to a sufficiently high temperature to provide itaconic, mesaconic and/or citraconic acid; and
a process according to any of claims 1-8 to provide methacrylic acid.

14 A process according to any of claims 1 to 13, wherein the concentration of the dicarboxylic acid reactant(s) is at least 0.1M.

15 A process according to any of claim 1 to ~~16~~14, wherein the concentration of the catalyst in the reaction mixture is at least 0.1M.

16 A process for the production of methacrylic acid by the base catalysed decarboxylation of at least one dicarboxylic acid selected from itaconic, citraconic or mesaconic acid or mixtures thereof, wherein the decarboxylation is carried out in the temperature range between 240 and 290°C and the dicarboxylic acid(s) reactant(s) are exposed to the reaction conditions for a time period of at least 80 seconds.