

dose as a sole criterion for defining a range of agents that could be subject to unconditional prohibition. Japan agreed (CCD/344; 1971) with the Netherlands (CCD/320, CCD/383; 1972) that the general structural formula could be useful as a criterion for the classification of organophosphorous nerve agents. Other Working Papers (CCD/365, CCD/374, CCD/375, CCD/387, CCD/430, CCD/435, CCD/473) emphasized the importance of adapting standard experimental procedures for measuring toxicity if toxicity criteria were used to restrict or prohibit chemicals.

In 1972, Canada (CCD/387) recommended general procedures for lethality testing. It was felt that it is not possible to define rigid procedures, in detail, that should be followed in estimating the lethal potency of chemical substances with relevance to possible uses in warfare. Canada stated that the control of chemical substances cannot be based on lethal toxicity alone if the  $LD_{50}$  is greater than 1 mg/kg. Those agents with  $LD_{50}$  greater than 0.5 mg/kg but less than 1.0 mg/kg should be considered as potential lethal CW agents but it would also be necessary to assess their practicability as CW agents. Canada recommended that chemicals with an  $LD_{50}$  less than 0.5 mg/kg should be controlled and this should be the deciding criterion.

Japan (CCD/374; 1972) noted that a spectrum of  $LD_{50}$  values, consisting of measurements from tests carried out under