

*Unofficial translation*

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

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**CARICC MEMBER STATES**

**REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**



TENGRI NEWS  
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**MARIJUANA PROPOSED TO BE LEGALIZED IN KAZAKHSTAN**

A clinic may appear in Kazakhstan where marijuana will be used to treat cancer and other diseases, reports Astana TV Channel.

Narcotic cannabis of special varieties is grown and squeezed into oil, which forms basis of a medicine. Now it is practised in Israel, the USA, Canada and other countries. With the help of a cancer drug more than five thousand people have already been cured, experts say.

Foreign investors want to introduce this experience in Kazakhstan. The organization's director, Zamig Rakhimov, himself fought cancer. In Almaty, he went through a course of chemotherapy, but, not waiting for completion of traditional treatment, he left for Israel. There he took medicine made of hemp. Cancer retreated two months later, says businessman.

Healing marijuana Indica is planned to be grown in the Almaty region, near Kapshagay. Investors are ready to invest \$ 15 million in construction of greenhouse and building a clinic. The cost of a bottle of healing oil will be approximately \$ 100.

In the near future, investors plan to begin negotiations with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Internal Affairs. If Kazakhstani officials give go-ahead, the greenhouse and the clinic are expected to be built this year.

"Why we chose Kazakhstan, because here are ideal climatic conditions for growing cannabis. We will bring experienced professors and doctors to your country to conduct further research on the use of cannabis in treatment of other diseases. We hope that the government of Kazakhstan will give us the opportunity at legislative level to officially work with this medicine," said Eddie Isay, founder of RAIS MEDICANN INTERNATIONAL LLP.

This is not the first attempt to legalize cultivation and processing of marijuana in Kazakhstan. Two years ago, the Interior Ministry banned these studies by a laboratory in Almaty, citing a UN convention. Only technical cannabis with zero cannabinoid content is officially grown in the country. It is used to produce raw materials for seeds, fibers and hemp hurds. Drug-containing plants are prohibited in Kazakhstan. The Ministry of Internal Affairs takes this position until now.

"Cultivation of any drug-containing plant is prosecuted in Kazakhstan, up to eight years of imprisonment is provided. This does not apply to drug-containing cannabis, which does not exceed the zero content of the TDC," said Bakytzhan Amirkhanov, deputy head of a unit in the department for combating drug crime at the Ministry of Internal Affairs of

Kazakhstan.

According to president of the association of palliative care, Gulnara Kunirova, prior to introducing new approaches in treatment of oncology, it is necessary to ensure full access to the drugs already approved in the country. They also contain a narcotic substance. Therefore, doctors do not always prescribe these drugs to patients.

"They are registered, they are included in the lists of guaranteed free medical care. But doctors reluctantly write them out, some doctors do not even know that there is morphine in pill form in our country, some are simply afraid to prescribe, because we have very strict agencies controlling this process," Kunirova stressed.

[https://tengrinews.kz/kazakhstan\\_news/kazahstanu-predlozili-uzakonit-vyiraschivanie-marihuanyi-368339/](https://tengrinews.kz/kazakhstan_news/kazahstanu-predlozili-uzakonit-vyiraschivanie-marihuanyi-368339/)

## RUSSIAN FEDERATION

ТАКИЕ ДЕЛА

### BILL ON AVERTING "PHARMACY DRUG ADDICTION" AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE CONSIDERED IN DUMA

Irina Rukavishnikova, member of the Federation Council's committee on constitutional legislation and state-building, introduced a bill to the State Duma that would toughen penalties for violations in sale of drugs, which cause so-called "pharmacy drug addiction" when consumed excessively. Young people are especially susceptible to this, explanation says.

It is proposed to introduce administrative fines for violations in the trade of drugs that are subject to subject-quantitative accounting, if there are no signs of a criminal offense. The most frequent violation, according to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, is sale of such drugs without prescription.

Penalties will be as follows: for citizens - up to 10 thousand rubles; for officials - up to 30 thousand rubles (or disqualification for up to three years); for entrepreneurs without legal entity - up to 30 thousand rubles (or suspension of activity for a period of up to 90 days); for legal entities - up to 150 thousand rubles (or suspension of activity for up to 90 days).

Explanatory note states that the scale of "illicit trafficking and non-medical consumption of drugs with a psychoactive effect" is growing in the country. At the same time, drugs containing Pregabalin, Tapentadol, Tropicamide and Cyclopentolate are in particular demand - they do not contain any prohibited substances, but when used in large doses or in combination, for example, with alcohol, can cause drug intoxication and addiction.

Ministry of Health claims that "pharmacy addiction" is registered in 3-5% of patients of the total number of people with drug addiction.

Rukavishnikova notes that this practice is common among teenagers and young people due to "relative availability, ease of use and intensity of exposure" to drugs. "Often, mental and physical dependence after use of these drugs becomes the main prerequisite for a dependent person to use heavier drugs and psychotropic substances," the explanation says.

<https://takiedela.ru/news/2019/04/29/aptechnaya-narkomaniya/>

## REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN



### CIS COUNTRIES ADOPTED DECLARATION ON COOPERATION IN COMBATING DRUGS IN TASHKENT

Participants of the Ministerial Meeting of the state parties to the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-regional drug control cooperation adopted a Declaration on strengthening cooperation in combating drug and precursor trafficking and prevention of drug and psychotropic substance abuse on Friday.

In the Declaration signed at the meeting, the CIS foreign ministers expressed their commitment to effectively address the global drug problem and combating it in full compliance with the goals and principles of the UN Charter.

A meeting of experts was held in Tashkent on Thursday, which discussed issues of regional cooperation in combating drug trafficking, ensuring cybersecurity, and counteracting spread of new psychoactive substances. Expanding access to drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation services was the subject of a separate session at the expert meeting.

Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-regional drug control cooperation was signed in Tashkent in 1996 by representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Russia joined the Memorandum in 1998, Azerbaijan - in 2001. The need to adopt the Memorandum was dictated by the growing drug expansion in Afghanistan. In 2004, in development of provisions of the Memorandum in Almaty was established the Central Asian Regional Information Coordination Centre for Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors (CARICC).

<https://news.rambler.ru/other/42129102-strany-sng-prinyali-v-tashkente-deklaratsiyu-po-sotrudnichestvu-v-borbe-s-narkotikami/>

## OTHER COUNTRIES

### AUSTRIA



### AUSTRIA TO STRENGTHEN FIGHT AGAINST DRIVING UNDER DRUG INTOXICATION

The Austrian authorities intend to introduce a number of major changes in the legislation aimed at combating the use of narcotic drugs while driving, reports Krone.

In particular, now a special officer will monitor condition of a driver on the spot. Fines increased significantly - from 800 to 1600 euros. Driving license will be given away not for a month, but for half a year.

It is noted this is due to the fact that in Vienna, there are increasing number infringers who are under the influence of drugs.

"Drugs are a huge problem for our society, people put themselves and others at great risk," said Austrian Interior Minister Herbert Kickl to journalists.



Instead of the previously used term “addictive poison”, the law will stipulate “addictive substance”, greatly expanding range of prohibited psychotropic substances and drugs.

“We must address the fact that innocent people become victims of irresponsible drivers under the influence of drugs,” said Kikl.

<https://www.pnp.ru/in-world/v-avstrii-namereny-usilit-borbu-s-vozhdeniem-pod-deystviem-narkotikov.html>

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