

Overview of Legal Framework for Ship Inspections and Issuance of Ship Sanitation Certificates

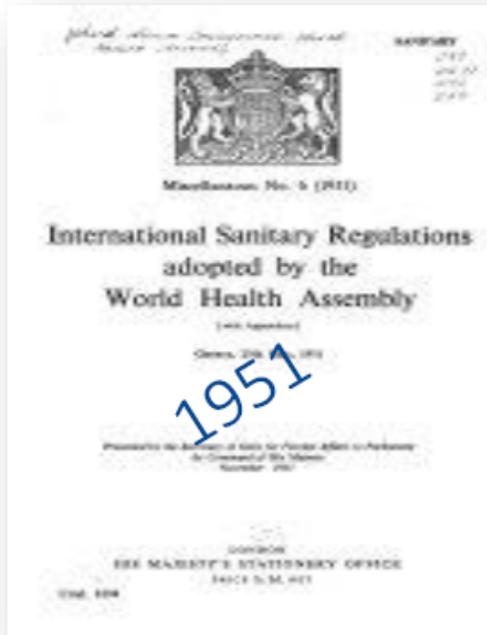
Dr Ninglan Wang MD, MSc, MA

Unit Head, Border Health, Mass Gatherings and Health Protection Measures
Health Emergency Preparedness Department
WHO Health Emergencies Programme

wangn@who.int

International Health Regulations (2005)

Purpose and Scope: to prevent, **prepare for**, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risk and which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade

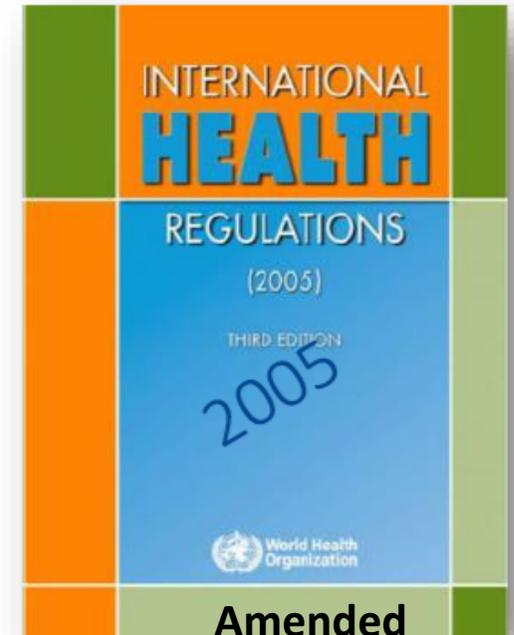


Revision →



Amended
1973
1981

Revision →



The IHR 2024 amendments entry into force on Sep 2025

Amended
2014
2022
2024

Ship Sanitation Certificates – Legal Framework

The IHR Art 20.2, 20.3

- ❖ Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificates and Ship Sanitation Control Certificates are **issued** in accordance with the **requirements in Article 39 and the model provided in Annex 3.**
- ❖ State Parties shall send to WHO **list of ports authorised to issue SSC**
- ✓ Ship Sanitation Control Certificate – SSCC and provisions of services Annexes I and III
- ✓ Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificate –SSCEC
- ✓ Extension of Ship Sanitation Certificates
- ✓ Inform any changes which may occur to the status of the listed ports
- ✓ Article 27 Affected conveyances - If a valid Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificate or Ship Sanitation Control Certificate, not produced, or evidence of a public health risk is found on board a ship

Ship Sanitation Certificates

The IHR Article 39 Ship sanitation certificates

- Ships required to renew certificate **every six months**
- Standardized inspection process:
 - New and renew of certificate issued only after a full inspection of a ship
 - **Not limited to presence of rodents**, but cover all health hazards onboard
- A standardized way to record and communicate events and measures taken on board:
 - **Any evidence of public health risks detected, and measures applied** should be documented in the SSCC

Types of certificate

Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificate (SSCEC) :

- Used when no evidence of a public health risk is found on board, and. Competent authority is satisfied that the ship is free of infection and contamination, including vectors and reservoirs.

