



Implementation of Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificate/Ship Sanitation Control Certificate Articles 20, 27 39 and Annex 3 of IHR (2005)

15 June 2007 is the date that the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR (2005)) will enter into force. Among the provisions that apply to conveyances is a new Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificate/Ship Sanitation Control Certificate SSCEC/SSCC, a model of which is shown in Annex 3. These certificates will replace the Deratting Certificate/Deratting Exemption Certificate (DC/DEC) issued under IHR (1969).

The latest date that a Deratting Certificate can be issued is one day prior to the entry into force of IHR (2005) or 14 June 2007. A Deratting Certificate issued on that date is valid for a maximum of six months, or until 14 December 2007. During the six month period from 14 June to 14 December 2007 both unexpired DC/DEC and newly issued SSCEC/SSCC will be in use. After 15 December 2007 no Deratting Certificate will be valid.

As of 15 June 2007 if evidence of a public health risk is found on board a ship and the ship is not able to produce a valid DC/DEC or SSCEC/SSCC, the competent authority may proceed to inspect the ship with one of three possible outcomes.

1. No evidence of a public health risk is found on board. The competent authority may issue a SSCEC.
2. Evidence of a public health risk is found on board. The competent authority satisfactorily completes or supervises the completion of the necessary control measures and is required to issue a SSCC. If, in the opinion of the competent authority, the conditions under which control measures are carried out at the port are such that a satisfactory result cannot be obtained, this should be noted on the existing SSCC. The SSCC is valid for a maximum period of 6 months. The control measures must be completed before a further SSCC is issued.
3. The competent authority extends the SSCEC for a period of one month until the ship arrives at a port at which the Ship Sanitation Control Certificate may be received.

States Parties shall send to WHO a list of ports authorized to offer:

1. the issuance of SSCC and the provisions referred to in Annexes 1 and 3;
2. the issuance of the SSCEC only and,
3. the extension of the SSCEC. State Parties shall inform WHO of any changes which may occur in the status of the listed ports.

States Parties may wish to consider publishing any interim transition arrangements for the Annex 3 certificates (on the web or elsewhere).

Under Article 41 any tariff (or amendment thereto) for applying health measures to baggage, cargo, containers, conveyances, goods or postal parcels (and for measures applied to travellers under Article 40) have to be published at least 10 days in advance of any levy.

In order to facilitate international marine traffic, WHO advises that the Sanitation Control Exemption Certificate/Ship Sanitation Control Certificate in Annex 3 of IHR (2005) be printed and completed in English and/or in French, and may also be completed in another language on the same document in addition to either English or French.

Related document

[WHA58.3 Revision of the International Health Regulations \[pdf 271kb\]](#)