Electronic Supplementary Information

Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 catalyzed phosgene-free synthesis of polyurethane precursors

Sergio Rojas-Buzo, Pilar García-García,* Avelino Corma*

Instituto de Tecnología Química, UPV-CSIC, Universitat Politècnica de València-Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas. Avenida de los Naranjos s/n 46022 Valencia, Spain. Email: pgargar@itq.upv.es; acorma@itq.upv.es

Experimental section. General Information.

Unless otherwise stated, all reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Solvents employed in the reactions were purified using a solvent purification system (SPS) MBraun 800. Organic solutions were concentrated under reduced pressure on a Büchi rotary evaporator. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography on silica gel pre-coated aluminium plates using fluorescence quenching with UV light at 254 nm or KMnO₄. Flash column chromatography was performed using E. Merck silica gel (60, particle size 0.040-0.063 mm). Chemical yields refer to pure isolated substances unless stated otherwise. All the products obtained were characterised by GC-MS, ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR, and DEPT. When available, characterisation given in the literature was used for comparison. Gas chromatographic analyses were performed in an instrument equipped with a 25 m capillary column of 5% phenylmethylsilicone using dodecane as an external standard otherwise indicated. GC/MS analyses were performed on a spectrometer equipped with the same column as the GC and operated under the same conditions.¹H and ¹³C NMR were recorded on a Bruker 300 spectrometer and the chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to residual proton solvents signals. Data for ¹H NMR spectra are reported as follows: chemical shift (δ , ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, dd = double doublets), coupling constant and integration. Data for ¹³C NMR spectra are reported in chemical shift (\delta, ppm). C, N, and H contents were determined with a Carlo Erba 1106 elemental analyzer. Thermogravimetric and differential thermal analysis (TGA-DTA) were conducted in an air stream with a Metler Toledo TGA/SDTA 851E analyzer. Solid state MAS-NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature under magic angle spinning (MAS) in a Brucker AV-400 spectrometer. The ¹³C cross-polarization (CP) spectrum was acquired by using a 7 mm Bruker BL-7 probe and at a sample spinning rate of 5kHz. ¹³C was referred to adamantane. FTIR spectra were recorded with a Nicolet 710 spectrometer (4 cm⁻¹ resolution) using conventional greaseless cell. IR spectra of the organic precursors were recorded on KBr disks at room temperature or by impregnating the windows with a dichloromethane solution of the compound and leaving to evaporate before analysis. Photoelectron spectra were recorded using a SPECS spectrometer equipped with a 150MCD-9 Phoibos detector and using a non monochromatic Al K α (1486.6eV) X-ray source. Spectra were recorded at 25 °C using an analyzer pass energy of 30 eV, an X-ray power of 100W and under operating pressure of 10^{-9} mbar. Samples were fixed on a Mo sample holder. Spectra treatment has been performed using the CASA software.

1. Synthesis of Zr- and Hf-based MOFs and characterization

1.1. UiO-66(Hf): It was prepared according to the reported method in the literature.¹



Figure S1. XRD pattern of UiO-66 (Hf)



Figure S2. TGA and DTA curves of UiO-66 (Hf) sample.

-						Org.(Cont. ^a
	Sample	C ^a	H ^a	$\mathbf{N}^{\mathbf{a}}$	Metal ^b	CHN ^c	TGA ^d
-	UiO-66 (Hf)	20.2	1.6	0.2	44	22	35.7

Table S1. Chemical analysis of UiO-66 (Hf) sample.



Figure S3. FTIR spectrum of UiO-66(Hf) sample

Table S2. Textural Characteristic of UiO-66(Hf).

Sample	BET Surface Area/m ² g ⁻¹	Total Pore Volume/cm ³ g ⁻¹
UiO-66(Hf).	584	0.45



Figure S4. N₂ adsorption and desorption isotherm of UiO-66(Hf) sample

1.2. UiO-66 (**Zr**): UiO-66-Zr was obtained by the same procedure¹ as for UiO-66(Hf) except ZrCl₄ was used instead of HfCl₄.



Figure S5. XRD pattern of UiO-66(Zr)

Table S3. Chemical analysis of UiO-66(Zr) sample.

