

## *Supporting Information*

### **Five discrete and polymeric complexes formed from cobalt(II), 4,4'-bipyridine and 2-sulfoterephthalate: synthetic, crystallographic and magnetic studies**

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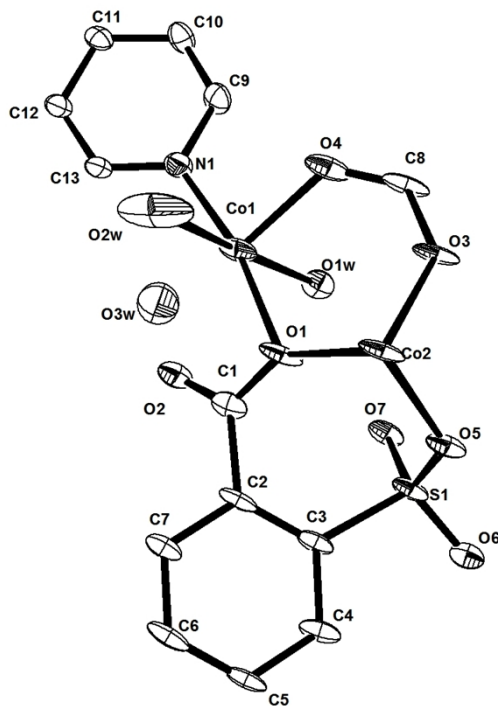
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**Figure S1.** Ortep view (20% ellipsoid probability) of the asymmetric unit of compound **1**.

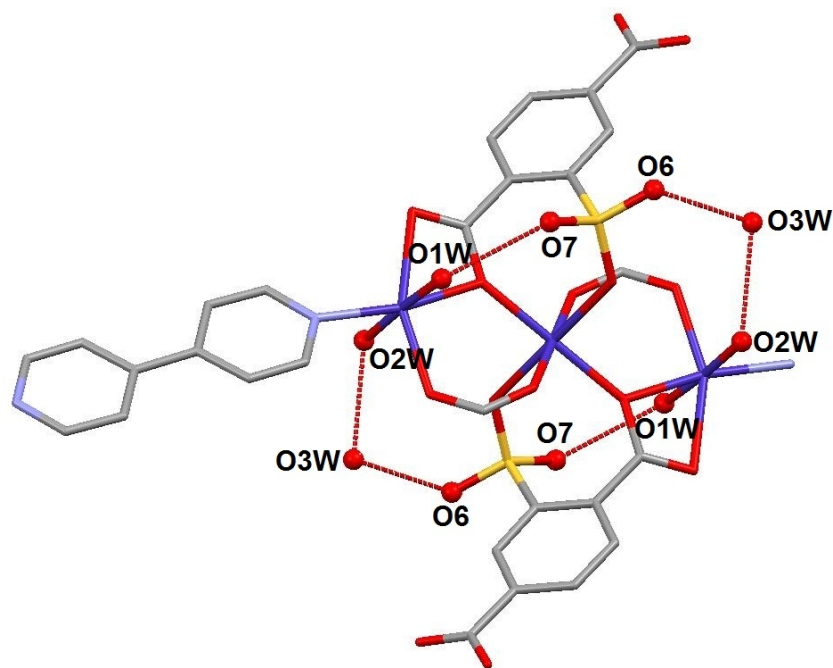
Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

**Table S1.** H-bonding in  $\{[\text{Co}_3(2\text{-stp})_2(\text{bipy})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}\}_n$

