

WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CARICC

(based on media reports)

09-15.07.2018

№ 29

ON CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

09.07.2018 Employees of Bilasuvar customs stopped an attempt of drug smuggling to Azerbaijan from the Islamic Republic of Iran. Officers of the State Customs Committee (SCC), during customs examination of a citizen of Azerbaijan, found 3 packs containing **102.533 g of heroin, 10 g of opium** and packages with methadone and clonazepam tablets in the internal organs (rectum). An investigation is being carried out on this fact. <http://1news.az/news/zaderzhan-muzhchina-pytavshiy-sya-v-pryamoy-kishke-pronesti-narkotiki-v-azerbaydzhan>

11.07.2018 Officers of the State Customs Committee (SCC) at the Bilasuvar customs post Goshu Tepe during inspection of hand baggage of an Azerbaijani citizen from the Islamic Republic of Iran, found and seized **599 methadone tablets** in 4 plastic packs in a sports bag. Further investigation is underway. <https://media.az/society/1067708409>

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

14.07.2018 In the city of Tash-Kumyr, officers of the State Drug Control Service of the Jalal-Abad region found crops of **wild cannabis** and destroyed about **600 bales** of these plants. Such measures are taken as part of the work to prevent and solve crimes related to the illicit distribution of narcotic drugs. Representatives of the local administration also participated in the collection and destruction of wild cannabis. https://24.kg/proisshestvija/90871_vtash-kumyire_unichtojili_600_tyukov_konopli/

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

11.07.2018 As a result of investigations, internal affairs officers of the Navoiy region seized **1 kg of 834 g of marijuana** from the house of a resident of the Kattakurgan district of the Samarkand region. <http://www.mvd.uz/ru/lists/view/3366>

ON OTHER STATES

AUSTRALIA

10.07.2018 At the Perth international airport, a 64-year-old man from the United States was detained while trying to smuggle **4 kg of cocaine**. Australian Border Force (ABF) selected a man arriving from Bangkok (Thailand) for inspection. The X-ray of the passenger's suitcase indicated an anomaly in its base. A further examination revealed two packs of cocaine hidden under the lining at the base of the suitcase. Officers of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) arrested the smuggler. <http://newsroom.border.gov.au/releases/perth-airport-cocaine-seizure>

BRASIL

12.08.2018 In the port of Santos, on the coast of São Paulo, federal police officers found a consignment of **cocaine weighing 656 kg**. The cargo was intended for delivery to the port of Rotterdam in the Netherlands. None of the persons involved in the supply of cocaine,

was arrested. The drug was discovered during customs inspection in containers that were to be sent to the ship "Cap San Maleas" in the terminal on the left bank of the dock in Guaruja. 600 packs of cocaine were hidden in 150 boxes with lemons. To smuggle and transport drugs as a cover, drug cartels often use legal cargo. The operation to intercept the cargo with drugs was carried out before sending containers to the ship, which left the dock at the end of the day. Cocaine is seized, an investigation is underway.

<http://www.segurancaportuariaemfoco.com.br/2018/07/mais-de-meia-tonelada-de-cocaina-e.html>

VENEZUELA

12.07.2018 Officers of the Antinarcotics Command of the Bolivarian National Guard (GNB) found five batches of furniture and paintings intended for sending via the courier company "MRW" to the Netherlands and to the coast of Cote d'Ivoire, in which cocaine was concealed. In total, **about 82 kg of cocaine** was seized from illicit trafficking. It was established that in four cases an illegal cargo was assembled on the territory of Venezuela in the state of Tachira and one in the state of Anzoategui. Drugs were found at the headquarters of the company "MRW" in the city of Caracas. In all cases, fake shipping documents were used, but the (GNB) was able to establish involvement of one of the leaders of the criminal organization in the supply. Measures have been taken to detain and arrest him. The Prosecutor's Office together with the state security forces conducted searches at the offices of "MRW" in La Fria, Tachira and Lecherias in the state of Anzoategui, as well as in the Federal District of Bermudes.

