



# MILESTONES

Issue 2

November 2005

## Events

- UNODC missions to the Pamir region and Chinese borders (July 14-20 & Sept. 11-28)
- Joint UNODC-EU initiatives on Extradition & mutual legal assistance (Sept. 1-3 & Sept. 28-30)
- Regional Mass media workshop: UNODC Provides training to Journalists (Oct. 1-3)

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## UNODC & REGIONAL COOPERATION

### CARICC

Because a capacity for regional intelligence and analysis would assist law enforcement agencies greatly, UNODC has been supporting the establishment of the **Central Asian Regional Information and Communication Centre (CARICC)**. Work on CARICC has progressed and all documents for its establishment have been finalized. During October, CARICC venues proposed by Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan were assessed and based on those recommendations, a venue is expected to be agreed to at the MoU meeting in early 2006.

### LEGAL ASSISTANCE

UNODC has continued to develop its cooperation with international organizations taking an interest in relevant fields in Central Asia, such as the Anti-Corruption Network for Transition Economies (ACN), a regional

forum established for exchange of experiences and elaboration of **best anti-corruption practices** for countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries. Along with national representatives, the forum gathers a number of international agencies. On 11-15 October during the 4<sup>th</sup> ACN meeting, which reviewed the legal and institutional anti-corruption frameworks of Kazakhstan, UNODC contributed analysis and offered recommendations on their improvement. The meeting also discussed the progress in implementing ACN recommendations by the governments of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Ukraine.



## UNODC ON THE MOVE



In the last quarter UNODC ROCA has undertaken a variety of missions. Senior ROCA staff, along with the Italian Ambassador to Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, toured the **Pamir region** from July 14-20 and met with border guard detachments, the Ministers of Interior and Security, the Customs and Pamir Border Guard Chiefs. On September 20

UNODC staff accompanied US embassy officials and the Head of Tajikistan's State Border Protection Committee to the Afghan border near Shurabad in order to assess current arrangements. Finally, staff from the Coordination and Analysis Unit traveled to Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to assess security on those countries' borders with China. They interviewed Border Guards, Customs, police and DCA officers at the borders and in central agencies on a trip that included eastern Tajikistan and the entirety of the Kyrgyz-Chinese border. Six border posts were visited

and around 60 officials provided input in the context of 24 meetings. As a result, UNODC was able to draw up a report determining the permeability of the Chinese border with regard to precursor trafficking and issued recommendations for strengthening it.



## EVENTS

**UNODC DATABASE IS ONLINE**

*This Database will enhance coordination between UNODC and donors*

In line with the objectives of the **Paris Pact process**, UNODC strengthened coordination activities in Central Asia by establishing a consultative and information sharing mechanism. The Paris Pact

Central Asia Database developed by UNODC ROCA contains detailed information on both equipment and trainings provided by various donors under drug control assistance projects in the region. By October

more than 80 donor assistance projects, along with about 650 technical specifications were entered, comprising mostly European Commission, US, France, UK and UNODC projects.



*Mass media: public opinion is a strong predictor of policy makers' decisions*

**UNODC SUPPORTS MASS MEDIA INITIATIVES**

A regional workshop for Central Asian journalists was conducted on 1-3 October in Pavlodar, Kazakhstan, with the support of the Kazakh Republican Centre for Research and Practical Study of Drug Abuse Medical and Social Problems. 19 press, TV and radio journalists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbeki-

stan attended the seminar. The workshop was a follow-up to the Regional Mass Media Leaders' Forum held in Almaty on 9 June. Media managers requested UNODC ROCA to organize training for the journalists to increase their knowledge of drug abuse and **HIV/AIDS** issues. The training module included drug pre-

vention, treatment and rehabilitation, as well as instruction on the organization of media campaigns, methods of prevention and presentation of the **HIV/AIDS** issue on TV. The seminar's participants developed media guidelines on drug reporting for Central Asian press, radio and TV, which will be placed on UNODC's website.

**UNODC MOBILIZES LAW ENFORCEMENT**

*Mobile Units will complement traditional, stationary border control*



Because of the size and porous nature of the Tajik-Afghan border, UNODC supports the development of coordination and cooperation

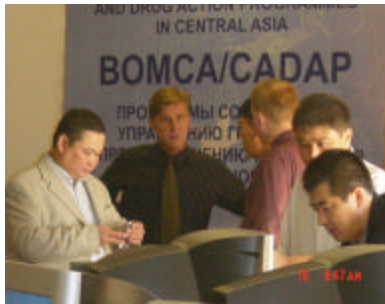
mechanisms for all agencies involved in border control in Tajikistan. The establishment of inter-agency mobile border control units deployed strategically and manned by members of various law enforcement agencies, will increase both the effectiveness of border control as well as intra-agency cooperation.

The fully-equipped Mobile Units will be staffed with 46 officers divided into three units, and are expected to begin work on Jan.1st 2005.



## PROJECTS

### UNODC PROVIDES TRAINING



#### PRECURSOR CONTROL

In July, two "Train the Trainer" Precursors Control training courses were conducted in Almaty, together with the US DEA. The training courses familiarized the participants with the operational aspects of precursor control. Furthermore, a field trip to the Almaty international airport and air cargo occurred and the participants were briefed on site on various procedural methods involved in precursor detection. Altogether, 52 operational officers from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan participated in these sessions.

