



Milestones

September - December 2014

Regional Office for Central Asia



MOU EXPERT GROUP MEETING REVIEWED NEW UNODC PROGRAMME FOR COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL ASIA

On 10-12 December the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and representatives of the Member States of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Sub-Regional Drug Control Cooperation met in Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan for the first regional expert level meeting. The MoU was signed on 4 May 1996 in Tashkent by the Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Aga Khan Development Network and UNODC. The overall aim of the meeting facilitated by UNODC was to develop a new UNODC programme for 2015-2019 which will support the efforts of Member States as well as regional organizations and civil society to

develop and implement effective responses to crime, drugs and terrorism challenges.

The meeting was attended by governmental experts on law enforcement, justice, drug and health and aimed at identifying common regional challenges and joint responses to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime, health as well as focusing on strengthening sub-regional drug control cooperation.

In particular, the draft document which was endorsed comprises of four areas: Countering transnational organized crime and illicit drug trafficking; Criminal justice and anti-corruption measures; Drug prevention and treatment, HIV/AIDS prevention and care; Research and

trends analysis. The draft document represents the basis for discussion for an integrated and prioritized framework of actions in counter-narcotics and rule of law in Central Asia that will be complementary to the other UNODC ongoing Global, Regional and Country Programmes. The meeting is one of the preparatory steps facilitated by UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia in order to convene a high-level segment meeting under the framework of the MoU early next year in Turkmenistan. On that occasion ROCA and the five Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) will launch a new ROCA Programme for 2015-2019 with the support of partners and donors.



UNODC HANDED OVER SPECIAL EQUIPMENT



... TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OF UZBEKISTAN

UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA) handed over office equipment, furniture and specialized equipment to the National Information-Analytical Centre on Drug Control under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the State Customs Committee, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Border Control Committee of the National Security Service within the “UNODC-World Customs Organization Global Container Control Programme – Regional Segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan” and the regional project “Countering the trafficking of Afghan opiates via the Northern Route by enhancing the capacity of key border crossings points (BCPs) and through the establishment of Border Liaison Offices

(BLOs)”. Main projects donors are governments of USA and Japan. UNODC is closely cooperating with Uzbek law enforcement agencies under the Global Container Control Programme aimed at assisting the Governments around the world to establish effective container controls that will serve to prevent drug trafficking and other illicit activities whilst facilitating legal trade as well as Regional BLO project aimed to enhance the level of expertise of officers at the border crossings points and establish practical intelligence-sharing and communication mechanisms between agencies employed there. During the hand-over ceremony Ms. Ashita Mittal, UNODC Regional Representative stressed that securing

the borders is one of the vital components in the fight against illicit drugs in the region and UNODC is glad to contribute to Uzbekistan’s counter narcotics efforts. Mr. Fazliddin Gayirov, leading expert of international department of the National Information-Analytical Centre on Drug Control under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Ms. Gulfiya Habiyeva, Chief of International Department of the State Customs Committee expressed appreciation to UNODC’s work in Uzbekistan and the Government’s commitment to support future UNODC activities. Mr. Masao Shikano, Chief of the Japan International Cooperation Agency stressed the importance of UNODC technical assistance in the area of border control and cross-border cooperation.

... TO BORDER CROSSING POINTS OF BOR-DOBO AND KARAMYK ON THE KYRGYZ-TAJIK BORDER

The UNODC within the framework of regional project “Countering the trafficking of Afghan opiates via the northern route by enhancing the capacity of key border crossings points (BCPs) and through the establishment of Border Liaison Offices (BLOs)” handed over office equipment and specialized detection equipment, Nissan Patrol vehicles, alternative energy source (solar power generators) and video surveillance systems to the State Service on Drug Control under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic Representatives of Japanese Embassy to the Kyrgyz Republic, State Service on Drug Control, State Customs Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, State Border Service, Ministry of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic and

Japanese International Cooperation Agency took part in the event.

Being the main project donor the Government of Japan has provided 1,3 million US dollars. In addition, Exchange of Notes was signed between the Government of Japan through JICA and UNODC on pledging of additional funds for the amount of 1,4 million US dollars to support the project component 3 (Project scope expansion).

