«The prevention of drug trafficking is an integral part of the common fight against terrorism and organized crime. It shall be noted that the scale of drug trafficking is growing from year to year, and often, drug proceeds are used to finance acts of terrorism and organized crime activities.

In this context scheduled this year UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs will provide an opportunity for an overview of the progress of Policy Declaration and Action Plan, as well as to elaborate new and effective interventions in combating that scourge»...

The Founder of Peace and National Unity – Leader of the Nation,
President of the Republic of Tajikistan
Emomali Rakhmon
THE COUNTER-NARCOTICS INITIATIVES

- Creation of a “safety belt” around Afghanistan (UN General Assembly, 1998);
- Consolidation of efforts of the global community in address drug-related problems in Central Asia (International Conference “Tajikistan against drugs”, Dushanbe, January 1999);
- Creation of the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan (Dushanbe, March 1999);
- Creation of the Anti-Drug coalition (UN General Assembly, New York City, 2003);
- Creation of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Counter-Narcotics Center with HQ in Dushanbe (the SCO Summit of Heads of member and observer states, Dushanbe, August 2008);
- Establishment of the specialized training center for training and re-training of the drug enforcement officers (an International ministerial conference “Border management and drug control in Central Asia”, Dushanbe, October 21-22, 2008);
- Under the auspices of the UN, design and adopt the Single Program to combat drug trafficking, to conduct an international conference in Dushanbe, to declare 2011 as “an International Year of the combat against drug trafficking (Dushanbe, May 2009);
- The High-Level International Conference – “Dushanbe Dialogue” with participation of the counter-narcotics ministers of Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Central Asian countries, Russia, USA, China and Turkey, as well as international organizations (UNODC, OSCE) to discuss the drug situation in the region and harmonize measures for 2014-2015 in a coordinated manner (Dushanbe, November 29, 2013);
- The High-Level Conference aimed at consolidating international anti-drug efforts to be held on the May 27th, 2015, in Dushanbe. The High-Level Conference will be hold prior to the convening the UN General Assembly Special Session on World Drug Problem in 2016 (Dushanbe, September 2014);
- Declaration of the period of 2016 – 2020 as “The Quinquennium of global measures aimed at drug prevention and promotion of the healthy life-style” (Dushanbe, May 2015);
- Establishment of the special multidisciplinary expert group under the auspices of the UN for a comprehensive study of specific, feasible and alternative directions of economy recovery and development of agriculture for the reduction and subsequent elimination of opium cultivation in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (Dushanbe, May, 2015);
Counteracting the threat of narcotics in Tajikistan

The early years of the modern history of sovereign Tajikistan were not easy to establish peace and preserve the national unity. Leadership of the country had to address issues related to the civil conflict, economic development, and defense and law enforcement.

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan became a global leader in opium production, and much of opiates originating in Afghanistan were trafficked out through Central Asia posing significant threat to the national security of Tajikistan. Increase in number of drug-addicts, drug-related crimes and drug seizures, as well as other negative consequences, resulted from trafficking out of Afghan opiates through Central Asia, and particularly through Tajikistan.

In the light of such situation the Government of Tajikistan undertook first steps to reform the counter-narcotics system, leading to new priorities of the law enforcement agencies and improving the international cooperation.

In 1994, the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Tajikistan creates a Counter-Narcotics Unit.

In 1995-1996, the Republic of Tajikistan accessed the three main international drug control conventions, which served as a foundation for the international cooperation in the field of countering drug trafficking and implementation of the international counter-narcotics programs and project in the Republic of Tajikistan.

In 1996, the Republic of Tajikistan signed the first three multilateral agreements within the framework of the Intergovernmental Commission of the Central Asian Economic Community for Drug Control, Shanghai Forum and Tashkent Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of control of illicit production, trafficking, abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors between the Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and the UNODC.

In the same year, the Government of Tajikistan established the State Commission on Drug Control and the Drug Control Agency of the Republic of Tajikistan.


By the end of 1999, Tajikistan successfully completed its first international projects guided and financed by the UNODC. One of these projects, the so-called «Osh Knot» was aimed in strengthening of local drug control capacities and cross-border cooperation in the three neighboring provinces of Osh, Murghob and Andijan, which is the common border area of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan also known as «Osh Knot». The other project was “Mapping of drug cultivation areas in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan”.

Several major international and national events were conducted within the framework of counter-narcotics policy of the Tajik government.

On the May 6th, 1998, in Bishkek city, the Government of Tajikistan signed with the Kyrgyz Republic the first intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in the field of control of narcotic substances and their precursors.

In 1998, in the course of the 20th UN General Assembly Session, the President of Tajikistan – Mr. Emomali Rakhmon – proposed an initiative to create a “safety belt” around Afghanistan. In subsequent years, similar initiatives were proposed by other world leaders.

On the January 9th, 1999, Tajikistan hosted the first international anti-drug conference – “Tajikistan against drugs”. Addressing the conference, the President of Tajikistan Emomali Rakhmon said: «The young Tajik state faces a danger that threatens both national and regional security. If that threat is not addressed timely, it might undermine all our achievements. The name of that threat is known as drug trafficking. On behalf of Tajik people and government, I declare about high-level commitment to fight this threat by all means possible”.

On the April 27th, 1999, in headquarters of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes, the President of Tajikistan (Mr. Emomali Rakhmon) and UN Under-Secretary General (P. Arlacchi) signed a Protocol on creation of the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan with the financial support of UNODC.

On the May 12th, 1999, the Government of Tajikistan adopted the National Program "On comprehensive measures to counter trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as control over their legal trade, including prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of the drug-addicts (1999-2000)".

The Drug Control Agency of the Republic of Tajikistan was formed by presidential decree №1218, issued on June 1st, 1999. The Drug Control Agency is mandated to carry out state policy, interagency and international coordination in the field of legal trade of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as combat against drug trafficking and abuse.


By the end of 1999, Tajikistan successfully completed its first international projects guided and financed by the UNODC. One of these projects, the so-called «Osh Knot» was aimed in strengthening of local drug control capacities and cross-border cooperation in the three neighboring provinces of Osh, Murghob and Andijan, which is the common border area of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan also known as «Osh Knot». The other project was “Mapping of drug cultivation areas in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan”. In addition, a “safety belt around Afghanistan” program started to be implemented. The Tajik component of the “safety belt around Afghanistan” program was aimed to create the National Sniffing Dog Center, drug analysis laboratories, as well facilities for storage and incineration of the seized drugs.

In addition to that, the Republic of Tajikistan continued its efforts to enhance regional and international cooperation essential for the successful fight against drug trafficking.

After the fall of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan in 2001, the Republic of Tajikistan was among the first foreign states to establish cooperation with the law enforcement agencies of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. In 2002, the Drug Control Agency of Tajikistan and the Supreme State Counter-Narcotics Commission of Afghanistan signed a Memorandum on Cooperation in the field of combatting drug trafficking. In addition to that, the Drug Control Agency of Tajikistan and the Joint Border Forced of the National Defense of Afghanistan signed a Memorandum on Cooperation in the field of drug control. In 2005, Tajikistan and Afghanistan signed an Intergovernmental Agreement on combating drug trafficking.
Since acquiring independence in 1991, the Government of Tajikistan has signed bilateral agreements in the field of drug control with 17 foreign states, including all countries in Central Asia. In addition to that, the competent authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan have signed numerous interagency agreements and memorandums with their overseas counterparts.

The Government of Tajikistan has paid particular attention to healthy-life style advocacy and public awareness about harms caused by drug abuse.

On the April 3rd, 2004, the Government of Tajikistan resolved to create a Coordination Council which serves as a main platform on prevention of drug abuse. The Coordination Council is chaired by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan. Amendments and changes were introduced into governmental resolution related to the Coordination Council, envisaging introduction of the new members, namely: MoI, MFA, SNSC and the Committee on Religious Affairs under the Government of Tajikistan.

In order to improve drug abuse prevention activities, as well as enhance capacity of the Ministry of Health in drug abuse treatment, on the April 30th, 2015, the Government of Tajikistan adopted a “Program for drug abuse prevention and improvement of drug treatment services for 2005-2015”.

On the November 30th, 2007 the Government of Tajikistan adopted the “Single State Action Program for drug abuse prevention and combat illicit drug trafficking in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2008-2012”. Program was aimed to strengthen and enhance infrastructure of the relevant competent authorities combating drug trafficking, as well as improvement of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation services for drug addicts.

Integrated objectives across the various National Programs allowed to form a single system to combat drug trafficking, strengthen the state border protection, introduce innovations in the field of education, youth policy, staff training, broad coverage of drug problems in the media and deploy wide volunteer network, as well as improve the legislative framework and enhance international cooperation.

On the June 1st, 2009 the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan celebrated its tenth anniversary. In anticipation of this event, on the May 29th, 2015, Dushanbe hosted an international conference called «Analysis and exchange of information, strengthening the law enforcement cooperation in the region». During his speech at the conference, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan Mr. Emomali Rakhmon proposed to develop (under the auspices of the UN) in 2010 a Unified program to combat drug trafficking, and conduct an international conference with the participation of concerned states and international organizations. In 2011, UNODC started to implement the “Regional program to support efforts in the fight against drugs in Afghanistan and neighboring countries for 2011-2014”. Program covers 8 different countries in Central and South Asia.

On the November 29th, 2013, in order to reduce the global threat of narcotics production in Afghanistan and develop a common approach to address drug trafficking, Dushanbe hosted an international meeting called «Dushanbe dialogue», bringing together Ministers / Heads of counter-narcotics agencies of Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Russia, China, the United States and Turkey, as well as representatives of the UNODC and European Union. According to the results of a joint statement, participants agreed on priority areas of cooperation and noted about necessity to extend until 2019 the regional UNODC program in order to maintain efforts in the field of combat against drugs in Afghanistan and neighboring countries. Participants agreed that «Dushanbe dialogue» meeting shall be conducted annually.

2013 became a new milestone in implementing Government policy in the field of drug control. On the February 13th, 2013, the “National Counter-Narcotics strategy for 2013-2020” was approved by presidential decree.

In the same year, Ministry of Health started to implement the “National Program on drug prevention and improvement of drug-treatment services in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013-2017”, adopted by the Government of Tajikistan on April 30th, 2012.

The implementation of these key documents will further improve the effectiveness of interventions aimed to reduce supply and demand for drugs in Tajikistan. Moreover, these key documents will facilitate further improvement of the state drug control system, as well as strengthen the state security to reduce the level of threat posed by drug trafficking.

On the May 30th, 2014 Tajikistan hosted an international conference, dedicated to 15 year partnership of the Republic of Tajikistan with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes in the field of drug control. During the conference it was noted that with the UNODC’s support Tajik law enforcement agencies are able to increase their effectiveness in the field of countering drug trafficking and strengthen drug control system at national and regional level. In turn, the UNODC representatives noted the significant role of law enforcement bodies of the Republic of Tajikistan in suppressing drug trafficking in the region and expressed their willingness to continue supporting Tajikistan in the future.

The High-Level Conference aimed at consolidating international anti-drug efforts was held on the May 27th, 2015, in Dushanbe. The High-Level Conference was held prior to the convening the UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs in 2016. It should be noted, that said conference was organized upon the initiative articulated by the President of Tajikistan – Mr. Emomali Rakhmon during the SCO Summit in 2014. Participants of the Conference adopted the Joint Statement to the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the World Drug Problem to be held in March 2016.

Addressing the Conference, the President of Tajikistan proposed to declare the period of 2016 – 2020 as “The Quinquennium of global measures aimed at drug prevention and promotion of the healthy life-style”.

Regional and global tendencies in drug situation, as well as necessity to address emerging drug threats, makes leadership of the Republic of Tajikistan to continue implementing previously declared and promote new initiatives, with a focus on the enhancement of international cooperation.
Afghanistan’s opiate trade threatens stability and development in many regions around the world, but the impact is felt most acutely among Afghanistan’s immediate neighbours. Tajikistan is particularly vulnerable due to the porous nature of its 1,344 km-long border with Afghanistan.

Along this border, favourable geography makes the transport of illicit drugs into Tajikistan difficult to detect. This has led the country to become part of the supply line for the so-called Northern route that links Afghanistan to the major markets in Russia.

The profits from illicit drugs undermines public health, hinders economic growth, powers corruption and perpetuates violence and suffering. Given the scope and complexity of these threats, effective countermeasures must be multi-faceted.

Our actions need to integrate counter-narcotic strategies with anti-corruption measures, generate a public health-oriented focus on treatment and prevention of addiction, as well as promote supply- and demand-side reduction initiatives and emphasise strong regional cooperation.

Faced with these challenges, the Tajik government has made a number of significant and commendable strides forward. Since Tajikistan’s Drug Control Agency (DCA) establishment in 1999, undertaken with UNODC’s support, there have been 900 drug-related cases, seizures of over 10 tons of illicit drugs and the provision of critical information for numerous regional efforts against the criminal networks.

As the DCA grows in size, capacity and expertise, it will continue to contribute to international operations to interdict the movement of both opium and precursor chemicals. UNODC, to assist, is working closely with the Tajik government on enhancing law enforcement and increasing the operational capacity of the Tajik and Afghan border control forces.

Tajikistan is also highly active in regional counter-narcotics initiatives including in the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC), the Paris Pact, and in joint operations with Afghanistan and Kyrgyzstan. This is a welcome practice that can be emulated by other countries in the region.

The high-level International Conference on Consolidation of Efforts of International Anti-Drug Cooperation held in Dushanbe in May 2015, as well as a High-Level Meeting for Partners for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries held in Vienna in December 2015, have been vital in promoting cooperation among countries and agencies.

A joint statement agreed at the Dushanbe conference in May stressed the need to support a “regional approach aimed at strengthening coordination of activities and measures against drug trafficking and organized crime.”

We are already seeing the potential of Tajikistan’s counter-narcotic efforts to improve life for both its own people and those across Central Asia and beyond. But work remains to be done, if we are to maintain the security, safety and well-being of the people most affected by the Afghan opiate trade.

Building upon these achievements will lead to further successes. As the UN General Assembly Special Session on the world drug problem (UNGASS) approaches, the international community also has an invaluable opportunity to address pressing challenges and to agree common solutions.

Tajikistan has an important role to play in sharing its experiences at the UNGASS. It can help reinforce the principle of shared responsibility and the promotion of a balanced and comprehensive drug control in compliance with international human rights standards.

To aid in these efforts, UNODC will support our many partners in Tajikistan to ensure that we continue to counter the deadly flow of opium from Afghanistan.
Dear Reader,

We are honored to present you an annual publication “Overview of the drug situation in 2015”. This publication reflects the input of counter-narcotics activities carried out by the Government and competent agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan in a partnership with the international organizations.

The President of the Republic of Tajikistan in his message to Upper Chamber of the Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan on January 23rd, 2015 noted that “In order to prevent spread of the new narcotic substance, improve combatting techniques in that field, introduce new methods for rehabilitation of drug addicts, shape public opinion against drugs and drug-related crimes and strengthen combat against this deadly threat, it is desirable to revise related legislation taking into account experience of developed states and requirements of the internationally recognized acts and legislation. At the same time it would be essential to improve international cooperation, particularly with neighboring Afghanistan to ensure security at Tajik-Afghan border and promote combatting against drug trafficking”.

By carrying out the mandate vested to DCA by the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and implementing Action Plan of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013 – 2020, the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan jointly with other parties of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy conducted an exercise to study international legislation and acts of other countries in the field of combatting drug trafficking. As a results of this exercise, DCA drafted laws “On narcotic drugs, psychoactive substances and their precursors” and “On the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan”. It is envisaged that in 2016 both draft bill will be submitted to the Government of Tajikistan.

In order to improve international cooperation in the field of drug control, as well as implement initiative of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Drug Control Agency jointly with relevant ministries and agencies organized and conducted the High-Level International Conference on Consolidation of Efforts of International Anti-Drug Cooperation. The Conference was attended by the high level participants, including head of counter-narcotics agencies of 17 states. In addition to that, meeting was attended by 8 different leading international organization, as well as head of embassies and diplomatic missions accredited in the Republic of Tajikistan.

During his address to participants of the Conference the President of the Republic of Tajikistan emphasized that drug spread became a global threat. The President of Tajikistan also noted about importance to continue working in the field of drug prevention and proposed to announce period of 2016 - 2020 as “The Quinquennium of global measures aimed at drug prevention and promotion of the healthy life-style”. Participants of the Conference supported this initiative and included it into Joint Declaration which will be submitted for the consideration during UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs.

2015 was an eventful year for international counter-narcotics events and operations in the Republic of Tajikistan. In 2015 entities engaged in implementation of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy carried out measures aimed at strengthening capacity of law enforcement bodies in the field of combatting drug trafficking. In addition to that, DCA and other stakeholders continued to implement joint activities in the field of drug prevention and promotion of the healthy life-style.

As a coordinating body and in accordance with the agreed plan, the Drug Control Agency carried out a check on entities engaged in implementation of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy.

This Review provides detailed information on achievements of the competent bodies of the Republic of Tajikistan in the field of combatting drug trafficking and control over legal drug trade, as well as drug prevention and international counter-narcotics cooperation.
COMBATTING DRUG TRAFFICKING IN THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN
Drug-related crimes in the Republic of Tajikistan

A stable growing trend in the registration of ordinary crimes is observed over the recent years in the Republic of Tajikistan. Country reports an increasing number of burglaries, thefts, frauds, robberies and other crimes.

In 2015 the law enforcement and security agencies reported on 21,585 crimes, which is 11.5% and 48.4% more compared to 2014 and 2010 respectively.

In the past five years (2010-2015) an increase in the number of drug-related crimes is observed. However, the growth in quantity of drug-related crimes is slower compared to ordinary crimes.

In 2015, country reported on 965 drug-related crimes, 2.8% less compared to 2014, but 18.3% more compared to 2010.

Due to the diverse dynamics of the growth in record of ordinary criminal offenses and the nature of drug-related crimes, in recent years the share of drug-related crimes out of the total criminal offenses decreased from 5.6% in 2010 to 4.5% in 2015.

Out of all recorded drug-related crimes in 2015, 672 (70%) had been classified under article 200 of the CC of RT (illicit drug trafficking and psychotropic substances with a view to their sale), where 129 of those crimes were linked with smuggling (article 289 of the CC of RT).

Another commonly recorded drug-related crimes fall under Article 201 of the CC of RT – Unlawful handling of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. During the year 265 crimes had been classified under Article 201 of the CC of RT, which is 28% of overall recorded drug-related crimes.

Other registered crimes related to drug trafficking accumulates up to 2% of overall recorded drug-related crimes.


In 2015 the law enforcement and security agencies reported on 21,585 crimes, which is 11.5% and 48.4% more compared to 2014 and 2010 respectively.
Compared to 2014, in 2015 the quantity of recorded drug-related crimes remained practically the same in Dushanbe city and Sughd Province, showing increase in Khatlon Province and decrease in Direct Rule Districts (DRD) and Gorno-Badakshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO).

However the analysis of drug-related crimes recorded since 2010 shows their increase in Khatlon Province, GBAO and DRD, relative stability in Dushanbe city and decrease in Sughd Province.

Drug-related crimes in Central Asia and the Russian Federation

Compared to 2014, the aggregate quantity of drug-related crimes recorded in Central Asia and the Russian Federation in 2015 decreased by 6.8%. Decrease is observed in both the Russian Federation and all countries of the Central-Asian region, with the highest decrease observed in Turkmenistan (17.1%).

The number of registered drug-related crimes decreased by 7% in Russia, 4.7% - in Kyrgyzstan, 2.8% - in Tajikistan, 1.4% - in Uzbekistan and 1% in Kazakhstan. In 2015, the rate of recorded drug-related crimes per 100 000 of population in Tajikistan was amongst the lowest in Central Asia and the Russian Federation.

1 Statistics on drug-related crimes in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan corresponds to 9-month data for 2014-2015
The rate of drug-related crimes in Central Asia and the Russian Federation (2015, per 100 000 of population)²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 of population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyz Republic</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data on size of population was derived from the web-site of the CIS Intergovernmental statistics Committee. For Turkmenistan size of population was derived from the Wikipedia.

People detained for committing drug-related crimes/offenses in the Republic of Tajikistan

1004 people were detained for committing drug-related crimes/offenses in 2015, which is practically as same as in 2014 (1001).

The analysis of detentions due to drug-related crimes for 2010 - 2015 shows stable growth, which might be linked with the increasing dynamics of recorded crimes linked with drug trafficking. Compared to 2010, the quantity of people detained due to the drug-related crimes increased by 18.4%.

At the same time no change is observed in the age profile of detainees. Over the past five years, 67% of detainees were people above 30 years old, followed by age group “18 to 30 years old”. Around 1% of detainees were minors.

Number of people detained due to committing of drug-related crimes/offenses (2010-2015, disaggregated by regions)

Number of people detained due to committing of drug-related crimes/offenses (2010 – 2015, disaggregated by age profile)
People convicted of drug-related crimes in the Republic of Tajikistan

Over the past five years the total number of persons convicted of ordinary crimes and drug-related crimes increased by 31.5% and 9.4% respectively.

9852 people were convicted of ordinary crimes in 2015 (8798 in 2014), of them 1045 (1039 in 2014) were convicted of drug-related crimes, which corresponds to 10.6% of the total amount of crimes and 2.1% less compared to 2010 (12.7%).

