

## *Electronic Supplementary Information*

### **A metal-organic framework featuring highly sensitive fluorescence sensing for Al<sup>3+</sup> ions**

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#### **Experimental section**

##### **Crystal Structure Determination.**

Single crystal X-ray diffraction data of **NKM-102** was measured on a Rigaku XtaLAB MM007 CCD diffractometer at 100 K with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$ ) by  $\omega$  scan mode. The structure of **NKM-102** was solved by direct methods using the *SHELXTL* program and refined by full-matrix least-squares methods with *SHELXL*.<sup>S1</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic thermal parameters. The highly disordered solvents molecules were removed through the *SUQEEZE* program in *PLATON*.<sup>S2</sup> The crystallographic data of **NKM-102** were summarized in Table S1, and the selected bond lengths and angles were given in Tables S2 and S3. Full crystallographic data for **NKM-102** have been deposited with the CCDC (2090957).

These data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic  
[www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif).

**Table S1.** Crystallographic data and structure refinement of **NKM-102**.

<b>Compound reference</b>	<b>NKM-102</b>
Chemical formula	C <sub>116</sub> H <sub>96</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>30</sub> Cd <sub>5</sub>
Formula Mass	2616.08
Crystal system	Triclinic
<i>a</i> /Å	8.9895(3)
<i>b</i> /Å	11.5404(3)
<i>c</i> /Å	33.0283(7)
$\alpha$ /°	95.255(2)
$\beta$ /°	96.857(2)
$\gamma$ /°	102.441(2)
Unit cell volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	3297.64(16)
Temperature/K	99.99(10)
Space group	<i>P</i>
No. of formula units per unit cell, <i>Z</i>	1
Radiation type	Cu K $\alpha$
Absorption coefficient, $\mu$ /mm <sup>-1</sup>	6.897
No. of reflections measured	26545
No. of independent reflections	12920
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.0440
Final <i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> values ( <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> ))	0.0668
Final <i>wR</i> ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> ) values ( <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> ))	0.1712
Final <i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> values (all data)	0.0721
Final <i>wR</i> ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> ) values (all data)	0.1748
Goodness of fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.049

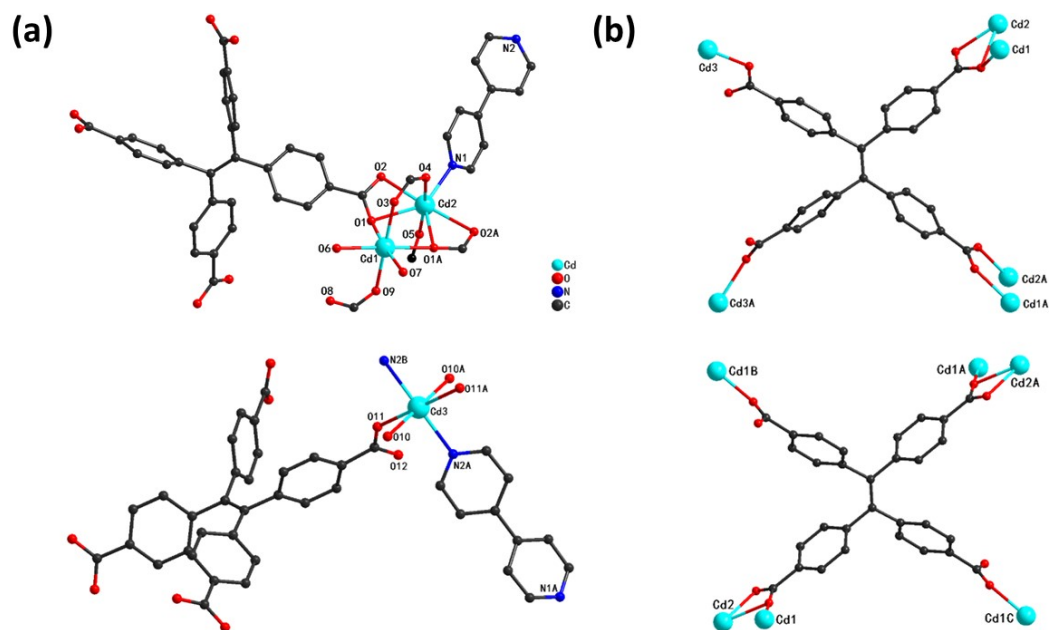
**Table S2.** Selected bond lengths (Å) for **NKM-102**.

