

GREEN STATE VISION

United Liberation Movement for West Papua
and
Provisional Government



- November 2021 -

Executive Summary

*of the Green State Vision
of West Papua.*



West Papua as a Green State is a vision for “Making Peace with Nature in the 21st century”, first in West Papua, then across our Pacific Islands family of countries and territories, and finally with international partners.

The Vision of the Green State of West Papua is to restore, promote and maintain balance and harmony, amongst human and non-human beings, based on reciprocity and respect toward all beings.

The modern-day concept of sustainability, meaning meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs, and the conservation of biodiversity, are important parts of this Vision.

The Green State will be driven by the needs of society and the environment, rather than the economy. Instead of focusing on economic growth and ‘development’, the laws and policies of the Green State will be oriented towards restoring and protecting the

environment, and maintaining balance and harmony in and amongst people and the environment.

The Green State will take urgent and decisive action to combat and mitigate global heating and the climate emergency, addressing the impact of gas, mining, logging, palm oil plantations and other activities in West Papua.

The Green State will make ecocide a criminal offence nationally and advocate for it to be made an international crime for prosecution at the International Criminal Court.

The Green State will offer assistance to our brothers and sisters in the Pacific affected by climate change.

The Green State will devolve guardianship of lands, forests, waters and the natural environment. Important decisions will be made by customary authorities in accordance with indigenous knowledge and customary values and norms, supported by appropriate laws,

policies, institutions, and technical and financial resources, and taking into account international standards and principles of environmental protection and management.

The Green State will combine features of the modern democratic State with this customary and community based approach. This includes a representative Legislature, an effective, responsive and accountable Executive Government, and an independent and impartial Judiciary.

The Green State will be safeguarded by strong, effective and independent institutions and mechanisms to ensure good governance, prevent corruption and abuse or misuse of power at all levels. In particular, there will be mechanisms to ensure that the coercive arms of the State, such as the Police and the Military, do not abuse or misuse their power and that citizens and residents of the Green State of West Papua will be safe and secure from unlawful killing and ill-treatment at the hands of the State.

The Green State will be underpinned by laws and institutions that protect human rights in accordance with international standards and principles, including civil and political rights and the rights of women, children and minority groups.

The Green State will provide free education and free healthcare to its citizens and residents, and develop social and economic policies and laws in line with this Vision.

Preamble

Melanesian tribes in West Papua have proven ourselves the best guardians of this green New Guinea Island and blue Melanesian archipelago.

We are now declaring our commitment, based on our proven legacy, to contribute to solving the world's environmental crises by proclaiming West Papua a modern nation-state and the first 'Green State' in human history.

This approach comprises:

- 1 **Green Philosophy** that advocates Melanesian holistic and simple ways of life that treat life as joyful, entertaining and serving the needs of the heart rather than just the mind; inclusive in thinking and action, involving participation of all communities of beings: spirits, plants, animals and humans, rather than individualism.
- 2 **Green Economy** based on the Melanesian economic system, supported by current technologies that promote green investments, the local economy, and modes of production that emphasise even distribution and consumption rather than mass production and waste.
- 3 **Green Development Policy** that prioritises balance and the rights of all communities of beings, and promotes green transport, health systems, housing, education and power.
- 4 **Green Life Values**
 - a **Live** in balance with one's own self, with each other and with all communities of beings
 - b **Care** for each and every person, individually and collectively, among humans and with other communities of beings
 - c **Harmony** is our guiding star. Love for our fellow beings and neighbours must guide us.

This Melanesian Way of Life

The ‘Green State’ vision of the United Liberation Movement for West Papua and Provisional Government is based on Melanesian wisdom.

We believe in the participation, roles, and functions of all communities of beings, equally and simultaneously in acknowledging, protecting and promoting the rights of each and all.

We commit to our collective obligation to protect the islands and the waters across the Melanesian archipelago as ‘Green States’ and ‘Blue Countries’.

The vision comes from Melanesian peoples who enjoy diverse and rich spiritual, natural and cultural heritage, who can bring a green and blue future to our world, within a free and independent West Papua.

