

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

12.10-18.10.2020

№ 42

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

12.10.2020 Employees of department on combating drug trafficking of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Kazakhstan in Karaganda detained a resident of a neighboring country on suspicion of production and sale of synthetic drugs, from whom **750 g of amphetamine** was seized during a personal search. The man intended to sell the shipment through caches. During a search of the detainee's place of residence, **7 liters of chemicals** were seized, as well as all items and equipment necessary for drug production. The suspect lived in Almaty, but specifically came to Karaganda where he rented a private house and set up production of synthetic drugs. Cost of seized amphetamine is 76 million tenge.

<https://tengrinews.kz/news/karagandinets-ustroil-laboratoriyu-svoem-dome-izgotovil-416640/>

https://www.kt.kz/rus/crime/76_1377906115.html

<https://liter.kz/narkotiki-na-76-millionov-tenge-nashli-u-zhitelya-karagandy/>

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

14.10.2020 Employees of SBNON MVD KR in Toktogulsky district, Dzhalal-Abad region, stopped activities of a 38-year-old local resident who was engaged in production of plant-based drugs in his private home. As a result of special investigative actions and searches conducted at the end of September 2020, **541.6 kg of cannabis group drugs were found and seized, including 489.76 kg of liquid drugs and 51.849 kg of marijuana**. Firearms were also seized - Toz-8 rifle and 12 rounds of 7.62 caliber and cartridges. Detention was chosen in relation to the suspect. Pre-trial investigation is under way.

https://www.tuz.kg/news/3183_bolee_541_kg_narkotikov_iziato_v_hode_besprecedentnoy_specoperacii.html

<https://ru.sputnik.kg/incidents/20201013/1050036673/kyrgyzstan-narkotiki-izyatie.html>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

11.10.2020 Transport police officers at Blagoveshchensk airport in Amur region detained a 19-year-old woman, from whom more than **140 g of N-methylephedron** was found and seized during a personal search. A criminal probe was launched. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21446897>

12.10.2020 Employees of UNK GU MVD of Russia in Krasnodar krai detained 34th-year-old resident of Krasnodar suspected of involvement in illegal drug traffic in territory of Kuban. In a garage of the detainee police found and seized more than **990 g of mephedrone, precursors, various substances** and items necessary for manufacture and packaging of drugs. The defendant planned to sell the illegal substance in Krasnodar krai through the use of caches. A criminal case was opened against the suspect.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21433025>

13.10.2020 Officers of UNK GU of the Russian MVD Altai krai Department detained five members of a criminal group engaged in illegal drug trafficking in Altai krai. One of the detainees, a 23-year-old resident of Krasnodar krai, transported a wholesale shipment of narcotics from Moscow to Barnaul. During searches of the detainees' residence, about **500 g of synthetic drugs** were seized. Criminal cases were opened. The court selected a preventive measure in the form of detention in respect of the suspects. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21461379>

14.10.2020 Inspectors of the 2nd DPS regiment (southern) of the traffic police department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation in the Moscow region at a stationary post located on the M-4 "Don" highway stopped for inspection a carsharing car in which a 51-year-old man was carrying over **110 g of heroin**. The drug was packaged in 100 convolutions and was found during the vehicle inspection. The perpetrator had purchased the drug via the Internet. A criminal case has been initiated against the suspect. The defendant was taken into custody. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21470975>

15.10.2020 Officers of UNK GU MVD of Russia in Kemerovo region detained a man who was acting as a courier and drug stasher for an online drug store. More than 2 kg of synthetic drugs were seized from the suspect. In addition, 16 caches were discovered in the forest, from which **400 g of mephedrone and 1100 tablets of amphetamine** were extracted. The total mass of seized **drugs was about 3 kg**. Criminal cases were opened against the suspect and a preventive punishment measure in the form of detention was chosen. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21486330>

