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**REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**1. General situation in the country**

According to the domestic legislation, since 2004, the competent organ for accumulation and systematization of information at national level is the National Drug Observatory of the National Center for Health Management of the Ministry of Health.

Taking into account that the report on the situation related to illicit drug trafficking is drafted by the end of each year by the National Drug Observatory, information for 2014 will be available for presentation at the beginning of 2015.

According to the previous study conducted by the National Drug Observatory, the most used drug in the general population remains cannabis. Thus, 3.8% of Moldova's population aged 15-64 years had used marijuana / hashish and 0.7% did so in the last year.

Also, during the year 2014, a number of 361 criminal cases has been initiated. Similarly, 6 cases involving organized criminal groups in drug trafficking were documented. However, there was just one case of drug smuggling involving Moldovan citizens were.

During the year of 2014, the authorities seized the following drugs: marijuana – 30 kg and 708 grams; hashish – 73 kg and 326 grams; Poppy straw – 0,628 kg; heroin – 0,020 kg.

## **2. Short update on the country**

### ***2.1 Changes/additions to the Country's National institutional framework***

Through the Governmental Decision( GD) number 764 of 18.09.2014 was approved the National Action Plan for the period of 2014-2016 on combating drug traffick in order to stop the growth / reduction of legal and illegal drug use in society, especially among minors and contributing to reduce the increase / decrease in illegal drug injections, reducing potential risks associated with all types of drugs, reducing the economic, health, social, criminal and security impact of their use for individuals and society, helping to stop the trend of growth and reduction of illicit drug injections, stricter rules for prescription and issuing of legal drugs used particularly for minors through effective law enforcement and the use of other institutional tools. Similarly, a priority is eradicating the domestic cultivation of plants in order to produce drugs and fighting drug trafficking that enter or transit through Moldova.

In addressing the issue of drug use, the Republic of Moldova is based on the concept of „Health for All in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” of the World Health Organization, according to which drug usage is a problem that endangers public health and may prevent the development of healthy people and society in a broader context. This strategy proposes a multidisciplinary and balanced view of the problems of drug usage based on comprehensive interdepartmental, interdisciplinary and inter-sectorial cooperation, at all levels, with three main components:

- a. Reducing the supply of drugs (exercising control over drugs circulation and combating illicit drug trafficking and distribution);
- b. Drug demand reduction (primary prevention of drug abuse, treatment, re-socialization of drug users);
- c. Reducing risks.

Following the needs assessment report of central and regional units of MIA and General Prosecutor's Office, specialized in preventing and combating illicit trafficking in drugs, developed in the context of Assessment Mission on implementation of the budget support provided by the European Union, the main gap in preventing illegal drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors trafficking is that drug policy instruments are not fully functional, and soft sanctions provided by contravention law constitutes a negative impact in reducing drug consumption and delivery.

## ***2.2 Legal/legislative changes, including money laundering and chemical precursors***

On November 5, 2014, the Moldovan authorities started the procedure for amending and supplementing the Criminal and Contravention Code in order to improve the functionality of legislation and toughen the imposed sanctions. By the end of January, the amendments were proposed to the Government for approval.

On 18.11.2014, a number 16 narcotic substances was identified, all of which were not included in the Governmental Decision No. 1088 of 5 October 2004 on approval of pills and lists of narcotic substances, psychotropic substances and their precursors placed under control", after a process coordinated by the National Antidrug Commission and delivered to the Government for adopting the proposed changes.

## ***2.3 An assessment of the government's political will to conduct a comprehensive and resolute anti-drug policy***

The implementation of the National Anti-Drug Strategy for the years 2011-2018 was approved by the Governmental Decision No. 1208 of 27.12.2010 is in the competence of several national actors, while the monitoring of its implementation is in the responsibility of the National Antidrug Commission.

The Directorate No. 4 (Antidrug) of the National Investigation Inspectorate is an operational subdivision with competences in preventing and combating illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, which systematically presents relevant information regarding the undertaken measures by the National Drug Observatory of the National Health Management Center of the Ministry of Health.

In the meantime, only the National Drug Observatory can provide specific information on the government's capacity to implement the anti-drug policy.

### **3. Enumeration of major bilateral and multilateral programs (including those support demand reduction)**

For the concerned compartment, the Ministry of Health has developed guidelines on approval of standards to reduce risks associated with injecting drugs and psychosocial assistance of drug users. By this measure, the National standards for risk reduction for drug users and standard psychological support for drug users have been reviewed and approved.

In the implementation of risk reduction programs were held local and external trainings for raising qualifications of persons involved in the following areas:

- Drug addiction, training for workers in the field;
- Voluntary HIV counseling and testing;
- Organization and management of risk reduction projects;
- Outreach activity within risk reduction projects;
- Substitution treatment;
- Drugs addiction treatment in prisons (including substitution treatment with methadone).

#### *Programs for reducing drug demand*

1. Curricular and extracurricular programs;
2. Methadone substitution programs;
3. Assistance programs for drug users in prisons.

