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## Introduction

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**Biographical notes:** Miray Bekbolet obtained her BS from the Chemistry and Physics Department of Ege University in 1973. She received her PhD degree from the Faculty of Food Engineering of Ege University in 1979. Since 1985, she has been working as a faculty member at Bogazici University. Her research activities focus on advanced oxidation processes, mainly photocatalytic and photolytic processes, adsorption processes, disinfection and disinfection by-products, drinking water quality, natural organic matter, interactions of natural organic matter with oxide surfaces and metals.

Huseyin Selcuk obtained his BS from the Environmental Engineering Department of Yildiz Technical University in 1993 and his MS from the Institute of Coastal Engineering Science of Istanbul University. He started his international collaborative PhD work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA and he received his PhD from the Environmental Engineering Department of Istanbul Technical University in 2004. Since 2010, he has been working as a faculty member at Istanbul University. His research interests are advanced oxidation, membrane filtration applications, econano materials and nanofilms, recycling and reuse of wastewaters and photocatalytic-electrochemical technologies.

Ceyda Senem Uyguner Demirel obtained her BS from the Chemistry Department of Bogazici University in 1997. She received her MSc and PhD degrees from the Institute of Environmental Sciences of Bogazici University. After her PhD, she carried out her post-doc studies at the University of Salerno in Italy. Since 2007, she has been working as an instructor at Bogazici

University. Her research interests include environmental chemistry, water treatment by advanced oxidation processes, spectroscopic characterisation and photocatalytic removal of natural organic matter, mainly humic substances.

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Following the commitment of the *International Journal of Global Warming* to the rapid publication of original invited papers on important and contemporary topics in the field of science and engineering, a special issue was established containing a selection of 18 papers presented at the International Conference on Recycling and Reuse 2012 (R&R, 2012) that took place between 4–6 June 2012 in Istanbul. The selected papers were peer reviewed by independent international and national referees.

In the conference that was organised by the two major universities of Turkey; Istanbul University and Bogazici University, more than 250 participants from Europe, USA, Asia and Africa produced a valuable body of information and knowledge.

The purpose of the symposium was to provide a platform for researchers and practitioners to exchange emerging ideas and to investigate key issues such as: integrated waste management; contaminants of concern, identification, control and treatment; health related issues; novel applications for reuse and recycling; renewable energy sources; green technologies and developing markets for recycling and reuse.

*International Journal of Global Warming* covers disciplines as diverse as engineering, climate science, ecology, economics, education, management, information sciences, politics, strategy development, etc. Selected papers that match with the scope of the *IJGW* and address issues related to global changes as a direct/indirect result of climate modification and strategies for adaptation to such changes were presented in the special issue.

The collection included in the present issue covers five papers that reflect the state of the art, and the perspectives for the applications of membrane processes for treatment, water reuse and recovery purposes. An additional paper covering boron removal by reverse osmosis was also presented in that aspect. There are three interesting papers that can be outlined under the topic of energy. The three papers dealing with solid waste focus on adsorption of metals, recovery and reuse of solid waste. In the topic of air pollution, three papers were presented interesting results were expressed with time series analysis of sulphur dioxide and particulate matter concentrations and carbon footprint calculations for an airport. The other four papers are related to olive mill wastewater treatment, sewage sludge minimisation by wet oxidation, urban drainage and cold water discharge. Papers compiled in this issue clearly reflect the multidisciplinary approach needed to achieve higher levels of performance.

The editors would like to express their thanks to the authors and referees. Without their generous contribution it would not be possible to make the special issue of *International Journal of Global Warming*. We wish to extend our appreciation and gratitude to the Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Ibrahim Dincer for providing us the opportunity to host this special issue in *IJGW* and for his support and helpful guidance throughout all the stages of processing. Our thanks also go to the technical staff for their excellent job during the course of preparing and typesetting of the special issue.