

*Unofficial translation***CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(based on mass media reports)

**08-14.02.2021****№ 6****CARICC MEMBER STATES****KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

**09.02.2021** Employees of the Department of SBNON MVD of the Kyrgyz Republic in Osh city during investigation on the Osh-Bishkek highway in the Toktogul district stopped a Volkswagen Passat car, travelling in the direction of the capital. During inspection and personal search of the car passenger, a bag of **hashish weighing 10.333 kg** was found and seized. At the moment, the detainee is placed in the temporary detention facility; pre-trial investigation is underway. <https://mvd.gov.kg/rus/mass-media/all-news/item/12196-operativnikami-sbnon-mvd-presechen-ocherednoj-kanal-sbyta-narkotikov>

**10.02.2021** Employees of the Department of the SBNON MVD of the Kyrgyz Republic in Bishkek stopped an online drug store selling drugs. A 37-year-old resident of the capital, who was engaged in online drug trafficking, was detained. The detainee was selling drugs through an online store, which told consumers about the name of the product, its weight and price. The suspect stored drugs in specially equipped and selected caches, trash bins and urns in yards in Bishkek. In addition, he controlled flow of money. During search of the house where the detainee lived, the following was found and seized: a box, fully equipped for growing cultivated cannabis in home conditions, plant substances with a specific odor of cannabis, a bong and several crushers (for crushing drugs). They also found a computer, a tablet, a laptop, cell phones, radios, and other items. Moreover, the SBNON officers found 10 drug caches in Bishkek. <https://svodka.akipress.org/news:1681399?from=svodka&place=newstopic>

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**08.02.2021** Employees of UNK GU MVD of Russia in Krasnodar Krai in the city of Gelendzhik detained a 45-year-old man at the place of residence, during inspection found and seized **12 kg of mephedrone, about 3 kg of marijuana** as well as items necessary for manufacture and sale of drugs. In addition, police found several passports of citizens of the Russian Federation, with photos of the suspect, registered under different names. It was found that the man planned to sell synthetic drug through caches on the territory of Gelendzhik. Currently a criminal case has been initiated against the suspect. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/22975418>

**09.02.2021** Transport police officers in the Leningrad region detained two residents of St. Petersburg in the course of investigation on the territory of the Leningrad region. During a personal search of a 32-year-old suspect they found about **1 kg of methylephedrone** in a plastic bag. It was found that the suspects had purchased drugs over the Internet with the intent to resell via caches. Currently, a measure in the form of detention is chosen in respect of the suspects. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/22987446/>

**10.02.2021** Officers of the Department for Drug Control of UMVD of Russia in the Tula region detained several persons who were natives of neighboring countries. During investigation police officers identified leader of the group, a 46-year-old man who was receiving a large consignment of illegal "goods" and at his place of residence together with his partner was packaging drug into small shipments for further sale. The man was caught red-handed near his home at the time of depositing drugs. A little later, two "small wholesale" distributors aged 20 and 22 were detained near the caches. Operatives seized 30 packages of drugs from each dead drop. Police seized a large amount of heroin in the apartment, where the detainees lived. Almost **3 kg of heroin** was seized.

<https://мвд.рф/news/item/23018675/>

**10.02.2021** Employees of the Department for Drug Control of UMVD of Russia for Astrakhan region stopped a 26-year-old local resident, who was selling potent substance **pregabalin** to other regions through postal parcels. In a post office operatives seized three parcels containing this drug. In a garage, rented by the suspect, police found plastic bags with similar capsules. The total weight of the seized "**Lirika**" amounted to more than **6 kg**. Investigating authorities of the city police initiated criminal proceedings against the suspect. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/23008464/>

**12.02.2021** As part of a set of investigative measures, officers of UKON UMVD of Russia in the Vologda region stopped actions of a drug dealer, distributing drugs through the Internet in the Vologda region and the Central Federal District of the Russian Federation. The detainee was found to be a resident of Vladimir region born in 1991, previously convicted for similar crimes. Further, operatives found four caches which the detainee created for the purpose of subsequent sale of illegal substances to drug abusers. From these caches police seized **1 kg of synthetic drugs and 500 g of potent substances**. Currently, a measure in the form of detention is chosen in respect of the suspect. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/23051841>