Cd(1)-O(5)#6	2.349(4)	Cd(2)-O(2)	2.363(3)
Cd(1)-O(7)	2.218(4)	Cd(2)-O(15)	2.289(5)
Cd(1)-O(2)#6	2.372(5)	Cd(2)-C(1)	2.749(6)
Cd(1)-O(14)	2.301(5)	Cd(2)-C(31)	2.736(6)
Cd(1)-O(3)	2.213(6)	Cd(3)-O(11)#1	2.221(4)
Cd(1)-O(13)	2.270(8)	Cd(3)-O(11)	2.221(4)
Cd(2)-O(5)	2.479(4)	Cd(3)-O(10)#2	2.337(4)

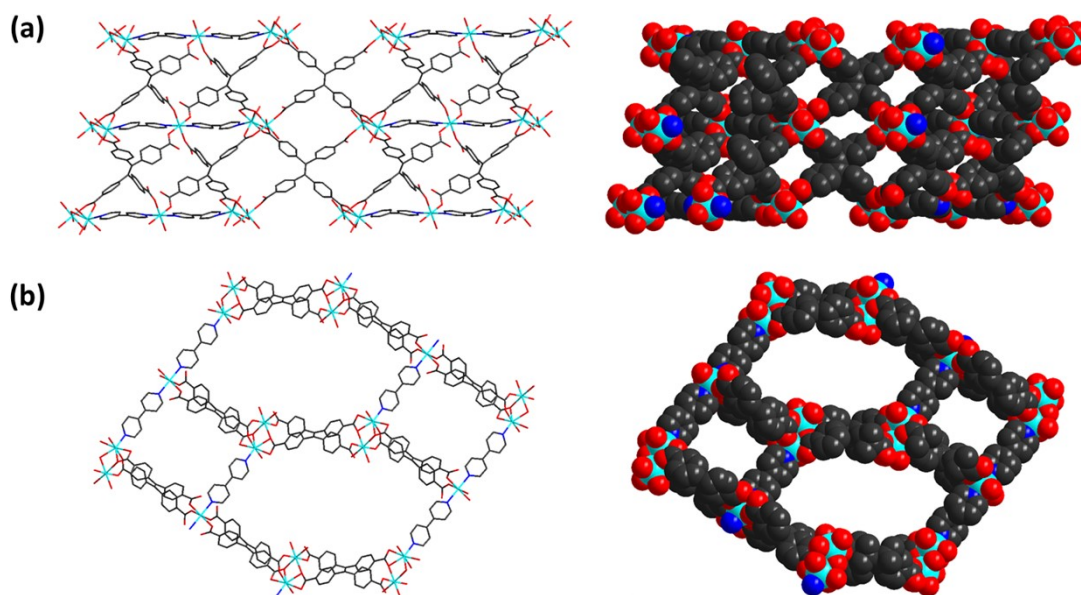
Cd(2)-O(1)	2.441(4)	Cd(3)-O(10)#3	2.337(4)
Cd(2)-O(6)	2.316(4)	Cd(3)-N(2)#4	2.314(5)
Cd(2)-N(1)	2.278(4)	Cd(3)-N(2)#5	2.314(5)
Cd(2)-O(8)#2	2.316(4)		
#1 3-X,3-Y,2-Z #2 +X,1+Y,+Z #3 3-X,2-Y,2-Z			
#4 2+X,+Y,+Z #5 1-X,3-Y,2-Z #6 +X,-1+Y,+Z			

