

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

28.09-04.10.2020

№ 40

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

01.10.2020 Police officers of Turkestan region stopped an SUV on its way to Kostanay region, where residents of Nur-Sultan and Zhambyl region were carrying over **650 kg of marijuana and about 48 kg of hashish**. Drugs were in 37 bags and containers and were found during a search inside the car. The persons inside the car were detained. Investigation is currently under way. In addition, in the East Kazakhstan region during a special operation conducted as part of operational and preventive measure "Karasor", police detained a married couple, who through so-called cached were engaged in the sale of psychotropic substances. The couple purchased wholesale shipments of synthetic psychotropic substances, packed into smaller doses and sold through stashes. A pre-trial investigation was initiated. Over **150 g of psychotropic substance** were seized from the suspects during a search. <https://24.kz/ru/news/incidents/item/426504-700-kg-narkotikov-iz-yali-politseyskie-turkestanskoj-oblasti>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

25.09.2020 Officers of UNK UMVD of Russia in Tambov region detained two foreign citizens from neighboring countries on suspicion of drug trafficking - women aged 23 and 27, seized **1.2 kg of heroin** prepared for further sale by contactless means in Tambov. A criminal case has been launched against the suspects. The court chose a preventive measure in the form of detention. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21302147>

01.10.2020 Police officers in one of Kaluga region's districts stopped a car driven by a Kaluga resident. **1.977 kg of N-methylephedrone** was found and seized during vehicle inspection, which was for further sale. A criminal case was initiated on this fact. The driver was detained. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21331400>

02.10.2020 Employees of ONK OMVD of Russia in the urban district of Yegoryevsk, Moscow region, detained natives of neighboring countries aged 31 and 45 suspected of selling drugs. During an inspection of the car of one of the criminals in the cabin, under the lining of the right door, they found and seized **450 g of heroin**. Drug was purchased in Solnechnogorsk for further sale in Yegoryevsk. A criminal case was initiated. The defendants were detained. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21344154>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

29.09.2020 Australian Border Force (ABF) officers discovered and seized **13.2 kg of methamphetamine** hidden inside four drive shafts in two shipments of air cargo with

automotive parts from the United States. The Australian Federal Police (AFP) is investigating. AFP officers made a controlled delivery to a warehouse in Liverpool, New South Wales, replacing methamphetamine with an inert substance. Two men, aged 31 and 27, were detained following the controlled delivery. <https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/two-men-arrested-13-kilograms-of-meth-hidden-in-drive-shafts-seized>

02.10.2020 Australian Federal Police (AFP) found **40 kg of methamphetamine and 18 kg of cocaine** in an operation assisted by the Australian Border Force (ABF) when X-ray equipment was used to test a shipment containing 21 boxes of goods for adults. The goods were shipped to Melbourne from the UK via Singapore. Seized drug value is up to 38 million U.S. dollars. <https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/fada5bc6-ce7b-4504-922f-c06ff109d96f>
<https://www.mycg.com.au/border-force-seize-58-kgs-of-meth-cocaine-in-sex-toys/>

BRAZIL

28.09.2020 Customs agents of the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) confiscated **890 kg of cocaine** in the port of Santos. Drug was concealed in a shipment of chemicals bound for the port of Hamburg (Germany). The cargo was selected for inspection by objective risk analysis criteria, including X-ray inspection. Perpetrators used "Rip-on/Rip-off" method to conceal drug, which placed it in a legal cargo without the knowledge of exporters and importers. Seized cocaine shipments have been handed over to the Federal Police, which will continue investigation based on information provided by IRS. <https://www.tribuna.com.br/noticias/policia/receita-federal-apreende-quase-900-kg-de-coca%C3%ADna-no-porto-de-santos-1.120594>

02.10.2020 An operation conducted by the Federal Police (PF) and the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) found and seized **1.5 tons of cocaine** among a cargo of corn on a ship anchored in the port of San Sebastian, Sao Paulo. The ship "Unispirit" under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda with a crew of Russian citizens was on its way to Cadiz (Spain). Corn exporting company is from Brazil. No information about detainees is available. Seized drug was delivered to the Federal Police in Sao Paulo. A police investigation has been opened to identify and prosecute those involved in the international drug trade. <https://g1.globo.com/sp/vale-do-paraiba-regiao/noticia/2020/10/02/operacao-da-pf-apreende-carregamento-de-cocaina-em-navio-no-porto-de-sao-sebastiao-sp.ghtml><https://leianoticias.com.br/operacao-da-policia-e-receita-federal-apreende-15-tonelada-de-cocaina-em-navio-no-porto-de-sao-sebastiao-sp/>