For 2010-2015 out of the total number of convicted of drug-related crimes, 68 to 75% were classified under article 200, and 16 to 20% under article 201 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The trend of decrease in number of women convicted of drug-related crimes continued in 2015. During 2015, only 25 women were convicted of drug-related crimes, which is 54.5% less compared to 2010 (55).

In 2014-2015 there is a trend in decrease of convicted of drug-related crimes who had been convicted previously; while in the past years quantity of such convicted was growing.

In 2015 number of convicted of drug-related crimes and who had been previously convicted of other crimes decreased by 17.2% (compared to 2013), while number of repeatedly convicted of drug-related crimes in 2015 decreased by 9.7% (compared to 2014).

In 2015 the number of convicted of drug-related crimes known of drug dependence decreased by 20% compared to 2014 (165 and 132 respectively).

Seizure of the narcotic drugs/substances in the Republic of Tajikistan

All opiates and cannabis illegally traded in the Republic of Tajikistan are trafficked from the neighboring Afghanistan.

In 2015 the law enforcement and security agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan seized 4 676 kilograms of narcotic drugs/substances, which is lower compared to 2012-2014, but higher than 2010-2011.

In 2015, for the first time the competent authorities of Tajikistan seized cocaine (29 grams).
Compared to 2014, country reported nationwide decrease in seizure of drugs in 2015, including in GBAO (by 57.7%), Dushanbe city (38.9%), Sughd Province (35.4%), Khatlon Province (21.5%) and DRD (16%).

As in past years, in 2015, out of the total amount of seized narcotic drugs/substances 58% were seized in Khatlon province. Average share of seizures for 2010 – 2015 disaggregated by regions is as follows: Khatlon province – 58%, Dushanbe city – 18%, Sughd province – 13%, GBAO – 7% and the Direct Rule Districts – 4%
The highest share of seizures in Khatlon province accounts for 4 districts bordering to Afghanistan – Pyanj, Shuraabad, Pharkhor and Khamadoni.

Seizures of opiates and cannabis in districts of the Khatlon province bordering to Afghanistan (2014-2015)

Decrease of cannabis and increase of opiates is observed in the total amount of seized drugs in 2014-2015.

Ratio of cannabis and opiates seizures in 2010-2015
Cannabis seizures

Since 2009 cannabis seizures prevail over seizures of opiates. However, since 2014 seizures of cannabis started to decrease. In 2015, 3,098 kilograms of cannabis were seized, which 34.3% and 42.9% less than in 2014 and 2013 respectively.

Compared to 2014, in 2015 decrease in cannabis seizures is observed all over the country, but DRD. Cannabis seizures in DRD in 2015 had been twice more compared to 2014 (6% and 3% respectively).

Hashish accounted to 71% of the cannabis seizures in 2015 (57% in 2014).

Opiates seizures

Over the past four years the competent authorities report an increase in seizures of opiates. 1,578 kilograms of opiates were seized in 2015, which is 5.4% more compared to 2014 and 56.6% more than in 2011.
Opiate seizures in 2010-2015

Compared to 2014, the share of heroin in opiate seizures for 2015 has decreased (34% and 32% respectively).

Ratio of opium and heroin seizures in 2014-2015

Compared to 2014, the overall quantity of opiate seizures in 2015 went down all over the country, but the Khatlon Province. 61% of countrywide opiate seizures in 2015 accounts for the Khatlon province (34% in 2014).

Ratio of opiate seizures in 2014-2015, disaggregated by regions

Opiate seizures (heroin + opium) in Central Asia and the Russian Federation

In 2015, the overall opiate seizures in Central Asia and the Russian Federation accounted for 5.4 metric tons, which is 19% less compared to 2014. The detailed analysis of opiate seizures in 2014-2015 in Central Asia has shown that, number of opiate seizures increased in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan and decreased in Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan. 46.5% of opiate seizures in Central Asia account for Tajikistan, which is higher figure compared to previous years.

1 Statistics on opiate seizures in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan corresponds to 9-month data for 2014-2015
The competent authorities of the Central Asian countries seized 1.4 metric tons of heroin in 2015, which is 10% more compared to 2014 and 46.2% less compared to 2010 (2.6 metric tons).

Almost 2 metric tons of heroin were seized in the Russian Federation in 2015, which is 38.1% less compared to 2014 (3,227 kg).

Seizure of psychotropic substances

The Republic of Tajikistan continues to report on seizure of MDMA containing tablets. In 2015, the competent authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan seized 11,233 MDMA tablets (2,590 in 2014), where 5,439 tablets were seized by DCA officers (48% of the overall seizures of psychotropic substances).

In 2012 and 2013, the law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan seized 21,740 and 6 MDMA containing tablets respectively.

No amphetamine and methamphetamine seizures were registered in Tajikistan in 2014-2015.
Detention of the foreign nationals for committing drug-related crimes in the Republic of Tajikistan

For the past five years (2010-2015), the competent authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan report on reduction of detention of the foreign nationals for committing drug-related crimes in the Republic of Tajikistan.

The lowest number of detentions of the foreign nationals for committing drug-related crimes in the Republic of Tajikistan was recorded in 2015. All detainees in 2015 are Afghan nationals.

In 2015, 25 Afghan nationals were detained in the Republic of Tajikistan for committing drug-related crimes. 18 of detainees were detained at district of Tajikistan bordering with Afghanistan. Total seizure accounted to 433 kilograms of narcotic drugs, including 129 kilograms of opiates and 304 kilograms of cannabis.

Detention of Tajik nationals due to committing of the drug-related crimes in CIS countries

According to data of DCA under the President of RT acquired from the competent authorities of the foreign states, majority of detentions of Tajik nationals, due to drug-related crimes, occur in the Russian Federation, while detentions of Tajik nationals, due to drug-related crimes, in Central Asia do not exceed 10%.

As of the January 1st, 2015, 316 Tajik nationals were detained in CIS countries, which is 51.5% less compared to 2014 (651). Total seizures accounted for 870 kilograms of narcotic drugs (1,239 kilograms in 2014). 290 people were detained in the Russian Federation, 15 in Uzbekistan, 10 in the Kyrgyz Republic and 1 in Kazakhstan.

35 women of Tajik nationality were detained in 2015 (48 in 2014), which corresponds to 11% of the total number of Tajik nationals detained abroad.

The analysis of detention of Tajik nationals disaggregated by the Federal Districts of the Russian Federation shows that majority of detentions occur in the Central District, followed by the Siberian, Ural, Yuzhniy, Privolzhkiy and North-West Districts.
Among the Russian Federation the largest number of Tajik citizens detained for drug related crimes in Moscow and Moscow oblast. In 2015, 173 Tajik citizens have been within the region or 59.7% from the total number of detainees in Russian Federation. The numbers of other detained Tajik citizens are: 19 in the Yaroslavloblast, 9 in the Voronezh oblast, 7 in the Ivanovo and Tambov oblast, 6 in Bryansk and Vladimir oblast, 5 in the Novosibirskoblast, 4 in Sverdlovsk, Tulsk, Chelyabinsk, Irkutsk, and Tver oblast and from one up to three Tajik citizens detained in the other 13 regions of Russia. In more than half of all drugs seized from the Tajik national in 2015 in the Russian Federation, weight of seizures was less than 200 grams.

In recent years, there is a reduction in number of Tajik nationals intending to smuggle drugs by air mode from Tajikistan to the Russian Federation. In 2014, 13 Tajik nationals were detained due to intentions to smuggle drugs to the Russian Federation by air mode. In 2015, 4 Tajik nationals were detained at Moscow, Yekaterinburg, Orenburg and Novosibirsk airports (1 per airport), who had intentions to smuggle drugs from Tajikistan into the Russian Federation. Only 1 attempt of drug smuggling, namely heroin, was registered in the Tajik airports (Dushanbe international airport), with a Moscow as a final destination of delivery.

In 2015, out of the total number of Tajik nationals in the Russian Federation due to committing drug related crime, 59% (117 people) were aged from 18 to 29 years old.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 to 17 y.o.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 to 29 y.o.</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 50 y.o.</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 and more</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Profile of residence of Tajik nationals detained in the territory of the Russian Federation is as follows: Khatlon province – 109 residents (41%), Sughd province – 10 residents (4%), DRD – 79 residents (30%), Dushanbe – 63 residents (24%) and GBAO – 4 residents (1%).
Starting from 2013 out of the detained Khatlon Province residents, the competent authorities observe the growing trend in detention of people residing in Yavan town. According to data of the Federal Drug Control Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, 50 residents of Yavan town of the Khatlon Province were detained in the Russian Federation due to committing of the drug-related crimes (10 in 2012, 52 in 2013 and 107 in 2014).

According to the Federal Drug Control Service Russia in the first half of 2015 among citizens of foreign countries administratively prosecuted for offenses related to drug trafficking, the ratio of Tajik nationals corresponds to 12.2%.

The ratio of foreign nationals for which the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation made up protocols on administrative offenses related to illicit drug trafficking (first 6 months of 2015)

- Ukraine: 41.2%
- Tajikistan: 12.2%
- Azerbaijan: 10.8%
- Uzbekistan: 7.1%
- Kazakhstan: 5.7%
- Belarus: 5.4%
- Armenia: 4.5%
- Georgia: 4.0%
- Citizens of other States: 3.4%
- Kyrgyz Republic: 2.8%
In 2015, 26 Tajik nationals were detained in the Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan) due to committing of the drug-related crimes, resulting in seizure of 260 kg of the narcotic drugs/substances. In 2014, 44 Tajik nationals were detained in the Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan) due to committing of the drug-related crimes, resulting in seizure of 137 kg of the narcotic drugs/substances.

In 2015, 15 Tajik nationals were detained in the Republic of Uzbekistan due to committing of the drug-related crimes, resulting in seizure of 168.6 kilograms of the narcotic drugs, 56 tablets of “Phenazepam” and 6 tablets of Alprazolam (Xanax). Usually, psychotropic pharmaceuticals like Phenobarbital, Phenazepam and Xanax are seized from Tajik nationals in the course of customs inspection while crossing the state border. Normally, Tajik citizens detained in the Republic of Uzbekistan for committing drug-related crimes are residents of districts bordering to Uzbekistan (Tursunzoda, Panjakent, B. Gafurov and etc.).

In 2015, 10 Tajik nationals were detained in Kyrgyz Republic due to committing drug related crimes; amount of seized drugs accounted for 52.7 kilograms. In 2014, 17 Tajik nationals were detained in Kyrgyz Republic due to committing drug related crimes; amount of seized drugs accounted for 113.6 kilograms. Mainly, residents of the Sughd Province and GBAO are detained on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In recent years, the fewest detentions of Tajik nationals due to committing of the drug-related crimes took place in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

In 2015, Drug Control Agency under the President of RT jointly with the MoI of Kazakhstan conducted a joint operation using “Controlled Delivery” technique, resulting in seizure of 39 kilograms of drugs and detention of 1 Kazakh and 1 Tajik national. 2 Tajik nationals were detained in the Republic of Kazakhstan in 2014.

### Likely scenario for development of the drug situation in the Republic of Tajikistan in 2016

In 2016, following factors will have a negative impact on the drug situation in the Republic of Tajikistan:
- Increased amount of drugs production in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan;
- The negative influence of the external factors (remittances, foreign trade) on the Tajikistan’s economy.

With regard to these circumstances the following trends related to drug situation are predicted in 2016:
- Increase in number of the recorded/registered drug-related crimes, and insignificant increase of their share in the total number recorded/registered crimes/offenses;
- Prevailing share of the cannabis in the total amount of seized drugs;
- Increased seizures of opium and heroin;
- Increased seizures of the synthetic narcotic drugs;
- Increased number of Tajik nationals detained in the CIS countries for committing drug-related crimes;
- Improved mechanisms for money-laundering of the drug proceeds;
- Strengthening regional cooperation, including increase in number of joint operations by the law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.
In the history of a sovereign Tajikistan creation of Border troops was an important matter for safeguarding and strengthening the National state, ensuring security and territorial integrity. In addition to that, existence of Border troops is the most impressive demonstration of Tajikistan’s political independence and unity.

Adoption of such laws as “On the state border of the Republic of Tajikistan” and “On Border Troops of the Republic of Tajikistan” had shaped goals and objectives of the relevant state bodies and agencies in charge of protection of the state border of the Republic of Tajikistan, the length of which exceeds four thousand kilometers.

Despite the positive dynamics in the field of cooperation among law enforcement agencies aimed at combating drug trafficking, as well as logistic assistance provided by the donor countries, situation at the southern borders of Tajikistan remains tense but stable, requiring particular attention.

Emerging threats place special requirements towards strengthening national and collective security. Protection and strengthening of the state border, particular Tajik – Afghan border is vitally important not only for Tajikistan but also for all member-states of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The leadership of the Republic of Tajikistan pays great attention to construction and rehabilitation of the border infrastructure, strengthening its logistic support, improving living conditions for border guards, as well as building capacity of high-rank officers and military staff.

Nowadays graduates of the High Border College (established in 2001) of the State National Security Committee are deployed at all sections of Tajikistan’s state border. In addition to that more than a thousand of young border guards completed their education in border colleges of CIS countries.
Ministries, agencies and local executive authorities of state power provide their inputs for construction of the new border facilities, including rehabilitation and modernization of the existing infrastructure; thus border infrastructure become more consistent with the modern international standards. Many of the border crossing points, outposts and other border facilities are equipment with the modern operational equipment. In addition to that, SNSC pays great efforts to deploy modern IT equipment at all border facilities.

Tajikistan operates 34 border crossing points: air (5), railroad (4), ground (24) and river (1). So far 120 border outposts were either constructed, modernized or rehabilitated. More than 100 outposts and other border facilities are undergoing either construction or rehabilitation.

International partners and donors provide their inputs to strengthen the material and technical base of the Border Troops of SNSC RT and build the capacity of high-rank officers and border guards. Valuable support is provided by the US Embassy in Tajikistan, Ministry of Public Security of PRC, and Group for Border Cooperation under Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Tajikistan, UNODC, EU Delegation, CSTO and others. Over the last 10 years, international donors and partners have provided 40 million USD to strengthen the material and technical base of the Border Troops of SNSC RT, of them 16 million USD were disbursed for construction and rehabilitation of the infrastructure.

Followings were achieved due to cooperation with donor countries and international organization over the last 20 years:

- 17 border watch posts were constructed and commissioned;
- 5 border crossing points were constructed and commissioned;
- 7 facilities of the High Border College were constructed and commissioned;
- 3 facilities of the border control training center were constructed and commissioned; and
- 3 facilities for weapon and ammo storage were constructed and commissioned.

In addition to that, with aid of donors and international partners, SNSC finished construction of facilities at BCP “Kulma” and “Kizil Art”.

The leadership of the Border Troops responds to all changes in operational environment and undertakes measures aimed at re-organizations and re-deployment of the border outposts. Border outposts are re-deployed on the routes prone to illegal border crossings and smuggling of goods and narcotic drugs. In order to able to respond to emerging threats border facilities are equipped with the modern infrastructure.

In 2015, the Border guard unit in Khamadoni received two new border outpost facilities “Kokul” and “Temurmalik” which are equipped with the modern equipment, while conscripts and officers enjoy adequate living conditions. In addition to that border outposts “Kaflotun”, “Sari pul” and “Takhti Sangin” were fully rehabilitated.

Close cooperation is established with the law enforcement bodies, security forces and local executive authorities of the state power, in order to improve the level of cooperation and trade relations with bordering countries, including simplifying of procedures for movement of goods and people residing at cross-border districts and prevention of negative consequences at the state border. Cooperation is set up through functioning of the bilateral and multilateral commission, experience exchange, as well as joint tactical exercises aimed at capacity building of frontier guards.

Integrated and coherent strategy for strengthening border control enhanced the effectiveness of the combat against illegal border crossings and smuggling of drugs and weapons.

From 2010 to 2015, operational units of the SNSC of RT and Main Department of Border Troops of SNSC of RT have seized more than 10,7 metric tons of narcotic drugs, 25% of which are opiates. Annually the SNSC of RT contributes 30% to overall amount of seized drugs by the competent agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan.

In 2015, operational units of the SNSC of RT seized 1467 kilograms of narcotic drugs, including 559 kilograms of opiates and 916 kilograms of cannabis. 30 armed clashes had been registered at Tajik-Afghan border, resulting in neutralization of 16 smugglers and seizure of 24 firearms.
and more than 1200 of rounds. 376 people were arrested due to attempt of illegal crossing of border (106 people in 2014).

The National Counter-Narcotics Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013-2020 envisages further development and improvement of the border troops management in the Republic of Tajikistan, particularly in the field of drug trafficking. Achievement of the following goals is envisaged in the course of implementation of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013-2020:

- Construction of the new border outposts aimed at increasing density of the border control and ensure safety of the most vulnerable sections of the state border;
- Rehabilitation of earlier deteriorated signal facilities, watchtowers and border road facilities;
- Supply of radar, thermal imaging and projector equipment;
- Increase mobility of the Frontier guards, supply them with all-terrain vehicles and optical observation equipment;
- Improvement of the sniffer dog service, including assistance for breeding of sniffer dogs and training of junior dog handlers;
- Increasing the number of the scholarship quotas for high-rank officers education at the High Border Schools in CIS countries.

***

One of the priorities of the Customs Agency under the Government of Tajikistan is to combat narcotic drug supply, including smuggling of narcotic drugs for transit purposes.

The National Counter-Narcotics Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013 – 2020 pays particular attention to increased efficiency of measures conducted by customs bodies in the field of combatting smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors.

For these purposes the Government of Tajikistan undertakes measures aimed at strengthening customs control at border-crossing points, increasing effectiveness of the operational and investigational activities, improving technical supply and equipping of border outposts and improving international cooperation with customs agencies of the foreign states.

The Republic of Tajikistan operates 24 international customs checkpoints/point of entry: air (5), railroad (4), river (1) and ground (14).

Customs port of entry “NizhniyPyanj” located in Qumsanghir town of the Khatlon province is considered among major ground point of entry at Tajik-Afghan border. A road bridge across the Pyandj River enables Central Asian countries transit their goods to various regional and global markets, thus promoting trade and economic relations.

In 2015 customs bodies of the Republic of Tajikistan had registered 7 cases of drug trafficking, resulting in seizure of 150 kilograms of narcotic drugs, including 3,2 kilograms of heroin and 174 kilograms of hashish. Total amount of drugs seized in 2015 was 32,8% more than in 2014. In addition to that, in 2015, illicit transit of 3360 liters of sulfuric acid from Afghanistan was interdicted at customs terminal “Nizhniy Pyanj”.

As a result 13 people were arrested, of them 9 Tajik and 4 Afghan citizens.

Aimed at prevention and detection of drug-trafficking related crimes, the Customs Agency under the Government of Tajikistan conducts joint activities with the other law enforcement bodies of Tajikistan and increasing contacts with the competent bodies of foreign states.

The annual anti-drug “Operation Kuknor” (literally, “Poppy”) has been taking place for several decades. During the time of the USSR, operation “Kuknor” was simultaneously executed in all USSR member-states. Taking into account successful outcomes of this operation, the Government of Tajikistan, decided to continue with the annual operation following independence, acquired in 1991.

In early 90’s, “Operation Kuknor” was led by the Directorate for Criminal Investigation of the Ministry of Interior. Police officers and local executive authorities jointly conducted door-to-door visits in order to detect and destroy illegal cultivation of marijuana and poppy in kitchen gardens, as well as focusing on destroying of wild grown hemp bushes.

Starting from 1997, operation “Kuknor” was transferred to the State Commission on Drug Control under the Government of Tajikistan. In 2000 control over “Operation Kuknor” anti-drug operation was given to Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan.

During these years of execution, operation “Kuknor - 2015” became evolved into a comprehensive annual activity. An overarching system of liaison and cooperation system involving responsible authorities and agencies was established to counter illicit drug trafficking, as well as to conduct preventive measures among different groups of the population.

The purpose of «Operation Kuknor» is to(i) identify and destroy illicit crops, wild grown hemp and other narcotic plants, (ii) undertake preventative measures to combat drug trafficking on in the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as (iii) conducting comprehensive advocacy and preventive measures among the different groups of the population.

In 2015, based on Decree of the Head of Presidential Administration of the Republic of Tajikistan, it was agreed to conduct “Operation Kuknor-2015” in two phases, starting on May 20 and ending on November 30, 2015.

The First Deputy Director of the Drug Control Agency chaired the Republican HQ on “Operation Kuknor - 2015”. Other members of the Republican HQ were the Security Council, DCA, Mol, SNSC, MoJ, MoHSP, Customs Agency, Ministry of Culture, Committee in Environmental Protection and Committee on TV and Radio Broadcasting.

The main responsibilities of the HQ were to organize, manage and coordinate activities of public ministries and agencies engaged in execution of “Operation Kuknor-2015”.

During the first meeting of the Republican HQ on execution of “Operation Kuknor - 2015” (held on May 19,
At the same time 385 task groups had been established for reconnaissance purposes. Those task groups consisted of law enforcement officers, agricultural experts and members of the local population.

