

Unofficial translation

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY
 (based on mass media reports)

30.11-06.12.2020

№ 49

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

05.12.2020 Employees of the Department for Combating Drug Trafficking and Division of Criminal Police of Zhambyl region detained a 60-year-old resident of Shu district, who illegally stored **22 kg of marijuana** in his house in the village of Konaev. A pre-trial investigation was initiated into the case. https://www.inform.kz/ru/sel-chanin-v-zhambylskoy-oblasti-hranil-v-sarae-pyat-meshkov-marihuany_a3727377

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

08.12.2020 SBNON officers of MVD of the Kyrgyz Republic detained two men born in 1997 and 2000 in Kara-Kul on suspicion of illegal production of narcotic drugs for the purpose of selling. **987 g of hashish** were found and seized. <https://svodka.akipress.org/news:1666806?from=svodka&place=newstopic>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

01.12.2020 Employees of ONK UMVD in Nizhny Novgorod, with the assistance of UFSB of Russia in Nizhny Novgorod region, detained a 34-year-old local resident, who was engaged in contactless drug sales through caches. During inspection of a car driven by the man and drugs caches he equipped in the woods, **390 g of heroin** were found and seized. A criminal case was initiated on the fact. A measure of restraint in the form of detention was chosen in respect of the suspect. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/22033758>

02.12.2020 Employees of ONK UMVD of Russia in the city of Bryansk detained a 21-year-old resident of Novosibirsk region suspected of drug distribution. The young man came to the Bryansk region with the purpose of selling drugs. **370 g of heroin** were seized. The detainee will be held in custody pending trial. A criminal case was initiated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/22058639>

03.12.2020 Employees of UNK UMVD of Russia for the Kursk region in Khomutovsky district detained a drug courier - a 42-year-old resident of St. Petersburg. He arrived in Kursk region in his private car in order to get a particularly large shipment of drugs intended for further sale in several regions of Russia. The man was detained during extraction of drugs from a cache set up in a forest belt. The total weight of **drugs of synthetic origin amounted to almost 10 kg**. A criminal case was initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/22065601>

03.12.2020 Employees of UMVD of Russia for the city of Saratov, together with colleagues from the Saratov region, detained members of a criminal group engaged in illicit drug trafficking. Four criminals organized production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as well as transportation to the territory of the Moscow region with the aim of selling via caches. Responsibilities of two of the group included manufacture of drugs of synthetic origin, packaging and assembly of wholesale consignments. The third person was engaged in transportation, the fourth - organization of contactless sale. During searches of the places of residence of detainees in the Saratov and Moscow regions they confiscated more than **8 kg of drugs of synthetic origin and chemical substances** used for production. Criminal cases were initiated and investigations are under way. A preventive measure in the form of detention was chosen in respect of three of the detainees, the fourth is under house arrest. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/22060743>

04.12.2020 Employees of UNK UMVD of Russia in the Ryazan region, together with colleagues from UFSB of Russia in the Ryazan region detained a drug courier - a citizen of a neighboring country, also suspected of selling drugs. The man was involved in supply of drugs to a number of regions of Russia for subsequent sale through online stores. The suspect was carrying **13 kg of drugs of synthetic origin** hidden behind the lining of the luggage compartment of a vehicle. The fact is under investigation. A preventive measure in the form of detention was chosen in respect of the suspect. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/22081488>

04.12.2020 Officers of DPS GIBDD GU MVD of Russia in the Moscow region stopped a car with two foreign nationals of a distant foreign country aged 21 and 22 years old on km 246 of the A-108 highway. During search of the interior of the vehicle, police officers found and seized more than **2 kg of N-methylephedrone**. A criminal case was initiated on the fact. The court selected a measure of restraint against the suspects in the form of detention. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/22082700>

04.12.2020 Employees of UNK UMVD of Russia in Tver region detained a man and a woman aged 35 and 45 suspected of selling drugs by using caches. During a personal search they found and seized bundles of **heroin with a total weight of 200 g**. A criminal case was initiated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/22089685>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN

07.11.2020 Counter Narcotics Police officers carried out 101 operations from 30 November to 7 December 2020 and detained 116 people as a result of investigations. **2.608 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances were seized, including 21.155 kg of heroin, 904.206 kg of hashish, 1190 kg of cannabis, 52.773 kg of methamphetamine, 40.185 kg of opium, 5943 pills of MDMA and 399.139 kg of precursors.** Currency in the amount of 42 087 US dollars, 45 cell phones, 18 vehicles and 2 weapons were confiscated. One drug storage facility was dismantled¹.

¹ Data provided by liaison officer of the Ministry of Interior Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan at CARICC.

