

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**  
**to the paper entitled**

**Synthesis and structures of helical and meso-helical coordination polymers  
directed by the conformation restriction of flexible / angular  
pyridine-containing ligands**

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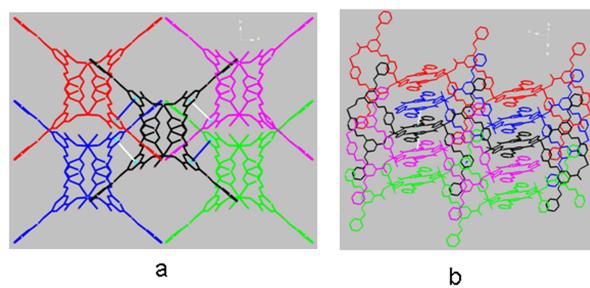


Fig. S1  $\pi$ - $\pi$  Interactions between chains in **1**. (a) viewing along the *c* axis; (b) showing  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions between metallacycles from neighboring chains.

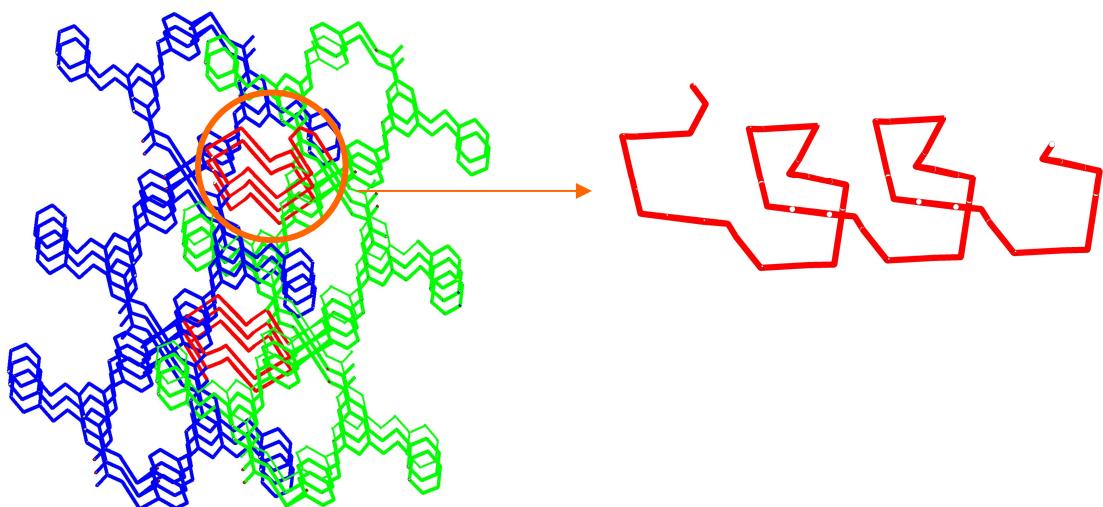


Fig. S2 The O-H···O helical chains along the *b* axis in **1**.

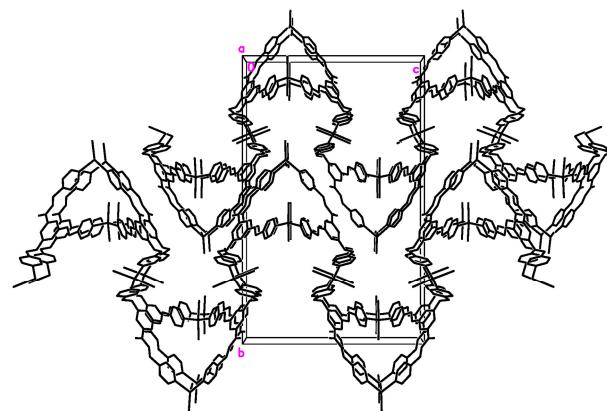


Fig. S3 Packing diagram of **5** along the *a* and *b* axes.

