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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP97/03203 (22) International Filing Date: 19 June 1997 (19.06.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/671,278 27 June 1996 (27.06.96) US (71) Applicant: NOVARTIS AG [CH/CH]; Schwarzwaldallee 215, CH-4058 Basel (CH). (72) Inventors: HIRT, Thomas; 1451C Druid Valley Drive, Atlanta, GA 30329 (US). LOHMANN, Dieter; Mittelweg 56, CH-4142 Münchenstein (CH). HÖPKEN, Jens; Inzlinger-Strasse 33, D-79540 Lörrach (DE). LIU, Qin; 3250 River Summit Trail, Duluth, GA 30136 (US). (74) Agent: ROTH, Bernhard, M.; Novartis AG, Patent- und Markenabteilung, Lichtstrasse 35, CH-4002 Basel (CH).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: AMPHIPHILIC, SEGMENTED COPOLYMER OF CONTROLLED MORPHOLOGY AND OPHTHALMIC DEVICES INCLUDING CONTACT LENSES MADE THEREFROM		
(57) Abstract The subject matter of the present invention is an amphiphilic, segmented copolymer of controlled morphology comprising at least one segment having high oxygen permeability, at least one segment having high ion and water permeability, the segments being linked together through a non-hydrolyzable bond, and at least one polymerizable unsaturated group; a process for the preparation of the copolymer; to polymeric products obtainable by further polymerizing and optionally cross-linking the amphiphilic segmented copolymer, and to mouldings, especially contact lenses and other ophthalmic devices comprising a polymeric product of the invention. In a specifically preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to a contact lens comprising a polymeric product of the invention which is suited for extended periods of wear.		