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Full Length Article

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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

Efficient Sb<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> sensitized solar cells prepared through a facile SILAR process and improved performance by interface modification

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#### **Abstract**

Sb<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> is a potential light harvesting material for photovoltaic cells due to its excellent optical, electrical properties and eco-friendly nature. Herein, an efficient Sb<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> sensitized solar cell (SSCs) is prepared for the first time through a solution-based successive ionic layer adsorption and reaction (SILAR) process which is flexible, low-cost and easy to access. Aiming to further improve the device performance, a novel approach based on TiCl<sub>4</sub> treatment on mesoporous TiO<sub>2</sub> has been introduced, which is found to optimize the growth condition of Sb<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles and improve the interfacial surface state, resulting in a better band alignment and a controlled recombination losses in Sb<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> SSCs. The TiCl<sub>4</sub> treated

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