Supporting Information

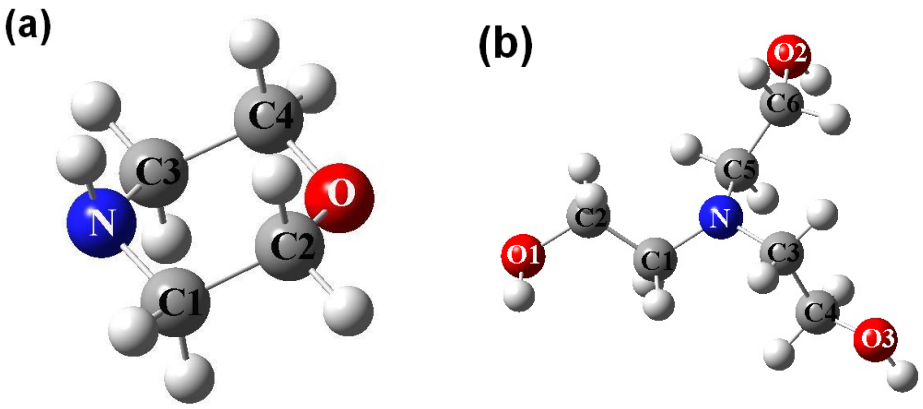

Figure S1. The optimized molecular structures of morpholine (a) and triethanolamine (b). Note: The quantum chemical parameters (such as the highest occupied molecule orbital (*HOMO*), the lowest unoccupied molecule orbital (*LUMO*), energy difference and Mulliken charges) were calculated by Gaussian 98 program with B3LYP/6-311 G(d,p) theoretical model according to reported procedure in gaseous state. The vibration analysis and structure optimization were performed in order to determine whether they corresponded to a minimum energy state.

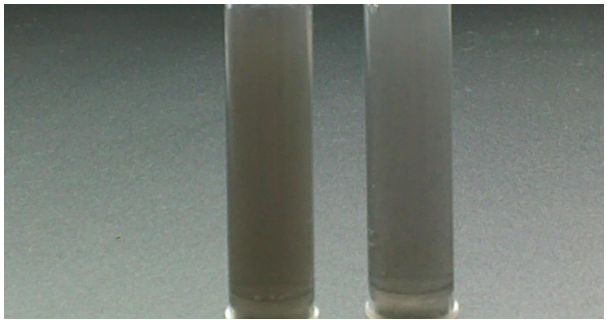

Figure S2. Visual image of $FeCO_3$@Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles (left) and flower-like assemblies (right) in water. Note: 0.005 g $FeCO_3$@Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles and flower-like assemblies were dispersed in 10 mL water, respectively.

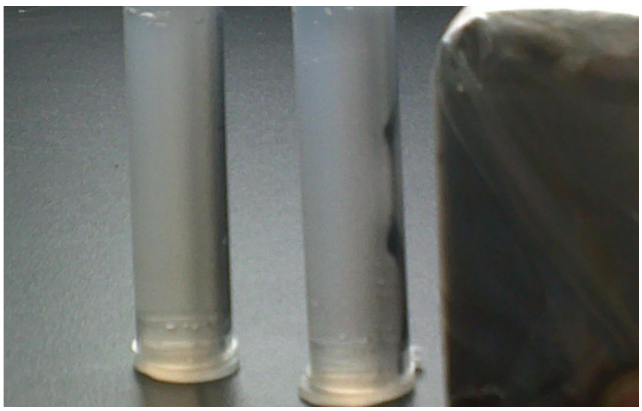

Figure S3. Visual image of $FeCO_3$@Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles (left) and flower-like assemblies (right) when an external magnet was applied.