<https://www.eldiariodeguayana.com.ve/incautan-82-kilos-de-cocaina-en-empresa-de-encomiendas-mrw/>

GUATEMALA

14.07.2018 More than **823 kg of cocaine** was confiscated on board of a small submarine detained 350 km from the coast of Guatemala. In total there were 823 packs of cocaine on the submarine, each weighing one kilogram, many of them bearing a photo of the famous Brazilian football player Neymar wearing the form of "Barcelona". The crew of the submarine consisted of three Colombians who were detained. The approximate worth of seized cocaine is 11.5 million US dollars. <https://ria.ru/world/20180714/1524573011.html>

INDIA

09.07.2018 In a major break-through, Gogunda Police caught a car carrying **250 kg of opium**. The car was caught during a police roadblock near Mokela Tiraha in Jaswantgarh area. The Breza car driver drove the car at high speed and ran away after parking the car near Joshiyon ki Bhaagal. Police recovered 250 kg of opium in the car. <https://udaipurtimes.com/major-smuggling-nab-250-kg-opium-leftover-seized/>

11.07.2018 A team of Narcotic and Affairs of Border (NAB) of Manipur police department arrested two persons (43 and 37 years old) for possession of illicit narcotic substances. Two criminals were detained near Nagaram area for illegal possession of **1 kg of heroin**. Accordingly one kilogram of heroin powder and other incriminating documents were also seized. The case has been registered at NAB police station in Imphal and investigation is going on. <https://nenow.in/north-east-news/heroin-seized-imphal-east-district-manipur-two-held.html>

11.07.2018 Khanna police arrested a resident of Akalgarh village near Phagwara, and recovered **1 kg of opium** from his possession. A person caught attention of police, being at

deserted place near Alour village. <http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/ludhiana/khanna-police-seize-1-kg-opium-20-gm-heroin/618541.html>

CHINA

15.07.2018 As a result of a joint operation by police of Yunnan and northwest China's Gansu Province ten suspects have been caught and **more than 30 kg of heroin** seized. At the beginning of the year, police in Yunnan's Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture received a report that a drug gang was planning to smuggle drugs into China and transport them to Linxia Hui Autonomous Prefecture in Gansu. Consequently, a van was stopped by police at a toll station in Gansu, in which 81 packages with **30.8 kg of heroin** were found. Six suspects were detained at the scene. Another four suspects from the same gang were detained in Dali, Yunnan. Further investigation is underway. Yunnan has always been the main focal point of the national anti-drug campaign as it borders the Golden Triangle known for drug production and trafficking. Between January and May of this year, a total of 5,648 suspects have been arrested and more than 11 tonnes of drugs have been seized by police in Yunnan. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-07/15/c_137326251.htm

COLUMBIA

13.07.2018 In the port of Santa Marta in Magdalena, a large consignment of cocaine in boxes with bananas was found and seized. It was going to Antwerp, Belgium. The operation performed by the cargo profilers allowed the police forces to stop the container in the courtyards of the Santa Marta maritime terminal. According to the information available to the police on combating narcotics, boxes containing bananas could contain drugs. As a result of inspection activities using the X-ray, rectangular objects were found inside each box, presumably packages of drugs. After inspection, the plastic coated packages were removed, and their contents examined. The total weight of the **cocaine hydrochloride** seized from illicit traffic was **209 kg**. Each package had a label (SAT, 2018), printed in high resolution, which is used by manufacturers in drug laboratories. Currently, an investigation aimed at establishing the organizers of this drug delivery is being conducted. In 2018, in the port of Santa Marta, law enforcement officers seized **2 tons 431 kg of drugs**, while in three cases out of nine cocaine was in boxes with bananas.

