SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Bis-amidocarbazolyl urea receptor for short-chain dicarboxylate anions

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1. General information.

Melting points were measured with a Stuart Scientific SM3P capillary apparatus. IR spectra were recorded with a Bonem MB-100-FT IR spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature with Bruker Mod.WP-200-SY, Varian Mod. Mercury VS 2000 or Bruker Advance DRX spectrometers in deuterated chloroform or dimethylsulfoxide. J values are reported in Hertzs and chemical shifts in ppm with the solvent signal as internal standard. Electrospray ionization high resolution mass spectra (ESI-HRMS) were determined with an Applied Biosystems QSTAR XL spectrometer. Elemental analysis were recorded on an elemental analyzer Carlo Erba EA 1108 model. Suitable single crystals of both complexes were mounted on glass fibre for data collection on a Bruker Kappa APEX II CCD diffractometer. Data for oxalate complex were collected at 298 K using CuK_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 1.54178$ Å) and data for malonate complex were collected at 373 K using MoK_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). Structure solution, refinement and data output were carried out with the SHELXTL and SIR2004 program package.

2. Structural determination of receptor 1.

Figure S1. Elemental analysis.

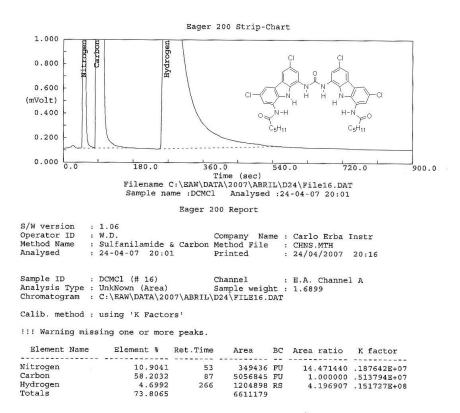


Figure S2.- IR spectrum (Nujol).

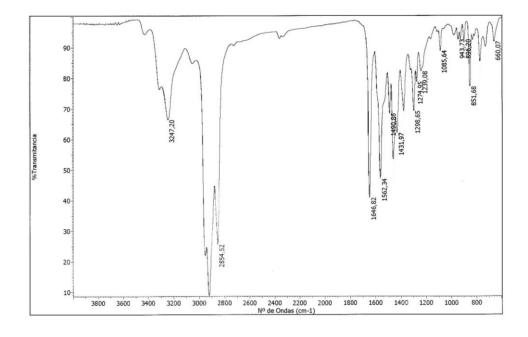


Figure S3. 1 H NMR spectrum (200MHz, DMSO- d_6).

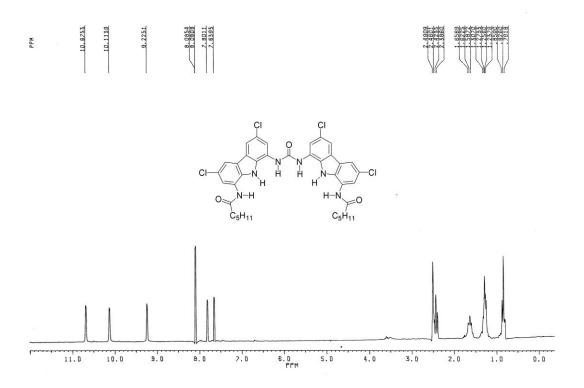


Figure S4. 13 C NMR spectrum (50MHz, DMSO- d_6).

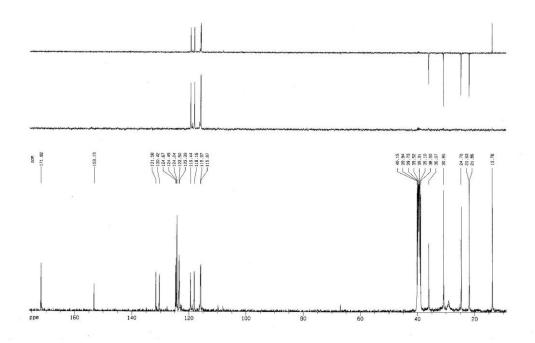


Figure S5. ROESY.