					Org.(Cont. ^a
Sample	C ^a	${ m H}^{ m a}$	N ^a	Metal ^b	CHN ^c	TGA ^d
UiO-66 (Zr)	26.8	1.9	0.5	28	29.2	47.5



Figure S6. TGA and DTA curves of UiO-66(Zr) sample.



Figure S7. FTIR spectrum of UiO-66(Zr) sample



Figure S8. N2 adsorption and desorption isotherm of UiO-66(Zr) sample

Table S4. Textural Characteristic of UiO-66(Zr).

Sample	BET Surface Area/m ² g ⁻¹	Total Pore Volume/cm ³ g ⁻¹
UiO-66 (Zr).	619	0.78

1.3. UiO-66-NH₂(Hf): UiO-66-NH₂(Hf) was obtained by the same procedure¹ as for UiO-66 (Hf) except 2-aminoterephthalic acid was used instead of terephthalic acid.



Figure S9. XRD pattern of UiO-66-NH₂(Hf)

					Org.(Cont. ^a
Sample	C ^a	$\mathbf{H}^{\mathbf{a}}$	$\mathbf{N}^{\mathbf{a}}$	Metal ^b	CHN ^c	TGAd
UiO-66-NH ₂ (Hf)	20.1	2.1	2.8	38	25	40

Table S5. Chemical analysis of UiO-66-NH₂(Hf) sample.



Figure S10. TGA and DTA curves of UiO-66-NH₂(Hf) sample.



Figure S11. FTIR spectrum of UiO-66-NH₂(Hf) sample



Figure S12. N₂ adsorption and desorption isotherm of UiO-66-NH₂(Hf) sample

Table S6.	Textural	Characteristic	of UiO-	$66-NH_2(Hf)$
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Sample	BET Surface Area/m ² g ⁻¹	Total Pore Volume/cm ³ g ⁻¹
UiO-66-NH ₂ (Hf)	490	0.60



1.4. Hf-MOF-808: It was prepared according to the reported method in the literature²

Figure S13. XRD pattern of Hf-MOF-808

Table S8.	Chemical	analysis	of Hf-MOF-80	8 sample.
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					Org.(Cont. ^a
Sample	C ^a	Ha	N ^a	Metal ^b	CHN ^c	TGA ^d
Hf-MOF-808	13.9	1.3	0.3	46	15.5	29



Figure S14. TGA and DTA curves of Hf-MOF-808 sample.



Figure S15. FTIR spectrum of Hf-MOF-808 sample



Figure S16. N₂ adsorption and desorption isotherm of Hf-MOF-808 sample



Figure S17. Pore size distribution of Hf-MOF-808 sample calculated by BJH model.

Table S9. Textural Characteristic of Hf-MOF-808.

Sample	BET Surface Area/m ² g ⁻¹	Total Pore Volume/cm ³ g ⁻¹
Hf-MOF-808	458	0.30

1.5. Zr-MOF-808: Zr-MOF-808 was obtained by the same procedure² as for Hf-MOF-808 except ZrCl₄ was used instead of HfCl₄.



Figure S18. XRD pattern of Zr-MOF-808

Table S10. Chemical analysis of Zr-MOF-808 sample.

					Org.(Cont. ^a
Sample	C ^a	H ^a	$\mathbf{N}^{\mathbf{a}}$	Metal ^b	CHN ^c	TGAd
Zr-MOF-808	19.6	2.7	1.1	31	23.4	42



Figure S19. TGA and DTA curves of Zr-MOF-808 sample.



Figure S20. FTIR spectrum of Zr-MOF-808 sample



Figure S21. N₂ adsorption and desorption isotherm of Zr-MOF-808 sample



Figure S22. Pore size distribution of Zr-MOF-808 sample calculated by BJH model.

Table S11. Textural characteristics of Zr-MOF-808.

Sample	BET Surface Area/m ² g ⁻¹	Total Pore Volume/cm ³ g ⁻¹
Zr-MOF-808	431	0.28



Figure S23. Ar adsorption isotherm of Zr-MOF-808 sample



Figure S24. Pore size distribution of Zr-MOF-808 calculated by the Hörvath-Kawazoe model.

