

Circular From LONDON**Date: 25 March 2016****China - Zika Virus - Mosquito Eradication - Update**

Members will already be aware of the Zika prevention measures being implemented by the Chinese Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau (CIQ) as outlined in the Club's previous circular. We have received a further update from the Correspondent, Huatai Insurance Agency & Consultant Service Limited, setting out clarifications provided by the local authorities. The matters addressed are as follows:-

1. The requirements for Mosquito Eradication Certificates (MEC) apply to vessels calling at Chinese ports directly from a Zika virus affected country;
2. MECs can be issued by local authorities or disinfection companies located in the Zika virus affected country;

We understand that vessels may not be able to obtain the mosquito eradication certificate from local authorities in Zika affected areas, as such, vessels are suggested to contact local fumigation company via their local agent for such services.

3. When mosquito eradication measures may be required by CIQ, what is involved and the approximate cost;

Normally, if mosquito eradication is deemed necessary, local CIQ will appoint a fumigation company or deinsectization company to spray disinfectant over vessel's living quarters, which would take around 4 hours (2 hours for spraying disinfectant plus 2 hours for its volatilization) in total and is charged by vessel's GT (around RMB0.05 per ton and may vary from port to port).

We understand that the eradication operation can be conducted at berth in some ports, whilst at some other ports, CIQ advised the vessel can only get berthed after eradication if eradication is found to be necessary.

4. On-board inspections by CIQ officers.

When local CIQ officers attend on board vessels, they will check whether any crewmember suffer from illness and the symptoms. They also pay close attention to the living quarters (such as the kitchen, fore and aft deck) to see whether there are any mosquito, mosquito eggs and waters. Meanwhile, as the lamps attract the mosquito most, this would inevitably be checked by CIQ officers while they are on board.

A copy of the Correspondent's Circular with further details as attached.

Source of Information: London P&I Club