## **Supplementary Materials**

Two-Dimensional Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs) Constructed from Heterotrinuclear Coordination Units and 4,4'-Biphenyldicarboxylate (BPDC) Ligands:  $[Zn_2M(BPDC)_3(DMF)_2]$ ·4DMF (M = Co<sup>II</sup>, Ni<sup>II</sup>, or Cd<sup>II</sup>, DMF = N,N'-Dimethyl formamide)

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**Fig. S1** Complete labelling scheme of compound **1** (There are two independent Co atoms in compound 1, both of which lie on an inversion center)



Fig. S2 Complete labelling scheme of compound 2

(Ni(1) lies on an inversion centre. Compounds 2 and 3 are isomporphous and their structures have been refined with a common origin and identical labelling schemes.)



Fig. S3 Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) curve of compound 1.



Fig. S4 TGA curve of compound 2.



Fig. S5 TGA curve of compound 3.



**Fig. S6** UV-vis diffuse reflectance spectrum (DRS) (bottom) and calculated absorption spectrum (top) via the Kubelka-Munk function for the BPDC ligand (BPDC:BaSO<sub>4</sub> = 1:1).



**Fig. S7** UV-vis diffuse reflectance spectrum (DRS) (bottom) and calculated absorption spectrum (top) via the Kubelka-Munk function for Compound **1** (**1**:BaSO<sub>4</sub> = 1:1).



**Fig. S8** UV-vis diffuse reflectance spectrum (DRS) (bottom) and calculated absorption spectrum (top) via the Kubelka-Munk function for Compound 2 (2:BaSO<sub>4</sub> = 1:1).



**Fig. S9** UV-vis diffuse reflectance spectrum (DRS) (bottom) and calculated absorption spectrum (top) via the Kubelka-Munk function for Compound **3** (**3**:BaSO<sub>4</sub> = 1:1).



Fig. S10 X-ray Powder diffraction (XRPD) patterns of Compound 1 measured at elevated temperatures.

Table T1

Weak hydrogen-bonding parameters (Å and °) involving the occluded DMF molecules for 1-3  $\,$ 

Analysis of Potential Hydrogen Bonds and Schemes with d(D...A) < R(D)+R(A)+0.50, d(H...A) < R(H)+R(A)-0.12 Ang., D-H...A > 100.0 Deg Note: - ARU codes in [] are with reference to the Coordinates printed above (Possibly transformed, when MOVE .NE. 1.555)

## Compound 1

= = =						===					
Nı	тур І	Res	5 Dono	r H	Accepto	r [	ARU ]	D - H	НА	DA	D - HA
1		1	C(18)	H(18)	0(17)	[	2555.05]	0.94	2.50	3.432(16)	173
2		1	C(20)	H(20)	0(17)	[	4464.05]	0.94	2.34	3.270(15)	169
3		1	C(23)	H(23B)	0(16)	[	3665.04]	0.97	2.56	3.41(2)	147
4	Intra	1	C(24)	H(24C)	0(7)	[	]	0.97	2.35	2.761(12)	104
5		2	C(37)	H(37)	0(16)	[	2655.04]	0.94	2.57	3.492(19)	166
6		2	C(44)	H(44)	0(18)	[	2565.06]	0.94	2.47	3.40(2)	168
7		2	C(48)	H(48A)	0(15)	[	2555.03]	0.97	2.37	3.29(3)	158
8	Intra	3	C(50)	H(50A)	0(15)	[	]	0.97	2.27	2.74(4)	108
9		5	C(55)	H(55)	0(10)	[	]	0.94	2.55	3.356(15)	143
10		6	C(59)	H(59A)	0(15)	[	]	0.97	2.28	3.21(6)	163

:: No Classic Hydrogen Bonds Found

Translation of ARU-code to Equivalent Position Code

[ 2555. ] = 1/2-x,1/2+y,1/2-z

[ 4464.] = -1/2+x,3/2-y,-1/2+z [ 3665.] = 1-x,1-y,-z [ 2565.] = 1/2-x,3/2+y,1/2-z [ 2655.] = 3/2-x,1/2+y,1/2-z

## Compound 2

Nr	Тур	Res	Donor	H	.Acceptor	[	ARU ]	D - H	НА	DA	D - HA
1		1	C(18)	H(18)	0(8)	[	4565.02]	0.95	2.57	3.47(3)	158
2		1	C(20)	H(20)	0(8)	[	2555.02]	0.95	2.46	3.34(3)	154
3	Intr	a 1	C(22)	H(22)	0(3)	[	4455.01]	0.95	2.58	3.094(14)	114
4	Intr	a 2	C(27)	H(27B)	0(8)	[	]	0.98	1.92	2.49(7)	114
5	Intr	a 3	C(30)	H(30C)	0(9)	[	]	0.98	2.07	2.51(5)	105

:: No Classic Hydrogen Bonds Found

Translation of ARU-code to Equivalent Position Code

[	4455.]	=	-1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2+z
[	2555.]	=	1/2-x,1/2+y,1/2-z
[	4565.]	=	1/2+x,3/2-y,1/2+z

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=== Nr	==== Тур	Res	Donor	H.	Acceptor	===	ARU ]	======= D - Н	======== HA	DA	D - HA
1	Intr	1	C(13)	H(13	)O(9)		1655.03]	0.95	2.33	3.215(15)	155
2		1	C(20)	H(20	)O(8)	[	2555.02]	0.95	2.43	3.313(19)	155
3		ra 1	C(22)	H(22	)O(3)	[	4455.01]	0.95	2.59	3.074(7)	112

4	Intra	2	C(27)	H(27B)	0(8)	[	]	0.98	1.85	2.41(5)	113
5	Intra	3	C(30)	H(30C)	0(9)	[	]	0.98	2.19	2.64(2)	106

:: No Classic Hydrogen Bonds Found

Translation of ARU-code to Equivalent Position Code

[ 4455.] = -1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2+z [ 1655.] = 1+x,y,z [ 2555.] = 1/2-x,1/2+y,1/2-z

For C--H...Acceptor Interactions See: Th. Steiner, Cryst. Rev, (1996), 6, 1-57

H-Bond classification: G.A.Jeffrey, H.Maluszynska & J.Mitra., Int.J.Biol.Macromol.(1985),7,336-348

also: G.A.Jeffrey & W.Saenger, Hydrogen Bonding in Biological Structures Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1991, pp 20. 2-Centre (linear) D-H...X most prob. angle 160 deg 3-Centre (bifurcated) SUM of 3 angl. about H = 360 deg

4-Centre (trifurcated)