

# Unraveling the Role of Internal-External Metal Substitution in $\text{Zn}_3[\text{Co}(\text{CN}_6)]_2$ for Styrene Oxide- $\text{CO}_2$ Cycloaddition Reaction.

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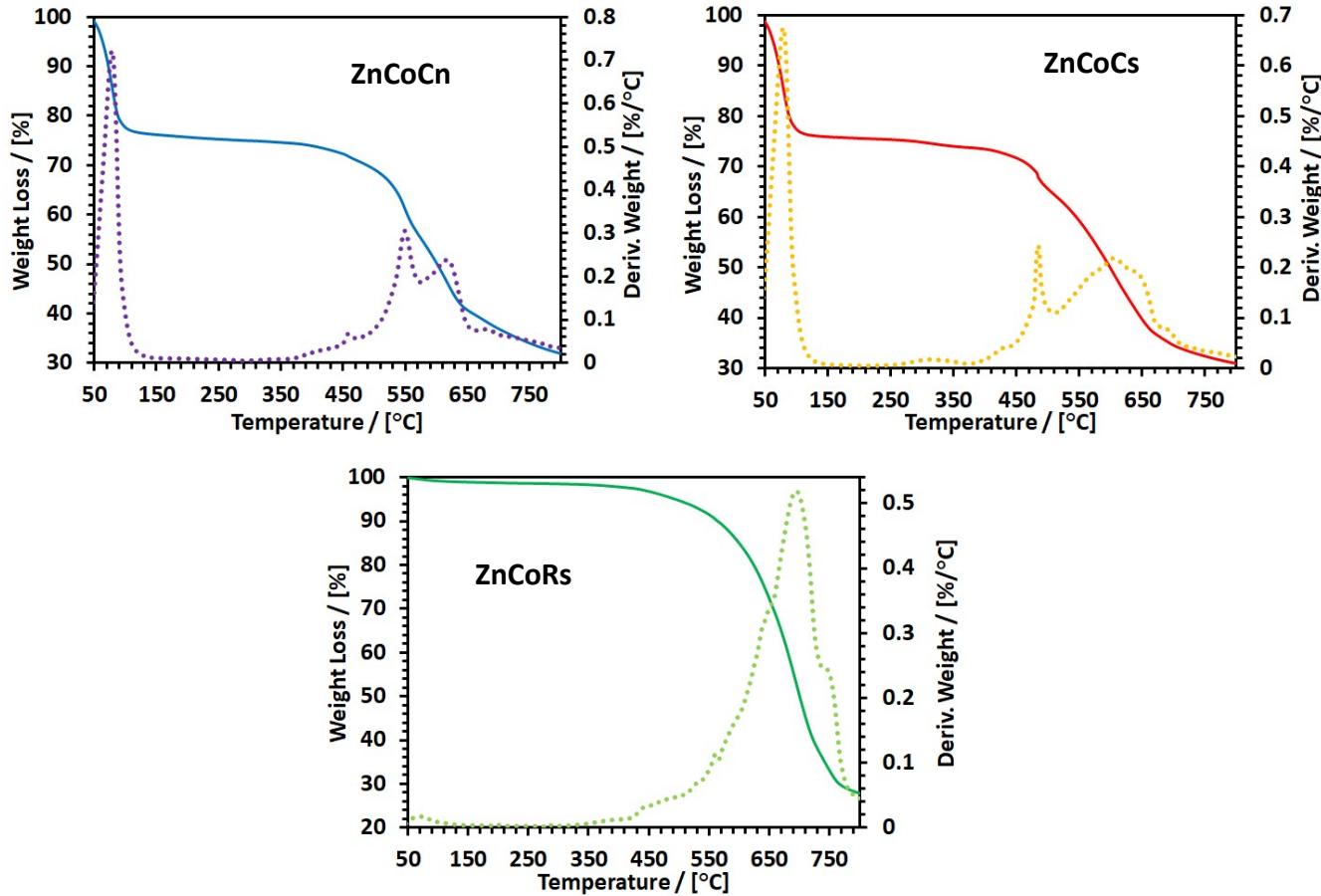
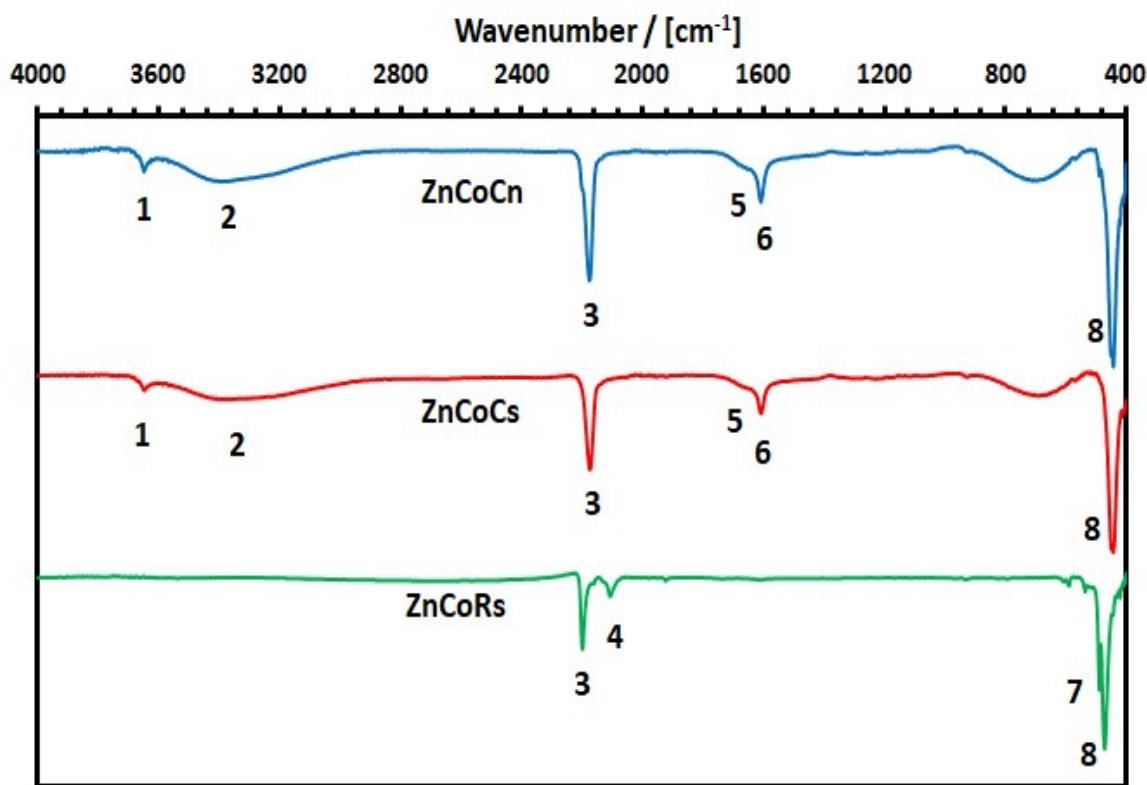


Figure S1. Thermogravimetric performance of 3 materials.



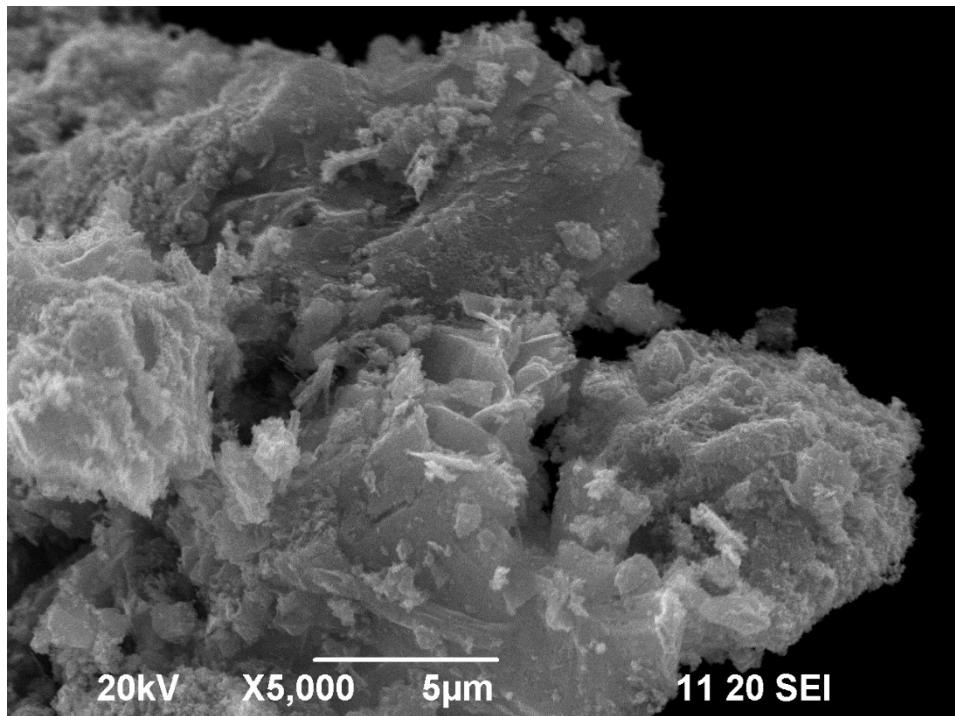
**Figure S2.** Infrared spectra of a) Cubic (F-43m)  $\text{Zn}_3[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]_2 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ; b) cubic stabilized (Pm-3m)  $\text{Zn}_{2.7}\text{Cd}_{0.3}[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]_2 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ; c) Rhombohedral stabilized (R-3c)  $\text{Zn}_3[\text{Fe}_{0.1}\text{Co}_{0.9}(\text{CN})_6]_2$ .