15.10.2020 Two St. Petersburg residents were detained by officers of UNK GU MVD of Russia in Pskov region. They set up a drug laboratory in a rented private house in Plyusky district of Pskov region, where they produced mephedrone for further sale in St. Petersburg. During an inspection of the building and its surroundings, objects, laboratory equipment, **chemical reagents, precursors and residual substances** that testify to illegal activities of the suspects were found and seized, as well as a drug-containing liquid containing **mephedrone with a dry residue weighing more than 243 g**. Criminal proceedings were instituted. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21495869>

16.10.2020 Employees of ONK OMVD of Russia for Surgut district together with colleagues from UNK UMVD of Russia for Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug - Yugra completed an operation to curb activities of members of a criminal group engaged in drug distribution in the territory of Yugra. Five members of the group - residents of Surgut and Nizhnevartovsk, aged 22 to 36 years - were selling drugs and psychotropic substances through online stores in Surgut and Surgut districts. The group included operators, storekeepers and couriers. Over **6.6 kg of narcotics and psychotropic substances (cocaine, mephedrone, methamphetamine, methadone, LSD, ecstasy, ketamine, marijuana, hashish and hashish oil)** were seized. A criminal case was initiated against the defendants and the court selected a preventive measure in the form of detention. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21501823>

16.10.2020 Employees of ONK MU MVD of Russia in the urban district Balashikha, Moscow region, detained a 24-year-old man from and found and seized 90 convolutions with **heroin weighing 100 g** during a personal search. A criminal case was initiated and a preventive

measure in the form of detention was chosen by the court against the suspect. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21500003>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

16.10.2020 Joint operation "Stalwart" by the Australian Federal Police, Australian Border Force and the U.S. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) resulted in the seizure of **552 kg of cocaine** from a warehouse in Sydney. Australian Border Force (ABF) officers inspected a shipment originating in Brazil. A consignment of cocaine was found in a refrigerated container in 275 cases with banana pulp. The consignment is worth 248 million US dollars. A 68-year-old man from Forestville, New South Wales, was arrested and charged with involvement in this case.

<https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/d973a227-6997-4434-8903-e104ec494e94>

<https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/552kg-cocaine-found-banana-pulp-brazil>

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/banana-splits-reveal-half-a-tonne-of-cocaine-smuggled-in-from-brazil-20201016-p565v0.html>

AFGHANISTAN

17.10.2020 Afghan Interior Ministry counter-narcotics police at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul stopped an attempt to smuggle a large shipment of heroin. Four smugglers were detained and intended to take the cargo out of the country while hiding drugs in their clothes. A total of **79 kg of heroin** were seized. <https://www.khaama.com/counter-narcotics-police-nabs-4-heroin-smugglers-at-hamid-karzai-international-airport-88765/>

BRAZIL

11.10.2020 The Customs of the Federal Revenue Service (CBP) in the port of Santos seized **42 kg of cocaine** as a result of export cargo inspection. Drug was found in a container with a shipment of cotton destined for Bangladesh, which was to be reloaded at the port of Gioia Tauro (Italy). The cargo was selected for inspection using objective risk analysis criteria, including image scanning inspection. "Rip-on/Rip-off" method was used to conceal drugs, where drug was placed in a legal cargo without the knowledge of exporters and importers. The seized shipment was handed over to the Federal Police, which will continue investigation based on information provided by the Federal Revenue Service.

<https://www.gov.br/receitafederal/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2020/outubro/receita-federal-apreende-42-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-algodao-no-porto-de-santos>

<https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/porto-mar/noticia/2020/10/13/receita-federal-localiza-42-kg-de-cocaina-escondidos-em-carga-de-algodao-no-porto-de-santos-sp.ghtml>

14.10.2020 Police from the 1st General Directorate of Investigation (Deic) of Santos in San Vicente, on the coast of Sao Paulo, stopped a truck with a trailer that was carrying a container of orange oil for inspection. The cargo was intended for delivery to the port of Santos. During vehicle and cargo search the police found broken container seals in the cab, and in one of the orange oil tanks 25 packs with **cocaine, total weight 27.4 kg**. A 38-year-old driver was detained.

