



INFORMATION RELEASE

ABOUT PAST EVENTS
IN THE ANTI-DRUG SPHERE
(according to the media)
14-31.08.2023

#10

Almaty -2023



INFORMATION RELEASE CARICC

Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination
Centre for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs,
psychotropic substances and their precursors

EDITORIAL ADDRESS:

Republic of Kazakhstan, 050008, Almaty, Abay Avenue, 52
tel.: +7 727 259 99 90
fax: +7 727 392 15 54
registry@caricc.org www.caricc.org

«Information Release about past events in the anti-drug
sphere», №10, 2023

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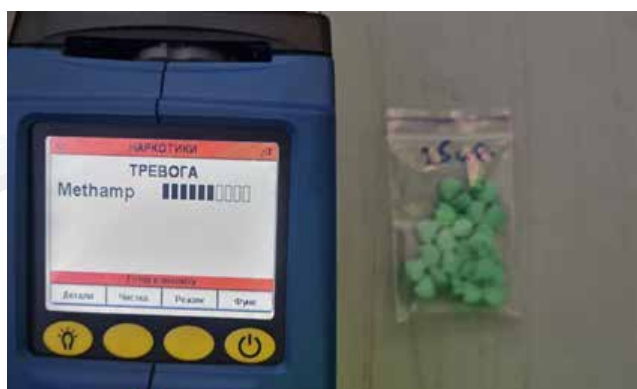
In the period from 14 to 31 August 2023, 8 counternarcotics measures were covered by mass media in CARICC Member States and other countries (*Kazakhstan - 4, Kyrgyzstan - 1, Russia - 1, Tajikistan - 1. Other countries: USA - 1*).

Published articles reflect information on coordination of CSTO counternarcotics operation, installation of counternarcotics billboards, bilateral working meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Interior of Qatar, and training for law enforcement officers of Central Asian countries (*Kazakhstan*), on regional meeting on innovative methods of using unmanned aerial vehicles (*Kyrgyzstan*), on legislative initiative of Vice-Speaker of the State Duma (*Russia*), on meeting of the President of Tajikistan with General of the Army of Pakistan (*Tajikistan*), and allocation of money from the U.S. administration to counter drug trafficking (*USA*).

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

zakon.kz

CSTO COUNTERNARCOTICS OPERATION IS TO BE COORDINATED FROM ALMATY



On plans to conduct counternarcotics operation «Channel-Interception» on the territory of the Collective Security Treaty Organization countries reported in the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, informs Zakon.kz.

At a briefing on 14 August, official representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs Shugyla Turlybek reported that organizational meeting on carrying out the counternarcotics operation «Channel-Interception» was held in Almaty.

«Operation Channel-Interception» will be conducted in September this year on the territory of member states of the Collective Security Treaty Organization with participation of authorities responsible for countering drug trafficking. Interaction and coordination of actions of law enforcement agencies of the participating countries will be carried out by the International Coordination Unit deployed in Almaty at the premises of the Central Asian Regional Information Coordination Centre for Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors».

Shugyla Turlybek

Representatives of law enforcement agencies of China, India, Iran, Mongolia, Syria, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and a number of international organizations - the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism, the United Nations Regional Office on Drugs and Crime, the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Committee of Heads of Law Enforcement Units of CIS Customs Services - are planning to participate in the operation as observers.

Key objectives of the operation will be:

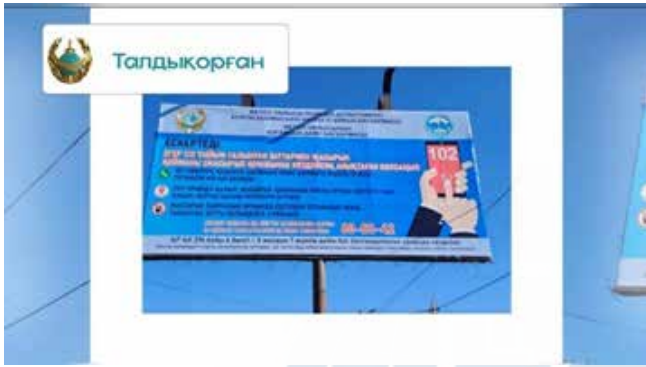
- combating trafficking in new psychoactive substances;
- dismantling channels for smuggling Afghan opiates from Afghanistan and Iran into the territories of the CSTO states;
- disrupting operations of transnational drug groups and legalization of drug proceeds;
- seizure of weapons, ammunition and explosives.

