

ABSTRACT

There is provided a method for obtaining an aqueous solution of an alkali metal salt of an aromatic dihydroxy compound by decomposing a waste aromatic polycarbonate by an alkali metal hydroxide aqueous solution. The method comprises (1) a dissolution step of dissolving a waste aromatic polycarbonate in a chlorinated hydrocarbon solvent, (2) a decomposition step of adding an alkali metal hydroxide aqueous solution to this solution to decompose the aromatic polycarbonate, (3) a re-dissolution step of adding water to this decomposed solution to dissolve a solid, (4) a two phase formation step of leaving the treated solution obtained in the step (3) to stand to form an organic solvent phase (organic phase) and an aqueous solution phase (aqueous phase), and (5) a separation/collection step of separating the aqueous phase from the organic solvent phase and collecting the aqueous phase.

According to the method of the present invention, a metal salt aqueous solution of a high-quality aromatic dihydroxy compound which is useful as a raw material for polycarbonate can be obtained industrially advantageously from a waste aromatic polycarbonate at low cost and in a short decomposition time.