

Fourth session
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**WORKING PAPER BY THE FRIEND OF THE CHAIR ON
DEFINITIONS 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.

Threshold quantities

During consideration of the issue of threshold quantities of biological weapons and toxins, one proposal was that a quantity of 5 kg., of one type of biological agent or toxin should be used as a threshold for activities related to evaluation of the efficiency of means of protection against biological weapons. Alternative views were that such a quantitative approach could not be used as a threshold in declaration triggers for work on listed agents. Another view was that there would be a need to specify different thresholds for different agents.

Another view was that limiting the quantities was not useful since the quantities could be rapidly increased

An opinion was expressed that the issue of establishing thresholds for toxins could be addressed separately.
