

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

03-09.09.2018

№ 37

ON CARICC MEMBER STATES

THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

05.09.2018 Soldiers of the State Border Service intercepted three drug couriers with a smuggled consignment of drugs. Suspicion of the border guards was caused by the fact of night visit by three unknown persons on a motor vehicle of the coastal strip near the village of Keldakhna in the Astara region. Men, having passed to the thickets, returned to the car with a bag in their hands. Border guards, who observed the suspicious behavior, decided to detain them. The residents of the Lankaran and Lerik regions were detained. In the bag, more than 2.5 kg of narcotic substances, including **1 kg of hashish, 1 kg of opium, 650 g of heroin and 285 tablets of psychotropic substance** were found.

<https://ru.sputnik.az/incidents/20180905/416898312/azerbaijan-pogranichni-narkotiki-zaderzhanie.html>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

03.09.2018 Officers of the Directorate for Drugs Control (UKON) of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (UMVD) of Russia for the Tver region received information about involvement of a resident of the Volgograd region in illegal sale of narcotic drugs in the territory of Tver. As a result of investigations, a 20-year-old woman was detained, and during her personal search, 7 packs of "salt" with a total mass of **more than 10 g** were found. Police officers established that the suspect was supplying large quantities of synthetic drugs to the region that were packaged into single doses and put in caches. During the operation, the police found 96 caches, which contained more than **100 grams of synthetic drugs**. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14315412>

03.09.2018 A 38-year-old resident of Vologda was detained by officers of the Drugs Control Division of the Vologda Department in transport of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia at the Vologda-1 railway station. In the course of further measures, the police found 124 convolutions with a **synthetic drug of more than 100 g, hashish weighing more than 146 g and a psychotropic substance - amphetamine with a mass of more than 23 g**. It was established that the man intended to sell drugs to drug users via stashes in the territory of Vologda. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14317326>

04.09.2018 Officers of UKON UMVD of Russia in the Ivanovo region detained an 18-year-old resident of the city of Vichuga. For two months, the person was selling synthetic drugs in a contactless way to drug addicts in Ivanovo. During personal search, officers seized pre-packaged doses and **120 g of narcotic drugs "salt" and "spice"** prepared for sale. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14327162>

04.09.2018 Officers of Division for Drugs Control (OKON) in the Krasnodar region during implementation of operational activities on suspicion of drug trafficking detained a 20-year-old visitor from the Krasnoyarsk krai. During personal examination of the detainee, in her

backpack officers found drug of synthetic origin - **N-methylephedron weighing more than 80 g**. The detainee explained that she had found an advertisement about the work of a drug courier in the Internet, took a consignment of drugs from a stash that she planned to sell in the territory of Krasnodar. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14330508>

05.09.2018 Officers of UKON of the Main Directorate (GU) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Novosibirsk region detained three local residents aged 22, 24 and 25 who were suspected of selling narcotic drugs in the territory of Novosibirsk. During the inspection of their rented garage, located in the Zaeltsovsky district of Novosibirsk, more than **5 kg of drugs of synthetic origin** were seized. The organizer's functions were performed by a 22-year-old resident of Novosibirsk who was previously charged for similar crimes. He coordinated the actions of other members of the group who served as retail drug dealers and subsequently sold illicit substances via the Internet. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14334449>

05.09.2018 Officers of the Blagoveschensk Division on transport of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia together with staff of the Blagoveshchensk customs in the Amur region stopped smuggling of narcotic drugs. Transport police seized **more than 300 grams of synthetic drugs** that arrived in Blagoveshchensk from China. The receiver was detained. In the course of inspection, a good that was prohibited for circulation on the territory of Russia was found in the postal item. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14336064>

05.09.2018 Staff of UKON UMVD of Russia in the Penza region stopped illegal activities of two citizens suspected of selling banned substances of synthetic origin. Two residents of Belgorod Region were detained - a man 39 years and a woman 36 years old. The suspect woman was detained when she equipped the drug caches for subsequent transfer to consumers in contactless way. The man at that time was in a rented apartment and was engaged in the packing of drugs. During search in this home, operatives found more than **500 grams of synthetic drugs**. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14337770>

06.09.2018 Officers of OKON OMVD of Russia in the city of Obninsk in the course of investigations aimed at detecting and suppressing facts of illegal drug trafficking established the identity of a 20-year-old resident of the city of Balabanovo. The suspect was detained at the time of transportation of a large consignment of narcotic drugs. During an inspection of his vehicle, narcotic drugs - **hashish and cannabis weighing about 2 kg** were found and seized. The received batch was intended for further sale on the territory of the districts located near the Moscow region. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14344573>