Earlier it was reported that Kazakhstan will spend 53 billion tenge to combat drug trafficking.

<https://www.zakon.kz/sobytiia/6403279-operatsiyu-po-borbe-s-narkotikami-v-odkb-budut-koordinirovat-iz-almaty.html>



OVER 40 COUNTERNARCOTIC BILLBOARDS WERE INSTALLED IN THE ZHETISU REGION



A large-scale work on prevention and combating drug crimes continues in the Zhetisu region. Local executive bodies together with police officers initiated the installation of anti-drug billboards throughout the region. More than 40 anti-drug billboards with relevant photos and slogans have been installed in the regional center, as well as in major population centers. – In addition to measures aimed at detecting offenses and crimes in the area of illicit drug trafficking, preventive work has also been intensified in the region. Campaigns,

preventive raids, installation of billboards, distribution of leaflets and brochures on anti-drug topics are aimed at improving public literacy and promoting healthy lifestyles. First of all, we try to emphasize attention of our youth to this problem, - noted in the department of combating drug crime of the police department of the region. Since the beginning of the year, 127 drug crimes have been detected in the region. 15 drug traffickers were brought to criminal responsibility. More than 162 kilograms of various drugs were seized, including 118 kilograms of marijuana, more than 7 kilograms of hashish and more than 2 kilograms of «synthetics». Thirteen cases of cultivation of drug-containing plants were detected.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/svyshe-40-antinarkoticheskikh-bilbordov-ustanovili-v-oblasti-zhetisu/>



BILATERAL WORKING MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OF THE STATE OF QATAR



Mr. A. Yazlyyev, CARICC Director, met with Mr. Mohammed Abdulla Al-Khater, Director of Studies and International Affairs Department, Ministry of Interior of the State of Qatar, in Almaty on 14 August 2023.

CARICC Director Mr. A. Yazlyyev briefed on current efforts of the Centre in coordination of counternarcotics operations and information-analytical work.

In turn, Mr. Mohammed Abdulla Al-Khater, Director of Studies and International Affairs Department, informed about joint measures carried out in countering drug trafficking, and also described in detail main directions of

actions of the Ministry of Interior of Qatar in the field of combating drugs.

Mr. Sh. Komilzoda, staff member of the Information and Analytical Unit of CARICC, delivered a presentation on results achieved by the Centre in organization and implementation of joint counternarcotics measures, and outlined the Centre's information and analytical branch.

The Qatar delegation highly valued CARICC's efforts in coordinating and conducting joint counternarcotics operations.

Parties underlined the importance of enhancing bilateral cooperation against the backdrop of rapidly evolving drug situation and increasing seizures of drugs in their respective regions.

<https://caricc.org/index.php/en/publications/news/item/2228-bilateral-working-meeting-with-representatives-of-the-ministry-of-interior-of-the-state-of-qatar>



CARICC ANALYSTS DELIVERED TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES



A training course on application of analytical software in investigation of drug crimes was held at the Academy of Law Enforcement Agencies under the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Kospy/Kazakhstan) from 14 to 18 August 2023.

This event was organized jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Regional Office for Central Asia with a grant from the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). CARICC analysts conducted the trainings.

Training course gathered law enforcement officers from Central Asian countries, representatives of UNODC and the U.S. Embassy in Astana.

Representatives of CARICC, UNODC and U.S. INL held a meeting with leadership of the Academy of Law Enforcement Agencies under the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan, during which they addressed questions of organizing and conducting similar joint training sessions and simulation exercises.

<https://caricc.org/index.php/en/publications/news/item/2238-caricc-analysts-delivered-training-for-law-enforcement-officers-of-central-asian-countries>

КЫРГЫЗСКАЯ РЕСПУБЛИКА



CARICC DELEGATION PARTICIPATION IN A REGIONAL MEETING TO DISCUSS INNOVATIVE METHODS OF UTILIZING UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES



CARICC delegation headed by Director A. Yazlyyev took part in a regional meeting to discuss innovative methods of using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in countering transnational criminal groups involved in drug trafficking in Karakol (Kyrgyzstan) on 28-29 August 2023.

Delegations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and UNODC experts also attended the event.