During the execution phase of “Operation Kuknor - 2015”, 441 criminal cases had been initiated due to drug trafficking. Of these, 8 were under article 204 of the Criminal code of the Republic of Tajikistan (illicit cultivation of prohibited plants containing narcotic substances) and 3 under article 205 (setting up and running of drug shacks). 142 cases of wild-growing hemp had been discovered, of which all bushes had were subsequently incinerated. Overall seizures accounted for 2,831 kg of narcotic substances.

The analysis of the annual outcomes “Operation Kuknor” for 2010 – 2015 highlight a reduction of criminal cases initiated due to drug trafficking, including charges brought under article 204 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Tajikistan. Criminal charges recorded under article 205 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Tajikistan remain relatively low at between 2 to 5 cases per year. The number of incinerated bushes of wild grown and cultivated hemp had decreased from 2,7 million to 1,8 million, while seizures had gone up from 1,9 to 2,8 tons over the 2010 – 2015 time period.

Some comparative figures based on results of anti-drug operation “Kuknor” in 2010 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>growth/reduction</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal cases initiated due to drug trafficking</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>-15,7 %</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accusation under article 204 of the Criminal Code of Tajikistan</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-60 %</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accusation under article 205 of the Criminal Code of Tajikistan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume of drug seizures (kg)</td>
<td>1,9 tons</td>
<td>52 %</td>
<td>2,8 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume of destroyed (incinerated) bushes</td>
<td>2,7 millions</td>
<td>-33,4 %</td>
<td>1,8 millions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

85 inspections had been carried out to ensure legal (licit) trade of the narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors within medical institutions and industrial enterprises. Corresponding recommendations were provided based on the results of those inspections.

In 2015, within the framework of operation and for the purpose of drug abuse prevention, the Drug Control Agency jointly with the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Committee of Youth, Tourism and Sport, Committee on TV and Radio Broadcasting, Committee on Women and Family Affairs conducted more than 694 mass cultural, sport, prevention and advocacy events all over the country.

In addition to that, regular, regional level meetings were held at regional level during which working group members reported on progress on execution of the Action Plan for “Operation Kuknor-2015”.

The wrap-up meeting on “Operation Kuknor - 2015” was held at DCA’S premises on the 14th of December 2015. All participating parties discussed outcomes and challenges faced during execution of the operation.

The progress of “Operation Kuknor - 2015” was regularly reported by central and regional mass media.
One of the State objectives in the field of combating the spread of narcotic drugs is the execution of control over the licit trade of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, with a view on prevention of these substances entering the black market.

The National Counter-Narcotics Strategy for 2013-2020 envisages interventions/measures for control over the licit trade of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors. The National Counter-Narcotics Strategy assigns various tasks to the competent state authorities, including investigative and operational activities with the purpose of preventing, revealing and constraining of crimes in the field of licit trade of the controlled substances, licensing of certain types of activities related to licit trade of the controlled substances, as well as elaboration and implementation of proposals related to improvement of the State policy in that field.

Tajikistan is not capable of manufacturing any narcotic and psychotropic pharmaceuticals, many of which are part of the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines. Linked with that, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MoHSP) of the Republic of Tajikistan goes for the centralized procurement of the narcotic and psychotropic pharmaceuticals. Narcotic pharmaceuticals are procured and supplied via state enterprises “Sughd pharmaceuticals”, “Center for pharmaceuticals procurement” and “Pharmacon”. Psychotropic pharmaceuticals are procured and supplied via private enterprises LLC “Shifo-M”, LLC “TBSH”, LLC Tantalit pharm” and LLC “Shifobahshi salomat”.

In 2015, 66 private pharmaceutical enterprises were holding licenses for trading of narcotic and psychotropic pharmaceuticals, as well as their precursors, for medical use. All licenses were issued by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan.

In recent years narcotic and psychotropic pharmaceuticals are purchased from the following manufacturers:

- LLC Kharkov pharmaceutical company “Health of the Nation” (Ukraine);
- “KRKA” (Slovenia);
- “Intas Pharmaceuticals LTD” (India).

Within the framework of pilot “Opioid substitution therapy” program, imported methadone is supplied by the company called «L.MOLLENI & C.DEI F.LLI ALITTI SOCIETÀ DI ESERCIZIO» (Italy).

According to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan, following controlled substances were imported into Tajikistan in 2015:
DCA, MoI and MoHSP of the Republic of Tajikistan conduct planned and joint inspections to verify compliance with the rules of licit trade of the narcotic substances and psychotropic pharmaceuticals.

In 2015, DCA conducted planned inspections in 126 hospitals and pharmacies to verify compliance with the rules of storage and prescription of the narcotic substances and psychotropic pharmaceuticals. Based on inspections’ results 7 health facilities did not fully comply with the storage requirements; corresponding orders were issued to eliminate shortcomings. In addition to that, DCA conducted 10 ad-hoc inspections – no shortcomings or violations were revealed.

Pharmacies sell narcotic and psychotropic pharmaceuticals on the basis of prescription forms. Control over prescription forms is the main method for control over licit trade of narcotic substances and psychotropic pharmaceuticals.

Aforementioned prescription forms are issued by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan “On narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors”.

As a result of inspections competent authorities did not reveal any fact of unlawful issuance and forge of the prescription forms.

Tajikistan does not manufacture any precursor chemicals, thus heavily relying on import. Main importers of precursor chemicals are LLC “Pharoiz”, CJSC “Avvalin”, LLC “Tojikcharm”, LLC “Euro-7777” and LLC “Pharmchem”.

Industries are the largest consumers of precursors in the Republic of Tajikistan, including SUE “TALCO”, Mining and Concentration Complex “Zarafshon”, OJSC “Tajikhimprom”, MCC “Aprelevka”, SUE “Tajikenergosnab”, OJSH “Barqi Tojik”, “Central power grid of Dushanbe”, TPP Dushanbe, CJSC “Avvalin”. In addition to aforementioned industries, there are another 57 enterprises which are considered to be major consumers of the precursors.

Licensing of the precursor trade activities is about Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. DCA Precursor Licensing Committee had 6 meetings in 2015, 18 applications were reviewed and 10 licenses were issued, including 6 import certificates.

Within the year on the basis of 5 import certificate, Tajikistan imported 300 metric tons and 480 kg of hydrochloric acid and 196 metric tons and 120 kilograms of sulfuric acid. These acids are used by steel industries, pharmaceutical companies, leather processing, storage plants, flushing pipes of heating mains and for laboratory researches.

All enterprises provide regular reports on the use of precursors, and their activities are examined by the DCA through planned and ad-hoc inspections.

In 2015, DCA conducted planned inspections in 52 enterprises to verify compliance with the rules of storage and use of precursor chemicals. Based on inspections’ results 1 enterprise did not fully comply with the storage requirements; corresponding order was issued to eliminate shortcomings.

In 2015, DCA staff conducted several educational seminars for Customs officers and for departments of MoI located at Direct Rule Districts. During educational seminar trainees got familiar with legislation in the field of legal trade of precursors, types of precursors, legal and illegal use of precursors, as well as compartment techniques while smuggling.

Customs officers deployed at Dushanbe International Airport received information about intracavitary smuggling of narcotic drugs and how to detect such couriers. Officers of the MoI departments got familiar about the synthetic drugs and psychotropic substances, such as amphetamines, ecstasy and synthetic cannabinoids.

In 2015, DCA drafted the new edition of the “National List of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors”, circulated among the competent state authorities for comments and feedback. The new edition of the “National List of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors” will be complemented with the new/emerging psychoactive substances of public health concern. In addition to that, the new edition of the “National List of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors” will contain all the substances added to the Counter-Narcotics UN Conventions.
Examination of the narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors is the main legally relevant evidence aimed to ascertain whether the elements of the crime described under articles 200-206 of the Criminal Code are present or not. Reliability of the expert conclusions and completeness of the examination are essential factors for the theory of offense and fate of the detainee. Currently, such examinations are guided by the National List of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, approved by the Resolution №390 of the Government of Tajikistan (21.09.2000). For the purposes of legal qualification of the crimes committed under the said Articles (based on the size of seized drugs), Annex I to the Criminal Code provides «The List and the size of the narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors in the illicit drug trafficking».

The National Counter-Narcotics Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013-2020 envisages improved forensic examination in order to provide evidence during investigation and trial, and to provide information for operational units of the law enforcement agencies. The main measures aiming to reach objectives of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy are as follows: improvement of the technical and methodical equipment of drug-testing laboratories, including the modern analytical equipment able to conduct comprehensive examinations on the composition of unknown substances and detection of narcotic drugs in their components, as well as enhancing the capacity of forensic experts.

The Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan pays particular attention to capacity building of forensic experts, ensuring that experts are examining substance with the use of modern high-tech laboratory equipment.

In November 2015, three forensic experts of the Drug Control Agency were trained on modern examination techniques of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors. Training was delivered at the Forensic Laboratory of the National Forensic Center under the Office of General Prosecutor of Korean Republic.

In December 2015, two forensic officers of the DCA received hands-on training on chromatography-mass spectrometry and IR-Fourier spectroscopy at Forensic and Criminal Investigation Laboratories of the Federal Drug Control Service of Russian Federation. Training was delivered within the framework of agreement between the DCA of Tajikistan and FDCS of Russia “On cooperation in the field of combat against trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychoactive substances and their precursors”.

In 2015, Forensic Unit of the DCA under the President of Tajikistan, with the support of the Counter-Narcotics Program of the General Prosecutor’s Office of Korean
Republic, procured modern sampling equipment, as well as disposables and materials for thin layer chromatographic examination.

According to the national legislation the determination of sanctions for drug-related crimes (during investigation and trial) depends on the total weight of the seized controlled substances (including admixtures). The Forensic unit is mainly responsible to detect whether the seized physical evidence contains controlled substance or not, including typology and net weight of the controlled substance(s).

The established many-year practice in the Republic of Tajikistan, in regards to examination of the controlled substances, has a common methodological approach for examinations of the seized drugs. Such approach is divided into different steps: firstly, experts identify possible type of drugs, and then appropriate laboratory techniques and equipment is applied. Such approach is appropriate only when expert has enough quantity of the controlled substance, as well as time for examination. In case if little or trace amounts of controlled substances are available, the only appropriate method for examination is modern analytical examination, capable of producing separate mixtures containing more than one substance, with further typing of drugs. Same approach shall be applied in case of suspicion of the new psychoactive substance.

As a part of judicial and investigative measures the net weight of controlled substance (quantitative content of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances or precursors in the seized physical evidence) is established only through a comparative examination of drugs seized from different individuals.

At the same time, determination of the qualitative and quantitative chemical composition of seized drugs and maintaining of corresponding databases is essential for analytical and operational purposes, since such examinations allow analyzing and monitoring the situation related to trafficking of a particular type of a controlled substance.

Modern IR spectroscopy, and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry equipment, available at Forensic Unit of the DCA under the President of RT, is used to examine narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as to determine the components of complex chemical mixtures, diagnose new psychoactive substances, systematize the chemical analytical data of the seized drugs and look for similarities and/or differences between the different samples. The vast majority of examinations at Forensic Unit of the DCA are about seized plant-based narcotic drugs - cannabis and opium origin.

Drugs of cannabis origin - botanical techniques are used to examine Cannabis bushes, marijuana and hashish for the presence of botanical and anatomical and morphological traits which are typical for Cannabis plants. Chemical techniques are applied in order to determine the presence of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and accompanying cannabinoids.
Tetrahydrocannabinol examination is conducted only when it is necessary to identify if seized marijuana packs belong to one source or not. In recent years, street drug dealers tend to package cannabis and hashish in small packages (0.5-1.0 grams for hashish and 5-10 grams for cannabis).

Heroin and opium are the only opiates seized in the Republic of Tajikistan.

No seizures of poppy straw were registered in 2015, opium solutions were found only at drug dens. In 2015, the average purity of heroin seized in the Tajikistan had purity levels between 3, 22% and 44, 4%. Main adulterants are caffeine, acetaminophen and dextromethorphan.

In 2015, for the first time the competent authorities of Tajikistan seized a narcotic drug, containing 40% of Cocaine hydrochloride.

3,4 – methylenedioxy-methamphetamine (MDMA) widely known as ecstasy is the main home-produced psychotropic substance seized in the Republic of Tajikistan over the last 10 years. MDMA manufacturers brand their pills with a certain logo and shape; however shape and logo is changed every 2-3 years.
In 2015, the competent authorities reported on seizure of such controlled substances like diazepam, phenobarbital and tramadol. All these potent medicines can be misused by drug-addicts. Seizures of such potent medicines are mainly associated with the lack of permitting documents for their legal trade.

Traditionally, narcotic drugs were divided into two groups: plant-based and chemically synthesized narcotic drugs. Recently, a new group was introduced – these are narcotic drugs which consist of various non-narcotic herbs mixed with the psychoactive non-natural substances able to reproduce effects of known drugs. Synthetic cannabinoids are the best example for such narcotic drugs.

Criminal registers are considered to be essential tools for operational, investigational and criminal proceedings. Forensic officers of the DCA were trained at Crime Investigation and Forensic Department of MoI Tajikistan; trainings were mainly focused on fingerprint and ballistic examinations and investigations, including detection of fingerprints at seized drugs’ packs.

Forensic Unit at the DCA has an automated dactyloscopic tool “Papillion”, which is able to detect fingerprints on drugs’ packs. All fingerprints are registered at the relevant fingerprint database.

In addition to that, Forensic Unit at the DCA uses database on the narcotic substances and their packaging materials.

Forensic officers process requests for the forensic information received from the national and international competent authorities.
ILLICIT NARCOTIC DRUGS
CONVERSION IN THE ISLAMIC
REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN
Illicit opium production in Afghanistan in 2015

Measures undertaken by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, in cooperation with the international community, have an impact on the reduction of drug production/conversion in the country. Despite this, opium poppy-crop is still cultivated on large areas, and its replacement by the cultivation of alternative crops has not yet given tangible results.

According to the 2015 data released by the Ministry of Counter Narcotics (MCN) of the IRA and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) opium poppy-crop cultivation in Afghanistan reached 183,000 hectares in 2015, which is 19% less compared to 2014.

Despite the reduction in the opium poppy-crop cultivated area in Afghanistan, opium poppy-crop cultivation in 2015 remains high compared to previous decades, and only slightly less than in 2014 - 224,000 hectares in 2013 - 209,000 hectares and 2007 - 193,000 hectares.

The reduction in opium production in IRA in 2015 is due to the low yield, especially in the south-western regions of the country, related to unfavorable weather conditions and the high cost of using irrigation farming techniques (artificial irrigation of crops), as well as an increase in eradicated areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation by governmental authorities. In addition, an improved methodology was used this year that actually changed the method of evaluation of area under opium poppy-crop cultivation.

The total area under opium poppy-crop cultivation in Afghanistan (2006-2015)
In 2015, out of 34 Afghan provinces only one Northern Province – Balkh – lost the opium-free status. Thus opium poppy-crop is being cultivated in 20 Afghan provinces.

### Number of Afghan provinces known to be growing opium poppy-crop (2006-2015)

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<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southern regions</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western regions</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern regions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern regions</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central regions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total province</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2015, 98% of areas cultivated with opium poppy-crop were located in southern, western and eastern regions of Afghanistan. 66% of areas cultivated with opium poppy-crop are located in southern, 24% in western and 7% in eastern regions of Afghanistan. Central and northern regions of Afghanistan account only 3% of areas cultivated with opium poppy-crop.

### Ratio of the areas of opium poppy-crop cultivation across various regions of Afghanistan (2014-2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Areas of opium poppy-crop cultivation (hectares)</th>
<th>+/-</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern regions</td>
<td>149711</td>
<td>119765</td>
<td>-20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western regions</td>
<td>49049</td>
<td>44308</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern regions</td>
<td>20353</td>
<td>12242</td>
<td>-40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern regions</td>
<td>4778</td>
<td>5931</td>
<td>+24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central regions</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>+38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total area</td>
<td>224000</td>
<td>183000</td>
<td>-19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Opium production in Afghanistan depends on two factors: areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation and yield per hectare. In 2015, the average yield per hectare was 18,3 kilograms of opium, which is considerably low compared to the last two decades. Reduction in yield of opium was observed across all major regions of the country engaged in cultivation of the opium poppy-crop.

### Average opium yield per hectare in Afghanistan (2006 – 2015)

- 2006: 37 kg
- 2007: 42.5 kg
- 2008: 46.8 kg
- 2009: 56.1 kg
- 2010: 29.2 kg
- 2011: 44.5 kg
- 2012: 23.7 kg
- 2013: 26.3 kg
- 2014: 28.7 kg
- 2015: 18.3 kg
The most significant reduction in opium production was observed at southern regions, where the average yield decreased by 45% (from 29,5 kg/ha in 2014 versus 16,1 kg/ha in 2015). In western regions the average yield decreased by 20% (from 20,5 kg/ha in 2014 versus 16,3 kg/ha in 2015) and in eastern regions by 8% (from 39,6 kg/ha in 2014 versus 36,6 kg/ha in 2015).

However, all these Afghan regions still remain as major opium producers. In 2015, out of the total quantity of opium produced in the country, 58% accounted for southern, 22% for western and 13% for eastern regions.

Thus, in 2015, due to reduction in areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation and opium yield per hectare, Afghanistan produced the lowest amount of opium since 2002 – 3,300 metric tons.

The sharp decline in opium production in Afghanistan in 2015 has changed the falling trend of opium cost observed in 2012 - 2014. In 2015, the average cost of 1 kg of fresh opium was 129 USD, which is 13% more than in 2014 (114 USD). Nevertheless, even though the opium cost increased in 2015, revenue of Afghan farmers from opium production in 2015 is estimated at 570 million USD, which is 33% less compared to 2014. In addition 2015 revenue estimates are the second lowest for the last decade.
In 2015, the competent authorities of Afghanistan have increased their efficiency in eradication of areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation. 3760 ha of areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation were eradicated in 2015, which is 40% more compared to 2014 (2692 ha).

Operations aimed at eradication of the areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation were conducted in 12 Afghan provinces – Badakhshan, Daykundi, Farah, Helmand, Kandahar, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, Nimruz, Sar-e Pol, Takhar and Urozgan (2014 – 17 provinces).

In 2015, the highest level of eradication of areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation in Afghanistan was observed in Helmand province (1747 hectares, 122% more compared to 2014), followed by Badakhshan (1246 hectares, 12% less compared to 2014) and Kandahar (396 hectares, 482% more compared to 2014).

Improved security measures and enhanced cooperation among the Ministry of Counter Narcotics, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defense of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan helped to reduce number of wounded and dead officers engaged operations aimed at eradication of areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation. 5 officers (4 policemen and 1 soldier) were killed and 18 wounded in 2015; 13 died and 26 wounded in 2014.

Northern Afghanistan consists of 10 provinces – Baghlan, Balkh, Bamyan, Faryab, Jowzjan, Samangan, Sar-e Pol, Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz.

In 2015, out of 10 Northern Afghanistan provinces 5 were considered to be opium poppy free and opium was cultivated in Badakhshan, Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab and Sar-e Pol.

The Balkh province was opium poppy free in 2014, but situation changed in 2015. One of the reasons for that is due to untimely measures aimed at eradication of areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation. Over the last decade, in Balkh province opium poppy areas were registered in 2006 (7232 hectares), 2013 (410 hectares) and 2015 (204 hectares).

In the previous years, Balkh province was considered to be opium poppy free.

Operations on eradications of areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation were conducted in Takhar, Sar-e Pol and Badakhshan provinces.

Eradication of the many of the opium poppy-crop fields in Badakhshan in 2015 was the main reason why opium cultivated areas was only 4056 hectares, which is 4% less compared to 2014.

Reportedly, in 2015, opium poppy-crop fields were concentrated in 5 districts of the Badakhshan province: Darayim, Argo, Baharak, Khash and Tishkan.

Areas under opium poppy-crop cultivation and opium production in Badakhshan province (2006 – 2015)
Opium production in the Northern Afghanistan in 2015 accounted for 233 metric tons, where 161 metric tons were produced in the Badakhshan Province. Compared to 2014, opium production in 2015 in the Northern Afghanistan increased by 52 metric tons (29%).

Reportedly, leaders of the illegal armed groups, at their zones of influence in the Badakhshan province, force local population to cultivate opium poppy-crops, while paying farmers little money for their labor. Subsequently certain part of the opium is refined into heroin at primitive laboratories owned by the illegal armed groups. Such laboratories employ 5 to 10 people, function at night time under the protection of armed men. Precursors needed to produce heroin are smuggled from Pakistan and supplied through Kabul route.

It should be noted about lack of data on activities of the heroin producing laboratories in Kunduz and Takhar provinces.

**An assessment of the situation**

In 2015, social-economic situation all over Afghanistan remained unstable and tense.

Instability in the country is due not only to the presence of armed anti-government and radical Islamist armed groups and weakness of the central government, but also to the influence of such factors as corruption, the low level of the economy, a large number of drug abusers, growing number of unemployed and the high level of illiteracy.

The main anti-government forces in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan are - “Taliban movement”, “Ansurullah”, “Jundullah”, “Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan” and “Al-Qaeda”. Anti-government forces tend to destabilize the social and political situation. Reportedly, so called the “Islamic state” is trying to spread it’s ideas and influence all over Afghanistan, with a focus to overtake control over opium poppy fields, heroin production and transit routes of drug trafficking.