### **4. Place and date of meetings of mini-Dublin groups**

There were no meetings organized with representatives of the Mini-Dublin Group in the Republic of Moldova.

## **5. Prioritized identification of needs for external assistance**

- Initiating foreign assistance projects regarding the improvement of the capacities for forensic drug expertise. (*NB!* The activity of the Police Forensic Laboratory is not functional due to the thing that the necessary equipment for expertise is outdated and defected with an exceeded exploitation period. Thus, during 2014, it was impossible to resolve the requests for review regarding the 124 examinations of drugs.);

- Training course on the investigation procedures of the cases of production and consumption of narcotic and psychotropic substances, precursors and their analogues which are not listed in the list of banned substances;

- Conducting a study visit to the Republic of Poland in order to adopt best practices with regard to investigative techniques of drug related crimes.

## **6. Mini-Dublin group assessment of needs**

### **6.1 Recommendations**

- **Strengthening the partnership in combating illicit drug trafficking;**
- Increasing the activity of media and civil society information about the risks and consequences of illicit drug trafficking and their consumption;
- Strengthening the capacities of National Drug Observatory;
- Continued adjustment and improvement of legislation in this field in order to harmonize the existing legal framework;
- Enhancing the partnership between Government and civil society.

## **REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA**

### **1. Short update on the country's anti-drugs strategy**

With the aim of implementation of the National Drug Strategy and its action plan, Georgian stakeholders are undertaking relevant actions in all directions of drug policy. All the efforts are periodically reported to Secretariat of Inter-Agency Coordinating Council.

#### ***1.1 Supply reduction***

In order to increase capacity in supply reduction, Customs service officers of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia (MoF), Staff of Penitentiary Institutions and police officers were being regularly trained regarding the detecting and monitoring of drugs. The overall number of trained persons is approximately 1500, in 2014.

Enhanced security measures at the borders as well as more proactive approach towards investigation and control resulted in significant increase of the amount of drugs seized at the state borders of Georgia. In July 2014, while crossing the Georgian border, officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) arrested the truck with up to 3 tons of liquid heroin.

In order to develop of Canine Service for the Purposes of Detecting Drugs with assistance of INL, three patrol officers and three sniffer dogs were trained in the USA. Additionally Customs Service of Ministry of Finance (MoF) operates its own Canine service currently with 20 dogs while Ministry of Corrections (MoC) owns 6 dogs. Additional 18 dogs will be purchased by Customs service in 2015.

With the purpose of supply reduction of new psychoactive substances new law entered into force on May 1, 2014. Georgia shared the experience of several European countries in terms of criminalization of classes of chemical compounds, that overall reduced the import of new psychoactive substances in the country. Within a short period following the introduction of the law, the import of new psychoactive substances in the country has drastically reduced. Furthermore, the State Commission, as a permanent monitoring mechanism, established with cooperation of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia and Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

### *1.2 Demand reduction – prevention*

Matters related to harmful habits (including drug abuse) are reflected in schools text books in different subjects at public and private schools.

“Informative campaign against drug use” has been carried out by Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, (MSY) in 6 cities across the Georgia, which involved around 7 thousand beneficiaries.

Ilia State University provides Addiction Studies master program. Additionally, the research institute on addiction studies is established under the same university.

Since March 2014 the MIA launched a wide-scale anti-drug campaign “No to Bio-Drugs – Let`s Change the Attitude Together”, in order to increase awareness concerning the abuse of drugs and psychotropic substances and to promote healthy lifestyle among the population. Within the framework of the campaign, the Minister of Internal Affairs and other representatives of the Ministry, together with physician-narcologists, organized a number of meetings with the students of higher educational institutions and pupils of public schools.

With the active participation of “Center for Mental Health and Prevention of Addiction” special course for Family Doctors (Primary healthcare workers) and timetable for the trainings were designed. From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015, 50 family doctors will be trained each month in primary healthcare settings and family medicine centers.

Office of Recourse Officers of Educational Institutions of Ministry of Education and Science keeps functioning of Psychological Center which receive school students with the consent of school administration, through the special form filled with the consent of teacher and the parent of the minor. Additionally the important part of the work conducted by resources officers is to prevent juvenile crimes. Psychological Centers are functioning in Tbilisi, Batumi, Telavi and Poti, additional new centers will start functioning in Rustavi and Gori.

Common Prevention Strategy is elaborated by secretariat of Inter-Agency in cooperation with all stakeholders.

### ***1.3 Demand reduction – treatment and rehabilitation***

Drug Addiction State Program was approved by Government of Georgia in December 2014 with allocated budget that amounts to 4 388 500 GEL. By the modifying state drug addiction program amount of beneficiaries was increased (27% by existed funding) and it will be favorable condition for providing geographic access. In 2014 within the GFT HIV Program 4 OST programs (2 in Tbilisi (including one expanded center), 1 in Gori and 1 in Kutaisi) were supported in Georgia. At present all these 4 centers capacity is 500 beneficiaries. In agreement with the donor opening of a new OST program is planned in Tbilisi in 2015. For post medical rehabilitation three centers are functioning currently one as an NGO, one run by state and one under the church.