2. Synthesis of Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41:

First, 1,3,5-benzenetricarboxylic acid (44.3 mg, 0.2 mmol) was deprotonated using a solution of triethylamine (62.5 mg, 0.6 mmol) in water (1.7 mL) to give a ligand salt precursor. Secondly, 500 mg of MCM-41 were impregnated with the ligand salt solution and then dried at 50 °C under vacuum in a rotary evaporator for 2 h. The resulting dry material was treated with a nitrogen flow saturated with HCl for 2 h at room temperature and then purged with a nitrogen flow for 2 h to remove the excess of HCl. The metal salt precursor was prepared dissolving ZrCl₄ (90.2 mg, 0.4 mmol) in water (1.2 mL) and the solid obtained previously was impregnated with this solution. The resulting solid was then dried at 50 °C under vacuum in a rotary evaporator for 2 h. The obtained solid was divided in three parts (150 mg each), which were added in three autoclaves (35 mL) along with DMF (7 mL) and HCOOH (7 mL). The solvothermal synthesis was carried out at 100°C for 72 h. The resulting catalyst was washed with water to remove the unreacted metal or organic salts and with DMF and acetone in order to remove the organic components. When the solid was used in catalytic tests, it was activated and heated at 100 °C during 12 h to remove water and volatile organic solvent.



Figure S25. XRD pattern of Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41.



Figure S26. UV-Vis spectra of Zr-MOF-808, Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 showing the peak around 242 nm which can be attributed to the absorption of Zr-O clusters. Inset: amplified UV-Vis spectra of Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41.The UV-Vis spectra of MCM-41, ZrCl₄ and ZrO₂ nanopowder are also shown.



Figure S27. FTIR spectra

Table S12. Textural characteristic of pure silica MCM-41 and Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41

Sample	BET Surface Area/m ² g ⁻¹	Total Pore Volume/cm ³ g ⁻¹		
Pure silica MCM-41	955	0.68		
Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41	777	0.45		



Figure S28. N₂ physisorption isotherm of MCM-41 and Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 samples

 Table S13. Chemical analysis of Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 sample

Sample	Ca	H ^a	$\mathbf{N}^{\mathbf{a}}$	Zr ^b	CHN ^c
Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41	4.5	1.3	0.17	3.2	6

^a Percentage in weight (%wt); ^bDetermined by ICP analysis ^cOrganic content from CHNS elemental analysis



Figure S29. ¹³C CP/MAS NMR spectra. Asterisks represent spinning bands.



Figure S30. XPS spectra of MCM-41, Zr-MOF-808 and Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 samples.



Figure S31. XPS spectra of MCM-41, Zr-MOF-808 and Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 samples.

3. Hafnium and zirconium-based MOF catalysts for the carbamoylation reaction of aromatic amines with dimethyl carbonate.

3.1 Initial experiments: Hf-based MOFs catalysts were used initially to narrow down experimental reaction conditions.

<u>Catalyst screening</u>: o-toluidine (0.1 mmol), catalyst (20 mol % in metal), dodecane (10 μ L) as internal standard and dimethyl carbonate (0.25 mL) were added to a 1.5 mL glass vessel. The reaction mixture was left to stir at 120 °C. The yield was determined by analysis by gas chromatography of aliquots taken from the reaction mixture at different times. Higher activity and selectivity was observed for Hf-MOF-808 compared with UiO-66(Hf) (see table below).



<u>Temperature and catalyst loading</u>: o-toluidine (0.1 mmol), Hf-MOF-808 catalyst (20 or 30 mol% in metal), dodecane (10 μ L) as internal standard and dimethyl carbonate (0.25 mL) were added to a 1.5 mL glass vessel. The reaction mixture was left to stir at the indicated temperature for 16 hours. The yield was determined by analysis by gas chromatography. 30 mol% loading and 120°C results in higher conversion and high selectivity of the carbamate product **1** (see table below).

	NH ₂ + Me	O O O Me	Hf-MOF-808 T, 16 hours	Me H N Me +	Me Me N Me +	
				<i>N</i> -Methylated	products	1
-	Load (mol %)	T (°C)	Conv. (%)	<i>N</i> -Methylated products (%)	Yield 1 (%)	Select. (%)
-	20	120	53	8	45	85
	30	120	84	7	77	92
_	20	140	76	3	73	97

<u>Dimethyl carbonate concentration</u>: o-toluidine (0.1 mmol), catalyst (20 mol% in metal), dodecane (10 μ L) as internal standard and dimethyl carbonate (see table below) were added to a 1.5 mL glass vessel. The reaction mixture was left to stir at 120°C for 16 hours. The yield was determined by analysis by gas chromatography. Higher concentration resulted beneficial achieving higher yield of the carbamate product **1** with a DMC:*o*-toluidine ratio of 12:1.

