Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for

## A structural paradigm for 3-periodic semiregular (4<sup>6</sup>.6<sup>9</sup>)-hxg net with high-symmetry hexagonal geometry, constructed from the linear [Cd<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>] SBUs and a flexible 6,6'-dithiodinicotinate linker

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Chart S1. Chemical structure of the flexible  $H_2$ dtdn ligand.

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4,4'-oxydibenzoic acid

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4,4'-diacetylene-1,4-bis(benzoic acid)

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Scheme S1 Eight 4,4'-dibenzoic acid ligands reported in the literatures with different spacers.



Fig. S1 Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and energy-dispersive X-ray spectrometry (EDS) for(a) the surface and (b) the interior (after a single crystal is cut) of a crystal sample for 1.

**Results.** The detected surface atom ratios for C, N, O, Na, S, and Cd are 31.93, 6.98, 29.73, 1.98, 13.41, and 15.97% and the corresponding interior atom ratios are 31.58, 5.85, 33.25, 1.43, 12.37, and 15.52% (calcd: C: 31.45, N: 6.11, O: 30.41, Na: 1.67, S: 13.99, and Cd: 16.35%). Notably, the experimental data (carried out on a JSM-6490 scanning electron microscope) shown herein are the mean value for ten pieces of crystals.



Fig. S2 X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) pattern of 1.



**(a)** 



Fig. S3 (a) View of the 6-connected trinuclear Zn(II) cluster node (the coordinated DMF molecules are removed for clarity) and (b) the augmented 2-D 3<sup>6</sup> network (please see *ref. 3d* in the main text for details).



Fig. S4 Space-filling diagram of 1 viewed along the [001] direction.



Fig. S5 Thermal gravimetric analysis (TGA) curve of 1 under different conditions.



Fig. 6 XRPD patterns of 1: (a) simulated pattern as well as experimental patterns for (b) the as-synthesized sample, (c) the dehydrated sample, and (d) the rehydrated sample.



Fig. S7 Solid-state excitation and emission spectra of (a) 1 and (b) the free dtdn ligand.

Cd1–O3 <sup>#1</sup>	2.285(3)	Cd1–O1 <sup>#1</sup>	2.318(3)
Cd1O3	2.285(3)	Cd1-O1	2.318(3)
Cd1-O3 <sup>#2</sup>	2.285(3)	Cd1-O1 <sup>#2</sup>	2.318(3)
Na1–O1	2.362(3)	Na1-O1 <sup>#1</sup>	2.362(3)
O3 <sup>#1</sup> -Cd1-O3	88.22(14)	O3 <sup>#2</sup> -Cd1-O1	104.52(12)
O3 <sup>#1</sup> -Cd1-O3 <sup>#2</sup>	88.22(14)	O1 <sup>#1</sup> -Cd1-O1	80.69(10)
O3-Cd1-O3 <sup>#2</sup>	88.22(14)	O3 <sup>#1</sup> -Cd1-O1 <sup>#2</sup>	104.52(12)
O3 <sup>#1</sup> -Cd1-O1 <sup>#1</sup>	87.84(11)	O3–Cd1–O1 <sup>#2</sup>	166.53(12)
O3–Cd1–O1 <sup>#1</sup>	104.52(12)	O3 <sup>#2</sup> -Cd1-O1 <sup>#2</sup>	87.84(11)
O3 <sup>#2</sup> -Cd1-O1 <sup>#1</sup>	166.53(12)	O1 <sup>#1</sup> -Cd1-O1 <sup>#2</sup>	80.69(10)
O3 <sup>#1</sup> -Cd1-O1	166.53(12)	O1-Cd1-O1 <sup>#2</sup>	80.69(10)
O3–Cd1–O1	87.84(11)	Cd1 <sup>#3</sup> –Na1–Cd1	180
O1 <sup>#3</sup> –Na1–O1	180	O1 <sup>#1</sup> -Na1-O1	78.93(9)

## Table S1 Selected bond distances (Å) and bond angles (°) for 1

Symmetry codes: #1 = -z + 1/2, -x + 1/2, y; #2 = -y + 1/2, z, -x + 1/2; #3 = -x + 1, -y, -z.