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

01.10.2020 National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD), with the support of the Internal Security Service of the Port of Caicedo, intelligence services of the Armed Forces of the Dominican Republic and under coordination of the Ministry of State, seized **673 kg of cocaine** at the port terminal. DNCD agents and the port's internal security service inspected containers and found several bags and packets with cocaine disguised as cocoa in one of them. The container was destined for Europe. <http://www.dncd.gob.do/index.php/noticias1/noticias/item/818-autoridades-ocupan-673-paquetes-presumiblemente-cocaina-en-puerto-multimodal-caucedo>

INDIA

29.09.2020 Border guards near the Shamas border post located along the state border in the Ferozepur sector in Punjab discovered and seized **6.5 kg of heroin**. Earlier, on September 24, border guards seized **13 kg of heroin** in an area near the Rattoke border post. <https://www.dailyexcelsior.com/6-5-kg-heroin-seized-by-bsf-along-ib-in-punjab-2/>

04.10.2020 Raipur Regional Office of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) on the outskirts of Raipur city in Chhattisgarh stopped a truck with a trailer for inspection, which was transporting **450.432 kg of marijuana and 1.1 kg of poppy straw** from Odisha to Uttar Pradesh. Three people were arrested by DRI detectives. Drugs and vehicle were seized. Among those arrested were the owner of the truck, its driver and an assistant. Investigation is currently under way. <https://www.thehitavada.com/Encyc/2020/10/4/Cannabis-worth-Rs-90-lakh-seized-from-trailer-truck.html>

IRAN

05.10.2020 From 26 September to 2 October, the Iranian Anti-Narcotics Police seized **11.443 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including 300 kg of heroin, 9.963 tons of opium, 204 kg of methamphetamine, 24 kg of morphine, 782 kg of hashish, 170 kg of other narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances¹**.

03.10.2020 Police forces in Sistan and Balochistan province in southeast Iran seized **1020 kg of opium** during an operation in the province. Police forces in Iranashehr and Zahedan arrested four members of a gang of drug dealers involved in drug shipments and confiscated four vehicles. <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/164263/Police-seize-over-1-ton-of-opium-in-SE-Iran>

SPAIN

30.09.2020 Spanish police detained nine gang members from Eastern Europe who were carrying **6 tons of hashish** aboard a Dutch sailing yacht. In recent days, the police intercepted four sailing yachts in the Atlantic Ocean with **30 tons of hashish** belonging to the gang. Among those arrested were citizens of Bulgaria and Russia. Fast high-class sailing yachts were used for drug transportation. Two yachts were under the flag of the United Kingdom, the rest of Germany and the Netherlands. <https://www.schuttevaer.nl/nieuws/actueel/2020/09/30/nederlands-zeiljacht-met-6000-kilo-hasj-onderschept-door-spaanse-politie/>

ITALY

03.10.2020 Drug control police team on board the dry cargo ship "ADRIENNE", which arrived at the port of Ancona from Brazil via Spain, found **216 kg of cocaine** in a storeroom. One crew member was detained. Investigation is under way. <http://www.maritimebulletin.net/2020/10/03/cocaine-bust-on-board-of-bulk-carrier-one-crew-arrested-italy/>

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

CANADA

28.09.2020 Halton police arrested nine people - residents of Oakville, Mississauga, Hamilton, Brampton and other areas - during an operation conducted in Oakville. Searches in Oakville, Mississauga, Brampton, Toronto and Markham seized a total of **10 kg of fentanyl, 1 kg of cocaine, 1.25 kg of methamphetamine, 6 kg of other drugs**, 300,000 USD, various weapons and stolen cars. Drug seizures are worth 4 million USD.
<https://www.inhalton.com/fentanyl-drug-bust-in-oakville-largest-in-halton-history>

CHINA

29.09.2020 Customs officers at Hong Kong International Airport found eight alcohol bottles with about **15 kg of cocaine in liquid form** during luggage registration of a 28-year-old woman who arrived in Hong Kong from Sao Paulo (Brazil) via Doha (Qatar). The woman was arrested. Investigation is currently under way.
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202009/30/P2020093001128.htm>

COLOMBIA

30.09.2020 National Police officers in the port of Cartagena, during an inspection, found 16 bags in a container, each of which contained 49 packs of **cocaine** with a total weight of **798 kg**. The container was to be shipped to Guatemala. The shipment was estimated to be worth 25 million US dollars.
<https://www.diariodelnorte.net/noticias/caribe/policia-incauta-798-kilos-de-cocaina-en-el-puerto-de-cartagena/>
<https://twitter.com/PoliciaAntiNar/status/1311371392009596942>