Me NH ₂	+ MeO C	Hf-MOF-8 (20 mol%) DMe 120°C, 16 h	BO8 Me H hours N	Me +	Me /N Me +	Me	
			<i>N</i> -Methy	lated products	5	1	
	Conc. (M)	Conver. (%)	N-Methylated products (%)	Yield 1 (%)	Select. (%)		
	0.25	61	4	57	93		
	0.4	53	8	45	85		
	1	79	7	72	91		

3.2 Catalyst screening (kinetic study): catalyst was placed in a 10 mL glass vessel that can withstand pressure. *O*-toluidine (53.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), DMC (0.5 mL, 6 mmol) and dodecane (37 mg) as internal standard were then added. The reaction was left to stir at 120 °C. The yield was determined by analysis by gas chromatography of aliquots taken from the reaction mixture at different times.



Figure S32. Hafnium and zirconium catalysts for the reaction of *o*-toluidine with DMC. Reaction conditions: 0.5 mmol *o*-toluidine, catalyst (30 mol% in metal), dodecane (35 mg) as internal standard, DMC (0.5 mL), $T^a = 120$ °C.

3.3 General procedure for the synthesis of carbamates using Zr-MOF-808 catalyst. Zr-MOF-808 (30 mol%) was placed in a 10 mL pyrex glass vessel. The vessel can withstand pressure. Aromatic amine (0.5 mmol) and dimethylcarbonate (0.5 mL, 6 mmol) were then added and the mixture was left to stir vigorously at 120 °C for the corresponding time (see

Table 1 in the manuscript). The reaction mixture was then filtered in order to separate the catalyst that was washed with ethyl acetate. Solvent was then removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by column chromatography using hexane/ethyl acetate as eluent. All the products obtained have been described previously and have been here characterized by GC-MS and NMR spectroscopy.

3.4 Kinetic profile for the reaction of 2,4-diaminotoluene with dimethyl carbonate using Zr-MOF-808 catalyst



3.5. Stability and reuses of Zr-MOF-808 in the carbamoylation reaction of *o*-toluidine with DMC.

<u>Filtration test in the carbamoylation reaction of o-toluidine with DMC</u>: *o*-toluidine (0.5 mmol), catalyst (30 mol % in metal), dodecane (35 mg) as internal standard and DMC (0.5 mL) were added to a 10 mL glass vessel. The vessel can withstand pressure. The reaction mixture was left to stir at 120 °C. The solid was filtered off after 1 hour reaction time and the filtrate was left to stir further at 120°C. The yield was determined by analysis by gas chromatography of aliquots taken from the reaction mixture at different times.

<u>Reuse study in the carbamoylation reaction of o-toluidine with DMC</u>: *o*-toluidine (0.5 mmol), catalyst (30 mol % in metal), dodecane (35 mg) as internal standard and DMC (0.5 mL) were

added to a 10 mL glass vessel. The vessel can withstand pressure. The reaction mixture was left to stir at 120 °C for 10 hours. The yield was determined by analysis by gas chromatography. The solid catalyst was then separated by centrifugation and then washed with EtOAc and acetone. The catalyst was activated in *vacuo* for 2 h at room temperature and then used for the next run. The yield of the carbamate product in the second run was 14%. The recovered catalyst was analyzed by XRD and the pattern shows that crystallinity of the material is lost (see Figure S28).



Figure S33. XRD pattern of Zr-MOF-808 as synthesized (red line). XRD pattern of Zr-MOF-808 after being used one time in the carbamoylation reaction of *o*-toluidine with DMC (blue line).

4. Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 as catalyst for the carbamoylation reaction of aromatic amines with dimethyl carbonate.

4.1 Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 and related solids as catalysts for the carbamoylation reaction of 2,4-toluene diamine with dimethyl carbonate.

Catalyst was placed in a 10 mL glass vessel that can withstand pressure. 2,4-Diaminetoluene, DAT (62.3 mg, 0.5 mmol), DMC (0.5 mL, 534 mg, 6 mmol) and dodecane (37 mg) as internal standard were then added. The reaction was left to stir at 160 °C during 8 h. The reaction products were analyzed by GC-chromatography.