## OTHER COUNTRIES

### UNITED KINGDOM

**08.02.2021** Officers from the National Crime Agency (NCA) in Bristol detained men aged 31 and 32 after more than **300 kg of heroin and cocaine** were found concealed in packages bound for the UK. Drugs, worth £12.5 million, were intercepted on 3 February by Border Force stationed at a terminal under the English Channel in France. The crates were delivered to an address in the Filton area of Bristol, where officers arrived to arrest the recipients. <https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2021-02-12/two-arrested-in-bristol-after-12million-cocaine-and-heroin-seizure>

**08.02.2021** Large consignments of drugs worth 200 thousand euros were seized in postal centers in Dublin and Athlone. Drugs were found in packages from four different countries in boxes containing "breakfast cereals" and car parts. Customs agents found more than **11.5 kg of cannabis, ketamine, cannabis oil, cannabis resin, cocaine, mitragynine and cannabis-soaked jelly sweets**. <https://www.dublinlive.ie/news/massive-200k-drug-bust-made-19797359>

**09.02.2021** South London police stopped a car in West Norwood and during a search found six blocks of **heroin**, weighing a total of **6 kg**. The driver of the vehicle, a 49-year-old

man, was arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to supply heroin. Officers also visited a residence address in Banstead and arrested a 35-year-old man on suspicion of conspiracy to supply drugs and approximately 50000 pounds in cash was found.

<https://www.mylondon.news/news/south-london-news/drug-cops-seize-six-kilograms-19814036>

## BRAZIL

**12.02.2021** Federal Police (PF) together with the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) in the port of Paranagua during inspection and control of goods handled at container terminal in Paranagua found bags with **220 kg of cocaine**. The bags were in a container of wooden sheets and were destined for the port of Belgium. Investigation is underway to identify persons associated with seized drugs. <https://www.gov.br/pf/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2021/02/pf-apreende-carga-de-220kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-paranagua>

## HONG KONG

**12.02.2021** Narcotics Bureau officers detained two 22-year-old men outside an industrial building on Chun Pin Street in Tsuen Wan and found **37.3 kg of heroin** worth 40 million Hong Kong dollars in one man's bag. Police are still investigating the source of drugs, heroin may have come from the Golden Triangle area of Southeast Asia.

[https://www.thestandard.com.hk/breaking-news/section/4/165439/Two-men-were-arrested-for-drug-trafficking-heroin-worth-HK\\$40-million](https://www.thestandard.com.hk/breaking-news/section/4/165439/Two-men-were-arrested-for-drug-trafficking-heroin-worth-HK$40-million)

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

**12.02.2021** Officers of the National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD) at the port of Haina Oriental inspected 1983 and 1984 Oldsmobile vehicles, which resulted in the discovery of several cylindrical metal tubes containing 99 packages of **cocaine, weighing a total of 19.39 kg**, on the dashboards of both vehicles. The vehicles in question were destined for delivery from the port of Haina Oriental to Hong Kong. A 23-year-old citizen of the Dominican Republic was detained in this case.

<https://www.dncd.gob.do/index.php/noticias1/noticias/item/936-dncd-incauta-en-puerto-haina-dos-vehiculos-embarcarian-a-hong-kong-con-19-kilos-de-cocaina>

## IRAN

**12.02.2021** Iranian Anti-Narcotics Police on 1-12 February seized **30.596 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including 349 kg of heroin, 26.088 kg of opium, 2.037 tons of hashish, 137 kg of methamphetamine, 1.848 tons of morphine, 137 kg of other types of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.**<sup>1</sup>

## INDIA

**11.02.2021** Border Security Force (BSF) arrested a drug trafficker near Attari along the international border with Pakistan. An inspection of the scene near the fence found and seized 10 bags containing **10.7 kg of heroin**. <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/punjab/peddler-held-with-10-kg-heroin-along-pak-border-211117>