Additionally the International Organization for Migration (**IOM**) announced the open Call for Proposals in the framework of the Project “Socio-Economic Integration Through Social Enterprise Development to Address the Problem of Drug Abuse Among Georgian Nationals, Including Returning and Potential Migrants” funded by the Federal Office for Migration of Switzerland. The program will help rehabilitation of at-risk, stabilized and former drug users in Georgia.

### ***1.4 Harm reduction***

Within the Global Fund HIV program’s harm reduction component in 2014 14 community based service centers were fully functioning providing the relevant HIV, hepatitis B and C prevention counseling, safe injection instructions, counseling for overdose prevention and safe sex and distributing the injection instruments (syringes), condoms and information materials. The project is implemented by Georgian Harm Reduction Network (hereinafter – GHRN), NGO working on harm reduction programs and advocacy.



In terms of increasing geographical access and coverage with the Harm Reduction Services, Mobile Ambulatory practice will be implemented by GHRN under the GFATM grant throughout 2015. This task will be aimed at covering those cities/districts of the Country, where services under Harm reduction Programs were not offered previously.

### ***1.5. Treatment and rehabilitation and harm reduction in penitentiary institutions***

The Methadone detoxification program for opioid-addicts is available for every prisoner. In case of the consent of opioid-addicts they are provided with services in two penitentiary institutions one in Tbilisi and one in Kutaisi. The drug treatment for non-opioidic addicts is available in every penitentiary establishment as well.

Various rehabilitation programs were conducted in the penitentiary establishments, including: "Return to Society", "healthy lifestyle", "and"peer education", etc. Psycho-rehabilitation program "Atalantisis" was prepared to instruct drug-addicted persons housed in four establishment. The infrastructure for the program in the penitentiary establishment №6 is under reconstruction.

Within the framework of the "Civic education training" program, with support of the Social Division, the trainings/consultations are being held to prepare drug-addicted inmates for release. The Voluntary Consultation and Testing (VCT) is available in every penitentiary establishment, as well.

### ***1.6. Legislative changes and modifying drug policy***

Currently Working Group on amendment of legislation under Inter-Agency Coordinating Council is elaborating amendments to the law that would define small quantity for more substances that are widespread in Georgia and to modify list of controlled substances in line with international standards.

In order to reduce the HIV and drug related stigma in general and specific populations a media campaign will be implemented within the GFT HIV program in 2015 with the budget of 83,000 GEL. The same year 900 health care workers will be trained to decrease the HIV and drug addiction related discrimination in health care settings in 2015. The budget of the activity is 198,000 GEL.

### ***1.7. Coordination and international cooperation***

Inter-Agency Coordination Council on Combating Drug Abuse is working efficiently and it has conducted four meetings in 2014. Approximately 40 people from different agencies, international organizations and local non-governmental organizations are attending on a meetings.

In 2014, the Government of Georgia concluded international agreements on fight against organized crime with Germany and the United Kingdom, which also cover the issues of combating drug-related crimes. On May 1, 2014, the Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters entered into force for Georgia.

With the assistance of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Georgia is working towards setting up a national Focal Point and a National Drug Monitoring Centre. Several activities have conducted in 2014 in cooperation with EMCDDA and Georgia. In December 2014, in response to the request of the Minister of Justice of Georgia/Head of the Inter-agency Council the EMCDDA's Management Board gave the mandate to the Director of the EMCDDA to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding between the EMCDDA and Georgia. The first draft of MoU was provided to Georgian side in February 2015 and negotiations are ongoing.

In April 2015 Georgia will host regional conference on New Psychoactive Substances for EaP countries. The conference will be financed by and organized in close cooperation with EMCDDA.

### ***1.8. Information collection, research and evaluation***

On 20 October, 2014, Inter-Agency Council took final decision to establish National Drug Monitoring Center after consultations with EMCDDA taking place during 2014. Currently Secretariat of Inter-Agency Council is working on drafting relevant regulations. In the process of the establishment of the Monitoring Center Secretariat consulted with academia and NGOs, with the aim of being familiar with their opinions in order to guarantee their participation in the working of National Drug Monitoring Center.

The ESPAD study will be conducted by the National Center for Disease Control and Public Health in 2015 in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science with co-financing of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). The GFT is supporting BSS and population size estimation studies among PWIDs with total budget of 340 000 GEL. The activity is implemented by the Curatio International Foundation and the results and relevant report will be available by June 1, 2015.

## **1.9 *Balanced policy***

In December 2013 the Interagency Coordination Council for Combating Drug Abuse approved the Strategy and Action Plan on Combating Drug Abuse. Reforms and Development Agency (Department) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs quarterly reports on the measures/activities carried out by structural units of the MIA, which are envisaged by the Action Plan implementing the Strategy on Combating Drug Abuse.

Since the Elections of October 2012 the Ministry of Internal Affairs chose the vector of balanced drug policy. All initiatives of the MIA are the outcomes of the consecutive policy of the country, which have been planned as a result of the complex analytical work.