The main objectives of the project are provision of infrastructure, equipment for Border Liaison Offices, training of the staff and development of the legal basis for interagency and cross border cooperation with the purpose of countering trafficking of drugs from Afghanistan through the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic, Re-

public of Tajikistan and Republic of Uzbekistan. These mechanisms and procedures are intended to lead to an increase in the detection and interception of contraband, including narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals. It is envisaged that establishing offices will be connected between each other by the modern means of communication, and provided with the specialized equipment on border control and information exchange mechanisms. The concept of Border Liaison Offices is a new phenomenon for the region and requires special attention both from the Regional Office for Central Asia of UNODC and from relevant national partners participating in the project.

... TO KYRGYZ STATE SERVICE ON DRUG CONTROL



Lab equipment, five off-road vehicles, computers and printers totaling about \$500,000 were handed over to Kyrgyz State Service on Drug Control

within the framework of the UNODC project in partnership with International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Bureau (INL) on November 20.



Ms. Ashita Mittal, UNODC Regional Representative, Mr. Abdyrakhman Mamataliev, Vice Prime-Minister, Ms. Pamela Spratlen, U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Andrey Krutko, Ambassador of Russian Federation, Mr. Aleksandr Fedulov, Head of UNODC Program Office in Kyrgyzstan, representatives of the Federal Service on Drug Control of Russian Federation as well as relevant Kyrgyz ministries and agencies took part in the ceremony.

In the field. Azerbaijan



... TO CUSTOMS PORT CONTROL UNITS IN AZERBAIJAN



The equipment will help to identify solid and liquid chemicals based on their distinct molecular fingerprint and support activities of two Port Control Units established under the Container Control Project in Customs Houses of “Barya-kechidi” of the Baku Main Customs Department and “Astara” of the Astara Customs Department.

Simultaneously, project staff conducted a regional training on container control for law enforcement agencies which aims at strengthening officers’ skills on “profiling” containers movement and using modern techniques in customs control including secured communication system “ContainerComm”. Representatives from Customs services and other law enforcement agencies from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan participated in the event. WCO representatives acted as instructors for the training. The State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan hosted the event at the Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB) of the World Customs Organization (WCO), European Region in Baku.

During the opening ceremony, Major-General Guloglan Muradli, Chief of the Main Department on Fighting Customs Violations of the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan highlighted that the volume of container movement globally has increased with only less than 2% containers inspected. He stressed the importance of the Container Control Programme in tackling illicit drug trafficking in the region.

The Global Container Control Programme is a joint UNODC/ WCO

UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia handed over two HazMatID 360 Advanced Portable FT-IR Chemical Identifiers to the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan under the “UNODC-World Customs Organization Global Container Control Programme – regional segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan” on 14 October 2014 in Baku.

initiative, developed for the purpose of assisting governments in establishing sustainable enforcement bodies in selected sea and dry ports to minimize the risk of maritime containers being exploited for trafficking of various illicit goods, such as drugs, precursor chemicals (for drugs and weapons), firearms, weapons of mass destruction, nuclear material, and other forms of organized crime activity.

The programme aims at establishing so called Joint Port Control Units (JPCU) comprising of Police, Customs and relevant law enforcement authorities in key regional container ports.





In the field. Kyrgyzstan

BISHKEK HOSTED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BEST PRACTICES IN FORENSIC SCIENCE SERVICES

On August 25, one-day International Conference on improving quality of forensic services was organized on the initiative of the State Forensics Centre under the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic (SFC KR) within the framework of the UNODC Criminal Justice Program in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The primary aim of the conference was to share best international practices in order to provide better forensic services to the citizens of Kyrgyzstan. In his addressing speech, Mr. Kutmanov, Deputy Minister of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic, said: "We receive numerous complaints from the judiciary, law enforcement

bodies, citizens and legal persons regarding untimely execution of expert examinations that directly violate citizens' rights to timely access to justice".

During the conference forensic experts from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Russia and USA exchanged experiences on quality assurance and harmonization of forensic services, national accreditation systems of accreditation for forensic science laboratories, new trends in forensics and international cooperation.