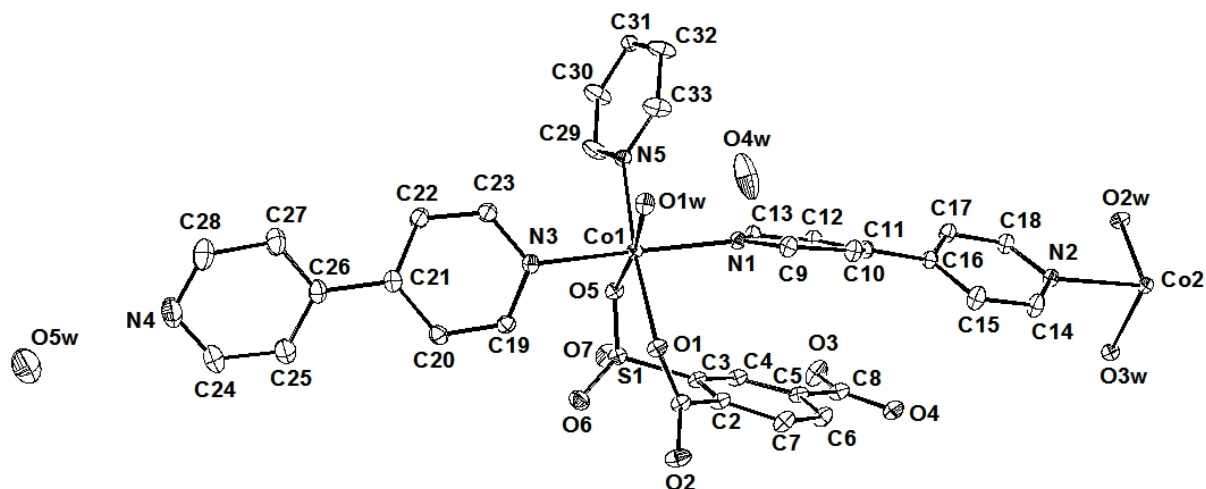
Intramonomeric H-bonding	
D-H $\cdots$ A (Å)	D-H $\cdots$ A (°)
O1W $\cdots$ O7 2.767(9)	O1W-H2W $\cdots$ O7 171.9(9)
O2W $\cdots$ O3W 2.953(9)	-
O2W' $\cdots$ O3W 2.438(9)	-
O6 $\cdots$ O3W 2.953(2)	-

Intermonomeric H-bonding	
D-H...A (Å)	D-H...A (°)
O1W...O6 <sup>a</sup> 2.742(9)	-
O2W...O2W <sup>b</sup> 2.801(9)	-
O3W...O3W <sup>c</sup> 3.167(9)	-

<sup>a</sup> -x+1/2,+y+1/2,-z+1/2; <sup>b</sup> -x, -y, -z; <sup>c</sup> -x,+y,-z-1/2



**Figure S2.** Intra-monomeric H-bonds (as red lines) in  $[\text{Co}_3(2\text{-stp})_2(\text{bipy})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . The atoms belonging to adjacent monomers necessary to complete the coordination environment around the metal centers have been also included. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure S3.** Ortep view (20% ellipsoid probability) of the asymmetric unit of compound **2**.

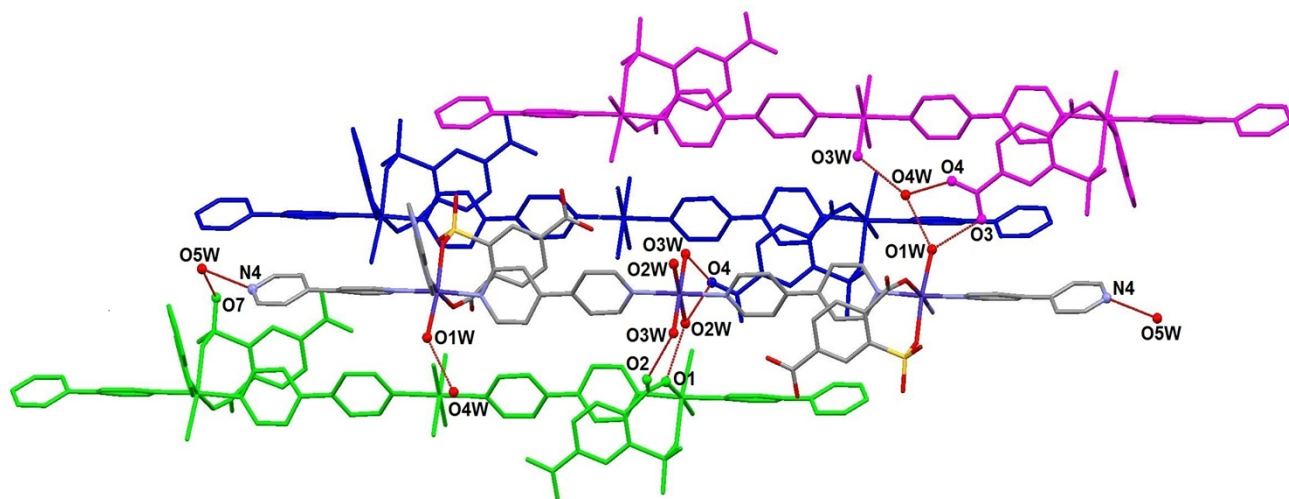
Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