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

## PAKISTAN

**10.02.2021** Authorities at Bacha Khan International Airport in Peshawar detained a drug courier from Pakistan attempting to smuggle **5 kg of heroin** into Doha, Qatar, concealed in his luggage. Meanwhile, the Rahman Baba Police Station team stopped an attempt to smuggle **6 kg of heroin and 11 kg of hashish** in a pickup truck and arrested two men suspected of smuggling drugs, including a woman. <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/788334-bid-to-smuggle-heroin-foiled>

## PORTUGAL

**14.02.2021** Maritime Analysis and Operations Center-Narcotics (MAOC-N) officers, in cooperation and support with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), intercepted a cargo ship off the coast of Portugal and brought it to a national port, where they found and seized approximately **100 kg of cocaine** on board during a search. A 26-year-old man, a citizen of a Latin American country, was detained. The suspect was secretly on board the vessel with drugs, without the knowledge of the ship's captain. The suspect planned to dump drug overboard at a predetermined location along the ship's route in waterproof bags, equipped with geolocation devices and floating buoys. Drug was later to be picked up by associates of the same criminal organization. <https://www.policiajudiciaria.pt/combate-ao-traffic-internacional-de-estupefacientes-por-via-maritima-2/>

## PERU

**10.02.2021** Officers of the High Complexity Investigation Unit in the city of Moquegua, at the South Port Terminal in Ilo, during an operation inside a container, discovered bags containing 497 packages of **cocaine**, weighing a total of **533 kg**. The seized shipment was valued at 6 million U.S. dollars. Part of the shipment was to be delivered to the U.S., and part was to be transported to the Asian continent. Two people were detained in this operation. <https://www.msn.com/es-pe/noticias/otras/moquegua-decomisan-500-kilos-de-coca%C3%ADna-en-un-contenedor/vi-BB1dzh0F>

## USA

**09.02.2021** Rio Grande City Border Patrol Station agents in Texas saw several people loading large packs of suspected drugs into a Chevrolet Trailblazer vehicle near Rio Grande in La Casita, Texas, during an area surveillance. Upon arrival at the scene, agents found an abandoned vehicle in a nearby home, where a search revealed **362 kg of marijuana**. Drugs were estimated to be worth 639000 dollars. Later that night, agents south of La Grulla, Texas, found **51.7 kg of marijuana** worth more than 91000 dollars in the bush. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/rio-grande-valley-agents-seize-900-pounds-marijuana-starr-county-texas>

**09.02.2021** U.S. Coast Guard officials in the Caribbean intercepted **5.352 kg of cocaine and marijuana** worth more than 206 million dollars. Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane crew unloaded drugs at Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale. <https://miami.cbslocal.com/2021/02/09/coast-guard-offloads-206-million-cocaine-marijuana-port-everglades/>

**10.02.2021** Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents in New York City arrested a significant drug trafficker and seized more than 12 million dollars worth of heroin, **1000 fentanyl pills** and 200000 dollars in cash. Luis Martinez was arrested on suspicion of drug trafficking, with four cell phones and more than 200,000 dollars in cash found in his backpack. At Luis Martinez's residence, agents found **31 kg of heroin**. They also found another **6 kg of heroin** in plastic containers and bags. They also discovered envelopes marked with Red Scorpion, Hulk, and Universal brand names in the apartment. There were also three associates of Luis Martinez in the apartment, who were involved in drug packaging. <https://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/queens/ny-heroin-mill-ridgewood-queens-narcotics-office-bust-20210211-nlpfr2tn6jfuxm22y7oufbaso4-story.html>

**11.02.2021** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at a port of entry in Laredo, Texas, seized drugs in two separate, unrelated incidents that totaled more than 5.9 million dollars:

1) During an inspection of a Ford truck carrying a shipment of yarn and fabric products arriving from Mexico, 15 packages containing **19.8 kg of methamphetamine** were found. Estimated retail value of drugs is 874 785 dollars;

