

ABSTRACT

A resin composition for forming a retarder is disclosed with which orientation and stretching steps are not necessary, and a retarder having a high transparency and high birefringence can be formed by coating the composition on a substrate. The composition comprises a polyimide precursor and an organic solvent, which polyimide precursor is obtained by reacting at least one tetracarboxylic dianhydride and at least one diamine. At least one of the at least one tetracarboxylic dianhydride and the at least one diamine is an alicyclic compound. This composition is used for forming a retarder which is used for liquid crystal displays, which has an optically negative uniaxial anisotropy, whose optical axis is substantially vertical to the film plane of the retarder, and which has a birefringence Δn in the direction of thickness of 0.01 to 0.3.