The band in  $3,650\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (**1**) is due to the asymmetric vibration of water molecules that are coordinated to Zn atoms; the wide band from  $3,570$  to  $2,900\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (**2**) originates from the combination of asymmetric and symmetric vibrations of the hydrogen bridged water molecules; the band in  $2,175\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (**3**) is the stretching vibration of triple bonded carbon to nitrogen in the cyanide block  $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$ ; the band in  $2,106\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (**4**) is stretching vibration of CN in  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]$ ; the band forming a shoulder in  $1,675\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (**5**) is for the bending vibration of the hydrogen bridged water molecules; the band in  $1,609\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (**6**) is for the bending vibration of water molecules that are coordinated to Zn atoms; the band in  $488\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (**7**) is due to the bending vibration of  $\text{Fe}-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}-$  atoms; the band in  $471\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (**8**) is for the bending vibration of  $\text{Co}-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}-$  chain.

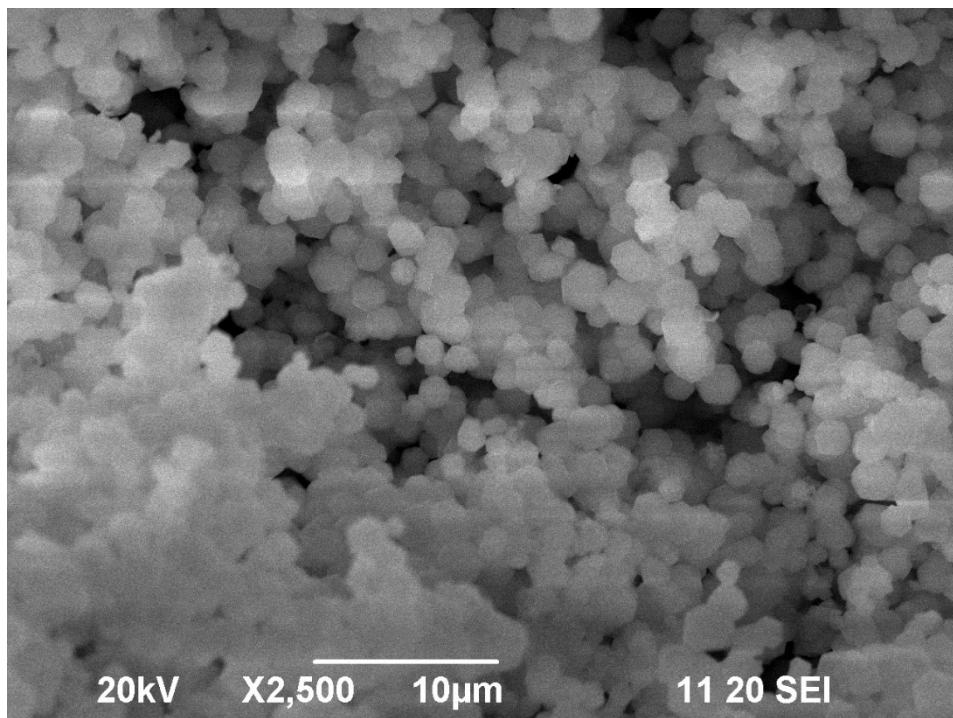
**Table S1.** Crystallographic Parameter of catalysts

	<b>ZnCoCn</b>	<b>ZnCoCs</b>	<b>ZnCoRs</b>
<b>Geometry</b>	Cubic	Cubic	Rhombohedral
<b>space group</b>	F -4 3 m	P m -3 m	R -3 c
<b>H<sub>2</sub>O molecules</b>	12	12	0
<b>a [Å]</b>	10.252	10.287	12.478
<b>b [Å]</b>	10.252	10.287	12.478
<b>c [Å]</b>	10.252	10.287	32.738
<b>External* Vacancy [%]</b>	26.37	25	0
<b>Internal Vacancy [%]</b>	50.56	49.56	0
<b>Size (Å)</b>	1128.68	740.23	1778.51
<b>Strain (%%)</b>	6.87	34.28	1.94