<https://www.policia.gov.co/noticia/incautamos-209-kilos-cocaina-ocultos-cajas-banano>

MEXICO

10.07.2018 Navy personnel seized **250 kilograms of cocaine** and apprehended two men aboard a small boat traveling off the coast of Guerrero. Routine aerial surveillance spotted the vessel some 370 kilometers south of Acapulco. A joint aerial and maritime operation resulted in the arrest of the two men found on board a "go-fast" boat, popular for smuggling drugs. The boat was carrying 17 plastic canisters, 10 of which contained small packets of cocaine amounting to a total of 250 kilograms. The other 61 containers held 3,000 liters of fuel. Navy detected fuel storage facilities in three states that are used to supply small boats running drugs up the coast. Mexican cartels ferry the fuel to the smugglers, enabling them to remain outside the 200-kilometer limit. The fuel is delivered mixed with oil and is ready to use in the vessels' two-stroke engines. Last week the navy detained three people aboard a small boat carrying 3,000 liters of fuel off the port of Lázaro Cárdenas, Michoacán. Between January and May the navy seized **some 6.7 tonnes of cocaine** off the Pacific coast, the largest amount in any five-month period.

<https://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/250-kilos-of-cocaine-seized/>

NETHERLANDS

10.07.2018 Officers of police and customs detected more than **100 kilograms of cocaine** in a batch of bananas. The bananas came from a company located in the west of Rotterdam and were transported by a truck to a warehouse in Spaanse Polder. Cocaine was discovered with the help of a service dog from Customs. The drugs, with a street value of approximately 2.5 million euros, have been seized and immediately destroyed. The same day two 48-year-old men from Rotterdam were arrested. One man worked at the shipment company and the other was a tenant of the warehouse. After further investigation, a third suspect was identified, a 25-year-old man who also lives in Rotterdam. All three men are suspected of the illegal import of drugs. A firearm was found during a search in the home of one of the suspects.

<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@103601/ruim-100-kilo/>

12.07.2018 Customs found and seized **100 kilograms of cocaine** in a barrel of pineapple juice at a company in Vlissingen. The company itself has reported the drugs. The drugs would have a street value of 2.5 million euros. The barrels came to the port of Rotterdam from South America. From there, the drugs were transported to the port of Vlissingen. The other barrels in the business premises were also inspected by customs, now drugs were found.

<https://www.nu.nl/overig/5363408/honderd-kilo-cocaine-aangetroffen-in-vat-met-ananassap-in-vlissingen.html>

PANAMA

13.07.2018 The Office of the Special Prosecutor for Drug-Related Offences of Colon and Guna Yala, jointly with National Aeronavigation Service (Senan) , seized **76 packages of heroin** that was submerged in the sea, near a port in the province of Colon. The packages were inside two black briefcases, in water intake of the ship named "Domingo Maduro". The ship had toured the countries of: Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Columbia and later arrived in Panama. The Public Ministry continues the investigations to apprehend those linked to this criminal act. <http://ministeriopublico.gob.pa/decomisan-76-paquetes-de-presunta-sustancias-ilicidas-sumergidos-en-la-toma-de-agua-de-un-buque-en-colon/>

PARAGUAY

13.07.2018 Agents of the National Anti-Drug Secretariat Office (Senad) of Paraguay seized **519 tonnes of marijuana** in the city of Asuncion, with street value of 15.5 million US dollars. The operation lasted 8 days in forested areas of Amambay department. Operation "Amambay 3" resulted in destruction of 109 production and collection camps, and eradication of 121 hectares of illicit crops. This time of year is characterized by the increase in the work of pressing, packaging and transport of large loads of recently harvested marijuana. Senad agents moved to Pedro Juan Caballero, capital of the Amambay department, to conduct operations on seizure and destruction of drugs in the areas of Colonia Estrella and Santa Clara, located near the Brazilian border. About 363 tonnes of marijuana could be produced from the destroyed on 121 hectares of narcotic plants. <http://www.plenglish.com/index.php?o=rn&id=30985&SEO=paraguay-authorities-seized-519-tons-of-marijuana>

PERU

11.07.2018 The agents of the Port Division of Dinandro found drug shipments in export boxes, containing black quinoa (quinua negra) and had Hong Kong (China) as final destination. A total of **76 kilograms of cocaine** was found in the boxes that remained in a warehouse of the Talma company in Callao. The counter-narcotics police found that the cartons were covered with carbon paper. Полиция расследует связи группы наркоторговцев, которые пытались отправить всю партию наркотиков из страны. The finding became possible after intelligence was known.
<http://www.americatv.com.pe/noticias/actualidad/callao-hallan-76-kilos-cocaina-camuflada-cargamento-quinua-negra-n329723>