The absence of a strong central government in Afghanistan and ineffective combat of the competent authorities against activities of the extremist and terrorist organizations, facilitate to further financial merging of terrorist networks and the transnational drug trafficking. Such situation suggests a deterioration of the social and political situation in Afghanistan. Deterioration of the social and political situation will subsequently lead to complexity of the drug situation both in Afghanistan and neighboring countries.

**Trafficking of Afghan opiates**

According to the UNODC, opiates originating in Afghanistan are smuggled through the three main routes: Southern, Northern and Balkan. In recent years, the competent authorities observe changes in the seized amounts across all three main routes. In addition to that, smugglers are looking for new routes to traffic heroin out of Afghanistan.

The Southern Route is used for trafficking out of heroin originating in Afghanistan to many continents. Firstly, heroin is trafficked by land to Bender-Abbas port in IRI or Karachi port in Pakistan. Then, heroin is trafficked by ships to the South-East Asia, Africa, Western and Central Europe and North America.

UNODC World Drug Report (2015) states that: “A significant portion of opiates originating in Afghanistan are transiting Africa before being trafficked onwards to Europe, North America and other consumer markets”. Recent large opiate seizures further out in the Indian Ocean have highlighted the potential for traffickers to send sizeable shipments using boats departing from unofficial ports and jetties along the coast of Africa.

As opiates originating in Myanmar may be unable to meet the growing demand in South-East Asia, the so-called “southern route” could be increasing in importance as a conduit for smuggling Afghan heroin southwards from Afghanistan through Pakistan or the Islamic Republic of Iran.

UNODC World Drug Report (2015) also provides that: “Trafficking networks using the Balkan route to smuggle Afghan heroin into Europe may be experimenting with a new route, leading through the Caucasus”. In recent years, the competent authorities of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine and a number of Eastern European countries are increasingly report on large quantity seizures of heroin trafficked out from Afghanistan.

On the January 17th, 2014, the Preclearance Control Department (PCD) of the Ministry of Finance of Armenia had discovered 928 kilograms of heroin in a truck, owned by citizen of Georgia, being inspected at Meghri Customs Checkpoint, on the border with Iran.

Authorities in Poland seized 150 kg of heroin that was hidden in a truck from Ukraine. Heroin, wrapped in 300 plastic bags, was discovered by officers as the truck tried to cross into Poland near the town of Medyka early on the April 4th, 2014.

On the July 10th, 2014, the competent authorities of Georgia discovered 92 canisters containing liquid with vinegar odor. The overall volume accounted for 2445 liters. Examination had shown that liquid contains heroin (almost 589 kg), morphine (almost 12 kg) and codeine (2.21 kg).

On the July 29th, 2015, Police in Romania have made the country’s record seizure of heroin, recovering 333 kilograms of the heroin believed to have come from...
Afghanistan and to have been destined for the Netherlands for distribution in the EU.

On the June 12th, 2015, Ukrainian Security Service (SBU) announced the arrest of a group of drug mules who were trying to smuggle 500 kg of heroin over the Ukrainian-Polish border of Jagodzin-Dorohusk. The drugs arrived in Ukraine via Iran, and were hidden in rolls of insulation bitumen which were being transported by truck.

Despite a slight displacement of the Balkan route towards the Northern on, the Balkan route continues to be the main direction for trafficking out opiates originating from Afghanistan to Eastern Europe.

Decrease of heroin seizures in Central Asia over the past five years, suggests a possible decline in the role of the Northern Route for trafficking of heroin to the Russian Federation.

Compared to 2010, heroin seizures in Central Asia in 2015 decreased by 46,4% (from 2,6 to 1,4 metric tons). Over the past five years average heroin seizures in Central Asia accounted for 1,5 metric tons (ranged from 1,3 to 1,8 metric tons).

Compared to 2010, heroin seizures in the Russian Federation in 2015 decreased by 24, 2% (38,1% for 2014). Following factors might be considered as a reason for decline in the number of heroin seizures in Central Asia and the Russian Federation:

- Measures aimed at strengthening of Central Asian borders with Afghanistan;
- enhanced coordination of the law enforcement agencies at the national and regional level;
- Continuous efforts on building capacity of staff of the competent authorities, as well as introduction of new methods and technical means in the field of combatting drug trafficking;
- The recent emergence and spread of new synthetic drugs in the Russian Federation;
- Displacement of the traditional heroin trafficking routes due to emergency of the new routes.

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1 UNODC online drug monitoring database, retrieved from http://drugsmonitoring.unodc-roca.org. 2015 data shall not be considered as complete.

2 Data on Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan is for 9 months of 2015
MEASURES ON DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION IN THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN
The analysis of narcological situation

In 2012, the Government of Tajikistan adopted “The National Program for prevention of substance abuse and enhancement of drug dependence treatment for 2013-2017”. The Narcological Service of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection is executing measures aimed at harm reduction from drugs. In addition to that the Narcological Service plans and organizes activities related to rendering specialized drug treatment to population. The Narcological Service enrolls patients into outpatient treatment, analyzes current trends and situation and evaluates drug abuse prevalence in the country.

As of the December 31st, 2015, according to the official statistics of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, 7313 drug abusers were registered at the Narcological Service, which is 34 people more compared to 2014 (7279). Number of the registered women drug-abusers in 2015 was 189, which is 10 less compared to 2014 (-5.1%).

Below is the age profile of drug abusers (registered at the Narcological Service) for 2015:
- Up to 14 y.o. - No cases have been registered
- 15 to 17 y.o. - No cases have been registered
- 18 to 34 y.o. – 2452 people
- 35 to 59 y.o. – 4884 people
- above 60 y.o. – 77 people

In 2015, like in the previous years, Dushanbe city leads in the number of registered drug abusers – 2855 (39% of the overall amount). In 2014, 3008 (41, 3% of the overall amount) drug abusers were registered in Dushanbe city. Reduction in number of the registered drug abusers is observed only in Dushanbe, while in other provinces and cities this number is growing up.
- Khatlon Province – increase by 6, 4% (1309 in 2014 and 1398 in 2015);
- Sughd Province – increase by 4, 8% (1060 in 2014 and 1113 in 2015);
- Direct Rule Districts – increase by 4, 3% (1030 in 2014 and 1076 in 2015);
- GBAO – Almost no change (872 in 2014 and 871 in 2015).
In 2015, the availability of substance abuse treatment beds in the Republic of Tajikistan was 4 per 100,000 inhabitants. Country employs 67 physicians specialized in that area (substance abuse therapists), which is 0.92 per 10,000 inhabitants.

**Number of the drug abusers registered at Narcological facilities of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (2011-2015)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region / Year</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dushanbe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of the registered drug abusers</td>
<td>3018/125</td>
<td>3046/131</td>
<td>3011/119</td>
<td>3008/119</td>
<td>2855/116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidence rate per 100,000 population</td>
<td>408,3</td>
<td>412,1</td>
<td>398,2</td>
<td>390,6</td>
<td>370,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sughd Province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of the registered drug abusers</td>
<td>1003/67</td>
<td>1041/51</td>
<td>1075/51</td>
<td>1060/49</td>
<td>1113/44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidence rate per 100,000 population</td>
<td>44,0</td>
<td>45,7</td>
<td>46,2</td>
<td>44,6</td>
<td>46,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khatlon Province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of the registered drug abusers</td>
<td>1236/19</td>
<td>1159/7</td>
<td>1262/13</td>
<td>1309/17</td>
<td>1398/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidence rate per 100,000 population</td>
<td>45,3</td>
<td>42,5</td>
<td>45,0</td>
<td>45,6</td>
<td>50,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBAO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of the registered drug abusers</td>
<td>891/6</td>
<td>915/5</td>
<td>901/4</td>
<td>872/3</td>
<td>871/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidence rate per 100,000 population</td>
<td>429,8</td>
<td>441,3</td>
<td>430,2</td>
<td>412,8</td>
<td>412,4</td>
</tr>
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<td>DRD</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of the registered drug abusers</td>
<td>969/21</td>
<td>1070/25</td>
<td>927/11</td>
<td>1030/11</td>
<td>1076/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidence rate per 100,000 population</td>
<td>55,1</td>
<td>60,8</td>
<td>49,7</td>
<td>55,5</td>
<td>58,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of the registered drug abusers</td>
<td>7117/238</td>
<td>7231/219</td>
<td>7176/198</td>
<td>7279/199</td>
<td>7313/189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incidence rate per 100,000 population</td>
<td>92,3</td>
<td>93,8</td>
<td>90,8</td>
<td>90,1</td>
<td>90,5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2015, 81.1% of the registered drug abusers were heroin users (5933), 10.4% opium users (762), 3.5% cannabis users (262) and 4.8% poly drug users (355). Out of the total number of the registered drug abusers 62.9% administer narcotic drugs intravenously.

647 people received specialized drug-treatment at Narcological facilities (703 in 2014).

In 2015, 594 people with a first time diagnosis of drug-dependence were registered (606 in 2014). In 2015, 496 people with a first time diagnosis of drug-dependence were registered by medical facilities and 98 people by the law enforcement agencies.

**Number of people with a first time diagnosis of drug-dependence**

![Bar chart showing the number of people with a first time diagnosis of drug-dependence from 2011 to 2015.](chart)
The Narcological Service also provides preventive supervision, including registration of people who had experience of drug use, but did not develop dependence. Such people are detected in the course of forensic investigations and medical examination of the drug and alcohol use. In 2015, 1720 were under preventive supervision.

In 2015, the Narcological Service reported on 9 deaths due to narcotic drug intoxication, while the Republic Forensic Center reported 36 deaths.

Intravenous drug use is one of the drivers of HIV epidemics in the Republic of Tajikistan.

In 2015, the Republic AIDS Center reported on registration of the 7640 PLHIV, of them – 2400 are women. 6558 PLHIV were registered in 2014.

Cumulative number of people living with HIV (2015):
- Dushanbe - 2284
- Sughd Province - 1531
- Khatlon Province - 1894
- GBAO - 479
- Direct Rule Districts - 1452

The quantitative indicators on HIV transmission routes for 2015 were as follows:
- Intravenous drug use – 3407 or 44,5%
- Sexual transmission – 3480 or 45,5%;
- Mother to child transmission (MTCT) – 256 or 3,3%;
- Unknown – 497 or 6,5%.

Since 2010, Tajikistan implements the Opioid Substitution Therapy Program (OST). Six OST points were operational in 2015: Dushanbe (2), Khorog, Khudzhand, Qurghonteppa and Kulob. Country-wide coverage by OST Program in 2015 was 611 people who inject opiates (431 in 2014).

In the course of 2015, within the framework of OST Program, the Narcological Service of MoHSP has draft the legal framework aimed at introducing OST in all facilities of Central Penal Correction Department under Ministry of Justice.

At this stage the Narcological Service of MoHSP settles issues aimed at establishing cooperation with the law enforcement agencies to create enabling, safe and confidential environment to enroll drug abusers into specialized treatment. In addition to that, the Narcological Service of MoHSP is exploring opportunities to scale-up the access of all drug-treatment services including OST, as well as increase the number of substance abuse therapists all over the country and particularly in GBAO.
Drug abuse prevention is a primary goal of the state policy in the field of drug demand reduction. Drug demand reduction efforts are complementing measures related to combatting the spread of drug addiction, such as combat against production, smuggling and trafficking of narcotic drugs.

Planned and systematic organization of anti-drug measures is an important factor in achieving effective outcomes in the field of prevention. This factor forms the basis of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013-2020, where DCA is the lead implementing agency for this strategy.

In 2015, the Commission composed of DCA experts conducted comprehensive inspections to verify compliance with implementation of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy. Inspection covered the local authorities of the executive power and some ministries, namely, Ministry of Health, Interior, Education and Science, Labor and Employment, Culture, State Committee on National Security, Committee on Youth, Tourism and Sports, Committee on Women and Family Affairs, Committee on Religious Affairs, Agency on Financial Control and Combat Against Corruption and the Custom Agency.

In the course of inspections, inspectors studied implementations of measures aimed at reducing demand for drugs, as well as implementation of counter drug trafficking measures, including interagency cooperation. In the field of drug abuse prevention, every stakeholder has its own plan, including regular and ad-hoc activities. Corresponding orders were issued to eliminate shortcomings.

Inspection reports were submitted to the Vice-Prime Minister, who chairs the Coordination Council on drug abuse prevention.

The Coordination Council on drug abuse prevention in an effective tool for coordination of activities carried under the National Strategy and serves as a platform to design countrywide prevention activities.

In 2015, amendments and changes were introduced into governmental resolution related to the Coordination Council, envisaging introduction of the new members, namely: MoI, MFA, SNSC and the Committee on Religious Affairs under the Government of Tajikistan.

In 2015, the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan through interaction of members of the Coordination Council organized prevention and counter-narcotics events: meetings, workshops, round tables, sport and cultural activities. Majority of such events were covered by mass media.

Every year, on the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Traffic (June 26), the Drug Control Agency conducted large counter-narcotics public events in Dushanbe. In 2015, the Drug Control Agency organized a drawing contest for children and teenagers – “Tajikistan
without drugs”. Winning drawings were used while publishing 2016 DCA Calendar. Judo and kickboxing contests were organized for teenagers. A counter-narcotics exhibition: “My Planet – a world free of drugs” were organized in “Boghi Iram” recreational park.

In cooperation with the local authorities of state power, the DCA organized various public events outside of Dushanbe: events were dedicated to International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Volunteers had been distributing leaflets and other IEC materials.

In 2015, the Drug Control Agency jointly with the representatives of the General Prosecutor’s Office of Korean Republic conducted in Khatlon and Sughd province prevention and counter-narcotics events. For the first time drug abuse prevention activities were carried out within the framework of international cooperation. Slogans of those activities were “World free of drugs”, “Drug free life is beautiful” and “Drug abuse – end of life”. In addition to that the Drug Control Agency organized a drawing contest for children and teenagers – “Drug abuse and ways to eradicate it”. Teenagers also competed in arm-wrestling, weight-lifting and judo contests. Local singers and actors also took part in different events.

The Drug Control Agency jointly with the Office on Security and Cooperation in Europe in the Republic of Tajikistan conducted mass public events in GBAO, Khatlon Province and DRD. Events were focused on forming negative attitude towards drug abuse and promoting of the healthy life-style.

The Drug Control Agency jointly with the Ministry of Interior, Committee on Women and Family Affairs and other stakeholders paid particularly attention to drug and psychoactive substance abuse among teenagers.

In the course of the year, the Drug Control Agency conducts operational and prevention activities at the places with the high probability of spread of psychoactive substances – night clubs, discos and pubs. Activities aimed drug abuse prevention, as well as talks with clients and managers to detect individuals suspected to be drug dealers and/or abusers.

Jointly with the Committee on Youth, Sports and Tourism under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Drug Control Agency conducts prevention activities among college and university students, aiming to promote healthy life-style and discuss negative aspects of abuse of psychoactive substances.

The DCA pay particular focus on prevention activities among younger generation. Such activities are also carried out during the summer, when schoolchildren and college students are on vacations. Every year, the Drug Control Agency organizes summer camps for college students aiming at promoting healthy life-style among teenagers and youngsters.

The Committee on Youth, Sports and Tourism under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan is the coordinator of the National Day Run, organized annually in honor of the Youth Day under the slogan «Youth in support of the healthy life-style.» The event covers a wide range of participants – schoolchildren, civil servants, politicians, artists and etc.

In 2015, the Ministry of Science and Education conducted joint prevention activities with the other stakeholders. Prevention activities aimed schoolchildren, college students and parents’ councils. Particular focus was given to promotion of the healthy life-style.

A training “Solid Family” was organized with the support of UNODC program office in the Republic of Tajikistan. Training covered two secondary schools in Dushanbe, and the focus group were schoolchildren aged 10-14. The main purpose of this training was to strengthen family relations as a factor for drug abuse prevention and confront the impact of unfavorable environment. Training was delivered by 12 earlier trained teachers.
Training lasted for 7 weeks and additionally covered 40 families.

Capacity building workshops on healthy life-style were organized for teachers and staff of education departments on Dushanbe, Khudzhand, Khorog, Qurghonteppa, Kulob and Panjakent. Participants were familiarized with consequences of tobacco, alcohol and drug abuse.

Since 2014, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection jointly with Ministry of Education and Science and with the support of GIZ, implements the “Safety routes” program. Said program envisages organization and conduction of workshops, meetings with teenagers and parents’ council, as well as urban and rural population. The main topics discussed with population are healthy life-style advocacy, and HIV and drug abuse prevention.

The web-site of the Academy of Education (www.aot.tj) has a dedicated chapter called “Healthy Life-Style”. This chapter contains all information relevant to healthy development and wholesome leisure-time occupation.

The Committee on Women and Family Affairs under the Government of Tajikistan conducts drug abuse prevention activities among girls and women. In 2015, the Committee organized a round table called “Culture of Family Relations”, where participants discussed family psychology and relations, parental responsibility in upbringing of children and how to counter drug abuse among children.

Through interaction with other governmental agencies, The Committee on Women and Family Affairs under the Government of Tajikistan conducted various events with different slogans: “Tajik mother against drugs”, “Life free of drugs” and “Role of mothers in drug abuse prevention”. Many of those events were dedicated to the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

The Committee on Women and Family Affairs under the Government of Tajikistan formed working groups consisting of representatives of local authorities. Those working groups hold meetings with families of labor migrants, vulnerable women and women with disabilities, as well as victims of domestic violence. Participants were familiarized with such aspects like early marriage, suicide, crime phenomena among women, domestic violence, drug abuse and sex work.

Parental councils were established under the Committee of Women and Family Affairs in the Sughd Province, in order to enhance parental responsibilities in regards to upbringing of children and prevent drug abuse among teenagers. The Committee engages War and Labor women-veterans, as well as women religious leaders to spread out prevention messages among high-school girls.

In 2015, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection conducted 174 meetings and 4 workshops aimed at increasing public awareness on drug abuse – related harms. Volunteers had been distributing IEC materials among general population. Information about prevention activities of the MoHSP is available at the web-site of the National Center for drug abuse monitoring and prevention - www.mmmpn.tj.

At this stage it is obvious that modern prevention techniques shall be improved taking into account emergence of new type of psychoactive substances which are particularly targeting youngsters and teenagers.

These measures should be aimed at elaboration of the educational programs for training and retraining of experts in the field of drug abuse prevention, including the introduction of international modern standards for drug abuse prevention, as well as information and analytical support for such activities.

Within the framework of initiative of the President of Tajikistan to declare period of 2016-2020 as “The Quinquennium of global measures aimed at drug prevention and promotion of the healthy life-style”, the Drug Control Agency is designing the Healthy Life-Style Concept. It is envisaged that the said Concept will serve as a foundation to elaborate programs within the framework of international drug-abuse coalition and adopt the UN Convention on Healthy Life-Style.
Public authorities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) continue to carry out the impressive work in the field of drug abuse prevention and addressing problems of drug addicts. Within the framework of implementation of the National Strategy to combat drug trafficking in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013 – 2020 (The National Counter-Narcotics Strategy), law enforcement and other public agencies have been working closely together to jointly implement projects with various CSOs.

The National Olympic Academy of the Republic of Tajikistan (NOA) is a public association that carries out its activities under the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan. Activities of the NOA are carried out with the support of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). Since 2012, the Academy in Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan have been carrying out activities aimed at drug, tobacco and alcohol abuse prevention, and the promotion of healthy-life styles.

Activities of the NOA in these field consist of methodological training and technical assistance which are jointly delivered with other members of the Coordinating Council on drug abuse prevention, public associations, and working groups on drug abuse prevention that have been formed in 5 cities (Dushanbe, Khorog, Khudjand, Kairakkum and Tursunzoda) and 9 towns (B. Gafurov, Pharkhor, Shuraabad, Panj, Qumsanghir, Vakhdat, Rudaki, Hissor and Shahrinav). These groups conduct surveys on drug use within defined geographical areas. Furthermore, these groups (in partnership with local executive authorities and local population) work to improve common areas (such as pleasure and sports grounds) and hold prevention activities.

In order to continue implementation of the «National Strategy for Combating Drug Trafficking in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013-2020», as well as in the framework of the social program called «Sport against drugs», NOA in cooperation with DCA and with the technical support of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) organized and conducted consultative and practical courses for the members of the Coordinating Council and representatives of public organizations and working groups between April and November 2015. During these courses, participants were briefed on the drug situation in Tajikistan. Participants discussed and agreed on basic principles for further activities, learnt new methodologies of field and outreach activities in the field of reducing demand for tobacco, alcohol and narcotic drugs. Furthermore, participants jointly identified necessary resources (technical and financial) would be able to strengthen the role of local coordination councils, public organizations and working groups in future to address problems related to tobacco, alcohol and narcotic drugs consumption among adolescents and youth.

Between 21st to 25th July 2015, NOA DCA jointly organized a training course on “Implementation of drug..."
policy in the Republic of Tajikistan and effective means for drug abuse prevention for leaders of public councils”, with participation of leaders of initiative and working groups, as well as CSOs, from Dushanbe, Khorog, Khudzhand, Tursunzoda, Direct Rule Districts and other towns of the Khatlon province at summer camp “Yavroz”.

Moreover, NOA and DCA carried out a series of events dedicated to the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. These include:

A round table on “Drug abuse problems and how to address them” on 25th June 2015.

