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Third session  
Geneva, 27 November-8 December 1995

### **FRIEND OF THE CHAIR ON DEFINITION AND OBJECTIVE CRITERIA**

This paper is without prejudice to the positions of delegations on the issues under consideration in the Ad Hoc Group and does not imply agreement on the scope or content of the paper.

#### **Criteria for Animal Pathogens**

The following criteria were discussed by the Group and may be used in combination for selection of animal pathogens to be included in a list of bacteriological (Biological) agents and toxins.

1. Agents known to have been developed, produced, or used as weapons.
2. Agents which could directly or indirectly have significant socio-economic and/or human health impacts.
3. High morbidity and mortality rates.
4. Short incubation period.
5. Broad host range.
6. Transmission through respiratory route.
7. No prophylaxis and treatment available.
8. Low infection dose.
9. Stability in the environment.
10. Ease of production.
11. High level of contagiousness.

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Definition of some terms:

Morbidity: Ratio of sick to healthy animals  
Contagiousness: Capability to be communicable  
Mortality: Ratio of dead to sick animals