



ASSAEREO



european regions airline association



The International Air Carrier Association



Mr. Dott. Raniero Guerra
Direttore Generale della prevenzione sanitaria
Ministero Della Salute
Viale Giorgio Ribotta 5
00144 Roma

Dear Mr. Raniero Guerra,

Re: Italian Ministry of Health ‘Circolare’ about Zika Virus

We, the undersigned associations, are writing to you today following the distribution of the ‘*Circolare*’ about the Zika virus by the Ministry of Health [27/01/2016].

Our understanding is that among the preventive measures put in place in Italy against the Zika virus, all aircraft operating into Italy, regardless of the origin of the flight must provide a valid “Certificate of Residual Disinsection”. This certificate must be on-board all aircraft at all time.

We are well aware of the virulence of the virus, and that it has legitimately been declared a public health emergency of international concern by the World Health Organization (WHO) lately. Similarly we understand the risks of propagation and don’t intend in any way to minimise them. But imposing impractical and eventually unrealistic measures onto airspace operators will not help solve the issue. We believe that the request of the Italian authorities of imposing residual “disinsection” for all flights is totally out of proportion with the disease and is not aligned with what all WHO Member States, including other EU Member States have decided to implement.

The feedback we are receiving currently from our members who operate in Italy is that for aircraft operators, these measures are causing insurmountable operational difficulties and can lead to severe disruptions of their operations. In addition, the required “residual disinsection” to be performed by certified/specialised companies may not be available at all airports in Italy. This implies that aircraft could be grounded for hours or even have to be re-positioned to airports where this “disinsection” process is available.

We hence urge you to consider more commensurate measures regarding “disinsection” of aircraft in line with the actual WHO recommendations as illustrated by the measures introduced by other EU Member States¹. We would also encourage you to coordinate closely with ENAC to ensure that appropriate and clear communication is disseminated to all the impacted airlines operating in Italy, so as to avoid confusion on the actual requirements...

¹ UK and France

We would kindly ask to meet with you at your earliest convenience and remain at your disposal to further discuss the above concerns.

Yours sincerely,

The Association of European Airlines (AEA)
Associazione Nazionale Vettori e Operatori del Trasporto Aereo (ASSAEREO)
The European Low Fares Airline Association (ELFAA)
The European Regions Airlines Association (ERA)
The International Air Carrier Association (IACA)
The International Air Transport Association (IATA)
Italian Board Airlines Representatives (IBAR)

CC: Mr. Graziano Delrio, Ministro delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti
Mr. Alessio Quaranta, Direttore Generale ENAC