

JAPAN P&I NEWS

No.845-16/09/14

To the Members

Dear Sirs,

Updated Zika Virus
Chinese Quarantine Authorities, Requires Mosquito Eradication Certificate
for Vessels from ZIKA Affected Areas, - Adding Singapore as ZIKA affected Area

We would like to draw your attention to Japan P&I News No.809 dated 28 March 2016 and No.839 dated 30 August.

We have obtained the information on the captioned topic by our correspondent in China, Huatai Insurance Agency & Consultant Service Ltd. Please find the attached circular.

In this circular, Huatai contacted with CIQ (China quarantine authorities) to check how they treat Singapore, one of the biggest bunkering ports in the world;

- MEC (mosquito eradication certificate) is required if vessel's last port of call is a Zika affected country / area such as Singapore. MEC could be issued either by local authorities or by third party disinfection companies at Zika affected areas.
- However, it would not be considered an actual port of call if the vessel calls a Singapore only for bunkering, without person embarkation / disembarkation or cargo loading / discharging operation.
- As such, if vessel's previous port of call is not a Zika affected area before bunkering at Singapore, MEC is not required.

Huatai contacted with several CIQ offices and advises that the detailed requirement of different CIQ offices at different port may vary, thus Owners are suggested to check with local agent once port of call in China is fixed for further clarification in advance.

Also Huatai advises that 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" in order to avoid any problems when vessels call Chinese ports.

We hope it will be of help to you with regard to the safe voyage.

Yours faithfully,

The Japan Ship Owners' Mutual Protection & Indemnity Association

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Attachment : Huatai Circular PNI 1609



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.

Best regards,

Cui Jiyu
Vice President