

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

08-14.04.2019

№ 15

CARICC MEMBER STATES

11.04.2019 Officers of the Astara customs post of the Main Southern Territorial Customs Administration of the SCC stopped an attempt to import a large consignment of narcotic substances and psychotropic substances into the country. As a result of luggage inspection of two Pakistani citizens who arrived from the territory of Iran, more than **3 kg of heroin** and more than **40 tablets of "Alprazolam"**, banned for circulation in Azerbaijan, were found and seized. The abusers were arrested. <https://haqqin.az/news/148308>

14.04.2019 At the border outpost near the settlement of Bahramtepe in Imishli district, three Azerbaijani citizens were detained by the Border Guard Service who tried to cross the border and bring more than **6 kg of marijuana** and seeds of a narcotic plant from Iran into the territory of Azerbaijan by "Mercedes-Benz" car. The drugs were discovered as a result of vehicle inspection and search of detainees. Operational and investigative measures are being continued on this fact and criminal proceedings have been initiated against the detained persons. <https://minval.az/news/123877834>

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

10.04.2019 In Bishkek, police detained a 52-year-old man suspected in illegal drug trafficking. At the moment of detention the suspect was illegally storing **35.6 g of hashish** and **290 g of marijuana**. The man was engaged in drug trafficking from Issyk-Kul district. In a house in Novopokrovka village, he set up a clandestine laboratory to process cannabis herb into hash oil using chemicals. During the search of the house, **8.38 kg of marijuana** were found, as well as various devices and ingredients for making hash oil. Pre-trial proceedings had been initiated. <https://ru.sputnik.kg/incidents/20190410/1043912514/kyrgyzstan-bishkek-milicionery-narkotik.html>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

08.04.2019 Employees of the Department of Internal Affairs of the Russian Penza region detained a 22-year-old local resident suspected in drug trafficking with the use of bookmarks, from whom more than **300 grams of mephedrone**, prepared for further sale in Penza, was seized. The detained citizen was wanted by the federal authorities for a similar crime in the neighboring region. A criminal case has been initiated in this case. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16468329>

08.04.2019 A 30-year-old man was detained in the forest area of the Nekrasovsky district by officers of the Department of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Yaroslavl region, from whom a package of **1.4 kg of heroin** was seized. The drugs were intended for distribution. A criminal case has been initiated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16458518>

09.04.2019 The officers of the Department of Internal Affairs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation on suspicion of illegal production and organization of the

channel for the supply of narcotic drugs to the regions of the Volga Federal District detained three men aged 20 to 22 years. More than **2.5 kg of synthetic substance**, tools, specialized equipment and substances used in the manufacture of drugs were seized. This fact is under investigation. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16477074>

09.04.2019, Two men were detained in Surgut by the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area - Yugra who were engaged in contactless sales through the bookmarks of synthetic drugs. During the inspection of the garage rented from a local resident, the detainees seized synthetic drugs weighing more than **4,051 kg, boxes of chemical reagents and drugs**, as well as 637 g of precursors of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. These facts are under investigation. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16472335>

10.04.2019 Employees of the ONK of Internal Affairs of Russia in Novorossiysk detained a 47-year-old woman coming from near abroad, who illegally stored at least **300 grams of heroin** at her place of temporary residence, which she intended to sell in Novorossiysk. A criminal case was initiated against the detainee. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16488836>

10.04.2019 Officers of the Novosibirsk Regional Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation detained a 23-year-old resident of Novokuznetsk suspected of drug trafficking in the village of Mochische, Novosibirsk Region. During the search of the car on which the detainee was travelling, the police found and seized about **1 kg of hashish and 200 g of MDMA**. After the purchase of a wholesale consignment of drugs, the suspect was to deliver them to the territory of Kemerovo region for further sale. In Novokuznetsk, **300 g of hashish, more than 40 g of MDMA and almost 80 g of marijuana** were seized during a search of the suspect's apartment. A criminal case has been initiated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16487205>