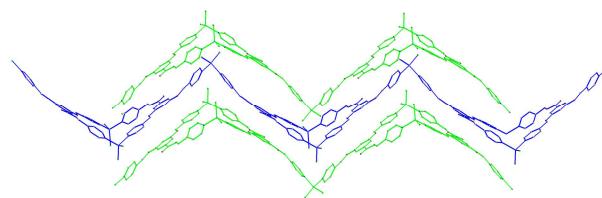


Fig. S4 The arrangement in an  $\cdots\text{ABAB}\cdots$  fashion of 1D zigzag chains in **6**.

**Table S1. Selected bond Lengths (Å) and angles (°) for complexes 1, 2, 3,4,5 and 6**

1			
Ni(1)-O(1)	2.049(2)	O(1)-Ni(1)-N(2) <sup>ii</sup>	91.09(9)
Ni(1)-O(5)	2.091(2)	O(5)-Ni(1)-N(2) <sup>ii</sup>	174.03(10)
Ni(1)-N(2) <sup>i</sup>	2.108(3)	O(5) <sup>i</sup> -Ni(1)-N(2) <sup>ii</sup>	88.96(10)
O(1) <sup>i</sup> -Ni(1)-O(1)	174.79(12)	O(1)-Ni(1)-N(2) <sup>iii</sup>	92.75(10)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(5)	89.00(9)	O(5)-Ni(1)-N(2) <sup>iii</sup>	88.96(10)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(5) <sup>i</sup>	87.55(9)	O(5) <sup>i</sup> -Ni(1)-N(2) <sup>iii</sup>	174.03(10)
O(5)-Ni(1)-O(5) <sup>i</sup>	97.01(13)	N(2) <sup>ii</sup> -Ni(1)-N(2) <sup>iii</sup>	85.08(15)
	i -x,y,-z-1/2	ii -x,-y+1,-z	iii x,-y+1,z-1/2

2			
Co(1)-O(2)	2.069(2)	O(2)-Co(1)-N(1) <sup>ii</sup>	91.82(11)
Co(1)-O(5)	2.137(3)	O(5)-Co(1)-N(1) <sup>ii</sup>	173.47(13)
Co(1)-N(1) <sup>iii</sup>	2.158(3)	O(5) <sup>i</sup> -Co(1)-N(1) <sup>ii</sup>	89.03(12)
O(2) <sup>i</sup> -Co(1)-O(2)	174.85(16)	O(2)-Co(1)-N(1) <sup>iii</sup>	91.99(11)
O(2)-Co(1)-O(5)	88.62(10)	O(5)-Co(1)-N(1) <sup>iii</sup>	89.03(12)
O(2)-Co(1)-O(5) <sup>i</sup>	87.99(10)	O(5) <sup>i</sup> -Co(1)-N(1) <sup>iii</sup>	173.47(13)
O(5)-Co(1)-O(5) <sup>i</sup>	97.50(17)	N(1) <sup>ii</sup> -Co(1)-N(1) <sup>iii</sup>	84.45(19)
	i -x,y,-z+3/2	ii -x,-y,-z+2	iii x,-y,z-1/2

3			
Co(1)-O(1)	2.0699(19)	O(1)-Co(1)-O(2) <sup>i</sup>	99.60(8)
Co(1)-N(1) <sup>ii</sup>	2.083(2)	N(1) <sup>ii</sup> -Co(1)-O(2) <sup>i</sup>	160.04(8)
Co(1)-O(2)	2.235(2)	O(1)-Co(1)-O(2)	61.17(7)
O(1) <sup>i</sup> -Co(1)-O(1)	153.20(12)	N(1) <sup>ii</sup> -Co(1)-O(2)	89.51(8)
O(1)-Co(1)-N(1) <sup>ii</sup>	99.37(9)	N(1) <sup>iii</sup> -Co(1)-O(2)	160.04(8)
O(1)-Co(1)-N(1) <sup>iii</sup>	98.88(8)	O(2) <sup>i</sup> -Co(1)-O(2)	94.26(11)
N(1) <sup>ii</sup> -Co(1)-N(1) <sup>iii</sup>	93.61(13)		
	i -x,y,-z-1/2	ii x-1/2,y+1/2,z	iii -x+1/2,y+1/2,-z-1/2

