# **Supporting Information**

# Metal-controlled structural variations of coordination architectures constructed from the flexible 1*H*benzimidazole-1-propionic acid

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Fig.S1 Simulated and experimental powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns of complexes 1–6: (a) for 1, (b) for 2, (c) for 3, (d) for 4, (e) for 5 and (f) for 6.



**(a)** 





(c)





(e)



Fig.S2 TGA curves for complexes 1–5.



Fig.S3 The normalized solid-state photoluminescent excitation spectra of ligand Hbiap and complexes **3–6** at room temperature.



Complex 1			
Co1–N2	2.034(3)	Co1–N4	2.039(3)
Co1–O5	1.974(2) Co1–O7#1		1.991(2)
Co2–N6	2.045(3) Co2–N8		2.045(3)
Co2–O1	1.954(3)	3) Co2–O3#2	
N2-Co1-N4	103.01(11)	3.01(11) N2–Co1–O5	
N2-Co1-O7#1	103.96(10)	N4Co1O5	110.71(11)
N4-Co1-O7#1	#1 117.58(10) O5–Co1–O7#1		105.26(11)
N6-Co2-N8	114.13(12)	N6-Co2-O1	111.97(11)
N6-Co2-O3#2	109.11(11)	N8-Co2-O1	102.29(11)
N8-Co2-O3#2	111.95(11)	O1–Co2–O3#2	107.06(11)
Complex 2			
Cu1–N2	2.001(2)	Cu1–N4#1	2.011(2)
Cu1–O3	1.985(2)	Cu1–O5	1.975(2)
Cu1–O9	2.409(2)	Cu2–N6	1.998(2)
Cu2–N8	1.996(2)	Cu2–O1	1.947(2)
Cu2–O8#2	1.952(2)		
N2-Cu1-N4#1	170.15(8)	N2–Cu1–O3	89.24(8)
N2-Cu1-O5	90.04(8)	N2-Cu1-O9	95.73(8)
O3-Cu1-N4#1	87.61(7)	O5-Cu1-N4#1	92.43(7)
O9-Cu1-N4#1	93.89(7)	O3–Cu1–O5	175.88(7)
O3–Cu1–O9	96.28(7)	O5–Cu1–O9	87.83(7)
N6-Cu2-N8	179.28(9)	N6-Cu2-O1	89.74(8)
N6-Cu2-O8#2	89.75(8)	N8-Cu2-O1	90.60(8)
N8-Cu2-O8#2	89.92(8)	O1-Cu2-O8#2	179.30(8)
Complex <b>3</b>			
Ag1–N2	2.359(8)	Ag1-N2#1	1.969(6)
O2–H2C	1.23	N2-Ag1-N2#1	154.47(12)
Complex 4			
Zn1–N2	2.035(2)	Zn1–N4	2.033(2)
Zn1–O1#1	1.954(2)	Zn1–O3#2	1.955(2)
N2-Zn1-N4	107.89(7)	N2-Zn1-O1#1	112.76(7)
N2-Zn1-O3#2	109.92(7)	N4-Zn1-O1#1	117.97(7)
N4-Zn1-O3#2	100.76(7)	O1A-Zn1-O3#2	106.72(7)
Complex 5			
Cd1–N2	2.257(3)	Cd1–N4	2.292(3)
Cd105	2.415(2)	Cd106	2.322(2)
Cd1–O7	2.452(2)	Cd1–O8 2.315(2	

Table S1 Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for complexes  $1\!-\!\!6.$ 

