

Unofficial translation

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

13-19.05.2019

№ 20

CARICC MEMBER STATES

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

14.05.2019 Officers of the Department for Combating Drug Smuggling of the North Caucasus Operational Customs in cooperation with staff of the Department of Combating Drug Trafficking of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on Transport of the Russian Federation seized **3.8 kg of potent substances** smuggled from the Republic of Kazakhstan to Pyatigorsk, which were to be sent to the Republic of Azerbaijan. **3,300 ampoules and 5,000 tablets of potent preparations** were ordered by a resident of Baku, a citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan, from Almaty, Kazakhstan. They were delivered by express mail to Pyatigorsk, where a relative of the customer, who was not aware of contents of the parcel, had to receive it and pass it on. The illegal consignment was identified and seized. Actions of the Azerbaijani citizen are qualified under Article 226.1 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation "Smuggling of potent, poisonous, explosive, radioactive substances". A criminal case was initiated against the detainee.

http://www.stpravda.ru/20190514/3300_ampul_i_5000_tabletok_silnodeystvuyuschih_veschestv_zaderzh_133838.html

14.05.2019 A 31-year-old man illegally storing more than **3.8 kg of alpha-PVP** for the purpose of further sale was detained by officers of the Novosibirsk Region Department of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs. The drug was seized. This case is under investigation. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16864744>

15.05.2019 During verification of operational information in Belorechensk, Krasnodar Territory, police officers detained a 24-year-old resident of the Kemerovo region suspected of trafficking in drugs. **100 g of N-methylephedron** were found and seized on examination of the suspect's place of residence as well as items and equipment used for packaging and marketing of drugs. Another 120 packets with a similar substance were found and seized on the territory of the Belorechensk district in caches. Several criminal cases were initiated against the suspect. Man was imprisoned.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16885161>

16.05.2019 Officers of ONK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the city of Vladikavkaz of the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania detained a 27-year-old native of one of neighboring countries on suspicion of illegal sale of drugs in a contactless way and seized **140 g of heroin** during a personal search. Investigation is underway. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16895363>

16.05.2019 Employees of UNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Trans-Baikal territory suppressed activity of an organized group, participants of which supplied large quantities of banned substances to the region and sold them through caches via the Internet. Officers established involvement of 9 people in illegal activities. During searches,

about **2 kg of drugs of synthetic origin** as well as items and equipment used in criminal activities were seized from group members. Perpetrators are being investigated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16891052>

16.05.2019 Officers of UNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Tver region detained a 40-year-old suspect in the sale of narcotic drugs in Tver. During a personal search, three bundles with a narcotic drug of synthetic origin N-methylephedron prepared for sale in a contactless manner in the territory of Tver and the Tver region were found and seized from the man. During search in apartment of the suspect, **600 g of N-methylephedrone**, electronic scales and packaging material were additionally found and seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16901786>

17.05.2019 Officers of UNK GU MVD of Russia in the Perm region detained a 43-year-old man suspected of illegally acquiring, storing, transporting and preparing for the purpose of sale a large consignment of hashish in Perm. As a result of inspection of the car on which the suspect was moving, **2 kg of hashish** were found in a school backpack of his daughter and subsequently seized. Criminal case was initiated against the suspect. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16910938>

17.05.2019 Officers of UNK GU MVD of Russia in the Novosibirsk region identified and detained a 29-year-old resident of the Koltsovo village. During inspection in a garage box belonging to the suspect, a container with the drug **Alpha-PVP weighing more than 680 g** as well as a large amount of packaging material for packaging the drug were found and seized. The detainee purchased the drug for further sale in of Novosibirsk. Criminal case was initiated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16907181>

19.05.2019 Officers of UNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Tver region detained two people from neighboring countries suspected of selling narcotic drugs in Tver, from whom **800 g of heroin** were found and seized during personal searches. Detainees intended to sell heroin in a contactless manner. Criminal case was initiated against wrongdoers. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16930689>

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

11.05.2019 Security services of the Tashkent International Airport arrested a 36-year-old passenger on Tashkent-Moscow flight in an attempt to smuggle **37.4 g of hashish** in underwear. A criminal case was instituted on this case. <https://news.mail.ru/incident/37297217/>

15.05.2019 340 bushes of narcotic substance kuknar (opium poppy) were found on a garden of a 75-year-old local resident in Altyaryk district of the Fergana region during the "Karadori-2019". In addition, **4,772 kg of kuknar** were found in the barn of his house. A criminal case was instituted on this case. <https://www.mvd.uz/ru/lists/view/6605>

OTHER COUNTRIES

BELARUS

16.05.2019 A 51-year-old Slovak citizen was detained at the Belarusian-Polish border in an attempt to smuggle **70.2 kg of MDMA tablets** in a Volkswagen car at the Domachevo

checkpoint located in the Brest region. During inspection activities on the SUV, border guard with the use of a service dog found bags with pills inside gas cylinder, and in vehicle - briquettes with a white and brown substance with a total weight of **12.5 kg**. The substance in briquettes was delivered for examination, presumably **hashish**. A body of inquiry of the Brest Border Group opened a criminal case. A foreign citizen was detained. Urgent investigative actions continue as part of the investigation.

