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## **Supporting Information**

Monolayer Molecular Probes for Efficient Detection of Trace Amount Cyanide Anions

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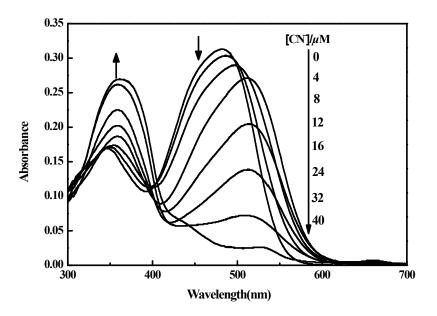


Figure S1. Absorption spectra change of P1 (5  $\mu$ M) in the presence of increasing concentrations of CN- (0-40  $\mu$ M) in THF solution.

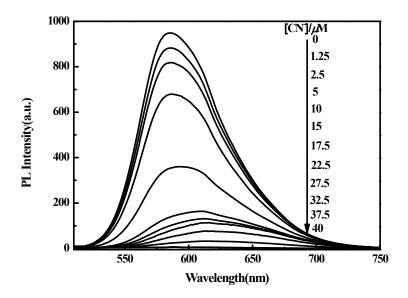


Figure S2. Fluorescence titration of P1 (5  $\mu$ M) to cyanide ions in THF solution. Inset shows the NIR emission color changes before and after addition of CN<sup>-</sup>.

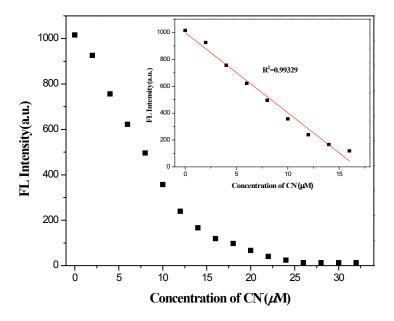


Figure S3. Plots of fluorescence intensity at 590 nm of P1 (5  $\mu$ M) with the addition of CN- in THF.  $\lambda_{\rm ex}$ = 500 nm. Slits: 3 nm/5 nm. Inset: fluorescence intensity at 590 nm as a linear function of CN-concentration from 0 to 16  $\mu$ M.

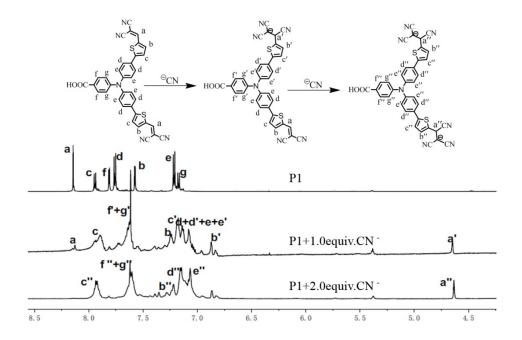


Figure S4. Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral changes upon the addition of cyanide anion to P1 in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.

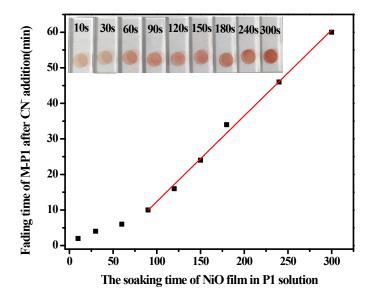


Figure S5. Fading time of M-P1 after treatment of CN<sup>-</sup> versus the soaking time of NiO film in P1 solution. Inset shows the film colors of M-P1 under different soaking time of NiO film.



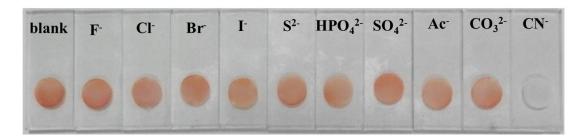


Figure S6. Photographs of M-P1 (on TiO<sub>2</sub> films) immersed into different anions solution. Upside: photos taken with M-P1 immersed in anion solution; downside: the glasses are taken out from the anions solution.

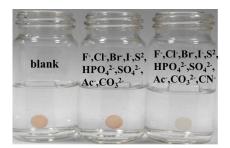




Figure S7. Photographs of M-P1 on TiO<sub>2</sub> films and its color change when soaked in the mixed anions solution in the presence and absence of CN<sup>-</sup>.

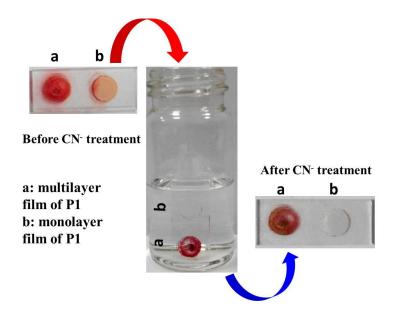


Figure S8. The monolayer and multilayer P1 before and after immersing into the CN<sup>-</sup> solution. a) represents the multilayer P1, and b) shows the monolayer of P1.