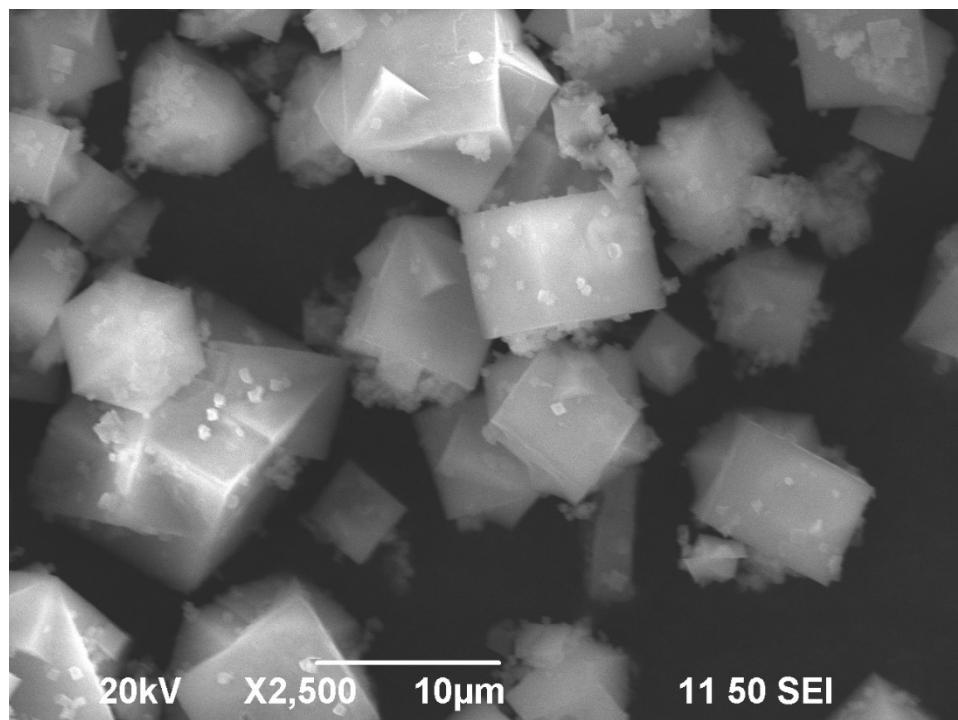
\*Zn or Cd; 'Co or Fe



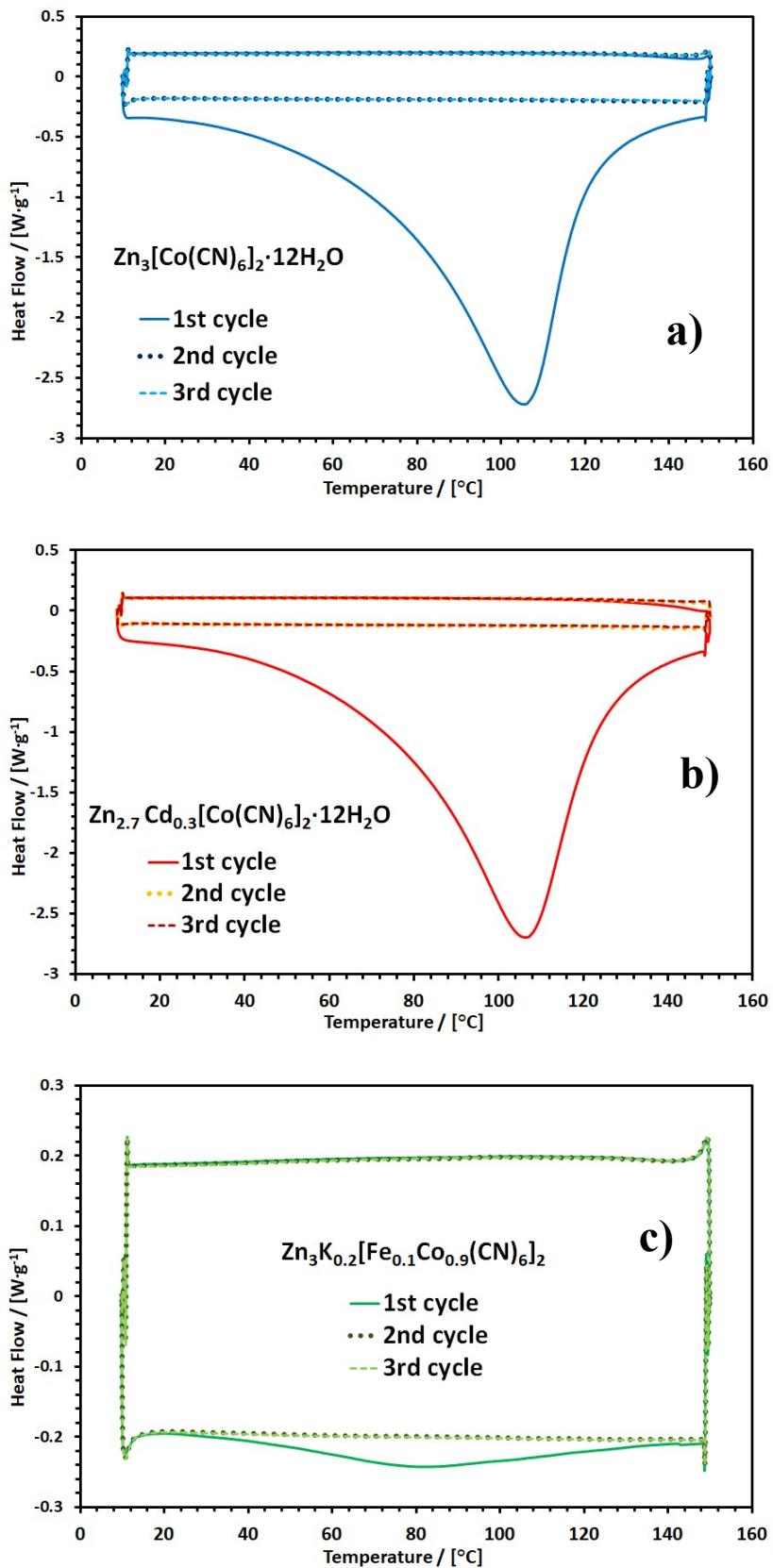
**Figure S3.** SEM image of zinc hexacyanocobaltate (III) (ZnCoCn), there is a big particle with the smallest ones above.



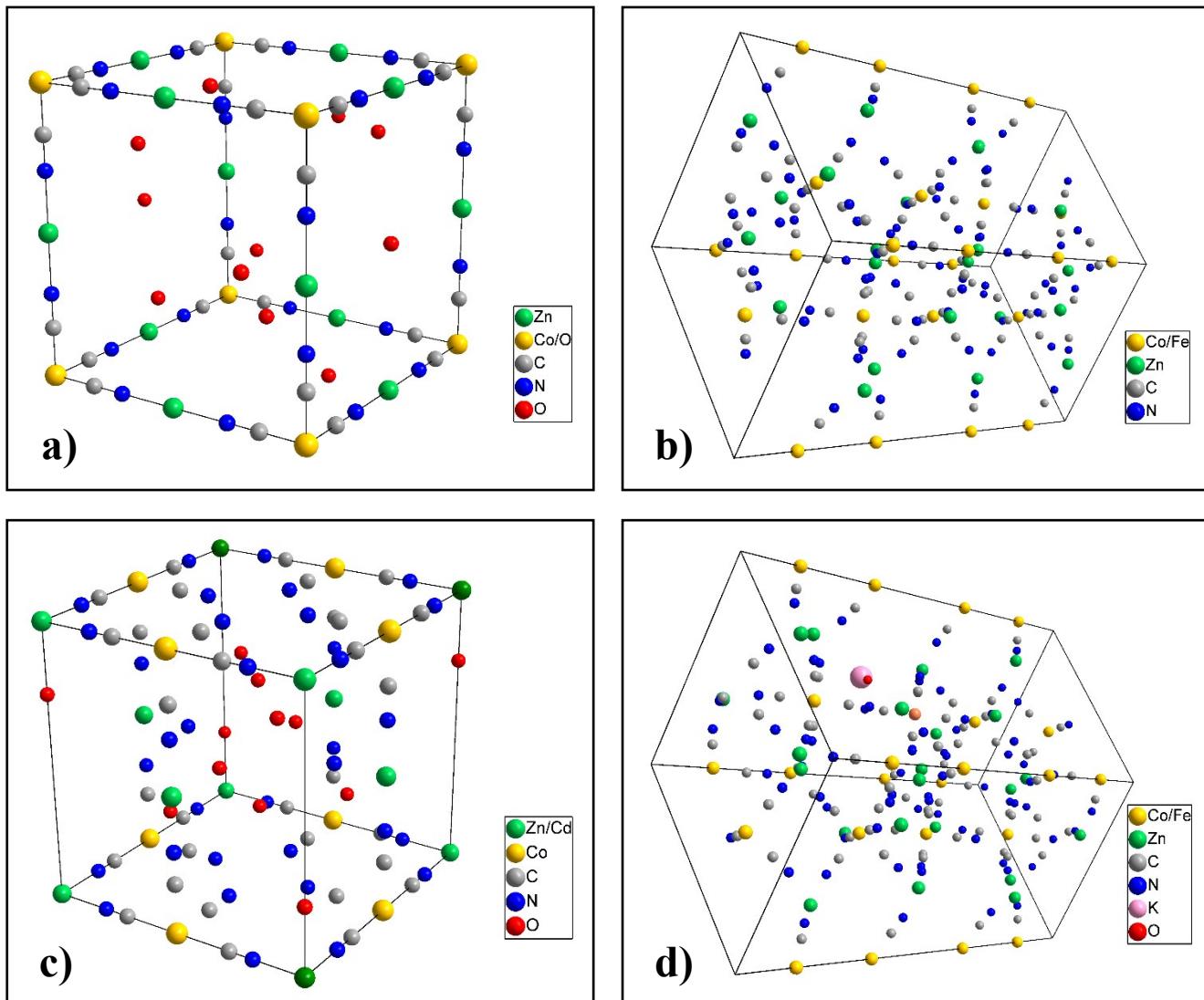
**Figure S4.** SEM image of zinc-cadmium hexacyanocobaltate (III) (ZnCoCs).