<https://www.gpk.gov.by/news/gpk/54996/>

BELGIUM

08.05.2019 Customs agents confiscated **1 ton 345 kg of cocaine** in a joint operation with the police in the port of Antwerp. The cocaine consignment was contained in 36 packages and was found on the 1742 waterfront. Several members of a criminal organization were arrested in the same container terminal. A total of 13 people were apprehended during the investigation. As part of the investigation, the police conducted numerous searches in houses located in the area of Antwerp as well as in the port. During the searches, a small amount of cocaine was confiscated as well as 12 cars, luxury goods and a large amount of cash.

http://www.standaard.be/cnt/dmf20190515_04401983

BRAZIL

13.05.2019 Agents of the Customs of the Federal Tax Administration of the Internal Revenue Service found and seized **325 kg of cocaine** in an export shipment of coffee in the port of Santos. Through risk analysis and on the basis of examining images from a scanner and other criteria, the Santos customs team selected an export shipment of coffee bound for the port of Antwerp (Belgium). As a result of inspection activities inside the container, 11 bags of cocaine were found at the height of the second row of jute bags. The drug was placed in legal goods without the knowledge of exporters and importers. The seized consignment was transferred to Santos Federal Police Station, which will continue to investigate it.

<http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2019/maio/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-intercepta-325-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-exportacao-no-porto-de-santos>

13.05.2019 Federal police officers discovered **1 ton of cocaine** at the moment of shipment of mangoes as a result of a special operation in cargo terminal of the port of Natal. The cargo was bound for shipment to Rotterdam (Netherlands).

<https://g1.globo.com/rn/rio-grande-do-norte/noticia/2019/05/13/pf-apreende-cocaina-em-meio-a-carga-de-manga-no-porto-de-natal.ghtml>

17.05.2019 The Customs Control Department Team of the Customs Service of the Federal Revenue Service of the Port of Paranaguá on the Paraná Coast in the course of a routine inspection of containers discovered and seized **304 kg of cocaine hydrochloride**. The consignment of cocaine worth R \$8 million was stored in a metal scrap container going to the port of Rotterdam (the Netherlands) and was detected by scanning.

<http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2019/maio/9a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-304-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-sucatas-de-metal-no-porto-de-paranagua>

19.05.2019 During a joint operation of the Federal Police and the Tax Service in the port of Santos, **329 kg of cocaine** were found and seized on the coast of São Paulo. The cargo was heading to the port of Antwerp (Belgium). Surveillance cameras and a scanning device made it possible to identify a consignment of cocaine hidden in a shipment of five paper blocks. 15 sports bags containing cocaine packs were found in one of them. Drug was placed in legal goods with no knowledge of exporters and importers.
<http://www.segurancaportuariaemfoco.com.br/2019/05/alfandega-localiza-329-kg-de-cocaina-em.html>

INDIA

14.05.2019 Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) team arrested two residents of Panchkuly, Rajasthan in Chandigarh for smuggling **19.8 kg of opium**. Opium was smuggled and was to be shipped from Rajasthan to Pinjore. Officers confiscated a vehicle used to transport drugs.
<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/chandigarh/two-peddlers-held-with-19-kg-opium/773089.html>

INDONESIA

15.05.2019 Officers of the National Narcotics Agency (BNN) in Chilegon suppressed an attempt to transfer **300 kg of marijuana** from Aceh province to Banten province. Marijuana was hidden among medical waste. Three suspects were arrested. All suspects and evidence were taken to an agency in Cawang, East Jakarta for further investigation.
<https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/05/17/attempt-to-smuggle-300-kg-of-marijuana-among-medical-waste-foiled-in-banten.html>

IRAQ

13.05.2019 Kurdish security forces (Asayish) in arrested a group of three drug dealers and confiscated more than **45 kg of heroin** the Acre area. In another case, authorities arrested an Iranian citizen who was transporting **888 grams of heroin** in a secret compartment equipped in his truck at the Shorebak border post between Kurdistan and Iran. According to the border control, the driver was trying to import drugs into Kurdistan.
<http://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/b7ca431a-7b9e-4470-b5c6-89b1a86e0a26>

