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International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : C07D 201/12	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/30974 (43) International Publication Date: 28 August 1997 (28.08.97)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/NL97/00057 (22) International Filing Date: 12 February 1997 (12.02.97) (30) Priority Data: 1002429 23 February 1996 (23.02.96) NL (71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): DSM N.V. [NL/NL]; Het Overloon 1 [NL 6411 TE Heerlen (NL). E.I. DE PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY [US/US]; 1007 Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19898 (US). (72) Inventors; and (73) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BULUS, Wim [NL/NL]; Wolfhagen 145, NL-6365 BM Schinnen (NL). WOLTERS, Henricus, Franciscus, Wilhelmus [NL/NL]; Olmstraat 4, NL-6101 BT Echt (NL). (74) Agent: CRAMWINCKEL, Michiel; Octrooibureau DSM, P.O. Box 9, NL-6160 MA Geleen (NL).		(81) Designated States: AL, AU, BA, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CU, CZ, EE, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG, SI, SK, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.
(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A MIXTURE OF ϵ-CAPROLACTAM, 6-AMINOCAPROIC ACID AND 6-AMINOCAPROIC AMIDE (57) Abstract Process for the preparation of a mixture of ϵ-caprolactam, 6-aminocaproic acid and 6-aminocaproic amide by heating an aqueous mixture containing ammonia and oligomers of 6-aminocaproic acid and/or of 6-aminocaproic amide, the aqueous mixture containing 0.5-7 wt.% of equivalent ammonia (calculated as NH_3) and the temperature lying between 280 °C and 330 °C, in which by "equivalent ammonia" is meant free ammonia and ammonia present in the form of a terminal amide group of one of the compounds present in the aqueous mixture.		