14.04.2019 Officers of the Department of Internal Affairs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation for the Moscow region together with their colleagues from the Department of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation for the Solnechnogorsk district detained two residents of Moscow - 29 years and 41 years old. **Amphetamine and hashish, weighing more than 30 kg**, were found in the course of the search of their car, as well as searches of the garage box rented by the detainees and their places of residence. The court chose a preventive measure in the form of remand in custody as a measure of restraint against detainees. A criminal case is currently under investigation. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16530209>

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

08.04.2019 Law enforcement officers in the Kushtepinsky district of Fergana province found and seized **1,369 kg of marijuana** in the house of a local resident. A criminal case has been initiated and an investigation is in progress. <https://www.mvd.uz/ru/lists/view/6269>

ON OTHER COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN

08.04.2019 Nimroz Police Zone 3 officers discovered and confiscated **40 kg of opium** smuggled into Iran from Masomabad village, Zaranj, Nimroz province. Two suspects were detained. <http://www.bakhtarnews.com.af/eng/security/item/37544-40-kgs-of-opium-confiscated-in-nimroz.html>

11.04.2019 More than **7 kg of heroin** were found at Hamid Karzai Kabul International Airport to be in the hands of counter-narcotics police officers. The drugs were placed in decorative tables by criminals. A drug courier who wanted to smuggle the drug out of Afghanistan was arrested. <http://www.bakhtarnews.com.af/eng/security/item/37572-over-7-kg-heroin-discover-in-kabul-airport.html>

BELIZE

09.04.2019 Police officers seized **2 kg of cocaine** during special operations at a house in Silk Grass Village in southern Belize. The landlord tried to escape and get rid of the drugs when the police arrived. Since then, the police have detained four people who will be charged after the investigation is completed. <https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2019/04/10/police-nab-two-kilos-of-cocaine-in-the-south/>

BULGARIA

08.04.2019 Employees of the National Customs Agency at the Kalotina checkpoint seized more than **1 ton of cannabis**. The drug was found in one of two trucks en route from Serbia to Turkey. Two identical trucks entered at the same time from Serbia, the license plates of which differed only in one number. One was empty, while the other was documented as transporting linoleum loaded in Serbia and destined for a consignee in Turkey. The customs risk profile was activated and the truck carrying the goods was redirected to X-ray inspection. On the way between the main control area and the X-ray area, two trucks changed their license plates, and an empty truck with the documents of the one carrying the goods appeared on the X-ray scanner. Because of the quick response and intelligence of the customs officers, another truck was also immediately identified and measures were taken to apprehend it in the border zone. Further inspection revealed that it contained travel bags and bags of cannabis. Serbian citizens have been taken into custody as the driver, owner of a transport company, who was driving an empty truck. https://customs.bg/wps/portal/agency-en/media-center/news-details/08_04_Kalotina_marhuana

10.04.2019 Bulgarian law enforcement officials in the Black Sea near the Shabla coast, approximately 25 km south of Romania, discovered **169 kg of cocaine**. The drug was packed in 150 packages and placed in six bags attached to life jackets. The cost of the shipment is estimated at \$41 million. The Bulgarian authorities continue to search the area and the ships there. A version is being checked on the connection between the detected consignment and the 1,000 kg of cocaine found at the end of March by the Romanian police in an upside-down boat and in the waters surrounding it, near the beach of Sfinto-George in the Danube delta. <http://famagusta-gazette.com/2019/04/10/bulgaria-seizes-169-kg-of-cocaine-in-black-sea-near-coast/>

12.04.2019 MIA officers found about **25 kg of cocaine** on the shore near the Marina Hotel in the Slanchev Dnia complex near Varna. A total of 25 packages were found wrapped in a bag hidden in a Brazilian life jacket, similar to those found near Shabla. The contents of the packages are highly concentrated, ranging from 70% to 90%. In this case, the possible link to cocaine found on the Black Sea coast is also checked. <http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2019/04/12/439276/varna-over-25-kg-of-cocaine-worth-bgn-76-million-found-in-slanchev-den.html>