The meeting was conducted under the UNODC project «Enhancement of the capacity of Mobile Operational Teams (MOTs) for the Counter Narcotics Service (CNS) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of

the Kyrgyz Republic», implemented with the financial support of the Russian Federation.

The meeting focused on countering drug trafficking through the use of UAVs or drones, which are becoming an important tool in modern law enforcement, especially in combating illicit drug trafficking. Law enforcement agencies were using those technologies for surveillance, detection and tracking, which gave them a significant edge in the fight against transnational criminal groups involved in drug trafficking.

<https://caricc.org/index.php/en/publications/news/item/2242-caricc-delegation-participation-in-a-regional-meeting-to-discuss-innovative-methods-of-utilizing-unmanned-aerial-vehicles>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE STATE DUMA DAVANKOV PROPOSED TO REWARD RUSSIANS FOR INFORMATION ON DRUG DISTRIBUTION**

In order to combat drug trafficking, it is necessary to introduce rewards for citizens who provide information to the police about so-called “dead drops”. Currently, this is the most popular way of selling drugs, where the seller and the buyer do not meet. Money is transferred to a specified account, after which the courier makes a “stash”, usually in parks, squares, entrances or garage cooperatives. The buyer is told the address where they can pick up the package.

“It is the residents of the houses who most often complain about sellers. At the same time, police officers often do not respond promptly to such complaints due to insufficient resources of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. A solution to the problem could be the introduction of monetary rewards for citizens for finding drugs and handing it over to law enforcement agencies,” State Duma deputy speaker Vladislav Davankov wrote in an appeal to Russian Interior Minister Vladimir Kolokoltsev (quoted by TASS).

According to the parliamentarian’s idea, if police officers do not promptly respond to a report within a few hours, the citizen will warn law enforcement officers of his/her intention to bring drugs to the police station himself/herself. After that, they should be assigned a payment. The Deputy proposes that the amount of the payment should be set by order of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia.

Mr. Davankov also proposes to use video cameras and artificial intelligence to combat drug advertisements and direct citizens who have been assigned compulsory labor to paint over them.

In addition, the parliamentarian proposed to create a unified information center for the fight against drugs. At present, he said, there is no single multiplatform hotline for those who want to report facts of drug advertising or distribution. “The number “112” is not suitable for this, because many manifestations, such as stenciling, are light administrative offenses, with which it is wrong to “clog” the phone of the police,” - pointed out Deputy Davankov.

<https://rg.ru/2023/08/31/dur-s-dostavkoj-v-otdel-policii.html>

РЕСПУБЛИКА ТАДЖИКИСТАН

**PRESIDENT OF TAJIKISTAN DISCUSSES SECURITY MATTERS WITH GENERAL OF PAKISTAN ARMY**

President of Tajikistan Mr. Emomali Rahmon met with Mr. Sahir Shamshod, General of the Pakistan Army.

Both sides underscored the need for further efforts to combat terrorism and illicit drug trafficking. The parties exchanged views on situation in Afghanistan and also discussed prospects of friendly relations and multifaceted cooperation between Tajikistan and Pakistan in the spheres of security and defense.

<https://tj.mir24.tv/news/146042>

США



РИА НОВОСТИ

U.S. AUTHORITIES ARE ALLOCATING MORE THAN \$450 MILLION TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING AND THE «EPIDEMIC» OF ILLICIT DRUG OVERDOSES, ACCORDING TO A WHITE HOUSE RELEASE.



«Today, to support President Biden’s efforts to tackle the overdose epidemic and save lives, the Biden-Harris Administration is announcing more than \$450 million in funding,» the release said.

It is noted that money will be used to strengthen prevention of drug use, harm reduction, rehabilitation and combating illicit trafficking of such drugs.

The White House also plans to see relatives of drug overdose victims on Thursday, the release added.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the number of drug overdose deaths in the country has been on the rise for three years, from 2019 to 2021, and mostly due to illegal production of fentanyl. The latest data from the Center, cited by the White House, shows that the number of overdose deaths has declined for 13 consecutive months now.

<https://ria.ru/20230831/peredozirovka-1893483691.html>



**CENTRAL ASIAN REGIONAL INFORMATION AND COORDINATION
CENTRE FOR COMBATING THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTIC DRUGS,
PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR PRECURSORS**

Republic of Kazakhstan, 050008, Almaty, Abay Avenue, 52
tel.: +7 727 259 99 90
fax: +7 727 392 15 54
registry@caricc.org www.caricc.org