Due to the comprehensive analytical work, conducted at the end of 2013 by the MIA, several main directions have been identified that required solution in a short and long-term perspective.

In a short-term perspective it was necessary to solve the problems related to the so-called “homemade drugs”, new psychoactive substances and illicit traffic of classical drugs. As for the second stage, in a long-term perspective it was necessary for the government to strengthen preventive measures which contribute to avoiding offences. Concerning these issues, the details on concrete activities are provided in the present report.

## **2. *Legislative amendments and drug policy modification***

### **2.1. *“Prescription drug abuse”***

#### **2.1.1. *Legislative amendments and their outcomes***

In order to combat “prescription drug abuse”, legislative amendments have been elaborated together with the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia; the amendments entered into force on March 15, 2014. Illicit traffic of combined pharmaceutical substances containing Codeine, Ephedrine, Norephedrine and Pseudoephedrine has been criminalized, especially in terms of imposing liability for owners and employees of pharmacies. From these pharmaceuticals the so-called “homemade drugs” such as: “Crocodile”, “Vint” and “Jeff” are made. In accordance with the statistical data, after adoption of the legislative package, a 90% decrease of the use of “**Crocodile**” drugs has been identified.

### *2.1.2. Control of legal entities authorized for traffic in the first group pharmaceutical products*

Based on the Memorandum “On Implementation of Joint Measures for Control and Supervision of Legal Traffic in the First Group Pharmaceutical Products on the Pharmaceutical Market” signed in August 2013 between the MIA and the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, a joint working group has been established; the group develops preventive mechanisms against the flow of the first group pharmaceutical products from their legal traffic to illegal channels.

As a result of implementing joint measures for controlling the pharmaceutical market, *inter alia*, the use of “homemade drugs” has been minimized in the country, as mentioned above.

### *2.2. New psychoactive substance*

With the purpose of supply reduction of new psychoactive substances, a package of legislative amendments related to new psychoactive substances has been elaborated; the package entered into force on May 1, 2014. Georgia shared the experience of several European countries in terms of criminalization of classes of chemical compounds, what overall reduced the import of new psychoactive substances in the country. Within a short period following the publication of the law, the import of new psychoactive substances in the country has been significantly reduced.

Furthermore, the State Commission, as a permanent monitoring mechanism, has been determined; within the framework of the State Commission three relevant agencies cooperate: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia and Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

The State Commission has the objective to monitor the challenges related to new psychoactive substances in Georgia, to analyze them considering the international experience, opinions of governmental organizations and scientific circles, and submit concrete proposals to the government. The State Commission represents an effective interagency mechanism against illicit traffic in new psychoactive substances.

Since May 1, 2014 qualitative and quantitative analyzes of up to 500 various types of new psychoactive substances (so-called “Bio”, “Spice”) have been carried out in chemical forensic labs of the Forensic Main Division (the MIA).

The effectiveness of the law is evidenced by the outcomes that have been actually achieved. In the period of July-September of 2014, 84 criminal cases were initiated over the illicit traffic of new psychoactive substances and 87 individuals were convicted. Overall, more than 35 kg of new psychoactive substances were destroyed.

It should be emphasized that due to legislative framework, close cooperation between agencies and successful implementation by law enforcement agencies in May 2014 - February 2015 compared with the same period of the last year – the consumption of new psychoactive substances has been decreased by over 90%.

### **3. Strengthening control over main possible routes of illicit traffic in drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors**

#### ***3.1. Seizures***

Enhanced security measures at the borders as well as more proactive approach towards investigation and control resulted in significant increase of the amount of drugs seized at the state borders of Georgia. In July 2014 officers of the Ministry arrested the truck with 3 tons of liquid heroin, containing 589 kg of heroin, more than 2 kg of codeine and 12 kilograms of morphine, while crossing the border. The smuggled goods was trafficked from Afghanistan, through Iran and Azerbaijan, with the final destination in Europe.

In June 2014 operative units of the MIA seized more than 500 grams of cocaine.

As a result of joint operative measures throughout Georgia, the officers of the MIA regional divisions detected and destroyed 28 tons and 373 kg wild-growing cannabis on the territories adjacent to the villages only on July 31, this year.

In January, 2015 by officers of the Central Criminal Police Department of the MIA were seized 509 pills of “Subutex” containing narcotic drug “Buprenorphine”, which was smuggled from Germany.

In January, 2015, officers of the Patrol Police Department of the MIA officers at the “Ninotsminda” Border Crossing Point seized 6 kg and 296 g of Cocaine.

In February, 2015, officers of the Patrol Police Department of the MIA officers at the “Sarpi” Border Crossing Point seized 9600 pills containing 480g of Tramadol.

### ***3.2. Development of canine service for the purposes of detecting drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors***

The canine project (K9), financed by the US State Department, aims at developing capacity of the canine service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Finance and conducting fight against drugs. Within the framework of the project, Task Force has been created at the Tbilisi International Airport staffed with the representatives of the MIA and MoF; the unit is tasked to detect narcotic substances at the Airport, with the help of service dogs. 5 service dogs have been purchased for both agencies and in 2014 members of the operative unit, together with the purchased service dogs, successfully completed an eight-week training course in the United States of America; they also got familiarized with the system applicable in Turkey. In 2015 (February-March) additional 5 service dogs have been purchased and study visit for the 2 new dog handlers, as well as Training of Trainers have been organized in USA. In March, 2015 training for new dog handlers will be organized in Tbilisi by the trained Georgian instructors and will be supervised by the representatives of US Park Police.