**Table S3.** Selected bond angles (°) for **NKM-102**.

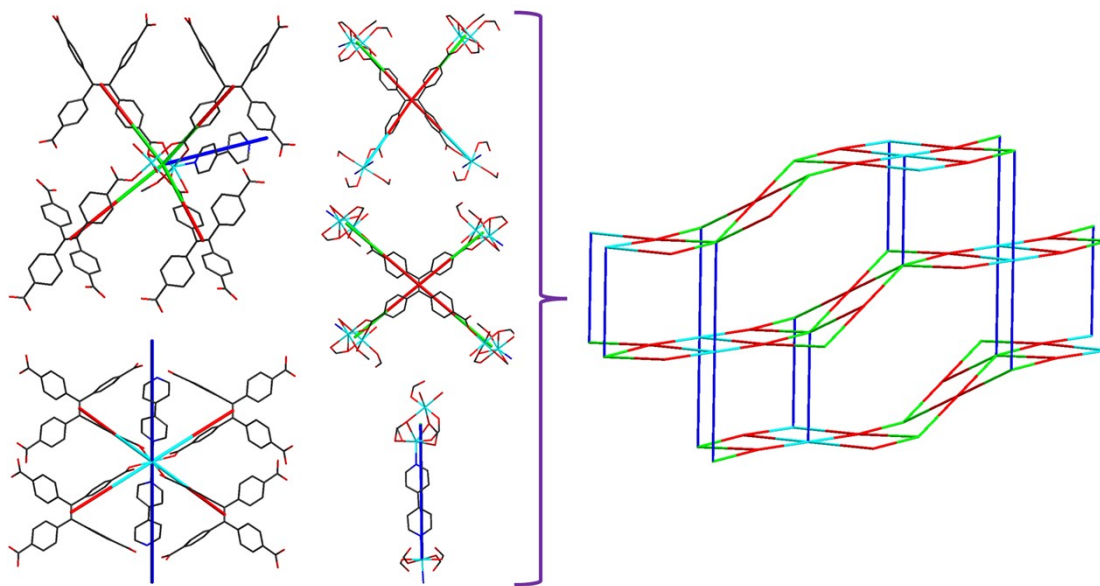
O(8)#6-Cd(1)-O(10)#6	82.00(18)	O(7)-Cd(2)-O(10)	132.7(2)
O(1)-Cd(1)-O(8)#6	88.0(2)	O(7)-Cd(2)-C(28)	27.1(2)
O(1)-Cd(1)-O(10)#6	91.9(2)	O(7)-Cd(2)-C(43)	160.5(2)
O(1)-Cd(1)-O(15)	90.6(2)	N(1)-Cd(2)-O(8)	141.42(18)
O(1)-Cd(1)-O(14)	90.9(4)	N(1)-Cd(2)-O(9)	86.33(19)
O(15)-Cd(1)-O(8)#6	96.9(2)	N(1)-Cd(2)-O(7)	87.1(2)
O(15)-Cd(1)-O(10)#6	177.2(2)	N(1)-Cd(2)-O(23)	86.0(2)
O(11)-Cd(1)-O(8)#6	88.3(3)	O(10)-Cd(2)-C(28)	106.0(2)
O(11)-Cd(1)-O(1)	176.1(3)	O(10)-Cd(2)-C(43)	27.8(2)
O(11)-Cd(1)-O(10)#6	86.3(3)	O(13)-Cd(2)-O(8)	84.8(2)
O(11)-Cd(1)-O(15)	91.2(3)	O(13)-Cd(2)-O(9)	84.6(2)
O(11)-Cd(1)-O(14)	92.6(5)	O(13)-Cd(2)-O(7)	91.6(2)
O(8)-Cd(2)-C(43)	106.67(19)	C(43)-Cd(2)-C(28)	133.6(2)
O(9)-Cd(2)-O(8)	132.19(17)	O(10)-Cd(2)-O(9)	55.05(18)
O(9)-Cd(2)-C(28)	159.4(2)	O(5)-Cd(3)-O(5)#1	180.0
O(9)-Cd(2)-C(43)	27.3(2)	O(5)-Cd(3)-O(3)#2	98.1(2)
O(7)-Cd(2)-O(8)	54.33(18)	O(5)#1-Cd(3)-O(3)#3	98.1(2)
O(7)-Cd(2)-O(9)	171.8(2)	O(5)-Cd(3)-O(3)#3	81.9(2)
N(1)-Cd(2)-O(10)	137.7(2)	O(5)#1-Cd(3)-O(3)#2	81.9(2)
N(1)-Cd(2)-O(13)	99.2(2)	O(5)-Cd(3)-N(2)#4	92.4(2)
N(1)-Cd(2)-C(28)	114.1(2)	O(5)-Cd(3)-N(2)#5	87.6(2)
N(1)-Cd(2)-C(43)	111.6(2)	O(5)#1-Cd(3)-N(2)#5	92.4(2)
O(23)-Cd(2)-O(8)	89.5(2)	O(5)#1-Cd(3)-N(2)#4	87.6(2)
O(23)-Cd(2)-O(9)	98.5(2)	O(3)#3-Cd(3)-O(3)#2	180.0(2)
O(23)-Cd(2)-O(7)	85.9(2)	N(2)#5-Cd(3)-O(3)#3	96.07(19)
O(23)-Cd(2)-O(10)	83.8(2)	N(2)#4-Cd(3)-O(3)#2	96.07(19)
O(23)-Cd(2)-C(28)	86.0(2)	N(2)#5-Cd(3)-O(3)#2	83.93(19)
O(23)-Cd(2)-C(43)	89.8(2)	N(2)#4-Cd(3)-O(3)#3	83.93(19)
O(10)-Cd(2)-O(8)	79.46(18)	N(2)#4-Cd(3)-N(2)#5	180.0
#1 3-X,3-Y,2-Z #2 +X,1+Y,+Z #3 3-X,2-Y,2-Z			
#4 2+X,+Y,+Z #5 1-X,3-Y,2-Z #6 +X,-1+Y,+Z			



