

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

15.06-21.06.2020**№ 25****CARICC MEMBER STATES****REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

19.06.2020 Employees of UPN of Police Department of East Kazakhstan region under of operative preventive measure "Karasori-2020" detained three members of criminal group at the age from 34 to 39 years. One of the suspects was a resident of Almaty. The detainees organized a channel for supply of narcotic drugs from southern regions of the country through logistics companies to the territory of the East Kazakhstan region. A search in the garage of a detainee revealed **30 kg of marijuana**. Seized narcotic drugs cost more than 21 million tenge. https://www.inform.kz/ru/krupnyuyu-partiyu-narkotikov-iz-yali-v-vko_a3663714

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

15.06.2020 Employees of UKON GU MVD of Russia in Krasnodar krai detained a 39-year-old resident of Kanevsky district, who was engaged in sale of potent chemicals purchased by him in large quantities via the Internet. Police officers, in cooperation with Krasnodar Customs, managed to trace a mail shipment of more than **1 kg of pregabalin**, the recipient of which was the suspect. In the apartment of the detainee, a part of previous shipment of pregabalin, which he had previously received via mail, and packaged for subsequent sale, was seized. A criminal case has been initiated against the man by the Krasnodar Customs Investigation Department.

<https://мвд.рф/news/item/20391593>

16.06.2020 A 42-year-old resident of Likino-Dulevo, suspected of illicitly selling drugs through caches, was detained in a wooded area near the village of Yevseevo by MO MVD Pavlovo-Posadsky drug control unit in Moscow region. More than **100 g of methylephedrone, 470 g of synthetic cannabinoids (spice) and about 1 kg of amphetamine** were seized. Criminal proceedings were instituted against the suspect and a preventive measure in the form of imprisonment was selected.

<https://мвд.рф/news/item/20396073>

16.06.2020 Employees of UNK GU MVD of Russia in Stavropol krai detained two natives of a neighboring country, who illegally kept with them, as well as at their place of residence in Nevinnomyssk more than **1.5 kg of heroin**, prepared for further sale. The suspects purchased drugs in wholesale shipments, packed them in smaller consignments and planned to sell in several districts of Stavropol krai. A preventive measure in the form of detention was chosen in relation to the defendants. A preliminary investigation into the criminal case is ongoing. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20396933>

16.06.2020 Employees of UNK UMVD of Russia in Penza region dismantled a drug laboratory, which operated in the Pachelmsky district. The drug laboratory was organized by

three residents of Penza region in an abandoned private house and mephedrone production was established in it. About **3.5 kg of mephedrone**, precursors and laboratory equipment for production of the banned substance were seized. Subsequently, police detained an interregional courier and found a cache of **1 kg of mephedrone**. Drug was intended for further sale in the Samara and Ulyanovsk regions. The organizers of the narcolaboratory took precursors for mephedrone production through caches in the Moscow region. Further on, they packed ready-made drug in consignments weighing from 100 g to 1 kg and equipped caches with illegal substances for contactless transfer to couriers in different regions of Penza region. A criminal case was initiated against the offenders.

<https://мвд.рф/news/item/20399407>

19.06.2020 A 31-year-old Moscow-born migrant suspected of drug trafficking in Sochi has been detained by the Krasnodar krai OKON UVD. While inspecting the detainee's personal belongings in a bag attached to the frame of a bicycle, police found 30 artificial stones, inside which there were convolutions with **mephedrone weighing about 400 g**, prepared for further sale. A criminal case was initiated against the suspect and a preventive measure in the form of detention was chosen.

<https://мвд.рф/news/item/20430912>

19.06.2020 A 29-year-old native of a neighboring country, suspected of selling drugs contactlessly through caches, was detained by officers of OKON UMVD in the city district of Domodedovo, Moscow region. More than **1 kg of heroin** was seized during a search of the detainee's apartment. A criminal case was initiated against the suspect and a preventive measure in the form of detention was taken. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20427065>

19.06.2020 In the Samara region at a stationary DPS post near the village of Zelenovka traffic police officers stopped a car registered in the Tambov region, in which a 30-year-old resident of Bryansk region illegally transported about **1 kg of mephedrone**. A criminal case was initiated against the suspect. The court has chosen a preventive measure in the form of detention. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20430803>