A drawing contest amongst patients at the Republican Clinical Center for Treatment of Drug Addiction named after Gulyamov between 19th and 26th June 2015. Winners of the contest were awarded with memorable prizes and gifts.

A further drawing contest for secondary school children at the Children’s Craft Center located in Dushanbe on the 26th of June 2015 during which participants drew on chalk.

A joint NOA-Cycling Federation organized bike that with 20 cyclists of ages varying between 10 to 65. All events were carried out under the slogan «Life free of drugs».

The Republican Civil Society Organization “Aids Foundation East West - Tajikistan” (AFEW - Tajikistan)

In 2015, AFEW-Tajikistan continued working closely with partners that have been operating in the field of drug abuse prevention, harm reduction and scaling-up of access for drug addicts to comprehensive HIV prevention services.

Within the framework of joint activities dedicated to the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, AFEW – Tajikistan had facilitated a DCA judo contest among 120 teenagers that was aimed at promoting healthy life style and drug abuse prevention.

In cooperation with other civil society organization AFEW – Tajikistan implemented three project aimed at scaling – up of social support for drug addicts, as well as HIV and viral hepatitis preventions. Outcomes of joint activities are as follows:

- 1397 drug users tested for Hepatitis B and C; 539 cases of Hepatitis B and C were detected.
- 866 drug users tested for HIV; 24 new cases of HIV were detected.
- 515 drug users were received the social support services. 46 users, with the support of AFEW – Tajikistan grants, were enrolled into OST program, 23 drug users had received specialized drug treatment, while 12 drugs users received specialized STIs treatment.
- 466 drug uses tested for TB, ending up in detection of 21 pulmonary diseases, including 8 cases for TB.

Through the online information portal (www.afew.tj), the general population has access to health and legal counseling related to prevention and treatment of socially significant diseases, including treatment and rehabilitation for drug abusers. 2576 unique users have accessed the AFEW – Tajikistan web-platform and received corresponding information and counseling services.

AFEW – Tajikistan in collaboration with the Regional branch of DCA in Khatlon province conducted training for 23 DCA officers, covering topics such as health protection at workplace, reduction of stigma and discrimination against key groups of population, as well as setting up prevention activities among drug abusers.

AFEW – Tajikistan continues to work closely with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) operating in the field of drug abuse prevention and drug treatment. These include but are not CSOs including “Vita”, “Ikboli nek”, “Spin plus”, “Sudmand”, “Jovidon” and “Svon plus”.

Spin plus with the support of the Global Fund implemented “Improving access of people who inject drugs (PWID) to qualitative HIV/AIDS prevention services in Dushanbe and Vakhdat” and “Improving access of PWID to low-threshold services through implementation of HIV prevention programs” during the course of 2015.

With the support Spin Plus, there are currently 3 functioning Needle exchange points (NSP) and 2 low-threshold centers for drug users in Dushanbe. Another NSP is functioning in Vakhdat town. In 2015, more than 2500 clients received various services at these exchange points and centers. In addition, Spin Plus’s have been providing aid related to overdose treatment (mainly by opiates), as well as referral for OST enrollment and testing of PWID for Hepatitis B and C.

Within the framework of “Harm reduction – works, Fund it!” project, representatives Spin plus participated in the Regional High Level Dialogue «Road to Success» on sustainable impact and successful transition to domestic funding of HIV and TB response in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA), held between 28th -30th September 2015 in Tbilisi, Georgia.

On the 26th of 2015, a “Red Ribbon” memorial was inaugurated in the compounds of the Municipal Clinical Health Center #4. In dedication to was inaugurated Inauguration of this memorial was dedicated to the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Day. It highlights the readiness and commitment of state to continue combatting the further spread of HIV. The memorial was an initiative of the community of people living with HIV in
Tajikistan and erected with support of the Central Asian Association of People Living with HIV.

Volunteer is a regional CSO carries out its activities in GBAO. The main objective of this CSO is to consolidate efforts of local population, public and civil authorities in the field of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS prevention. It implements several projects and programs aimed at reducing drug abuse and HIV burden. Furthermore, Volunteer is a member of the legislative process at local and national levels, as well as being part decision making processes related to health system reform in the field of most-at-risk populations and drug abuse treatment.

Volunteer carries out its prevention activities with partnering organizations in Shugnan and Rushan towns of GBAO, covering the capital of GBAO – Khorog city, Murghob town, 4 jamoats of Shugnan town and 3 jamoats of Rushan town.

Volunteer, regional branch of DCA in GBAO and , regional branches of Ministries of Education and Science and Health-life style center jointly organized 3 learning workshops and 6 info-sessions for secondary school students in Khorog city. One of these workshops was aimed at surveying schoolchildren to assess their awareness on psychoactive substances. Results of this survey were discussed with local the population with the outcome of 8 schoolchildren being recruited to deliver basic drug prevention training courses to their peers.

Since 2007, Sudman has carried out activities aimed at delivering services related to treatment of drug dependence, referral for HIV testing and enrollment of clients to OST program at municipal drug treatment center in Kulob City, Khatlon province. During the course of 2015, Sudman provided services to more than 300 clients. In addition to that, 22 mini sessions on HIV, TB and Hepatitis were held.

Apeiron implements various small scale projects in Kulob and Qurghonteppa cities, as well as Vose, Pharkhor, Shuraabad, Bokhtar, Yavan and A. Jomi towns of Khatlon province. Target populations are people who inject drugs. Clients received services including syndrome-based STIs treatment. In addition, Apeiron also distributed condoms, and disposable syringes, and carried out HIV testing and counseling.

In 2015, Ikboli nek, operating in Mastchokh Town, Sughd province organized series of outreach activities, with the main focus on drug abuse and HIV/AIDS issues. With the aim of reducing the spread of HIV infections, Ikboli nek manages “Trust Points” for intravenous drug users.

Vita aims to develop, implement and promote means for effective advocacy in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, as well as other socially significant communicable diseases. In addition, also provides health, social and legal support to drug users and people living with HIV.

In 2015, Vita, with financial support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Netherlands implemented a project called “Bridging the gaps: Health and Rights for Key Populations”.

Project activities were aimed at:
1. Creation and maintaining of partnership networks with further involvement of public, religious and civil society organizations in order to address issues related to service provision to clients;
2. Referral of clients to other members of the partnership network able to deliver essential services;
3. Providing clients information ensuring access to health, psychological, social and legal services;
4. Clients’ counseling, including counseling on health, social, psychological and legal issues.

The following services were delivered to to clients within the framework of the aforementioned project:
- Counseling on safe behavior practices, HIV, TB, drug dependence and other socially significant diseases;
- Dissemination of IEC materials and condoms;
- Referral for HIV, TB and Hepatitis testing;
- Referral to healthcare providers;
- Information sessions for clients, including individual counseling.

Jovidon was established by PLHIV and drug users’ community in Kulob city is mainly linked with prevention and reduction of burden of HIV epidemics among key populations, mainly PWID (people who inject drugs).

Since the 1st of February 2015, Jovidon in a partnership with other CSOs continued its activities within the framework of “Bridging the gaps: Health and Rights for Key Populations”. Project activities were mainly focused on re-socialization and re-adaption of the drug users.

The following activities were accomplished in close partnership with the Drug Treatment Center of Kulob city (within the framework of OST program) and city AIDS center:
- Mini training among key population on such topics as HIV, STIs, Hepatitis B and C;
- Referral to OST program;
- Diagnostics and supply of detox treatment medication for the Drug treatment center;
- Self and peer support groups;
- Support to drug addicts for ID recovery.
THE ROLE OF MASS MEDIA

In modern society, development of public opinion, social-cultural stereotypes, moral and ethical values and outlook of individuals, concepts of right and wrong is strongly influenced by mass media.

Combination of traditional mass media and new communication and computer technologies, tremendous opportunities of Internet resources involve more and more people in daily, often long hours of immersion in the world of news, entertainment and communication. In this regard, the use of media in promotion of healthy lifestyle, dispelling myths about “enjoying drugs” and development of negative attitude towards their use is the key tool in prevention of drug addiction.

In order to achieve tangible results and effective impact on the audience, mass media and all subjects of prevention of drug addiction should work together to find new forms, methods and tools for presenting materials on drug addiction, combatting drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking, and narco-agression. It is important that reports, articles, movies and interviews are not boring mentoring, and informative, exciting, keen and absorbing. It is with these approaches that the Agency organizes its cooperation with mass media on prevention of drug addiction to attract wider audience of viewers, listeners, readers, and Internet users.

Wide use of mass media in prevention of drug addiction is envisaged in the Plan of Actions for Implementation of the Strategy to Combat Illicit Drug Trafficking in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013-2020, which identifies measures on continued and close cooperation of competent authorities with domestic and foreign TV and Radio companies and information agencies. Taking into account that in the country state TV channels have the highest coverage of viewing audience, and radio channels have a large number of listeners, most of the preventive activities are implemented with the involvement of these leading mass media.

To implement the Strategy, the staff of the Drug Control Agency under the President of RT conducted workshops for the mass media representatives covering problems related to drug abuse, preparation of TV programs, TV and radio spots on prevention of drug addiction. In 2015, radio programs were prepared to the radio listeners to ask questions of Agency specialists.

To develop fruitful cooperation with domestic and foreign TV companies for raising public awareness of measures taken to prevent trafficking of drugs, the staff of the Agency, together with the TV journalists prepared 40 programs shown on Tajik TV Channels – “Shabakai Jakum”, “Safina”, “Jahonnamo”, and CIS TV Channels – “Russia Today”, MTRK “Mir”, “Pervyi Canal” (Russia), and “Khabar” (Kazakhstan).

In 2015, for prevention purposes, the Agency prepared and broadcasted several TV programs in country
such as “Hamkorihoi Sudmand” (Fruitful Cooperation), “Jomea be Mavodi Muhaddir” (Society with No Drugs), “Muborizai Beamon” (Grim Struggle), “Suhbati Ruz” (Timely Discussions), “Soyarushan” (Light and Shade), etc.


Based on the results of monitoring of the most common questions received from citizens, the Agency prepared a short film covering legal cultivation of opium poppy plant and the reasons for the destruction of seized illicit drugs. The film was shown on TV channels in Tajikistan.

Documentaries for state TV channels were prepared based on the results of international anti-drug operations conducted in the Republic of Tajikistan, such as the Conference on consolidation of efforts in international anti-drug cooperation, the meeting of the heads of drug control agencies of SCTO member states and the AKT Initiative, as well as special tactical trainings “Grom-2015”.

In 2015, the staff of the Agency arranged more than 500 interviews in mass media, including 150 in print media, 145 – on radio, and 210 – on TV.

In order to raise awareness on drug situation, 6 press conferences, briefings and round table discussions involving more than 240 representatives of domestic and foreign mass media were held in the country and in the region.

On May 26, 2015, a media forum “Information of Population on Measures Taken by the Government to Combat Illicit Drug Trafficking” was held in Dushanbe for Afghanistan and neighboring countries by the Agency together with the Regional Office of UNODC in Central Asia.

More than 300 students of Tajikistan and Afghanistan Universities attended the Forum and received detailed answers to questions from heads and representatives of drug control agencies of the Regional Program member states.

The key objectives of the media forum are to raise awareness of drug control activities in the region, strengthening of combatting illicit drug trafficking, and improving information sharing between Regional Program member states.

Mass media widely covered anti-drug activities carried out in honor of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking celebrated annually on June 26.

To improve the quality of media coverage of the results of the fight against drug trafficking and preventive activities of the law enforcement and security agencies of Tajikistan, in 2015 the UNODC arranged three days training on drafting press-releases, working with mass media, arranging interviews, drafting materials for newspapers, covering issues of preventing addiction in media for the staff of press-centers of the competent authorities.

The staff of the Agency also participated as trainers, and in order to increase knowledge of young journalists of state mass media and the staff of press-centers of the law enforcement bodies, a seminar was held on the key areas and tasks of the state drug control policy, drug related situation in the country and the region, types of drugs and psychotropic substances, definitions and concepts used in drug control sphere.

For greater efficiency and credibility in informing the public of the activities of the DCA in the fight against drug trafficking and drug abuse prevention, as well as to strengthen public relations, the http://www.akn.tj website in both Tajik and Russian languages posted more than 300 information materials. The website of the Agency also contains news, analytical materials on the drug situation in Tajikistan and in the region, articles on the initiatives the Government of Tajikistan and cooperation of the Agency with the drug control agencies of other countries and international organizations, regulations in the field of drug control, information and regulations for the control of precursors, statistical data. The website also regularly shows letters from readers, court information, stories on the life and fate of the drug addicts, vacancy announcements. In addition, website users can ask their questions to experts on treatment of drug addiction and receive answers.
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANTI-DRUG PROGRAMS IN THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN
The High-Level Conference aimed at consolidating international anti-drug efforts was held on the May 27th, 2015, in Dushanbe. The High-Level Conference was held prior to the convening the UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs in 2016. It should be noted, that said conference was organized upon the initiative articulated by the President of Tajikistan – Mr. Emomali Rakhmon during the SCO Summit in 2014. The main objective of the Conference was to draw attention of the global community to the problems of drug production and trafficking, as well as enhancing the partnership in Central Asia and seeking for a solution to the drug-related threats.

During the opening speech, the Secretary of Security Council of the Republic of Tajikistan welcomed participants on behalf of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. He pointed out that drug proceeds are considered to be one of the main sources for financing of the international terrorism. Quoting the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Secretary of Security Council asked global community, international organizations and civil society to unite efforts in the fight against drug trafficking, as it poses threat to the mankind’s future. The Secretary of Security Council recalled about the proposed initiative of the President of Tajikistan to declare period of 2016 – 2020 as “The Quinquennium of global measures aimed at drug prevention and promotion of the healthy life-style”.

Yuri Fedotov, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Executive Director, said: “The need for such efforts was never more important. This process provides a good opportunity for the countries of Central Asia to analyze regional cooperation and coordination in view of the threats posed by Afghan opiates.”

“International cooperation in anti-drug efforts will remain one of the priorities of the state policy of the Republic of Tajikistan”, said Rustam Nazarzoda, Director of Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. He expressed hope that within the current dialogue on the threat of drugs new approaches to strengthen effective measures to control drugs will be developed.

The one-day event brought together some 300 high-level participants from Anti-Drug agencies of Afghanistan, Central Asia, Russia, Iran, Pakistan, South Korea, Turkey, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, the EU Delegation to Tajikistan, OSCE, CARICC, AKF and many other. UN agencies also took part.

Participants of the Conference discussed issues related to enhancing cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan aimed at addressing drug-related threats,
including the current drug situation in Afghanistan. They also exchanged views on achievements in the field of countering narcotics and problems faced in countering drug trafficking by countries of the region.

Participants of the Conference also welcomed the decision of the UN General Assembly in its resolution 69/200 that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central Policy making body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, should lead the preparatory process for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the World Drug Problem to be held in 2016.

Through the Joint Statement participants of the Conference placed request to the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the World Drug Problem (to be held in 2016) to pay special attention to the importance of issues such as:

- National, regional and international responses to drug-related crimes;
- Countering money-laundering, including, where appropriate, in connection with the financing of terrorism;
- Promoting judicial cooperation in drug related crimes.
- Addressing emerging issues/crimes, including new psychoactive substances, precursors and the misuse of the Internet;
- Strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and comprehensive international and regional cooperation, including with a focus on delivering technical assistance to the countries most affected by illicit drug production and trafficking;
- Establish a special multidisciplinary expert group under the auspices of the UN for a comprehensive study of specific, feasible and alternative directions of economy recovery and development of agriculture for the reduction and subsequent elimination of opium cultivation in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan;
- Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care with a particular focus on vulnerable groups.


A briefing for domestic and foreign media was held at the conclusion of the Conference. Briefing was attended by the heads of anti-drug agencies, participating at the Conference.
In 2015, Tajikistan Chaired the Collective Security Treatment Organization. Linked to this was the country's hosting of various regular CSTO meetings and mandated activities.

On the 26th of May 2015, Dushanbe hosted the Sixteenth meeting of the Coordinating Council of heads of the competent authorities to combat drug trafficking (KSOPN) of CSTO member-states, with participation of high-level officials, namely: CSTO Secretary General – Mr. Bordyuya N.N.; KSOPN Chairman – Director of Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation – Mr. Ivanov V.P.; Chief of State Directorate for Combating Organized Crime of the Republic of Armenia – Mr. Zakaryan R.G.; First Deputy Minister of Interior of the Republic of Belarus – Mikhnevich V.V.; Chief of Department to Combat Drug Business and Control over Drug Trafficking and Trade under Mol of the Republic of Kazakhstan – Mr. Kusetov S.T.; Chairman of the State Drug Control Service under the Government of Kyrgyz Republic – Mr. Sultanov A.A.; and Director of the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan – Mr. Nazarzoda R.

During the said meeting, parties reviewed results of 10 years of work in the forms of the Coordination Council established back in 2005 by decision of the CSTO Collective Security Council. Participants reviewed the progress related to implementation of CSTO Drug Combating Strategy for 2015 – 2020, as well as results of the joint anti-drug operation “Channel – Patrol” at Osh city of the Kyrgyz Republic. The aforementioned joint anti-drug operation was attended by special units of drug enforcement agencies of the CSTO member-states, deployed as a part of Collective Rapid Reaction Force (CRRF) of the CSTO member states. Parties had a constructive exchange of views and opinions in regards to issues related to combat against drug trafficking originating from the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. In addition, parties also emphasized the importance of enhancing the role of KSOPN in coordination of anti-drug efforts across the region and further improve aspects related to fight against transnational drug and crime groups.

As a part of Preparatory Process for UNGASS on the world drug problem in 2016, participants proposed to consolidate efforts of organizations including the UN, SCO, BRICS and INC to combat drug trafficking, while consolidated efforts shall be focused on dismantlement of drug production in Afghanistan and South America, regions that are considered to be two main centers for drug production.

In order to elaborate a common position in support of the initiative for elimination of drug production, alternative development of the drug-producing States and strengthening of traditional drug control mode, participants agreed on the necessity of developing a set of measures for effective combat against drug. It was agreed that such measures were to be displayed in the format of the New Anti-Drug Convention, while CSTO member states shall have common vision for such new Convention. Common vision paper shall be submitted to the CSTO Secretariat and subsequently submitted for consideration at the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016.

In order to standardize measures aimed at early detection and prevention of the spread of new forms of synthetic drugs, the participants decided to continue their joint efforts in the field of harmonization of international legislation. In addition, parties agreed on further cooperation format in given field.

Parties at the meeting agreed on the following:

- To elaborate the Plan of Actions for KSOPN of CSTO member states for 2016-2017;
- Continue to prepare for UN General Assembly Special Session on the world drug problem in 2016;
- To harmonize joint decisions carried out by the Coordinating Council of heads of the competent authorities to combat drug trafficking on cooperation in combating the production and spread of the new psychoactive substances.

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1 Coordinating Council of heads of the competent authorities to combat drug trafficking
2 Collective security treatment organization
On May 26, 2015, Tajikistan had hosted a review meeting within the framework of “AKT Initiative”, with participation of head of drug enforcement agencies of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan. Meeting was held in capital city of Tajikistan – Dushanbe.

In course of the meeting parties had reviewed implementation progress of Action plan for 2014 – 2015 aimed at implementation of “AKT Initiative” Declaration adopted in 2014. Particular attention was paid to strengthening collaboration in the field of combatting drug trafficking, intelligence exchange and conducting joint anti-drug operation, as well as organizing training courses and opening the regional sniffer dog training center in Dushanbe.

Given the fact that counter-narcotics efforts are paying particular attention to combat against legalization of drug proceeds, the meeting was attended by prosecutors and financial intelligence units of “AKT Initiative” member-states, as well as UNODC subject matter experts.

Parties agreed to continue efforts on enhancing cooperation aimed at large seizures of drugs in countries covered by “AKT Initiative”. Parties agreed to consolidate their efforts to counter translational crime groups and need to re-launch work of Liaison Officers of Tajik DCA in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and Liaison Officers of Afghan MoI in the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as Liaison Officers of SCNS of the Kyrgyz Republic in Sughd province of Tajikistan. In addition to that, parties agreed that with the support of UNODC all three countries shall continue precautionary and preventive anti-drug activities at border areas, as well as continue training courses for K-9 trainers at the premises of DCA’s dog-training center.

For the purpose of implementation of ministerial declarations adopted in the course of tripartite meetings, it was agreed to elaboration an Action Plan for 2016 – 2017, as well as to continue regular meetings among drug enforcement agencies of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.
From 24 August to 3 September 2015, the Republic of Tajikistan hosted tactical and special exercise – “Grom 2015”.

This exercise took place in accordance with the Action Plan on the follow up of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) December meeting (2014) and priority actions proposed by the Republic of Tajikistan under Tajikistan’s CSTO Chairmanship. The said Action Plan was agreed by the CSTO Chairman and the President of Tajikistan on the March 13th, 2015 within the framework of the Basic Measures Plan of the Coordinating Council of heads of competent authorities of CSTO member States on countering illicit drug trafficking for 2014-2015.