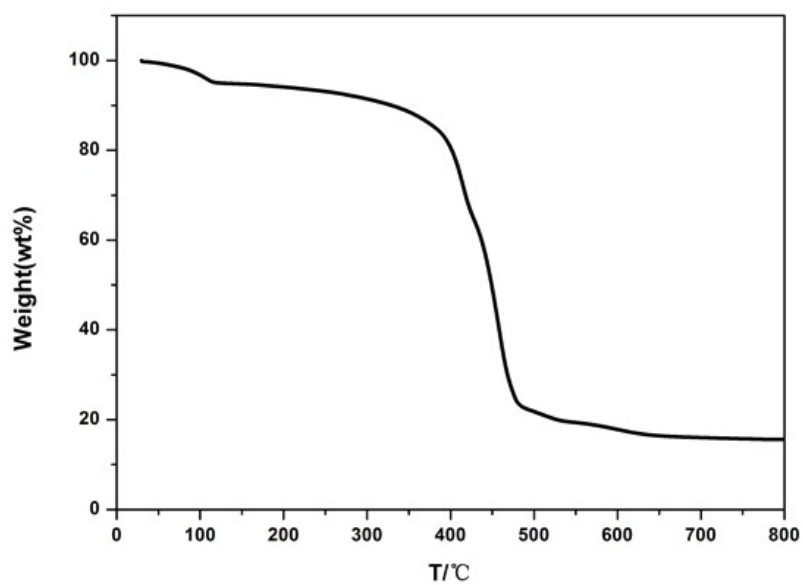
**Fig. S1.** (a) The coordination environment of Cd(II) ion in NKM-102; (b) The coordination modes of the deprotonated TCPE<sup>4-</sup> ligand.



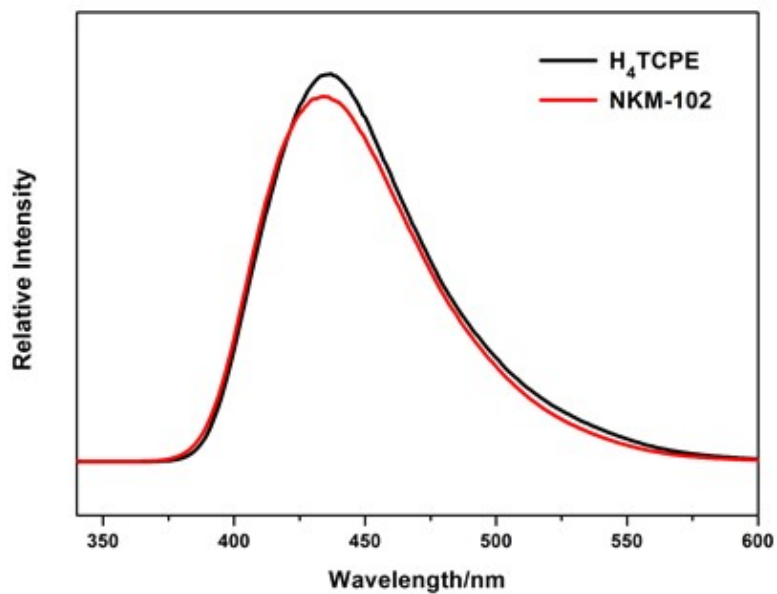
**Fig. S2.** (a) The structure of NKM-102 viewed along *a* axis; (b) The structure of NKM-102 viewed along *b* axis.



