## **Supporting Information**

a) Elemental Analyses (compounds were recrystallized to constant mp)

Entry	Formula	C% calcd	H% calcd	N% calcd	C% found	H% found	N% found
Ester 5	$C_{17}H_{12}N_2O_7$	57.3	3.4	7.9	57.4	3.5	7.8
Ester 6	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	58.4	3.8	7.5	58.7	4.0	7.4
Amide	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	77.4	6.1	5.0	77.6	6.2	5.0

b)  $^{1}$ H-NMR spectra were recorded at 200 MHz (Varian Gemini 200) in acetone- $d_{6}$  with TMS as internal standard; the attribution of the vinylenic hydrogen atoms was performed by simple decoupling technique and J values were in the range 15.22 - 15.42 Hz thus indicating E, E stereochemistry.