

**Table S1 Geometrical parameters (bond length, in Å, bond angle, in deg) and vibrational stretching frequencies(cm<sup>-1</sup>) <sup>a</sup> for formamide in the isolated monomer (**I**) and in the monohydrated complex (**II**) in gas phase and in six kinds of solvents, calculated at B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level of theory and some corresponding experimental values <sup>b</sup>**

Solvents \ Parameters	GAS			CCl4			THF		ETH		ACN			DMSO		WAT	
	I	II	Exp	I	II	Exp	I	II	I	II	I	II	Exp	I	II	I	II
<i>R</i> <sub>N1-H2</sub>	1.010	1.017	1.0016 <sup>c</sup>	1.011	1.017		1.013	1.016	1.014	1.016	1.014	1.016		1.014	1.016	1.014	1.016
<i>R</i> <sub>N1-H9</sub>	1.007	1.006	1.0015 <sup>c</sup>	1.009	1.008		1.011	1.011	1.012	1.012	1.012	1.012		1.012	1.012	1.012	1.012
<i>R</i> <sub>C3-H4</sub>	1.106	1.103	1.098 <sup>c</sup>	1.105	1.102		1.104	1.101	1.104	1.101	1.104	1.101		1.104	1.101	1.103	1.101
<i>R</i> <sub>C3=O5</sub>	1.212	1.223	1.219 <sup>c</sup>	1.218	1.228		1.223	1.232	1.226	1.234	1.226	1.234		1.226	1.234	1.227	1.234
<i>R</i> <sub>C3-N1</sub>	1.361	1.349	1.352 <sup>c</sup>	1.354	1.346		1.348	1.342	1.346	1.340	1.345	1.340		1.345	1.340	1.345	1.340
$\alpha$ <sub>H2-N1-C3</sub>	119.4	119.1	118.5 <sup>c</sup>	119.9	119.3		120.3	119.6	120.6	119.7	120.6	119.8		120.6	119.8	120.6	119.8
$\alpha$ <sub>N1-C3=O5</sub>	124.9	125.0	124.7 <sup>c</sup>	125.0	124.9		125.1	124.8	125.2	124.8	125.2	124.8		125.1	124.8	125.1	124.8
$\alpha$ <sub>N1-C3-H4</sub>	112.4	113.6	112.7 <sup>c</sup>	112.6	113.7		112.8	113.8	112.9	113.9	112.9	113.9		112.9	113.9	112.9	113.9
$\tau$ <sub>H7O6H8H2</sub>	—	-143.5		—	-137.1		—	-131.3	—	-128.1	—	-127.5		—	-127.2	—	-127.1
$\nu$ <sub>asN-H</sub>	3577.1	3553.4	3570 <sup>d</sup>	3543.8	3524.0	3533 <sup>e</sup>	3505.3	3493.9	3490.6	3482.7	3488.0	3480.5	3471 <sup>f</sup>	3487.1	3479.7	3485.4	3477.8
$\nu$ <sub>sN-H</sub>	3445.1	3348.2	3448 <sup>d</sup>	3415.9	3349.3	3411 <sup>e</sup>	3382.3	3350.3	3370.3	3349.5	3368.0	3349.2	3357 <sup>f</sup>	3367.2	3349.0	3365.7	3348.0
$\nu$ <sub>C3-H4</sub>	2833.5	2868.8	2855 <sup>d</sup>	2847.2	2877.7		2856.3	2884.4	2859.3	2886.9	2859.8	2886.9		2859.7	2887.0	2860.4	2887.4
$\nu$ <sub>C3=O5</sub>	1725.1	1695.1	1754 <sup>d</sup>	1688.8	1669.1		1657.1	1644.5	1644.4	1634.6	1642.5	1633.3		1641.5	1632.7	1639.9	1630.9
$\nu$ <sub>C3-N1</sub>	1216.5	1265.5	1255 <sup>d</sup>	1225.4	1266.2		1234.1	1266.4	1237.1	1266.6	1237.6	1266.4		1238.0	1266.5	1238.1	1266.1

<sup>a</sup>Frequencies scaled by 0.963.<sup>9</sup> I denotes the monomer; II denotes the complex. <sup>b</sup> Experimental values correspond to isolated formamide. <sup>c</sup> From ref.2. <sup>d</sup> From ref.10. <sup>e</sup> From ref.11. <sup>f</sup> From ref.12.