<https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/noticia/2020/10/15/caminhoneiro-que-transportava-mais-de-27-kg-de-cocaina-e-presos-em-flagrante-no-litoral-de-sp.ghtml>



16.10.2020 Agents of the State Department for Drug Trafficking Prevention and Control (Denark) in the municipality of Nazar-Paulist seized **315.9 kg of cocaine**. Drugs were found during a search in a garage inside a double-bottomed Volkswagen Jetta car. In addition, 11 rifles, 1000 rounds of different calibers, two bulletproof vests, forms of drug presses, a money counter and several cocaine packs were found during a garage search. Investigation is under way. <https://www.clickguarulhos.com.br/2020/10/17/denarc-apreende-mais-de-300-quilos-de-cocaina-e-11-fuzis-em-nazare-paulista/>

UNITED KINGDOM

14.10.2020 As part of international efforts to stop drug smuggling and piracy the Royal Navy and Marines captured a boat with **450 kg of methamphetamine** on board in the northern Arabian Sea as part of a raid carried out by the United Maritime Forces Operation "Sea Shield". Seized methamphetamine is estimated to be worth 23 million dollars. <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20201022-britains-royal-navy-seizes-450kg-of-meth-on-dhow-in-arabian-sea/>

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

17.10.2020 The National Drug Control Directorate (DNCD), with support from military security units of the port of Caucedo and intelligence services of armed forces and under coordination of state ministry, seized **306 kg of cocaine**. Three persons suspected of involvement in international drug trade who dumped a truck loaded with cocaine are wanted. <https://www.elcaribe.com.do/destacado/en-medio-de-tiroteo-agentes-decomisan-306-paquetes-de-cocaina-en-puerto-caucedo/>
<http://www.dncd.gob.do/index.php/noticias1/noticias/item/836-en-medio-de-tiroteo-ocupan-306-paquetes-presumiblemente-cocaina-en-puerto-caucedo>

INDIA

12.10.2020 Ferozepur police detained a drug dealer, and seized **1.8 kg of heroin** from him during a search. A motorcycle used by the suspect was also confiscated. A case has been registered under the law on drug trafficking, and investigation is under way. <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/punjab/1-8-kg-heroin-seized-peddler-held-in-ferozepur-154970>

14.10.2020 The Border Security Force (BSF) found and seized **9.42 kg of heroin** near the Lakha Singh Wala border observation post in Ferozepur district, Punjab, near the India-Pakistan border. A resident of Ferozepur district was detained and subsequently taken into custody in a drug case. <https://www.ptcnews.tv/punjab-9-4-kg-heroin-worth-rs-50-crore-recovered-from-india-pakistan-border-in-ferozepur-en/>

SPAIN

02.10.2020 Police agents (Generalitat-Mossos d'Esquadra) of the Criminal Investigation Department (DIC), together with customs officers from customs supervision of tax agency in a warehouse in the port of Barcelona in a container with a cargo of coffee found and seized about **250 kg of cocaine** (239 packages in total). The shipment was valued at over 14 million euros. The container from Honduras, loaded with bags of coffee, was loaded in the port of Caucedo (Dominican Republic).



https://mossos.gencat.cat/ca/inici/nota-premsa/?id=389076&utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=
Video: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1315951399151308800>

CHINA

16.10.2020 Hong Kong police arrested three members of a transnational drug syndicate that was supplying cocaine to Hong Kong. Among those arrested were a 45-year-old Israeli citizen, a 25-year-old British citizen and a 31-year-old Canadian citizen. During the operation, four police officers were slightly injured as a result of resistance to arrest. During a search in the apartment officers seized **1.4 kg of cocaine**. Drugs cost more than HK\$33 million (4.3 million USD). Drugs were hidden in a transformer that was supposedly delivered to Hong Kong by airmail from Vietnam. <https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3105788/hong-kong-police-arrest-three-men-and-seize-more-hk33>

