## **Supporting Information**

## Development of specific L-methionine sensors by FRET-based

## protein engineering

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**Figure S1**. Schematic representation of the designed sensor protein. YFP is fused to the N-terminus of MetQ, and CouA is incorporated into the position where the greatest change in FRET ratio is produced upon L-Met binding.



**Figure S2**. SDS-PAGE analyses of the purified YFP-MetQ mutant proteins containing CouA at the indicated position. The proteins were expressed in the presence of CouA (1 mM) and the corresponding tRNA/CouRS pair and purified using Ni-NTA affinity chromatography.



**Figure S3**. Crystal structure of the ligand binding site of MetQ complexed with L-Met (PDB 4YAH). The residues, Y69, H88 and N141, were mutated as shown in the table to improve the binding specificity of MetQ.



**Figure S4**. SDS-PAGE analyses of the purified YFP-MetQ-R189CouA mutants with the indicated mutations. The proteins were expressed in the presence of CouA (1 mM) and the corresponding tRNA/CouRS pair and purified using Ni-NTA affinity chromatography.