Supporting Information

Multicolor (Vis-NIR) mesoporous silica nanospheres linking with lanthanide complexes by 2-(5-bromothiophen)imidazo[4,5-*f*][1,10]phenanthroline for *in vitro* bioimaging

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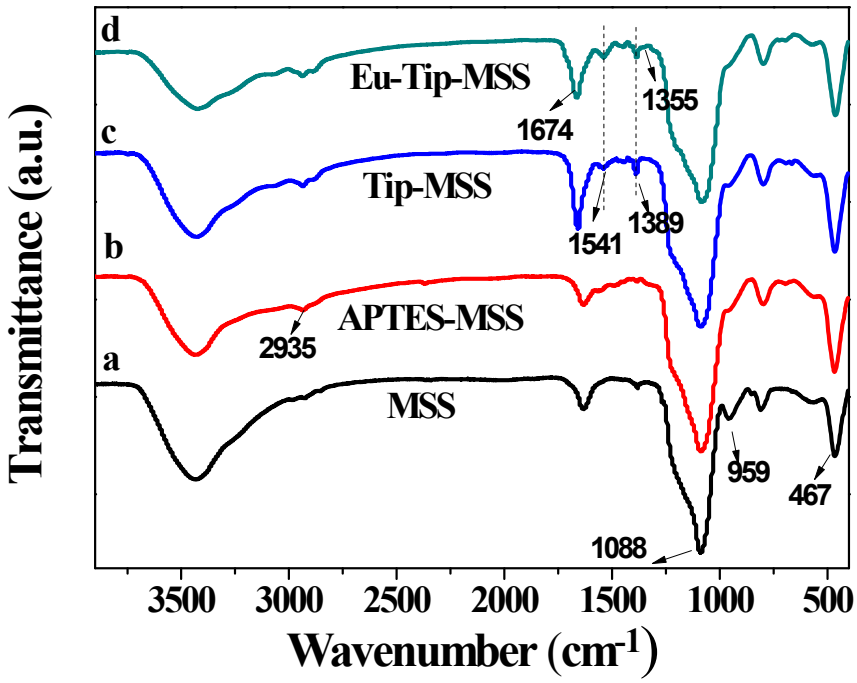

Fig. S1. FT-IR spectra of MSS (a), APTES-MSS (b), Tip-MSS (c), Eu-Tip-MSS (d).

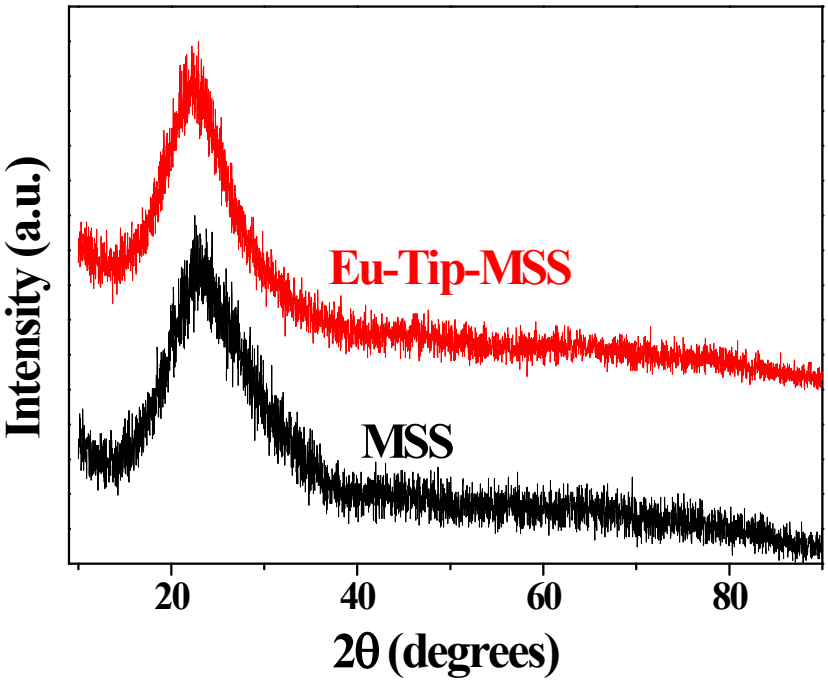

Fig. S2. Wide-angle X-ray diffraction patterns of MSS and Eu-Tip-MSS.