As indicated by the President of Tajikistan in his remarks in December 2014 at Moscow meeting: “The Republic of Tajikistan assigns priority importance to cooperation within the framework of CSTO activities, seeing this Treaty as an effective, time-tested tool to ensure security and stability in its area of responsibility”

The first phase of the tactical and special exercise – “Grom 2015” took place on August 27, 2015. Exercise was executed at the training area “Fakhrabad” of the Ministry of Defense. The first phase of exercise was attended by Special Forces of counter-narcotics authorities, internal security troops, as well as interior and security authorities of CSTO member states deployed to the special units of the CSTO response units. Following countries participated at the exercise: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Russia and Tajikistan, as well as the 201st Russian Military Base deployed in the Republic of Tajikistan.

Following authorities were representing Tajikistan during the 1st phase of exercise: Special Forces of the Drug Control Agency, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, State Committee on National Security, National Guard, Main Department for Tajik Border Forces and Customs Agency.

Exercise was executed in order to improve practical skills of the Special Forces in regards to ambush and search operations aimed at suppressing drug trafficking channels, including seizure of drugs, firearms, ammunition and explosives, as well as coordination of efforts during joint operations.

The counter-narcotics ministers of CSTO member-states, CSTO secretariat, representatives of Tajikistan’s Security Council, chief of interior and security agencies of Tajikistan, ambassadors and military attachés of foreign states accredited in Tajikistan, watched the conduct of the “Grom - 2015” exercise.

During execution phase at “Fakhrabad” training area, units practiced various tactical methods, including parrying of attacks on strategic facilities, seizure of narcotic drugs and firearms, detention of criminal groups, as well as special events for search and detection of criminals and hostage rescue. Shooting contest was organized among Special Forces Units.

The second phase of the tactical and special exercise – “Grom 2015” took place from August 29 to September 2, 2015. The Second phase was conducted in the Khatlon Province of Tajikistan.

During the second phase participants practiced ingress of the mixed units aimed at suppressing drug trafficking channels on the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan. Mixed units also exercised the practical interaction during joint operations.

Field support headquarters, 4 mixed units and 2 block-posts were formed during the second phase of exercise at the “Momirak” training area. At the 2 block-posts, intended to examine vehicles, mixed units also exercised ambush and search operations at drug trafficking routes, as well as blockage and capture operations of the temporary drug storages.

While concluding “The Grom - 2015” exercise on the September 3rd, 2015, it was noted that exercise was carried out under close to real conditions, having great practical and preventive value. During the exercise, participants carried out a set of search operations aimed at the suppressing of opiates and cannabis trafficked out from Afghanistan and combating legalization of the drug proceeds.

The exercise “Grom - 2015” contributed in addressing of issues related to improvement the interaction mechanism in the fight against drug trafficking. Effective coordination among the various units of counter-narcotics agencies significantly increases the efficiency in combating transnational drug crime groups. Analysis of the exercise is of great importance for the further systematic strategic planning and implementation of counter-narcotic measures.

Through accurate and well-coordinated work of national interagency headquarters of the CSTO Member States and the law enforcement authorities of observer States, participants of the exercise managed to fully achieve intended objectives and enhance their preparedness for combating drug trafficking.

Thematic photo exhibition “CSTO – a reliable shield to counter drugs trafficking” was organized to reflect results of the “Grom - 2015” exercise. Exhibition was organized by the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan. Exhibition was attended by participants of the Joint Meeting of Heads of the CSTO-member states, Council of Foreign Ministers, Defense Ministers’ Council and Committee secretaries of the security councils of the CSTO member states held on 15 September 2015 in Dushanbe.
INTERNATIONAL COUNTER-NARCOTICS OPERATIONS

Intergovernmental agreements, signed by the Republic of Tajikistan in the field of combatting drug trafficking, serve as a legal base for competent bodies to promote international cooperation in the field of combatting transnational drug-related crime.

Taking into account that Tajikistan is a country of transit for certain amount of drugs from Afghanistan, law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan on a permanent basis share operational and intelligence information with counterparts from Afghanistan, Central Asia countries, Russia, China and other overseas countries.

In accordance with the intergovernmental agreements signed in 2005 among the Islamic State of Afghanistan and the Republic of Tajikistan, the DCA under the President of Tajikistan opened a liaison office in Takhar province of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

In 2015 based on information provided by liaison officers of the DCA law enforcement agencies of the Islamic State of Afghanistan conducted 11 operations in Takhar province, which resulted in seizure of 446 kilograms of drugs, including 381 kilograms of opiates and 65 kilograms of cannabis, 800 liters of precursors. 14 people were arrested.

A liaison office of the Ministry of Interior of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, functioning in Dushanbe since 2013, enables operational units of the DCA to increase their effectiveness in the field of operational information exchange, as well as conduct joint operations to prevent smuggling supply of drugs from Afghanistan through Tajikistan.

In 2015, operational units of the DCA RT and Mol ISA conducted 9 joint operations. 394 kilograms of drugs, including 306 kilograms of heroin, were seized as a result of those operations. A heroin laboratory was dismantled in Badakhshan province; 9 smugglers were arrested. Amongst aforementioned operations, 5 operations were conducted through “Control delivery” technique. As a result of “Control delivery” operations, 140 kilograms of drugs were seized in the Republic of Tajikistan, including 52 kilograms of opiates.

Every year, on the basis of available intelligence information on intentions of criminal groups to transit drugs to Russian Federation through Central Asia, the competent agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan conduct operational activities to intercept the identified flows of narcotics.

In 2015, the law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan conducted 5 international operations, including:

- The DCA under the President of RT conducted joint operation with the SDCS of Kyrgyzstan, resulting in seizure of 8,244 kilograms of narcotics. 3 people were arrested;
- The DCA under the President of RT conducted joint operation with the Mol of Kazakhstan using “Controlled Delivery” technique, resulting in seizure of 39 kilograms of narcotics. 2 people were arrested;
- The Mol of Tajikistan conducted 2 joint operations with the Mol of Russian Federation using “Controlled Delivery” technique, resulting in seizure of 31 kilograms of heroin in Moscow;
- The SNSC of Tajikistan conducted joint operation with the SNSC of Kyrgyzstan using “Controlled Delivery” technique, resulting in seizure of 175 kilograms of heroin.

**Domestic counter-narcotics operation “Channel – Synthetics – Postal Service”**

Pursuant to the decision carried out on September 15th, 2015 by heads of the Collective Security Treatment Organization (CSTO) member-states in Dushanbe city, to conduct broad-scale operative investigation measures aimed to counter means for spread of the new psychoactive substances, including use of the international mail services and the Internet, from September 21 to 25 the “Operation Channel – Synthetics – Postal Service” was executed on the territory of the CSTO members.

Law enforcement, counter-narcotics, as well as customs and border bodies of the CSTO member-states participated in execution of “Operation Channel – Synthetics – Postal Service”. In addition to the CSTO member-states, the Interpol representatives, as well as observer-states, such as Afghanistan, Iran, India, China and Thailand, participated at execution of “Operation Channel – Synthetics – Postal Service”.

International Coordinating Headquarter on “Operation Channel – Synthetics – Postal Service” was deployed at premises of the Russian Federal Drug Control Agency located in Vladivostok city.

According to the International Coordinating Headquarter on “Operation Channel – Synthetics – Postal Service”, in the course of operation 1.6 metric tons of synthetic drugs were seized on the territory of the CSTO member-states and observer states.

Heads of anti-narcotics authorities of the CSTO member-states hold a meeting during the operation days. In the course of this meeting parties discussed draft Provisions and Action Plan of main events under the CSTO Coordinating Council of heads of the competent authorities to combat drug trafficking.
IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS RELATED TO COMBATING ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFICKING

For the last twenty years, the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia has been maintaining close cooperation with governments of Central Asian countries in the field of countering narcotics.

The long and poorly patrolled border of Tajikistan with the largest opium producer in the world requires special attention to address drug trafficking and drug abuse, as well as illegal financial flows originating from the drug proceeds.

The implementation of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2013-2020 has a significant impact on addressing those issues.

The High-Level Conference aimed at consolidating international anti-drug efforts held in Dushanbe on the May 27th, 2015 prior to the convening the UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs in 2016, once again draw attention of the global community to the problems of drug production and trafficking, as well as enhancing the partnership in Central Asia and seeking for a solution to the drug-related threats, as well consolidate all available resources and efforts to implement target programs and strategies.

UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia expresses its gratitude to the Government of Tajikistan and Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan for cooperation, and particularly for cooperation within the framework of the new UNODC Programme for Central Asia 2015-2019, and remains committed to support the DCA and other stakeholders to facilitate implementation of the Regional Programme.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes is a main partner of the Government of Tajikistan which implements a number of projects aimed at combating drug trafficking, as well as support Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan. In addition to that the UNODC Programme Office in Tajikistan supports the Government of Tajikistan in the field of border protection, establishing of border liaison offices and effective container control systems, monitoring of trade of opiates originating in Afghanistan, as well as primary prevention of drug abuse and HIV, and drug abuse treatment.

Project “The Drug Control Agency (DCA) – Phase II” aimed at combating drug trafficking is the longest running project of UNODC implemented in the Republic of Tajikistan since 1999.

The International Working Group1 was formed in 2003, in order to coordinate and monitor the project, consisting of DCA’s Leadership, representatives of the UNODC Programme Office in Tajikistan, INL and DEA connected to the US Embassy in Tajikistan. In 2012, the International Task Group was officially joined by the official representative of the Russian Federal Drug Control Service in the Republic of Tajikistan.

The IWG meetings are held at least twice a year. IWG approves semi-annual work plans of the Drug Control Agency and discuss the progress of their implementation.

In 2015, the Project support Drug Control Agency to replace the specialized drug incinerator. Compared to the previous one that came to the end of its useful life, the new incinerator has larger capacity allowing incinerating larger volumes of drugs in a shorter period of time.

With the support of the Project, the Canine Training Unit at DCA rehabilitated and increased number of aviaries for sniffing dogs.

As a part of capacity building component, the Project delivers extension services and training to of DCA employees, including training on ICT technologies, public relations and scope of the existing legislation. Since beginning of the year, the Project support more than 10 training covering 126 DCA employees. In addition to that, the Project supported publishing of the guidelines for operational staff.

The Project jointly with the Global Project “Afghan Opiate Trade Project” supported the presentation of Review of the drug situation in Tajikistan for 2014” held in Vienna.

The Project facilitated the High-Level Conference aimed at consolidating international anti-drug efforts held on the May 27th, 2015, in Dushanbe.

The Afghan Opiate Trade Project is to address the need for systematic, comprehensive and consolidated analytical information relating to the multi-dimensional threat of the global illicit Afghan opiate trade.

The AOTP providing research capacity building to the customs organisations of Afghanistan and Pakistan, in order to enhance local research capacity.In 2015, AOTP published two reports on: “The Afghan Opiate trafficking through the Southern Route” and “Drug Money: the illicit proceeds of opiates trafficked through the Balkan route”.2

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1 IWG – International working group for the monitoring of implementation of TD/TAJ/H03 project «Drug control agency - Phase II», formed in 2003.

In addition to that AOTP provided support to the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan to publish a pilot study on the “Socio-economic impact of drug use on users and their family members”.

Financial support provided in publication of the “Review of the Drug situation in Republic of Tajikistan for 2014”, which was presented during the briefing to the Heads of Diplomatic Missions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan and at the UNODC headquarter, Vienna, in the course of 58th sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

In 2015, AOTP in collaboration with the UNODC Regional Programme, the EU- Heroin Route Programme and CARICC organized the second Northern Route workshop and discussed the latest developments, trends, challenges and achievements along the “Northern route” as well as regional cooperation and data and information sharing. Meeting was attended by experts of analytical and operational units of the competent authorities of 14 countries, as well as international organizations.

AOTP in cooperation of UNODC ROCA and the Paris Pact Initiative further improved the online Drugs Monitoring Platform unique global online tool for collecting, monitoring and sharing a wide range of drug-related data and features an interactive online mapping resource. It is being implemented by the Tashkent-based Coordination and Analysis Unit. The Counter Narcotics Police of Afghanistan and the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan are cooperating partners.

The Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries covers UNODC support to anti-drug trafficking efforts in the countries of Central Asia, as well as ensure effective distribution of resources. This Regional Programme does not provide assistance in all UNODC’s thematic areas. Given the regional context, the will of Member States and the prominence of Afghan opiates, it represents the art of the possible. The Regional Programme is sub-divided into four sub-programmes.

Within the framework of Sub-Programme 1- “Regional Law Enforcement Cooperation”, in March 2015, Dushanbe hosted meeting where delegates from Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Iran, China and Pakistan discussed investigations on seized precursors and held bilateral meetings to exchange operational and intelligence information.

The eighth meeting of the RIWGP was held in April in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan with participation of eight Regional Programme countries. At this meeting, the participants reviewed the recent precursor seizures, and determined investigation cases for operational case meetings. In addition, the participants of the RIWGP drafted an operation plan for the Second Phase of the Operation Substitute, which aims to identify illicit trafficking of precursor chemicals as well as track the movement of non-controlled substances.

The first meeting of RWGFD in Almaty in April is a prime example of the ground-breaking work the Regional Programme is doing to promote technical cooperation and information sharing among countries of the region to work together to tackle problems related to narcotics. The objective of this working group is to bring together investigators and forensic laboratory staff of Regional Programme countries to review the situation, share forensic information and discuss regional operational mechanisms and joint investigations. The RIWGP has proven to be an effective platform for law enforcement and regulatory authorities to review recent precursor seizures in the region, foster regional backtracking investigations, and reinforce information hubs and operational coordination mechanisms.

Regional Programme supported the organization of the AKT Ministerial Review Meeting held on the May 26th in Dushanbe, at which law enforcement and judicial officials from drug control agencies, ministries of foreign affairs, general prosecutor’s offices and financial intelligence units of the AKT (Afghanistan – Kyrgyzstan – Tajikistan) countries discussed legal and enforcement cooperation in tandem to allow for the formulation of strategies that support operations right through to prosecutions. Participants felt that bringing together law enforcement and judicial authorities was crucial to boost the overall impact of counter-narcotics efforts in the region.

Regional Programme supported ToT course held in June in Dushanbe. ToT course aimed at building capacity of law enforcement bodies of RP countries in delivering training on precursors and new synthetic drugs trafficking.

In 2015, Sub-Programme 2: “International/Regional Cooperation in Legal Matters” continued to promote and enhance regional cooperation and coordination in fighting drugs, crime and terrorism by assisting RP countries in bringing their legal and institutional frameworks in closer compliance with the UN drugs and crime conventions. The Sub-Programme 2 completed evaluation of compliance of legal and institutional frameworks of RP countries with provision of UN convention against transnational organized crimes. In addition to that RP countries developed and adopted recommendations on

1 http://drugsmonitoring.unodc-roca.org
enhancing international and regional cooperation in the judicial field.

Eleventh regional meeting among the FIUs of the countries in West and Central Asia (under the CASH initiative) was held in 2015 for the leadership and operation units of FIUs, customs, prosecution and other competent authorities. The meeting also served as a platform for signing Memorandum of Understanding between Financial intelligence units of Afghanistan and Tajikistan. The MOU between two mentioned countries was signed on 23 September 2015 and would enhance inter-agency cooperation between FIUs.

During 2015 competent authorities were delivered trainings in the field of “Illicit use of Money and Value Transfer Services”.

Sub-Programme 3: “Prevention and Treatment of Addiction among Vulnerable Groups” is to promote international best practices in drug use prevention, treatment and related HIV prevention. SP3 work is line with drug conventions, UN General Assembly resolutions on provision of scientific evidence based voluntary drug treatment and rehabilitation services in community and in prison settings.

Following workshops and training were organized under SP3 in 2015:
- The Regional training and consultation meeting on monitoring over the amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), which was attended by experts and non-governmental organizations of the RP countries (Tehran);
- The Regional workshop for counter-narcotics ministers to evaluate effectiveness of drug-abuse programmes (Ashgabat);
- The Regional Workshop on Introducing Strengthening Families Programme (SFP) for Parents and Youth’ was held in Tehran (Islamic Republic of Iran).
- Expert meetings for Afghan, Iran and Pakistan delegates to review existing curricula in the field of treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts at medical schools (Tehran);
- The Regional workshop for corrections personnel on drug-abuse prevention and HIV in prison settings (Dushanbe).

Sub-Programme 4 (SP4) on Trends and Impact aimed at enhancing trends analysis and impact monitoring capacity at the regional level, focusing on the 8 countries most immediately affected by the Afghan drug flow dynamics to “inform evidence-based policies and strategies”. SP4 supported the study tour to Thailand for staff of competent authorities from Tajikistan and Afghanistan. The purpose of study tour was to get familiar with the best practices on replacing drug crops with alternative agricultural production.

On the May 26th, 2015 SP4 supported the Regional Media Forum in Dushanbe. This event, for the first time brought together counter narcotics ministers from RP countries and over 300 university students to discuss current initiatives and future priorities to tackle illicit drug production, trafficking and use and strengthen regional cooperation on drug control. The event was successful in raising awareness of drug control issues amongst the youth, sharing experiences of individuals and ministers, allowing ministers to describe policy and decision making priorities. The Regional Media Forum was widely broadcasted on Tajik and Afghan television.

In September 2015, with the support of RP, DCA organized mass cultural anti-drug events for communities residing at Tajik-Afghan border.

The Project called “Enforcement structures to collect, collate, analyse and disseminate intelligence information in the field of combatting drug trafficking” aims to enhance and effectively use analysis of the intelligence data, as well as promote exchange mechanism and share information among the law enforcement bodies in Central Asia, South Caucasus and Afghanistan.

During said Project the competent counter-narcotics bodies of Central Asia, Afghanistan and Azerbaijan received a specialized “i2” tool.

In 2015, 6 trainings were delivered to 55 analysts of the law enforcement agencies. Trainings were aimed to build capacity and strengthen interagency relations. In addition to that Project supported 5 steering committee meetings and 1 regional expert meeting.

Project supported the Analytical Unit at Drug Control Agency to integrate existing information to the updated version of “i2” tool analytical database, as well as training for staff of DCA Regional Branches in Sughd and Khatlon Province.

In 2015, Project supported two working meetings of chiefs of analytical units of Tajik law enforcement agencies engaged in combatting drug trafficking. Meetings’ participants discussed analysis of intelligence information, as well as channels and modes for transfer of intelligence information, and use of specialized analytical tools.

In March and November 2015, staff of the analytical unit of DCA conducted training: “Use of i2 and Excel software. Analysis of information” for analytical units of other Tajik law enforcement agencies.

In April 2015, staff of DCA (Tajikistan) and SDCS (Kyrgyzstan) met in Astana to deliver “i2 tool” trainings for analytical units of the competent authorities of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

12 Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) has been established within the framework of 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)». 6 of those Border Liaison Offices were opened in 2015:
- Nizhniy Panj (Tajik-Afghan border, March 17th, 2015);
- Qyzylart/Bor-Dobo (Tajik-Kyrgyz border, June 4th, 2015);
It is a modern border outpost which has accommodation for soldiers and officers, summer kitchen, showers and lavatories, permanent power supply, HVAC, as well as water supply and sanitation. All office spaces are equipped with the relevant equipment.

In May 2015, 36 border liaison officers, who carry their duty at BCPs “Karamyk”, “Qyzylart” and “Nizhniy Panj” (Tajikistan), “Karamek”, “Bor-Dobo” and Dostuk (Kyrgyzstan), as well as “Sari Osogo”, “Oybek”, “Dustlik” and “Ayritom” (Uzbekistan) participated at capacity-building training held in Kyrgyzstan.

In October 2015, the UNODC Programme Office in Tajikistan organized in Dushanbe training course for border liaison officers who carry their duty at BCPs “Ishkoshim”, “Nizhniy Panj” and “Ayritom” (all three BCPs are located along Tajik-Afghan border).

The annual Steering Committees meeting of the «Countering the trafficking of Afghan opiates via the northern route by enhancing the capacity of key border crossings points (BCPs) and the establishment of Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) in Central Asia» project was held in CARICC (Almaty) on 10-11 November 2015.

The Project on “Strengthening control along the Tajikistan/Afghanistan border” completed civil works of Takhti Sangin border outpost. Border outpost was officially commissioned on June 30th, 2015 by the Main Border Troops Department of the Republic of Tajikistan. It is a modern border outpost which has accommodation for soldiers and officers, summer kitchen, showers and lavatories, permanent power supply, HVAC, as well as water supply and sanitation. All office spaces are equipped with the relevant equipment.

In October 2015, within the framework of XAC/K22 the UNODC Programme Office in Tajikistan organized in Dushanbe five-day training course on border liaison for 8 border guards deployed at Tajik-Afghan border.

The Clinical guidelines for medical units at prison settings were developed with the support of “Capacity Building for a More Effective HIV/AIDS Prevention among Vulnerable Populations in Eastern Europe and Central Asia – Phase II” project. Said guidelines cover prison populations in Tajikistan with opioid dependency.

In order to get familiar with the best practice of the prison system in Spain in the field of OST therapy in prison settings, project supported a study tour to Barcelona for the management of the Main Correctional Department under the Ministry of Justice.

In November 2015, jointly with the Republican Narcological Centre, project staff conducted a workshop called “Psychosocial support for injecting drug users who receive substitution therapy”. Workshop was attended by 17 social workers of 5 OST sites. In addition to that, medical school students, specialized in social work, were also invited to participate. The main purpose of training was to teach social workers how to handle special needs of drug users.