Catalyst	mg, load (mol%)	Conv. (%)	N- methylatio n Yield (%)	Yield <i>o</i> -8 (%)	Yield <i>p</i> -8 (%)	Yield 7 (%)
ZrO ₂ nanopowder	3.5 mg, 5	1	1	-	-	-
MCM-41	70 mg,	47	41	1	3	2
$ZrO_2@MCM-41$	70 mg, 1.5	96	89	1	5	1
Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41	70 mg, 5	100	5	3	3	80

Kinetic profiles for different catalysts used:



Synthetic preparation of ZrO₂@MCM-41:

The reported procedure was followed.³ MCM-41 (200 mg), was impregnated with an aqueous solution of ZrOCl₂.8H₂O (7.2 mg, 0.02 mmol) in water (0.32 mL). The resulting mixture was heated at 100 °C during a night to volatize the solvent. The resulting solid was calcined in air with a ramp of 7°C/min to a T_{max} =500 °C during 2 h to obtain ZrO₂@MCM-41. ICP analysis determined 1 wt% of Zr in the sample.



4.2 Stability and reuses of Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 in the carbamoylation reaction of 2,4-toluene diamine with dimethyl carbonate.

<u>Filtration test in the carbamoylation reaction of o-2,4-diaminetoluene with DMC</u>: 2,4diaminetoluene (0.5 mmol), catalyst (5 mol % in metal), dodecane (35 mg) as internal standard and DMC (0.5 mL) were added to a 10 mL glass vessel. The vessel can withstand pressure. The reaction mixture was left to stir at 160 °C. The solid was filtered off after 45 min reaction time and the filtrate was left to stir further at 160 °C. The yield was determined by analysis by gas chromatography of aliquots taken from the reaction mixture at different times.



Figure S34. Time-yield plots for the *N*-carbamoylation of 2,4-diaminetoluene with Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 (black line) and removing the catalyst after 45 min (red line)

<u>Reuse study in the carbamoylation reaction of o-2,4-diaminetoluene with DMC</u>: 2,4diaminetoluene (0.5 mmol), catalyst (5 mol % in metal), dodecane (35 mg) as internal standard and DMC (0.5 mL) were added to a 10 mL glass vessel. The vessel can withstand pressure. The reaction mixture was left to stir at 160 °C for 3 hours. The yield was determined by analysis by gas chromatography. The solid catalyst was then separated by centrifugation and then washed with EtOAc and acetone. The catalyst was activated in *vacuo* for 2 h at room temperature and then used for the next run.

Characterization of the catalyst Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 after repeated reutilization:



Figure S35. XRD pattern of Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 after 6 consecutive runs.

Table S14. Textural characteristic of MCM-41 and Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 as synthesized and after reutilization

Sample	BET Surface Area/m ² g ⁻¹	Total Pore Volume/cm ³ g ⁻¹		
MCM-41	955	0.96		
Zr-MOF-808/MCM-41	777	0.60		
Zr-MOF-808/MCM-41	464	0.29		
after 6 consecutive runs	404	0.38		



Figure S36. N_2 physisorption isotherms of MCM-41 and Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 as synthesized and after reutilization.

Table S15. Chemical analysis of Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 samples

Sample	Ca	H ^a	N ^a	Zr ^b	CHN ^c
Zr-MOF-808/MCM-41	4.5	1.3	0.17	3.2	6
Zr-MOF-808/MCM-41	38.0	3.8	10.0	1.3	51.8
after 6 consecutive runs					

^a Percentage in weight (%wt); ^bDetermined by ICP analysis ^cOrganic content from CHNS elemental analysis

4.3. General procedure for the synthesis of carbamates using Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 catalyst. Zr-MOF-808@MCM-41 (35 mg, 2.5 mol%, for monoamines and 70 mg, 5 mol% for diamines) was placed in a 10 mL pyrex glass vessel. The vessel can withstand pressure. Aromatic amine or diamine (0.5 mmol) and dimethylcarbonate (0.5 mL, 6 mmol) were then added and the mixture was left to stir vigorously at 160 °C for the corresponding time. The reaction mixture was then filtered in order to separate the catalyst that was washed with ethyl acetate. Solvent was then removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by column chromatography using hexane/ethyl acetate as eluent. All the products obtained have been described previously (references given below for each of them) and were characterized by GC-MS and NMR spectroscopy.



