Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Nanoscale. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2014

## **Supporting Information for:**

## Photoelectrochemical Water Oxidation by Screen-Printed ZnO Nanoparticle Films: Effect of pH on Catalytic Activity and Stability

Monika Fekete,<sup>*a,b*</sup> Wiebke Riedel,<sup>*c*</sup> Antonio F. Patti<sup>*a*</sup> and Leone Spiccia<sup>\**a,b*</sup>

5

<sup>a</sup> School of Chemistry, Monash University, Victoria 3800, Australia Fax: +61 3 9905 4597, Tel: +61 3 9905 4526
E-mail: leone.spiccia@monash.edu
<sup>b</sup> ARC Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science (ACES), Monash
10 University, Victoria 3800, Australia
<sup>c</sup> Institut für Heterogene Materialsysteme, Helmholtz-Zentrum für Materialien und

Energie, Hahn-Meitner-Platz 1, 14109 Berlin, Germany



**Figure S1.** XRD pattern of a fresh ZnO film and after 12 hours of CPE at 120 mV overpotential at pH 13.5 (under 1 Sun illumination). Marked peaks match the crystal planes of wurtzite.



**Figure S2.** Initial LSV testing of the 1-,2- and 3- layer screen-printed ZnO films (in a 0.6M Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution, 0-1.5 V *vs.* Ag/AgCl at a 5 mV/s scan rate. )



Figure S3. Dependence of photocurrent on light intensity (at pH=10.5, in a borate buffer).



Figure S4. IPCE of the screen-printed ZnO films (in a pH 10.5 borate buffer).



**Figure S5.** SEM image of a ZnO film after CPE at pH 12 ( $\eta$ =120 mV, 12 h, in a 0.6 M pH 12 NaClO<sub>4</sub>/NaOH electrolyte, under 1 Sun.) The inset shows the J-t curve during the CPE experiment.

## 5

**Table S1.** ICP-TOF-MS analysis of the Zn-content of films (after 12 hours of operation at 1 Sun) and corresponding electrolytes (pH 10.5 borate buffer).

	Sample	Amount of Zn in the	Amount of Zn in the	Total amount of Zn	Leached Zn-ions
		used film (µg)	electrolyte (µg)	$(\mu g)$	(%)
	-0.2 V	3.102	0.363	3.46	10.5
	0 V	3.427	0.243	3.67	6.6
	0.66 V	3.566	0.603	4.16	14.5
~ -					

10