

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

06.01-12.01.2020

№ 2

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

13.01.2020 Police detained a 41-year-old local resident in Pavlodar suspected of illegal possession and distribution of drugs, who had been distributing psychotropic substances on a particularly large scale on the territory of Pavlodar through caches. At the man's place of residence, 96 bundles containing **200 g of alpha-pyrovalerone** were found and seized, as well as electronic scales, insulation tape and polyethylene packaging materials. A pre-trial investigation is under way. <https://www.ktk.kz/ru/newsfeed/article/2020/01/13/137455/>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

09.01.2020 Employees of UNK UMVD of Russia across Chelyabinsk region together with colleagues from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia detained citizen of a neighboring country who was in federal search. The man is suspected of organizing production of synthetic drugs in an underground laboratory located in Kopeysk, Chelyabinsk Region. "The Mini Factory was equipped with a modern security and video control complex, motion sensors, a special ventilation and air filtration system, autonomous heating, water supply and lighting, and expensive industrial laboratory equipment and dishes were used. Over 200 kg of narcotics were produced every month. The sale of illegal substances was carried out through the shadow segment of the Internet. More than **55 kg of various synthetic drugs** ready for sale, as well as more than **2.7 tons of precursors** were seized. A criminal case was initiated by the Chief Investigation Department of the Main Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Chelyabinsk Region. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19269780>

09.01.2020 In Tula region, police detained four local residents who were selling narcotic drugs. Young men rented a garage in Novomoskovsk, where they stored synthetic drugs and packed them for further sale through caches. Employees of UNK of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs in Tula region detained suspects at the time of placing drug into caches in Novomoskovsk. Inspection of the garage seized 2408 packages of **various drugs of synthetic origin weighing about 8 kg**. Stencils were also found and seized for advertising inscriptions in an online store that distributes drugs, as well as weighing and packaging equipment. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19273842>

10.01.2020 In Moscow, twelve accused of drug trafficking were charged with involvement in a criminal association. Detained by officers of the Department of Internal Affairs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia together with colleagues from the Department of Internal Affairs of the Troitsk and Novomoskovsk administrative districts of the capital are accused of illegal drug trafficking in the Moscow region and Tambov region, as well as illegal banking activities and organization of drug den. The criminal organization consisted of five

structural units formed on a geographical basis. The group was characterized by stability, hierarchy and a clear distribution of roles. The accomplices received large consignments of drugs, placed them in their apartments for temporary storage, and then sold them through caches. One unit controlled the flow of money generated by illicit drug trade. For conspiracy purposes, the perpetrators communicated through messengers. Special terms were used to refer to narcotic drugs. During personal searches of detainees, as well as searches of their places of residence, more than **2.5 kg of heroin** were detected and seized. The illegal income from illegal activities exceeded 36 million rubles. Ten defendants were remanded in custody by court decision, and two of them were subjected to a preventive measure in the form of travel ban and appropriate behaviour. Preliminary investigation is in progress. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19275330>

10.01.2020 At Magri stationary post employees of DPS GIBDD DIA regiment in the city of Sochi, Krasnodar region, stopped a Toyota car driven by a 37-year-old resident of the city of Kurgan. As a result of personal search of the 29-year-old passenger of the car - the inhabitant of the Smolensk region, about **500 g of methadone** was found and removed from his backpack. The drug courier was planning to sell drugs in Sochi through caches. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19282251>

10.01.2020 Employees of MU of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia "Shchelkovskoye" of the Moscow region in a house in the village of Ozeretskoe urban district Dmitrovsky detained a 24-year-old resident of Lobnya, suspected of illegal possession of drugs, from whom **172 g mephedrone** were seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19274338>

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

07.01.2020 Soldiers of the Border Troops of the State Security Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the border area of Tashkent region prevented smuggling of a large consignment of **hashish weighing 928 g** into Uzbekistan. Pre-investigatory inspection is conducted on this fact. <http://uza.uz/ru/society/pogranichnye-voyska-sgb-respubliki-uzbekistan-izyali-krupnyu-11-01-2020>

OTHER COUNTRIES

BELGIUM

10.01.2020 A shipment of **cocaine weighing 1468 kg** was intercepted in the port of Antwerp on 18 November 2019. Drugs were found by customs in a container. Cocaine was distributed in 1,321 packages. The container was on a ship that had arrived from Colombia. The Federal Judicial Police of Antwerp is conducting an investigation. https://www.gva.be/cnt/dmf20200110_04800145/parket-onderzoekt-vangst-van-1-5-ton-cocaine