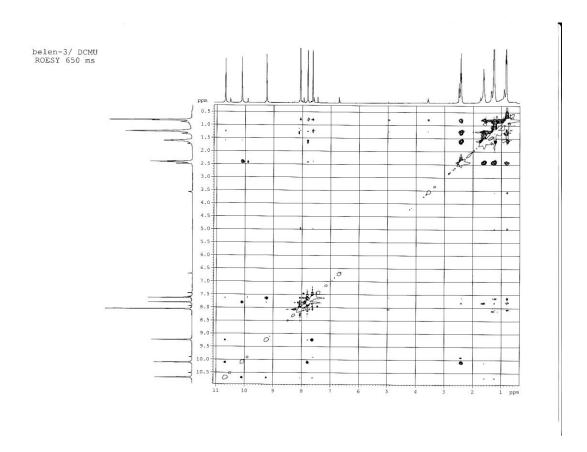


Figure S6. Assignation of ¹H and ¹³C NMR signals.

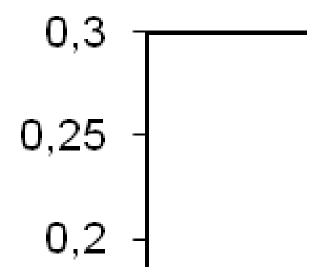
Table: Assignation of the signals of ${}^{1}H$ NMR and ${}^{13}C$ NMR spectra for receptor **1** (DMSO- d_6).

Receptor 1							
Position ^a	$\delta_{H}(ppm)$	$\delta_{\rm C}({ m ppm})$	Position ^a	$\delta_{H}(ppm)$	$\delta_{\rm C}({ m ppm})$		
1		153.2 s					
2		124.7 s	14		171.8 s		
3	7.64 (s)	119.4 d	15	2.42 (t)	36.1 t		
4		130.4 s	16	1.62 (m)	24.7 t		
5	8.09 (s)	116.0 d	17	1.26 (m)	30.9 t		
6		124.2 s	18	1.26 (m)	21.9 t		
7		124.2 s	19	0.82 (t)	13.8 с		
8	8.08 (s)	116.0 d	NH 1a	9.23 (s)			
9		123.4 s	N <i>H</i> 12a	10.68 (s)			
10	7.80 (s)	118.2 d	N <i>H</i> 11a	10.11 (s)			
11		124.5 s					
12		130.4 s					
13		131.6 s					

^a The numbering is not systematic. urea NH = 1a, carbazole NH = 12a, amide NH = 11a

3. Job's plot of complexes.

Figure S7. Job's plots of receptor 1-oxalate, receptor 1-malonate and receptor 1-succinate, measured by ¹H NMR.



4. Titration spectra.

Figure S8. Titration spectra of receptor 1 with oxalate diTBA salt, in DMSO- d_6 .

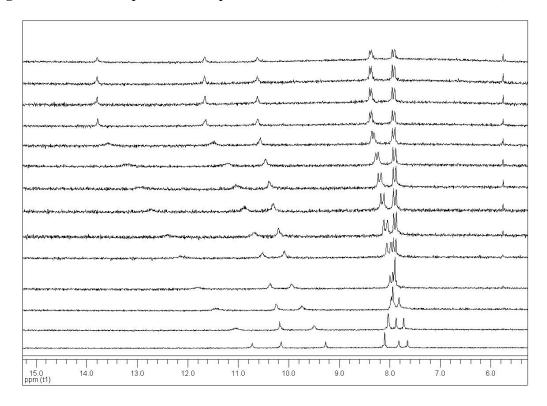


Figure S9. Titration spectra of receptor 1 with malonate diTBA salt, in DMSO- d_6 .