The Vision

The Primary Objective

- 01** The primary objective of the Green State is to restore, promote and maintain balance and harmony amongst human and non-human beings, based on reciprocity and respect. At its core is the role of people as guardians, protectors and carers. Sustainability and the conservation of biodiversity are important parts of this objective.

The Three Pillars

- 02** In order to achieve this objective, the Green State will establish and maintain these three pillars:
- a** environmental and social protection,
 - b** customary guardianship, and
 - c** democratic governance.

Environmental and Social Protection

- 03** The Green State will be driven by the needs of society and the environment, rather than the economy. Instead of focusing on economic growth and “development”, the laws and policies of the Green State will be oriented towards restoring and protecting the environment, and maintaining balance and harmony in and amongst people and the environment.
- 04** The Green State will act and think globally and locally. As a top priority, it will take urgent and decisive action to combat and mitigate the climate emergency. The Green State of West Papua will:
- a** make ecocide a serious criminal offence in West Papua,

- b** support the inclusion of ecocide as a crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and
- c** serve notice on oil, gas, mining and logging corporations, palm oil plantations and other major contributors to climate change or serious environmental harm that they must introduce international best practices in environmental protection and immediately invest in green technologies to drastically reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change.

05 The Green State will provide free education and free healthcare to citizens and residents, and develop other equally strong policies for social protection and care. Education in the Green State will prioritise environmental protection and customary values and norms.

Customary Guardianship

06 The Green State will restore important decision-making powers on the occupation and use of lands, forests, rivers and other waters, in effect the guardianship of these, to the customary authorities at family, clan and tribal level. This customary guardianship will be underpinned by:

- a** **Indigenous knowledge and customary values and norms** – ensuring that these decisions are made in accordance with customary values and norms based on indigenous knowledge that connects places and cultures and emphasises holistic approaches,
- b** **Adequate support** – a State that supports these customary authorities with their decision-making and guardianship with appropriate laws, policies, technical assistance, funds and enforcement, and
- c** **Community focus** – ensuring that a substantial and fair proportion of the benefits of decision-making and guardianship flow to the local community, and is channelled towards important areas such as education and healthcare.

07 The Green State will establish the necessary institutional and legal safeguards to ensure that these customary powers are not abused or misused, and that the environment is at all times protected and safeguarded, taking into account international standards and principles of environmental protection and management.

Democratic Governance

08 The Green State will adopt and adapt the best features of the modern

democratic State. In accordance with best practice and international standards and principles, these include –

- a** a representative Legislature and an effective and accountable Executive Government,
 - b** an independent and impartial Judiciary and other effective and independent institutions and mechanisms to ensure good governance and to prevent corruption and the abuse or misuse of power at all levels (national, regional and customary),
 - c** effective protection of human rights, including the rights of women, children and minority racial, ethnic, tribal and religious groups,
 - d** consulting and involving key stakeholders before and while making laws and policies that significantly affect their rights and interests, and
 - e** co-operating with other States in combatting and mitigating the climate emergency, pursuing international criminal justice, and other essential aspects of global co-operation.
- 09** In particular, there will be effective and independent mechanisms to ensure that the coercive arms of the State, such as the Police and the Military do not abuse or misuse their power and that citizens and residents of West Papua will be safe and secure from unlawful killing, arbitrary detention, and abuse and ill-treatment at the hands of the State.

Other Aspects

- 10** The Green State will develop laws and policies for investment, business and economic activities, scientific and research activities, and other activities within West Papua to support and promote this Vision.
- 11** The Green State's relations with its Melanesian and Pacific Islands family of countries and territories, strategic international partners, and other States and international organisations will be centred around this Vision. The Green State will be open to strategic international alliances that best secure its sovereignty, defence, and national interests, informed by this Vision.

Restore balance and harmony amongst human and non-human beings. Guardianship of lands, forests, waters and the natural environment to customary authorities. Driven by the needs of society and the environment, rather than the economy. Underpinned by laws and institutions. Protecting human rights, the rights of women, children and minority groups. Combining the best features of the modern democratic state with this customary and community-based approach. Providing free education and free healthcare. A family of countries and territories and strategic international partners.
