

- What degree of reliability can be given to the LD₅₀ toxicity index of 0.5 mg/kg?
- What impact on industry might result from having compounds of Schedule (4) subjected to measures contained in the Convention?

The paper argues that there is a very large number of compounds that have a Schedule 4 (2A) level of toxicity (i.e., 850 substances have an LD₅₀ ≤ 0.5 mg/kg, and 596 substances have an LD₅₀ between 0.5 and 1.0 mg/kg). The paper also argues that toxicity values reported in the literature are the result of a variety of testing methods, and are not comparable when one considers the variety of species and different routes of exposure employed.

In a footnote to the annex "Procedures for Toxicity Determinations" in CD/961, it says that "it was understood that these recommended standardized operating procedures (CD/CW//WP.30) for toxicity determinations might be supplemented or modified and/or, if necessary, reviewed" and that "a view was expressed that appropriate methods for testing of non-lethal harmful chemicals need to be addressed at a later stage." This review paper takes a critical look at the proposed methods.