Ship Sanitation Control Certificate (SSCC) :

- Used when evidence of a public health risk, including sources of infection and contamination, is detected on board and after required control measures have been satisfactorily completed.

Extension of SSC

Extension of Ship Sanitation Certificates (SSC)

- Extends the validity of SSECC/SSCC for up to one month
- Issued when inspection or control measures cannot be carried out
- Ship may travel to a port where inspection/control measures can be carried out
- Stamp the existing SSC certificate



EXTENSION

The validity of this certificate has been extended till ___/___/____ (dd/mm/yyyy)
(max. 30 days after expiry date)
by the competent authority in the
Port of XXXXXXXXX.

Date and signature: _____

Article 24 Conveyance operators

Annex 4 Technical requirements pertaining to conveyances and conveyance operators

Chapter II – Special provisions for conveyances and conveyance operators

Article 24 Conveyance operators

1. States Parties shall take all practicable measures consistent with these Regulations to ensure that conveyance operators:

- (a) comply with the health measures recommended by WHO and adopted by the State Party, **including for application on board as well as during embarkation and disembarkation;**
- (b) inform travellers of the health measures recommended by WHO and adopted by the State Party, **including** for application on board **as well as during embarkation and disembarkation;** and



ANNEX 4

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO CONVEYANCES AND CONVEYANCE OPERATORS

Section A Conveyance operators

1. Conveyance operators shall **prepare for, as appropriate, and** facilitate:
 - (a) inspections of the cargo, containers and conveyance;
 - (b) medical examinations of persons on board;
 - (c) application of other health measures under these Regulations, **including on board as well as during embarkation and disembarkation;** and
 - (d) provision of relevant public health information requested by the State Party.
2. Conveyance operators shall provide to the competent authority a valid Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificate or a Ship Sanitation Control Certificate or a **Maritime Ship** Declaration of Health, or the Health Part of an Aircraft General Declaration, as required under these Regulations.

Article 37 Ship Declaration of Health

Article 37 ~~Maritime~~Ship Declaration of Health

1. The master of a ship, before arrival at its first port of call in the territory of a State Party, shall ascertain the state of health on board, and, except when that State Party does not require it, the master shall, on arrival, or in advance of the vessel's arrival if the vessel is so equipped and the State Party requires such advance delivery, complete and deliver to the competent authority for that port a ~~Maritime~~Ship Declaration of Health, which shall be countersigned by the ship's surgeon, if one is carried.
2. The master of a ship, or the ship's surgeon if one is carried, shall supply any information required by the competent authority as to health conditions on board during an international voyage.
3. A ~~Maritime~~Ship Declaration of Health shall conform to the model provided in Annex 8.
4. A State Party may decide:
 - (a) to dispense with the submission of the ~~Maritime~~Ship Declaration of Health by all arriving ships; or
 - (b) to require the submission of the ~~Maritime~~Ship Declaration of Health under a recommendation concerning ships arriving from affected areas or to require it from ships which might otherwise carry infection or contamination.

ANNEX 8

MODEL OF ~~MARITIME~~SHIP DECLARATION OF HEALTH

ATTACHMENT TO MODEL OF ~~MARITIME~~SHIP DECLARATION OF HEALTH

Name	Class or rating	Age	Sex	Nationality	Port, date joined ship/vessel	Nature of illness	Date of onset of symptoms	Reported to a port medical officer?	Disposal of case ¹	Drugs, medicines or other treatment given to patient	Comments