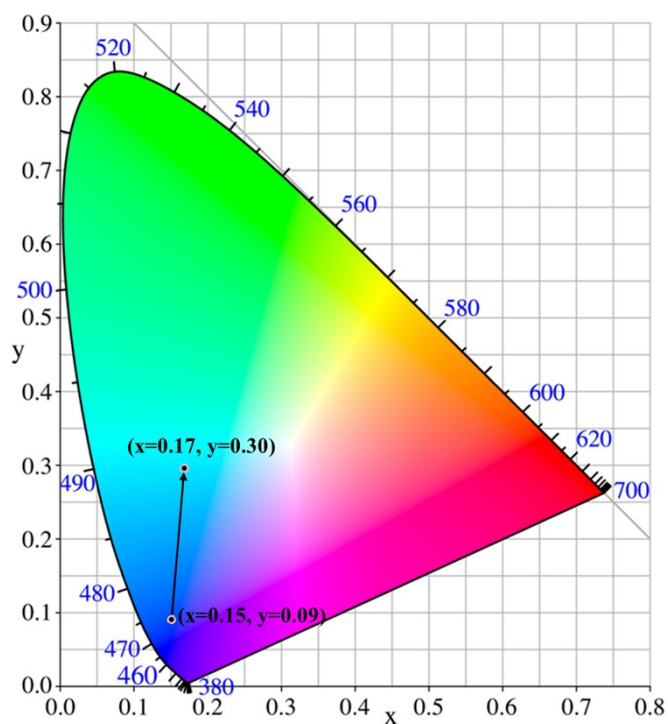
**Fig. S3.** The framework topology of (4, 4, 5, 6)-connected network with point (Schläfli) symbol of  $\{4^4 \cdot 6^{10} \cdot 8\} \{4^4 \cdot 6^2\}_3 \{4^4 \cdot 6^6\}_2$ .



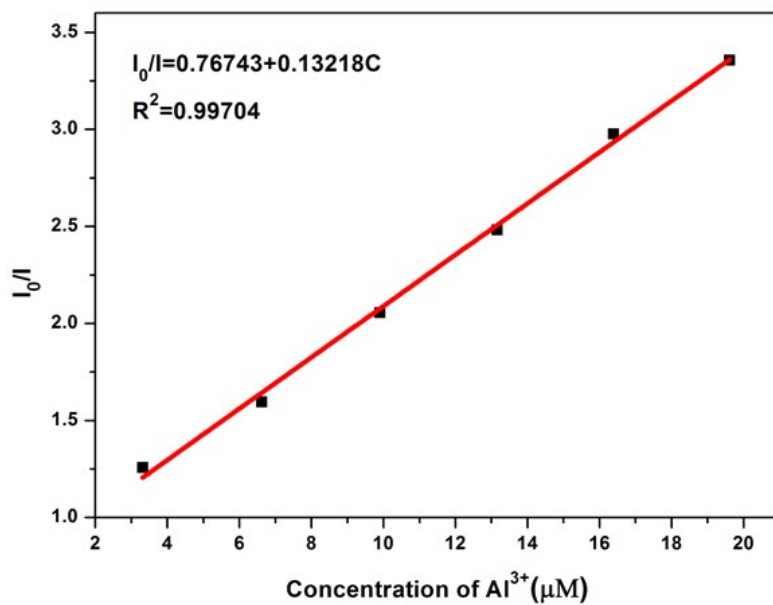
**Fig. S4.** TGA curve of NKM-102.