Also in November 2015, training was delivered for 16 representatives of Main Correctional Department under the Ministry of Justice. Training was focused on “OST for prisoners who inject drug”. Participants were familiarized with the OST basics and peculiarities of OST programme in prison settings.

In 2015, series of meetings for senior officials of customs and counter-narcotics agencies of Central Asia and Azerbaijan were held within the framework of the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme (CCP) – Central Asia and Azerbaijan.

With the support of the project in March and September 2015, Dushanbe hosted hands-on and theoretical trainings for 45 employees of Customs Agency under the Government of Tajikistan and Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan.

“Treating Drug Dependence and its Health Consequences/OFID-UNODC Joint Programme to Prevent HIV/AIDS through Treatnet Phase II” project support elaboration and publication of the “Guidelines on training law enforcement officers on harm reduction and HIV prevention among people, who inject drug” (in Tajik language). Then, guidelines were delivered to Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan, MoI Academy and Tajik National University.

Said guidelines were used as trainers’ methodology to deliver training for DCA employees on the “Role of law enforcement bodies in public health concern”.

“Prevention of Drug Use, HIV/AIDS and Crime among Young People through Family Skills Training Programmes in Low- and Middle-Income Countries” supported training called “Solid Family”. Training covered two secondary schools in Dushanbe, and the focus group were schoolchildren aged 10-14. The main purpose of this training was to strengthen family relations as a factor
for drug abuse prevention and confront the impact of unfavourable environment. Training was delivered by 12 earlier trained teachers. Training lasted for 7 weeks and additionally covered 40 families.

Dushanbe hosted a workshop aimed to adapt international standards for drug prevention. Participants of the workshop got familiar and discussed guidelines called «International standards for drug prevention», prepared by UNODC. The seminar was attended by representatives of government agencies, international organizations and CSOs.

### Counter-narcotics programmes implemented by the US Embassy to the Republic of Tajikistan

In 2015 the United States Embassy to the Republic of Tajikistan in a partnership with the Government of Tajikistan has continued to implement counter-narcotics programmes and project aimed to support the national competent authorities to combat drug trafficking and transnational crime.

The main partner in this field is the *Department of Justice’s Drug Enforcement Administration* which continues to enhance capacity of the Special Investigation Unit of the Drug Control Agency. That SIU is mandated to combat organized drug-crime groups, collection of the regional intelligence information and suppress drug trafficking through Tajikistan.

In 2015 the Special Investigation Units jointly with the competent authorities of foreign states conducted search-investigation activities to suppress activities of drug criminals who have transnational links. In 2015, Drug Control Agency under the President of RT jointly with the Mol of Kazakhstan conducted a joint operation using “Controlled Delivery” technique, resulting in seizure of 39 kilograms of drugs and detention of 1 Kazakh and 1 Tajik national.

In 2015, the SIU staff participated at various events aimed to enhance their capacity in financial investigations, collection of intelligence data, methodology and analysis and etc.

- The *Department of State’s Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs* (INL) takes part in implementation of UNODC’s Project -Drug Control Agency – Phase II. INL is also taking part in implementing other counter-narcotics programmes.

The INL supports the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan to strengthen its logistical supports and conduct thematic trainings for DCA officers. Currently, INL jointly with DEA implements the Liaison Officer Project in the Takhar Province of Afghanistan.

The INL jointly with the National Olympic Academy (NOA) and with the support of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), implements a demand reduction programme in Tajikistan. In 2015, demand reduction programme has formed demand reduction task groups in 15 cities and towns of Tajikistan. Those task groups are mandated to develop cooperation among police and civil society.

- The *Office on Military Cooperation under Ministry of Defence implements a Counter-Narcotics Program of the U.S. Central Command* (CENTCOM). This programme is aimed to enhance capacity of law enforcement and security agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan.

On July 8th, 2015 United States Ambassador to Tajikistan Susan M. Elliott facilitated the donation of 25 vehicles to Tajikistan’s Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, funded by the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) Counter-Narcotics Program.

On August 12th, United States Ambassador to Tajikistan Susan M. Elliott facilitated the donation of two district offices in Jirgatol and Darvaz for the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan (DCA), totalling more than $2 million and funded by the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) Counter-Narcotics Program.

These offices will significantly increase the capabilities of DCA personnel to identify, interdict, and defeat narcotics trafficking in the districts of Darvaz and Jirgatol. The two compounds will assist the Drug Control Agency in its efforts to counter illegal drug trafficking from Afghanistan through Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. The DCA’s new compounds consist of barracks, a dining facility, administrative offices, holding cells, a maintenance facility, dog kennels, and various furniture and equipment.

In August 5th, 2015, the Drug Control Agency (DCA) Special Investigation Units under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan received specialized technical means, tactical equipment, tents, communication equipment and night optics.

In the course of 2015 U.S. Embassy Dushanbe continued the construction of new compound in Dushanbe for the Drug Control Agency (DCA) Special Investigation Units under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. The DCA’s new compounds consist of barracks, a United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) office, a dining facility, full kitchen, guard shack, administrative offices, holding cells, computer room with server, a maintenance facility, and various furniture and equipment.
The Republic of Tajikistan is the traditional partner to the Russian Federation in Central Asia. Cooperation among the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation and the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan continues to grow, both in bilateral and multilateral format.

Technical Assistance Program to the DCA Tajikistan in the field of combatting drug trafficking, implemented since 2012, is one of the examples of the fruitful cooperation among the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation and the Drug Control Agency of the Republic of Tajikistan. The practical effect deriving from implementation of this Program is that DCA Tajikistan had improved logistic and human resources components, and, as a result, DCA has strengthened its law enforcement capacity. Such effects enabled DCA to carry out a wide range of operational and technical interventions and reach a qualitatively new level in countering the international drug trafficking.

At the general background of counter-narcotics activities carried out by law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Drug Control Agency of the Republic of Tajikistan is showing increased efficiency through increasing amounts of seized drugs.

It should be also emphasized that since launch of the Program the Drug Control Agency of Tajikistan has significantly intensified activities at the Tajik-Afghan border, up to patrolling of the most so called “drug-prone” border sections.

The results of joint activities laid the solid foundation for the long-term Russian-Tajik counter narcotics cooperation.

**Counter-narcotics programme implemented by the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation**

On the May 26th, 2015 in Dushanbe, the Director of the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan – Mr. R. Nazarzoda - and the Director of the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation - Mr. Victor Ivanov – signed an agreement between the Republic of Tajikistan’s Drug Control Agency and the Russian Federation’s Federal Drug Control Service. Said agreement is about rendering assistance to DCA in combating illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors for 2015-2017. This agreement prolongs the implementation of the Programme called «Rendering financial and logistical aid to the Tajikistan’s Drug Control Agency in the field of combating illicit trafficking of drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors», which was launched in 2012.

The Programme covers aspects related to strengthening the material and technical supply of the DCA, information exchange and carrying out joint operative-investigative measures, as well as preventive measures, training and enhancing capacity of the DCA staff.

In 2015, officers of operational, special investigations, analytical and expert departments of the Drug Control Agency were internees at various branches of the Russian Federal Drug Control Service. Also instructors of the North-westernAdvanced Institute of the Russian Federal Drug Control Service delivered specialized training courses at the DCA training centre for 20 DCA officers.

Currently, the Krasnoyarsk branch of the Siberian Law School of the Russian Federation has enrolled 29 students from Tajikistan, who upon completion of their education will be recruited to the vacant positions in the DCA under the President of Tajikistan.

In 2015, the Drug Control Agency fulfilled 17 international investigative orders on criminal cases filed by the Russian Federal Drug Control Service on drug-related crimes. Both agencies continue to exchange intelligence information related to persons involved in drug trafficking in Russia.

The Programme provided financial support to shoot 12 TV spots and talk shows on drug abuse preventions, which were aired on state TV channels. In addition to that, Programme purchased memorable prizes and gifts for participants of drug abuse prevention contests.

The Programme assisted in the construction of a new Inter-District Branch of the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan in Isfara town (Sughd Province). Inauguration of the new premises took place on December 5th, 2015. The new Inter-District Branch has a temporary detention facility, an aviary for service (sniffing) dogs, a sports complex, and independent power supply. The new Inter-District Branch will help to strengthen the combat against drug trafficking and cooperation between the law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic.

Also, the Programme equipped an office for the DCA office under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and procured uniforms for the staff of the Drug Control Agency, as well as special equipment for the needs of operational units. In addition to that, Programme supported reconstruction of Information Analytical Unit of the Drug Control Agency.

The implementation of this program contributed to significant improvement in operational performance, as well as improvement of the material and technical supply for DCA units.
“Programme for strengthening and enhancing regional cooperation”, the Supreme Prosecutors’ Office of the Republic of Korea

Since 2014, the Supreme Prosecutors’ Office of the Republic of Korea implements a programme aimed to strengthen and enhance regional cooperation in the field of combatting drug trafficking in Asia-Pacific region.

Following activities were implemented under the roof of cooperation among DCA under the President of Tajikistan and Supreme Prosecutors’ Office of the Republic of Korea.

August 14, 2015: Summer camp for children and teenagers (J. Rasulov District, Sughd Province) hosted various anti-drug sport events under mottos “Life free of drugs is beautiful”, “World free of drugs”, “Drug addiction leads to bad life”;

August 18, 2015: Dushanbe hosted workshop called “Development of bilateral cooperation”. Workshop was attended by the law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan;

September 17, 2015: Qurghonteppa hosted various anti-drug sport events with participation of more than 500 schoolchildren. The same day representatives of the Supreme Prosecutors’ Office of the Republic of Korea visited a school in Qurghonteppa which deliver Korean language classes.

All participants of mass cultural events were presented memorable gifts with anti-drug logos.

Director of the Drug Control Agency (DCA) under the President of Tajikistan, Lieutenant-General Rustam Nazarzoda, participated at the 25th Anti-Drug Liaison Officials’ Meeting for International Cooperation (ADLOMICO) held in Jeju, South Korea. The conference kicked off on September 22 and run through September 24 and its participants include representatives of 27 countries and 8 international organizations. On the September 22nd, Tajik drug control chief reportedly met with the Supreme Public Prosecutor of Korea and Chief of Narcotics Division at the Supreme Public Prosecutors’ Office. Parties discussed aspects related to bilateral cooperation in combating drug trafficking. Tajik DCA and Korea’s Supreme Public Prosecutor’s Office signed a memorandum of cooperation on combating drug trafficking and organized crime.

The Programme has also facilitated to build capacity of DCA employees, who received trainings in various departments of Supreme Prosecutors’ Office of the Republic of Korea.

Hyundai vehicle, office equipment, uniforms and disposals were procured for the Forensic Laboratory of Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan.

Counter-narcotics partnership among Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan and Ministry of Public Security of PRC

In 2015, Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan continued its cooperation with the Ministry of Public Security of PRC.

In accordance with Agreement on Handover of Police Equipment signed on April 18th, 2014 between Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan and Ministry of Public Security of PRC, DCA department in Kulob city will be receiving new building, fully equipped with furniture, IT and office equipment.

In 2015 MPS PRC delivered two specialized trainings for DCA employees. Training was delivered in Urumqi Policy Academy of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region.

Suppliers of the specialized equipment installed gas chromatograph and provided technical maintenance of the THSCAN MT1213LT installed at VOLVO vehicle which was delivered earlier to the Drug Control Agency by the Ministry of Public Security of China.

In November 2015, MPS PRC delivered 2 off-road vehicles to Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan.

Counter-narcotics programmes implemented by OSCE Office in Tajikistan

In 2015, the Office on Security and Cooperation in Europe in the Republic of Tajikistan continued to supported initiatives of the Government of Tajikistan. Support were
provided in different fields, including, but not limited, to border strengthening, enhancing security and combatting terrorism and drug trafficking.

In April 2015, the Border Management Unit of Political – Military Affairs Division within the framework of “Promoting sustainable development of capacity of Tajikistan’s border agencies” organized a training course on countering narcotics and investigation techniques for drug-related crimes. Training course was attended by employees of DCA, MDBT SNSC RT and Customs Agency. By the end of the training courses participating authorities received 5690 drug test kits.

In 2015, OSCE office in Tajikistan continued to implement "Border patrolling project – Phase III". This project aimed to enhance joint operations capacity of Tajik Border Troops, Afghan Border Police and Kyrgyz Border Troops.

Following courses were delivered within the framework of implement “Border patrolling project – Phase III”:
- 4 training courses on “Border Patrolling” for 69 border guards of Tajikistan and 19 border policemen of Afghanistan;
- 1 training course on operational planning for 20 employees of the Main Border Troops Department under SNSC of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- 1 ToT for 14 border guards of Tajikistan and 10 border policemen of Afghanistan;
- Training for dog handlers was delivered in November 2015. The Drug Control Agency received 5 training sets of drug “imitators” and 24 sets for sniffing dogs.

The OSCE Office in the Republic of Tajikistan provides systematic and tailored capacity-building for the law enforcement agencies of Tajikistan in the fight against terrorism and transnational organized crime. In 2015 in order to promote healthy life-style and increase awareness on harms of drugs among youth, OiT continued its anti-drug campaign and reached 5000 people, who participated at sport events, mobile theatre performances and other events.

On April 20-24 2015, OSCE Office in Tajikistan organized a training course on countering narcotics and investigation techniques for drug-related crimes. Training course was attended by employees of DCA, MDBT SNSC RT and Customs Agency.

OSCE office in Tajikistan facilitated the High-Level Conference aimed at consolidating international anti-drug efforts held on the May 27th, 2015, in Dushanbe.

**CADAP 6 Programme**

The sixth phase of the Central Asia Drug Action Programme, funded by the European Union and supported by Germany, was launched on 26 November 2015. The conference of the official opening of CADAP 6 was hosted by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. CADAP 6, a three-year programme, is implemented by a Consortium of EU Member States, including the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Poland and Germany, under the coordination of GIZ till March 2018.

The overall objective of the sixth phase of CADAP is to strengthen the capacity of the Central Asian countries to deal with the drug phenomenon in the region in a comprehensive, integrative and sustainable manner.

The CADAP 6 consists of six components, which are aimed at improving the legal framework in the field of drug control, modernization of processes related to collection and use of information, improvement the quality of preventive measures and treatment of drug abusers and harm reduction.

Two evaluation missions were conducted since the launch of CADAP 6 in Tajikistan:
- September 1-2, 2015: workshop on “Prevention” component with participation of Tajik and EU experts. Participants discussed possible actions and interventions aimed at drug abuse prevention, as well as current situation and achievements in that field.
- October 5-6, 2015: EU experts met with the law enforcement officers, healthcare providers, education experts and civil society. The main topic of discussions was activities planned under “anti-drug policy” components of CADAP 6, including analysis of current drug situation, treatment/harm reduction, as well as essential technical support required to introduce harm reduction programmes in prison settings.
Meeting with the representatives of the MoI of Kazakhstan

On the 29th of January 2015 the DCA RT Director met with the representatives of counter-narcotics department of the MoI of Kazakhstan. Meeting was also attended by the Chief of Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) at the US Embassy in Kazakhstan – Mr. Robin Shaffer. The purpose of meeting was to get familiar with the experience of Tajikistan’s drug enforcement agency, to learn about activities of the Information – analytical department at DCA and use of the “i2” software to create databases and conduct analytics studies.

Meeting with the EU Delegation

On the 3rd of February 2015 the DCA RT Director met with the European External Action Service Head of Central Asian Divisions Mr. Toivo Klaar. Meeting was also attended by Second Secretary, Head of the Political, Press and Information Section of EUD in Tajikistan Mr. Istvan Nyitrai. The meeting observed about active participation of the DCA in implementation of the “Border Management Central Asia (BOMCA)” Program. Participants discussed the perspectives for cooperation among DCA and EU in the field of drug trafficking, emphasizing need for the further support of the DCA by EU in the field of capacity building of operational staff, as well as need for exchange of intelligence data on transit of drugs from Central Asia to Russian Federation.

Meeting within the framework of the “Dushanbe Dialogue” in Teheran

On the February 16th 2015, the capital city of the Islamic Republic of Iran – Tehran – hosted International Meeting of Ministers/Heads of Counter Narcotics Agencies. Meeting was attended by many countries of the region and was dedicated to “Assessment and improvement of drug situation”. Meeting was organized at the initiative on UNODC within the framework of “Dushanbe Dialogue” (November 29, 2015).

Meeting was attended by head of counter narcotic agencies of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Pakistan and UNODC high-level officials. Opening remarks were addressed by the Under Secretary General, UNODC Executive Director – Mr. Yuri Fedotov.

In his address deputy director of the DCA under the President of RT briefed on the progress of activities planned within the Joint Statement of the “Dushanbe Dialogue” participants. Additionally he presented activities of the Tajik law enforcement agencies in the field of combating drug trafficking, as well as on level of cooperation with the counter-narcotic agencies in the region, including Afghanistan. Finally, he informed about the initiative of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan to conduct on the May 2015 High Level Dushanbe Regional Conference on drugs, with the participation of observer countries, strategic partners and international organizations. The High Level Dushanbe Regional Conference on drugs will be organized within the framework of Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Meeting with the Military Attaché of the French Embassy in Tajikistan

On the February 27th 2015, at premises of the DCA under the President of RT, DCA Director Mr. Rustam Nazarzoda met with Military Attaché of the French Embassy in the Islamic State of Afghanistan Mr. Sylvain Laniel. DCA Director informed about the current drug situation and trends in the Republic of Tajikistan and Central Asian region. Meeting observed about the regional and international cooperation of the DCA, as well as liaison with the law enforcement agencies of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, including outcomes of joint operations.

The Military Attaché expressed his intention to provide assistance in conducting trainings at the premises of DCA’s Training Center for representatives of the law enforcement agencies of Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asian countries.

Meeting with the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General

On the March 11th 2015, DCA Director Mr. Rustam Nazarzoda met with the Special Representative of the UN
Secretary General, the Head of the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia (UNRCCA) M. Jenca.

Meeting was organized at the initiative of the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia. Mr. Nazarzoda briefed about the drug situation in Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Central Asia. Moreover, H.E. Ambassador Jenča was updated on counter-narcotics measures undertaken by the Government of Tajikistan, including joint operations conducted with the law enforcement agencies of the Russian Federation, ISA and PRC.

H.E. Ambassador M. Jenca noted about extraordinary level of participation of the Republic of Tajikistan in various UN counter-narcotics projects and programs, and expressed the readiness of UNRCCA for continued cooperation.

**Meeting with the Under-Secretary General, UNODC Executive Director**

On the March 13th 2015, during the 58th Session of the International Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna, the Director of DCA under the President of RT Mr. Nazarzoda met with the Executive Director of UNODC Mr. Fedotov. During the meeting parties discussed current progress, trends and forecasting of the drug situation in the region, as well as progress of implementation of UNODC counter-narcotics projects and programs in the Republic of Tajikistan.

Mr. Fedotov appreciated role of the Government of Tajikistan in the field of combatting drug trafficking, as well as efforts towards improvement of the international cooperation and regional security. He also noted that Tajikistan is a long term reliable partner to UNODC in implementation of the counter-narcotics projects and programs.

Both meeting and session were attended by the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Tajikistan to Austrian Republic – Mr. Nasreddinov.

**Working meeting at DCA under the President of RT**

Steering Committee meeting of the UNODC XAC/K22 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)” in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan was held in Drug Control Agency in Dushanbe on 16 March, 2015. Meeting was attended by the representatives Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement of US Embassy in Tajikistan, UNODC Country Office in Afghanistan, EU “Heroin Route” Project (phase II), as well as the law enforcement, competent authorities and steering committee members of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic.

Director of DCA Mr. Nazarzoda, UNODC Regional Representative for Central Asia Mrs. Ashita Mittal and the Second Secretary of Embassy of Japan in Tajikistan Mr. Yoshishiro Horie, made a speech at the meeting.

Participants discussed project activities related to collaboration with the Border Liaison Offices in Afghanistan and the role of BLOs in cross-border interagency communication and coordination. In addition to that, participants discussed various project initiatives aimed at planning of joint activities and importance of cross-border coordination in combating organized crime. At the end of the meeting participants agreed on M&E plan for XAC/K22 project.

**Participation at the SCO Summit in Moscow**

On the April 21st, 2015, Director of the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan participated at the high level meeting of head of counter-narcotic authorities of SCO member-states.

Mr. Nazarzoda speaking at the high-level meeting convened that Tajikistan carries out measures to implement agreements and other program documents of SCO in the field of combatting drug trafficking. Mr. Nazarzoda also emphasized the importance to continue developing interagency coordination among the law enforcement and security agencies of SCO member-states.

Participants of the summit addressed issues related to smuggling of opiates originating in Afghanistan, as narcotic drugs trafficking poses threat to international security, thus requiring consolidation of efforts of the global community.
Participation at the Moscow Conference

The Second Moscow Anti-Drug Ministerial Conference «The Impact of Drugs on Global Security and Sustainable Development» took place on the April 23rd, 2015. Conference was chaired by the Director of the Federal Drug Control Service – Mr. Ivanov.

During his welcoming speech, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime conveyed the greetings of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

The conference was attended by representatives of 63 countries and 7 international organizations, including SCO, CSTO and BRICS.

