

Second session
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CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS
TO BE INCLUDED IN A LIST

Working Paper submitted by Brazil, France, Germany, Greece and the Russian Federation

The following criteria are proposed to facilitate the discussion for the preparation of the list of human pathogens and toxins. These criteria must be used in combination.

HUMAN PATHOGENS AND TOXINS

1. High level of morbidity and/or contagiousness
2. Infection or intoxication by the respiratory route
3. Low infection dose or high toxicity
4. High level of incapacity or mortality
5. No effective prophylaxis (i.e. immune sera, vaccines, antibiotics) and/or specific therapy available
6. Stability in the environment
7. Difficulty of detection or identification
8. Ease of production, ease of stockpiling, and stability of stockpiled agents
9. Psychological repercussions of threat of use or any alleged use
10. Agent known to have been used as a weapon or have been assessed to be a weapon

Definition of some terms:

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| Morbidity: | Ratio of sick to healthy persons |
| Contagiousness: | Capability to be communicable by contact |
| Incapacity: | Lack of physical or intellectual power |
| Mortality: | Ratio of dead to sick persons |

