

**CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(based on mass media reports)

**19.10-25.10.2020****№ 43****CARICC MEMBER STATES****REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

**16.10.2020** Employees of the Department of Border Service of the KNB in Zhambyl region detained two violators of state border, citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic, and found and seized **10.8 kg of marijuana**. Pre-trial investigation is currently under way. <https://avesta-news.kz/krupnyuy-partiyu-narkotikov-pytalis-provezti-v-kazahstan/>

**KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

**22.10.2020** As part of the "Transit" operation, employees of SBNON MVD of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Issyk-Kul and Naryn regions on the highway "Karakol-Ananyevo-Balykchy" near the village of Kudurgu, Tyupsky district, stopped a car "BMW" under the control of a 26-year-old resident of the Chui region. During inspection of the car in the tire of the spare wheel was found and seized a bag of **marijuana weighing 10 kg**. In addition, on the highway "Karakol-Bokonbaevo-Balykchy" near the village Barskoon Jeti-Oguz district police officers stopped a car "Honda", which was driven by a 34-year-old resident of the village of Chyrpykty. During inspection of the car was found **5 kg of marijuana**. A 35-year-old resident of Ala-Buka village, Dzhahalal-Abad region, was also detained there. **45 g of hashish** were seized from him. Pre-trial proceedings were started on all the facts. <https://vesti.kg/proisshestviya/item/77717-na-issyk-kule-militsionery-za-odin-den-zaderzhali-trekh-perevozchikov-narkotikov.html>

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**19.10.2020** Staff of the Russian MVD MU Luberetskoye police department in Moscow region detained a 24-year-old man suspected of selling drugs in a forest belt near the village of Lukyanovka. During a personal search, **1000 ecstasy pills (MDMA)** were found and seized from the suspect. A criminal case was opened against the suspect and the court selected a preventive measure in the form of detention. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21521606>

**21.10.2020** Employees of UMVD of Russia in Orekhovo-Zuyevesky urban district of Moscow region in the course of investigation of a criminal case on theft of a car belonging to a resident of Likino-Dulevo, identified and detained two men aged 47 and 48 years suspected of committing the illegal act. During a search at the place of their temporary residence they found and seized about **900 liters of precursors, more than 6 kg of mephedrone**, as well as the previously stolen car, which was returned to the owner. Criminal cases were opened. The court chose a measure in the form of detention. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21546748>

**20.10.2020** Employees of OKON UMVD of Russia for the city of Cherepovets together with employees of UKON UMVD of Russia for the Vologda region at the entrance to the Cherepovets district stopped a car, which was a 26-year-old male driver and female passenger. More than **1 kg of synthetic drug** was found and seized during a search of the vehicle. The man and the woman were detained. Further other participants of the group - two men and a woman at the age from 24 to 30 - were found and detained on the territory of three regions. The police found a cache in the forest, from which more than **2 kg of synthetic drugs** were extracted. Criminal proceedings were instituted against these individuals. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21542340>

**20.10.2020** At the 448th km of the R-22 "Caspian Sea" highway in Tambovsky district, officers of the traffic police and UNK MVD of Russia in Tambov region stopped a car under the control of a 35-year-old woman living in Orel. During a search of the car **170 g of heroin** were found and seized. A criminal case was opened against the suspect and the court selected a preventive measure in the form of detention. Heroin was intended for sale in Tambov region. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21540084>

**20.10.2020** Transport police in Vologda detained a 22-year-old local resident suspected of drug trafficking. During an inspection of his vehicle, **1 kg of a synthetic drug - 2-(1-benzil-1H-indazole-3-carboxamido)acetic acid** - was found and seized in the cabin under the passenger seat and intended for further sale. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21535282>

**22.10.2020** Employees of UMVD of Russia in the urban district of Podolsk, Moscow region, detained a 34-year-old resident of Moscow, from whom **1 kg of 1-phenyl 2-nitropropene**, a precursor of psychotropic substance and can be used in synthesis of amphetamine, was found and seized in his backpack. A criminal case has been initiated against the suspect. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21564425>

