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**Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)** 

## A comparative study of anion-exchange membranes tethered with different hetero-cycloaliphatic quaternary ammonium hydroxides

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**Fig. S1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of PPO functionalized with tertiary amine groups: (a) PPO5-3,5DMPip precursor, (b) PPO5-4MPip precursor and (c) PPO5-2,6DMPip precursor. Data recorded with chloroform-*d* solutions.



**Fig. S2** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of PPOs with QAs on pentyl spacer units: (a) PPO5-TMA, (b) PPO5-Mor and (c) PPO5-DPMA. Data recorded with DMSO- $d_6$  solutions.



**Fig. S3** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of PPOs functionalized with QAs: (a) PPO5-Pyr, (b) PPO5-Pip, (c) PPO1-TMA and (d) PPO1-Pip. Data recorded with DMSO- $d_6$  solutions.



**Fig. S4** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of PPOs with QAs on pentyl spacer units: (a) PPO5-4MPip, (b) PPO5-3,5DMPip and (c) PPO5-2,6DMPip. Data recorded with DMSO- $d_6$  solutions.



**Fig. S5** DSC traces of the brominated PPO precursors: (a) PPO5-Br and (b) PPO1-Br.  $T_g$  values are indicated in the plots.



Fig. S6 TGA traces of the brominated PPO precursors, PPO5-Br and PPO1-Br. Data recorded at 10  $^{\circ}$ C min<sup>-1</sup> under N<sub>2</sub>.



**Fig. S7** TGA traces of AEMs in the Br<sup>-</sup> form: PPO5-Pip, PPO5-DPMA, PPO5-Pyr, PPO5-Mor, PPO5-Qui, PPO5-TMA and PPO5-Aze. Data recorded at 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup> under N<sub>2</sub>.



Fig. S8 TGA traces of AEMs in the Br<sup>-</sup> form: PPO5-Pip, PPO5-2,6DMPip, PPO5-3,5DMPip and PPO5-4MPip. Data recorded at 10  $^{\circ}$ C min<sup>-1</sup> under N<sub>2</sub>.



**Fig. S9** TGA traces of AEMs in the Br<sup>-</sup> form before and after immersion in 1 M aq. NaOH at 90 °C during 384 h: (a) PPO5-3,5DMPip, (b) PPO5-4MPip, (c) PPO5-Qui. Data recorded at 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup> under  $N_2$ .



**Fig. S10** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of PPOs tethered with two non-cyclic QAs via alkyl spacer chains before and after immersion of the respective AEM in 1 M aq. NaOH at 90 °C during 384 h: (a) PPO5-TMA, (b) PPO5-DPMA. Spectra were recorded in DMSO- $d_6$  after ion-exchange to the Br<sup>-</sup> form.