22.06.2020 Employees of GUNK MVD of Russia, together with colleagues from Vladimir region and FSB of Russia, have stopped illegal actions of a drug laboratory located in unexploited buildings in a village of Petushinsky district. Police found laboratory equipment, personal protective suits and more than fifty plastic canisters. The containers held a solution made up of **mephedrone and amphetamine**, the total mass of which exceeded **30 kg** in dry residue. A 65-year-old resident of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) and two residents of Kursk were detained on suspicion of involvement in drug trafficking. They planned to distribute manufactured drugs in several regions of Russia. A criminal case has been initiated against the suspects. The defendants were subjected to a preventive measure in the form of detention. <https://mvdmedia.ru/news/ofitsialnyy-predstavitel/vo-vladimirskoy-oblasti-obnaruzhena-narkolaboratoriya/>

REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

22.06.2020 Officers of the Tajikistan MVD Dushanbe city department identified a major supply chain for synthetic drugs from Europe to Dushanbe. MVD employees detained a 32-year-old man and seized **2,224 ecstasy tablets**. A drug supplier who sent ecstasy in lorries packed with tea has been put on international wanted list. A 63-year-old resident of

Darvaza district, GBAO, with two of his nephews were also detained in Dushanbe on suspicion of illegal possession of over **23 kg of opium**. In addition, a 67-year-old resident of Buston, Sughd region, and a 62-year-old resident of Jaikhun district, Khatlon region, were detained with **15 kg of opium**. Criminal proceedings have been instituted and investigations are under way. <http://avesta.tj/2020/06/22/v-dushanbe-izyato-okolo-40-kg-opiya-i-svyshe-2-2-tys-tabletok-ekstazi-video/>

OTHER COUNTRIES

ASUTRALIA

18.06.2020 During an Australian Federal Police (AFP) operation in Melbourne, approximately **360 kg of crystalline methamphetamine** were found and seized after checking a shipping container of furniture arriving by sea from Malaysia. The cargo included 18 cardboard boxes filled with small packages of methamphetamine wrapped in aluminium foil. A 36-year-old Australian and two Malaysian nationals, aged 44 and 45, were arrested. The shipment is valued at \$180 million. <http://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/360-kilogram-meth-seizure-worth-180-million-in-melbourne>
<https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/360-kilogram-meth-seizure-worth-180-million-melbourne>
 Video:<https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/360-kilogram-meth-seizure-worth-180-million-in-melbourne/videos/360-kilogram-meth-seizure-worth-180-million-in-melbourne>

ARGENTINA

16.06.2020 Members of the DHS National Gendarmerie intercepted a Mercedes-Benz truck carrying **265.56 kg of cocaine** on route No. 16 in Chaco Taco Poso, Chaco province, with the support of personnel from Squadron 1, Sans Peña. The cocaine shipment was detected by a scanner and cocaine packages were distributed in six metal containers inside three fuel tanks. Three people were detained. <https://prensagendarmeria.gob.ar/prensa/Gendarmeria-intercepto-un-camion-con-mas-de-200-kilos-de-cocaina-ocultos-en-un-doble-fondo/1637>
https://es.noticias.yahoo.com/jujuy-chaco-entrega-controlada-265-234600843.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAD4zII-KT9T2oQJzuLttkKmMqmFWj-TP6zQhWO9ZaMPGDRplWOB_3OBGSU8dPQsoFxm6avl_G4LjccIGGOI7eg_VNhG-7pwX1PfrnjrmYip_5Z1rZEncEgri4W7yz0Dz5TMzKqItkLx558DqtaoAmWXZBcRT8SBM5f_jU2_5qmY

BELGIUM

18.06.2020 Antwerp port security services at berth 869 found three suspects involved in drug trafficking, which was reported to the police. The police detained three Dutch citizens who were planning to extract drugs from a container. They were carrying bags, a torch and shovels. The Antwerp Prosecutor's Office has launched an investigation. Customs conducted an inspection at berth 869 and found a significant amount of cocaine (amount not reported). <https://www.om-mp.be/nl/article/persbericht-antwerpen-vermeende-uitalers-betrapt>

BRAZIL

13.06.2020 Drug Investigation Police (DISE) officers from the State Department for Drug Trafficking Prevention and Control (DENARC) in Praia Grande seized a crane-type forklift

truck, where 100 packs of **cocaine** with a total weight of **107.2 kg** were hidden in its chassis. The driver was arrested. <http://www.ssp.sp.gov.br/LeNoticia.aspx?ID=48018#/MyCarousel>

16.06.2020 Customs of the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) seized **673 kg of cocaine** in the port of Salvador. Drug was placed in a container loaded with coconuts without the knowledge of exporters and importers. The final destination of the vessel was Egypt, with Rotterdam, the Netherlands, as a transit port. Seized cocaine consignment was handed over to the Federal Police, which will continue the investigation.

