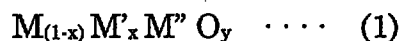


ABSTRACT

Aromatic carbonates can be prepared economically and efficiently by reacting an aromatic hydroxy compound with carbon monoxide and oxygen in the presence of a catalyst wherein a palladium compound is supported on a perovskite-type composite oxide represented by the following formula (1) or (1'):



(wherein, M is a group IIIB metal; x is a number of 0 to 1; M' is a metal having an ionic radius of 0.90 Å or more; M'' is Mn, Cr, Co, Fe, Ni or Cu; y is a number of 2.5 to 3.5), or



(wherein, L is a group IIA or IVA metal taking a divalent state in the form of an oxide; x is a number of 0 to 1; L' is a metal having an ionic radius of 0.90 Å or more; L'' is a group IVA, IVB or IIIB metal taking a tetravalent state in the form of an oxide; y is a number of 2.5 to 3.5), and the palladium accounts for 0.01 to 15% of the catalyst by weight.