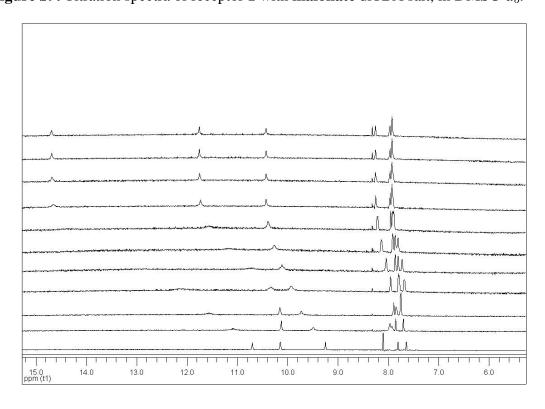
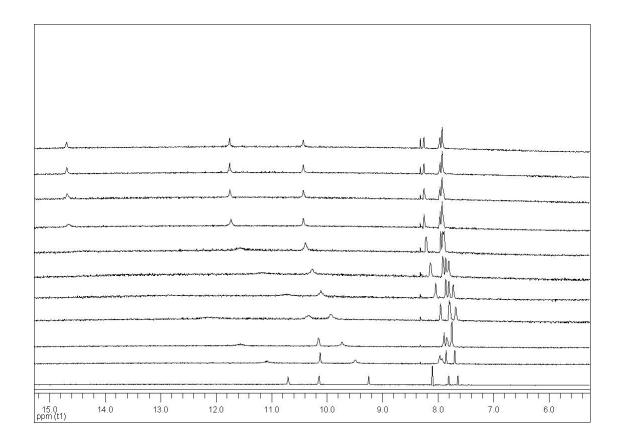


Figure S10. Titration spectra of receptor 1 with succinate diTBA salt, in DMSO- d_6



5. Binding curves of titrations between receptor 1 and ditetrabutylammonium malonate and succinate.

Figure S11. Binding curve of titration for receptor 1-malonate ditetrabutylammonium salt.

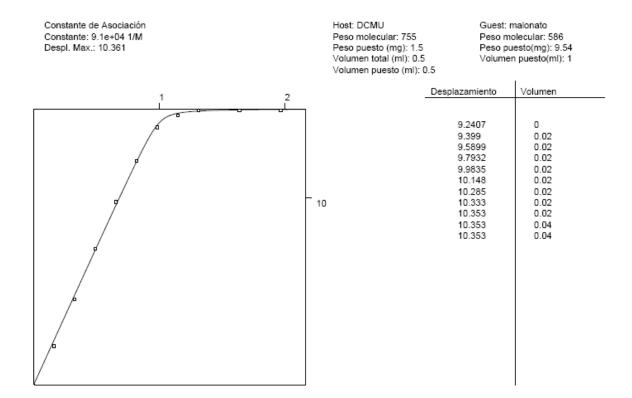
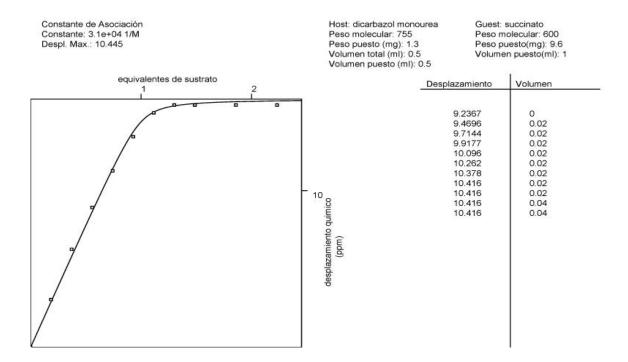
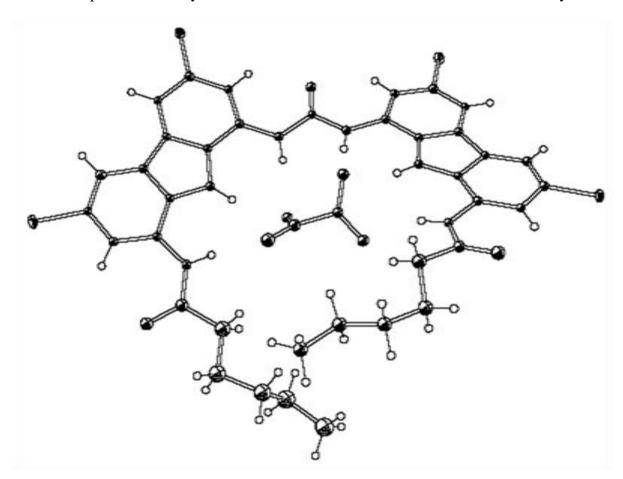


Figure S12. Binding curve of titration for receptor 1-succinate ditetrabutylammonium salt.



6. ORTEP diagrams and X-ray crystal structure data.

Figure S13a. ORTEP diagram and X-ray crystal structure data for the receptor **1**·diTBA oxalate complex. Ditetrabutylammonium counter-cations have been omitted for clarity.