**24.10.2020** Officers of UNK UMVD of Russia in Omsk region detained a 49-year-old man suspected of drug trafficking, from whom **13.4 g of heroin** were seized during a personal search. The suspect was engaged in illicit drug trafficking through caches using a messenger. When the man was detained, his phone received another order with address of a wholesale cache located in a forest area near the village of Achair, Omsk district. Subsequently, police seized **321 g of heroin** from the stash, which was intended for further sale in Omsk. These cases are under investigation. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21595921>

**26.10.2020** Employees of the Sochi Line Directorate of MVD of the Russian Federation on the transport of MVD Transport Department for the Southern Federal District detained a suspect in the sale of narcotic drugs. Over **9.5 kg of heroin and 1.5 kg of plant and synthetic drugs** were found in his home in Sochi. A criminal case was opened against the suspect and the court selected a preventive measure in the form of detention. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21598222>

**REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN**

**19.10.2020** Employees of the department for combating illicit drug trafficking together with employees of the department for combating organized crime of the Directorate of

Organized Crime of OUR UVD of Navoi region in Khatyrchinsky district, in Kuksaroy village, at a public control station, stopped a car with a 47-year-old resident of Navoi and a 45-year-old resident of Yangiaryk mahalla in Karmaninsky district. **198 g of marijuana** were found in the suspects' car during inspection. <https://iiv.uz/ru/news/xatirchi-tumanida-marixuana-giyohvandlik-vositasi-saqlab-kelayotgan-fuqarolar-aniqlandi>

**19.10.2020** Employees of SGB for the city of Kokand together with employees of OUR UVD of the Ferghana region on the highway A-373, on the territory of the village of Katta Turk examined a car, in which were a 23-year-old resident of Kokand and a 29-year-old resident of Tashkent. **4180 capsules of Tramadol and 175 packages of Tropikamide** were seized from men. Preliminary investigation is under way. <https://iiv.uz/ru/news/qoqon-shahri-hududida-tramadol-lannaxer-tropikamidori-vositalarini-nogonuniy-olib-kirishiga-chek-qoyildi>

**23.10.2020** Tashkent Region UVD inspected the house of 42-year-old resident of Umumzor mahalla, Kibrai district, which resulted in the discovery of **90 g of marijuana**. In addition, a 29-year-old resident of the Chulabad mahalla of Bukinsky district was detained, and **212.2 g of marijuana** were seized from him. Criminal proceedings were instituted on these cases. <https://iiv.uz/ru/news/toshkent-viloyati-qibray-va-boka-tumanlari-iib-xodimlari-tomonidan-otkazilgan-tezkor-tabir-natijalari>

## OTHER COUNTRIES

### AUSTRALIA

**25.10.2020** In a joint operation, "Tethys", Australian Border Force (ABF) and Australian Federal Police (AFP) seized **144 kg of cocaine** concealed in a shipment of hydraulic cylinders arriving from South Africa to Brisbane. Six metal barrels were found inside large pistons, each containing 24 packs of cocaine. AFP investigators at the scene removed packs of cocaine from the hydraulic cylinders and replaced them with an inert substance in order to carry out a controlled delivery to a warehouse in Botany, New South Wales. A 45-year-old man from Sydney was detained as a result of controlled delivery. The shipment was valued at 64.8 million U.S. dollars. AFP officers executed search warrants at two warehouses in Botany, which resulted in the seizure of items important to the case, currency, gold and silver bars. <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/man-arrested-144-kilograms-cocaine-hydraulic-rams-seized>

### IRAN

**24.10.2020** In the period from 10 to 23 October, the Anti-Narcotics Police of Iran seized **28.942 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including 225 kg of heroin, 23.339 tons of opium, 476 kg of methamphetamine, 1.859 tons of morphine, 2.607 tons of hashish and 436 kg of other narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances<sup>1</sup>.**

