet Hope and Christina Voigt, focus on the coming biotechnology revolution, and the place of the precautionary principle in the genetic engineering progression. The problems of international pollution and threats to cetaceans are analysed by Alexander Gillespie. The more specific areas of offshore mining, extending to outer space opportunities, are considered in the respective papers of Michaela Stirling and Graham Nicholson. The goals of sustainable development and the proper acknowledgement of indigenous rights with co-sharing regimes in Canada and Australia is the subject of Donna Craig's timely article. Within the New Zealand context, Rod Thomas assesses the on-going tensions between property regulation under the Resource Management Act, compensation principles and solutions for affected owners. In the Forum part, Nicola Wheen raises the issue of compensation in respect of conservation of the SILNA Maori freehold land. Klaus Bosselmann reports on the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg earlier this year. A book review by Dr Bosselmann completes the text.

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