



CHINA RE

# 华泰保险经纪有限公司

HUATAI INSURANCE AGENCY & CONSULTANT SERVICE LTD.

## **Circular Ref No.: PNI1609**

Date: 9 September 2016

Dear Sirs or Madam,

### **Subject: Follow-up Advice on Requirement of MEC for Vessels from ZIKA Affected Areas by Chinese Quarantine Authority----Singapore Was Added to Zika Virus Affected Country from 01 September 2016**

Reference is made to our previous Circulars (Ref No.:1603 & 1604) on this issue in March 2016, wherein we advised that vessels from Zika virus countries are required by China quarantine authorities ("CIQ") to be furnished with mosquito eradication certificate ("MEC") when calling Chinese ports. From 01 September 2016, Singapore was also added into the Zika virus affected country list, so that ships sailing from Singapore to China are also recommended to obtain MEC in advance to meet with CIQ requirement.

### **CIQ Requirement**

We contacted China CIQ and were advised over phone that MEC is required if vessels' last port of call is a Zika affected country/ area such as Singapore. We were further advised that it would not be considered an actual port of call if the vessel calls at Singapore only for bunkering, without person embarkation/disembarkation or cargo loading/ discharging operations. As such, if vessel's previous port of call is not a Zika affected area before bunkering at Singapore, MEC is not required.

However, if mosquito were found on board during onboard quarantine inspection upon the vessel's arrival at a Chinese port, then regardless of whether the ship has obtained a MEC or not, CIQ may order mosquito eradication measures be taken at the vessel's cost.

Furthermore, through checking with local CIQ offices, we understand that the detailed requirement of different CIQ offices at different port may vary, thus Owners are suggested to check with local agent once the port of call in China is fixed for further clarification in advance.

## **Mosquito Eradication Certificate**

According to CIQ, there is no specific form of mosquito eradication certificate, which could be issued either by local authorities or by third party disinfection companies at Zika affected areas. Anyway, in order to avoid any problems when vessels call Chinese ports, MEC had better include vessel's details (vessel's name, port of destination, cargo on board, time of loading etc.) and description to the effect that "The Certificate shall certify the subject vessel was disinfected against mosquito before departure" as suggest in our previous Circulars.

Hope the above is of assistance. Any query, please feel free to contact us at [pni.bj@huatai-serv.com](mailto:pni.bj@huatai-serv.com).

Best regards,

Cui Jiyu  
Vice President