<sup>1</sup> Data provided by liaison officer of the Anti-Narcotics Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

## CAMBODIA

**21.10.2020** A joint operation at a border crossing point in Borey O'Svay Sen Chey, Stung Treng province, by the National Military Police and District Military Police found and seized more than **40 kg of methamphetamine** imported by a suspected drug smuggler from Laos. When attempting to apprehend the suspect, the man threw his motorcycle and fled the scene. The case has been referred to the prosecutor's office and the smuggler is wanted by police. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/police-seize-more-40kg-meth-motorbike-stung-treng>

## CHINA

**22.10.2020** Police in the border province of Yunnan, located in southwestern China, intercepted activities of a criminal group of 14 people engaged in smuggling drugs into China. **17.5 kg of heroin** were seized. All 14 members of the criminal group are in custody, investigation is under way. Yunnan Province is an important front in China's fight against drug crime, as it borders the Golden Triangle, a region that encompasses parts of Thailand, Myanmar and Laos, an internationally recognized center for drug production and trafficking. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/1022/c90000-9772025.html>

## COLOMBIA

**22.10.2020** As part of a joint operation by the Rapid Deployment Force of the National Army and the Attorney General's Office of Colombia, **1,700 sheets of cardboard impregnated with cocaine liquid hydrochloride** were confiscated in the La Aurora area of the municipality of Valle del Cauca. The military operation was carried out in a factory specializing in cardboard processing, where sheets are processed with cocaine hydrochloride and glue to avoid the attention of regulatory authorities when shipping to export cargoes. Later, cardboard is chemically treated at its destination, where it is again converted to liquid form. Cocaine is valued at over 4.7 billion pesos. <https://www.cgfm.mil.co/es/blog/ejercito-nacional-incauta-1700-laminas-de-carton-impregnadas-de-clorhidrato-de-cocaina-liquida>

## THE NETHERLANDS

**20.10.2020** Police aboard a motorboat in the port of Breskens, located in the municipality of Sluis, province of Zeeland, found and seized **300 kg of cocaine**. Final destination of the boat was the port of Antwerp, Belgium. Later, a bag of **50 kg of cocaine** was thrown onto the beach in Zoutelande. Crew of the boat, consisting of three residents of Urk, Kampen and Zwolle, was arrested. Firearms were found in the homes of the suspects in Emst during a search. Drug seizure on October 20 may be not connected with a shipment of cocaine thrown ashore off the coast of Zeeland on a beach in Borsel when more than **300 packages of cocaine** were found in early October. This is a common smuggling method, where large cargo ships dump some drugs into the water before they reach ports. They are tied in bags to floating devices, such as a lifebuoy. Drugs are then picked up by other smugglers. <https://alkhaleejtoday.co/international/5157542/Police-find-300-kilos-of-cocaine-on-boat-in-Zeeland-also.html>

## UAE

**23.10.2020** Dubai police officers, in cooperation with Sharjah police, stopped an attempt to smuggle **33 kg of crystalline methamphetamine** into the country as part of Operation “Step by Step” to counter criminal activities of drug lords in the UAE. Three members of an international gang of drug traffickers were detained and transferred to the prosecutor's office to complete the investigation. <https://gulfnews.com/uae/crime/see-how-dubai-police-foiled-a-major-drug-operation-in-uae-1.74789123>

## OMAN

**20.10.2020** Employees of the General Administration for Combating Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of the Royal Oman Police arrested a criminal attempting to enter the Sultanate by sea, and seized **15 kg of crystal methamphetamine and 5.8 kg of heroin**. The suspect had intended to sell drugs in cooperation with an international gang of drug traffickers, and legal action is being taken against him. <https://timesofoman.com/article/rop-arrests-smuggler-with-over-5000-kilos-of-heroin>

## PANAMA

**24.10.2020** During a search of a transit container in the port of Colón, authorities of Panama found about **600 kg of cocaine** in a the container from Colombia. Cargo was distributed in 24 bags and was destined for Italy. Panama is used by transnational drug trafficking groups as a bridge to transport drugs produced in the south of the continent, and its main destination is the United States, the largest cocaine user in the world.