UNODC supports national efforts to strengthen the capacity of the SFC within the framework of its 2014-

2016 Integrated Country Programme for Kyrgyzstan. The main objective of the UNODC support is improving the country legislation in the field of forensic expertise, enhancing the forensic experts' skills and knowledge, strengthening cooperation between the expertise institution and the law enforcement agencies of the country, as well as improving its material and technical basis, including construction of a new building for SFC KR. This work is implemented with support of the Government of the United States of America, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).

COUNTERING CLANDESTINE LABS

The training course on "Investigation of crimes related to clandestine drug laboratories" was organized in Kyrgyzstan in the framework of the UNODC project "Strengthening the State Service on Drug Control of the Kyrgyz Republic". It was aimed at boosting the capacity of investigation units' officers from the Kyrgyz State Service on Drug Control (SSDC), as well as enhancing inter-agency cooperation between other Kyrgyz law enforcement agencies with anti-drug mandate. The training was conducted by instructors from the Federal Service on Drug Control of the Russian Federation (FSKN), Mrs. Inna Butyrceva, Professor, Department of the Enforceability of the operational-employment activities, North-Western Institute of Staff Training, Federal Service on Drug Control of the Russian Federation

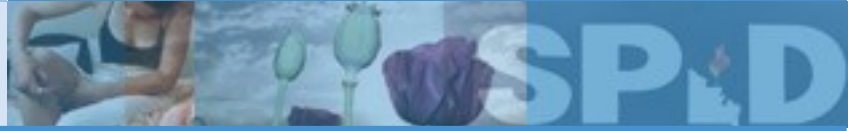
and Mr. Vitaly Morozov, Department of Investigative-Operations, North-Western Institute of Staff Training, Federal Service on Drug Control of the Russian Federation. Mr. Grigoriy Pustovitov, Counselor of the Russian Federation Embassy in the Kyrgyz Republic and Col. Salamat Djusupov, Chief of the Eastern Department of the SSDC in Kara-Kol city have attended the official ceremony of graduation.

International cooperation in criminal matters in the field of illicit drug

trafficking, evidence and proof, their specificity for involving illicit manufacture or production of drugs, problems of investigating crimes committed by organized groups or criminal community, application of forensic technology in investigative activities were on the agenda. As a result of the training course, 20 officers from the State Service on Drug Control of the Kyrgyz Republic improved their skills in investigation of clandestine labs. The participants highly appreciated practical value of the course that allowed them to improve their knowledge and establish useful personal contacts for future professional cooperation.



In the field. Kyrgyzstan



FORUM ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE DISCUSS REFORM INITIATIVES AND CHALLENGES

More than 65 policy-makers, academics, justice professionals and civil society representatives from Central Asia and the wider region came together on 24-25 November to discuss reform initiatives, current challenges and good practices in criminal justice systems at the Fifth Expert Forum on Criminal Justice for Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The Expert Forum, organized by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in co-operation with the OSCE field missions in Central Asia and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), highlighted the importance of respecting the rule of law and human rights in criminal justice systems. Questions concerning alternatives to pre-trial detention, legal conditions for the conduct of certain coercive investigative acts as well as fair trial rights, were the focus of the discussions.

"This Forum is a unique opportunity to exchange experiences and good practices on developing criminal



justice legislation and policies in compliance with international fair trial standards," said Ashita Mittal, Regional Representative of the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia. "The Forum's comparative approach in addressing complex procedural questions benefits both law and policy-makers from the region." Nataliya Nikitenko, Head of the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, Constitutional Legislation and State Structure of the Kyrgyz Jogorku Kenesh, explained: "Kyrgyzstan has embarked on an important process

to reform its criminal justice-related legal codes, which will benefit from the discussions and exchange of expertise at the Expert Forum by informing the work on drafting these new codes."

The Expert Forum has emerged as a leading regional platform in Central Asia for professional dialogue on criminal justice and judicial reform, human rights in criminal procedure and the harmonization of national legislation with international criminal justice standards.

OFFICERS OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS LEARN BASICS OF THE GENDER POLICY

Five-day training course on "Gender Policy in the Internal Affairs Bodies' Activity" was organized for law enforcement officers within the framework of the UNODC project "Peace and Trust: Equal access to law enforcement and justice".

