

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

10-16.12.2018

№ 51

CARICC MEMBER STATES

THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

12.12.2018 At the border checkpoint "Astara", police officers seized **320 g of heroin** from a 16-year-old Iranian citizen. To establish identity of a customer, urgent operational search activities were carried out, as a result of which residents of Baku aged 24 and 26 years were arrested.

13.12.2018 Violators of state border, a 42-year-old resident of Barda and a 41-year-old resident of Agjabedi were detained on the service territory of the border guards in the village of Akhmedli of the Lachin region of the border unit "Horadiz". **2 kg 270 g of marijuana** were found in personal belongings of detainees.

13.12.2018 In the course of operational search activities jointly carried out by officers of the State Security Service and the State Border Service, **1 kg 145 g of heroin** were found in the Yardimli district during inspection of a Mercedes car. A 27-year-old resident of Shamkir, a 34-year-old resident of Mingachevir and a 41-year-old resident of Sumgait, were detained in the car. Criminal proceedings were instituted on all facts, necessary investigative measures are underway. <https://haqqin.az/news/141728>

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

10.12.2018 Officers of the Department for Drugs Control (UKON) of Main Department (GU) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD) of Russia in St. Petersburg and the Leningrad region foiled activity of an underground drug lab located in a building in the village of Koporye, where during a search **12 kg of marijuana and 40 kg of methadone** were found and seized. In addition, police officers discovered special laboratory equipment, chemical reagents, including **precursors of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances with a total weight of about 100 kg**. A 49-year-old citizen from Kemerovo region was detained in the drug lab. During a search at the place of residence of the man in an apartment located in St. Petersburg, about **4 kg of cocaine, 1.5 kg of marijuana**, various cannabis seeds, a hydraulic press and metal parts to it were found and seized. Currently, a complex of operational-search measures aimed at detention of other persons involved in illegal activities is being carried out. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15202771>

10.12.2018 As part of prevention and combating activities of an online store engaged in contactless sales of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, officers of the UKON UMVD of Russia in the Pskov region thwarted illegal activities of an organized group of 5 people. The organizer of the group was engaged in administering a website selling drugs on the Internet, and also distributed money between other participants who sold drugs in a contactless way. During searches of places of residence of the suspects, **70 g of hashish**,

more than 200 g of drugs of synthetic origin were seized. In addition, there are 18 “drug stashes” with drugs that have already been put up for sale in the online store. Seized were 28 drug convolutions. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15207675>

10.12.2018 In the Tyumen region, at 124 km of the Kurgan-Tyumen highway, traffic police officers stopped a vehicle under control of a 39-year-old resident of Khakassia to check documents. As a result of a vehicle inspection, a bag containing **synthetic drug weighing more than 10 kg** was found in the trunk. The man was a drug courier, he bought a large consignment of drugs in the Kama region for further distribution in a contactless manner in various regions of Eastern Siberia. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15205983>

10.12.2018 Officers of the Intermunicipal Department (MU) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia "Lyuberetskoe" of the Moscow region detained a 44-year-old resident of Moscow, who had three packages of **cocaine weighing more than 50 grams, tenamphetamine weighing about 50 grams and MDMA weighing about 500 grams** during personal search. Criminal case instituted and a preventive measure in the form of detention was selected against the wrongdoer. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15205892>

11.12.2018 Officers of the UKON GU of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in St. Petersburg and the Leningrad region detained three citizens aged 29 to 37 who, being members of an organized group, organized and carried out illegal sale of narcotic drugs using internet messengers. During a personal search of suspect's police officers seized about **11 kg of hashish**. A criminal case was initiated, suspects were detained. Currently, a complex of operational-search measures and investigative actions are being carried out aimed at establishing channels of supply of narcotic drug and additional episodes of criminal activity of the group. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15213782>

11.12.2018 As a result of termination of operation of an online store that carried out contactless sales of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, a 30-year-old local resident was detained by staff of the UKON UMVD of Russia in the Smolensk region. During searches in the apartment of the suspect, **255 g of mephedrone, about 100 g of hashish and 45 g of marijuana** were found. The man bought drugs in bulk in a contactless way, packed and prepared drugs for further sale. The suspect ordered drugs ordered from an online store in a contactless way through stashes. A criminal case has been initiated, a preventive measure in the form of detention has been chosen for the detainee. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15216729>