<https://g1.globo.com/ba/bahia/noticia/2020/06/16/mais-de-600-kg-de-cocaina-sao-apreendidos-em-carga-no-porto-de-salvador.ghtml>

19.06.2020 200 kg of cocaine were found in a container among soy sacks at the port of Ilheus, in southern Bahia. Drug shipment was destined for the Netherlands. Seized consignment was taken to the Federal Police Headquarters in Igliaus for further investigation. <https://g1.globo.com/ba/bahia/noticia/2020/06/19/mais-de-200-kg-de-cocaina-sao-apreendidos-entre-carga-de-soja-no-porto-de-ilheus-sul-da-bahia-droga-seria-levada-para-europa.ghtml>

UNITED KINGDOM

19.06.2020 The National Crime Agency (NCA), with support from the Merseyside Police, arrested five men aged 35 to 48 years and a woman aged 35 years during raids in Uirral and Wallasee and Dyside. The group is suspected of conspiring to import controlled drugs, conspiracy to launder money and participation in an organized criminal group (OCG). The investigation involved confiscation of several high-end vehicles, including Mercedes-Benz and Landrovers, luxury goods and approximately £5,000 in cash. The OCG used transport companies to move generators from the United Kingdom to Belgium and forwarding companies in the Netherlands. Larger amounts of cocaine and heroin were being imported inside the generators. In March 2019, one consignment of Class A drugs was seized in Dover and in June, two consignments were seized in the Netherlands. Both seizures consisted of cocaine and heroin, totalling 111 kg. The OCG repeatedly imported drugs between October 2018 and June 2019. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/six-arrested-and-luxury-cars-seized-as-part-of-drugs-and-money-laundering-conspiracy>

IRAN

21.06.2020 From 13 to 19 June, the Iranian Anti-Narcotics Police seized **15.625 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including 244 kg of heroin, 14.042 tons of opium, 131 kg of methamphetamine, 1,124 kg of hashish and 84 kg of other narcotic substances¹.**

SPAIN

16.06.2020 A joint operation by the Customs Enforcement Service (SVA) and the National Police found **200 kg of cocaine** in a container of scrap metal at a terminal in Algeciras port. The cocaine consignment was inside a sports bag inside the container. Smugglers used the "Rip-off" method, where drugs were placed in a legal cargo without the knowledge of

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

exporters and importers. https://sevilla.abc.es/andalucia/cadiz/sevi-intervenidos-200-kilos-cocaina-contenedor-chatarra-puerto-algeciras-202006152020_noticia.html

19.06.2020 During Operation CRANKBROOK MARCHICA, Guardia Civil and National Police officers found and seized **3.8 tons of cocaine** in six containers originating in South America with various cargoes. Eleven members of a transnational criminal organization involved in extracting drug shipments from container terminals of the Port of Valencia were arrested. Among those arrested were 8 citizens of Spain, 2 of the Netherlands and 1 of Côte d'Ivoire. In view of exponential growth in container shipping during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Port of Valencia was actively used by transnational criminal groups to traffic drugs in container cargo. Investigations began in April, following information received through various international police cooperation channels indicating a possible increase in the arrival at the Port of Valencia of containers potentially carrying drug consignments. Just a few days ago, a container from Costa Rica delivered **1,862 kg of cocaine** hidden in backpacks to Valencia. <https://www.guardiacivil.es/es/prensa/noticias/7484.html>

KUWAIT

19.06.2020 Coast Guard patrols intercepted an attempt to smuggle **15 kg of hashish and 3 kg of methamphetamine** during an operation that resulted in the capture of a boat with one person on board. The smuggler on the boat was arrested. Drugs and two pistols were seized. The arrested man was smuggling drugs and delivering them ashore, giving his accomplices coordinates of the place where they were discharged. <https://gulfnews.com/world/gulf/kuwait/kuwait-coast-guard-foils-major-drug-smuggling-attempt-1.72136413>

THE NETHERLANDS

20.06.2020 Customs seized **100 kg of cocaine** during a regular inspection in the port of Rotterdam. Drugs were found in the cooling engine of a container and in the container itself, arriving from Costa Rica with a shipment of bananas. Cargo was destined for a company in the Netherlands. The company probably had nothing to do with cocaine smuggling. The investigation is being conducted by the HARC team - Customs, FIOD, Seaport Police and the Public Prosecution Service in Rotterdam. Seized cocaine shipment was destroyed. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/06/20/100-kilo-cocaine-tussen-bananen>