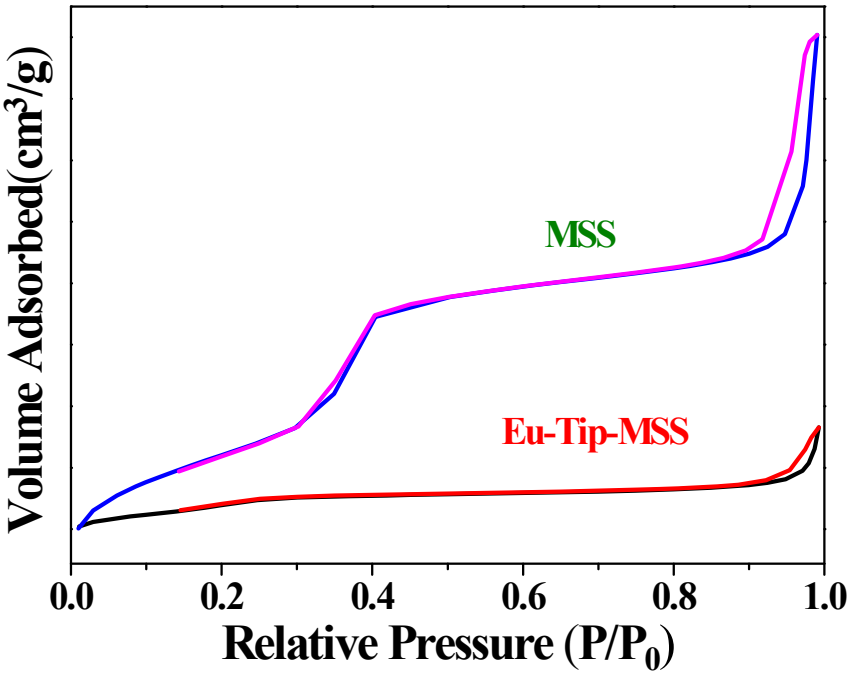

Fig. S3. N_2 adsorption/desorption isotherms of MSS and Eu-Tip-MSS.

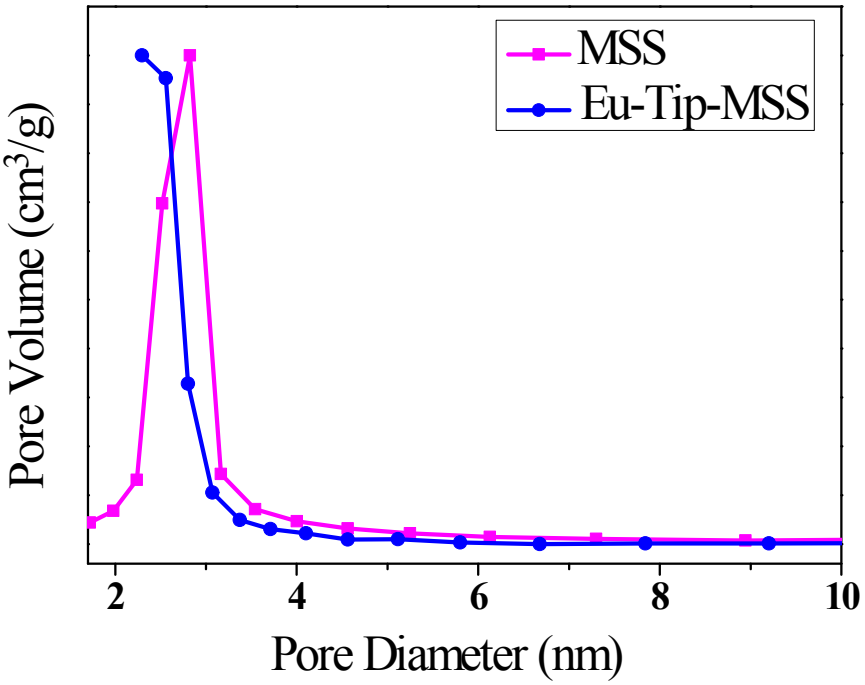

Fig. S4. The corresponding BJH pore distributions of MSS and Eu-Tip-MSS.