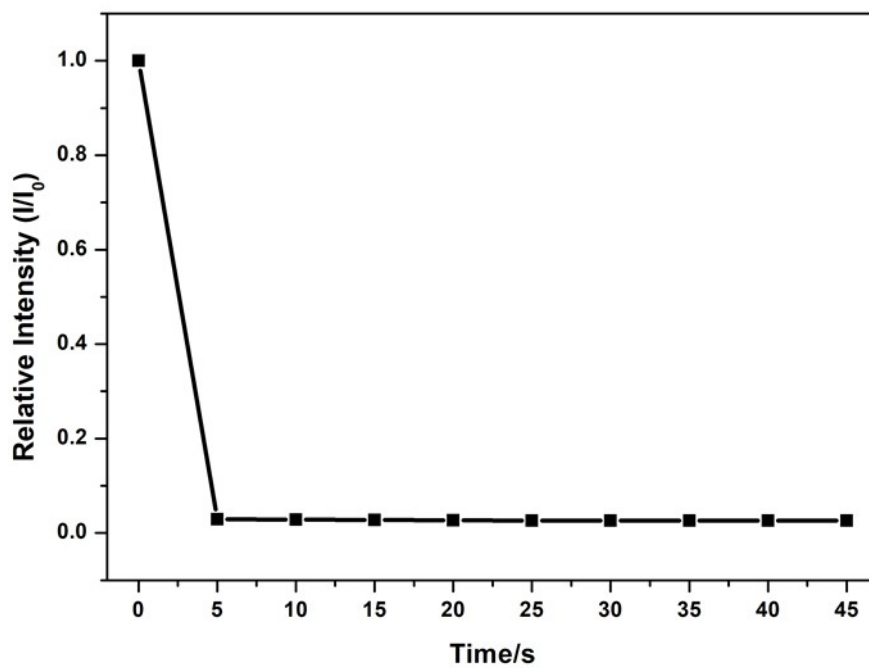
**Fig. S5.** The solid-state fluorescence spectra of H<sub>4</sub>TCPE ligand and NKM-102.



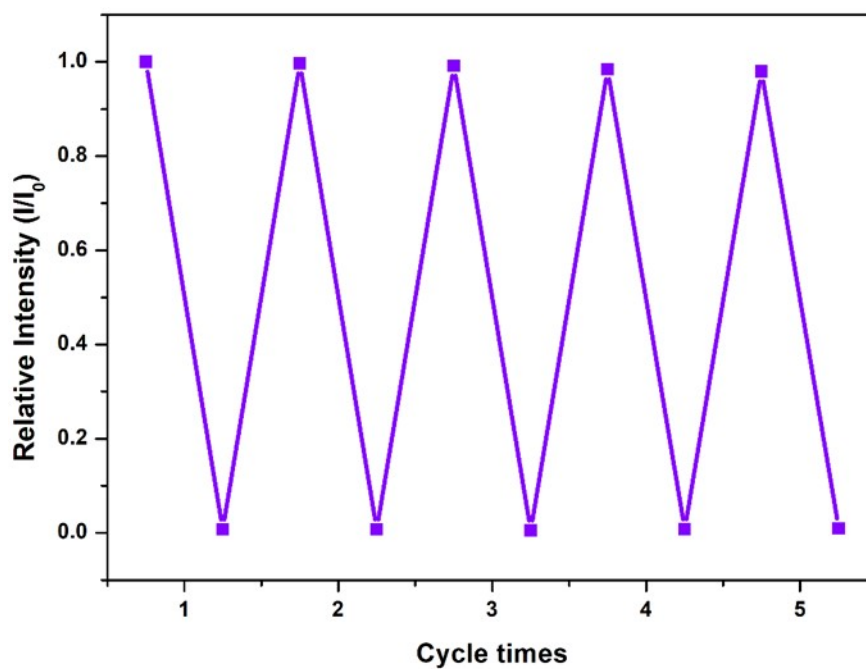
**Fig. S6.** The CIE chromaticity diagram showing the color coordinates of NKM-102 and NKM-102 upon the addition of Al<sup>3+</sup> ions in C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH.



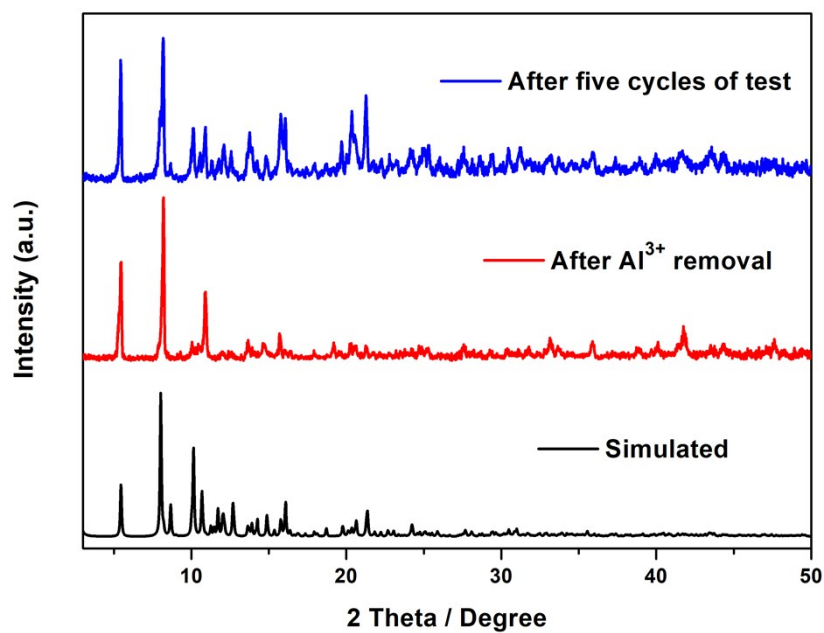
**Fig. S7.** Fitting plot of the detection limit Al<sup>3+</sup> ions in C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH solution for NKM-102.



