

Unofficial translation

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

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CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

zakon.kz

**MIA HAS SET UP WHATSAPP FOR MESSAGES ABOUT ADVERTISING
AND CACHES**

Now every resident can contribute to prevention of and combating drug crime, which is one of the most serious social problems, reports Zakon.kz with reference to the press service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Kazakhstanis can send information, photos and videos about known drug offences, drug distribution, graffiti and caches to WhatsApp 8 777 785 66 51. The received information will be sent to the front office of the Department on Combating Drugs Crimes, and operative measures will be taken.

For instance, it is possible to send photos of the place of graffiti inscriptions (geolocation), videos of suspicious persons who are in the courtyard, in entrances of houses without certain purposes, screenshots of dubious correspondence with an offer to earn easy money, etc. Each sender can be sure that his or her signal will reach competent authorities. Anonymity of the sender is guaranteed.

<https://www.zakon.kz/4987360-o-reklame-i-zakladchikah-narkotikov.html>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION



**ST. PETERSBURG WILL INTRODUCE SOFTWARE PACKAGE TO COMBAT
DRUG TRADE IN INTERNET**

An extended meeting of the Anti-Drug Commission in St. Petersburg was held in Smolny under the chairmanship of the Governor of St. Petersburg Alexander Beglov. In addition to its members, the commission included representatives of the Main Investigative Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation for St. Petersburg, the city prosecutor's office, and district anti-drug commissions.

One of the main items discussed was the development of a pilot project to automatically search the Internet for illicit information related to drug trafficking. The problem is significant for St. Petersburg - according to police estimates, more than 70% of all drugs are now sold in the city using information and communication technologies and means of communication. An automated software complex under development will detect prohibited information, including - in social networks, and transfer it to interested authorities: police, prosecutor's office, Roskomnadzor, etc.

Currently, an initial semantic core has been shaped - a list of keywords on which to base a search for relevant Internet resources. The system is being tested and adapted. From 2020, software is expected to be fully operational. In the future it is planned to use it to detect illegal gambling, extremist materials and other malicious information related to violations of the law on the Internet.

Alexander Beglov supported the idea of creating a software complex. "We need to react quickly to changes in situation, look for new mechanisms for monitoring and combating drugs. We also need to change the anti-drug legislation, to listen to public opinion, to check their actions," said the governor of the city.

<https://www.gov.spb.ru/press/governor/173904/>



CRYPTOCURRENCY TAX OFFERED IN RUSSIA

The banking community has found a way to legalize cryptocurrencies by legally recognizing digital money mining as an analogy to occupation of property or treasure, within the framework of existing legal concepts in the world. This is stated in a report on cryptocurrencies produced by the Association of Russian Banks, the Izvestia newspaper, which has the document at its disposal, writes. In the Russian legal practice, such a norm can be fixed within the framework of the concept of "newly created": in this case, cryptocurrency can be considered a thing and taxed, as well as barter transactions.

In Russia, the question of legal nature of digital assets is still debatable, as noted in ADB's Decentralized Cryptocurrencies Concept. Discussion of this document is scheduled for October 8 at the site of the Association. The document says that legally digital money could be classified as "occupation" or "treasure".

"Austrian law assumes that a person who acquires virtual assets as a result of mining occupies them, i.e. captures them and becomes their first legal owner. Such an approach has quite rational legal sense", - the concept emphasizes.

However, digital money mining in the legal sense can be called a find or a treasure. "Using a legal fiction, one could argue that the first owner of cryptographic assets "found" them, because the receipt from an anonymous system can be conditionally considered a find," the document says.

However, a purchaser of digital money does not just capture or find it as a ready-made object: cryptocurrency arises as a result of mining - an activity of a person, that is, in fact, he creates it himself, explained the author of the report - Vice-President of the ADB Anatoly Kozlachkov. On this basis, it is possible to introduce cryptocurrency into Russian law within the framework of the phrase "newly created" (includes property produced by a citizen on its own, for example, fruits, products, etc.).

"There will be reason to believe that cryptocurrency is a thing, adjusted for its digital nature. Then it can be used in barter transactions and taxed as provided for in a relevant section of the Tax Code," Kozlachkov said. According to him, in this case, it will be possible to avoid recognition of these assets as a means of payment and a monetary surrogate at the same time, added the lawyer.

Virtual currency transactions should be subject to income tax as exchange transactions in

the Tax Code, the authors of the concept note. Admission of citizens should be carried out by analogy with the rules of securities market and in the same traditional way - to tax income from transactions with cryptographic assets. Also in ADB offer to oblige citizens to declare purchase of virtual money.

This is a fair approach, said KPMG partner Andrey Yermolaev. According to him, one can't equate cryptocurrencies with ordinary money - it's an investment, while the growth in the value of securities is always considered as a taxable base.

Authors of the concept see a danger in banning the circulation of crypto-assets. To prevent the use of digital money in criminal schemes, it is enough to deprive transactions of anonymity, the document says.

Earlier it was reported that the association "Russia" offered a procedure of legal search for owners of cryptocurrencies. According to the concept, specialized agents of the market will be able to provide services to identify owners of digital assets at the request of a lender (there is already a corresponding software), while recognizing a person as the owner of a virtual asset can only be subsequently court-ordered. It is proposed to criminalize digital assets concealment.

<https://www.banki.ru/news/lenta/?id=10906990>

OTHER COUNTRIES

CHINA

Beijing, September 25 /Singhua/ - Zhao Kezhi, member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China and head of the State Committee to Combat Drug Trafficking, met with Jim Carroll, director of the U.S. White House Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Zhao Kezhi pointed out that healthy and sustainable development of Sino-American relations is in the best interests of the peoples of the two countries. Creation of a human community with a common destiny, development of cooperation in combating drug trafficking requires strengthening mutual understanding, trust and cooperation. He hoped that the parties, by adopting important consensus of the two heads of state as a guide, would continue to deepen pragmatic cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking, and would constantly promote regulation of the use of fentanyl, so that collaboration in this direction would bring even more benefits to the two countries and to the world.

J. Carroll, in turn, thanked China for tightening control over trafficking in fentanyl and its derivatives, and stressed the commitment to strengthen business cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking.

http://russian.china.org.cn/china/txt/2019-09/26/content_75246165.htm

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