11.07.2018 The Mazamari Division of Operation Against Illicit Drug Trafficking "Los Sinchis" stopped a M4B-901 Toyota truck, coming from the Vraem (by the Mantaro route, Boca Anapati, Miñaro Jerusalem, Pangoa, Mazamari, Pichanaki) having as final destination Palcazu, Oхарампа province, Pasco region, where there would be clandestine landing strips to send drugs in small planes to Bolivia and Brazil. Thanks to an operation carried out in the vicinity of the San Martin de Pangoa district, Satipo province, Junin region, about **45.1 kilograms of cocaine** was seized. The alleged drug traffickers, upon noticing the police presence, left the van on the run. The vehicle is transferred to Mazamari Anti-Drug Base. As a result of inspection of the fuel tank of the cited vehicle, 59 plastic bottles containing cocaine, each with a capacity of 600 milliliters were extracted.
<http://www.inforegion.pe/252264/decomisan-45-1-kilos-de-alcaloide-de-cocaina-en-el-vraem/>

REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES

11.07.2018 Authorities in Seychelles have seized **5.66 kilograms of heroin**. Heroin and cannabis are the only two main types of drugs which have been seized in Seychelles. There were two cocaine-related arrests, one in 2011 and the other in 2018. So far there is no evidence to show that Seychelles, a group of 115 islands in the western Indian Ocean, is producing dangerous drugs such as heroin, cocaine and ecstasy.
<http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/9417/Drug+fight+in+Seychelles+.+kg+of+heroin+seized+this+year>

USA

10.07.2018 Police in Hartford, Connecticut began investigation and identified several suspects of selling large amounts of heroin. During search **9 kilograms of heroin** and two semi-automatic firearms were seized.
<https://www.wtnh.com/news/connecticut/hartford/pd-9-kilos-of-heroin-2-firearms-seized-in-hartford-drug-bust/1293155691>

10.07.2018 Nogales Station Border Patrol agents arrested a 31-year-old Mexican man near the international boundary fence for illegally entering the United States and for narcotics smuggling. Border Patrol agents observed a man with suspected narcotics bundle strapped to his back climb over the international boundary fence. A subsequent search turned up several plastic containers containing **7.26 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine** worth approximately 49,000 US dollars. Drugs and vehicle were seized.
<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/agents-stop-meth-smuggling-attempt-downtown-nogales>

11.07.2018 GPD Mandana Drug Task Force in Harmon responded to employees oot the Guahan Waste Control, who discovered a package containing **2.27 kilograms of cocaine**.

Discovery was made after a truck had returned from its route and released the contents. Currently, the source of the drugs is being investigated.
<http://www.kuam.com/story/38616727/2018/07/Wednesday/stash-found-in-trash-5-lbs-of-cocaine-at-mr-rubbishman-facility>

12.07.2018 Border Patrol agents, at the Border Patrol checkpoint on State Route 85 about 114 miles away from Tucson, arrested a 61-year-old man from Phoenix, who was towing a trailer laden with excavating equipment with his Ford F-250 pickup. As a result of inspection, bundle of narcotics hidden under the wood planks of the flatbed was found. After removing the excavating equipment, agents found and seized 64 bundles with **635 kilograms of marijuana**. The driver was arrested for drug smuggling and handed over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Homeland Security Investigations, along with marijuana. The truck, equipment and trailer were also seized.
http://www.tucsonsentinel.com/local/report/070918_ajo_seizure/bp-drug-dog-sniffs-out-700k-marijuana-stashed-flat-bed-trailer/