**Table S2.** H-bonding in  $\{[\text{Co}_3(\text{2-stp})_2(\text{bipy})_5(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}\}_n$ .

<b>Intra-monomeric H-bonding</b>			
<b>D-H···A (Å)</b>		<b>D-H···A (°)</b>	
O1W···O4W	2.674(3)	O1W-H1W···O4W	135.22(9)
O5W···N4	2.947(5)	O5W-H9W···N4	158.83(9)
<b>Inter-monomeric H-bonding</b>			
<b>D-H···A (Å)</b>		<b>D-H···A (°)</b>	

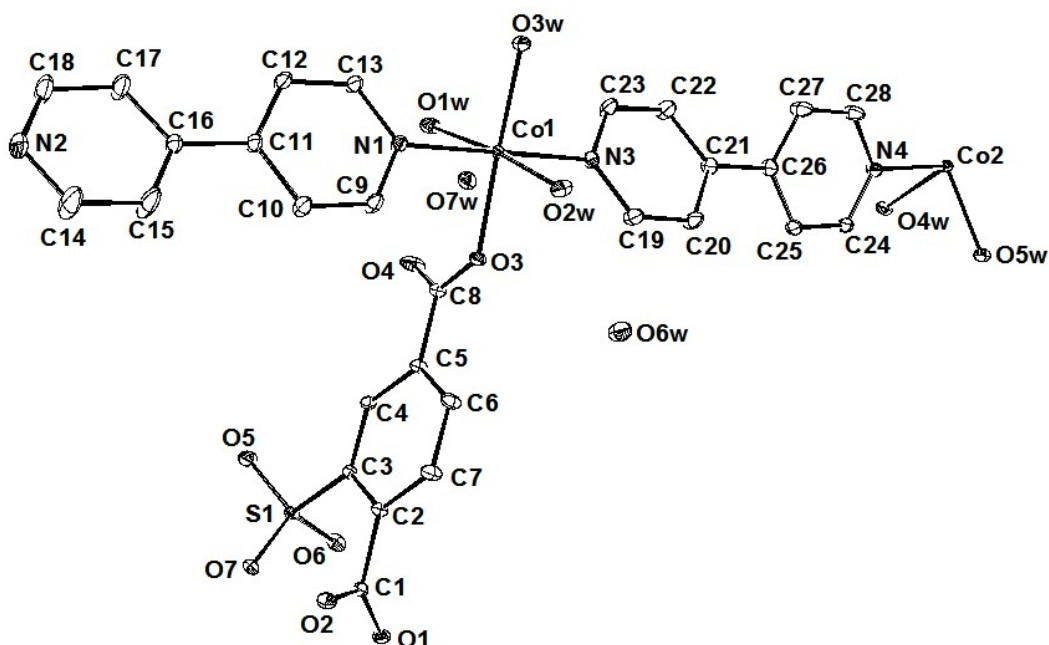
O5W...O7 <sup>a</sup>	2.980(4)	O5W-H10W...O7	142.05(8)
O2W...O1 <sup>a</sup>	2.672(2)	O2W-H4W...O1	161.22(9)
O3W...O2 <sup>a</sup>	2.621(3)	O3W-H5W...O2	175.35(9)
O4W...O3W <sup>b</sup>	2.850(3)	O4W-H7W...O3W	155.58(9)
O4W...O4 <sup>b</sup>	2.764(3)	O4W-H8W...O4	147.59(9)
O1W...O3 <sup>b</sup>	2.681(3)	O1W-H2W...O3	147.69(8)
O2W...O4 <sup>c</sup>	2.743(3)	O2W-H3W...O4	151.85(9)
O3W...O4 <sup>c</sup>	2.688(3)	O3W-H6W...O4	168.57(9)