### ***3.3. Integrated database on collecting information concerning the individuals participating in illicit traffic of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors***

In July-September 2014, with the help of software registering laboratory tests and research results of the Drug Testing Service of Forensic Main Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, information registered in the database has been monitored, existing inaccuracies therein have been corrected, registered data on unidentified persons have been harmonized with the data protected at the Service Development Agency of the Ministry of Justice.

Currently, there are differently generated databases and systems for registering individuals participating in illicit traffic of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors.

In terms of criminal law, the old data on drug-related crimes are gathered in the database of the Information-Analytical Department, which in an automatic regime integrates the ongoing data of electronic criminal investigation of the Ministry of Justice. The works related to improvement of the database as well as of the registration software are conducted simultaneously.

In terms of administrative offences, the facts of detecting drug abuse are registered by the Patrol Police Department of the MIA. The Operative-Technical Department of the MIA conducts the works for improvement of the administrative offences' registration software.

The existence of two systems for registration of administrative offences and differently generated databases cause problems in regard to searching and processing information, and require the unification of existing applications as well as integration of databases. At this point the information existing in differently generated databases is processed, analyzed at the MIA, doubled data are detected and old data are structured, in order to integrate them in a unified registration system.

Levan Samkharauli National Forensics Bureau and the Ministry of Internal Affairs exchange the information on drug-related crimes in an online regime.

#### **4. Increasing awareness on abuse of drugs and psychotropic substances among the society**

Since March 2014 the MIA launched a wide-scale anti-drug campaign "No to Bio-Drugs – Let`s Change the Attitude Together", in order to increase awareness concerning the abuse of drugs and psychotropic substances and to promote healthy lifestyle among the population. Within the framework of the campaign, the Minister of Internal Affairs and other representatives of the Ministry, together with physician-narcologists, organized a number of meetings with the students of higher educational institutions and pupils of public schools.

Various events involving pupils and students have been held within the framework of the campaign. A broad media-campaign has been carried out, within the framework of which numerous reports, TV and radio programs have been devoted to drug-related topics. Furthermore, the issue was widely covered by the press and social networks.

The campaign covered all segments of the society, especially the young generation.

#### **5. Creation of drug policy website**

A drug policy webpage has been created on the official website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, with the objective of introducing main directions and news in the field of drug policy within the competence of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, to all interested persons. The webpage contains all necessary information, what ensure transparency of the activities of the MIA.

Especially, the establishment of joint bases on narcotic drugs and new psychoactive substances should be highly emphasized. Representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs as well as the representatives of the Customs Service have an online access to the bases through the mentioned webpage, in order to ensure prompt and effective exchange of relevant information between these two agencies.

## **6. Availability of relevant medical aid for individuals placed in temporary detention isolators of the Ministry of Internal Affairs**

Medical care means with modern equipment are available in Temporary Detention Isolators of the MIA. Furthermore, methadone program is available for drug addicted detainees.

## **7. Coordination and international cooperation**

### *Capacity Building of Canine Service*

From 2013 with the financial support of US Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) is implementing “Canine Project”. Within the framework of this project on June 18, 2013 the Memorandum of Understanding between Georgia Revenue Service and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, concerning the “Cooperation with regard to Revealing Illegal Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors in Georgia” had been elaborated and signed by Georgia Revenue Service and by the Central Criminal Police Department, Patrol Police Department and Forensic-Criminalistics Main Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia. On the bases of the MoU Drug Task Force has been established, which operates at the Border Crossing Point “Tbilisi International Airport” and aims at detection of illegal movement of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors. Task Force consists of staff from Customs department (2) and Patrol Police Department (3) and acts within the scope of their competence.

Within the framework of the project also following activities has been implemented:

- 5 Canine dogs were purchased for the Task Force;
- In 2013-2014 trainings and study visits for the dogs and their handlers were organized in USA and in Turkey;



- 8 kennels were renovated;
- 2 temporary kennels in the vicinity of the BCP Tbilisi airport were constructed;
- Assessment mission of USA Park Police was conducted and relevant recommendations were delivered for further/future actions;
- Task force was expended (2 new dog handlers and their supervisor were selected);
- Systematic trainings and exercises for canine dogs.

Currently, 5 new service dogs have been purchased and study visit for the 2 new dog handlers, as well as training of trainers have been organized in the USA. In March, 2015 training for new dog handlers will be organized in Tbilisi by the trained Georgian instructors and will be supervised by the representatives of US Park Police.

