



(51) International Patent Classification:
C01D 3/26 (2006.01) *C07C 51/487* (2006.01)
C07C 51/367 (2006.01)

(74) Agent: **ALFERINK, Petrus, Johannes, Theodorus;**
Akzo Nobel N.V., Legal, IP & Compliance, P.O. Box
9300, NL-6800 SB Arnhem (NL).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2010/057287

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ,
CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO,
DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT,
HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP,
KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD,
ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI,
NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD,
SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR,
TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date:
27 May 2010 (27.05.2010)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
09161723.3 2 June 2009 (02.06.2009) EP
61/183,269 2 June 2009 (02.06.2009) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **AKZO
NOBEL CHEMICALS INTERNATIONAL B.V.** [NL/
NL]; Stationsstraat 77, NL-3811 MH Amersfoort (NL).

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG,
ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ,
TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK,
EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU,
LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,
SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BAKKENES, Hen-
drikus, Wilhelmus** [NL/NL]; Rietdekkersdreef 850,
NL-7328 AP Apeldoorn (NL). **BERGEVOET, Roberto,**
Aloysius, Gerardus, Maria [NL/NL]; Van der Rennest-
straat 15, NL-7037 AP Beek (NL). **MEIJER, Johannes,**
Albertus, Maria [NL/NL]; Prinses Ireneweg 1, NL-7433
DD Schalkhaar (NL). **STEENSMA, Maria** [NL/NL];
Nicolaas Beetsstraat 2A, NL-6824 NN Arnhem (NL).

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A COMPOSITION COMPRISING MESO-TARTARIC ACID

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a process for the preparation of a composition comprising tartaric acid wherein between 55 and 90% by weight of the tartaric acid is meso-tartaric acid, comprising the steps of (i) preparing an aqueous mixture comprising between 35 and 65% by weight of a di-alkali metal salt of L-tartaric acid, a di-alkali metal salt of D-tartaric acid, a mixture of di-alkali metal salts of L-tartaric acid, D-tartaric acid, and optionally meso-tartaric acid, and between 2 and 15% by weight of an alkali metal or alkaline metal hydroxide, and (ii) stirring and heating the aqueous mixture to a temperature of between 100°C and its boiling point until between 55 and 90% by weight of tartaric acid has been converted to meso-tartaric acid.