06.09.2018 Staff of the OKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in Volzhsky detained a 22-year-old resident of the Republic of Tajikistan, suspected of selling drugs. The young man was detained during the equipment of a stash with drugs. In the course of a personal search, from personal belongings of the suspect was seized **heroin, weighing 30 g**. Later, during the searches in rented apartment of the detainee, two more packages with **heroin with a total weight of about 500 g** prepared for marketing were seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14345960>

06.09.2018 Officers of UKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Udmurt Republic detained a previously convicted 30-year-old resident of the Zavyalovsky District in an attempt to sell drugs in Izhevsk. During a search at the suspect's place of residence, **about**

2 kg of synthetic drugs were found. On the territory of the Oktyabrsky district, policemen found several caches with narcotic drugs equipped by the suspect. He engaged in illegal activities related to trafficking in narcotic drugs for several months. At the same time, he obtained money from the sale of drugs from via an impersonal electronic account to his bank card. It is established that the suspect kept drugs for further sale by marketing single doses through caches in the territory of the city of Volzhsky. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14348907>

07.09.2018 Officers of Division of State Road Traffic Safety Inspection (OGIBDD) of MIA of Russia in Solnechnogorsk district (Moscow region) on a patrol route stopped a car driven by a 30-year-old national of one of the republics of the near abroad. During the inspection of the vehicle under the rear seat cover, a bag with a psychotropic substance **amphetamine**, weighing **218 g** was found. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14356810>

07.09.2018 As part of the operative preventive measures of the "Poppy-2018", employees of the Drugs Control Division of the Ministry of the Interior of Russia in Mikhailovskiy (Volgograd region) in the village of Mikhailovka seized narcotic drug from a local resident - **marijuana weighing over 23 kg**. The man kept drugs in an outbuilding of a manor and intended to use it for personal consumption. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14355700>

08.09.2018 Officer of UKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, jointly with inspectors of the Road Patrol Service in the village of Nizhnyaya Sanib, stopped a car under the control of a 27-year-old from the village of Sadon. During the personal examination, officers found and seized 55 tablets of strong substance **tramadol weighing 27 grams**, which he kept for sale. During inspection of the interior under the rear passenger seat, another **600 tramadol tablets weighing 300 g** were found and seized. It is established that the man managed to sell 100 tablets of tramadol on the bypass road of station Archon - village Giselle using stashes. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14362259>

THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

05.09.2018 In the Urtachirchik district of the Tashkent region, during the operation "Black poppy-2018", more than **8 kg of marijuana** was seized from the storeroom of a local resident's house. <http://www.mvd.uz/ru/lists/view/4032>

06.09.2018 During the "Black Poppy-2018" event officers of the Internal Affairs Directorate of the Tashkent region seized **4,311 kg of marijuana** from the house of a resident of Zangiata district. <http://www.mvd.uz/ru/lists/view/4039>

ON OTHER COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN

05.09.2018 The Counter Narcotics Police arrested a drug smuggler with **2 kg of heroin** on the border with Iran in the south-western province of Nimruz. The smuggler was detained in the Pul-i-Abrashim area on the border between Afghanistan and Iran. The suspect hid drugs in the cavities of his oil tanker and wanted to smuggle heroin into the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas.

<https://www.pajhwok.com/en/2018/09/05/smuggler-detained-2kg-heroin-iranian-border>

BRAZIL

05.09.2018 The State Department of Criminal Investigations reported on the detention of two trucks in the port of Santos off the coast of São Paulo, which carried **145.6 kg of cocaine**. A consignment of cocaine was to be loaded on a ship in the port of Santos and sent to the port of Malaga in Spain. Drug traffickers hid packaging with cocaine among a palm oil load, which is used in the food industry. The trucks were driven by Brazilians aged 42 and 52 years. First they denied their involvement in this crime. The vehicle and the trolley where refrigerator was installed were taken to a warehouse for further inspection. Inside the refrigerator, the police found 86 metal drums with palm oil. Inside the barrels there were 146 sealed packages wrapped in black plastic. The refrigerator was delivered to the terminal on the right bank of the embankment, where it was waiting for loading on board the ship "Maerks Lamanai". <https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/noticia/2018/09/05/dupla-e-presa-com-145-kg-de-cocaina-tipo-exportacao-mergulhados-em-tambores-de-oleo-em-sp-video.ghtml>

UNITED KINGDOM

05.09.2018 The Central Motorway Police Group stopped a car "Skoda Octavia" on the northern carriageway between crossing 13 (Stafford-south) and crossroad 14 (Stafford-North). A 44-year-old man from Liverpool, who has been carrying **50 kg of heroin** was detained.