<https://www.panorama.com.ve/sucesos/Panama-incauta-droga-en-contenedor-que-salio-de-Colombia-con-destino-a-Italia-20201024-0054.html>

<https://twitter.com/ProtegerServir/status/1320438897239871488>

<https://twitter.com/ProtegerServir/status/1320091691332894722>

## PARAGUAY

**20.10.2020** Paraguayan police anti-drug unit seized **2.327 tons of cocaine** during an operation at the private port of Terport de Villetà, about 19 miles from Asunción. The shipment was estimated to cost \$500 million. Drugs were hidden in six containers with a cargo of charcoal, which were to be sent to Israel. Two people responsible for planning and preparing export (smuggling) were arrested, among whom the prosecution identified a former director of state television channel. This seizure is the largest in Paraguay, which is considered a transit country for drug trafficking to Europe and other countries.

[https://www.unionleader.com/news/crime/paraguay-police-seize-record-500-mln-cocaine-haul-hidden-in-charcoal/article\\_5e0e5185-13c8-5936-9419-ae48ce4198ea.html](https://www.unionleader.com/news/crime/paraguay-police-seize-record-500-mln-cocaine-haul-hidden-in-charcoal/article_5e0e5185-13c8-5936-9419-ae48ce4198ea.html)

## PORTUGAL

**22.10.2020** Portuguese Customs Department seized **63 kg of cocaine** during two checks at Lisbon International Airport. Cocaine shipments weighing 31 and 32 kg were found during customs control in the luggage of Brazilian passengers. In the beginning of September customs on the flight from Brazil seized **208 kg of cocaine** also hidden in travel bags.

<https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/lisbon-airport-customs-seize-63-kg-cocaine-hidden-in-suitcases-from-brazil/56289>

## USA

**22.10.2020** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials at the Gateway International Bridge at the port of entry in Brownsville, Texas, detained a 43-year-old Cuban citizen attempting to smuggle **2.38 kg of fentanyl** in a Dodge Caliber. Fentanyl is worth 147 thousand dollars. CBP officers seized drugs along with the car, the driver was arrested and handed over to the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) for further investigation.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/brownsville-port-entry-cbp-officers-seize-fentanyl-gateway-1>

**22.10.2020** A police officer in Greenville, North Carolina, stopped a car with a male driver and female passenger from California for speeding. During the stop, a K-9 dog warned of drugs in the car. During a search of the vehicle, **4 kg of heroin** were found inside the battery and seized. The couple was arrested on charges of heroin trafficking. Each of them is held on bail of 1.5 million dollars. <https://wcti12.com/news/local/couple-arrested-for-heroin-trafficking-officials-say-4-kg-was-hidden-in-car-battery>

**26.10.2020** U.S. border patrol agents at Bonners Station, Idaho, south of the U.S.-Canada border seized **38.1 kg of cocaine and 89.81 kg of methamphetamine**, valued at about \$2.16 million. Two smugglers managed to flee the scene in Canada, dropping bags of drugs. A border patrol gave Idaho State Police information describing a Range Rover, which was spotted at the scene and subsequently found on Highway 95. The driver was detained on suspicion of drug smuggling. Two men who fled to Canada were subsequently detained by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and are in detention pending further investigation. The U.S. Border Patrol and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) are cooperating in this investigation and are awaiting criminal charges against the man arrested in the United States. The U.S. Border Patrol also cooperates with the Canadian Mounted Police regarding two individuals arrested in Canada.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-agents-idaho-seize-cocaine-meth-0>