BOLIVIA

10.01.2020 Five people were detained by the agents during a joint operation called Daysol in the Senkata area of El Alto city. The Special Unit for the Fight against Drug Trafficking (FELCN) and the Bolivian National Customs (ANB) seized **1.5 tons of cocaine hydrochloride**. The shipment was destined for Belgium and was disguised in wooden pallets. The wooden pallets were manufactured in Santa Cruz and taken to Arika, Chile, from

where they were to be shipped by sea to Belgium. The shipment was estimated to cost \$4.6 million in Bolivia and \$64.5 million at its final destination, Belgium.

https://www.la-razon.com/nacional/seguridad_nacional/Operativo_Daysol-droga-camuflada_madera-Bolivia-Belgica-El_Alto_0_3291870813.html

BRAZIL

07.01.2020 An international cocaine trafficking route in Brazil, which begins in countries of the Andean region, continues along the route of drug trafficking through the country - by land, river and air - and reaches main ports. From there, cocaine is transported to other continents. Drugs are delivered in containers of commercial vessels moored at main ports of Brazil - Santos (SP), Paranagua (PR), Itajai (SC), Recife and El Salvador. In 2019, seizures in the two most commonly used ports (Santos and Paranagua) reached record levels. Below are Federal Police statistics for 2010-2019 on the amount of cocaine seized (in kg) in Brazilian ports.

Porto	UF	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
ITAJAÍ	SC	186,91	97,83		1,03	246,6	46,0	2.215,0	370,6	459,0	4.314,6
JOINVILLE	SC	7,9	8,5	161,9	86,17	580,0		983,5	625,7		235,0
PARANAGUÁ	PR	85,1	0,1	81,1		24,2		556,7	845,0	4.754,5	21.889,4
RIO GRANDE	RS	596,0	3,6	84,2		26,6			267,0		22,3
RECIFE	PE	81,0	1.191,6	95,1	14,45	181,1	33,0		224,7		808,2
RIO DE JANEIRO	RJ	547,7	73,6	63,4	287,45	491,4			1.166,6	1.611,4	755,5
SANTOS	SP	1.863,1	45,7	98,4	1.131,53	1.867,4	1.463,5	10.606,7	12.188,1	23.832,1	26.989,9
SALVADOR	BA	256,7	63,2	334,2	18,54	1.297,3		810,0	2.022,2	1.662,0	3.383,0
VITÓRIA	ES	425,7	134,4	142,6		91,8			618,0		25,0
NATAL	RN										5.645,6
FORTALEZA	CE										930,0
BELÉM	PA										1.462,0
		4.050,12	1.618,45	1.060,90	1.539,17	4.806,39	1.542,54	15.171,86	18.327,78	32.319,02	66.460,42

Fonte: Polícia Federal

<http://www.segurancaportuariaemfoco.com.br/2020/01/portos-utilizados-pelo-pcc-tem-recorde.html>

10.01.2020 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Customs seized **454 kg of cocaine** in the port of Paranagua. The cocaine was in a container with paper rolls and was destined for the port of Antwerp, Belgium. The shipment was detected using a scanner. The seized drug has been handed over to the Federal Police, which is investigating the case.

<http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2020/janeiro/9a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-realiza-a-primeira-apreensao-de-cocaina-de-2020-no-porto-de-paranagua>

SPAIN

10.01.2020 The Civil Guard and the National Police, through Operation LIRIO, dismantled a criminal organization involved in transporting hashish from Melilla to the peninsula. During the operation, three members of the criminal organization, both Spanish and Moroccan, were also arrested. The hashish was transported in caches equipped with trucks and vans used to transport goods. <https://www.guardiacivil.es/es/prensa/noticias/7208.html>

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_4n1suN_N0

https://www.policia.es/videos/wmv/20200110_1.mp4

12.01.2020 The Fiscal Agency and the Cynology Service of the Civil Guard Command of Ceuta, in the port of Ceuta, arrested 11 people, including citizens of Spain, Algeria, France and the Netherlands, when they tried to move a total of **206.7 kg of hashish** to Algeciras in caches equipped with cars. <https://elfarodeceuta.es/detenidos-kilos-hachis-puerto-ceuta/>

MEXICO

06.01.2020 The Mexican Navy and National Defence Forces at the port of Lazaro Cárdenas, Michoacán State, on board a Danish flagged ship from Ecuador, found a bag containing 61 packs of **cocaine weighing 69.88 kg** in a container. <https://www.gob.mx/semar/prensa/fuerzas-armadas-mexicanas-aseguran-presunta-carga-ilicita-en-lazaro-cardenas-michoacan?idiom=es>