BRAZIL

01.12.2020 Federal Police (PF) in Duque de Caxias, Rio de Janeiro State, seized **2466 kg of cocaine hydrochloride**. This is the largest shipment of cocaine hydrochloride (the purest and most valuable form of the drug) ever seized in the state and one of the largest ever reported in Brazil. Federal police received information that a criminal organization was using a warehouse to store drugs. After an investigation that revealed suspicious vehicle traffic at the warehouse location, police conducted a raid that resulted in the arrest of two men at the scene. In addition to drugs, an unregistered handgun and revolver were seized as well as radio communication equipment. Seized drugs were sent to the Federal Police Department in Rio de Janeiro. The detainees were charged. <https://www.gov.br/pf/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2020/12-noticias-de-dezembro-de-2020/policia-federal-apreende-cerca-de-2-5-toneladas-de-cocaina-na-baixada-fluminense>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNuZpuEtUvY>

02.12.2020 Military police in the municipality of Guara, São Paulo state, apprehended a woman, a passenger on a bus bound for Rio de Janeiro. The woman smuggled about **1.81 kg of cocaine** from Paraguay in a watermelon, which she disguised under her clothes by pretending to be pregnant. The woman obtained drugs in Paraguay and planned to take it to Rio de Janeiro for a promised reward of 500 Brazilian reais (about 100 USD). Arrested woman was taken to police station. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9009201/Woman-caught-smuggling-drugs-fake-watermelon-belly.html>

02.12.2020 In an operation conducted by the Customs of the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) in Guarulhos together with the K9 canine team of the São Paulo Federal Revenue Service, a shipment of more than 2000 cases of açai juice that was to be exported to Portugal was detected and seized. Upon inspection of the shipment, **cocaine was found diluted in 384 juice packages of 750 ml each**. Because drug was diluted in juice, the total amount of cocaine will be determined after examination. The entire shipment was sent to the Federal Police for further investigation. <https://www.gov.br/receitafederal/pt-br/acao-informacao/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2020/dezembro/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-cocaina-em-carga-de-suco-de-acai-em-cumbica>
<https://www.gov.br/pf/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2020/12-noticias-de-dezembro-de-2020/pf-pericia-carga-suspeita-localizada-pela-receita-e-apreende-mais-de-1-tonelada-e-meia-do-produto-com-cocaina-diluida>

04.12.2020 Federal Revenue Service (IRS) seized **322 kg of cocaine** at the port of Paranaguá. Drug was concealed inside a shipment of ceramics that was to be shipped to the port of Valencia, Spain. Drug was detected using scanners. "Rip-on/Rip-off" method was used to conceal cocaine shipment, in which drug is placed in a legal shipment without the exporter's knowledge. Seized drugs were turned over to the Federal Police, who will investigate the case.

<https://www.gov.br/receitafederal/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/receita-federal-apreende-322-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-paranagua>

<https://g1.globo.com/pr/parana/noticia/2020/12/04/receita-federal-apreende-322-quilos-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-paranagua-escondidos-em-carga-de-ceramica.ghtml>

UNITED KINGDOM

06.12.2020 Border Force officers discovered **1060 kg of cocaine** in a shipment of banana pulp at the port of London Gateway. The shipment arrived from Colombia and was en route

to its final destination in the Netherlands, transiting a British port. Law enforcement officials indicate that aviation and shipping restrictions since March have forced drug suppliers to ship large amounts of cocaine in separate shipments, which are more vulnerable to seizure.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/cocaine-seizures-uk-coronavirus-london-b1766960.html>

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

01.12.2020 National Narcotics Control Directorate (DNCD) seized **4.89 kg of cocaine**. Cocaine was concealed in two wooden pallets with crates filled with car rings, nuts and flashlights. The shipment was destined for delivery to the United States via an international shipping company. <https://www.larepublicaonline.com/2020/12/decomisan-15-laminas-de-cocaina-incrustadas-en-paletas-de-madera/>

IRAN

06.12.2020 From 21 November to 5 December, the Anti-Narcotics Police of Iran seized **30.1125 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including 356 kg of heroin, 22.252 tons of opium, 1.089 tons of methamphetamine, 270 kg of morphine, 1.985 tons of hashish, 4.160 tons of other narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances²**.

07.12.2020 In the Iranian province of West Azerbaijan, members of the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence have identified and detained members of an international gang involved in trafficking weapons, ammunition and drugs. The gang was led by two foreign nationals. The leader and three members of the gang were arrested in two operations carried out with help of carefully planned intelligence and operational measures carried out by officers of the Intelligence Department of Western Azerbaijan Province. They seized **520 kg of heroin**, more than 500 pistols, hunting weapons and a significant amount of ammunition.

<https://www.salamnews.org/ru/news/read/405201>

COLOMBIA

02.12.2020 Santa Marta Anti-Drug Company found and seized **18 kg of cocaine** in a fruit container destined for Antwerp, Belgium.

