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# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

Highly selective detection of Hg<sup>2+</sup> and MeHgI by di-pyridin-2-yl-[4-(2-pyridin-4-yl-vinyl)-phenyl]-amine and its zinc coordination polymer

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Fig. S1 PXRD patterns for 1.

The powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) measurements were carried out on a PANalytical X'Pert PRO MPD system (PW3040/60) using Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.54050$  Å). The data were collected at room temperature in flat-plate mode in a 2 $\theta$  range of 5-30° with a scan speed of 20 °/min. The operating power was 40kV/40mA.



Fig. S2 The TGA curve for 1 (scan rate 5 °C/min)

The framework stability of **1** was investigated by thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) under an ambient atmosphere (Fig. S2). The first weight loss from 20 °C to 70 °C corresponds to the loss of solvent molecules. The main weight loss produced in the temperature range 300–900 °C can be attributed to the decomposition of the organic linkers. The residual species was assumed to be ZnO (12.61% vs calcd. 12.92 %).



(a)



**Fig. S3** Plot of the fluorescence intensity of **1** dispersed in water at different concentrations of (a)  $Hg^{2+}$ ; (b) MeHgI. Inset: linear relation between the fluorescence intensity and the concentrations of (a)  $Hg^{2+}$  in the range of 0.02–0.17 ppm ( $R^2 = 0.94$ ); (b) MeHgI in the range of 0.06–0.21 ppm ( $R^2 = 0.98$ ).



**Fig. S4** The XPS spectra for four samples. (a) The Zn  $2p_{3/2}$  and Zn  $2p_{1/2}$  core level spectrum for **1**; (b) The Zn  $2p_{3/2}$  and Zn  $2p_{1/2}$  core level spectrum for Hg<sup>2+</sup>-immersed **1**; (c) The Hg 4d<sub>5/2</sub> and Hg 4d<sub>3/2</sub> core level spectrum for **1**; (d) The Hg 4d<sub>5/2</sub> and Hg 4d<sub>3/2</sub> core level spectrum for Hg<sup>2+</sup>-immersed **1**.