

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

03.02-09.02.2020

№ 6

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

04.02.2020 Almaty Department of the KNB RK stopped operations of an underground laboratory producing synthetic drugs. A resident of Almaty was detained at the moment of laying a synthetic drug consignment, involved in organization and operation of the drug lab. About **5 kg of synthetic drugs, 1 kg and 260 litres of precursors** were found and seized. Produced drugs were sold through Internet resources and contactlessly through caches. A criminal case was initiated on this fact and pre-trial investigation is ongoing. Recently, there has been an increase in artisanal production and supply of synthetic drugs to Almaty's illegal market. From the beginning of 2019 to the present day, the Department of the KNB stopped 13 incidents of illicit trafficking in synthetic drugs, more than **8 kg of psychotropic substances and 786 litres of precursors** were seized. Two clandestine laboratories manufacturing illicit substances have been dismantled. Eleven persons have been detained and brought to criminal responsibility for their participation in drug trade.

<http://knb.gov.kz/ru/news/o-likvidacii-podpolnoy-narkolaboratorii-po-proizvodstvu-sinteticheskikh-narkotikov>

05.02.2020 Department for Combating Drug Trafficking of Zhambyl region stopped a Pontiac car at the 97th km of Almaty-Bishkek highway. Its passenger had **4.627 kg of marijuana and 5.52 g of hashish**. A 43-year-old resident of Zhambyl province was detained as a taxi passenger. Pre-trial investigation into this fact was launched.

https://www.kt.kz/rus/crime/v_hode_spetsoperatsii_v_zhambylskoy_oblasti_iz_yata_krupnaya_1377894052.html

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

08.02.2020 Employees of the SBNON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and GKNB of the Kyrgyz Republic, with the assistance of UNODC and the EU project "EU-ACT Action against Organized Crime and Drugs", stopped an international drug group. A stable international channel for supplying narcotic drugs of Afghan origin to the Kyrgyz Republic has been established. A total of **274 kg of hashish and 3.5 kg of methamphetamine** have been seized. Organizers of the drug channel were detained. Pretrial proceedings are continuing in this connection, under which special investigative measures are being taken to identify other persons involved in the international drug supply chain.

https://24.kg/proisshestviya/143050_rekordnyuyu_partiyu_gashisha_imetamfetamina_zaderjali_vkyrgyzstane/

08.02.2020 SBNON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Jalal-Abad province stopped a group specializing in drug production. A specially equipped room was found in a residential building in Toktogul district for producing narcotic drugs. A total of **87 kg of hashish and 17 kg of marijuana** were seized. Pre-trial proceedings have been initiated in this regard. In addition, a man was detained in Toktogul who illegally stored **101 kg of marijuana** in flour bags. <https://ru.sputnik.kg/incidents/20200208/1047006932/kyrgyzstan-narkotiki-izyatie.html>



07.02.2020 612 kg of hydrochloric acid were seized in the Kadamjay district of Batken region in the course of a special operation conducted by officers of the Osh police department. Police stopped a Chevrolet Captiva car, where 17 plastic containers with hydrochloric acid were found. The suspects were detained. One of the suspected precursor smugglers is a law enforcement officer.

https://24.kg/proisshestvija/143035_vbatkene_zaderjali_pochti_poltonnyi_prekursorov_podozreamyiy_militsioner/

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

05.02.2020 Employees of UNK GU MVD in the Novosibirsk region stopped a criminal group selling drugs through caches in Novosibirsk. The group included a 25-year-old man and his 24-year-old friend - residents of Novosibirsk. More than **1.83 kg of N-methylephedrone, 110 g of mephedrone, 0.64 g of hashish**, as well as scales and packaging materials were found and seized at the couple's place of residence. Detained persons purchased consignments of narcotic drugs, then packed in smaller doses, using balloons as packaging, and sold through caches in various regions of Novosibirsk. A criminal case has been initiated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19478363>

07.02.2020 Employees of UNK of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia across Smolensk region detained two inhabitants of Yelny at the age of 16 and 19 years who carried in a taxi car "VAZ-2115" **991,79 g N-methylephedron**. The prohibited items were purchased by the young people through an online shop in Moscow and they planned to sell it in the region. A criminal case was initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19501045>