PAKISTAN

17.06.2020 In raids against drug traffickers, police teams arrested six people and seized **4.67 kg of heroin and 0.9 kg of hashish**. The police have registered individual cases against the accused and launched an investigation. <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/six-drug-pushers-arrested-4670-kg-heroin-se-949412.html>

18.06.2020 The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) in Myanmar stopped an attempt to smuggle **408 kg of hashish and 48 kg of opium**. Drug was found in a truck. The driver of the truck has been arrested. A case has been registered in this connection. <https://www.bolnews.com/latest/2020/06/anf-recovers-drug-worth-rs-2-5-crore-from-mianwali/>

PARAGUAY

17.06.2020 SENAD special agents at Silvio Petrosi International Airport intercepted an amplifier parcel containing **4.548 kg of cocaine** during routine cargo and parcel controls at the terminal. <http://www.senad.gov.py/noticia/14253-intentaron-enviar-cocaina-a-hong-kong-dentro-de-un-amplificador.html>
https://twitter.com/senad_paraguay/status/1273275171269423104

USA

18.06.2020 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Office of Field Operations in San Luis, Tucson, Arizona, detained a 43-year-old female U.S. citizen attempting to smuggle **50.35 kg of fentanyl** concealed in a gas tank from Mexico into the United States. Fentanyl is valued at \$1.25 million. Woman was arrested and transferred to U.S. Homeland Security Investigations and the vehicle and drugs were confiscated. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/port-san-luis-cbp-officers-make-large-fentanyl-bust>

18.06.2020 A 33-year-old Indio resident was detained by officers of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, California, during a search conducted as part of Coachella shooting investigation. Seizures included **2 kg of heroin** and several semi-automatic rifles, shotguns, ammunition and cash. <https://mynews1a.com/crime/2020/06/18/indio-man-allegedly-caught-with-guns-2-kilos-of-heroin/>

19.06.2020 Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials at the International Bridge at the Port of Entry in Brownsville, Texas, detained a 72-year-old Mexican citizen attempting to smuggle **62.4 kg of methamphetamine** from Mexico into the United States in a Chevrolet Tahoe SUV. Drugs, the vehicle, and the arrested driver were handed over to special agents of the U.S. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) for further investigation. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-brownsville-and-matamoros-international-bridge-seize-27>

20.06.2020 Crew of the Coast Guard boat in the Caribbean Sea, off the coast of Limona, Costa Rica, blocked two fast ships with **3,085 kg of cocaine** on board. Boat crews, a total of 9 people, have been arrested and will be tried in the Mid Florida State District. Seized cocaine has been transferred to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Wholesale value of the shipment is \$118.3 million. <https://foxbaltimore.com/news/nation-world/coast-guard-seizes-118-million-worth-of-cocaine-in-caribbean-sea>

THAILAND

16.06.2020 Police seized **800,000 methamphetamine tablets and 10 kg of heroin** during a joint operation with the Narcotics Suppression Bureau in Tambon Mae Ngon, Fang district, when inspecting two vehicles. Eight suspects were arrested and two more managed to escape. Seized drugs and the suspects have been handed over to the police for further trial. <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/1935856/big-drug-bust-in-chiang-mais-fang-8-arrested>

TURKEY

20.06.2020 A raid was carried out by officers of Anti-Drug Unit of the Van Police Department at transportation centre of a cargo company in Ipekyolu, resulting in the seizure



of over **113 kg of heroin**. <https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/police-seize-over-113-kg-of-heroin-in-eastern-turkey-3532574>

SWITZERLAND

20.06.2020 About **140 kg of cocaine** was found in banana boxes in several branches of the Coop supermarket chain located in the cantons of St. Gallen, Glarus, Graubünden and Ticino. Drugs were first found in a single box of bananas that came from Amsterdam, the Netherlands, followed by numerous checks of banana shipments at Coop shops throughout Switzerland. At least 50 kg of cocaine were found in a supermarket in St. Gallen. <https://www.thelocal.ch/20200620/switzerland-140-kilograms-of-cocaine-found-in-coop-banana-boxes>
<https://www.20min.ch/fr/story/140-kilos-de-cocaine-dans-des-cartons-a-bananes-709861661894>

SRI LANKA

16.06.2020 Officers of the Police Narcotics Bureau (PNB) seized **6.137 kg of heroin** during an operation in Negombo, while a 45-year-old suspect, a resident of Katunayake, was taken into custody. The PNB is conducting further investigations into the incident. <http://www.adaderana.lk/news/64722/suspect-nabbed-with-over-6kg-of-heroin-in-katunayake>