

1.0 Introduction

Article VI of the "Rolling Text" (CD/961; 1989) describes Activities not Prohibited by the Convention and states that each State Party has the right, subject to provisions of the Chemicals Weapons Convention, to produce and use toxic chemicals and their precursors for purposes not prohibited by the Convention. However, facilities that produce, process or consume scheduled toxic chemicals or precursors are subject to various regimes for international monitoring.

A number of Annexes and Schedules describe toxic chemicals and the methods for determination of toxicity for the purpose of the Convention. A footnote to the annex on toxicity determinations in CD/961 indicates 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." Item B of the annex indicates that modalities for revision of toxicity determination procedures have to be developed.

This paper addresses a number of issues concerning the toxicity determinations, and is a contribution to the discussion of further, potential modifications of the toxicity determination procedures.