## THAILAND

**21.10.2020** In a shootout with police in the Pa Bon district, three drug couriers were detained and **200 kg of crystalline methamphetamine** were seized. The suspects were carrying a large shipment of crystalline methamphetamine in a pickup truck. The suspect's vehicle was blocked by two police vehicles. One of the suspects was shot and wounded in the armed clash. Among the detained Thais are residents of Prachuap Khiri Khan and Lopburi, aged 30 and 33. Drugs were in 10 traveling bags. A pistol with 10 rounds of ammunition was also found in the suspects' pickup truck. The drug couriers were hired for 50,000 baht each to transport a shipment from the Muang district to Prachuap Khiri Khan in Phattalung province. <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2005955/>

## TURKEY

**21.10.2020** The Mersin Counternarcotics Police found and seized **220 kg of cocaine** while checking containers that had arrived by ship at the port of Mersin from Brazil. A shipment of cocaine was in a container with a shipment of A4 paper. Two suspects were

detained. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-cocaine/turkey-nabs-massive-cocaine-haul-on-ship-from-brazil-idUSKBN2761BD>  
<https://www.msc.com/track-a-shipment?link=bd245347-8b1c-4547-987d-0da7d31614b9>

## UKRAINE

**20.10.2020** SBU blocked a transit of **750 kg of captagon** in Odessa. Seized shipment is estimated at over 30 million US dollars on black market. In the course of a special operation, SBU operatives and investigators established that two Ukrainian citizens - residents of Odessa and Lviv - were involved in organization of smuggling of the captagon from a Mediterranean country. In early September, a shipment of captagon arrived at the sea port "Yuzhnyi" in a container with sweets, after which the customers moved the shipment to a warehouse. To transfer captagon to a Gulf country, they purchased a consignment of corn starch, in which were placed bags with captagon. Two containers with a shipment of captagon were delivered to Odessa seaport by the malefactors. After declaring the cargo in customs authorities, SBU employees detained the suspects - one was detained at the attempt to depart from Odessa, the other - at the place of residence. Containers with captagon were seized. The question of declaring suspicions to both defendants is being solved in the framework of criminal proceedings. Urgent investigative actions are continuing to identify all persons involved in functioning of cross-border drug smuggling. The operation was conducted under the procedural leadership of the prosecutor's office of Odessa region.  
<https://ssu.gov.ua/novyny/v-odesi-sbu-vyluchyla-750-kilohramiv-psykhotropu-yakyi-vykorystovuiut-terorysty-islamskoi-derzhavy-video>

**24.10.2020** Interagency group consisting of USBU investigators in the Odessa region, employees of the Southern Regional Department of the State Border Guard of Ukraine and representatives of the Odessa Customs State Customs under the procedural guidance of the Odessa Regional Prosecutor's Office detained four citizens of Israel and seized about **120 kg of cocaine** in a warehouse in Odessa. Israeli citizens ensured functioning of the cocaine smuggling channel from South America to Ukraine in a container through the Odessa Commercial Sea Port. Investigations are under way.  
[https://zik.ua/news/crime/v\\_odesi\\_zatrymaly\\_chotyrok\\_hromadian\\_izrailiu\\_zi\\_120\\_kilohramamy\\_kokainu\\_984782](https://zik.ua/news/crime/v_odesi_zatrymaly_chotyrok_hromadian_izrailiu_zi_120_kilohramamy_kokainu_984782)

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCedtINoCZM>

## ETHIOPIA

**19.10.2020** Ethiopian Federal Police have detained suspects - 13 Nigerians and one Brazilian citizen - in an attempt to smuggle cocaine through Addis Ababa International Airport, from whom **14 kg of cocaine** were found and seized. Drug was concealed in various amounts in their luggage and underwear, and was also moved using intracavitary method. The suspects had arrived from Sao Paulo, Brazil. The Ethiopian police have seized **39 kg of cocaine and 36 kg of cannabis** in the last 3 months.  
<https://www.myjoyonline.com/news/international/suspects-arrested-in-ethiopias-airport-with-cocaine/>