ITALY

18.05.2019 5.4 tons of hashish were found and seized on a 12-meter sailboat under the Turkish flag being intercepted to the south-west of the island of Marettimo in Sicily. Officers of the Palermo Economic and Financial Police Unit (Guardia di Finanza), with the support of the Messina Aviation and Naval Group and in collaboration with the Central Organized Crime Investigation Service in coordination with the French (Ocrtis-CeClad) and the Turkish authorities found the boat "Solen 1" in Sardinia. The ship came from the Maghreb coast in the Gulf of Oran and had already been explored by the Spanish "Aduanera Vigilance" and the French "Douane". In less than 2 hours, air and naval units of the naval command of Pratica di Mare were sent to the vessel, which was blocked and taken under control. Three crew members were aboard during inspection. On board the boat were found 187 jute packages with hashish. The packages contained markings in the form of six different logos, including the logo of "Mercedes" car manufacturer. Consignment is estimated at about 50 million euros. The boat was seized and three crew members were arrested.

<http://comunicalo.it/2019/05/18/droga-in-sicilia-carico-di-oltre-5-tonnellate-di-hashish-scoperto-su-un-veliero-turco/>

Video: <https://video.italpress.com/play/mp4/video/x6e21a590z1917gblogm7jpk>

COLOMBIA

12.05.2019 Police in the port of Santa Marta seized a large shipment of cocaine belonging to the criminal drug syndicate “Gulf Clan”, which was disguised in a container with six bags of copper ore, with a total weight of 5.9 tons. The cargo was intended for shipment to the port of Antwerp (Belgium). The drug was concealed in a way that is difficult to identify, namely, mixed with a mineral. Studies conducted by the Office of Criminal Investigations and Interpol Directorate of the National Police in Bogota have established that **2 tons 250 kg** of cargo are **cocaine hydrochloride**.

<https://www.eltiempo.com/colombia/otras-ciudades/incautan-coca-en-el-puerto-de-santa-marta-360572>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSpTwBQT2Eo>

UAE

13.05.2019 During Operation “Stalker”, officers of the Antinarcotics Department in Dubai suppressed activities of two international gangs specializing in smuggling and sale of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Arrested were 16 members of a criminal group - citizens of Asian countries, **365 kg of drugs** worth 278 million dirhams were seized. Among the drugs seized were **268 kg of heroin, 96 kg of crystalline methamphetamine and 1 kg of hashish**. Members of drug groups smuggled consignments of drugs into the country by concealing them in auto parts. Members of criminal groups illegally stored drugs in warehouses in the cities of Sharjah, Ajman and Umm al-Quwain. Large amounts of cash and two vehicles used to transport drugs were also confiscated. <https://www.gulftoday.ae/news/2019/05/13/dubai-police-seized-365kg-of-drugs-worth-dh278m>

PAKISTAN

14.05.2019 Islamabad International Airport Security Forces (ASF) stopped a smuggling of large quantities of heroin. During a search of passenger baggage traveling to Saudi Arabia on a private airline plane, **1.13 kg of icy heroin** were found in secret cavities of the bag. Drug trafficker - a resident of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was arrested and transferred to the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF), which began an investigation.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2019/05/14/bid-to-smuggle-1-130kg-ice-heroin-to-saudi-arabia-foiled/>

16.05.2019 Team of Customs Department at Karachi Airport seized a package containing **50 kg of heroin**. It was hidden in a package with a handbag and shoes. The parcel was sent by a Karachi resident and was bound for shipment to London (United Kingdom).

<https://arynews.tv/en/customs-parcel-karachi-airport-heroin/>

17.05.2019 Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) Rawalpindi in the new international airport of Islamabad prevented smuggling of **2.9 kg of icy heroin** discovered as a result of checking a baggage of a resident of Noshir district from Punjab province, departing on a flight to Medina (Saudi Arabia). In another ANF operation in Jelum, a smuggler was arrested, from whom **1 kg of hashish (char) and 1 kg of opium** were seized. In addition, ANF as a result of several anti-drug operations in different regions of the country seized **1 ton 545**

kg of narcotic drugs and 6300 liters of sulfuric acid, including **1 ton 522.48 kg of hashish, 15.92 kg of heroin, 6 kg of opium, 4190 tablets of Xanax, 290 g of methamphetamine**. 16 persons suspected of drug smuggling were arrested, 7 vehicles were confiscated. <https://nation.com.pk/17-May-2019/anf-foils-narcotics-smuggling-bids-at-airport-other-places>