17.10.2020 Customs officers confiscated **12 kg of liquid cocaine** at Hong Kong International Airport. Cocaine was smuggled by two passengers aged 24 and 25 who arrived in Hong Kong from Istanbul (Turkey) via Frankfurt (Germany). During customs clearance, seven bottles of wine containing cocaine in liquid form were found in drug couriers' suitcases. Investigation is under way.
<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202010/18/P2020101800726.htm>

COLOMBIA

17.10.2020 The Colombian Navy, with the support of the National Army, inspected a ship under the flag of the People's Republic of China, located in the port dock of Barranquilla, and found on the outer side of the hull a structure attached by magnets and containing **25 kg of cocaine**. The vessel was to go to a port of Dominican Republic. Drug value is more than 2.2 billion pesos. <https://www.armada.mil.co/es/content/fuerza-publica-incauta-25-kilos-cocaina-en-muelle-portuario-barranquilla>
<https://twitter.com/ArmadaColombia/status/1317632461820596224>

17.10.2020 Agents of the PoliciaAntiNar division in the port of Santa Marta seized **60 kg of cocaine** hidden in the cooling system of a container whose final destination was the port of Antwerp, Belgium. <https://twitter.com/DirectorPolicia/status/1317557096708263937>

COSTA RICA

12.10.2020 During an operation carried out in the port of Moines, Limon province, the Drug Control Police (PCD) seized about **3 tons of cocaine** found in an export banana container destined for the port of Antwerp, Belgium. A total of 117 bags containing 2,903 packages of cocaine were found. According to the Ministry of Security, in Moine, the Costa Rican authorities seized 12.5 tons of cocaine in fourteen containers in 2020, four times more than in 2019, when 4.2 tons in eight containers were seized. A record 35 tons of cocaine were seized in Costa Rica in 2019, a figure that could be exceeded in 2020. Some 34 tons have been seized so far this year. <https://www.infobae.com/america/agencias/2020/10/12/hallan-en-costa-rica-tres-toneladas-de-cocaina-en-un-contenedor-que-iba-a-europa/>
<https://www.facebook.com/seguridadcrc/>
<https://twitter.com/seguridadcrc/status/1315668048548966400>

MALDIVES

12.10.2020 In a special operation carried out by DED officers, together with drug intelligence unit and maritime police, more than **100 kg of heroin and methamphetamine** were found and seized on a boat in a suburban area of the capital Hulhumale. Besides, on October 3 during operation carried out in Addu **98.6 kg of narcotics** were confiscated. In total 16 persons were detained. <https://raajje.mv/88381>

MEXICO

11.10.2020 The General Customs Administration (AGA), in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Mexican Navy (SEMAR), seized **37.6 kg of cocaine** at customs in Lasaro Cardenas as a result of an inspection of a vessel coming from Buenaventura, Colombia. The shipment was found by divers after an underwater inspection of the ship's boxes inside an airtight bale containing 28 packages of cocaine. The illegal cargo was handed over to competent authorities for investigation. <https://www.gob.mx/sat/prensa/aduanas-y-secretaria-de-marina-armada-de-mexico-decomisan-37-kg-de-cocaina-en-la-aduana-de-lazaro-cardenas-procedente-de-colombia-62-2020?idiom=es>
<https://www.gob.mx/semar/es/prensa/aduanas-y-secretaria-de-marina-armada-de-mexico-decomisan-37-kg-de-cocaina-en-la-aduana-de-lazaro-cardenas-procedente-de-colombia>
<https://twitter.com/SATMX/status/1316091680035045378/photo/3>
 Video: <https://www.facebook.com/SEMARMX/videos/1029428800815558>
http://www.tiempo.com.mx/noticia/confisca_marina_40_kilos_de_cocaina_en_el_puerto_de_lazaro_cardenas_13_de_octubre_2020/