12.12.2018 Officers of the UKON GU of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Moscow region on suspicion of possession of drugs detained a 39-year-old man from whom a parcel of **heroin weighing 100 g** was found and seized during a personal search. A criminal case was opened. In respect of the suspect, a preventive measure in the form of detention was elected. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15225778>

12.12.2018 Officers of the UKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Tver region detained a married couple from the town of Rzhev on suspicion of trying to sell narcotic drugs, who kept in their apartment at the place of residence more than **200 g of**

heroin prepared for further sale in Rzhnev through caches. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15225489>

12.12.2018 Employees of the UNK GU MVD of Russia in the Krasnodar region received information that a resident of the village of Vyselki was involved in illegal sale of narcotic substances in Kuban. A 22-year-old suspect was detained in Korenovsky district at the time of driving the car. During inspection of the trunk of the vehicle, several packages with **various narcotic drugs of synthetic origin with a total weight in excess of 4.5 kg were found**. The man was arrested, he explained that he had acquired drugs in Moscow and brought to Krasnodar region for further marketing through stashes. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15224016>

14.12.2018 Officers of the OKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the city of Kemerovo detained a 29-year-old local resident who was transporting a large shipment of prohibited substances in his private car. During a search of the vehicle, more than 140 convolutions with "spice" totaling 360 g were seized. In total, **over 1 kg of synthetic drugs** were seized from illicit trafficking. The detainee was an employee of an online drug store. Currently, drug police is identifying the organizer of drug sales. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15255550>

14.12.2018 UKON of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Vologda region detained two young people, aged 26 and 27, transporting **2.7 kg of synthetic drugs**, electronic scales, packaging materials and various packaging devices in a car. In addition, from a cache which suspects managed to build, law enforcement officers seized **more than 99 grams of synthetic drugs**. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15252457>

THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

15.12.2018 In the Yakkasaray district of Tashkent, officers of law enforcement found and seized **117.87 g of opium and 33.81 g of hashish** at the Toshkent-Zhanubiy train station from a passenger who arrived from the Surkhandarya region to Tashkent by the Termez-Tashkent train. <http://www.mvd.uz/ru/lists/view/5206>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

14.12.2018 Australian Border Force (ABF) in the port of Botany in Sydney identified and inspected a container that arrived from Malaysia. As a result of inspection revealed anomalies in three boxes, which contained dozens of car hoods. Upon further inspection inside the hood, 4970 packages of **methamphetamine with a total weight of 490 kg** were discovered. AFP officers conducted investigative actions aimed at identifying alleged drug recipients. In suburbs of Sydney, Granville, Rhodes and Penshurst, several search warrants were executed. Two young men, aged 17 and 19, were arrested. They were to receive the goods before handing them over to other members of a criminal syndicate responsible for importing. <https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/two-charged-after-490-kilograms-of-meth-found-inside-car-bonnets>

THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

13.12.2018 Grodno customs officers foiled an importation into the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union of a large batch of hashish. Citizens of the Russian Federation tried to transport drugs in a "Volkswagen Passat" vehicle's fuel tank through the Bruzgi checkpoint. As a result of inspection activities, 32 convolutions with **hashish with a total weight of 10.5 kg** were removed from a cache equipped in the vehicle's fuel tank. For illegal transportation of narcotic drugs across the State Border of the Republic of Belarus, Grodno regional customs opened a criminal case against a group of persons. <http://www.customs.gov.by/ru/news1-ru/view/bolee-10-kg-narkotikov-vyjavili-grodnenskie-tamozhenniki-v-toplivnom-bake-avtomobilja-video-9220-2018/>

GREECE

05.12.2018 Coast guard of Greece off the southeastern coast of the island of Crete intercepted a cargo ship "Noka" under Syrian flag with a crew of 11 people, heading from the Syrian port of Lattakia to Benghazi in Libya. Drugs worth more than 100 million euros were found on board the "Noka" - 9,618 packages of **hashish with a total weight of 6 tons 51 kg 700 g**, and 2,071 packages containing **3,127,360 Captagon tablets with a total weight of 539.2 kg**. The ship was delivered to the port of Heraklion on a Greek island, where authorities unloaded all of its cargo. Drugs were hidden under false floors in eight containers hidden between layers of coffee, spices and wood chips. Military operations in Syria contributed to the fact that the country became a major exporter and consumer of amphetamines. Captagon is an amphetamine-type stimulant and has a strong psychoactive effect. It is used by militants as a strong stimulant, and is also a source of income. Greek authorities confiscated the vessel and its contents, its crew was arrested. <https://cyprus-mail.com/2018/12/14/greece-seizes-drugs-haul-from-syrian-ship-worth-e100m/>