In his speech, Director of DCA under the President of Tajikistan R. Nazarzoda stressed that Tajikistan has paid and continues to pay special attention to the strengthening and enhancing the international cooperation. In addition to that Tajikistan regularly takes forward initiatives aimed at joint coordinated actions by all concerned countries and international organizations. To effectively combat organized criminal groups and to monitor active members of organized crime groups in the region, participants were asked to design and execute an effective mechanism for the exchange of intelligence and operational information.

The High-level meeting in the Turkmenistan

The Ninth meeting of the MOU on Sub-regional Drug Control Cooperation, held 4-5 May 2015 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. Meeting was attended by the counter-narcotics authorities of Central Asian countries, Azerbaijan, the Russian Federation. Chiefs of international organizations, representatives of observer-states and CARICC donors were also invited to participate at meeting.

Delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The outcome of the meeting was adoption of the new UNODC Regional Program for Central Asia for 2015-2019. The Ninth meeting adopted a Declaration that stressed the importance and continued relevance of the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-regional Drug Control Cooperation in contributing to enhanced regional and international cooperation to better counter trafficking of drugs and related illicit financial flows, especially within the framework of shared responsibility. It also reiterated the commitment of the MOU Parties to highlight the importance of robust regional and international cooperation as a contribution to consultations taking place worldwide in the context of the preparatory process leading up to the 2016 United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Drugs (UNGASS).

On May 5, Tajik Foreign Minister Sirojiddin Aslov and Director of the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan met with UNODC Executive Director Yuri Fedotov on the sidelines of the 9th meeting of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Sub-regional Drug Control Cooperation.

The Fourth meeting of the Steering Committee for UNODC Regional Program for Afghanistan and Neighboring Countries Drug Control Cooperation held on the May 6th, 2015 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. Meeting was attended by the counter-narcotics authorities of Central Asian countries, Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan. During the meeting participants discussed how to stabilize the drug situation and combat the spread of narcotics in the region. In addition to that parties conducted an objective assessment of the stakeholders willingness to carry out take adequate anti-drug measures.

Participation in the International Drug Enforcement Conference

The 32nd International Drug Enforcement Conference held in Cartagena (Colombia). The Conference was attended by 323 participants from 108 countries and international organization. The Republic of Tajikistan was represented by Director of the DCA under the President of Tajikistan.

The conference addressed issues related to combating the production and trafficking of cocaine in South America and heroin in Afghanistan and the need to share intelligence data about organized criminal drug groups with transnational links and importance to execute financial oversight over their activities. Participants also discussed drug prevention related aspects.

Director of the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan briefed about the progress of the National Counter-Narcotics Strategy of Tajikistan for 2013-2020 and informed participants about the initiatives proposed by the Government of Tajikistan. One of such initiative is aimed at establishing the expert multidisciplinary groups under the auspices of the UN for a comprehensive study of the alternative economic development and agriculture of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in order to reduce and then eliminate opium poppy cultivation in that country.

During his speech, the Director of DCA under the President of RT Mr. Nazarzoda called upon participants to support the initiative of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan to declare the years 2016-2020 as «A Five year Period for Global Measures on Preventing Drug Abuse and Promotion of Healthy Lifestyle».

Meeting with the Development Cooperation Working Group (CODEV) of the EU Council

On the June 8th, 2015, Mr. Nazarzoda met with the Development Cooperation Working Group (CODEV) of the EU Council chaired by L. Anderson.

The Development Cooperation Working Group (CODEV) of the EU Council got familiar with the history and activities of DCA, current drug situation in Tajikistan and region, including Afghanistan, counter-narcotics policy of
Tajikistan, as well as regional and global counter-narcotics initiatives proposed by Tajikistan.

The members of Development Cooperation Working Group expressed their views and opinions and indicated their eagerness to continue cooperation in the field of combating drug trafficking.

Meeting with the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General

On the June 24th, 2015, Mr. Nazarzoda met with the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General, Head of the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy – Mr. Petko Draganov. Meeting took place in DCA premises.

During the meeting, the high level guest got familiar with the current drug situation in Tajikistan and region, including Afghanistan, counter-narcotics policy of Tajikistan, as well as counter-narcotics measures undertaken by Tajikistan. In addition to that Mr. Nazarzoda proposed to organize re-training courses for counter-narcotics authorities of Central Asia on the basis of DCA Training Center. In addition to that DCA Training Center might be used to conduct regular working meetings of counter-narcotics experts. This initiative might be supported through UNODC.

Meeting with the US delegation

On the July 29th, 2015, Mr. Nazarzoda met with the delegation of the US State Department, chaired by the Chief Adviser of Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) – Mr. D. Callahan. Meeting took place in DCA premises.

During the meeting parties discussed INL’s assistance in the field of combating drug trafficking, progress of the UNODC AD/TAJ/03/H03 Project “Drug Control Agency – Phase II” and opportunities to continue fruitful cooperation in future.

During the meeting Director of the DCA informed participants about drug situation in the Republic of Tajikistan, and level of cooperation with the law enforcement agencies of Afghanistan, Kyrgyz Republic and Kazakhstan.

Meeting of the heads of counter-narcotics agencies

On the August 13th, 2015, in Osh city of Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Nazarzoda met with the Head of SDCS of Kyrgyz Republic – Mr. Mambetaliev. Meeting was attended by the experts of UNODC, INL and FDCC of the Russian Federation.

During the meeting parties discussed bilateral cooperation among the DCA of Tajikistan and the SDCS of Kyrgyz Republic in the field of combating drug trafficking aimed at enhancing cooperation in the field of fight against transnational crime groups particularly those engaged in trafficking out of Afghan heroin.

Following the meeting parties signed a work plan that envisages laboration of a mechanism for joint operations using “Controlled Delivery” techniques. Work plan also envisages actions aimed to identify money laundering of crime and drug proceeds, exchange of operational and intelligence information and carry out joint prevention activities at cross-border districts of two countries.

Meeting with the SDCS delegation of Kyrgyz Republic

On the August 28th, 2015, the SDCS delegation under the Government of Kyrgyz Republic, chaired by Director of the SDCS Mr. Mambetaliev, visited DCA premises to get familiar with the experience and progress of the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan.

During the meeting with Director of the DCA participants discussed aspects related to the promotion of
cooperation in the field of drug trafficking and transnational crime. Participants discussed opportunities to enhance the cooperation among the DCA of Tajikistan and the SDCS of Kyrgyzstan, as well as with the law enforcement agencies of the Islamic State of Afghanistan as a part of UNODC Regional Program, “AKT initiative” and the “Central Asian counter-narcotics quintet”.

The 25th Conference of heads of counter-narcotic agencies

Director of the Drug Control Agency (DCA) under the President of Tajikistan, Lieutenant-General Rustam Nazarzoda, participated at the 25th Anti-Drug Liaison Officials’ Meeting for International Cooperation (ADLOMICO) held in Jeju, South Korea. The conference kicked off on September 22 and run through September 24 and its participants include representatives of 27 countries and 8 international organizations.

On the September 22nd, Tajik drug control chief reportedly met with the Supreme Public Prosecutor of Korea and Chief of Narcotics Division at the Supreme Public Prosecutors’ Office. Parties discussed aspects related to bilateral cooperation in combating drug trafficking. Tajik DCA and Korea’s Supreme Public Prosecutor’s Office signed a memorandum of cooperation on combating drug trafficking and organized crime.

Within the framework of the Memorandum on cooperation, delegation of the Supreme Public Prosecutor of Korea visited DCA under the President of Tajikistan. Korean delegation was chaired by the Deputy Chief of Narcotics Division at the Supreme Public Prosecutors’ Office – Mr. Kim Yong Kwon.

During the meeting Director of the DCA discussed the progress of the pilot project aimed to support the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The 6th meeting of heads of the counter-narcotics agencies of the Central Asia Quintet Coalition Group

On the October 26th 2015, Tehran hosted the 6th meeting of heads of the counter-narcotics agencies of the Central Asia Quintet Coalition Group, held. Meeting was attended by counter-narcotics agencies of Russian Federation, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Tajikistan. For the first time, meeting was joined by the Islamic Republic of Iran, which joined the quartet in December 2014.

On behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan meeting was attended by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Tajikistan to Islamic Republic of Iran – Mr. Emomzoda and Deputy Director of DCA under the President of Tajikistan – Mr. Khaidarzoda.

Participants of the meeting formed common position and adopted a joint statement for the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the world drug problem, to be held in 2016.

During the meeting Tajik delegation met with the Minister of Counter Narcotics of Afghanistan – Mr. Salamat Azimi. Parties discussed opportunities for enhancement of cooperation among DCA under the President of RT and the Counter-Narcotics Ministry of Afghanistan.

Meeting with the coordinator of the US State Department

On November 13th 2015, Mr. Nazarzoda (DCA Director) met with the Mrs. Courtney Gaul (Desk Officer at U.S. Department of State to Tajikistan).

DCA Director briefed Mrs. Gaul on counter-narcotics interventions undertaken by the Government of Tajikistan, including initiatives in the related field, as well as improvement of cooperation with the counter-narcotics agencies of other countries.

During the meeting parties discussed aspects related to bilateral cooperation among the DCA and the US Embassy in Tajikistan in the field of combatting drug trafficking.

Visit of the European Commission delegation

On the December 1st 2015, the EU delegation visited the DCA Training Center, established through the support of EU and UNDP in the Republic of Tajikistan. Delegation of experts evaluated effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of aid provided by the EU Central Asia at regional level.
Experts were acquainted with the results of the activities of the Training Center. The Training Center provides trainings for dog handlers of the DCA, law enforcement and security agencies of Tajikistan, as well as counter-narcotics agencies of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan. In addition to that, dog handlers at the Training Center are engaged in breeding and training of sniffing dogs, thus providing input for increased efficiency of operational and investigative activities of the competent authorities in the region.

**Meeting of the high-level partners in Vienna**

On the December 14th 2015, Ministers/Heads of counter-narcotics agencies of 32 countries and representative of 18 international organizations met in Vienna, within the framework of discussions on implementation of the Regional Program for Promoting Counter Narcotics Efforts in Afghanistan & Neighboring Countries.

During his speech, the Director of DCA under the President of RT Mr. Nazarzoda called upon participants to support the initiative of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan to declare the years 2016-2020 as «A Five year Period for Global Measures on Preventing Drug Abuse and Promotion of Healthy Lifestyle». This initiative was submitted to the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the World Drug Problem.

On the same date, the Director of DCA under the President of RT Mr. Nazarzoda met with the Executive Director of UNODC Mr. Fedotov. During the meeting parties discussed current progress, trends and forecasting of the drug situation in the region, as well as progress of implementation of UNODC counter-narcotics projects and programs in the Republic of Tajikistan.

On the December 15th 2015, Mr. Nazarzoda attended the Paris Pact 12th Policy Consultative Group Meeting.
Nowadays it is a known fact that fight against illicit drug trafficking is a task which goes beyond efforts of one state, and such fight is only possible through consolidated efforts of the global community.

Use of the flexible approach in counter-narcotics cooperation shall be based on bilateral and multilateral relations, while scaling-up of such cooperation contribute to the establishment of confidence and conduct counter-narcotics activities in a broader manner.

One of the top priorities for the Counter-Narcotic Program of the Government of Kyrgyz Republic (adopted by the Resolution of Kyrgyz Government in 2014) is to establish a solid cooperation with international organizations and the competent authorities of foreign states.

On the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements (CSTO, SCO, UNODC, AKT initiative and CARICC) the State Drug Control Service under the Government of Kyrgyz Republic has established an operational relation and exchange of intelligence information with the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan.

The Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan is a strategic partner to the State Drug Control Service under the Government of Kyrgyz Republic. We have established close and professional relations, and executed numerous major special operation aimed at suppression and dismantlement of the international drug channels connected with the transnational organized crime and drug trafficking groups.

The Republic of Tajikistan has always supported efforts of the international community and has undertaken own initiatives to promote peace and stability in Afghanistan, where one of the priorities is to combat drug crops and trafficking.

During 70th Session of the UN General Assembly, the Founder of Peace and National Unity, Leader of the Nation, Mr. Emomali Rakhmon noted that: “Today’s reality is that drug production and trafficking have become one of the global threats of our time, as spread of such threats threatens the health of mankind, while drug proceeds are considered to be the source for financing of international terrorism, extremism and organized crime.

Nowadays countering transnational drug crime groups is possible only through joint, coordination and effective coordination of the international community.

Scheduled this year, a special session of the UN General Assembly on Drugs will provide an opportunity to discuss the effectiveness of combating drug trafficking and the implementation of counter narcotics programs and projects. In addition to that UNGASS special session on Drugs will serve as a platform to develop new and effective intervention in this area.
For many years, an overview of the drug situation in the Republic of Tajikistan summarizes activities of the competent authorities in the field of combatting drug trafficking and drug abuse prevention.

The Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan plays an important role in prevention of the spread of drugs and combatting drug trafficking; success is secured through the high professionalism of the DCA officers.

The DCA Veteran Council provides a considerable input for education and training of junior officers of the Drug Control Agency. Many veterans conduct training and workshops for junior officers at the Training Center and Regional Branches of the DCA.

Veterans of the DCA continue to actively participate in the social life of the Agency and transfer their experience and knowledge to the younger generation.

Humankind faced problems at each stage of its development. In the context of globalization, emerging cross-border issues threaten not only the livelihood of people but also the existence of the human race. Nowadays humankind is struggling with drug addiction. Addiction might affect anybody, but mostly the younger generation. Drug addiction turns the life of drug addicts, their friends and family members into nightmare, and we should not forget about social consequences of drug addiction.

The establishment of the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan has allowed our homeland to be integrated into the global fight against drugs.

Promotion of progress, prosperity, development and healthy life style shall become an ideology for the whole society and particularly for young people. Such ideology will help people to achieve great things in their lives.

This ideology is followed by all members of Antarctic expeditions - the only continent that is environmentally clean and free of narcotic drugs. In order to reach the ultimate goal in the harsh Antarctic conditions, each member of the expedition has to be healthy and return back to the country of origin full of honor, knowing that your homeland’s flag is raised over the Antarctic.
In order to achieve life goals, anyone shall have a strong will and persistence, as well as moral and physical qualities. And healthy lifestyle shall be on the top of! Narcotic drugs, tobacco and alcohol damage the physical and moral health of the person, leading to the degradation and destruction of the personality.

I am glad that nowadays youth is keen interested in sports. I am proud that I have several apprentices who already have great achievements in sports. Sport - is the solid foundation of a healthy lifestyle, leading to success in all aspects of the life. A healthy lifestyle is a perfect alternative to narcotic drugs, tobacco and alcohol. Don't let anything bad happen to you!

Being an opera singer, I do not know if I am able to influence and impact overdrug users who are not able to get rid of this scourge. Who knows, maybe I am able to – in fact art, and especially singing which is loved so much by young people, can have a positive impact over people's mood and emotions.

Thanks to my profession I performed regularly at the top opera houses in Europe. I also performed for counter-narcotics associations, medical facilities and health centers. Very often after my performance I was approached by young drug-addicts who promised me to stop using narcotic drugs and devote themselves to singing, music, arts and healthy life-style.

This is a major task to assist such people and maintain their morale. From my side I am ready to perform for any association focused on treatment and prevention of drug addiction.

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People, who consume banned substances, including narcotic drugs, shall be considered as victims; while those who spread such substances shall be considered as criminals and villains. These sub-humans will be punished by the Lord. The Orthodox Church feel sympathetic to those who became drug abuser due to delusion; such people are in need for spiritual support, pray, confession and communion.

The Orthodox Church is doing all possible for reintegration of the lost to normal life, so that they can have a family. The Orthodox Church never rejects those who seek help, regardless of the social status of the seeker; as everyone is equal before the Lord.

It is essential that society pays particular attention to change attitude against those who consume narcotic drugs, as they need specialized medical care and spiritual support.

The Orthodox Church will always stand with those who believe in the Lord and will never cast someone if he/she repents.
Consumption (use) and trade of the intoxicating substances (narcotic drugs) has been thoroughly studied from the Islam perspective. Consumption of such substances is considered to be an impious activity, while trafficking of such substances is considered to be a deadly sin. It is a known fact that narcotic drugs carry danger and harm to the modern society. From the Islam perspective any activity or substance which harms society is considered to be unclean and forbidden/prohibited.

Trafficking of narcotic drugs poses many threats, including, but not limited to following: spread of the deadly communicable diseases, unhealthy generations, weakening of family relations, creation of dangerous environment, lack of confidence in the society, rise of crime rates, and establishment of translational criminal, terrorist and extremist groups.

The Sacred religion of Islam councils its followers to refrain from the use and trade of narcotic drugs: any property and money made of such business is considered to be haram (unclean).
Republic of Tajikistan is a sovereign, democratic, legal, secular and unitary state. President of the Republic of Tajikistan is the Head of the state and executive power – Government. Citizens of Tajikistan, based on universal, equal and direct suffrage through secret ballot elect President for a 7-year period.

Madjlisi Oli - Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan is the highest representative and legislative body of the Republic of Tajikistan. It consists of two Chambers, namely, the Chamber of nationalities, i.e., Madjlisi milli, and the Chamber of representatives, i.e., Madjlisi namoyandagon. The term of office of Madjlisi milli and Madjlisi namoyandagon makes 5 years.

The judicial power is exercised by the Constitutional Court, Supreme Court, Highest economic court, Military court, Court of Gorno-Badakhshan autonomous region, courts of regions, Dushanbe city, towns and districts, Economic court of Gorno-Badakhshan autonomous region, Economic courts of regions and Dushanbe city.

General information

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<th>Name of the state</th>
<th>The Republic of Tajikistan</th>
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<td>Population</td>
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Administrative and territorial division:

- Gorno-Badakhshan autonomous region
- Sogd region
- Khatlon region
- Districts of Republican Subordination

States, bordering on Tajikistan:

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<td>Republic of Uzbekistan</td>
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<td>- 495 km</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total border length</td>
<td>- 4159 km</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Natural and climatic conditions of the Republic of Tajikistan:

The Republic by its relief is a mountainous country with absolute altitudes from 300 meters up to 7495 meters. 93 percent of its territory is mountains, belonging to the highest mountain systems of Central Asia, namely, Tien Shan and Pamir.

The climate is continental with +50°C in summer and -50°C in winter.

With regard to hydro resources, the Republic of Tajikistan takes the second place in the CIS after Russia. The main water headers are glaciers.

Among the main rivers are Syrdaryo, Amudaryo, Zarafshon, Panj and Vakhsh.
The agencies in charge of countering illicit drug trafficking are the following:

- The Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan is a coordination body;

- The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan;

- The State Committee of National Security of the Republic of Tajikistan;

- Customs Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan;

- General Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Tajikistan.

DEAR READERS!

Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan expresses its appreciation for your interest to the presented Review, in which main trends of the development of drug situation in the country and in the region, measures, undertaken by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, ministries and agencies, as well as by international and public organizations in the sphere of control over drug trafficking and prevention of drug addiction are reflected.

The Review was prepared by the DCA specialists, based on collected and analyzed data. We would be grateful to you for your comments, remarks and proposals on the Survey information, which you can send by the following contact details:

- e-mail address: dca@tojikiston.com

- postal address: 734018, Republic of Tajikistan, Dushanbe city, N. Karabaeva street, 52

- fax: +992 37 2348129; +992 37 2339017
# ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Central Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>Coordination Council for drug abuse prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>Criminal Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCBT</td>
<td>Council of Commanders of Border troops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIS</td>
<td>Community of Independent States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS</td>
<td>Committee of National Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRRF</td>
<td>Collective Rapid Response Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS</td>
<td>Customs Service under the Government of the RT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCA</td>
<td>Drug Control Agency under the President of the RT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEA</td>
<td>US Drug Enforcement Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRS</td>
<td>Districts of Republican Subordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FATF</td>
<td>Group for development of financial measures against money laundering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDCS of RF</td>
<td>Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBAO</td>
<td>Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICND</td>
<td>International Commission on Narcotic Drugs</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDT</td>
<td>Illicit Drug Trafficking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDU</td>
<td>Injected Drug User</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRA</td>
<td>Islamic Republic of Afghanistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KR</td>
<td>Kyrgyz Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSOPN</td>
<td>Coordination Council of leaders of competent bodies, involved in countering illicit drug trafficking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH</td>
<td>Ministry of Health and social security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MJ</td>
<td>Ministry of Justice of the RT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOBT of SCNS</td>
<td>Main Office of Border Troops under the State Committee of National Security of the RT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPS of PRC</td>
<td>Ministry of Public Security of PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCG</td>
<td>Organized Criminal Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OST</td>
<td>Opioid Substitution Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAS</td>
<td>Psychoactive Substances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRC</td>
<td>Peoples’ Republic of China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCPDCA</td>
<td>UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RF</td>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIWGP</td>
<td>Regional Information Working Group on Precursors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RK</td>
<td>Republic of Kazakhstan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RT</td>
<td>Republic of Tajikistan</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCNS</td>
<td>State Committee of National Security of the RT</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCO</td>
<td>Shanghai Cooperation Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDCS</td>
<td>State Drug Control Service under the Government of Kyrgyz Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOPE of MJ</td>
<td>State Office for Punishment Execution of the Ministry of Justice of the RT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STI</td>
<td>Sexually Transmitted Infections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNODC</td>
<td>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</td>
</tr>
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