

Issue I

Airport Communication Project

Recommendation 1

Governments are encouraged to continue their financial and technical support to the Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP) of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) so as to support the establishment of new operational joint airport interdiction task force units and the ongoing professional development of established operations.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Recommendation 2

Where they have not already done so, airport-based law enforcement agencies should be encouraged to open a dialogue with the joint airport interdiction task force units, formed under the AIRCOP initiative, to commence information sharing and to build professional networks that will in turn support more effective operational responses against trafficking.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Recommendation 3

Governments are encouraged to support initiatives that facilitate close operational cooperation in the sharing of information between authorities (such as advanced passenger information, passenger name records, and advanced cargo information), in accordance with applicable privacy requirements, to enable effective and timely risk assessment of passengers and airfreight.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Relevant governmental agencies have been developing an appropriate legislative framework to effectively gain and share advanced passenger information, passenger name records and advanced cargo information in accordance with applicable privacy information.

Issue II

Container Control Programme

Recommendation 4

Governments should encourage their drug law enforcement authorities to work more closely with drug source countries and transit States through capacity-building programs such as the UNODC/World Customs Organization (WCO) Container Control Program.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

According to the MoU between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, the LEPL Revenue Service of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia and the UNODC (23.04.2012), the Container Control Group operates in the Customs Clearance Zone. It consists of 2 patrol police officers, 2 criminal police officers and 2 customs officers. The group's objective is to detect illegal goods imported into Georgia or moved in transit through Georgia. The group uses UNODC-WHO unified communication program - ContainerCOMM to exchange information between various countries in a fast and effective manner.

Recommendation 5

Governments should be encouraged to assist other countries in investigating drug seizures made in containerized freight destined for Europe, so as to secure the conviction of those who organize those shipments and the dismantlement of the organized crime networks that profit from their operation.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia maintains a close cooperation with foreign counterparts through Georgian Police Attaches and the Drug Trafficking Unit of the Central Criminal Police Department when implementing various operational activities.

Recommendation 6

Governments should be encouraged to support source countries by making law enforcement experts and relevant technical equipment available to them to improve the technical skills and professional knowledge of their border law enforcement agencies in assessing the threat from organized criminal groups involved in illicit drug trafficking through their territories and designing measures to counter them.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Officers of law enforcement agencies permanently attend various trainings and seminars on fighting an organized crime, combating drug trafficking and investigational skills development. The ContainerCOM program is used for data exchange with foreign partners. The Ministry of internal Affairs of Georgia regularly expands international cooperation. Police attaches are appointed in 13 foreign countries. The Ministry signed an agreement in Strategic and Operational Cooperation with the EUROPOL.

Issue III

Handling synthetic drug production and responding to changing trends in drug use, new psychoactive substances and precursors

Recommendation 7

Governments are encouraged to urgently address the necessary control measures regarding the status of new psychoactive substances, which are sometimes marketed as “legal highs”, so as to remove ambiguity in the minds of consumers.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Georgian Law on New Psychoactive Substances was enacted in May 2014. It establishes control on NPS under substance classes. More than 900 persons have been charged for consuming, possessing or selling nps since May 2014. The Ministry of Internal affairs runs various social activities and media campaign to raise public awareness on harmful effect of NPS on human health (i.e. <http://police.ge/en/shss-s-antinarkotikul-kampanias-/6685>)

Recommendation 8

Governments are encouraged to urgently undertake research regarding the harmful effects of new psychoactive substances on human health, and to take steps to improve the knowledge of their law enforcement authorities about the manufacture and supply of such substances, including the involvement of organized criminal groups in their trafficking and distribution.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

The State Commission Supporting Suppression of Distributing New Psychoactive Substances headed by the director of the Central Criminal Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was established in May 2014. The commission assesses the threats and identifies challenges regarding NPS, develops recommendations in order to prevent distribution of NPS. In October 2016, the European Commission funded TAIEX workshop on “NPS: Pharmacology, Toxicity and Intoxication Treatment” held in Tbilisi contributed to raising awareness and setting up a sustainable mechanism for monitoring of and responding to intoxications caused by NPS. The event was attended by public servants from various state bodies as well as medical doctors. An order ensuring provision of information on cases of NPS intoxication from medical establishments to the LEPL State Regulation Agency for Medical Activities is being prepared.

Recommendation 9

Given the important role the Internet plays in promoting the sale of new psychoactive substances, and given the use made of international postal and courier services to deliver them, Governments are encouraged to support their law enforcement agencies in establishing close partnerships with the services concerned to develop new and effective strategies to intercept such substances, including by encouraging the development and use of relevant technical equipment.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

The Ministry of Internal Affairs held several meetings with international and domestic postal courier services to inform them about major types of NPS distributed in Georgia. All postal services are aware that they should refuse transpiration of such substances and inform Law Enforcement Agencies on such requests.

Issue IV

Measures to counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows

Recommendation 10

Governments should encourage their drug law enforcement agencies to share information with their national financial intelligence units at the early stages of investigations.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Recommendation 11

Governments are encouraged to establish inter-agency joint investigation teams to investigate the laundering of proceeds of drug trafficking.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments:

Recommendation 12

Governments are encouraged to support UNODC in the implementation of capacity-building to combat money- laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking.

Any action taken YES NO

Comments: