Supporting information

Materials and General Methods.

All chemicals and solvents of reagent grade were commercially purchased and used for synthesis without any further purification. Elemental analysis (C, H, N) was measured using a German Elementary Vario ELIII instrument. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were collected by a Rigaku MiniFlex 600 diffractometer using Cu K α radiation (λ =1.5406Å). Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were measured on an NETZSCH STA 449 C instrument with a heating rate of 10 °C min⁻¹ under a flowing nitrogen atmosphere. Fluorescence spectrum in the liquid state were recorded on a Horiba Jobin-Yvon Fluorolog-3 spectrofluorometer. In situ FT-IR spectra were recorded using a NICOLET 6700 instrument at 298 K. The solid and solution state UV-Vis spectra of compounds and analytes were obtained by a Cary 5000 UV-Vis spectrometer from Agilent Technologies using a quartz cuvette of path length 10 mm.

Single-Crystal X-ray Data Collection and Refinements.

The single-crystal data of **FJI-H26** was collected on a Mercury CCD diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo K α radiation (λ =0.71073 Å) at 293K. The structure was solved by SHELXL package and all the non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. In theory, the hydrogen atoms of organic ligands are formed on a specific atom and refined iso-tropically. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters of the crystal are summarized in Table S1. The CCDC number is 1994306 and these data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data request/cif.

Synthesis of FJI-H26

A mixture of $ZnCl_2$ (0.04mmol, 5mg) and H_2DTBDA (0.02mmol, 7.5mg) in 5 mL DMA/MeOH (v₁:v₂=1:1) was sealed in a 23 mL Teflon vial, heating this solution at 85°C for 3 days led to the colourless crystal of **FJI-H26** with 70% yield. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3145, 2949, 2877, 2358, 2337, 1614, 1525, 1365, 1280, 1207, 1145, 1124, 1039,

979, 891, 842, 796, 727, 659, 594, 567, 493. Anal. calcd for [Zn(DTBDA)](DMA)(MeOH)₂(H₂O)_{3.5}: C, 44.08; H, 5.24; N, 14.99. Found: C, 44.00; H, 5.20; N, 15.24.

Typical fluorescence quenching experiment

10mg crystal of **FJI-H26** and 15ml DMF were put in a glass bottle, the suspension of **FJI-H26** could be obtained through ultrasonic treatment for 2 hours. Transfering 2ml of **FJI-H26** suspension into a dry and clean fluorescent cuvette, then different analytes were added into such suspension, and corresponding fluorescence could be obtained immediately.

Recycling experiment

A 2ml suspension of **FJI-H26** in DMF or benzyl alchol solution was put into the cuvette, and the initial fluorescence was firstly recorded. After that, $10\mu L p$ -NA or $50\mu L$ benzaldehyde was added into the suspension, and the corresponding fluorescence was tested. The used **FJI-H26** samples could be isolated through centrifugation and filtration. The fluorescence of used **FJI-H26** samples could be restored after three times of DMF solution washing.

Anti-interference experiment

A 2ml suspension of **FJI-H26** was put into the cuvette, and the initial fluorescence was firstly recorded. After that, 10μ L interfering nitroaromatic solution (0.01M) was added to the suspension, and the fluorescence driven by interfering nitroaromatic was recorded. Finally, 10μ L *p*-NA solution (0.01M) was added to such mixed suspension, and the anti-interference fluorescence could be obtained.



Figure S1. The asymmetric unit of FJI-H26. (For clarity, All hydrogen atoms and solvent molecules are omitted.)



Figure S2. TGA curve of as prepared FJI-H26.



Figure S3. PXRD patterns of fresh prepared and after gas sorption sample of FJI-H26.



Figure S4 N₂ sorption isotherms for FJI-H26 at 77K



Figure S5 H₂ sorption isotherms for FJI-H26 at 77K.



Figure S6. CO₂ sorption isotherms for FJI-H26 at 273K and 295K.



Figure S7. Light hydrocarbons sorption isotherms for FJI-H26 at 295K.



Figure S8. Excitation and emission spectrum of FJI-H26.



Figure S9. Emission spectrum of ligand under λ_{ex} =329 nm.



Figure S10. Fluorescence quenching of FJI-H26 when gradually adding 2,4-DNT.



Figure S11. Fluorescence quenching of FJI-H26 when gradually adding 2,6-DNT.



Figure S12. Fluorescence quenching of FJI-H26 when gradually adding NB.



Figure S13. Fluorescence quenching of FJI-H26 when gradually adding PNT.



Figure S14. Stern-Volmer (SV) plots for various nitroaromatics dispersed in DMF.



Figure S15. Ksv of p-NA.



Figure S16. Ksv of o-NA.



Figure S17. Ksv of m-NA.



Figure S18. Emission spectrum of FJI-H26 and UV absorption spectra of different analytes.



Figure S19. PXRD patterns of FJI-H26 after 5 cycles fluorescence sensing of *p*-NA.



Figure S20. PXRD patterns of FJI-H26 after 5 cycles fluorescence sensing of benzaldehyde.



Figure S21. Spectral overlap between normalized absorbance spectra of benzaldehyde and the normalized emission spectra of FJI-H26.

Formula	$C_{18} H_{10} N_6 O_4 Zn$	
Formula weight	439.69	
Crystal system	Hexagonal	
space group	P6 ₂ 22	
a (Å)	22.795 (5)	
b (Å)	22.795 (5)	
c (Å)	12.477 (4)	
α (°)	90	
β (°)	90	
γ (°)	120	
Volume (Å ³)	5615	

Table S1 Crystal data and refinement results for compound FJI-H26.

T (K)	293
Z	6
F (000)	1332
$R_1 (I \ge 2\sigma(I))$	0.0497
wR ₂ (reflections)	0.1428
Goodness of fit on F ₂	1.106

Table S2. The band structure for FJI-H26 and the frontier molecular orbitals for analytes.

		HOMO(eV)	LUMO (eV)	Band Gap (eV)
MOF	FJI-H26	+0.76	-0.779	1.539
	o-NA	-6.4117	-2.8372	3.5745
	m-NA	-6.2374	-2.9002	3.3372
	p-NA	-6.4644	-2.5719	3.8925
	NB	-7.5912	-2.4283	5.1629
Analytes	2,4-DNT	-7.156	-2.212	4.944
	2,6-DNT	-7.011	-2.125	4.886
	PNT	-7.364	-2.320	5.044
	Benzyl Alcohol	-6.6446	-0.1644	6.4801
	Benzaldehyde	-7.2196	-2.1301	5.0895

Table S3. Approximate sizes for analytes^a.

Analytes	Molecular size / Å
o-NA	8.711 × 7.882 × 2.720
<i>m</i> -NA	9.322 × 7.721 × 2.901
<i>p</i> -NA	9.464 × 6.714 × 3.041
NB	3.000 × 7.306 × 8.892
2,4-DNT	3.000 × 8.535 × 9.898

2,6-DNT	8.177 × 8.345× 8.892
PNT	$4.527 \times 7.299 \times 9.750$
Benzyl Alcohol	9.394 × 7.156 × 4.126
Benzaldehyde	$8.863 \times 7.079 \times 3.400$

^aAll molecular sizes were performed by using multiwfn software.

Refs:

- 1. Tian Lu, Feiwu Chen, Multiwfn: A Multifunctional Wavefunction Analyzer, J. Comput. Chem. 2012, 33, 580-592.
- 2. Humphrey, W., Dalke, A. and Schulten, K., VMD Visual Molecular Dynamics, *J. Molec. Graphics* **1996**, 14.1, 33-38.