

Suspected Ship.—A ship shall be regarded as *suspected*—

- (1) If a case of human plague broke out on board in the first six days after embarkation;
- (2) Or if investigations regarding rats have shown the existence of an unusual mortality without determining the cause thereof.

The ship shall continue to be regarded as suspected until it has been subjected to the measures prescribed by this Convention at a suitably equipped port.

Healthy Ship.—A ship shall be regarded as *healthy*, notwithstanding its having come from an infected port, if there has been no human or rat plague on board either at the time of departure, or during the voyage, or on arrival, and the investigations regarding rats have not shown the existence of an unusual mortality.

ARTICLE 25

Plague-infected ships shall undergo the following measures:—

- (1) Medical inspection;
- (2) The sick shall immediately be disembarked and isolated;
- (3) All persons who have been in contact with the sick and those whom the port sanitary authority have reason to consider suspect shall be disembarked, if possible. They may be subjected to observation or surveillance,* or to observation followed by surveillance, provided that the total duration of these measures does not exceed six days from the time of arrival of the ship;

*It rests with the sanitary authority of the port, after taking into consideration the date of the last case, the condition of the ship and the local possibilities, to apply that one of these measures which seems to them preferable. During the same period the crew may be prevented from leaving the ship except on duty notified to the sanitary authority;

- (4) Bedding which has been used, soiled linen, wearing apparel and other articles which, in the opinion of the sanitary authority, are infected shall be disinfected and, if necessary, disinfected;

- (5) The parts of the ship which have been occupied by persons suffering from plague or which, in the opinion of the sanitary authority, are infected shall be disinfected and, if necessary, disinfected;

- (6) The sanitary authority may require deratisation before the discharge of cargo, if they are of opinion, having regard to the nature of the cargo and the way in which it is loaded, that it is possible to effect a total destruction of rats before discharge. In this case, the ship may not be subjected to a new deratisation after discharge. In other cases the complete destruction of the rodents shall be effected on board when the holds are empty. In the case of ships in ballast, this process shall be carried out as soon as possible before taking cargo;

Deratisation shall be carried out so as to avoid, as far as possible, damage to the ship and cargo (if any). The operation must not last longer than twenty-four hours. Any charges made in respect of these operations of deratisation and any question of compensation for damage shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of Article 18.

* In all cases where this Convention provides for "surveillance" the sanitary authority may substitute "observation" as an exceptional measure in the case of persons who do not offer adequate sanitary guarantees.

Persons under observation or surveillance shall give facilities for all clinical or bacteriological investigations which are considered necessary by the sanitary authority.