BRAZIL

08.04.2019 Federal Highway Police (PRF) officers in Joinwilli, Santa Catarina seized **166 kg of cocaine** and arrested a woman. During a routine inspection of the pickup, police found traces of welding on the floor of the vehicle's cargo area. Further inspection revealed 151 packages of cocaine in the stash. Some of the packages contained a logo in the form of a photograph of Colombian merchant Pablo Escobar. A 32-year-old driver from São Paulo was detained. He explained that he was transporting the drug from São Paulo to Joinwilli. <https://clicrdc.com.br/seguranca-publica/prf-apreende-166-quilos-de-cocaina-em-sc-assista-ao-video/>

08.04.2019 Federal Revenue Service customs agents in the port of Santos, São Paulo, stopped the smuggling of large quantities of cocaine. An illicit consignment of **high-purity cocaine weighing 1.165 tons** was found in two containers destined for the port of Antwerp, Belgium. Cocaine was contained in 30 backpacks containing hundreds of packages. The drug was seized by the federal police, who will investigate the circumstances of the international drug trafficking attempt. <https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/porto-mar/noticia/2019/04/08/mais-de-uma-tonelada-de-cocaina-e-apreendida-no-porto-de-santos-antes-de-seguir-para-a-europa.ghtml>

09.04.2019 In the port of Santos, São Paulo, **349 kg of cocaine** were seized by Federal Revenue Customs agents in a joint operation with the Federal Police and Port Security while transporting a large consignment of cocaine for shipment to a ship. The location of the new illegal shipment was determined after more than 1.1 tons of drugs destined for the same ship, Grande San Paolo, had been confiscated the previous day during inspection work. The driver was carrying a suitcase containing a shipment of cocaine in the cabin of his truck and was to deliver it to the ship. <https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/porto-mar/noticia/2019/04/09/caminhoneiro-e-presos-tentando-embarcar-cocaina-em-navio-no-porto-de-santos-sp.ghtml>

09.04.2019 During the regular luggage check-up, Federal Police officers stopped an attempt to smuggle **3 kg of cocaine base paste** hidden in a bag of a 31-year-old passenger from Amazonas, registered for a flight to Frankfurt am Main (Germany) with a transfer at Amsterdam airport (Netherlands). Upon arrest, the drug courier was taken to the Federal Police headquarters in Sear and charged with international drug trafficking. <http://www.pf.gov.br/imprensa/noticias/2019/04/pf-prende-homem-por- trafico-de-drogas-no-aeroporto-internacional-do-ceara>

10.04.2019 Federal Revenue Service agents at the port of Santos, São Paulo, discovered and seized **353 kg of cocaine** in an export cargo destined for the port of Rotterdam (Netherlands). Santos Customs teams, in the course of their risk management and analysis work, used non-invasive container scanning images to select some cargoes for physical

inspection. Suspicious anomalies were identified in one shipment of lemon juice contained in barrels. Within the three barrels, 300 packs of cocaine were found. The drug was delivered to the Santos Federal Police Station, which will continue its investigation.

<http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2019/abril/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-intercepta-353-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-exportacao-no-porto-de-santos>

VENEZUELA

08.04.2019 Members of the Bolivarian National Guard (GNB) seized 244 packages of **cocaine, totalling 275.56 kg**, at the Los Pedros Citizen Service Center (PAC) on the Falcon-Sulia highway. A shipment of cocaine was found in the double bottom of a tanker semi-trailer.