methyl o-tolylcarbamate: The reaction mixture was left for 3 h to give a white solid in 85% yield (70 mg, 0.43 mmol). ¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):**⁴ δ 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.17-7.06 (m, 2H), 6.94 (t, J=6.93 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H) . ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, **CDCl₃):** δ 154.46, 135.83, 130.40, 126.85, 124.31, 52.36, 17.60.



methyl phenylcarbamate: The reaction mixture was left for 2 h to give a white solid in 89% yield (68 mg, 0.45 mmol). ¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):**⁴ δ 7.30 (d, J=7.29, 2H), 7.21 (t, J=7.20, 2H), 6.97 (t, J=6.95 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H). ¹³**C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 154.19, 137.92, 129.01, 123.45, 118.82, 52.3.



methyl 4-methoxyphenylcarbamate: The reaction mixture was left for 2.5 h to give a white solid in 90% yield (81.5 mg, 0.45 mmol). ¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):**⁴ δ 7.19 (d, J=7.18, 2H), 6.76 (d, J=6.74, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H). ¹³**C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 156.00, 154.60, 130.98, 120.82, 114.22, 55.48, 52.25.



methyl 2-chlorophenylcarbamate: The reaction mixture was left for 5.25 h to give a white solid in 84% yield (78 mg, 0.42 mmol). ¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):**⁴ δ 8.07 (d, J=8.06 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, J=7.26 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, J=7.17 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 6.91 (t, J=6.90 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 153.64, 134.72, 129.04, 127.74, 123.73, 122.09, 119.94, 52.53.

methyl 4-(methoxycarbonylamino)benzoate: The reaction mixture was left for 5 h to give a white solid in 89% yield (93 mg, 0.45 mmol). ¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):**⁴ δ 7.92 (d, J=7.90 Hz , 2H), 7.39 (d, J=7.38 Hz , 2H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H). ¹³**C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 166.65, 153.56, 142.16, 130.93, 124.87, 117.56, 52.56, 51.95.



dimethyl 4,4'-methylenebis(4,1-phenylene)dicarbamate: The reaction mixture was left for 3 h to give a white solid in 95% yield (149.3 mg, 0.48 mmol). ¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d**₆):⁴ δ 9.53 (s, 2H), 7.34 (d, J=7.30 Hz , 4H), 7.10 (d, J=7.10 Hz , 4H), 3.78 (s, 2H), 3.64 (s, 6H). ¹³**C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d**₆): δ 153.97, 137.01, 135.45, 128.80, 118.35, 51.47.



dimethyl 4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedicarbamate: The reaction mixture was left for 2.75 h to give a white solid in 93% yield (110.8 mg, 0.47 mmol). ¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆):**⁴ δ 9.54 (s, 1H), 8.81 (s, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, J=7.15 Hz , 2H), 7.06 (d, J=7.05 Hz , 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 154.68, 153.90, 137.12, 136.39, 130.19, 125.52, 114.93, 114.78, 51.58, 51.48, 17.05.

4.4. Experimental procedure for the in situ FTIR experiments: FTIR spectra were collected on a Bruker Vertex70 spectrometer. The infrared cell, connected to a dosing system, was designed to treat the samples in situ under controlled atmospheres and temperatures. The samples were evacuated at 10⁻⁵ mbar and 393 K for 1.5 h prior to the adsorption experiments. Aniline (1 mbar) and DMC (3.8 mbar) were coadsorbed onto the support surface at room temperature. After reactant adsorption the sample was evacuated to remove the excess of both reactants at room temperature. Spectra were collected at different temperatures.

4.5. Synthesis and application of Zr-MOF-808@SiO₂: It was followed the same procedure reported above for MCM-41 (see Section 2), but 500 mg of SiO₂ were used instead of pure silica MCM-41. ICP analysis revealed Zr content of 1.9 wt%. The obtained catalyst was tested in the carbamoylation reaction of 2,4-diamine toluene following the general procedure described in section 4.3. The reaction mixture was left for 2.75 h and the carbamoylated product dimethyl 4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedicarbamate **7** was isolated in 90% yield (107.2 mg, 0.45 mmol).































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