14.10.2020 Mexican Navy units seized a small Go Fast vessel 150 nautical miles south-south-west of Puerto Chiapas, carrying **850 kg of cocaine**. Cocaine shipments are valued at 190.9 million pesos. <http://www.borderlandbeat.com/2020/10/chiapas-navy-secures-850-kilos-of.html>

THE NETHERLANDS

14.10.2020 During inspection in the port of Rotterdam, the customs seized **49 kg of cocaine**. The shipment was worth over 3.5 million euros. Drugs were hidden in a refrigerated container from Ecuador loaded with frozen fruit pulp. The container was destined for a company from Barendrecht, which has nothing to do with smuggling. Investigation is being carried out by the HARC team - customs, FIOD, the seaport police and the public prosecutor's office in Rotterdam. Seized cocaine shipment has been destroyed. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/10/15/douane-onderschept-49-kilo-cocaine>

16.10.2020 During an inspection in the port of Rotterdam, Customs found **25 kg of cocaine** hidden in a refrigerated container structure. The container with a cargo of fresh fruit arrived from Peru and was overloaded in Ecuador. Packages of cocaine were found behind hatches near the engine compartment. The cargo was destined for a company in Maasdijk, which had nothing to do with smuggling. Investigation is being carried out by the HARC team - customs, FIOD, seaport police and the Rotterdam public prosecutor's office. Seized cocaine shipment has been destroyed. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/10/16/douane-vindt-25-kilo-cocaine-tussen-fruit>

OMAN

11.10.2020 Employees of the General Customs Administration prevented an attempt to smuggle **1.765 kg of heroin** found inside a postal parcel with spare parts for cars.

<https://onn.om/%D9%85%D8%AE%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D9%82%D8%B7%D8%B9-%D8%BA%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA/2020/10/11/%D8%A3%D8%AE%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D8%B3%D9%84%D8%B7%D9%86%D8%A9-%D8%B9%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%86/12461/>

PANAMA

16.10.2020 Members of the National Police Intelligence Directorate (DNIP), together with the Special Prosecutor's Office for Drug-related Crimes, discovered and seized **354 kg of cocaine** at Panama's Pacific port inside a container from Chile that was transiting Panama to its final destination in the Russian Federation. The cocaine shipment was inside 10 duffel bags. <http://www.policia.gob.pa/19027-ubican-contenedor-contaminado-con-droga.html>

PAKISTAN

15.10.2020 Anti-Narcotics Force of Pakistan (ANF) officers at Faisalabad airport detained a resident of Hanko district attempting to smuggle **2 kg of heroin** in secret compartments of a suitcase. The drug courier was on his way from Faisalabad Airport to Sharjah (UAE). Investigation was launched into this fact. <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/2-kg-heroin-seized-from-passenger-at-faisalab-1058122.html>

PORTUGAL

15.10.2020 During the operation "White-Wing" the police detained three Brazilian citizens and two Portuguese citizens, who arrived by plane from Brazil to Lisbon and smuggled more than **170 kg of cocaine**. The three Brazilians have been arrested and two Portuguese nationals, members of an international drug trafficking criminal organization, are awaiting trial. <https://www.policiajudiciaria.pt/operacao-white-wing-combate-ao-traffic-transcontinental-de-estufeficientes/>
<https://g1.globo.com/mundo/noticia/2020/10/15/brasileiros-sao-flagrados-ao-tentar-entrar-em-portugal-com-mais-de-170-kg-levados-em-jatinho.ghtml>

PUERTO RICO

16.10.2020 The U.S. Coast Guard near San Juan intercepted a vessel in the Caribbean Sea with **246 kg of cocaine**. Four suspected smugglers of the ship's crew were taken into custody. Drug seizures cost more than \$6.8 million. <https://wsvn.com/news/us-world/us-coast-guard-seizes-over-200-kg-of-cocaine-near-san-juan/>