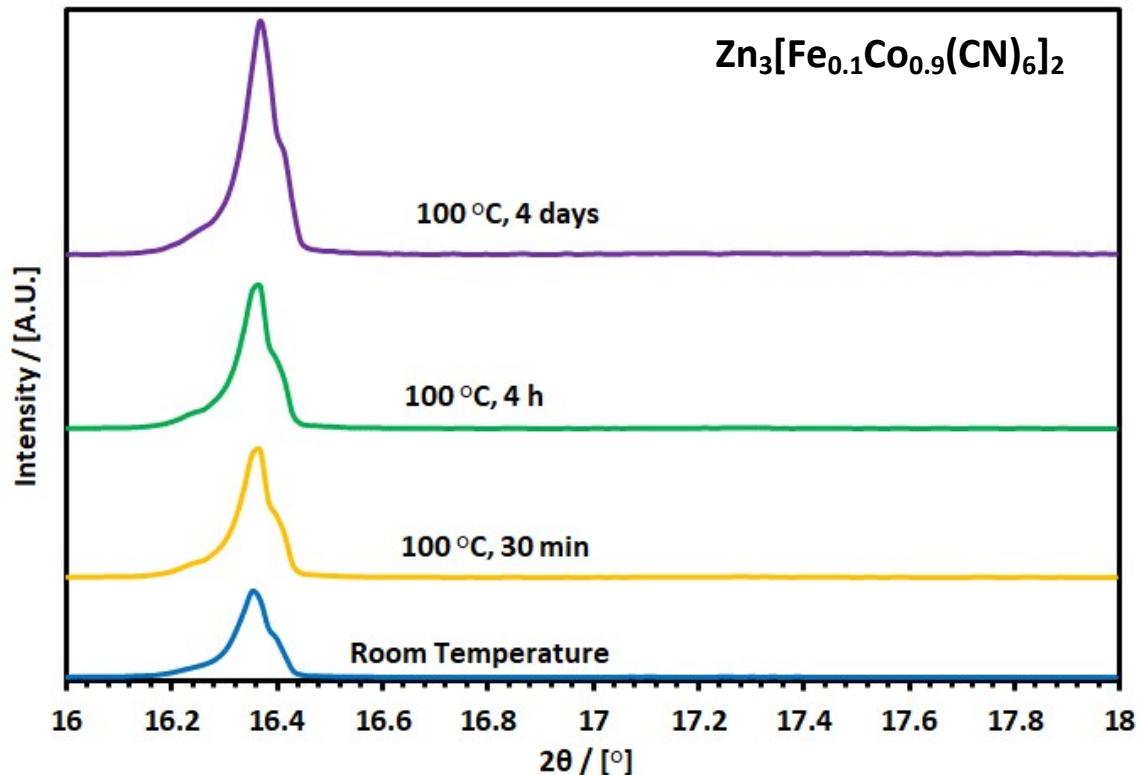
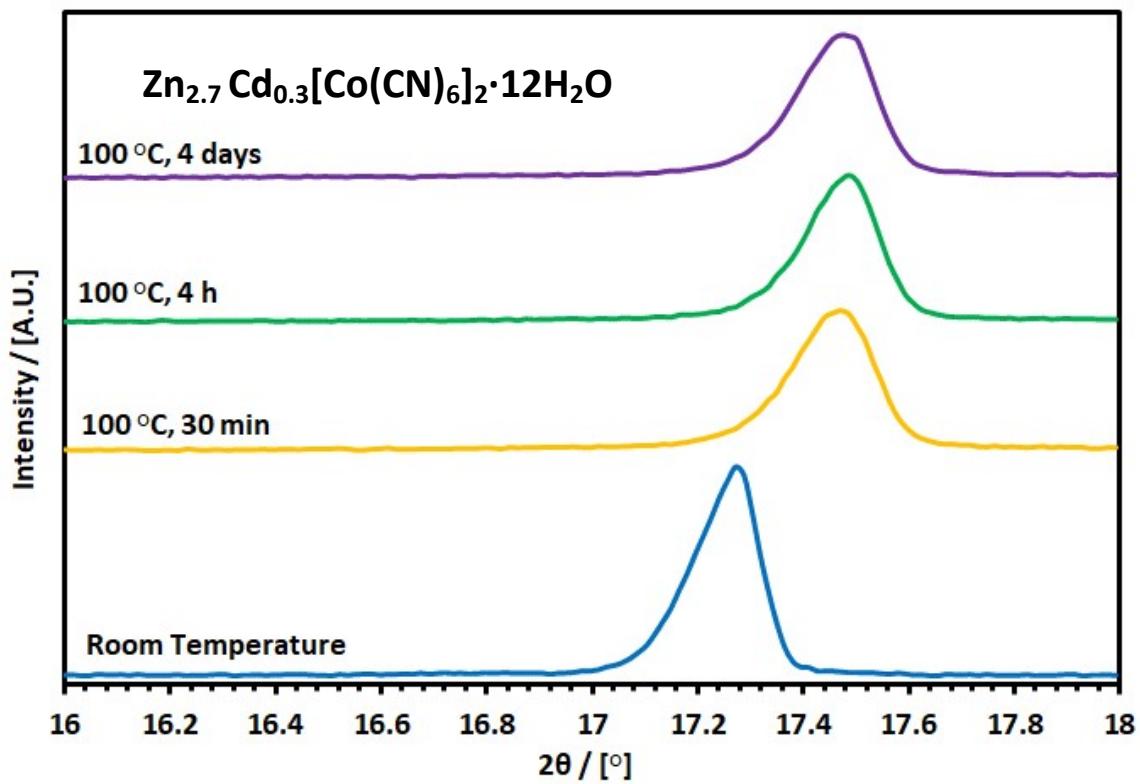
**Figure S5.** SEM image of zinc hexacyanocobaltate with iron replacement (III) (ZnCoRs).



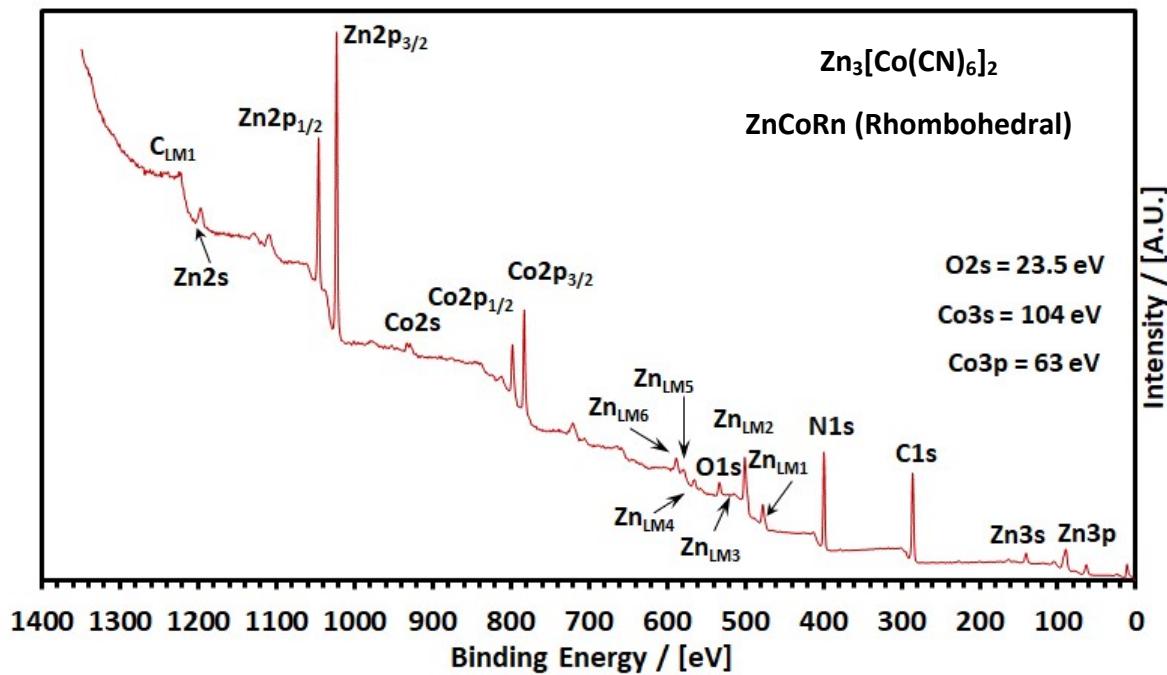
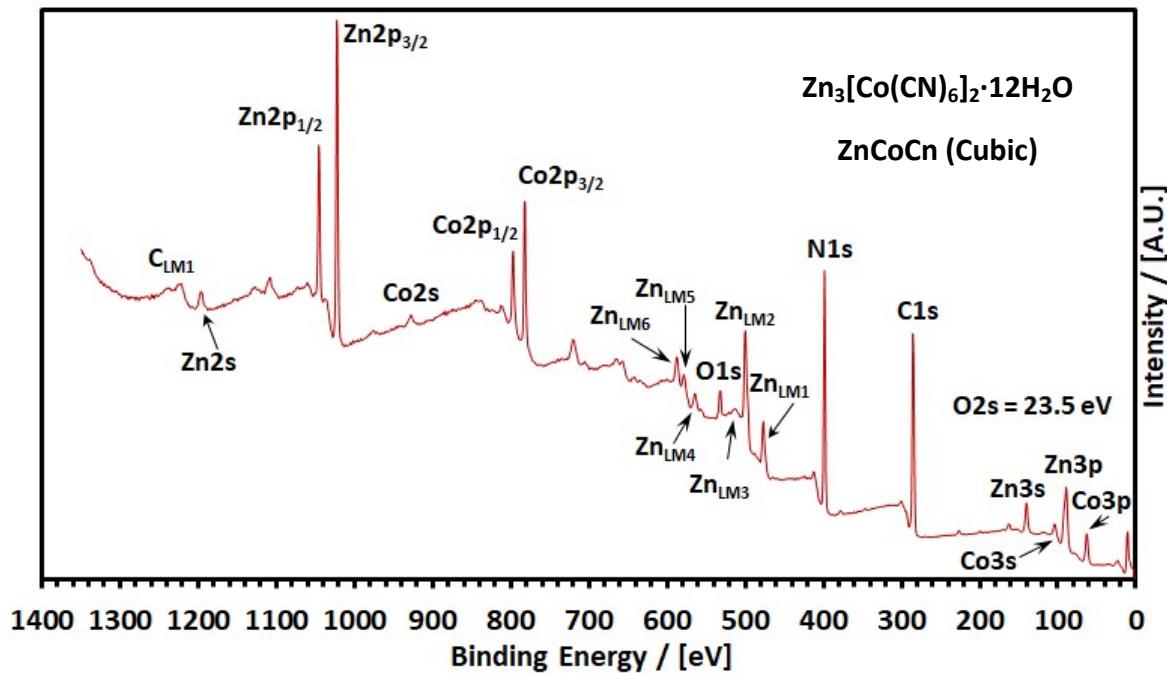
**Figure S6.** 3-cycle DSC Termogram of catalysts: **a)** ZnCoCn (1<sup>st</sup> cycle) and ZnCoRn (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle); **b)** ZnCoCs; **c)** ZnCoRs.