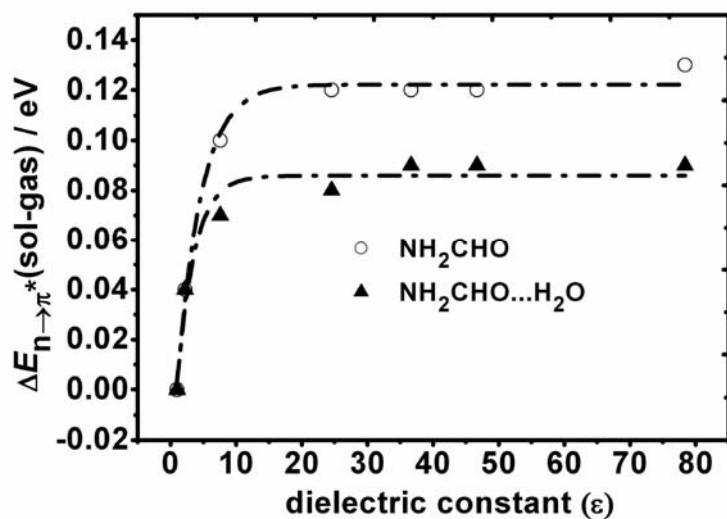
**Table S2 GIAO B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ calculated  $^1\text{H}$  NMR chemical shifts ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$ , in ppm) and variations of  $^1\text{H}$  chemical shifts upon solvation ( $\Delta\delta_{\text{H}}(\text{sol-gas})$ , in ppm)<sup>a</sup> and upon complexation ( $\Delta\delta_{\text{H}}(\text{II-I})$ , in ppm)<sup>b</sup> in gas phase and in the six selected solvents within the framework of the IEF-PCM model for formamide in the isolated monomer (I) and in the complex (II)<sup>c</sup>, using the geometries optimized at the B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level.**

Solvent	$\delta_{\text{H}9}$			$\Delta\delta_{\text{H}9}(\text{sol-gas})$			$\Delta\delta_{\text{H}9}(\text{II-I})$			$\delta_{\text{H}4}$			$\Delta\delta_{\text{H}4}(\text{sol-gas})$			$\Delta\delta_{\text{H}4}(\text{II-I})$			$\delta_{\text{H}2}$			$\Delta\delta_{\text{H}2}(\text{sol-gas})$			$\Delta\delta_{\text{H}2}(\text{II-I})$		
	I	II	I	II	II-I	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
GAS	4.81	4.99	0.00	0.00	0.18	8.53	8.48	0.00	0.00	-0.05	4.79	7.47	0.00	0.00	-2.68												
CCl <sub>4</sub>	5.27	5.45	0.46	0.46	0.18	8.55	8.52	0.02	0.03	-0.03	5.14	7.39	0.35	-0.08	2.25												
THF	5.72	5.89	0.91	0.90	0.17	8.57	8.55	0.03	0.07	-0.02	5.45	7.23	0.66	-0.24	1.78												
ETH	5.89	6.06	1.07	1.07	0.18	8.58	8.56	0.05	0.08	-0.01	5.56	7.14	0.78	-0.33	1.58												
ACN	5.91	6.09	1.10	1.10	0.18	8.58	8.57	0.05	0.08	-0.01	5.58	7.13	0.79	-0.35	1.54												
DMSO	5.93	6.10	1.12	1.11	0.18	8.58	8.57	0.05	0.09	-0.01	5.59	7.13	0.80	-0.34	1.54												
WAT	5.95	6.12	1.14	1.13	0.17	8.59	8.57	0.05	0.09	-0.01	5.61	7.11	0.82	-0.37	1.50												

<sup>a</sup>  $\Delta\delta_{\text{H}}(\text{sol-gas}) = \delta_{\text{H}}(\text{in a given solution}) - \delta_{\text{H}}(\text{in gas phase})$ .

<sup>b</sup>  $\Delta\delta_{\text{H}}(\text{II-I}) = \delta_{\text{H}}(\text{in the complex}) - \delta_{\text{H}}(\text{in the monomer})$ .

<sup>c</sup> Chemical shifts calculated are referred to TMS.



**Fig. S1** Dependences of variations in  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition energies of formamide upon solvation ( $\Delta E_{n \rightarrow \pi^*}(\text{sol-gas})$ ) on dielectric constants of solvents ( $\epsilon$ ) in the monomer and the complex, derived from TDDFT calculations.