2) During an inspection of a truck International with an empty trailer arriving from Mexico, 50 packages containing **115.8 kg of methamphetamine** were found in the trailer. Approximate retail value of drugs is 5 111 144 dollars. The cases have been referred to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE-HSI) Special Agents for further investigation. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-colombia-solidarity-bridge-seize-narcotics-worth-over-59>

**11.02.2021** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the port of entry in Sweetgrass, Montana detained a Canadian citizen, driver of a commercial truck, while conducting exit checks. Officers directed the man and the vehicle for further inspection, during which they found boxes containing **108.8 kg of cocaine**. CBP officers arrested the truck driver and referred the case to the United States Attorney's Office for prosecution. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/sweetgrass-cbp-officers-seize-cocaine-commercial-vehicle-0>

**11.02.2021** U.S. Border Patrol agents stopped a Dodge Caravan in Mobile, Alabama. During inspection of the vehicle, they found **4.7 kg of cocaine** hidden in spare tire. The alleged smuggler was a 44-year-old Guatemalan citizen living in the U.S. with a visitor visa. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/us-border-patrol-and-mobile-county-sheriff-s-office-vehicle-stop-snags>

**12.02.2021** A U.S. Coast Guard team seized about **1.814 tons of cocaine** in the Caribbean Sea. The shipment was worth an estimated 69 million dollars. Crew of the Cutter Mohawk, a 270-foot vessel with a 80-member team, returned home to Key West. Coast Guard said they stopped four boats and apprehended five suspected drug smugglers while on patrol. <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/florida-keys/article249221450.html>

## TURKEY

**09.02.2021** An operation by anti-narcotics police officers at Istanbul International Airport detained Iranian nationals who intended to smuggle drugs inland. Police seized a total of **3.35 kg of heroin** concealed in 284 capsules and **122 g of opium** chewing gum hidden in

eight capsules. <https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/police-seize-over-33-kg-of-heroin-at-istanbul-airport-3560413>

**11.02.2021** A truck entering Turkey from Iran was stopped by the Gürbulak Anti-Smuggling Directorate at the Agri Gürbulak Customs Post and subjected to an X-ray scan while going through customs procedures. The X-ray scan revealed suspicious density in the base part of the vehicle carried on the truck. Examination revealed that the secret compartment created in the base of the car weighing tons was completely filled with bags of drugs. A sample taken from the substance in the packages was found to be heroin. Total weight of the seized **heroin** reached **808 kg**. <https://www.gazetepusula.net/2021/02/11/808-kilo-heroin-ele-gecirildi/>

**11.02.2021** A suspicious vehicle was stopped by anti-narcotics officers in the Ipekyolu district of Van province, which borders Iran. During an operation with a sniffer dog, 287 packages of **heroin**, weighing a total of **194.6 kg**, were found in the trunk of the vehicle. In addition, suspect B. Y. was detained in the same area during an additional search operation and **51.5 kg of heroin** was seized during a search of his bag. Total weight of **heroin** amounted to **246.1 kg**. <https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/over-240-kilograms-of-heroin-seized-in-turkey-3560459>

## ECUADOR

**11.02.2021** Anti-narcotics police during an operation in the citadel of Los Geranios, located in the Los Vergeles sector northwest of Guayaquil, in a repair shop in 32 metal cylinders to be armed with an industrial printing press police found **32.990 kg of cocaine**. Colombian nationals were detained in the operation. The metal cylinders found were allegedly to have been shipped to Mexico. <https://www.policia.gob.ec/en-el-interior-de-32-cilindros-metalicos-la-policia-encuentra-302-990-gramos-de-cocaina/>

## RSA

**09.02.2021** The South African Police Service (SAPS) in Mbekweni detained a 33-year-old foreign national and found and confiscated 16 sacks of **cocaine** totaling **1.504 tonnes** during a search of his home in the Project area. The shipment is estimated to be worth 1.5 million rand. <https://www.thesouthafrican.com/news/cape-town-kidnapping-drugs-paarl-bellville-saps/>