Supporting Information:

Recognition of Carboxylate Anions and Carboxylic Acids by Selenium based New Chromogenic Fluorescent Sensor: A Remarkable Fluorescence Enhancement of Hindered Carboxylates

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1. Synthetic procedure of the receptor 1: 2,5,6-Triamino-3*H*-pyrimidin-4-one dihydrochloride (1 gm, 4.7 mmol) and selenium dioxide (0.51 g, 4.7 mmol) were thoroughly ground together. Then the mixture was irradiated at 400 Watt for 15 minutes in a microwave oven (SANYO 800W) taken in an open mouth conical flask. Water was added to it and the precipitate was filtered and dried well. The dry crude product was then heated at 100-120 °C with pivalic anhydride (2 ml) and a catalytic amount of DMAP for 6 hours. The product was purified through column chromatography (silica gel, 100-200 mesh) eluting 2% methanol in chloroform to get pure compound.

Mp 194-195 °C;

IR: 3295, 3136, 2967, 2873, 1673, 1624, 1512, 1455, 1372, 1239, 1147, 1021, 930, 800, 735, 614, 562, 473 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): 12.03 (bs, 1H), 8.54 (bs, 1H), 1.35 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): 181.1, 164.1, 155.2, 149.9, 147.2, 40.6, 26.9.

MS (ES): 302.1 [(M+2H)⁺, 60], 300.1 [M⁺, 30].

Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₁N₅O₂Se: C, 36.01; H, 3.69; N, 23.33; Found: C, 35.93; H, 3.86; N, 23.20.

2. General procedure for UV-vis titration:

UV–vis spectra were recorded on a JASCO V-530. The stock solution of the receptor **1** was prepared in the order of $1.00 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mL}^{-1}$ in CHCl₃. The solutions of guest acids were also prepared in *ca* 1 x 10⁻³ mL⁻¹ order in CHCl₃. Then the guest solution is added to the receptor solution (taking 2 mL in the UV-cell) and continuous decreases of absorbance in UV spectra were recorded each time. Association constants were calculated by plotting $1/\Delta I vs 1/[G]$.

3. General procedure for Fluorescence titration:

Fluorescence spectra were recorded on Perkin Elmer LS-55. The stock solution of receptor **1** was taken in the order of $1.87 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mL}^{-1}$ in CHCl₃. The solutions of guest acids were also prepared *ca* 1 x 10⁻³ mL⁻¹ order. Then the guest solutions were added to the receptor solution (taking 2 mL in the cell) and continuous increase of intensity of

emission spectra was recorded each time. Association constants were calculated by plotting I_0/I_0 -I *vs* 1/[G] (I_0 and I are the initial and final intensity of the receptor solution after each addition during titration).

4. ¹H NMR of receptor 1:



Figure S1



Figure S2

6. Mass spectra of receptor 1: 302.1 (M+2H)⁺





7. 1:1 ¹H NMR of receptor 1 with acetic acid:



Figure S4

8. 1:1 ¹H NMR of receptor 1 with pivalic acid:



Figure S5

9. 1:1 ¹H NMR of receptor 1 with tetrabutylammonium adamantane-1-carboxylate:



Figure S6



Figure S7: Partial ¹H NMR (500 MHz) spectra of (**i**) receptor **1** (a), equivalent amount of pivalic acid (b) and equivalent amount of acetic acid (c) in CDCl₃; (**ii**) receptor **1** (a) and equivalent amount of tetrabutylammonium adamantine-1-carboxylate (b) in CDCl₃.



10. UV-vis titration spectra and association constant determination curve:

Figure S8: UV-vis titration spectra of receptor **1** (1.00 x 10^{-4} mL⁻¹) with different monocarboxylic acids in CHCl₃: (a) acetic acid; (b) phenylacetic acid; (c) pivalic acid; (d) adamantane-1-carboxylic acid; (e) association constant determination curve.





Figure S9: UV-vis titration spectra of receptor **1** $(1.00 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mL}^{-1})$ with different tertiary butylammonium monocarboxylate salts in CHCl₃: (a) acetate; (b) phenylacetate; (c) pivalate; (d) adamantane-1-carboxylate; (e) benzoate; (f) association constant determination curve; (g) Jobs plot.



11. Fluorescence titration spectra and Association constant determination curve:

Figure S10: Fluorescence titration spectra of receptor **1** (2.133 x 10^{-4} mL⁻¹) with different monocarboxylic acids in CHCl₃: (a) acetate; (b) phenylacetate; (c) pivalate; (d) adamantane-1-carboxylilate; (e) association constant determination curve.

CCDC No.	740531
Empirical formula	$C_9H_{11}N_5O_2Se, C_5H_{10}O_2$
Formula weight [g mol ⁻¹]	402.32
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> -1
<i>T</i> [K]	100
<i>a</i> [Å]	6.20680(10)
<i>b</i> [Å]	10.0735(2)
<i>c</i> [Å]	14.6424(2)
α [deg]	105.5300(10)
β [deg]	94.3850(10)
γ [deg]	97.2430(10)
Z	2
V[Å ³]	869.20(3)
Ϊ[Å]	0.71073
$D_{\rm calc} [\rm g/cm^3]$	1.537
F [000]	412
Crystal size	0.14 x 0.23 x 0.60
Theta min-max [deg]	1.5 to 35.0
$\mu [\mathrm{mm}^{-1}]$	2.189
Index ranges	$-9 \le h \le 9$ -16 $\le k \le 16$ -23 $\le 1 \le 23$
Reflections collected	31047
Unique reflections	7552
Observed reflections [I > 2.0 sigma(I)]	6806
$R_1 \left[I > 2\sigma(I) \right]$	0.0217
wR_2	0.0596
GOF	1.08

12. Table 1: Crystallographic data and structure refinement parameters of co crystal of receptor and pivalic acid:

DHA	D – H	HA	DA	D - HA
O4H1N1	0.775(18)	1.955(18)	2.7257(11)	173.6(19)
Intra N4H1O2	0.781(19)	2.027(18)	2.6313(11)	134.1(17)
N5H1O3	0.872(17)	2.035(17)	2.8966(11)	169.6(16)
С7Н7СО3	0.96	2.57	3.4448(14	152
C9H9AO1 ⁱ	0.96	2.48	3.3030(13)	143
C12H12AO1 ⁱⁱ	0.96	2.59	3.5175(14)	162
C5O2 <i>Cg</i> 1 ⁱⁱⁱ	1.2232(12)	3.7842(9)	4.3055(9)	107.09(6)
$C5-O2Cg2^{iii}$	1.2232(12)	3.8278(9)	4.4438(10)	112.60(6)

13. Table 2: Hydrogen-bond parameters (Å, °) of the complex of receptor 1 with pivalic acid:

Symmetry codes: (i) 2-x, -y, -z; (ii) 1-x, 1-y, -z; (iii) 1+x, y, z; Cg1 and Cg2 are the centroids of the rings C1/N2/Se1/N3/C2 and N1/C1/C2/C3/N4/C4.

14. Illustration of X-ray crystal structure:



(a)



Figure S11: Illustrations for the X-ray crystal structure of receptor 1 with pivalic acid: (a) 2D polymeric chain viewed down along a axis; (b) 3D chair like motif; (c) crystal packing.