USA

13.10.2020 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials at the Los Indios International Bridge, Texas, detained a 25-year-old U.S. citizen attempting to smuggle **10.88 kg of methamphetamine** in a Toyota Camry vehicle. The cost of methamphetamine is estimated at 480 thousand dollars. Drugs were seized by CBP officers along with the car. The driver was arrested and handed over to special agents of the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) for further investigation.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/brownsville-port-entry-cbp-officers-seize-479k-methamphetamine-los>

14.10.2020 Border Patrol agents from El Centro Sector, California, detained a 36-year-old Mexican citizen at a checkpoint on Highway 86 while attempting to smuggle **79.75 kg of methamphetamine** in a Peterbuilt truck. During a search, agents found several bags containing packages of methamphetamine in sleeping compartment of the cabin. The shipment was estimated to cost \$395,000. The driver, truck and drugs were handed over to the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-agents-seize-175-pounds-methamphetamine>

UKRAINE

12.10.2020 Investigators from the Pechersk Police Department together with the SBU stopped a transnational organized criminal group that specialized in manufacturing, smuggling and selling drugs. Drugs were sold in Ukraine, as well as in neighboring countries using Internet websites and chat bots created in the Telegram messenger. During searches on the territory of Kiev and Kiev region were found a laboratory for production of psychotropic substance alpha-PVP, warehouses for storage of finished products, as well as call centers that received and processed orders. More than **50 kg of alpha-PVP, about 10 kg of amphetamine, more than 500 liters of precursors** and equipment for drug production, 5 firearms, more than 150 cartridges to them were seized. Detained were two Ukrainian citizens aged 44 and 50 involved in functioning of the drug laboratory. In the course of pre-trial investigation efforts of law-enforcement agencies are aimed at exposing other perpetrators - more than 100 people - call-center operators.

https://kyiv.npu.gov.ua/news/protidiya-narkozlochinnosti/stolichni-pravooxoronzhi-vikrili-transnacionalne-organizovane-zlochinne-ugrupovannya-yake-specializovalo-na-kontrabandi-ta-zbuti-narkotikiv/?fbclid=IwAR33PIx3HhKxT-h3RluATFdbVbDlnwyEwVfpsFceHjKOJEOU_Y2UWCXt9JK

SRI LANKA

17.10.2020 During an operation conducted by detectives from the Colombo Crime Investigation Department, a drug dealer was detained in Colonnava, from whom **10 kg of heroin**, four firearms and live ammunition were found and seized. Investigation is under way. http://www.colombopage.com/archive_20B/Oct17_1602945238CH.php

ECUADOR

02.10.2020 National Police agents on the road between Montecristi and La Pila in the province of Manabí stopped a truck carrying a container of canned food destined for Guayaquil. An inspection of the vehicle and cargo in 181 boxes revealed 8670 cans with cocaine. The total weight of **cocaine was 1 ton 523.2 kg**. The driver was detained and handed over to the Prosecutor's Office, drugs and other material evidence were transferred to warehouses.

<https://www.policia.gob.ec/1-tonelada-de-clorhidrato-de-cocaina-decomisada-en-cargamento-de-atun/>

<https://www.vistazo.com/seccion/actualidad-nacional/decomisan-una-tonelada-de-cocaina-en-cargamento-de-atun>

17.10.2020 In a joint operation by the National Drug Investigation Directorate, the National Ports and Airports Investigation Unit (UNIPA) and the National Canine Unit (UNAC)



in the port of Guayaquil, a container with an export cargo of fruit and a high risk profile for drug trafficking was identified for delivery on the Callao Express to its final destination in Germany. Anomalies were found at the bottom of the container when X-rays were examined. As a result, **428.8 kg of cocaine** were found during further inspection of the container. <https://www.eltelegrafo.com.ec/noticias/judicial/12/policia-tonelada-cocaina-ecuador-alemania>
<https://www.hapag-lloyd.com/en/online-business/tracing/tracing-by-container.html?container=GESU9335294>

