NEWS BULLETIN ON PAST EVENTS IN THE COUNTER-NARCOTICS SPHERE (based on mass media reports)

15.04 – 21.04.2019 № 15

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

XXXVI INTERNATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE CONCLUDED IN BAKU

XXXVI International Drug Enforcement Conference (IDEC), organized jointly by the State Commission for Combating Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the United States Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration, completed its work on April 17 in Baku.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the conference, Uttam Dillon, acting head of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) of the US Department of Justice, stressed the importance of international cooperation and partnership in successfully combating drug trafficking. He said that in order to succeed, all participants in this struggle must demonstrate greater determination and solidarity. Important in this process is well coordinated activities, preparation and successful implementation of well-thought-out programs and strategies. The DEA is guided in its activities by precisely these principles.

Ali Hasanov, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Chairman of the State Commission for Combating Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking, highly appreciated fruitful discussions and exchange of views and experience at the XXXVI International Drug Enforcement Conference. The Deputy Prime Minister brought to the attention that at the sessions of the regional groups at the conference representatives of various structures, countries made interesting reports, there were active discussions.

Ali Hasanov noted that participation of more than 100 countries in the conference demonstrates a great concern of the states in connection with drug addiction and illegal drug trafficking, which are a very serious danger. After all, drug addiction and drug trafficking is one of the main problems threatening the future of mankind. Consequences of war and terrorism are felt immediately. However, drug addiction, which directly destroys the gene pool, creates a serious danger to the future of mankind. The impact of its consequences lasts for years. Therefore, countries of the world, relevant structures and progressive public should give more serious attention to the fight against drugs.

Foundation of the international conference, a unique platform in terms of finding ways to reduce drug addiction, which seriously worries humanity and leads to new threats and misfortunes, was laid in 1983. Subsequently, the conference became a global forum with representatives from more than 130 countries.

At the three-day Baku conference, discussions on anti-drug issues were held and new messages were sent to the world from the capital of Azerbaijan.
President Kasym-Zhomart Tokayev during a board meeting of the Ministry of Internal Affairs raised the issue of drug-related crime intensifying in Kazakhstan, reports Channel One Eurasia.

The Head of state said that drugs have become more accessible. The President noted that walls of houses and fences are littered with QR codes and links to online stores with drugs.

“It became easier to get and buy drugs. A teenager can do it over the Internet. In every residential area you can find veiled drug advertising, links to special websites,” Tokayev said.

He also did not rule out a possibility of participation of persons who work in law enforcement agencies in drug trafficking.

“This is a streamlined criminal business. This is where conjectures arise about the participation of the law enforcement system,” the President noted.


OTHER COUNTRIES

BELARUS

PRESIDENT: NO AMNESTY FOR DRUGS

April 19, Minsk / Corr. BELTA /. Amnesty will not affect those convicted of distribution and production of drugs. Alexander Lukashenko, President of Belarus, said this today answering parliamentarians' questions after addressing Belarusian people and the National Assembly, BelTA has learned. “There will be no amnesty for drugs. If only we look at some personalities who did not distribute, did not produce, but used. And that only in a personal form, and so - never in my life. It was not for nothing that we made tough decisions, including laws, to retreat from them. Do not produce, do not distribute, well, it is desirable that they do not use. Of course, there is less punishment there, but drugs are fear, tragedy, trouble,” said Alexander Lukashenko. He emphasized that most crimes are committed in a state of drug and alcohol intoxication. “This is trouble on the roads. Every addict has two cars, especially those who produce and distribute. These are not poor people. They sniffed, they pinned - they went, they committed a crime. People died. I’m not talking about the gene pool: who will be born and who will raise these children afterwards, to treat them? Can you imagine the tragedy? And this is killing the nation, so we will return to this
issue,” said the President.

Alexander Lukashenko stressed that Igor Shunevich, Minister of Internal Affairs, suggested returning to this issue. “He controls how our decisions are executed, says that we need to go back and discuss the topic of drug users. But on production and distribution - these are complete villains, it is unlikely there will be some kind of indulgence. But I will not get ahead. We will discuss this issue in the near future,” he added.


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