### *Container Control Programme*

In 2012 was started Container Control Programme CONTAINER CONTROL (CCP) by joint initiative of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and World Customs Organization (WCO). Within the framework of Programme, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Georgia Revenue Service, two Departments of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Patrol Police Department and Central Criminal Police Department) and UNODC on the establishment of a Joint Port Control Unit in Poti (PCU). The main task of the Joint Unit is to perform effective container control with the aim to prevent trafficking in drugs and other illicit goods. In the course of 2014, special equipment HazMatID 360, which ensures examination/analysis of liquid and solid chemical substances, was purchased for the operative unit. The relevant staff has been retrained regarding its correct exploitation. The first training was carried out in Poti in October 2014.

### *Cooperation with EMCDDA*

In June 2014 the leadership of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, being part of the delegation of the Interagency Coordination Council on Combating Drug Abuse, participated in the working meeting held in the head office of the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) in Lisbon, in order to further enhance cooperation with the EMCDDA. The issue of establishing an observatory on illicit drug traffic and drug abuse in Georgia has been discussed within the framework of the working visit.

In April 2015 EMCDDA International Conference related to issues on new psychoactive substances will be held in Tbilisi, Georgia.

### ***7.1. Conclusion of bilateral/multilateral agreements/MoUs on combating drug-related crime***

International agreements/MoUs signed/entered into force during reporting period, covering drug-related issues:

- Memorandum of Understanding with the National Crime Agency of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on cooperation in the fight against crime – signed in London on 24 January 2014, in force upon signature.
- Agreement between the Government of Georgia and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation in Combating Organized Crime, Terrorism and Other Serious Criminal Offences – signed in Berlin on 9 July 2014, internal procedures accomplished from Georgian side, not in force.
- Agreement between the Government of Georgia and the Government of the State of Israel on cooperation in the fight against crime and public security issues – signed in Tbilisi on 18 November 2013, in force since 14 September 2014.
- Agreement between the Government of Georgia and the Government of the French Republic on cooperation in internal security matters - signed in Paris on 26 November 2009, in force since 1 December 2014.
- Agreement between the Government of Georgia and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on cooperation in the fight against crime – signed in Vilnius on 26 September 2013, in force since 14 January 2015.
- Agreement between Georgia and the Kingdom of Spain on Cooperation in the Fight against Crime – signed in Madrid on 21 January 2015, not in force.

- Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters – in force for Georgia since 1 May 2014. This international instrument provides for the judicial and law enforcement cooperation in such important fields of activity as are: exchange of spontaneous information, conduction of cross-border observations, controlled deliveries and covert investigations, setting up of joint investigation teams.

So far Georgia has concluded international agreements/MoUs on fight against crime and on police cooperation with 25 countries, more precisely with: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Egypt, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, UK (MoU), USA (MoU) and Uzbekistan. This process is ongoing and aims at covering the EU Member States and other countries on the level of bilateral cooperation.

### ***7.2. Existing international mechanisms, Police and Customs Attaches' Forum, mechanisms of bilateral agreements/working groups***

In order to strengthen the international cooperation in the fight against drug abuse, the special services of the Ministry of Internal Affairs effectively use the mechanisms of existing international and regional organizations (UN, EU, GUAM, BSEC, WCO, IOM), Police Attaches' forums, bilateral agreements and working groups.

In September 2013, within the framework of the EU project “Heroin Route” and with the organization of the Moldova and the MIA of Georgia, meeting of the officials of Ukraine, Turkey, Azerbaijan, England, France, Germany, EUROPOL, EUBAMM, CARICC, GUAM, SOCA and DEA was held; the objective of the meeting was the discussion of the issues of regional and trans-regional cooperation among the law enforcement agencies in combating drug trafficking, exchange of operative information, establishment of communication network, investigation methods, routs of drug trafficking as well as the issues of international cooperation in this regard.

On December 16-17, 2013 a session of the working subgroup on combating illegal distribution of drugs was held at the GUAM Secretariat in Kiev; the session was attended by relevant representatives of the law enforcement agencies of Georgia, Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine, as well as by the employees of the UNODC in Ukraine. Participants of the meeting exchanged information concerning the acting legislation, operative conditions and conducted activities in the field of combating illegal distribution of drugs, also the participation of GUAM in different international projects and many other actual issues have been discussed.

On April 22-25, 2014 the representatives of the MIA Central Criminal Police Department participated in the regional conference concerning “Best Practice on Information Exchange and Analysis”, held within the framework of the EU project “Heroin Route”, in Kazakhstan.

In April 2014 employees of the Cooperation Center on Fight against International Crime held a meeting with the liaison officer of the UK National Crime Agency, in order to enhance international cooperation in fight against drug abuse.

Cooperation has enhanced with the neighbouring countries during recent years. In 2014-2015, based on information exchange 981 kg of Heroin (in 2014) and 4 kg of Cocaine (in 2015) was seized by Armenian law enforcement agencies. Fruitful cooperation with Azerbaijani law enforcement agencies and information exchange has yielded seizure of 70 kg of Heroin in 2014.