<https://www.conelmazodando.com.ve/en-fotos-gbn-incauto-mas-de-275-kilos-de-cocaina-carretera-falcon-zulia>

INDIA

09.04.2019 The Special Police Task Force (STF) intercepted a vehicle carrying two drug smugglers at a checkpoint near Dalam village. They seized **1.10 kg of heroin**, a 32-gauge pistol and three rounds of ammunition. The defendants are linked to major drug lords. The case against the detainees is registered in accordance with the NDPS Act.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/amritsar/two-held-with-1-10-kg-of-heroin/756230.html>

CANADA

08.04.2019 Kenorra District Police in Ontario, in a joint operation with the Organized Crime Bureau, stopped traffic, arrested the driver and searched the vehicle, finding **4.48 kg of cocaine** on the 17A motorway. The value of the seized drugs is estimated at \$448,000. The driver, a 44-year-old man from Calgary, is accused of possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking.

<https://www.kenoradailyminerandnews.com/news/local-news/kenora-opp-bust-driver-with-4-48-kilograms-of-cocaine-in-his-car>

KENYA

08.04.2019 During an inspection at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi (JKIA), police officers confiscated **500 kg of khat** hidden in tea bags and packed in 52 bags. Shipments from various exporters were destined for the United States and Austria.

https://twitter.com/DCI_Kenya/status/1115494597726298114/photo/1?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1115494597726298114&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.the-star.co.ke%2Fnews%2F2019-04-09-500kg-dry-khat-seized-at-jkia%2F

09.04.2019 Detectives confiscated **12 kg of heroin** at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi (JKIA), which was hidden in two containers with radios. The cargo was destined for Monrovia, Liberia, and had been exported by a customs agent.

<https://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2019-04-09-500kg-dry-khat-seized-at-jkia/>

COLUMBIA

12.04.2019 During the reconnaissance operation, the National Fleet Coast Guard confiscated **37 kg of cocaine**, which was concealed in a cylinder on the keel of the ship. The ship was loading coal from the multinational Drummond company, which exports coal

from the Ciénaga jurisdiction. The vessel was anchored in the immediate vicinity of the port of Buenaventura. <https://seguimiento.co/la-samaria/incautan-cocaina-avaluada-en-mas-de-usd-1-millon-en-un-buque-que-cargaba-carbon-de>

MALTA

07.04.2019 Customs agents in the Free Port of Malta seized **91.6 kg of cocaine**. Packages containing cocaine were found hidden in the compressor compartments of refrigerated fruit containers that were being sent to an EU Member State from an unnamed South American country. The street value of the shipment is estimated at 10.2 million euros. The drug has been identified through the use of a scanning method. A total of 38 packages were found. The case was referred to the anti-drug department of the police. The magistrate is investigating the case. <https://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20190407/local/more-than-90kg-of-cocaine-found-at-malta-freeport.706740>

NIGERIA

11.04.2019 The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) in the local government district of Jaga arrested a well-known drug lord in Kebbey. A total of **149 kg of cannabis herb** were seized. <https://sundiatapost.com/2019/04/11/ndlea-arrests-drug-kingpin-with-149-kilograms-of-marijuana-in-kebbi/>

PAKISTAN

09.04.2019 Anti-drug forces (ANF) seized **18 kg of heroin** at Jinnah International Airport in Karachi. The drug was concealed in the luggage of a passenger on a flight to Birmingham, England. <https://dunyanews.tv/en/Crime/486165-ANF-foils-bid-to-smuggle-18kg-heroin-at-Karachi-airport>

PANAMA

09.04.2019 A criminal scheme was discovered in the port of Colon, according to which drug traffickers, using port staff, forwarded cocaine to cargo containers destined for Europe. Panama's shipping industry is used to move large quantities of drugs across the Atlantic. Local drug groups, in cooperation with Colombian drug traffickers, are increasingly smuggling cocaine through cargo ships moored in the port city of Colón along the northern edge of the Panama Canal. Cocaine arrives from Colombia through drug couriers who cross Darien-Gap, the jungle separating Colombia and Panama, transporting **10 kg of cocaine** in backpacks. Colon drug groups receive cocaine and then smuggle it into the port with the help of corrupt port officials. Those officers, known as "Quadrillas", include security guards at the port entrance and port workers who hide drugs in shipping containers and inside fruit cargo destined for Europe. A port guard can earn up to \$10,000 per shipment. Target containers are usually linked to the Netherlands or Spain, by the preferred destination ports. <https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/drug-gangs-corrupt-panama-shipping-industry/>
<https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/report-port-of-colon-is-a-new-hub-for-cocaine-smuggling>