<https://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/news/stoke-on-trent-news/50kg-heroin-police-car-m6-1974463>

08.09.2018 As part of the operation of the National Crime Agency with assistance of the border guard service a truck that arrived from Hook in the Netherlands to the port of Killingholm, in the north of Lincolnshire was stopped. In the truck, a large shipment of **cocaine weighing 400 kg** and heroin, worth 27 million pounds sterling were found among onions and tomatoes. Arrested is a 45-year-old Romanian citizen on suspicion of conspiracy to import drugs after he tried to drive the truck away. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/sep/08/cocaine-heroin-found-in-vegetable-lorry-killingholme-port-lincs>

SPAIN

08.09.2018 according to the Tax Agency in Murcia, during an operation developed by the Spanish Customs Supervision Service (SVA) in the waters of Cartagena in cooperation with the Galois, the sailing vessel Bella under the American flag was detained 100 miles east of Cabo de Palos, which transported **11 tons of hashish** on board. The sailboat was served by two people from the Russian city of St. Petersburg. Members of the SVA Colimbo IV patrol vessel, located in Cartagena, approached the ship and found that neither the name nor the port of registration was consistent with its official documentation. Inspection of the vessel showed that on its deck there was a large number of sack bags, which is usually used for wrapping hashish. As a result of further inspection activities, a large batch of hashish was found. Sailboat "Bella" and its crew are detained.

<https://www.20minutos.es/noticia/3434206/0/detenidos-velero-kilos-hachis-valorados-millones-euros/>

COLOMBIA

04.09.2018 The Counternarcotics Directorate seized **358 kg of cocaine** as part of the Integrated Strategy for Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in Valle del Cauca, Buenaventura, intended for shipment to Hong Kong. The drug was in seven tarpaulins, which were hidden in a container, ready to be loaded onto a ship heading to Hong Kong. Video surveillance inspectors notified the authorities of strange movements alongside the cargo containers. Later, several containers had been found damaged and were subjected to inspection. Inside the containers, officers found tissue bags containing cocaine hydrochloride packs with a total mass of 358 kg. The police believe that the substance entered the port on the boarding platform, from which swimmers approach anchored ships to place drugs in containers at night.

<https://www.policia.gov.co/noticia/incautamos-358-kilos-cocaina-que-tendria-como-destino-hong-kong>

NETHERLANDS

07.09.2018 At the port of Vlissingen customs found **350 kg of cocaine** in a load of bananas. The worth of the drugs is almost 9 million euros. The drugs were confiscated and destroyed. The load of bananas arrived to the Netherlands from Ecuador.

<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@103986/350-kilo-cocaine/>

PORTUGAL

05.09.2018 The Judiciary Police, together with the National Unit to Combat Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and jointly with the Navy and the Air Force, launched an operation to combat illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs at sea, as a result of which a recreational sailing vessel was detained, used to transport large amounts of cocaine between the Caribbean Sea and Europe. The vessel under a foreign flag sailed from the Azores archipelago and arrived in the city of Orta, on the island of Faial, where it was inspected. In the course of its inspection, five compartments, specially created in the construction of the ship for transport of drugs, were found. On board the ship, 700 packs of **cocaine** with a total weight of **840 kg** were found. Two men and two women were detained on board, according to the collected evidence they are members of an international criminal organization established in different countries of the European continent and Latin America. This information is the result of the investigation of the National Unit to Combat Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs of the Judiciary Police and the exchange of information with the French authorities within the Center for Maritime Analysis and Operations. The investigation found that large quantities of cocaine are transported on various types of vessels crossing the Atlantic Ocean, which during the last three months allowed several operations to be carried out, which resulted in the seizure of more than 10 tons of cocaine. From suspects were also seized several navigation and satellite communication devices, mobile phones, tablets, a computer, sums of money and various documentation. Detained are foreigners aged 21 to 36 years.