4			
Hg(1)-Cl(1)	2.356(8)	Cl(1)-Hg(1)-N(2)	99.1(6)
Hg(1)-N(2)	2.42(3)	N(2) <sup>i</sup> -Hg(1)-N(2)	98.5(11)
Hg(2)-Cl(2)	2.389(6)	Cl(2)-Hg(2)-Cl(3)	148.2(3)
Hg(2)-Cl(3)	2.402(7)	Cl(2)-Hg(2)-N(1)	97.6(6)
Hg(2)-N(1)	2.407(19)	Cl(3)-Hg(2)-N(1)	102.5(6)
Hg(2)-N(3) <sup>ii</sup>	2.43(2)	Cl(2)-Hg(2)-N(3) <sup>ii</sup>	97.2(5)
Cl(1) <sup>i</sup> -Hg(1)-Cl(1)	154.8(4)	Cl(3)-Hg(2)-N(3) <sup>ii</sup>	102.4(6)
Cl(1)-Hg(1)-N(2) <sup>i</sup>	97.4(6)	N(1)-Hg(2)-N(3) <sup>ii</sup>	101.9(6)
	i -x,y,-z+1/2	ii x,-y,z+1/2	

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<b>5</b>			
Hg(1)-N(1)	2.360(11)	N(1)-Hg(1)-I(2)	101.4(4)
Hg(1)-I(1)	2.6453(18)	I(1)-Hg(1)-I(2)	136.74(6)
Hg(1)-I(2)	2.6721(19)	N(2)-Hg(2)-N(2) <sup>ii</sup>	79.9(5)
Hg(2)-N(2)	2.450(12)	N(2)-Hg(2)-I(4)	109.0(3)
Hg(2)-I(4)	2.630(2)	N(2)-Hg(2)-I(3)	102.5(3)
Hg(2)-I(3)	2.6447(19)	I(4)-Hg(2)-I(3)	138.51(7)
Hg(3)-N(3)	2.458(10)	N(3)-Hg(3)-N(3) <sup>ii</sup>	80.7(5)
Hg(3)-I(5)	2.6377(10)	N(3)-Hg(3)-I(5)	98.6(3)
N(1)-Hg(1)-N(1) <sup>i</sup>	90.4(6)	N(3)-Hg(3)-I(5) <sup>ii</sup>	104.2(3)
N(1)-Hg(1)-I(1)	108.7(4)	I(5)-Hg(3)-I(5) <sup>ii</sup>	149.92(7)
	i x,y,-z+1/2	ii x,-y+1/2,-z	

<b>6</b>			
Zn(1)-N(1)	2.027(4)	N(2) <sup>i</sup> -Zn(1)-Cl(1)	105.25(13)
Zn(1)-N(2) <sup>i</sup>	2.040(4)	N(1)-Zn(1)-Cl(2)	104.82(12)
Zn(1)-Cl(1)	2.2017(15)	N(2) <sup>i</sup> -Zn(1)-Cl(2)	108.18(13)
Zn(1)-Cl(2)	2.2215(16)	Cl(1)-Zn(1)-Cl(2)	118.86(7)
Zn(2)-N(3)	2.034(4)	N(3) <sup>ii</sup> -Zn(2)-N(3)	103.5(2)
Zn(2)-Cl(3)	2.2268(16)	N(3)-Zn(2)-Cl(3) <sup>ii</sup>	109.01(13)
N(1)-Zn(1)-N(2) <sup>i</sup>	105.87(16)	N(3)-Zn(2)-Cl(3)	106.89(12)
N(1)-Zn(1)-Cl(1)	113.14(12)	Cl(3) <sup>ii</sup> -Zn(2)-Cl(3)	120.31(11)
	i -x+1,y,-z+1/2	ii -x,y,-z-1/2	

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