TURKEY

10.07.2018 Customs authorities at the Mersin port, Turkey’s gateway to the eastern Mediterranean, seized **14.8 tonnes of acetic anhydride**, a chemical agent used in production of heroin. Precursor was found in a truck carrying chemical materials imported from abroad. The truck was aboard a Turkish-flagged vessel which arrived at the port from Italy. Authorities confiscated the acetic anhydride which was originally declared to customs as monomer, another chemical compound, inside plastic cans in the truck. The seized amount can be used for the production of some **7.5 tonnes of heroin**. Anadolu Agency (AA) reported that the compound was loaded onto the truck from the Netherlands. The driver of the truck was detained. Turkey is a transit route for drug smuggling between Europe and Asia. Within the first six months of this year, **24.6 tonnes of drugs** were seized by customs officials. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime says the Blakan route that traverses Iran, Turkey, Greece and Bulgaria across southeastern Europe to the western European market is a main heroin trafficking corridor. Smugglers mostly use ships and trucks for transporting drugs to and from Turkey. The escalation of security measures along Turkey’s southern border with war-torn Syria curbed smuggling but shipments of illegal drugs via the Aegean and Mediterranean seas remain a concern for Turkish authorities.
<https://www.dailysabah.com/investigations/2018/07/10/148-tons-of-heroin-component-seized-at-mersin-port>

THAILAND

14.07.2018 In Wiang Kaen district, a combined force of police and soldiers arrested two members of organized crime group of 23 and 27 years old, who were carrying **7.4 million speed pills and 200 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine**. Police spotted a group of 20-30 men carrying sacks late night. Upon seeing the officers, many abandoned their sacks and fled to a nearby forest in the darkness. Two of them were later caught, with the abandoned sacks containing drugs. The seized drugs are believed to have belonged to the same gang that smuggled 11.9 million speed pills on May 21.
<https://www.bangkokpost.com/news/general/1503518/>

SRI-LANKA

10.07.2018 Sri Lanka Customs has seized a package containing **227 grams of heroin** at the Bandaranaike International Airport in Katunayake. The package with the heroin concealed in clothes has been sent from Mumbai to a resident of Minuwangoda. The officers of air cargo unit of the Customs at the International Airport have made the detection. Following investigations two suspects aged 45 and 26 were arrested.

http://www.colombopage.com/archive_18B/Jul10_1531202876CH.php

11.07.2018 Two suspects were arrested by the CID with **9.9 kilograms of heroin**, with intention of selling it. Drug was hidden in 22 packets in rice sacks.

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/article/-kg-of-heroin-worth-Rs-mn-detected-in-Mawadichchena-152567.html>

13.07.2018 Some **5.5 kilograms of heroin** was found in 21 parcels abandoned at the Ilakkanda Beach in Sampur.

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/article/-kgs-of-heroin-detected-in-Sampur-152671.html>

ECUADOR

08.07.2018 The Ports and Airports Information Unit (UIPA) at the Mariscal Sucre Airport executed an that allowed intercepting **58.75 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride** hidden in a cargo of export flowers, which was destined for Amsterdam. By means of profiling and control techniques, a load was identified, which contained 10 cardboard boxes with the "EX IMPORT FLOWER" logo, inside which, in addition to finding export flowers, a double pocket (cache) was found on the sides of the box structure.

08.07.2018 In the Maritime Port of Guayaquil (CONTECON), the UIPA executed an operation of control and patrol by the docks, yards and bays of the Port, which allowed the seizure **111.8 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride** that were camouflaged in several cardboard boxes.

08.07.2018 UIPA executed an operation that allowed the seizure of **299.4 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride**, which were intended to be sent to India in a cargo of cocoa beans for export.

<https://www.ministeriointerior.gob.ec/cuatro-operativos-antinarcoticos-impidieron-el-trafico-de-46995-kilogramos-de-alcaloides/>

09.07.2018 Officers of the Counter-Narcotics Unit of the Metropolitan District of Quito seized **10 tonnes of precursors** and **0.5 tonnes of drugs**. Through research and profiling techniques, in the Panamericana Norte highway, a truck was stopped, led by an Ecuadorian citizen. With the support of the Regional Center for Canine Training (CRAC) and, after the relevant registration, 400 cases were found with the caption: "Calcium chloride", which were camouflaged inside jute bags. Substances are seized in the province of Imbabura, and had Columbia as final destination.

<http://www.policiaecuador.gob.ec/detiener-a-ciudadano-que-transportaba-10-toneladas-de-precursor-quimico/>

