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(54) Title: A CATALYST SUPPORT AND A SUPPORTED METAL CATALYST, A PROCESS FOR THEIR PREPARATION, AND THE USE OF THE CATALYST

(57) Abstract: A process for preparing a catalyst support or a supported metal catalyst which process comprises: (a) admixing a refractory oxide having a surface area of at least 0.5 m^2/g with a solution of a precursor of the refractory oxide and, if a supported metal catalyst is prepared, with a precursor of the metal or the metal itself, yielding a slurry, (b) drying of the slurry, and (c) calcining. Further, a catalyst support or a supported metal catalyst which is obtainable by the said process; the use of the said supported metal catalyst in a three phase chemical process; and a process for producing hydrocarbons, which process comprises contacting a mixture of carbon monoxide and hydrogen at elevated temperature and pressure with the said supported metal catalyst wherein the said supported metal catalyst comprises a Group VIII metal at least partly in metallic form.