CLAIMS

1. A manufacturing process for preparing a powder composition comprising the following steps:

a) a lipophilic extract of *Echinacea spp.*, or a botanical lipophilic extract containing alkylamides, and a lipophilic extract of *Zingiber officinale* are dispersed in at least one polar organic solvent and kept under mixing until partial or complete co-solubilisation; heating is optionally applied;

b) at least one phospholipid is then added to the solution, or suspension, of the lipophilic extracts and the mixture is kept under mixing; heating is optionally applied;

c) the organic solvent is then removed to obtain the powder composition.

2. A manufacturing process according to claim 1, wherein the obtained powder composition is then calibrated, and optionally grinded to obtain the desired particle size distribution.

3. A manufacturing process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the lipophilic extract of *Echinacea spp.* is obtained from *Echinacea angustifolia* or *purpurea*, preferably from *Echinacea angustifolia*.

4. A manufacturing process according to claims 1-3, wherein the other botanical lipophilic extracts containing alkylamides are lipophilic extracts of *Zanthoxylum spp.* or *Acmella spp.*

5. A manufacturing process according to claim 4, wherein the lipophilic extracts of *Zanthoxylum spp.* are obtained from *Zanthoxylum bungeanum, Zanthoxylum piperitum*, *Zanthoxylum americanum* and the lipophilic extracts of *Acmella spp.* from *Acmella oleracea*.

6. A manufacturing process according to claims 1-5, wherein the organic

solvent is a polar protic solvent, like a, straight or branched, C_1-C_8 alkyl alcohol, or a polar aprotic solvent, like a, straight or branched, C_1-C_8 alkyl ester or C_1-C_8 dialkyl ketone.

7. A manufacturing process according to claim 6, wherein the organic solvent is selected from the group comprising ethyl alcohol, ethyl acetate, acetone, isopropyl alcohol, isobutyl alcohol, and combinations thereof; preferably the organic solvent is selected from ethyl alcohol and ethyl acetate.

8. A manufacturing process according to claims 1-7, wherein the phospholipid is selected from lecithins derived from soy, sunflower or egg, phosphatidyl choline, phosphatidyl serine, phosphatidyl ethanolamine, wherein the acyl groups are the same or different and are derived from palmitic, stearic, oleic, linoleic, linolenic acids; and combinations thereof; preferably the phospholipid is lecithin.

9. A manufacturing process according to claims 1-8, wherein the lipophilic extracts to phospholipid ratio ranges from 0.2 to 2, preferably from 0.5 to 1.

10. A manufacturing process according to claims 1-9, wherein after step b) a second surfactant, other than lecithin, is added.

11. A manufacturing process according to claim 10, wherein the second surfactant is selected from the group comprising polyoxyethylene castor oil derivatives, polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters, polyglycerides, sorbitan fatty acid esters, sucrose palmitate, sucrose stearate, D-α-tocopheryl polyethylene glycol succinate, and combinations thereof.

12. A manufacturing process according to claim 10, wherein the phospholipid to second surfactant ratio ranges from 0.25 to 10, preferably from 0.5 to 1.

13. A powder composition obtainable by the manufacturing process comprising the following steps:

a) a lipophilic extract of *Echinacea spp.*, or a botanical lipophilic extract containing alkylamides, and a lipophilic extract of *Zingiber officinale* are dispersed in at least one polar organic solvent and kept under mixing until partial or complete co-solubilisation; heating is optionally applied;

b) at least one phospholipid is then added to the solution, or suspension, of the lipophilic extracts and the mixture is kept under mixing; heating is optionally applied;

c) the organic solvent is then removed to obtain the powder composition.

14. Pharmaceutical formulations comprising a powder composition according to claim 13 and at least one physiologically acceptable excipient and/or carrier.

15. A powder composition according to claim 13 or pharmaceutical formulations according to claim 14 for use in the prevention and/or treatment of inflammatory and painful states.

16. Use of a powder composition according to claim 13 or pharmaceutical formulations according to claim 14 in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of inflammatory and painful states.

17. Nutraceutical and cosmetic formulations comprising a powder composition according to claim 13 and at least one physiologically acceptable excipient and/or carrier.