

## Supplementary Information

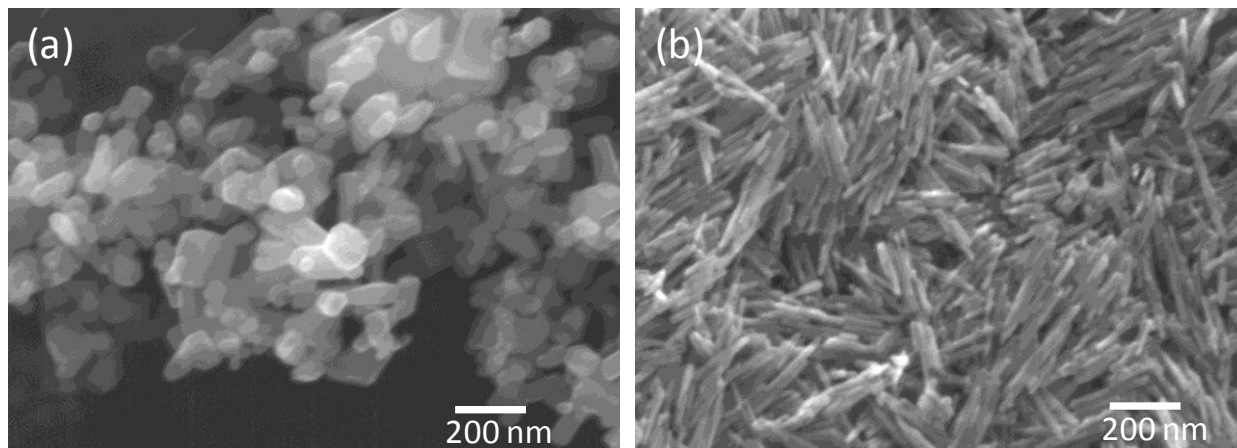


Figure S1: SEM images of commercial ZnO nanoparticles (Sigma Aldrich, product number: 544906) and synthesized ZnO nanorods.

### *ZnO Nanorods synthesis*

Zinc acetate dihydrate (3.35 mmol) was first dissolved in methanol (31.25 ml) and another solution of potassium hydroxide was prepared by dissolving potassium hydroxide (5.7 mmol) in methanol (16.25 ml). The potassium hydroxide solution was added dropwise to the zinc acetate solution at 60 °C under vigorous stirring. Subsequently, the solution became turbid with white ZnO nanorods precipitate. The precipitate was collected and dried at 50 °C in a drying oven overnight.