THE NETHERLANDS

24.09.2020 During a routine inspection in the port of Rotterdam, Customs found **75 kg of cocaine** in a cache under the floor of a refrigerated container from Colombia. The cargo arrived by sea with a shipment of avocados from Caucedo (Dominican Republic). Avocados were destined for a company from Maasdijk. Investigation is being carried out by HARC of Customs, FIOD, the Seaport Police and the Public Prosecutor's Office in Rotterdam. Seized cocaine has been destroyed.
<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/09/28/douane-vindt-75-kilo-cocaine-in-bodem-koelcontainer>
<https://www.schiedamsnieuws.nl/douane-vindt-75-kilo-cocaine-in-bodem-koelcontainer/>

29.09.2020 During inspection of a vessel in the port of Vlissingen, national customs diving team found **35 kg of cocaine**. The vessel arrived from Ecuador. Seized drugs have been destroyed.
<https://www.transport-online.nl/site/119264/douane-vindt-35-kilo-cocaine-op-schip-in-vlissingen-foto/>

02.10.2020 During customs control in the port of Rotterdam, the Customs detected several **cocaine** shipments weighing over **2001 kg**:

- 1) **1050 kg of cocaine** were found on October 1 on sea vessel from Tangier (Morocco). Drugs were hidden in a container with spare parts that arrived from Brazil. Car spare parts were designed for a company in France;
- 2) **420 kg of cocaine** was found in a container with paper on October 2. Container arrived from Chile. Paper was destined for a company in South Africa;

3) On October 2 they found **531 kg of cocaine** in container with shipment of raisins. Dried fruits were destined for a company from Sweden. Companies are recipients of legal cargo, not related to drug smuggling.
<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/10/02/douane-doet-drie-drugsvondsten-van-in-totaal-2001-kilo>

PAKISTAN

01.10.2020 Customs officers from the Model Customs Collectorate in Gwadar (MCC Gwadar) seized **176 kg of heroin** in one of the largest anti-drug operations. MCC Gwadar has received information about a large amount of heroin being smuggled from Quetta to Karachi. When customs officers attempted to intercept a truck carrying drugs at a police checkpoint, the driver attempted to flee. As a result of pursuit of the truck and gunfire that accompanied it, the driver abandoned the vehicle and took advantage of the darkness to escape. During truck inspection, a stash was found in the fuel tank, from which 176 kg of heroin was extracted. <https://www.geo.tv/latest/310999-pakistan-customs-makes-one-of-the-largest-seizures-of-heroin-in-recent-past>
<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/723950-heroin-worth-over-rs-one-billion-seized>

02.10.2020 In separate raids, excise police in Peshawar seized **1.8 kg of heroin and 23 kg of hashish** and arrested three suspects:

- 1) a man was detained near main post office in Peshawar Kantta while attempting to smuggle **1.8 kg of high quality** heroin hidden in 17 boxes of pencils abroad;
- 2) a car was intercepted near Pishtakhara Square on the ring road, and **18 kg of hashish** was hidden in secret compartments. The driver was detained;
- 3) on Charsadda Road, a car was intercepted, carrying stashes with **5 kg of hashish** hidden in it. Two people were detained.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/18kg-heroin-23kg-hashish-recovered-3-accus-1046193.html>

PANAMA

28.09.2020 Units of the National Police Intelligence Agency (DNIP) together with the Ministry of State at the port of Colon inspected a container of cargo coming from China, transit through Panama, the final destination of which was the U.S., and found **19 kg of cocaine**. <https://gerente.com/pa/new-rss/decomisan-19-paquetes-de-droga-dentro-de-un-contenedor-destino-a-eeuu/>

https://twitter.com/PGN_PANAMA/status/1310653214979747841

<https://twitter.com/ProtegerServir/status/1310661421928247302>

PUERTO RICO

30.09.2020 Customs and Border Service (CBP) seized **15 kg of cocaine** hidden inside various courier parcels inspected at cargo areas of Luis Muñoz Marin and Rafael international airports in San Juan and Aguadilla. Seized drugs are valued at \$390,000. All parcels were destined for Puerto Rico, New Jersey and San Juan. Santa Cruz (USA, Virgin Islands). <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-seizes-33-pounds-cocaine-concealed-various-courier-packages>