The bespoke training course was developed by the faculty team of the Police Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic for police managers of the Internal Affairs Department of the Kyrgyz Republic (IAD KR) and repre-

sentatives of the Association of Female Police Officers (KAFPO) with the purpose of teaching them about gender policy basics. In total, 28 staff members of the fourteen pilot units of the IAD KR and KAFPO took part in the event. Women's rights and gender equality issues in international conventions, legislation and public policy to achieve gender equality, objectives and priorities of law enforcement agencies of Kyrgyzstan to implement the state policy in the field of gender equality, as well as

the efforts aimed at reforming the police were the focus of the training. Training program for officers of the Internal Affairs' agencies is implemented by the UNODC with the financial support of the UN Peacebuilding Fund within the framework of cooperation between the UNODC and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic on the implementation of the National Sustainable Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic as well as the Resolution of the Kyrgyz Republic Government "On measures aimed at reforming law enforcement agencies of the Kyrgyz Republic", adopted in April 2013.



In the field. Kyrgyzstan

POLICE AND RESIDENTS COOPERATE TO LOWER CRIME IN BATKEN PROVINCE



Two Local authorities in Ak-Say (Batken province of Kyrgyzstan) presented their crime prevention Action Plan for 2015 – 2017 to the public. Twenty nine local residents - representatives from local government, women and youth committees, police and aldermen - took part in developing the plan. The community expressed confidence that the implementation of the plan will decrease crime rate in neighboring villages. Local police officers supported the initiative stating that only joint efforts can fully address serious emerging issues and prevent crime. The local parliament approved the plan on November 24, 2014. Tash-Tumshuk municipal police station, which borders Isfar (Sogd province, Tajikistan) is located on the territory of Ak-Say Aiyl Aimak, where

there are four villages and two adjacent settlements. Tash-Tumshuk is an example of how the police station can link police and residents to improve public security and prevent crime. UNODC, in tandem with the Ministry of Interior (MOI) selected the municipal police station of Tash-Tumshuk village (Batken district) after an initial joint evaluation by UNODC and MOI in June 2013. Education for Community Development, a public foundation within the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Project, funded by the U.S. International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Bureau (INL), helped to realize the initiative. UNODC provided capital repairs and equipment to the Tash-Tumshuk municipal police station and continues to support professional capacity development of

police officers, helping them build relationship with local communities. Since 2009, UNODC has worked to strengthen the Rule of Law in the Kyrgyz Republic through improvement in the criminal justice system. In 2013, UNODC launched a new program, helping to build credibility and respect for law enforcement officers among members of the general public through improved cooperation. The crime prevention campaign is a good example of cooperation between the Ministry of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic and international partners, implementing the National Sustainable Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic and Police Reform Measures adopted by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.



ENHANCING INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS SKILLS THROUGH PEER TO PEER TRAINING

Advanced peer to peer i2 training (iBase and Analyst Notebook) was successfully concluded at CARICC, Almaty. It was organized in the frame of UNODC project “Drug law enforcement systems for criminal intelligence collection, analysis and exchange”, in close cooperation with the INL Kazakhstan. Senior officers of the analytical units/ departments of the Customs Service, Committee for Financial Monitoring, Academy of Financial Police and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Kazakhstan attended the training. The senior analysts of the Drug Control Agency of Tajikistan and the



State Service on Drug Control of Kyrgyz Republic served as instructors at the training and shared their advanced knowledge in the area of

intelligence analysis. This is the second training of this type (peer to peer) conducted for the law enforcement officers of Kazakhstan.

PROMOTING COOPERATION IN CONTROL DELIVERY



Regional workshop on “Promoting regional cooperation in Control Delivery and Joint Investigative Teams” was conducted in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. It was organized by the UNODC Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighboring countries in close cooperation with the

OSCE Border Management Staff College and with the support by the EU project on the Heroin Route II. The training brought together senior-level experts/officials from the law enforcement agencies and judicial institutions of Afghanistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan,

CARICC and JPC as well as the Russian Federation, USA and EU. Developing control delivery techniques and improving special investigative skills were at the focus of the workshop. Main topics of discussion were also focused on legal frameworks for Control Delivery and Joint Investigative Teams, Special investigative measures: controlled deliveries, methodologies, planning and considerations, Joint operation teams, Threat assessment, Communication and Coordination, Operation and Investigation techniques and many others.

