

In their Working Papers (CCD/301; 1970, CCD/344; 1971), Japanese experts suggested that it would be desirable to establish a reporting system for CW agents. A lethal dose (LD_{50}) by hypodermic injection (s.c. = subcutaneous) was suggested as a criterion for limiting the scope of chemicals to be reported for this purpose. An LD_{50} (s.c.) of 0.5 mg/kg body weight (BW) was suggested because among the organophosphorous compounds, none that were used for peaceful purposes, at that time, had LD_{50} values (s.c.) > 0.5 mg/kg. Such a toxicity threshold could then separate supertoxic substances from less toxic chemicals. It was further suggested that 0.5 mg/kg (s.c.) has the lethal equivalent to a dose of about 1.0 mg/kg (p.o. = oral application). Japan noted that more information was available for LD_{50} values by the s.c. route of administration for both chemicals and animal species than by i.p. (intraperitoneal), i.v. (intravenous) or p.o. (oral)

Italian experts (CCD/373; 1972) agreed that toxicity was an important criterion for classification but also suggested careful and correct appraisal of other factors (e.g., dissemination characteristics) could be important.

The Netherlands concurred that toxicity was a useful criterion (CCD/320; 1971), provided that the species of animals used in testing and the method of application were standardized. They further suggested that it is difficult to use the lethal