
Preface

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Biographical notes: Panyue Zhang is a Professor of Environmental Engineering at the College of Environmental Science & Engineering, Hunan University, Changsha, China. He received his PhD in Environmental Engineering from University of Karlsruhe, Germany. He is the author of more than 70 scientific publications about water treatment, wastewater treatment, sludge treatment and reuse.

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Nanqi Ren is a Cheung Kong Scholar Professor and the Dean of School of Municipal & Environmental Engineering at Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin, China. He completed his doctoral studies in Environmental Science and

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A large quantity of waste has been generated in developing countries such as China. The major organic waste materials include municipal effluents and biosolids, animal wastes, plant wastes, food-processing wastes and municipal solid wastes. Traditional disposal-based methods for dealing with those organic wastes not only have adverse impacts on environment but also are no longer adequate to handle the rapid increase of the generation rate of the organic wastes. To overcome the shortcomings of the traditional approaches, people are increasingly interested in using organic waste for producing fertilizers, fuels and chemicals. With the objective of presenting some results of the studies in China on the utilisation-based methods for dealing with organic waste materials, we organised this special issue for *International Journal of Biotechnology*, with a focus on the Biological Utilisation of Biomass or Organic Waste Materials.