OTHER COUNTRIES

REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

07.02.2020 Employees of the Central Department for Drug Control and Combating Human Trafficking of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus have shut down a supply chain of Afghan heroin to the European Union during a special operation. The heroin was in transit through Belarus and was intended for specific consumers. Two foreign nationals aged 50 who intended to supply heroin to the European Union, Germany, were detained. A total of **6 kg of heroin** were seized, which the perpetrators had hidden on the doorstep of their car. The cache was discovered during inspections using an inspection facility. One of the detainees was an international boxing judge. A criminal case has been initiated against the suspects. <http://www.ctv.by/novosti-minska-i-minskoy-oblasti/kanal-postavki-afganskogo-geroina-na-territoriyu-evrosoyuzu>

BRAZIL

31.01.2020 Federal Police (PF), together with the Federal Revenue Service (IRS), seized over **1.2 tons of cocaine** in the port of El Salvador. The drug was found during a routine inspection in a pulp cargo that was to be loaded on a ship bound for Europe. The Federal Police will continue to investigate in order to identify those responsible for transporting. <http://www.pf.gov.br/imprensa/noticias/2020/01/pf-e-receita-federal-apreendem-cocaina-no-porto-de-salvador>

03.02.2020 Federal Revenue Service Customs in the port of San Francisco do Sul, South Carolina, seized **1 ton and 438 kg of cocaine**. The seizure was the result of a joint operation with the Federal Revenue Service in Joynville. The shipment was intended for the port of Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The drug was detected using X-ray equipment and other risk analysis methods used by the IRS Customs Intelligence Service inside a container loaded with plywood (pine).

<http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2020/fevereiro/9a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-1-438-quilos-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-itapoa>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTHLnNTZoiQ&feature=emb_logo

<http://g1.globo.com/sc/santa-catarina/videos/v/carga-de-cocaina-e-apreendida-no-porto-de-itapoa/8290736/>

<https://static.ndonline.com.br/2020/02/apreens%C3%A3o.mp4>

Video: <https://radiolitoranea.com.br/mais-de-uma-tonelada-de-cocaina-e-apreendida-no-porto-de-itapoa/>

06.02.2020 Anti-Smuggling and Misuse Division (Direp) of the Regional Fiscal Region 7 (SRRF07), which cooperates with Customs in the ports of Rio de Janeiro (ALF/RJO) and Souapé, Pernambuco, seized **327.5 kg of pure cocaine** in the port of Rio de Janeiro. The cocaine shipment was concealed in a container containing a shipment of granite. The shipment was dispatched on 4 February to the port of Souapé on the MSC Adelaide. The cargo was replaced at the port of Pernambuco. The destination of the cocaine was the port of Valencia (Spain).

<http://receita.economia.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2020/fevereiro/receita-federal-apreende-mais-de-300-kg-de-cocaina-em-navio-no-porto-do-rio>

09.02.2020 Agents of the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) together with the Federal Police (PF) found and seized **294 kg of cocaine** in the port of Paranaguá, on the Paraná coast. The cocaine consignment was in bags and concealed among containers at the port terminal. Special equipment was also found to open the containers. Drugs and items have been sent to the police, who will continue the investigation.

<https://g1.globo.com/pr/parana/noticia/2020/02/09/receita-e-policia-federal-apreendem-294-kg-de-cocaina-em-bolsas-entre-containers-no-porto-de-paranagua.ghtml>

INDIA

08.02.2020 In Manipur, an illegal drug factory was dismantled by a joint security forces team during an operation under the auspices of IGAR headquarters (South). The plant was used to extract morphine from opium and produce heroin. During the operation, **29 kg of heroin, 20 litres of narcotics liquid (manufactured product), 8 kg of marijuana** and equipment and chemicals used in drug production were seized. Owner of the house where the drug processing plant operated is currently being sought.

<https://morungexpress.com/illegal-drug-factory-busted-brown-sugar-worth-rs-120-cr-recovered>

IRAN

07.02.2020 Between 1 and 7 February 2020 the Iranian Narcotics Police seized **122 kg of heroin, 17 tons and 111 kg of opium, 94 kg of methamphetamine, 1 ton and 674 kg of hashish and 81 kg of other narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**¹.