#### LEGAL ASSISTANCE

UNODC is aware that successful law enforcement requires an effective legislative framework and capable personnel in the judicial system. In September 2005 and in collaboration with UNDP and the EU, we contributed to the development of these in the region through providing practical training sessions to judicial practitioners and law-enforcement officials on confiscating the proceeds of crime and extraditing wanted criminals. Participants in seminars have repeatedly commented to UNODC that an important side benefit from these is the facilitation of crucial international contacts between attendees. We also noted the encouraging trend of delegates replicating training sessions domestically, which extends the benefit of UNODC assistance efficiently.

#### INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS

In October, UNODC conducted training for Kyrgyz and Tajik law enforcement officers on **TAIS-ONTOS** software and its use in crime analysis. This was done jointly with the EC's Polint projects and the involvement of experts from the Russia-based company licensing this software. The purpose of the training was to increase the number of law enforcement agencies officers capable of properly analyzing drug and border control information, as well as enhancing their capacity to lead investigations and interdiction operations. In total, around 40 intelligence analysts and database administrators were trained.



### UNODC PROVIDES EQUIPMENT



On 11 October UNODC handed over equipment and software to Bishkek-based law enforcement agencies. This is to enhance information collection, analysis and exchange mechanisms. Within the F23 "Drug law enforcement systems for intelligence, information and data collection, analysis and exchange" project, each agency received a server, two computer sets, a scanner and a fax machine.

In addition, computer equipment was procured and delivered to the Intelligence and Analyses Departments of Tajikistan's SBPC, to the Drug Control Agency's forensic laboratory in Dushanbe and its branch in Khudjand. Construction of the drug incinerator for the Drug Control Agency Department in Tajikistan has been completed and is expected to be delivered and installed at the DCA facility in Gorno-Badakhshan (Tajikistan) by mid-November.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC has been active in improving border

controls at the Hayraton 'Friendship bridge' linking with Afghanistan. In October, computer equipment was delivered to law enforcement agencies working at Hayraton in order to create their information-exchange database.



NEW PROJECTS

In September, a UNODC initiative focusing on **computer-based law enforcement training** was launched. Involved in the project are member coun-

tries of the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-Regional Cooperation in Drug Control, all five Central Asian countries with Azerbaijan and Russia. In

October, UNODC experts traveled to Ashgabat, Dushanbe and Baku to initiate the first pilot phase and further discuss aims and targets with counterparts.

REGIONAL DRUG SITUATION ANALYSIS

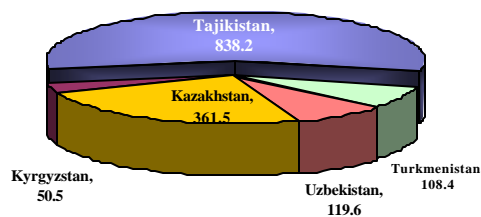
According to UNODC/ROCA's **Coordination and Analysis Unit (CAU)**, Central Asia (CA) continues to be used as a main transit route for Afghan heroin. In the first half of 2005 opiate seizures in CA amounted to 3.3 tones, including 1.8 tons

of opium and 1.5 tons of heroin. In terms of heroin equivalents, Tajikistan constitutes 61% of total seizures. Seizures show a decrease in all countries except Kazakhstan, although it is not clear whether this is due to weaker enforcement in Taji-

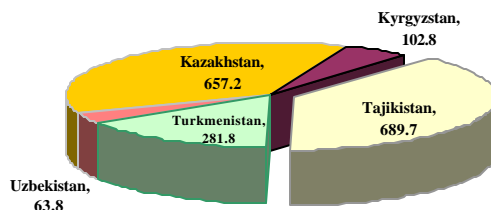
kistan after the departure of Russian border guards and in Kyrgyzstan due to political unrest, or to falling traffic from Afghanistan. Tajik officials believe it is a temporary lull before more seizures in the next half year.

Total heroin seizures for the 1<sup>st</sup> half year amounted to 1,478.2kg with a 44% decrease compared to the same period of 2004.

The first half-year 2005  
Structure of heroin seizures (in kg)



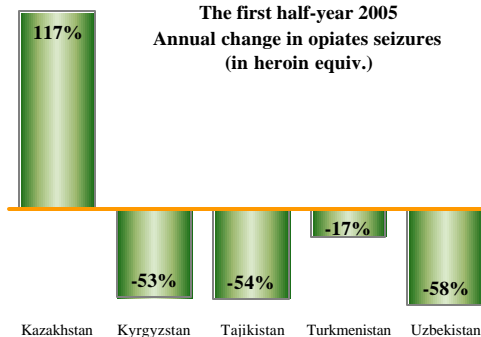
The first half-year 2005  
Structure of opium seizures (in kg)



Total opium seizures rose 35% to 1,795.3kg. All countries reported an increase compared to 1<sup>st</sup> half year 2004, with Kazakhstan experiencing the highest annual growth (421%).

The cannabis group is still the most frequently seized substance in terms of unit equivalents accounting for 68% of all seizures. Kazakhstan continues to report the largest amount of seizures (6.5 tons) and a 55% increase over 1<sup>st</sup> half year 2004. Notably, while heroin seizures are broadly stable, all countries except Kazakhstan show a decreasing trend for cannabis. Whether this continues in the long term remains to be seen.

The first half-year 2005  
Annual change in opiates seizures  
(in heroin equiv.)



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