COLOMBIA

11.12.2018 Units of the National Navy, in coordination with the police during the development of an operation against drug business structures seeking to expand their criminal activities in the city of Cartagena, seized **15 kg of cocaine hydrochloride**. During an inspection of the motor boat "Dona Luz" - a cargo ship anchored in the Gulf of Cartagena, a cache was found tied to the keel of the ship containing packs of cocaine. <https://www.armada.mil.co/es/content/armada-nacional-y-policia-incautan-cocaina-en-bahia-cartagena>

13.12.2018 The Anti-Narcotics Directorate of the National Police in Santa Marta, Department of Magdalena, with the help of divers, found a cache of drugs hidden in a cylinder that was attached under water to the keel of the ship. This part of the boat's construction is almost 14 m. Divers of the anti-drug police confiscated **40 kg of cocaine hydrochloride** attached to the boat. The seized drugs were destined for the port of Vlissingen in the Netherlands. Market value of the consignment is estimated at 3 million euros. <https://www.policia.gov.co/noticia/buzos-policia-antinarcoticos-decomisan-otro-alijo-droga-adherido-barco>

15.12.2018 The National Police confiscated a shipment of cocaine disguised in zapote, a tropical fruit typical of South America, which was shipped from Guayaquil, Ecuador, to Hong Kong in China. Police noted that the method of hiding drugs used by criminals in this case is

one of the most advanced. Scanning the shipment of fruit in four containers, and examining it, did not produce results. The drug was detected with the help of a specially trained drug search dog. Cocaine was inside the fruit of zapony. Members of a drug syndicate removed the flesh of each fruit and replaced it with latex containers with liquid cocaine. A total of **22 kg of cocaine** were discovered by the police.

<https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/judicial/incautan-varios-kilos-de-cocaina-camuflada-en-zapote-con-destino-china-articulo-829425>

THE NETHERLANDS

11.12.2018 2.5 tons of cocaine were discovered during customs inspection of a container loaded with melons, which was unloaded at the Maasvlakte terminal in the port of Rotterdam. The container arrived by ship from Brazil. Melons were intended for a trading company in Venlo in the province of Limburg. The HARC team has begun an investigation into the origin of drugs. The driver of the truck on which the container was unloaded was detained on suspicion of involvement in the importation of drugs. The HARC team consists of customs, FIOD, the seaport police and the State Attorney's Office in Rotterdam. Shipment of cocaine was seized.

<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@104699/douane-vindt-2500/>

PANAMA

11.12.2018 National Police in Colon and the Prosecutor's Office in the port of Colon discovered and seized **660 kg of cocaine** in a container bound for Belgium.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8e2p9bTQQO>

USA

11.12.2018 US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials in San Juan, Puerto Rico, seized **74 kg of cocaine** found in a shipping container from the Dominican Republic. Cocaine was in 66 packs inside three bags. Market value of seized drugs is 1.8 million US dollars. CBP inspected several containers using non-intrusive inspection systems at the Puerto Nuevo dock, arriving from the Dominican Republic aboard the M/V Balao vessel. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) has taken control of contraband for further investigation.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-finds-66-bricks-cocaine-inside-duffel-bags-within-cargo-container>

ECUADOR

11.12.2018 The Ecuadorian National Police, through the National Antinarcotics Directorate and its Port and Airport Information Unit (UIPA), conducted a special operation in the seaport of Guayaquil, which resulted in the seizure of **69 kg 790 g of cocaine**. The consignment was intended to be sent to Germany. After analyzing information in the seaport of Guayaquil "Simon Bolivar" (Contecon), an inspection was carried out before shipping container representing the risk profile. In coordination with the Regional Cynological Training Center (CRAC), a visual and manual check was carried out on the container refrigeration panels. As a result of the test, 70 packages with logos "777" and "GN" containing cocaine were found. Criminals used an Iphone cell phone with two batteries to



track down substances, which was discovered by the police. Export container with a cargo of bananas was to be overloaded in Germany, with Sweden being final destination.

<http://www.policiaecuador.gob.ec/69-kilos-de-cocaina-que-tenian-como-destino-alemania-fueron-interceptados-en-el-puerto-de-guayaquil/>

