

JAMAICA

February 3, 2016

Dear Industry Partner,

At the Jamaica Tourist Board, we are cognizant that there may be some concerns about the Zika Virus in the region. We want to provide you, our partners, with the most up-to-date information available to assist you in communicating with your clients.

This week, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) added Costa Rica and Jamaica to its list of Zika-affected countries. However, the Ministry of Health has made it clear that there has only been **one case** of Zika virus in Jamaica. The patient, who has now fully recovered, is a four-year-old child and no other family member is displaying symptoms.

The Ministry of Health continues to provide the public with important facts with regard to eliminating mosquito breeding situations and taking proper repellent measures. In addition, the Jamaican Government has launched a multi-ministerial, multimillion-dollar approach to tackling the possible outbreak of the Zika virus and controlling the vector responsible for its transmission.

As of today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) travel alert includes regions and certain countries where Zika virus transmission is ongoing: American Samoa, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curacao, El Salvador, French Guiana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Martinique, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Suriname, Venezuela, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

CDC is working with public health experts across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to take additional steps related to Zika. They are developing interim guidance for pregnant women as well as sharing additional information about the Zika Virus with health officials, clinicians and the public.

The Jamaica Tourist Board will continue to monitor the situation and will update you on any changes. Please know that the health and safety of our citizens and guests are always of the utmost concern. We encourage you to reassure your clients, with confidence, that they can continue to enjoy all that Jamaica has to offer, as always.

Sincerely,



Paul E. Pennicook
Director of Tourism