<https://www.policiajudiciaria.pt/combate-ao-traffic-internacional-de-estupefacientes-por-via-maritima/>

PUERTO-RICO

06.09.2018 12.4 kg of cocaine were found inside an abandoned ship as a result of a joint operation performed by the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Puerto Rican Police Department (PRPD) Joint Forces for Rapid Action (FURA) agents. A "Fura"

vessel discovered a ship at the mouth of the Fajardo River, which crashed in the rocky part of the mouth of the Maternillo River in the municipality of Fajardo. On its board in a black bag, 10 packets of cocaine were found. Agents confiscated the ship, engine and drugs, handing it over to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to investigate.
<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-fura-seize-10-cocaine-bricks-inside-abandoned-vessel>

SINGAPORE

04.09.2018 Staff of the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) seized about **1.5 kg of heroin**, worth 102,000 US dollars. Six suspects were arrested. CNB officers inspected two Toyota and Nissan vehicles during the monitoring of a group of suspected traffickers. After a while a motorcyclist arrived in Malaysia. After the detention, a package containing **477 g of heroin** was found on the front passenger seat of the Nissan car. The driver of the vehicle is a 48-year-old man from Singapore. Another passenger also had a 48-year-old Singaporean with about **38 grams of heroin and a small amount of methamphetamine**. A package containing **29 g of methamphetamine, 3 g of ketamine, 5 g of cannabis, 22 tablets of Ecstasy and 86 tablets of Erimin5** was found in the Toyota car. The driver of the vehicle was arrested. In addition, in the basket of a motorcycle under the control of a 20-year-old Malaysian, **936 g of heroin** were found. Also, a 31-year-old Singaporean citizen was arrested. Officers during a search of one of the suspects found **9 grams of methamphetamine, 4 g of ketamine, 7 g of cannabis and 3 tablets of ecstasy**.
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/cnb-seizes-s-102-000-worth-of-heroin-arrests-6-suspects-10689560>

USA

03.09.2018 Border Patrol Agents of the El Centro sector in Salton City, California at the checkpoint on Highway 86, detained a 26-year-old Mexican citizen in an attempt to smuggle methamphetamine in his car's gas tank. As a result of inspection activities, the agents collected 35 sealed packages containing **17.5 kg of methamphetamine** from the gas tank of the car. The driver was arrested and transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration along with the vehicle and drugs for further investigation.
<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-seize-meth-hidden-vehicle-s-gas-tank>

04.09.2018 US Border patrol agents at the southern station of Eagle Pass, Del Rio, Texas, stopped a vehicle under control of a 31-year-old Mexican in an attempt to smuggle **12.5 kg of methamphetamine** into the United States. As a result of the inspection activities, the agents found 23 packages of methamphetamine concealed in the gas tank. The driver and drugs are transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration.
<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/eagle-pass-border-patrol-agents-seize-661k-methamphetamine>

05.09.2018 Border patrol agents at the Falfurias checkpoint, Texas, stopped an attempt to smuggle methamphetamine. As a result of inspection activities of a Chevrolet Silverado car with the participation of a K-9 team, the agents found three buckets of about 19 liters (5 gallons) each filled with liquid methamphetamine. The driver and two passengers were arrested. The weight of **liquid methamphetamine** was **more than 59 kg**.
<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/rio-grande-valley-border-patrol-agents-seize-over-41m-worth-meth>

TURKEY

07.09.2018 As a result of a special operation in the port of Kocaeli in the northwestern province - neighboring with Istanbul, a vessel arriving in Turkey from South America was detained, on the way made stops in seaports of eight countries. On board, the ship carried **800 kg of cocaine**. Cocaine was hidden inside the cargo with ferrosilicon - an alloy of iron and silicon, used in electrical and chemical industries to deoxidize steel. The drug was discovered by a specially trained dog during inspection activities on the vessel. Ferrosilicon was used by smugglers in order to exclude the possibility of detecting cocaine and to mask drug's odor.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/investigations/2018/09/08/drug-bust-nets-turkeys-largest-cocaine-haul>

URUGUAY

08.09.2018 During an operation of the National Customs Directorate (DNA) and the National Navy Prefecture, Investigations Division (Divin), 368 packets containing **417 kg of cocaine hydrochloride**, disguised in bales of wool, were found in the port of Montevideo. Cocaine was found in a container loaded with bales of wool intended for shipment to the port of Antwerp in Belgium. Two suspects were arrested.

<https://www.elpais.com.uy/informacion/judiciales/hallaron-kilos-cocaina-incautaciones-grandes-hechas-pais.html>