USA

05.04.2019 The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), in conjunction with the Office of Field Operations and employees of the port of Nogales, Tucson, Arizona, seized large quantities of heroin, cocaine and methamphetamine in three separate operations. In the first case, CBP officers at the Dennis DeConcini pedestrian crossing detained a 22-year-old woman from the state of Nebraska who was attempting to smuggle **480 grams of heroin** into the United States from Mexico. In the second case, officers at the DeConcini intersection apprehended a 39-year-old Mexican citizen while attempting to smuggle **9.53 kg of cocaine**, valued at nearly \$503,000, from Mexico to the United States. The drug was concealed inside the panel in a Volkswagen car. On 06.04.2019 officers at the crossroads of Dennis DeConcini detained a 38-year-old Mexican driver. The man tried to smuggle 70 packages containing **32.66 kg of methamphetamine** in the fuel tank of a Ford truck. The cost of the batch is more than 216 thousand U.S. dollars. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-seize-724k-worth-hard-drugs>

06.04.2019 Officers of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in two joint operations with the Office of Field Operations stopped the smuggling of fentanyl and methamphetamine through the port of San Luis. In the first case, a pedestrian crossing officials detained an 18-year-old U.S. citizen who concealed a package containing **230 grams of fentanyl** under his clothes in the groin area. In the second case, a 23-year-old Mexican citizen who applied to enter the U.S. from Mexico in a Chevy SUV was detained. As a result of inspection activities inside the spare wheel and the box, **60 packages of methamphetamine, weighing 50.35 kg**, were found and seized. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-arrest-fentanylmethamphetamine-smugglers-port-san-luis>

10.04.2019 Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents seized **805.58 kg of cocaine** worth US\$20 million from an intercepted ship near Paillas in Puerto Rico. During the course of the patrol, a Navy aircraft discovered a ship approximately 8 metres long that was heading north towards Puerto Rico without navigation lights. The aircraft assisted the CBP maritime unit in locating the suspect ship and apprehending it. The inspection of the ship resulted in the discovery of 28 bags of narcotics. A two-man team was apprehended. <http://www.maritimeherald.com/2019/ship-intercepted-near-puerto-rico-carrying-cocaine-with-an-estimated-value-of-20-million-video/>

10.04.2019 Officers from the Navajo County Sheriff's Office found **2.27 kg of heroin and about 30,000 pills of fentanyl** on the 40 interstate highway, near mile post 256, as a result of a car stoppage involving a 38-year-old woman and a 37-year-old man, while inspecting the car with the help of a K-9 dog. Drug couriers were imprisoned and charged with transporting drugs for sale and storage of drug paraphernalia. <https://www.12news.com/article/news/local/arizona/k-9-sniffs-out-30k-fentanyl-pills-5-pounds-of-heroin-in-traffic-stop-near-holbrook/75-894b86c9-9455-4ff9-b0cd-14b06958d4a0>

12.04.2019. Border patrol agents at the immigration checkpoint on Highway 86 in Salton City, California, inspected a Dodge D-150 pickup truck driven by a 60-year-old man in the front bay with a false wall and found packages containing **9.67 kg of methamphetamine, 15.28 kg of heroin and 1.09 kg of cocaine**. The driver was arrested, drugs and a



vehicle were handed over to the Anti-Drug Agency for further investigation.
<https://www.kesq.com/news/-400k-of-meth-heroin-cocaine-seized-by-border-patrol/1068556724>

TURKEY

12.04.2019 Turkish security forces in eastern Van province discovered and seized about **128 kg of heroin** during a wall operation along the highway between Karagunduz and Ilikainak. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/more-than-125-kg-of-heroin-seized-in-eastern-turkey/1450184>