**Fig. S8.** Time-dependent response of the emission of NKM-102 toward Al<sup>3+</sup> ions in C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH solution.

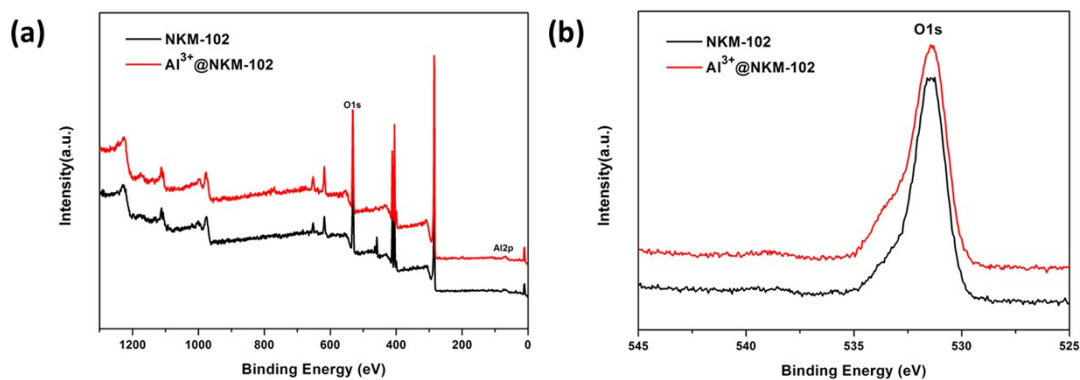


**Fig. S9.** Recycle sensing performances of NKM-102 toward  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  ions in  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$  solution.



**Fig. S10.** The PXRD patterns of NKM-102 after  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  ions removal and after five consecutive cycles of fluorescence sensing experiments.





**Fig. S11.** XPS spectra (a) and O 1s XPS spectra (b) for **NKM-102** (black line) and **Al<sup>3+</sup>@NKM-102** (derived from immersing **NKM-102** into Al<sup>3+</sup> ions solution; red line).

**Table S4.** Comparison of literature reports for MOFs as sensors of Al<sup>3+</sup> ions.

MOF	Detection Limit	Ref.
<b>NKM-102</b>	<b>5.86 <math>\mu</math>M (158 ppb)</b>	<b>this work</b>
Cd <sub>2</sub> (syn-dftpmcp)(1,3-BDC) <sub>2</sub>	183 ppb	S3
UiO-66-NH <sub>2</sub> -SA	6.98 $\mu$ M (188 ppb)	S4
{[Zn <sub>2</sub> ( $\mu$ <sub>3</sub> -HCIP) <sub>2</sub> ( $\mu$ -bpt)]·2H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub>	760 ppb	S5
{[Co <sub>3</sub> (phen) <sub>2</sub> HL) <sub>2</sub> ·(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>n</sub>	960 ppb	S6
[H <sub>3</sub> O] <sub>2</sub> [Eu <sub>2.5</sub> (BTB) <sub>3</sub> (OAc) <sub>0.5</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]	100 $\mu$ M (2.70*10 <sup>3</sup> ppb)	S7
[Co <sub>2</sub> (dmimpym)(nda) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>n</sub>	1.89*10 <sup>4</sup> ppb	S8
Tb-TCPP	7.79 nM (0.21 ppb)	S9
GUPT-2	0.269 $\mu$ M (7.26 ppb)	S10
[CuI(BPDPE)] <sub>n</sub>	2.1 $\mu$ M (56.66 ppb)	S11
UiO-(OH) <sub>2</sub> @RhB	10 nM (0.27 ppb)	S12

## References

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