PANAMA

18.05.2019 Officers of the National Intelligence Agency (Aeronaval DNI) in the port of Cristobal, Colón province, in a cargo container, found and seized 1,517 packages of **cocaine with a total weight of about 1.5 tons**. The cargo worth \$90 million was disguised inside 46 bags. The final destination was a port in Turkey, an intermediate point - the port of Rotterdam (the Netherlands). <http://www.aeronaval.gob.pa/default.asp?aid=noticias&n=articulos-noticias-2019-20190518.html>

18.05.2019 Prosecutors and the National Police in the port of Balboa seized about **500 kg of cocaine** found in a container following the route Guatemala-Holland. Seals on the container were tampered. Packs of drugs were hidden in several black bags. <https://www.critica.com.pa/sucesos/confiscan-mas-droga-de-otro-contenedor-con-ruta-guatemala-holanda-548560>

USA

11.05.2019 US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the central port of entry in Calexico, California, discovered large quantities of methamphetamine and heroin in three vehicles. In the first case, two US citizens - residents of Stockton - were detained in an attempt to smuggle **4.99 kg of methamphetamine** hidden in the transfer box of a Ford F-150 truck's transmission.

The next day, two Mexican citizens were detained by CBP, including a 33-year-old female driver, in an attempt to smuggle **3.18 kg of heroin** hidden inside a Nissan Maxima car battery.

On the same day, a 27-year-old US citizen was detained in an attempt to smuggle **20.41 kg of methamphetamine** in the fuel tank of a Mazda CX7.

In each of the three drug incidents drivers and a passenger were transferred to Homeland Security Investigation agents for further processing and then taken to the Imperial County Jail. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/calexico-cbp-officers-catch-155540-worth-hard-narcotics-over-weekend>

16.05.2019 US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents detained a 47-year-old Mexican citizen trying to smuggle **5.78 kg of cocaine** in a Hyundai Genesis car at a checkpoint at Hidalgo-Reinosa International Bridge, Texas. Five packs of cocaine were hidden in the car. Female drug trafficker was arrested. <https://news4sanantonio.com/news/local/border-patrol-discovers-100k-of-cocaine-hidden-in-car>

16.05.2019 Members of the Statewide Narcotics Task Force, the Statewide Urban Violence Cooperative Crime Control Task Force and the Stratford Police Narcotics Unit during execution of a search warrant in the house of a 37-year-old resident of Stratford, Connecticut, found and seized **192 g of cocaine and 32.9 g of fentanyl**. <https://www.ctpost.com/local/article/192-grams-of-cocaine-seized-during-search-of-13856467.php>

17.05.2019 A joint investigation with GBI's Southeast Regional Drug Enforcement Administration, the Mackintosh County Sheriff's Office, the DEA, ATF, Georgia Department of Public Safety's Motor Carrier Compliance Division led to 1 person being detained in Mackintosh County and seizure of **1 kg of heroin** and more than 300 thousand US dollars in cash. <https://www.wjcl.com/article/gbi-kilo-of-heroin-more-than-dollar300000-in-cash-seized-in-mcintosh-county-investigation/27504470>

17.05.2019 As part of investigation, police officers executed search warrants in two houses in Wilmington, North Carolina, resulting in two residents of Wilmington being arrested and seizure of **45.9 g of fentanyl, 276.47 g of methamphetamine, 24.04 g of cocaine**, a gun and 5 thousand US dollars in cash. The lethal dose of fentanyl for humans is only 2 mg. Two suspects aged 29 and 61 were detained. <https://www.wect.com/2019/05/17/fentanyl-meth-cocaine-seized-wilmington-drug-bust/>

TURKEY

14.05.2019 Anti-drug police during a special operation in Istanbul seized **10 kg of cocaine** smuggled from the Netherlands. Five suspects were arrested. During a separate operation in the north-western province of Kocaeli, **180 kg of heroin** were seized by police officers, five people were detained, including two Iranian citizens. In another case, police at the Istanbul airport detained 9 Iranian citizens in an attempt to intracavitarily smuggle **5 kg of heroin** in 350 sealed capsules. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-istanbul-police-makes-huge-cocaine-bust/1480672>

15.05.2019 Police officers in the eastern province of Van seized more than **163 kg of heroin**. The drug was found in mineral oil banks during a search at a cargo warehouse in the Tussba region by anti-drug police. Heroin was contained in 602 containers, awaiting shipment to the western provinces of the country. Two suspects were arrested on suspicion of drug trafficking. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/over-160-kg-of-heroin-seized-in-eastern-turkey/1478569>