11.01.2020 The joint work of the Naval Port Protection Unit 62 (UNAPROP-62) of the Sixth Navy with Customs and the Office of the Attorney General (FGR) in the port of Manzanillo, Colima, resulted in the seizure of approximately **26.49 kg of cocaine hydrochloride**. The drug was discovered during an inspection of a container unloaded from a Liberian-flagged ship called MAULLIN from Buenaventura, Colombia. <https://anews.mx/2020/01/12/arma-de-mexico-asegura-17-paquetes-de-clorhidrato-de-cocaina-en-manzanillo-colima/>

MYANMAR

10.01.2020 The Myanmar Joint Drug Enforcement Force in Shan State in the townships of Lasho and Muzah confiscated **3.74 kg of heroin and 246,000 methamphetamine tablets** from vehicles carrying drugs. Three suspects have been detained. Criminal groups operating in Myanmar have become important players in global synthetic drug production. <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/regional/2020/01/10/over-3-kg-of-heroin-stimulants-seized-in-eastern-myanmar>

COLOMBIA

11.01.2020 Detectives from the Anti-Drug Brigade at the port of San Antonio seized **16 kg of high-purity cocaine hydrochloride**, which was hidden in cooling system of a container used to transport goods destined for Europe. <http://www.login.cl/noticias/10876-pdi-san-antonio-detecta-droga-en-contenedor-con-destino-a-europa>

12.01.2020 During an inspection of a Vactor (human faeces) organic waste collection vehicle by the Road Traffic Police of Bug municipality, **528 kg of high purity cocaine hydrochloride** were detected and seized. The cocaine consignment, valued at over \$200 million, was intended to be smuggled abroad through the port of Buenaventura. A 53-year-old truck driver was apprehended. Drug cache, car and detainee were transferred to the Public Prosecutor's Office. <https://www.elpais.com.co/judicial/incautaron-cargamento-de-mas-de-500-kilos-de-cocaina-en-buga.html>

PAKISTAN

11.01.2020 The Pakistani Anti-Narcotics Force seized 928,178 kg of drugs during 11 anti-drug operations, including **24.3 kg of hashish, 297,178 kg of heroin and 606.7 kg of opium**. Ten persons were arrested and two vehicles were seized. <https://pakobserver.net/anf-seizes-928-178kg-drugs-in-11-operations/>

PORTUGAL

08.01.2020 The National Unit for Combating Drug Trafficking (UNCTE) and the Judiciary Police (PJ) found **825 kg of cocaine** in banana crates at Setubal port, which had been delivered to Colombia and destined for the European market.

https://www.sapo.pt/noticias/nacional/cocaina-apreendida-pela-pj-era-proveniente-da_5e16242f9057451c02f56eab

USA

06.01.2020 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials at the Progreso International Bridge in Texas detained a 25-year-old U.S. citizen while attempting to smuggle **8.22 kg of heroin** in 7 packs and **59.64 kg of methamphetamine** in a Ford F-150 pickup truck. The total value of seized drugs is about \$3 million 40 thousand.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/progreso-cbp-officers-seize-more-3-million-narcotics-progreso>

10.01.2020 A border patrol from El Centro Sector, California, at the checkpoint on Highway 86 arrested a 28-year-old drug courier, one of the passengers on a commercial bus, while attempting to smuggle **2 kg of heroin** under his clothing. The estimated value of heroin is 56,000 dollars.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/man-attempts-smuggle-heroin-commercial-bus>

TURKEY

09.01.2020 During an anti-drug operation on the border with Greece, customs officers in a truck entering from Greece at the border gate of Ipsala in the north-western province of Edirne discovered and seized 320 packages of **marijuana weighing 177 kg**.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/police-seize-over-170-kg-of-marijuana-on-turkey-greece-border-3509221>

ECUADOR

07.01.2020 The Ecuadorian navy seized about **88 kg of cocaine** concealed in the container ship "SEALAND LOS ANGELES" under the flag of Liberia. The ship left Guayaquil, Ecuador, for Bilbao, Panama. On its way, two armed men entered the ship and allegedly placed bags of cocaine in a container. SEALAND LOS ANGELES made an unplanned stop in Puerto Bolívar, Ecuador, where the container with cocaine, originally on its way to Bilbao, was unloaded at the berth.

<http://maritimebulletin.net/2020/01/08/cocaine-delivered-on-board-of-sealand-ship-in-unusual-manner/>

<https://www.eluniverso.com/noticias/2020/01/07/nota/7680300/decomisan-88-bloques-cocaina-camouflados-contenedor-barco-oro>

<https://eltelegrafo.com.ec/>