<sup>a</sup> x+1, y-1, z; <sup>b</sup> x, y-1, z; <sup>c</sup> x-1, y, z;



**Figure S4.** View of the H-bonding network in **2** (H-bonds are shown as red lines). The colored molecules are in the positions obtained applying the operations a (green), b

(magenta) and c (blue) (see Table S2) on the general coordinates. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure S5.** Ortep view (20% ellipsoid probability) of the asymmetric unit of compound **3**.

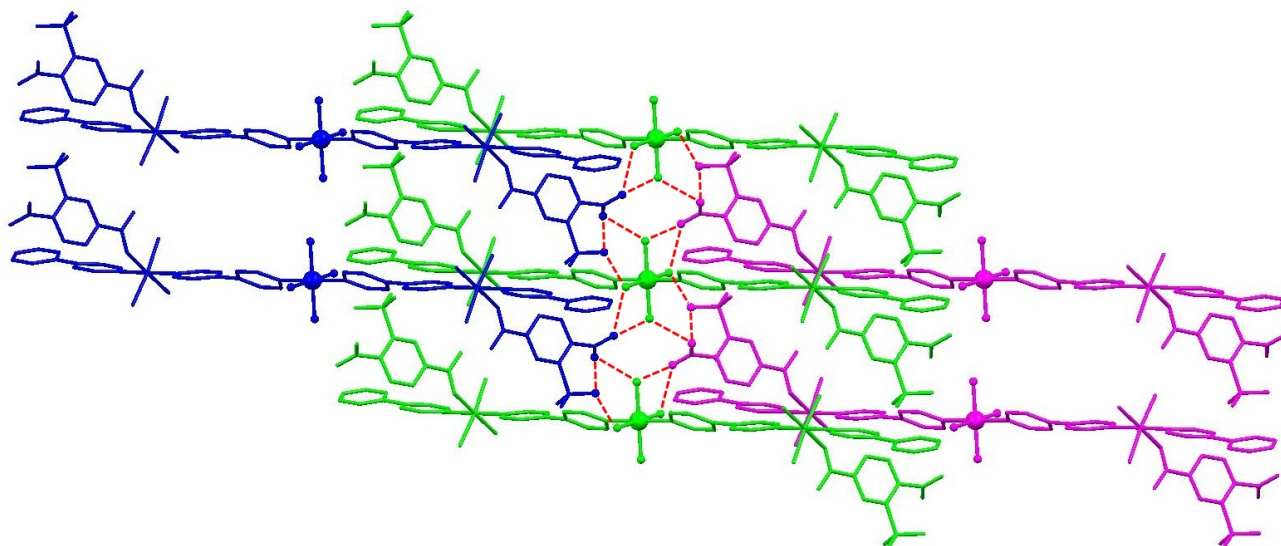
Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

**Table S3.** Relevant H-bonding in  $[\text{Co}_3(2\text{-stp})_2(\text{bipy})_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{10}] \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

D-H···A (Å)		D-H···A (°)	
O2W···O6W	2.753(2)	O2W-H4W···O6W	170(2)
O3W···O7W <sup>a</sup>	2.719(2)	O3W-H5W···O7W	160(2)
O2W···O4 <sup>a</sup>	2.808(2)	O2W-H3W···O4	172(3)
O6W···O6 <sup>a</sup>	2.808(2)	O6W-H12W···O6	172(3)
O3W···O2 <sup>b</sup>	2.736(2)	O3W-H6W···O2	173(2)

