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## **Supplementary Material**

for

## Effect of ancillary ligand proton on the photophysical properties of some $Ru^{II}N_6$ cores. A proton valve

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Fig. S1. Electronic spectra of 1a (black) and 1b (blue) in acetonitrile.



**Fig. S2.** Cyclic voltammogram of **1a** (black) and **1b** (blue) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 0.1 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> in TEAP at a GC electrode. Solute concentration is 1 mmol dm<sup>-3</sup>. Scan rate: 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S3.** Cyclic voltammogram of **2a** (black) and **2b** (blue) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 0.1 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> in TEAP at a GC electrode. Solute concentration is 1 mmol dm<sup>-3</sup>. Scan rate: 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S4.** A portion of the cyclic voltammogram of **2b** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 0.1 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> in TEAP at a GC electrode. Solute concentration is 1 mmol dm<sup>-3</sup>. Scan rate (mV s<sup>-1</sup>): 50, black; 100, red; 200, green; 500, blue; 1000, magenta.



Fig. S5. Working relationship of  $\Delta E_p vs \ln \psi$ ;  $r^2 = 0.992$ . It has been created by using Nicholson's data.<sup>37</sup>



Fig. S6. Emission spectra of 1a (blue) and 2a (black) in deaerated  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The absorbance of both the solutions was 0.5 at 430 nm which was the  $\lambda$  excitation. Quantum yields  $\phi$  are 1.17 x 10<sup>-4</sup> and 6.13 x 10<sup>-5</sup> for 1a and 2a respectively.