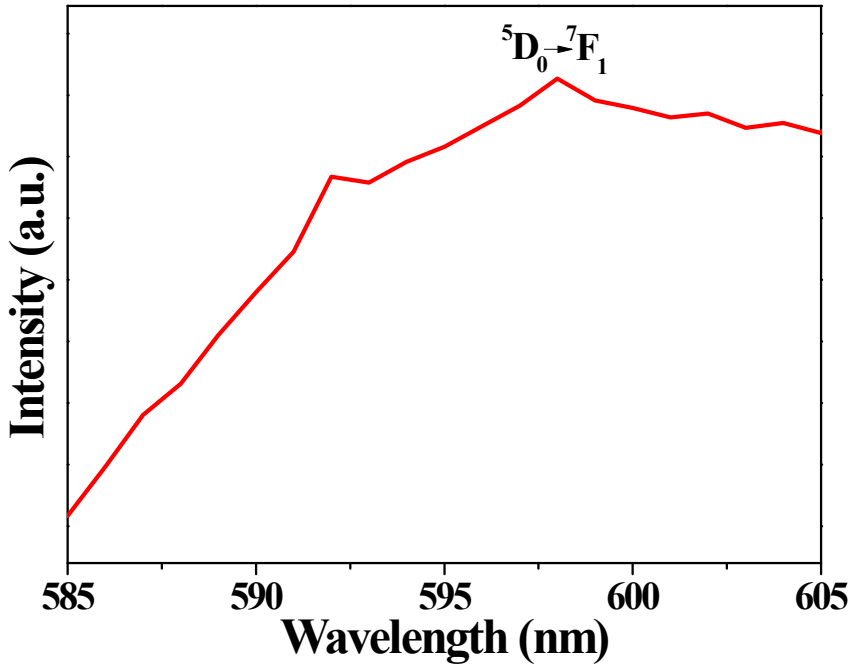

Fig. S5. Emission spectrum of Eu-Tip-MSS (λ_{ex} = 401nm) from 585 nm to 605 nm.

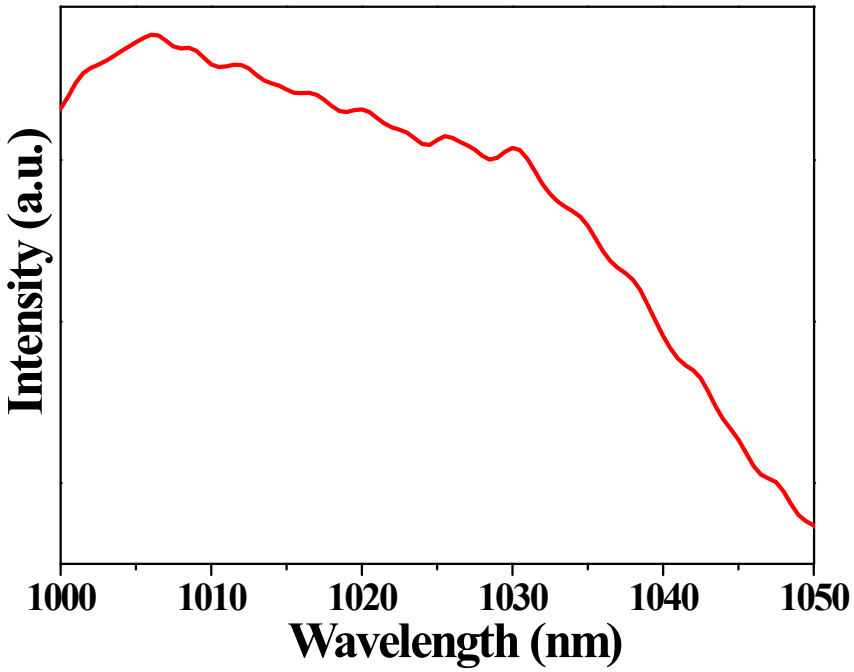

Fig. S6. Emission spectrum of Yb-Tip-MSS (λ_{ex} = 401nm) from 1000 nm to 1050 nm.

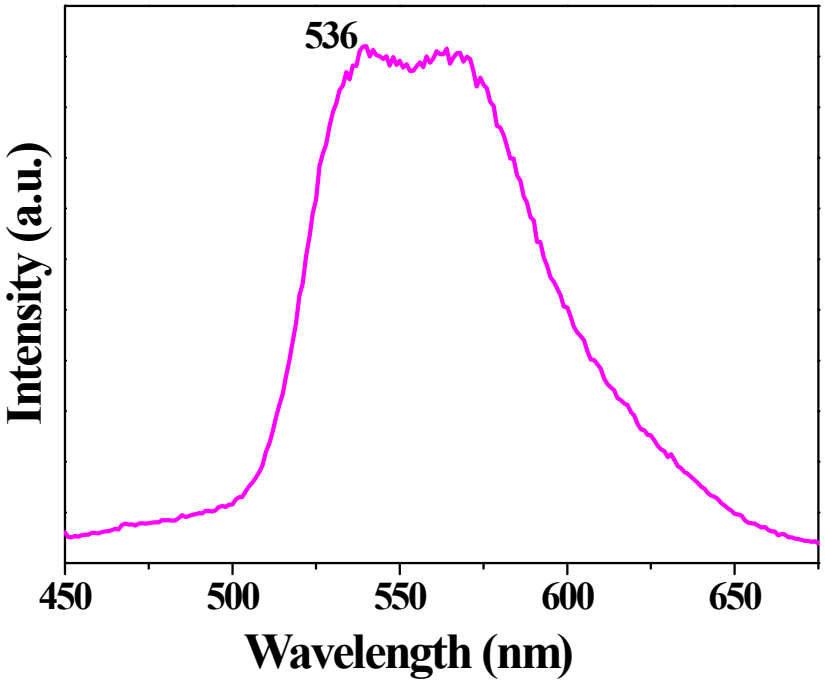

Fig. S7. Emission spectrum of Gd(5-Br-Tip)$_3$ complex (λ_{ex} = 380 nm) at 77 K in solid state.