Article 22 Role of competent authorities

Annex 1B CORE CAPACITIES REQUIREMENTS for PoE

Article 22 Role of competent authorities

1. The competent authorities shall:
 - (a) be responsible for monitoring baggage, cargo, containers, conveyances, goods, postal parcels and human remains departing and arriving from affected areas, so that they are maintained in such a condition that they are free of sources of infection or contamination, including vectors and reservoirs;
 - (b) ensure, as far as practicable, that facilities used by travellers at points of entry are maintained in a sanitary condition and are kept free of sources of infection or contamination, including vectors and reservoirs;
 - (c) be responsible for the supervision of any deratting, disinfection, disinsection or decontamination of baggage, cargo, containers, conveyances, goods, postal parcels and human remains or sanitary measures for persons, as appropriate under these Regulations;
 - (d) advise conveyance operators, as far in advance as possible, of their intent to apply control measures to a conveyance, and shall provide, where available, written information concerning the methods to be employed;
 - (e) be responsible for the supervision of the removal and safe disposal of any contaminated water or food, human or animal dejecta, wastewater and any other contaminated matter from a conveyance;
 - (f) take all practicable measures consistent with these Regulations to monitor and control the discharge by ships of sewage, refuse, ballast water and other potentially disease-causing matter which might contaminate the waters of a port, river, canal, strait, lake or other international waterway;
 - (g) be responsible for supervision of service providers for services concerning travellers, baggage, cargo, containers, conveyances, goods, postal parcels and human remains at points of entry, including the conduct of inspections and medical examinations as necessary;
 - (h) have effective contingency arrangements to deal with an unexpected public health event; and
 - (i) communicate with the National IHR Focal Point on the relevant public health measures taken pursuant to these Regulations.

B. CORE CAPACITIES REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATED AIRPORTS, PORTS AND GROUND CROSSINGS

1. At all times, each State Party shall develop, strengthen and maintain the core capacities:
 - (a) to provide access to (i) an appropriate medical service, including diagnostic facilities located so as to allow the prompt assessment and care of ill travellers, and (ii) adequate staff, equipment and premises;

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ational Health Regulations (2005)

Annex I

- (b) to provide access to equipment and personnel for the transport of ill travellers to an appropriate medical facility;
- (c) to provide trained personnel for the inspection of conveyances;

WHO SSC Training



WHO F2F Training for Ship Inspection and Issuance of Ship Sanitation Certificates

Courses / Ship Sanitation Certificate

Ship Sanitation Certificate

Ship Sanitation Certificate

Search courses



Ship Sanitation Inspection and issuance of SSC - V2

Training course

Ship Sanitation Inspection under the International Health Regulations - IHR (2005) and Issuance of Ship Sanitation Certificates - SSCs



WHO Learning Program for SSC

<https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/course/index.php?categoryid=24>

REGISTRATION INFORMATION (pdf file)

ACCESS TO THE COURSE:

Arabic

English

Français

Español

日本語版

Português

Русский

ไทย

WHO Staff

- No
- Yes

NFP

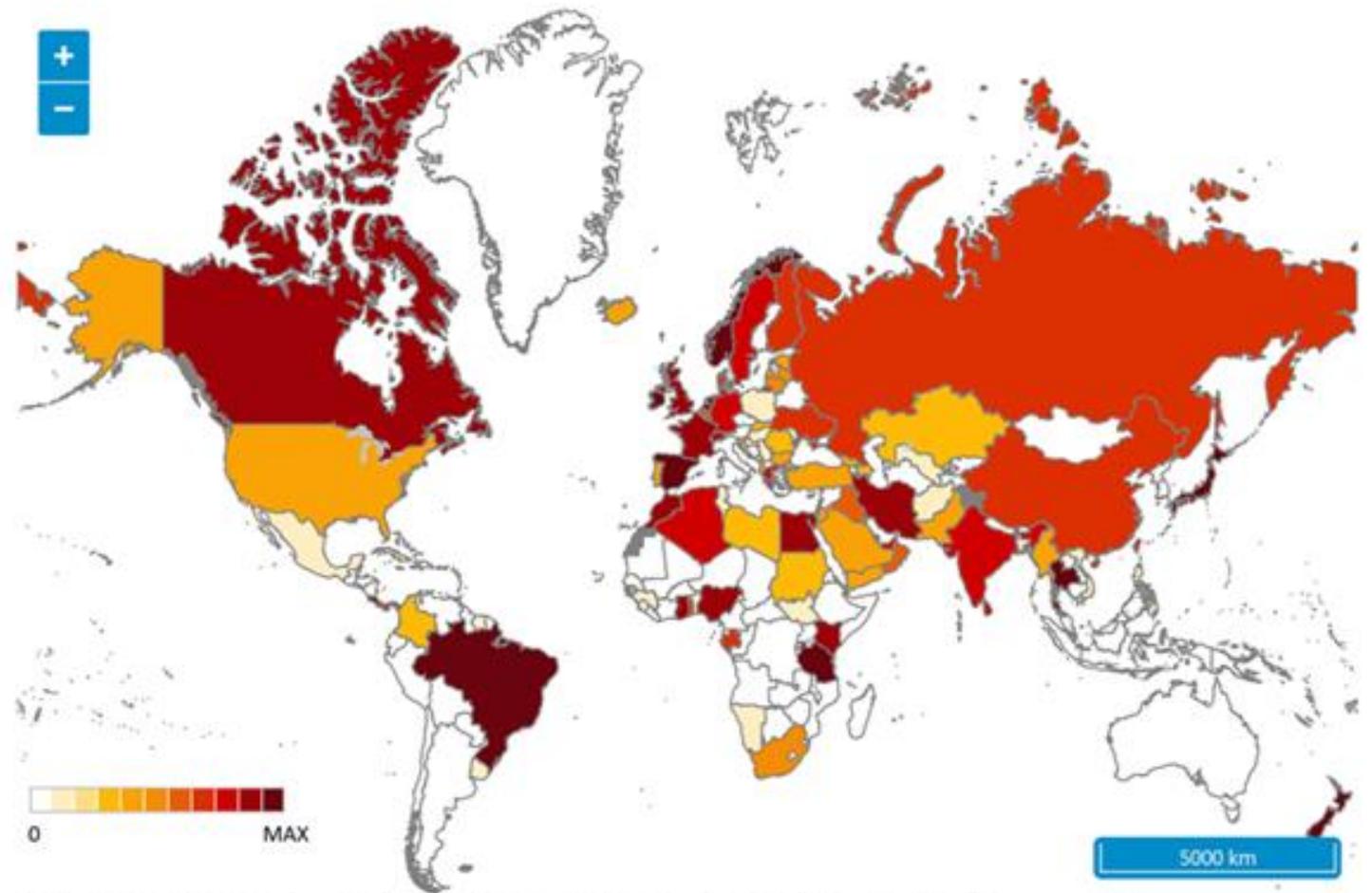
- (Blank)
- No
- Yes

WHO Region

- AFRO
- AMRO
- EMRO
- EURO
- SEARO
- WPRO

Course

- Event Management at Points of Entry
- Laboratory
- IHR
- Pilot versions
- IDSR
- Public Health Event Management in ...
- IHR Monitoring & Evaluation Frame...
- Ship Sanitation Certificate



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.



Overview of SSC Online Training Enrollment

Ship Sanitation Certificates (Takeaway messages)

- The SSC applies to all ships in international voyage (inland navigation or seaports)
- Entry into force since June 15th 2007, replacing all derrating certificates after Dec.15th 2007
- **An obligation** for the Master/Captain to provide a valid SSC on board
- SSC should be issued after **a full assessment of the sanitary conditions on board**
 - ❖ according to model provided in IHR annex 3,
 - ❖ issued by authorized ports and
 - ❖ valid for 6 months, with a possible 30- days extension in specific circumstances



Thank you !

Minimizing health risks at airports, ports and ground crossings

Travel and health