¹ Information provided by liaison officer of the Anti-Narcotics Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

ITALY

05.02.2020 Operation "West River", conducted by the Financial Service (Guardia di Finanza) and the Customs Service of Genoa, detected and seized **22 kg of pure cocaine** in a container from South America. <https://www.primocanale.it/notizie/maxi-sequestro-di-cocaina-al-porto-di-genova-pr-22-kg-provenienti-dal-sud-america-215769.html>

COLOMBIA

05.02.2020 During a transnational operation on the road from the municipality of Venadillo to Lerida, SIJIN personnel of the Tolima Police Department discovered a cache with **216 kg of cocaine** in a truck travelling from Putumayo to Laguahira, from there to Central America and the United States. The cache was inside 98 galvanized tubes. An elderly driver, aged 78, was detained and taken to police station. The vehicle and substance were handed over to Section 4 of the Municipality of Chaparral. <https://www.lavozdelpueblo920am.com/judicial/dijin-sijin-y-fbi-lograron-la-incautacion-de-gigantesco-cargamento-de-cocaina-en-lerida-tolima>
 Video: <https://www.facebook.com/ondas1470/videos/606694933448039/>

05.02.2020 National police agents at a checkpoint on the Girardo Bogotá road in Cundinamarca department found **1.5 tons of marijuana** after inspecting a truck - inside a tanker truck. The value of the consignment is US\$ 2.6 million. The truck driver, his 40-year-old wife and his 18-year-old daughter were detained on suspicion of committing the crime. <https://infosurhoy.com/top-stories/colombian-cops-seize-1500-kilos-of-marijuana-worth-2-6million-inside-oil-tanker-truck/>

MALTA

07.02.2020 A 31-year-old woman of African descent was detained at the Malta International Airport in an attempt to smuggle **1.5 kg of heroin** into Malta, concealing it in her luggage. <https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/woman-caught-heroin-in-luggage-at-the-airport-charged.768946>

THE NETHERLANDS

06.02.2020 At Europaweg in Maasvlakt, in the port of Rotterdam, police arrested five Rotterdam residents aged 19 to 55 years on suspicion of involvement in drug trafficking using container shipping. <https://www.politie.nl/nieuws/2020/februari/6/07-havenmedewerker-en-uithalers-aangehouden-op-bedrijventerrein-maasvlakte.html>

PAKISTAN

06.02.2020 Pakistan's Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) stopped an attempt to smuggle heroin from Islamabad International Airport. More than **2.5 kg of heroin** were found during luggage checks of a passenger going to the UK by a private airline. The courier has been arrested. http://www.china.org.cn/world/Off_the_Wire/2020-02/06/content_75679739.htm

06.02.2020 Airport Security Force (ASF) at Lahore Allama Iqbal International Airport has stopped a smuggling of **7 kg of ice heroin**. Heroin was seized from a passenger travelling to Dubai (UAE) via Lahore's private airline flight EK-624 while scanning his luggage. The

passenger was handed over to the Pakistan Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) for further investigation. <https://arynews.tv/en/lahore-airport-asf-thwarts-drug-smuggling-bid/>

PANAMA

06.02.2020 Security forces controlled containerized cargo at the port of Balboa in a container from Guayaquil (Ecuador), whose final destination was the port of Algeciras (Spain). As a result, a bag containing 76 packs of **cocaine** with a total weight of approximately **76 kg** was found inside the container.

<http://www.aeronaval.gob.pa/default.asp?aid=noticias&n=articulos-noticias-2020-20200206.html>

PARAGUAY

06.02.2020 Agents of the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD) found **732 grams of cocaine** at Silvio Petrosie airport while checking a parcel destined for Manchester, UK, owned by an international logistics company. The drug was concealed inside jewellery in the parcel. <http://www.cronica.com.py/2020/02/06/vito-pillo-cocaina-inglaterra/>

Video: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1225030760597463040>

PORTUGAL

03.02.2020 Police (PJ) in the Algarve on the beach of Prime do Alemau, located in Portimao, confiscated **2 tons of hashish**. Portugal was probably an intermediate point for the discovered drug shipment. Investigation will determine the extent of the criminal activity. The police have spotted a suspicious boat heading towards the coast. 10 people of different nationalities were detained red-handed on the beach while loading 59 packs of hashish in several vehicles. <https://www.portugalresident.com/police-arrest-10-people-in-major-drug-bust-in-portimao/>