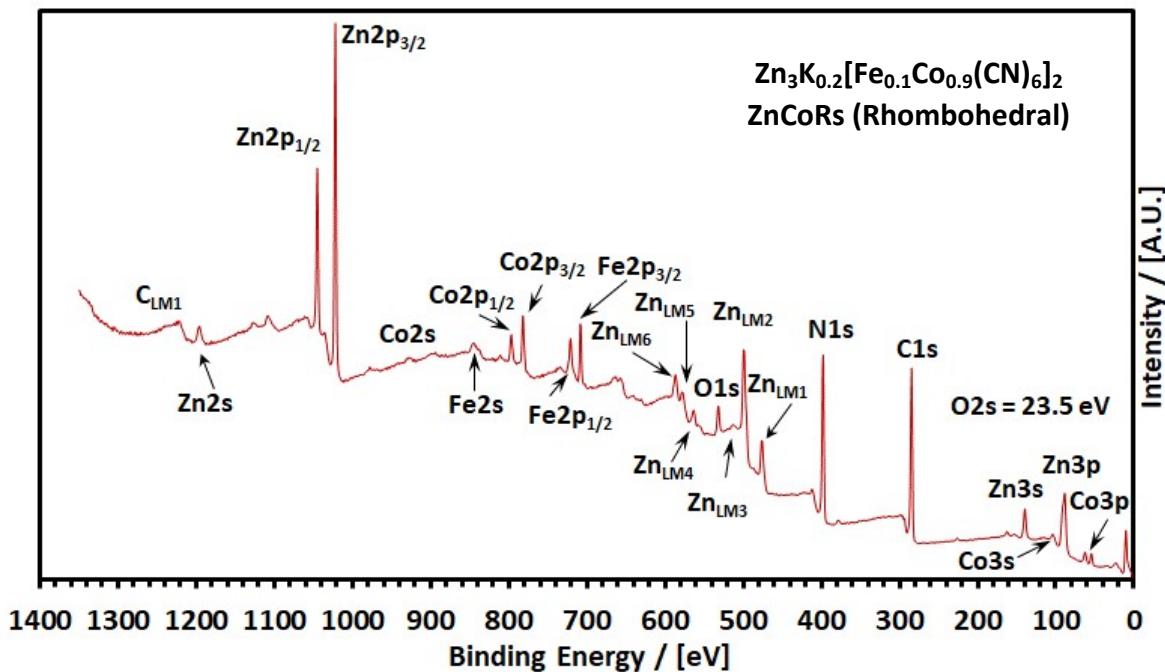
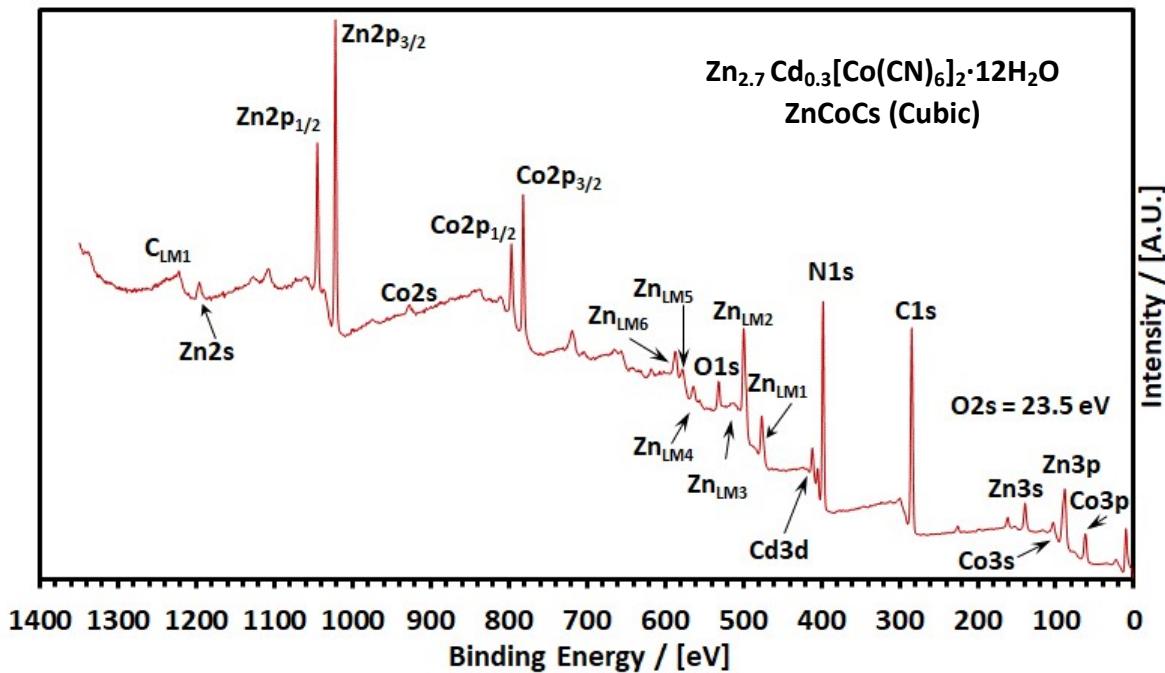


**Figure S7.** Unity Cell image of zinc hexacyanocobaltates; a) Cubic F -4 3 m  $\text{Zn}_3[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]_2 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , the red balls are the distinct water molecules; b) Rhombohedral R -3c; c) cubic P m -3 m stabilized, the darker cyan balls are cadmium atom and red balls the water; d) Rhombohedral R -3 c stabilized, the orange balls are the internal iron, the green one is the potassium as compensation cation and red are the water associated.



**Figure S8.** Thermal treatment at different times to water extraction in stabilized materials.





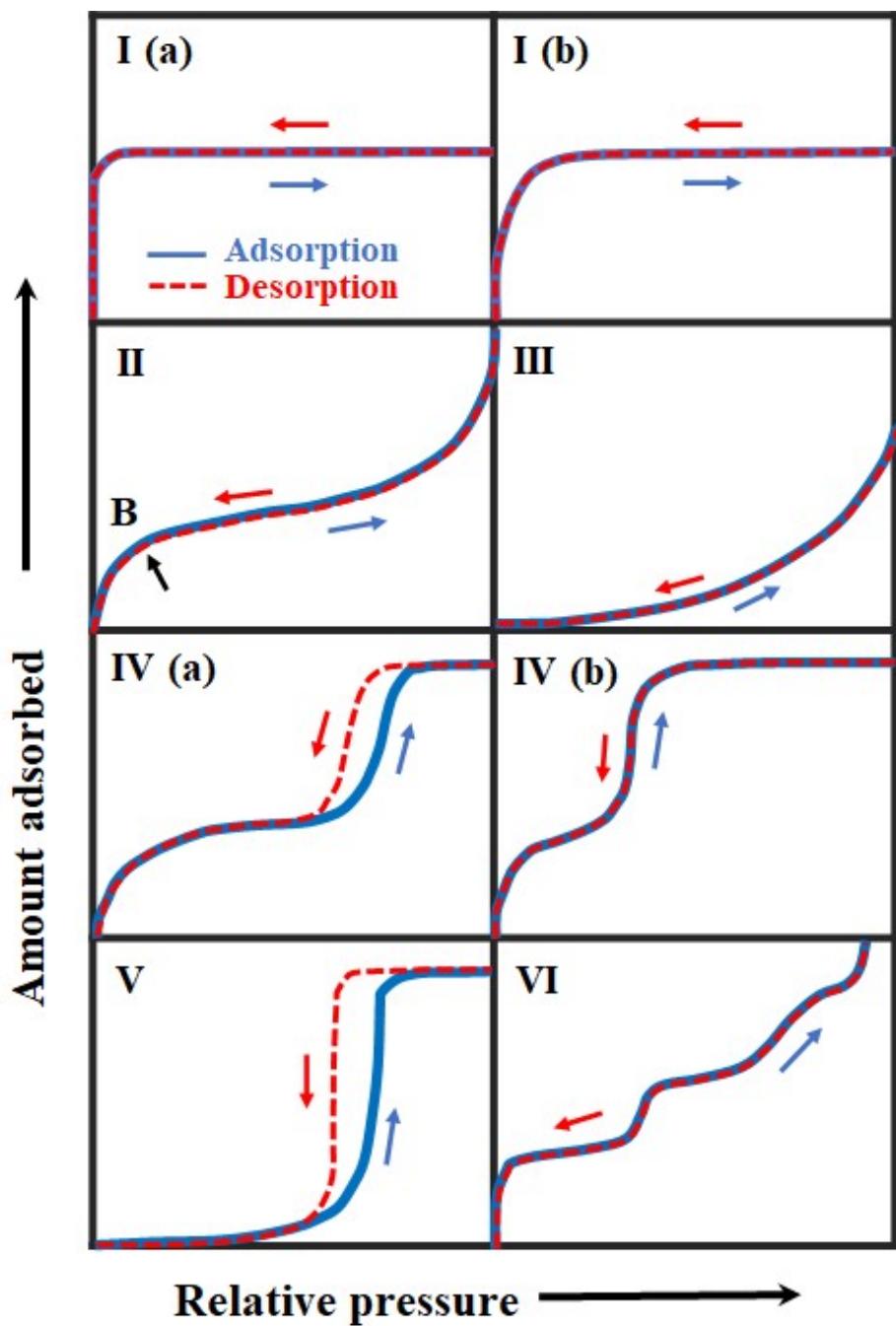
**Figure S9.** XPS survey spectra of all materials.