Close cooperation is conducted with the Republic of Turkey on regular basis in terms of fight against drug crime. Based on spontaneous information exchange by Georgian authorities, 23 drug dealers were arrested by Turkish officials on their territory.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia effectively cooperates with the Turkish side within the framework of Joint Commission Meetings in accordance with the Agreement between the Government of Georgia and the Government of the Republic of Turkey on Cooperation in the Field of Security of 1994.

Fight against trafficking in drugs is one of the major directions of Joint Commission’s activity.

The Parties exchange information on the new trends of organized crime and its new forms (including illicit drug trafficking), statistical data on crime and etc.

Joint Commission Meetings are held annually, alternately in Georgia and the Republic of Turkey.

Next Joint Commission Meeting will be held in Georgia in the first half of 2015.

### ***7.3. Qualification advancement courses on the issues of combating illicit trafficking for officers of relevant divisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia***

For the period of 9 months of 2014, 961 employees of relevant divisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs have undergone qualification advancement courses on the issues of combating illicit drug trafficking. Duration of the training course is 2 hours.

In the period of June 2 – July 16 of 2014 physician-narcologists of the Drug Testing Service of Forensic Main Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs have undergone a re-training course on the topic of “Facilitated way of identification of the fact of consumption and abuse of psychoactive substances”. Upon successful completion of the course, the participants were awarded with respective certificates, certifying their qualification.

### ***7.4. Capacity building of relevant agencies combating drug abuse with the assistance of international organizations/partner countries (implementation of trainings, experience sharing and study visits)***

#### **For 2014:**

By the end of January 2014 the employees of International Relations Department and Forensic Main Division of the MIA conducted a study visit in Vienna (Austria), in order to observe the European approach towards new psychoactive substances, more precisely the issues of criminalization of compound classes of new psychoactive substances; legal as well as forensic issues have been addressed during the visit.

In 2014 within the framework of CEPOL exchange program, the representative of the German Criminal Police conducted an official visit to Georgia. The visit had an introductory character and was aimed at experience sharing from Georgia in the field of fight against organized and drug-related crimes.

On March 3-7, 2014 – conference on fight against illicit drug was organized by US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and Police of Romania. Representatives of the MIA took participation. MIA Academy provides international *ad hoc* training courses on regular basis. These are short-term *ad hoc* trainings organized by international donor organizations that are held according to MIA needs and aims at raising qualification of officers from various agencies of the MIA in various fields:

**Narcotics Basic Course** – on May 19-23, 2014 drug-related training course organized by US DEA and the US INL was held at the MIA Academy. The course was conducted by US experts and attended by 30 representatives of various agencies of the MIA. Topics on: case initiation and development, evidence handling, reporting, interview techniques, officer safety and survival, operational planning, drug identification etc, were discussed during the training;

**Narcotics Officer Seminar** – On May 26-28, 2014 Narcotic Officer Seminar organized by US DEA and US INL was held at the MIA Academy. The course was led US experts and attended by 11 representatives of various agencies of the MIA. Topics on: case initiation and development, analytical support to investigations, interview and interrogation, analytical database, operational planning, drug identification, trafficker characteristics, officer safety etc, were discussed during the training.

On September 8-12, 2014 the Reitox academy training course for European Neighbourhood Policy beneficiaries “Contemporary approaches in drug monitoring” was held in Prague. The training was organized by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA).

On September 15-16, 2014 – training course on investigation of drug-related cases was organized by DEA/DOJ and held in Tbilisi. Representatives of Central Criminal Police Department attended the course.

On October 6-8, 2014 a training: “National Coordination Agency staff: Key and Core Indicators of Drug Epidemiology, and Annual Reporting” was held in Tbilisi, Georgia. The training was organized within the USAID/CzDA (Czech Development Agency) project. The training covered the issues of preparing annual drug report in line with EMCDDA standards.

On November 10-12, 2014 training on Capacity Building in Addictology was held in Prague, the Czech Republic. The training was organized within the project of Developing sustainable research and dissemination capacity in the field of Addictology in Georgia, and supported by USAID/CzDA. At the training a draft of annual drug report (covering 2013 fully and 2014 partially) was reviewed.

On December 15-16, 2014 training on the Methods and Principles of Prevention for Drug Addicted Persons was conducted by the NGO ‘Global Initiative on Psychiatry’. During the course following issues were discussed: identification of drug addicted persons, effective preventive measures, planning, implementation and evaluation of preventive measures, referral mechanisms and so on. 25 employees of the MIA took participation.

**For 2015:**

Training within the frames of UNODC-WCO Container Programme

On January 26-30, 2015 the second stage of the training within the frames of UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme was held at the MIA Academy. Representatives of the MIA Patrol Police Department, Central Criminal Police Department and Customs Department of the Revenue Service took participation.

The training was led by foreign experts.

Topics: illicit and synthetic drugs, production and distribution; risk analysis and management; international organizations and their role; WCO and UN relevant conventions were discussed during the training. 22 representatives from various agencies took participation in mentioned training.

***7.5. Sharing implemented reforms and the results achieved in the course of fight against drug abuse and organized crime with other countries***

On September 16, 2014 within the framework of the three-day official visit, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia hosted a delegation of experts of the National Police of Turkey, headed by the Director of the International Relations Department of the Turkish National Police. The main objective of the visit was to increase the effectiveness of fight against drug trafficking through joint efforts.