Cd2–N6	2.258(3)	Cd2N8	2.243(3)
Cd2O1	2.515(2)	Cd2O2#1	2.294(3)
Cd2O3	2.368(3)	Cd204	2.383(2)
N2-Cd1-N4	97.04(10)	N2Cd1O5	98.51(10)
N2-Cd1-O6	109.67(9)	N2Cd1O7	85.98(9)
N2-Cd1-O8	137.19(9)	N4Cd1O5	141.06(9)
N4-Cd1-O6	86.36(9)	N4Cd1O7	99.15(9)
N4-Cd1-O8	104.97(9)	O5Cd1O6	54.78(8)
O5-Cd1-O7	117.35(8)	O5Cd1O8	86.96(8)
O6-Cd1-O7	162.77(9)	O6Cd1O8	107.98(9)
O7–Cd1–O8	54.86(8)	N6Cd2N8	111.49(11)
N6-Cd2-O1	107.89(9)	N6-Cd2-O2#1	91.82(10)
N6-Cd2-O3	137.87(10)	N6Cd2O4	84.28(10)
N8-Cd2-O1	82.86(10)	N8-Cd2-O2#1	134.67(10)
N8-Cd2-O3	90.10(10)	N8-Cd2-O4	107.90(10)
O1-Cd2-O2#1	52.51(9)	O1–Cd2–O3	110.46(9)
O1-Cd2-O4	160.00(9)	O3-Cd2-O2#1	97.84(9)
O3Cd2O4	54.17(9)	O4Cd2O2#1	112.84(9)
Complex 6			
Hg1–Cl1	2.611(2)	Hg1–N2	2.163(3)
Hg2–Cl1	2.985(2)	Hg2–Cl2	2.340(2)
Cl1-Hg1-Cl1#1	100.17(7)	Cl1-Hg1-N2	102.95(10)
Cl1-Hg1-N2#1	98.87(10)	N2-Hg1-N2#1	145.72(12)
Cl1-Hg2-Cl2	90.64(4)	Cl1-Hg2-Cl2#2	89.37(4)
Cl1-Hg2-Cl1#2	180.00	Cl2-Hg2-Cl2#2	180.00

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms for 1: #1 x, 1+y, z; #2 x, -1+y, z. for 2: #1 1-x, y, 1/2-z; #2 -x, y, 3/2-z. for 3: #1 1/2-x, 1/2-y, 1-z. for 4: #1 x, -1+y, z; #2 x, 1/2-y, 1/2+z. for 5: #1 4/3+x-y, 2/3+x, 5/3-z. for 6: #1 1-x, y, 1/2-z; #2 1-x, 3-y, -z.

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D–H···A	<i>d</i> (D–H)	<i>d</i> (H···A)	<i>d</i> (D····A)	∠D–H…A
Complex 2				
O9–H9D…O4	0.85	2.03	2.727(3)	138
O10-H10C…O9#1	0.85	2.51	2.943(3)	112
O10-H10C…O10#1	0.85	2.53	3.249(4)	143
O10-H10D…O5	0.85	2.08	2.924(3)	174
O11-H11C…O6	0.85	1.90	2.745(3)	172
O11-H11D…O13	0.85	2.03	2.863(3)	164
O12–H12C…O2	0.85	2.15	2.812(3)	135
O12-H12D…O11	0.85	2.01	2.780(4)	151
O13–H13C…O14	0.85	1.87	2.714(3)	172
O13–H13D…O3	0.85	2.04	2.857(3)	160
O14–H14C…O8#2	0.85	2.08	2.785(3)	140
O15–H15D…O7#3	0.85	2.18	2.816(4)	131
O16–H16C…O1	0.85	1.92	2.758(3)	170
O16–H16D…O16#3	0.85	2.20	2.731(4)	120
Complex <b>3</b>				
O3–H3C…O2#1	0.85	2.47	2.919(10)	114
O3–H3D…O1#2	0.85	2.08	2.864(10)	154
Complex 6 <sup>d</sup>				
O2-H2C…O1#1	0.85	2.05	2.677(6)	130

Table S2 Hydrogen bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for complexes 2, 3 and 6.

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms for **2**: #1 1–*x*, 1–*y*, 1–*z*; #2 –*x*, –*y*, 1–*z*; #3 –*x*, 1–*y*, 1–*z*. for **3**: #1 1/2–*x*, -1/2+y, 1/2-z; #2 1/2+*x*, 1/2-y, 1/2+z. for **6**: #1 –*x*, 1–*y*, –*z*.