USA

28.09.2020 Border patrol agents from El Centro Sector, Salton City, California seized more than **7.26 kg of methamphetamine** in two separate incidents:

1) at a checkpoint on Highway 86, a 28-year-old U.S. citizen was detained while attempting to smuggle a package of **517 g of methamphetamine** under his clothing, having taped it to his thigh and traveled as a passenger on a commercial passenger bus. The consignment is worth 2.5 thousand U.S. dollars;

2) in Westmoreland, border patrol agents found a backpack with **6.74 kg of methamphetamine** smuggled by an SUV driver. The smuggler noticed the border patrol and threw the backpack out of the vehicle and fled in the opposite direction from the border. The shipment was worth more than 34,000 U.S. dollars. Seized drugs were handed over to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-seize-over-16-pounds-meth>

02.10.2020 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials at the port of entry in Calexico, California, seized about 256.28 kg of narcotics and psychotropic substances worth more than \$2 million. A 55-year-old Mitsubishi Outlander driver was detained while attempting to smuggle **21.77 kg of fentanyl and 234.51 kg of methamphetamine**, hidden in all four doors, dashboard and side panels of the car.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-calexico-seize-more-2-million-hard-narcotics>

THAILAND

30.09.2020 Officers from drug control agency seized **300 kg of marijuana** from three drug dealers in Nonthaburi province, adjacent to Bangkok. The shipment was valued at 2 million Baht. Drugs were destined for shipment to a drug dealer in Bangkok.

<https://thairesidents.com/local/300-kilos-of-marijuana-seized-in-nonthaburi/>

30.09.2020 Two locals were arrested during a police raid in tambon Khosit of Tak Bai district that stored **80 kg of marijuana**. A drug dealer from Malaysia paid them 3,000 baht a day to store a shipment of marijuana before a ship arrived to transport it to Malaysia. Investigation is under way. <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/1994243/brothers-caught-storing-80kg-of-ganja-destined-for-malaysia>

03.10.2020 At the Phrae checkpoint, five people were arrested by drug control officers as a result of an operation in the Denchay area. They seized **1.3 million methamphetamine tablets and 3.5 kg of heroin**. <https://www.pattayamail.com/chiangmaimail/5-arrested-meth-heroin-seized-at-phrae-checkpoint-328631>

TURKEY

28.09.2020 In the course of an operation carried out at sea with participation of security and coast guard units under coordination of customs control groups of the Ministry of Commerce, bags of **5 kg of cocaine** were found near the Gulf of Iskenderun during inspection of a foreign-flagged vessel coming from South America with a cargo of coal. The bags were attached to a ship's hatch cover using a special magnetic mechanism. The shipment is worth about 3 million 750 thousand lire. This case is under investigation.

<https://www.ticaret.gov.tr/haberler/iskenderun-korfezi-aciklarinda-uyusturucu-operasyonu>

30.09.2020 Security forces seized more than **4 tons of marijuana and 236,000 cannabis plants** during a counter-narcotics operation in southeastern Diyarbakir province. <https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkey-4-tons-of-marijuana-236k-cannabis-roots-seized-3550573>

01.10.2020 During a patrol in Tusba, Van province, security forces stopped a suspicious truck carrying **102 kg of heroin**. Driver of the truck was detained. Police in southern Adana also stopped a vehicle in which **33 kg of heroin** were found and seized. A 25-year-old driver of the car was detained. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-security-forces-in-east-seize-102-kg-of-heroin/1992339>

02.10.2020 Police counter-narcotics teams conducted operations in the Kartala and Pendik districts of Istanbul, resulting in the seizure of **188 kg of cannabis**. Searches were conducted on the premises where drug producers were growing cannabis plants. Two people were arrested. The suspects installed special equipment to avoid detection and turned their homes into "greenhouses" for illicit cultivation of cannabis plants. https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/investigations/over-180-kilos-of-cannabis-seized-in-istanbul-counternarcotics-operation?gallery_image=undefined#big

UKRAINE

05.10.2020 National Police detained two residents of Zaporozhye on suspicion of manufacturing and selling drugs and psychotropic substances, who set up two laboratories where drug production was launched. They found customers through the Telegram messenger and mailed manufactured drugs. During searches in the detainees' homes, laboratories and cars **100 kg and 550 liters of precursors, methadone and amphetamine, weighing more than 15 kg, 70 stamps of LSD, psychotropic substances (salt)** were seized. Seized drugs cost 24 million hryvnia. <https://focus.ua/ukraine/464454-v-zaporozhe-iziali-narkotiki-na-24-milliona-griven>