PUERTO RICO

05.02.2020 British Royal Navy, together with U.S. law enforcement agencies, as a result of a multilateral international inter-agency law enforcement and the Caribbean Corridor Strike Force (CCSF), seized two fast boats in the Caribbean Sea on January 24 and 30, 2020, carrying a total of **1,400 kg of cocaine**. Nine suspected drug smugglers were apprehended. The seized drugs and the detainees were handed over to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) - Homeland Security Investigations and DEA special agents in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-assists-us-law-enforcement-partners-and-british-royal-navy-462>

USA

03.02.2020 DEA agents joined the Clark County Gang Task Force near Las Vegas, Nevada, to investigate a local street gang of drug dealers. Law enforcement officials tracked down two suspects who were driving into Las Vegas from Los Angeles along Interstate Highway 15. The vehicle was inspected and 10 fire extinguishers were found with **13.61 kg of methamphetamine** hidden inside. <https://www.8newsnow.com/news/local-news/only-on-8-dea-makes-major-drug-bust-outside-las-vegas/>

06.02.2020 U.S. Border Patrol agents at a checkpoint on Interstate Highway 19 in Tucson, Arizona, arrested a 19-year-old U.S. citizen in an attempt to smuggle more than **30.39 kg of crystalline methamphetamine** from Mexico into the United States in a Pontiac. The substance was hidden in a stereo speaker in the trunk. The methamphetamine and the vehicle were seized. Female driver was turned over to the Homeland Security Investigations. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/bp-agents-don-t-skip-beat-seize-67-lbs-meth-smuggled-speaker>

TURKEY

04.02.2020 Drug police in the Ipekyolu district of eastern Van province seized over **15 kg of heroin**. The heroin was hidden in paint cans. Two people have been arrested on charges of drug smuggling. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/over-15-kg-of-heroin-seized-in-eastern-turkey/1723665>

UKRAINE

08.02.2020 Implementation of criminal proceeding materials by employees of the Department of Combating Drug Crime of the SUNP in Kyiv with the participation of cyber police officers stopped illegal activities of two international drug delivery channels in Kyiv and an online store selling psychotropic substances. Criminal activity of the group, which organized smuggling of narcotic drugs from the Republic of Moldova and the Czech Republic, as well as manufacture and sale of psychotropic substances in various regions of Ukraine, was documented. The group consisted of three men (organizers and marketers born in 1995 and 1994) and two women (operators born in 1995 and 1996) who took orders. The laboratory was located in the Kiev region, and a warehouse for storing narcotic substances was in the Shevchenko district of Kiev. During searches, automated equipment was seized for mass production of "ecstasy" tablets and more than **1,000 finished "ecstasy" tablets, about 1 kg of amphetamine, 1 kg of cannabis cones and 200 g of MDMA**. Computer equipment, gadgets, bank cards, cars used by the perpetrators and other physical evidence were seized. Seized drugs are valued at UAH 1.5 million. <https://kyiv.npu.gov.ua/news/protidiya-narkozlochinnosti/pravooxoronczi-perekrili-mizhnarodni-kanali-postachannya-narkotikiv-u-stoliczyu/>

08.02.2020 Security Service of Ukraine has dismantled a drug lab producing methadone and amphetamine in Kyiv region. The drug business was organized by former police officers who set up a drug lab on the outskirts of Obukhiv in an industrial premises. Every month, the laboratory produced up to 5 kg of methadone and up to 10 kg of amphetamine, which were sold to dealers throughout Ukraine. The group members bought houses, apartments and luxury cars with money received from drug trafficking. During searches, over **2 kg of methadone and 3.5 kg of amphetamine** were seized. The cost of seized drugs is UAH 4.9 million. They also found **4.7 kg of methadone** in liquid form, a large number of precursors and equipment for drug manufacture. Three members of the drug group were detained, including two organizers - former policemen. Investigations are continuing in order to document and prosecute other members of the group. <https://ssu.gov.ua/ua/news/1/category/2/view/7107#.GDqNkf6u.dpbs>