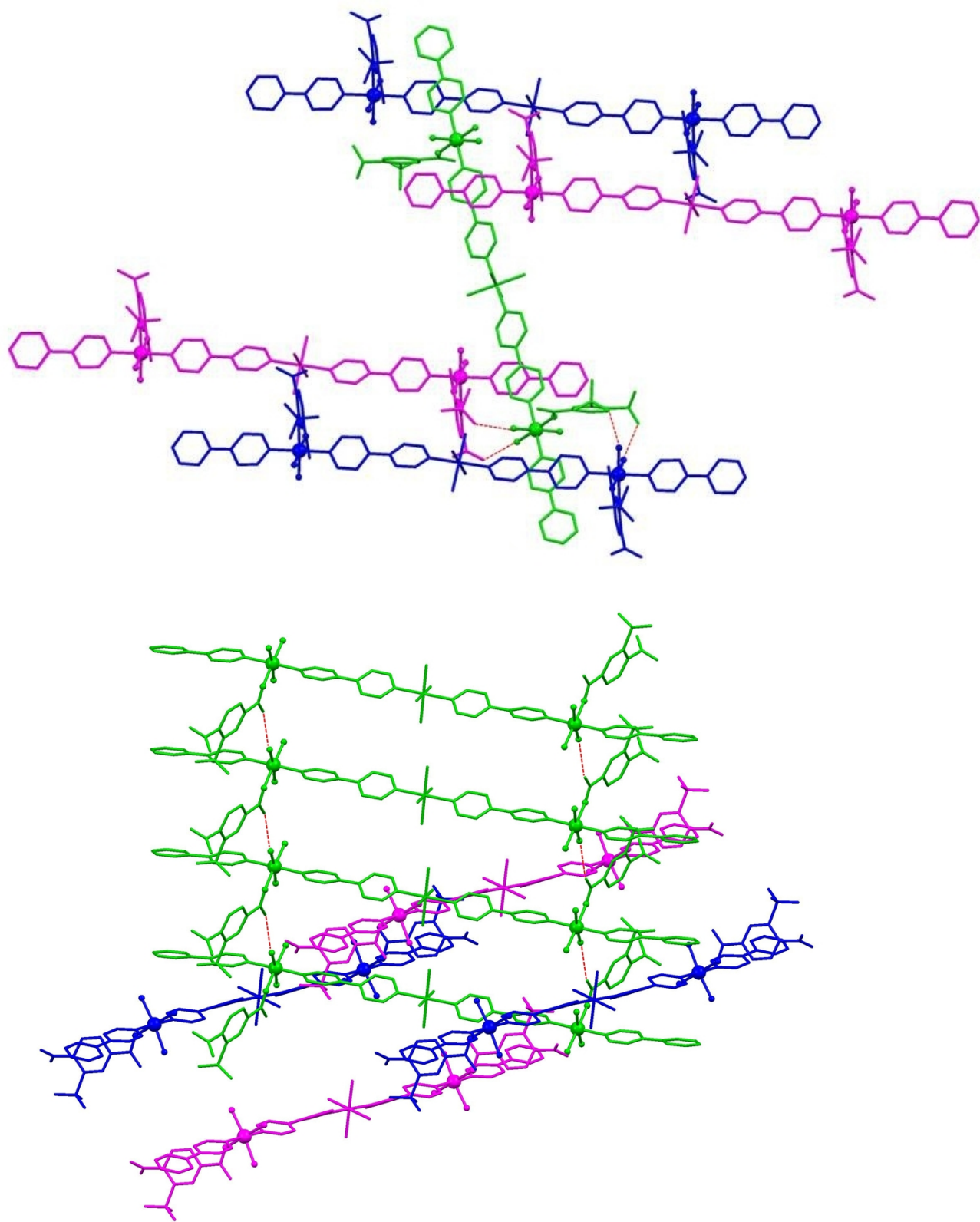
O1W...O7 <sup>b</sup>	2.740(2)	O1W-H2W...O7	172(3)
O7W...O5 <sup>b</sup>	2.819(2)	O7W-H13W...O5	166(3)
O4W...O1 <sup>c</sup>	2.731(2)	O4W-H8W...O1	176(3)
O5W...O7 <sup>c</sup>	2.692(2)	O5W-H9W...O7	172(4)
O4W...O2 <sup>d</sup>	2.835(2)	O4W-H7W...O2	156(3)
O5W...O2 <sup>e</sup>	2.721(2)	O5W-H10W...O2	164(3)

