



Airport Communication Project

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LATEST AIRCOP EXPANSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN AFRICA

The first AIRCOP task force in the Middle East, located at Queen Alia international airport in Amman, will soon become operational. In its preparatory phase, while capacity building efforts are ongoing, it has already seized 3,5 kg of cocaine in January 2019 among other seizures of illicit drugs, cash, wanted persons and fraudulent documents. JAITF officers participated recently in a mentoring on the analysis of passenger data led by the Guardia di Finanza. The region also counts on the collaboration of Algeria and Morocco as associate countries. Advanced discussions are ongoing with several other countries to expand the AIRCOP network in MENA particularly through its work on risk assessment and inter-agency cooperation.



AIRCOP COLLABORATION IN BARBADOS

In January 2019, the AIRCOP task force based at Grantley Adams International Airport in Barbados seized 47 kg of cannabis and 1 kg of cocaine, in collaboration with Customs and Police units at the airport. 37 kg of cannabis were seized on passengers arriving from Canada, while 8.5 kg of cannabis and 1 kg of cocaine were seized in air cargo arriving from Trinidad and Tobago. These seizures resulted in the payment of over 67,500.00 USD in court fines to the Government of Barbados and reflect the increase of cannabis trafficking from Canada to the Caribbean.



WCO-LED JOINT OPERATION PRAESIDIO

From 4 February to 3 March 2019, AIRCOP is participating in the WCO-led joint operation PRAESIDIO, alongside the Container Control Programme. This operation focuses on the fight against crime related to the illegal trade in protected wildlife species and aims at disrupting criminal organizations engaged in such illicit activities. Several countries in Africa and Asia are involved, including the AIRCOP task forces of Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo. While final results will only be known at the end of March, the task force of Yaoundé already seized leopard teeth on an Ivorian passenger.

Key seizures by JAITFs

Date: 6 February 2019

Place: Douala, Cameroon

Seizure: 7,5 kg of liquid ketamine

Detection tool: Particle spectrometer

Modus operandi: 5 DHL parcels

Concealment: In holy water bottles



Date: 15 February 2019

Place: Lomé, Togo

Seizure: 77 kg of falsified medicine

Route: Accra - Lomé - Malabo

Person intercepted: 2 Ghanaians



Date: January - February 2019

Place: Kingston, Jamaica

Seizure: 30 kg of cocaine and 24 kg of cannabis

Operation: Series of controls in collaboration with the Police and Customs units at Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA)

Interception: 2 persons wanted on charges of murder and intent to wound with a firearm



Date: 28 December 2018

Place: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Seizure: 12 kg of cocaine (in Germany)

Operation: Control delivery

Route: Argentina - Germany - Spain

Person intercepted: 4 individuals

Concealment: Skateboard wheels

Further investigation: the task force, through multiple raids, participated in the dismantling of a trafficking network