Participants presented case studies highlighting their work. A practical exercise was also conducted allowing senior law enforcement and judicial officers to work side by side on operational and investigative techniques.



INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL INVESTIGATION AND CRIMINAL FINANCE DISRUPTION



Two day training on Financial Investigation was organized by the UNODC Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighboring Countries in partnership with the Global Programme against Money Laundering and UNODC project on the Drug Control Agency.

The training brought together 14 investigators/trainers from the Tajik Drug Control Agency to get new and deep insight in such topics as money laundering, financial intelligence, gathering information, human rights, data analysis, operational risk assessment, financial disruption strategy and methodologies, money and value transfer systems, cash seizure as well as forensics and risk mitigation.

TAJIKISTAN DRUG CONTROL AGENCY STAFF RECEIVED TRAINING ON INTERNATIONAL PROTOCOL AND WORK WITH MASS MEDIA

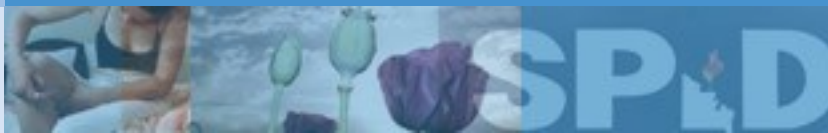
Two trainings were organized by the UNODC 'Tajikistan Drug Control Agency' project for representatives of the Drug Control Agency (DCA) in October. Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan were invited to facilitate the first training on International Protocol. The DCA is actively cooperating with

the law enforcement bodies in the area of drug control, and having such training is very important for cooperation and coordination purposes at the national and regional levels.

The second training which was facilitated by the representatives of the Tajik Teleradio Company "Mir", tar-

geted Press Center unit officers. Since the DCA establishment to nowadays, more than 1500 journalists from 938 mass media outlets including 126 information agencies from 47 countries visited the DCA. The DCA management regularly meets with mass media representatives and provides relevant information.





FOCUS ON STRATEGIC GOODS AND TRADE FACILITATION



The national training “Raising the awareness on International Shipment of Strategic Goods and enhancing trade facilitation” aimed at strengthening the capacity building of national customs and other law enforcement practitioners was con-

ducted in Ashgabat in the framework of the UNODC project “Strengthening customs service and other law enforcement agencies capacity in implementing border and trade control, in particular, export/import control regimes”.

12 officers from the State customs service and 8 officers of the State service on security of healthy society of Turkmenistan took part in it. Training was facilitated by Mr. Martin Wilde, international expert (UK).

RIGHTS OF DRUG USERS AND PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV WILL BE MONITORED

On 26 November 2014, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), with USAID technical and financial support, organized a round table on the international standards in protecting the rights of drug users and people living with HIV/AIDS in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. More than 60 people participated in the event representing civil society organizations and government including the

Parliament, Supreme Court, General Prosecutor’s Office and the Ministries of Health, Justice, Internal Affairs, Foreign Affairs and Labor and Social Protection. The dialogue focused on the most pressing issues and challenges regarding the rights and opportunities of drug users and people living with HIV/AIDS. Penitentiary Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs presented a report

and analysis of the rights of prisoners affected by HIV/AIDS. Participants agreed upon a draft concept framework for monitoring the rights of drug users and people living with HIV/AIDS. Participants came up with a number of concrete proposals to integrate the human rights approach into the Ministries of Health, Justice and Internal Affairs’ annual operational plans.

UN DAY CELEBRATION IN UZBEKISTAN



On Friday, October 24, United Nations specialized agencies represented in Uzbekistan along with the national counterparts celebrated the UN Day which included agency exhibition, press conference, various contests and concert. UN Day celebrations continued in Tashkent International School on October 25. This year's theme was Every Child Counts. Continuing the established tradition, this year more than 20 countries hosted country display rooms in the main classroom building, offering information, presentations and even games and activities for children about their country. Outdoors, the Parent Teacher Organization organized the annual fall International Craft Bazaar and the International Food Festival. UNODC took active part in both events.



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia

30a, Abdulla Kahhor Street
100100, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Tel : (+998 71) 120 80 50
Fax: (+998 71) 120 62 90

Web: www.unodc.org/centralasia