**Table S2.** C 1s, N 1s, Co 2p, and Zn 2p BE (eV) and Zn Auger (kinetic energy in eV) and Auger modified parameter of the catalysts.

	<b>C</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Co</b>	<b>Zn</b>	<b>Zn</b>	$\alpha'_{\text{Zn}}$
	<b>1s<sub>CN</sub></b>	<b>1s<sub>Zn-N</sub></b>	<b>2p<sub>3/2</sub></b>	<b>2p<sub>3/2</sub></b>	<b>L<sub>3</sub>M<sub>45</sub>M<sub>45</sub></b>	<b>[eV]</b>
<b>ZnCoCs</b>	284.39	397.8	781.29	1021.4	987.55	2008.95
<b>ZnCoCn</b>	284.41	397.66	781.15	1021.29	987.6	2008.89
<b>ZnCoRn</b>	284.42	397.7	781.32	1021.33	987.7	2009.03
<b>ZnCoRs</b>	284.37	397.4	782.19	1021.75	987.6	2009.35

Because auger peaks have well-defined positions and shapes (see Figure S9 in supporting information), the zinc auger line L<sub>3</sub>M<sub>45</sub>M<sub>45</sub> was measured (Table S2), due to Zn<sup>o</sup> and ZnO having a narrow binding energy difference (0.65 eV)<sup>53</sup>.

Taking the cubic phase (ZnCoCn) as a reference, the rhombohedral phase shows an +0.1 eV shift, in agreement with Zn 2p<sub>3/2</sub> results, the cubic stabilized presented a negligible decrease of 0.05 eV and the rhombohedral stabilized has no change. Hence, the modified Auger parameter ( $\alpha'$ )<sup>48,56,57</sup> was calculated to find a better way to determine the Zn chemical environment, as compared above, taking the cubic phase (ZnCoCn) as a reference with 2008.89 eV (calculated), the rhombohedral phase has a +0.14 eV shift, according with the previous discussed, due to the positive charge accumulation in Zn atom by the change to tetrahedral coordination and water molecules loss. The cubic stabilized showed a +0.06 eV shift, opposite of what was found in the auger peak, but keeping in mind that the modified auger parameter is a combination of the kinetic energy of L<sub>3</sub>M<sub>45</sub>M<sub>45</sub> Auger line and 2p<sub>3/2</sub> peak, the net effect for chemical environment analysis is sensed<sup>48,56,57</sup>, becoming the best option because has no charge effect interference, for this reason, the  $\alpha'$  was chosen for the final Zn analysis, the result may be attributed to the cadmium atoms that replace zinc in 9:1 proportion as was determined by XRD (see Figure S7-c), a unit cell) and the rhombohedral stabilized phase presented a +0.46 shift, due to the iron substitution as an internal metal, as discussed before, iron is slightly less electronegative than cobalt, then the  $\pi$ -back bonding charge donation effect has more positive charge accumulation in zinc atoms.



**Figure S10.** IUPAC isotherm classification [58].

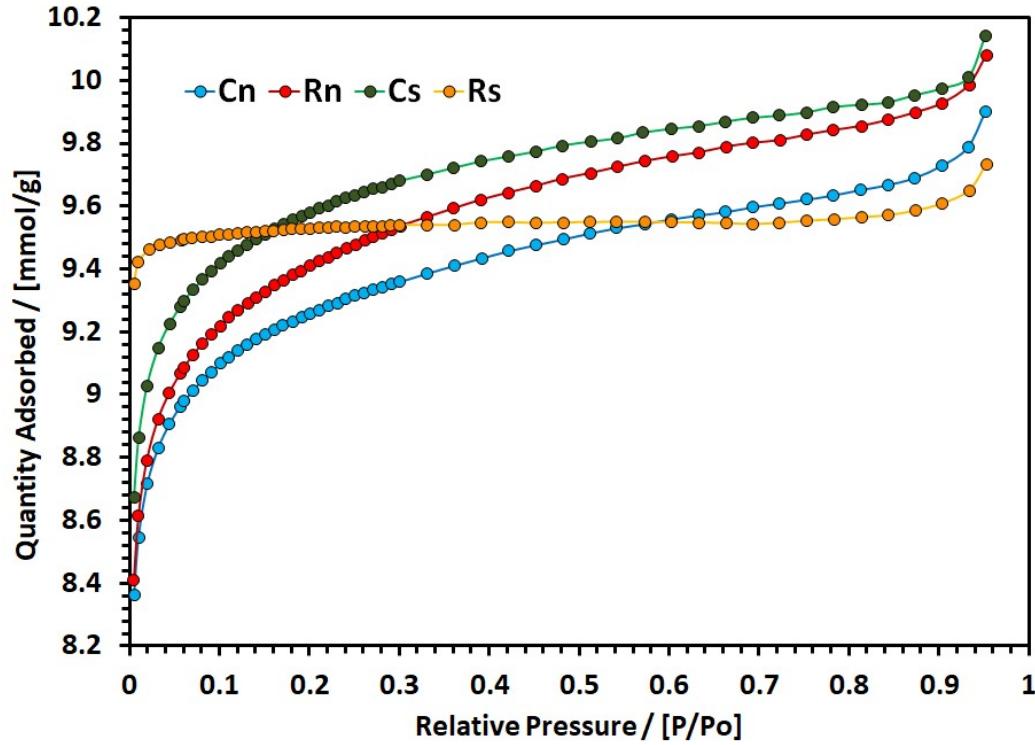
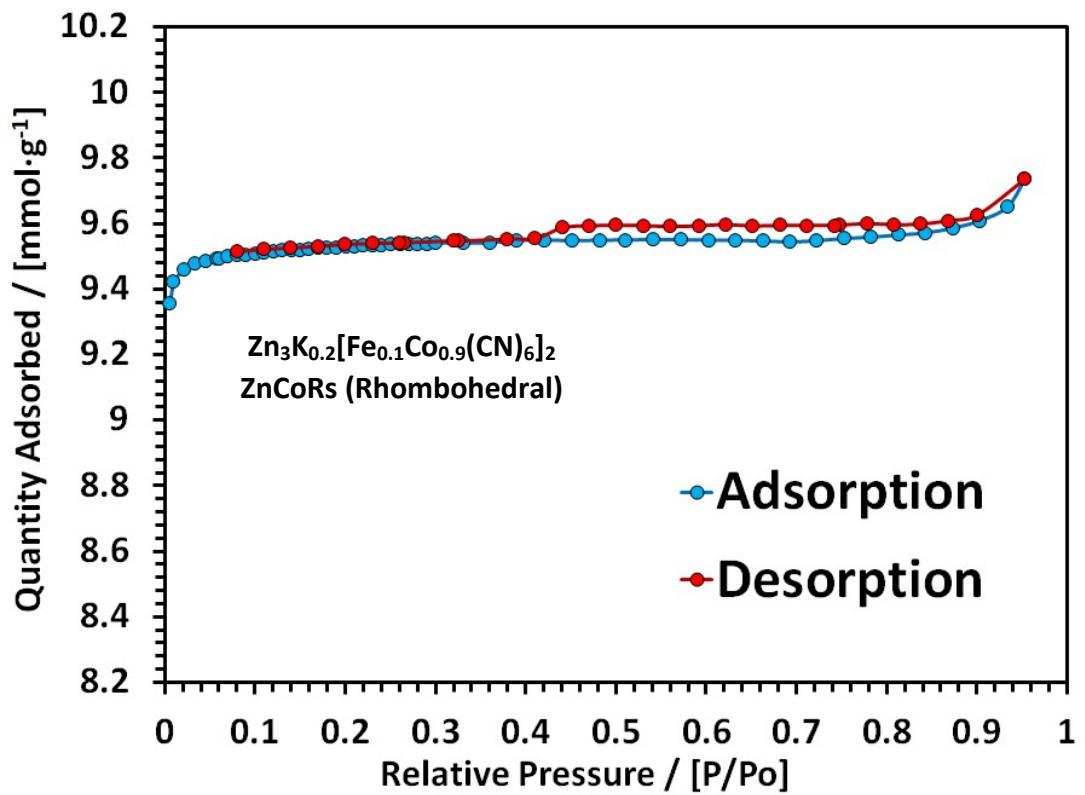
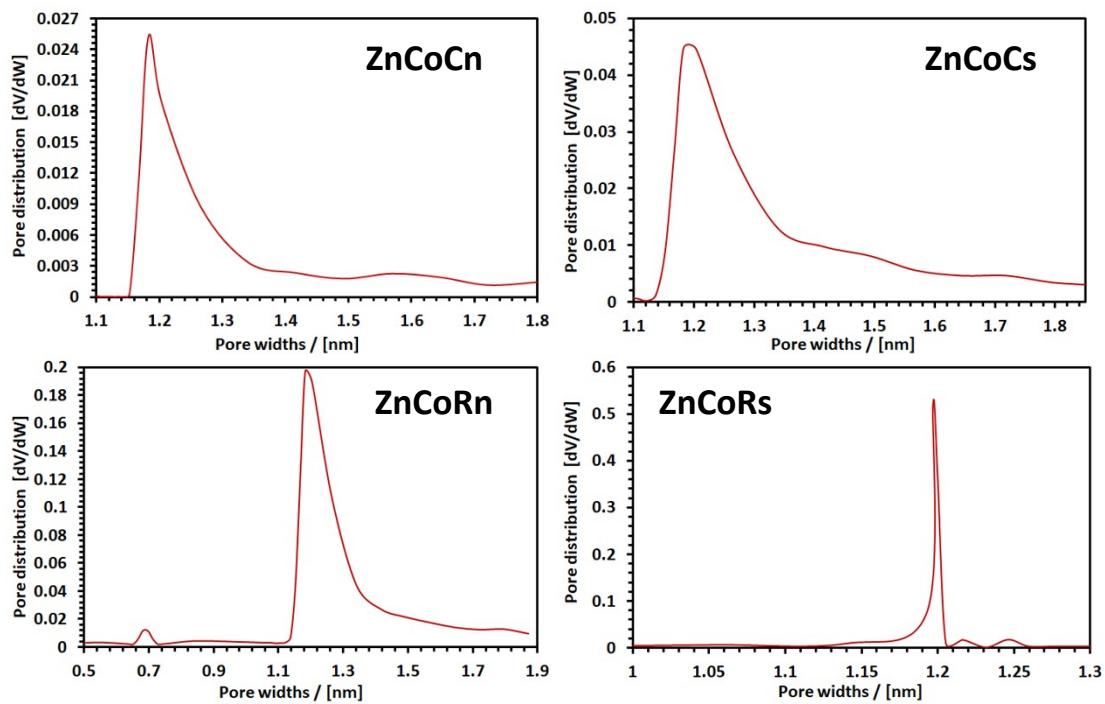
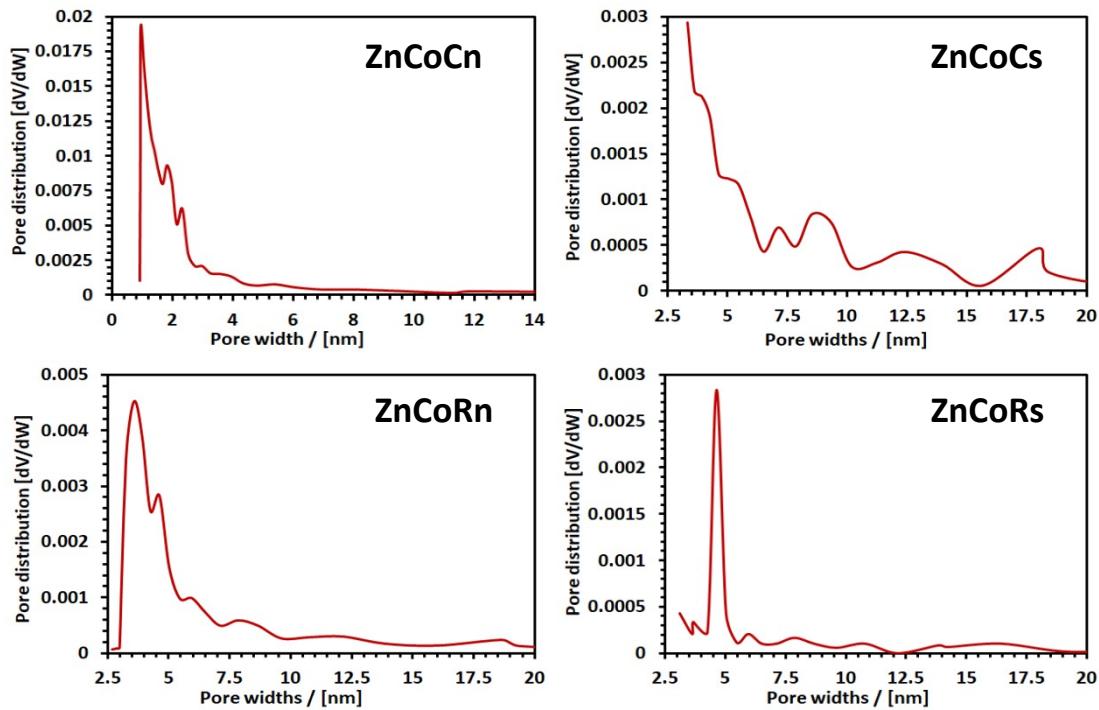