<sup>a</sup>  $x-1, +y, +z$ ; <sup>b</sup>  $x-1/2, -y+1/2, +z-1/2$ ; <sup>c</sup>  $-x+2, -y+1, -z$ ; <sup>d</sup>  $x, +y, +z-1$ ; <sup>e</sup>  $-x+1, -y+1, -z$ .

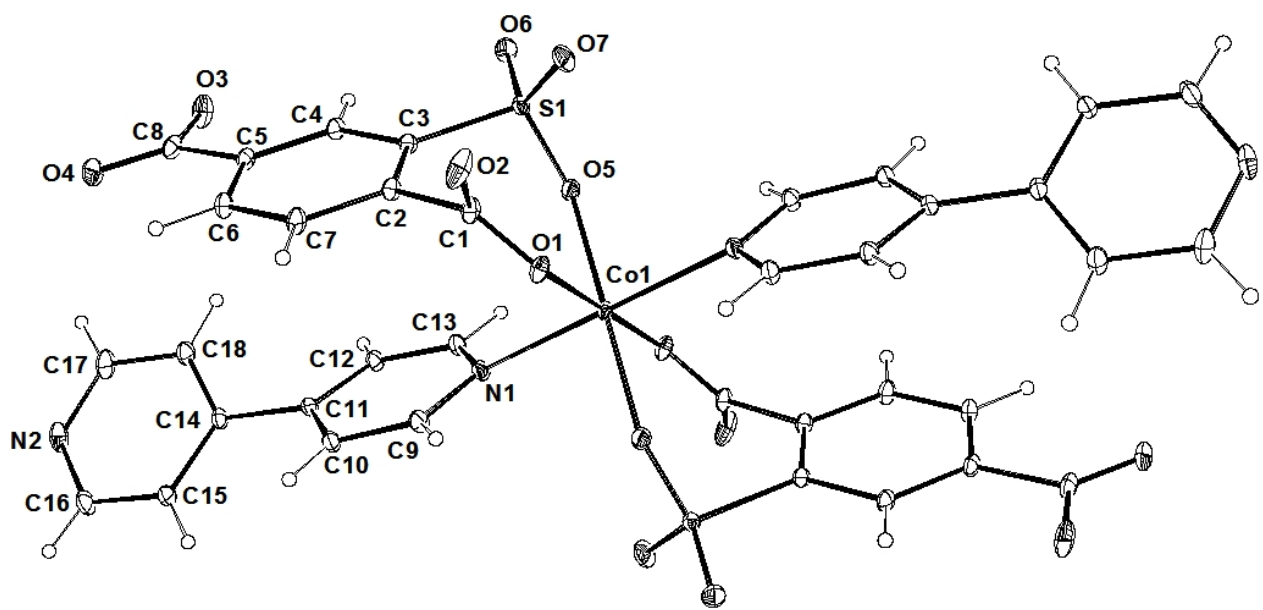


**Figure S6.** Hydrogen bonds formed by the water molecules surrounding Co2 (represented as red dotted lines) highlighted for one group of metal centers.





**Figure S7.** Two perspective views of the hydrogen bonds formed by the water molecules surrounding Co1 (represented as red dotted lines) highlighted for one group of metal centers.



**Figure S8.** Ortep view (20% ellipsoid probability) of the symmetry-generated complex **4**  $[\text{Co}(\text{2-stpH}_2)_2(\text{bipy})_2]$ . The carboxylic hydrogen atoms which could not be located in the difference Fourier map are not shown.