Crystal data: $C_{37}H_{36}N_6O_3Cl_4 \times 2(C_{16}H_{36}N) \times C_2O_4$, M=1327.45, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/c$ (n° 14), a=27.892(3) Å, b=17.1340(18) Å, c=30.726(3) Å, $\alpha=\gamma=90$ °, $\beta=94.856(5)$ °, V=14631(3) Å3, Z=8, Dc=1.205 Mg/m³, $m=(Mo-K_\alpha)=0.218$ mm³, F(000)=5712. 26060 reflections were collected at $0.73 \le 20 \le 22.12$ and merged to give 18233 unique reflections ($R_{int}=0.0475$), of which 15610 with I>2 σ (I) were considered to be observed. Final values are R1=0.1454, wR2=0.3771, GOF=1.056 max/min residual electron density 0.608 and -0.899 e. ų. **CCDC 837724** contains the Supplementary crystallographic data for this complex. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

Figure S13b. X-ray crystal structure of receptor $1 \cdot \text{diTBA}$ oxalate complex, showing the ditetrabutylammonium counter-cations.

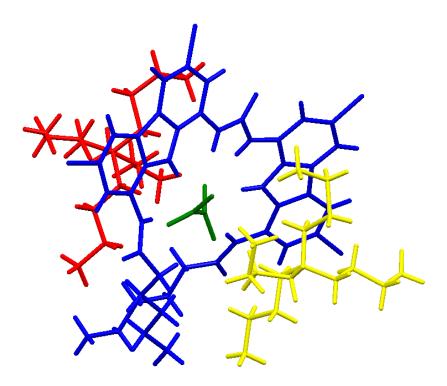
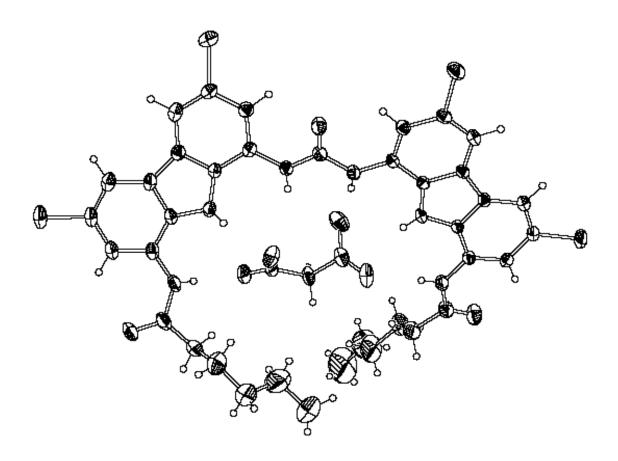


Figure S14. ORTEP diagram and X-ray crystal structure data for the receptor **1**·diTBA malonate complex. Ditetrabutylammonium counter-cations have been omitted for clarity.



Crystal data: $C_{37}H_{36}N_6O_3Cl_4 \times 2(C_{16}H_{36}N) \times C_3H_2O_4$, M=1341.48, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/n$ (n° 14), a=18.8187(3) Å, b=16.0647(3) Å, c=26.4451(3) Å⁻³, $\alpha=\gamma=90^\circ$, $\beta=93.0620(10)^\circ$, V=7983.4(2) Å3, Z=4, Dc=1.116 Mg/m³, $m=(Cu-K_\alpha)=1.754$ mm⁻¹, F(000)=2888. 17057 reflections were collected at $2.81 \le 20 \le 48.05$ and merged to give 6410 unique reflections ($R_{int}=0.0190$), of which 4879 with I>2 σ (I) were considered to be observed. Final values are R1=0.0715, wR2=0.2180, GOF = 1.046, max/min residual electron density 1.049 and -0.317 e. Å⁻³. CCDC 837725 contains the Supplementary crystallographic data for this complex. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

7. View of figure 6.

Figure S15. View of minimized structure of complex between receptor **1** and diTBA succinate, showing five H-bonds (from 2.65 to 2.78 Å). One carbazole NH of the receptor and one carboxylate oxygen of the guest do not participate in the H-bond network.

Complementary to figure 6 in the text.