Figure S11. ZnCoRs Isotherm comparison with other materials.



**Figure S12.** Micropore Size Distribution calculated by the DFT method.



**Figure S13.** Mesopore Size Distribution calculated by BJH method.

**Table S3.** Textural properties of all studied materials

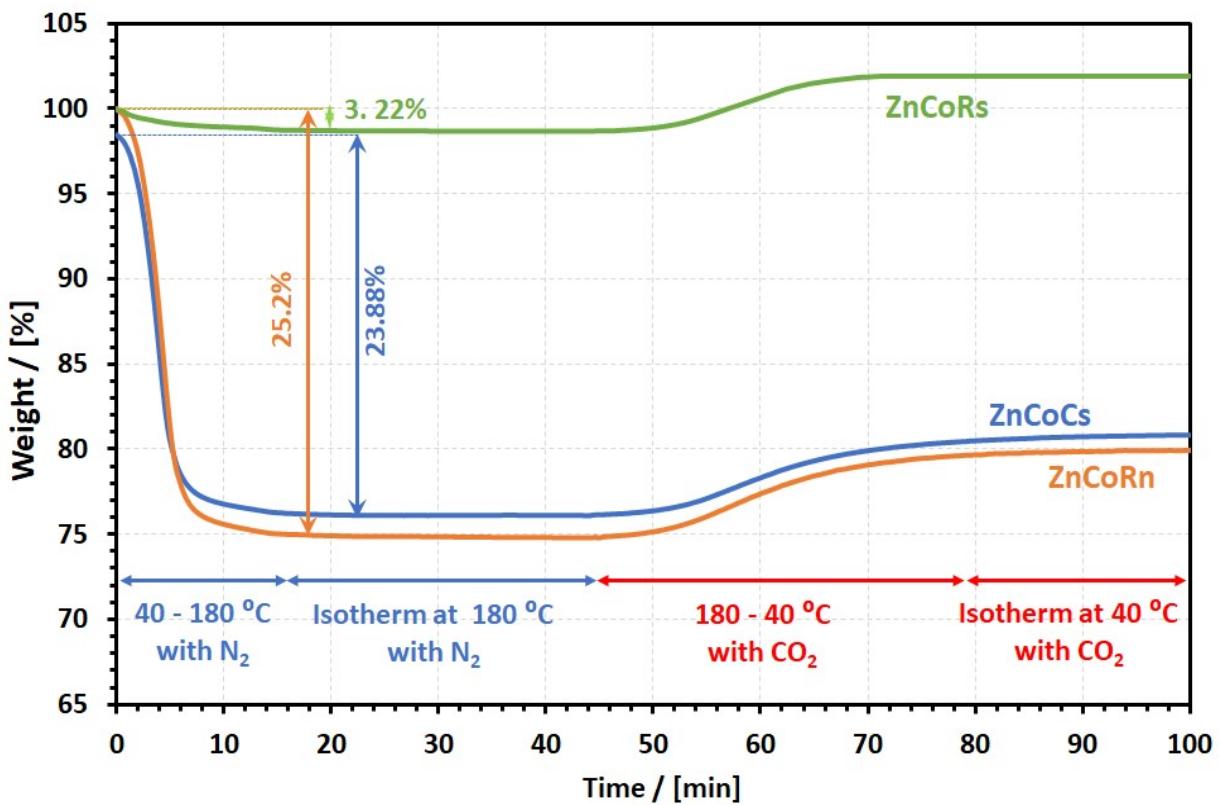
	ZnCoCn	ZnCoRn	ZnCoCs	ZnCoRs
BET Surface Area (m <sup>2</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	624.86	636.94	646.28	634.52
t-Plot Micropore Area (m <sup>2</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	552.8	550.52	574.1	625.79
t-Plot External Area (m <sup>2</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	72.05	86.43	72.18	8.73
Pore Volume (cm <sup>3</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	0.343	0.349	0.351	0.337
t-Plot micropore vol. (cm <sup>3</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	0.289	0.288	0.3	0.326
Micropore Size by DFT (Å)	11.82	11.82	12.04	11.96
Mesopore Size by BJH (Å)	26.082	25.662	24.999	32.117

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR characterization**

The spectra were recorded with a Bruker Ascend 750 MHz spectrometer with a relaxation time of 10 s and a 2 mM hexamethyldisilane (HMDS), in the NMR laboratory of the Centro de Nanociencias y Micro y Nanotecnologías (CNMN) of the Instituto Politécnico Nacional.