Video: <https://twitter.com/PoliciaAntiNar/status/1334170923939885057>

THE NETHERLANDS

30.11.2020 Customs found **1050 kg of cocaine** in the port of Rotterdam. The shipment was worth more than 78 million euros. The container arrived from the U.S. with a shipment of hair products. In Panama it was loaded onto a seagoing vessel, which also made a transit stop in the Dominican Republic. Hair products were destined for a company from Nijmegen. The company had nothing to do with the smuggling. Investigation is being conducted by the HARC team - in partnership with Customs, FIOD, seaport police and Rotterdam public prosecutor's office. Seized drugs were destroyed.

<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/12/01/cocaine-gevonden-tussen-haarproducten>

² Данные предоставлены офицером связи Антинаркотической полиции Исламской Республики Иран.

02.12.2020 Customs intercepted two shipments of **cocaine weighing 26 kg and 395 kg** during inspections at the port of Rotterdam. Value of the seized shipments was about 31 million euros. Drugs were concealed in two different containers. One of the containers arrived from Ecuador with a load of banana puree. The cargo was delivered by ship from the Dominican Republic and was destined for a company in Switzerland. The second container with a shipment of medical equipment also came from the Dominican Republic. The shipment was destined for a company in Hoogvliet. Both companies were not involved in the smuggling. Investigation is being conducted by the HARC team - in partnership with customs, FIOD, the seaport police and public prosecutor's office in Rotterdam - continues to investigate the case. Seized drugs were destroyed.

<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/12/02/douane-vindt-421-kilo-cocaine-tussen-bananenpuree-en-medische-hulpmiddelen>

03.12.2020 Customs inspections in the port of Rotterdam found three shipments of **cocaine weighing 420 kg, 28 kg and 30 kg**. Drugs were found in three different containers. Value of seized shipments was more than 35 million euros. One of the containers arrived from the Dominican Republic with a shipment of medical equipment. The shipment arrived by ship from the Dominican Republic. The goods were destined for a company in Belgium. The other two containers, arriving by ship from Brazil, transited through the port of Tangier, Morocco - one with a shipment of frozen chicken from the United States to a company in Switzerland. The other container was carrying a shipment of pharmaceuticals destined for a company in Belgium. The companies receiving the goods have nothing to do with the smuggling. In both cases, cocaine packages were found in refrigeration systems of containers. Drug smuggling cases are investigated by the HARC team in partnership with customs, FIOD, seaport police and the public prosecutor's office in Rotterdam.

<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/12/03/douane-vindt-478-kilo-cocaine-in-haven>

05.12.2020 Customs during an inspection at the port of Vlissingen found **50 kg of cocaine** in a container with a shipment of bananas. Drug is worth 2.5 million euros. The shipment came from Ecuador and was destined for Germany. Drugs were seized and destroyed. <https://www.belastingdienst.nl/wps/wcm/connect/bldcontentnl/berichten/nieuws/douane/douane-onderschept-50-kilo-cocaine>

PANAMA

03.12.2020 Cargo profiling conducted by units of the National Police Intelligence Directorate, supported by units of the National Air Service, found approximately **51 kg of cocaine** inside a container on a ship en route from Ecuador to its final destination in Spain, anchored in a port in Panama in the Pacific Ocean. Investigation is under way.

<http://www.policia.gob.pa/19106-incautan-droga-en-contenedor-dentro-de-un-buque.html>

<https://twitter.com/ProtegerServir/status/1334923879249227780/photo/2>

FRANCE

30.11.2020 During an operation conducted by customs officers of Lons-le-Saunier on the highway A39 in Jura, large amounts of drugs of cannabis group were seized. Customs officers checked suspicious vehicles registered in Germany. In the first intercepted truck, transporting a cargo of frozen potatoes, **320 kg of hashish and 120 kg of marijuana** were found and seized. In the second truck, carrying fruit, detected and seized were **300**



kg of marijuana. Drug was concealed among a shipment of oranges. Drivers of the trucks, three Serbian and one Bulgarian citizen, were handed over to the judicial police in Dijon. Investigation is currently under way. <https://france3-regions.francetvinfo.fr/bourgogne-franche-comte/800-kg-cannabis-saisis-a39-jura-1900626.html>
<https://www.ouest-france.fr/bourgogne-franche-comte/jura/jura-plus-700-kg-de-cannabis-saisis-sur-l-a39-7068662>

ECUADOR

01.12.2020 Anti-drug agents at the port of Guayaquil, after inspections, found and seized a total of 1 ton of cocaine in two containers. Cocaine was destined for Guatemala. The illegal shipment was discovered with the help of anti-narcotics unit sniffer dogs. Investigation is currently under way. <https://www.elcomercio.com/actualidad/incautacion-droga-puerto-guayaquil-guatemala.html>
<https://twitter.com/ppazminoec/status/1333611958105497600>
<https://ecuadorendirecto.com/2020/12/01/en-el-puerto-de-guayaquil-policia-incauta-una-tonelada-de-droga/>