UKRAINE

15.05.2019 Law enforcement officers at Boryspil International Airport in Kiev, during inspection of a baggage of unknown passengers traveling on a transit flight from Iran to Canada through Ukraine, found and seized about **20 kg of heroin, 10 kg of amphetamine and 10 kg of hashish**. Cannabis oil containing THC was also found in the baggage with drugs. <https://eadaily.com/ru/news/2019/05/15/v-aeroportu-kieva-iz-bagazha-izyato-40-kilo-narkotikov>

16.05.2019 Odessa law enforcement officers eliminated a scheme by which cocaine was sold in Odessa during a long time. Drugs were smuggled from Europe. An organized group was engaged in supply, systematic illegal acquisition, transportation, storage and sale of drugs. Three defendants were detained, including a 42-year-old resident of Odessa. During searches at premises involved in drug trafficking scheme, drugs, scales, other items and valuables were seized along with about 30 thousand US dollars, 26 thousand euros, 3 million forints and other currency as well as more than 4 thousand fake US dollars. Perpetrators stored arsenal of weapons and ammunition: Browning pistol-1906, IZH gun, more than 300 cartridges of various caliber, UZRGM-2 detonator, electric detonator, two briquettes with a

substance similar to explosives, a Fort 9R pistol, etc. The criminals also used fake IDs of law enforcement officers. Searches were conducted on the territory of Odessa, Kiev and Transcarpathian regions. <http://nabludatel.od.ua/odessa/iziaty-narkotiki-zoloto-oryjie-valuta-v-odesse-zaderjali-bandy-narkotorgovcev/>

FRANCE

14.05.2019 492.325 kg of cocaine were found and seized by Dunkirk customs officers in Lung-Plazh during inspection of a container with a cargo of bananas. The consignment is worth 40 million euros. The container with bananas entered Dunkirk from Suriname via Pointe-a-Pitre (Guadeloupe). The drug was in 415 packs hidden in a cache in the container floor. https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=610BB4EE-1441-4C12-BC5E-2B3B688DDA59&filename=686%20-%20%20Dunkerque%20saisie%20de%20492%20kg%20coca%3%AFne%20bananes.pdf
 Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=Mjns1MV70YA&feature=youtu.be>

ECUADOR

16.05.2019 During the operation "Snow in Guayaquil," **32.14 kg of cocaine** were discovered and seized by agents of the Ports and Airports Information Unit (UIPA) and the Regional Dog Training Center (CRAC). The drug was in a container loaded with crushed cocoa husks, which drug traffickers intended to deliver by sea to Spain. <https://www.policiaecuador.gob.ec/en-contenedor-cargado-de-cascarilla-de-cacao-agentes-del-uipa-y-crac-encuentran-droga/>

ETHIOPIA

13.05.2019 Combined task force from the federal police and customs officers seized **3.3 tons of cannabis** on the outskirts of Addis Ababa. The consignment was transported in the trunk of a cargo vehicle. Truck driver was imprisoned. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-05/13/c_138055194.htm

RSA

19.05.2019 Officers of the South African Revenue Service (SARS) stopped smuggling of **198.49 kg of crystal methamphetamine**. A woman with two suitcases tried to move her luggage through the customs control zone. She flew from abroad to a neighboring country and tried to enter South Africa by bus through Beytbridge. The drug was seized and handed over to SAPS representatives for storage and further investigation. Local police transferred the case to the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation for further investigation. <https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/gauteng/woman-nabbed-at-beitbridge-border-with-almost-200kg-crystal-meth-23183177>

JAMAICA

15.05.2019 Security forces of the Sangster International Airport in Montego Bay prevented smuggling of **2.27 kg of cocaine**. Two drug traffickers - a citizen of the United Kingdom and a Jamaica citizen arrived at the airport where a woman was registered for a flight to Birmingham (England). The woman was in the process of checking in for the flight when anti-drug police found cocaine hidden in her suitcase as a result of an inspection check. The



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

ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОАЗИАТСКИЙ РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫЙ ИНФОРМАЦИОННЫЙ КООРДИНАЦИОННЫЙ ЦЕНТР ПО БОРЬБЕ С НЕЗАКОННЫМ ОБОРОТОМ НАРКОТИЧЕСКИХ СРЕДСТВ, ПСИХОТРОПНЫХ ВЕЩЕСТВ И ИХ ПРЕКУРСОРОВ

woman and the man were subsequently arrested. <http://rjrnewsonline.com/local/police-probe-multi-million-dollar-cocaine-seizure-at-sangster-international>