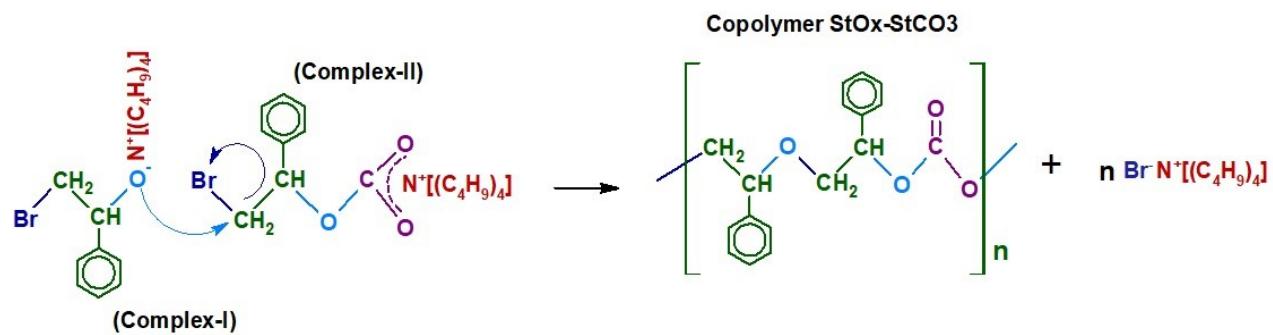
**Table S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signals of the mixture obtained for ZnCoCn in 2 h reaction.

Chemical shift (ppm)	Type	Molecular group	Proton	Compound
0.04	Singlet	CH <sub>3</sub>	-Si-CH <sub>3</sub>	HMDS
1.01	Triplet	CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>	TBAB
1.46	Sextuplet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>	TBAB
1.68	Quintuplet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	TBAB
2.8	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH-CH <sub>2</sub> -O-	Styrene oxide
3.15	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH-CH <sub>2</sub> -O-	Styrene oxide
3.38	Triplet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-N <sup>+</sup> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -	TBAB
3.67	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH	Alcohol
3.76	Double doublet	OH	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH; -CH-OH	Alcohol
3.86	Triplet	CH	-O-CH-CH <sub>2</sub> -	Styrene oxide
4.24	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH-	Polycarbonate
4.34	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH-CH <sub>2</sub> -O-	Styrene carbonate
4.44	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH-	Polycarbonate
4.69	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH-	Copolymer
4.8	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH-CH <sub>2</sub> -O-	Styrene carbonate
4.83	Triplet	CH	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH-OH	Alcohol
4.9	Double doublet	CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH-	Copolymer
5.57	Triplet	CH	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH-	Copolymer
5.67	Triplet	CH	-O-CH-CH <sub>2</sub> -	Styrene carbonate
5.77	Triplet	CH	-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH-	Polycarbonate
6.70-8.20	-	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -	Reagent and products

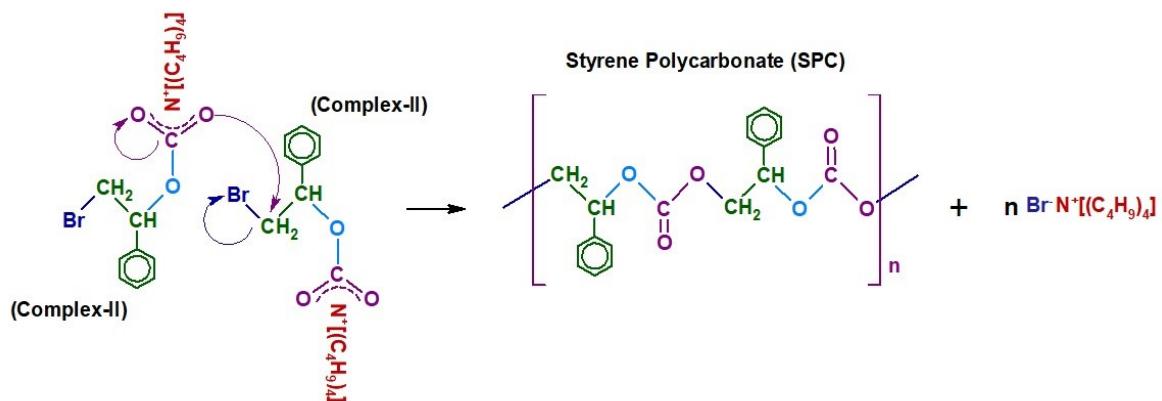


**Figure S14.** TGA experiment with 25 ml·min<sup>-1</sup> of CO<sub>2</sub> flow.

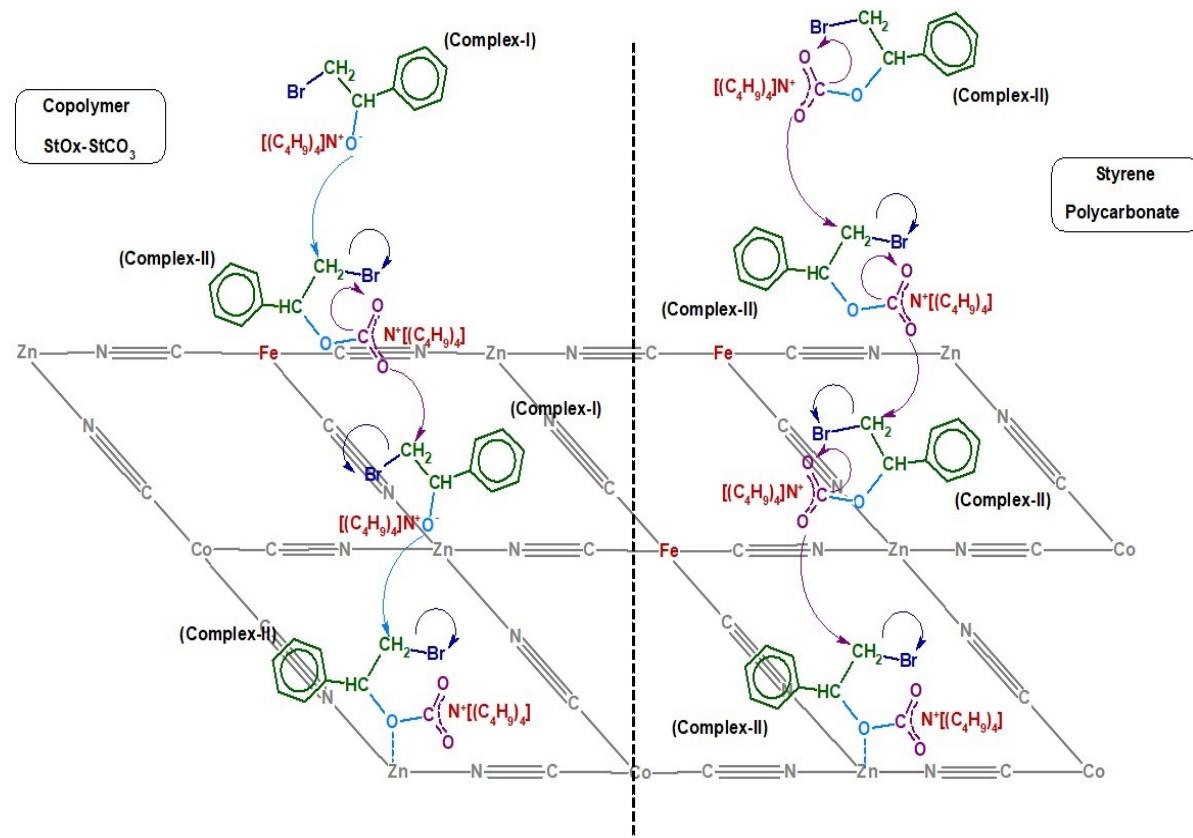
The experiment was carried out first with 25 ml·min<sup>-1</sup> of N<sub>2</sub> flow and an isothermal range was performed, to probe if any interaction may occur, then, the flow was changed to CO<sub>2</sub>. And lets the temperature down to 40 °C by the thermal equilibrium.



**Figure S15.** Copolymer formation.



**Figure S16.** Styrene Polycarbonate formation.



**Figure S17.** Copolymer and Styrene Polycarbonate formation on ZnCoRs surface.