The meetings were held with the representatives of relevant departments of the Ministry. The experts' group of the National Police of Turkey got acquainted with the legislation on drugs, psychotropic substances, precursors and narcological aid, as well as on new psychoactive substances, the specifics of their application and anti-drug strategy.

The parties discussed the possibility of joint activities in the field of fight against drug crime and plans for future cooperation. During the visit, the delegation of the National Police of Turkey visited forensic laboratory of the Ministry and the Vale Border Crossing Point.

### ***7.6. Study visit on the issue of drug crime investigation***

According to the cooperation program for 2013-2014 with the Republic of Turkey, the study course “Risks Analysis and Drug Detection” was held in Ankara on January 6-10, 2014. The study course was attended by 11 officers of the Central Criminal Police Department.

In the period of March 31-April 11 of 2014 a training course on Countering Narcotics and Illicit Trafficking (CNIT) was held in the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Germany. The following issues have been discussed at the meeting: national security of the 21<sup>st</sup> century resulted from illicit trafficking of drugs and other criminal activities; involvement of terrorist organizations and transnational criminal groups in drug trafficking. The study course was attended by one officer of the Central Criminal Police Department.

### ***7.7. Planning and implementation of the DEA special course on the issues of illicit traffic in drugs***

In the period of August 16 – September 1 of 2014 seven officers of the Central Criminal Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs attended the DEA special training course on the issues of illicit drug trafficking in Quantico, Virginia, the United States of America.

### ***7.8. Retraining courses on legislative amendments***

On June 9, 2014 fifty employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Prosecutor’s Office have been re-trained in regard to the legislative amendments related to the so-called “prescription drug abuse” and new psychoactive substances.

Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia permanently develops tools and technics of fighting against Drug crimes. Renewed working for identification roads and tools of International Drug Transit through Georgia.

## **8. Approaches and measurements against drug crimes in Georgia**

In July 2014 in cooperation with foreign partners on Georgian-Turkish Boarder in Sarpi, Central Criminal Police Department seized 2 tons and 446 liters of liquid Heroine, which contained 588 kg 885 g pure Heroine, 11 kg 759 g Morphine and 2 kg 210 g Codeine. The route of Drug Transit was: IRAN-AZERBAIJAN-**GEORGIA**-TURKEY.



Alongside traditional Drugs Criminal Police Department actively controls illegal turnover of New Psychoactive Drugs (i.e. Spices). Director of the Department Leads the State Commission against spread of New Psychoactive Drugs. The commission coordinates fighting against New Psychoactive Drugs, Observes and analyses trends and directions of spreading Drugs, Creates reports and recommendations for government. Since May 2014, after adoption of the Law of Georgia on “New Psychoactive Drugs”, **119** individuals had been arrested for illegal turnover of “Spices”.

In January, 2015 by officers of the Central Criminal Police Department of the MIA were seized 509 pills of “Subutex” containing narcotic drug “Buprenorphine” smuggled from Germany.

#### **Amount of seized drugs by MIA in 2014 – including February 2015**

Heroin	592 kg 535 g
Subutex	3976 pills
Amphetamine	59 g
Methamphetamine	71,2 g
Dezomorphine	62 g
Marijuana	60 kg 251 g
Cocaine	6 kg 795,3 g
Opium	217 g
Codeine	2 kg 311 g
Methadone	97,6 g
Ecstasy	72 g
Morphine	11 kg 761 g
Pregabailne	15 kg 632 g
Tramadol	1 kg 217 g
Cannabis	5 tons 420 kg 809 g
Phentalin	80 g
Poppy straw	129 g
Pseudoephedrine	81,1 g
Cannabis Resin	72 g

## **DRUGS SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY**

The "National fight strategy against drug and narcotics in the Republic of Armenia" submitted by interdepartmental Committee on the issues of fight against drug and narcotics has been approved by the National Security Council of the Republic of Armenia, wherewith the main strategy directions of fight against drug and narcotics are defined for the next ten years in the Republic of Armenia,

Formerly, unlike the cannabinoid group drugs grown and made by the local population, the opium-type substances were imported from abroad. In recent years, the picture a little has been changed. The injecting use of desomorphine belonging to opium-type substances class drugs including codeine at homemade conditions by drug users was increased. Thus, on the one hand, because of the opium-type substances availability progressive decrease (heroin, opium, acetylisied opium, buprenorphine) the drug users are forced to stop using drugs {self-stop, seek medical help, proceed to the other psychoactive substances or use of alcohol), on the other hand, a large number of drug users pass from codeine-containing drugs into the use of more available desomorphine mixture (painkillers, warm-lowering) made at homemade conditions with different substances.

### ***1. Provided medical care of drug users***

When analyzing the data and information about the treatment of drug addiction, the following conclusions can be made. In the last six years the drug treatment demand by drug users showed a trend of rapid growth. First of all it is conditioned by the punishment discrimination without a medical prescription for using drug in 2008, as well as by quality improvement of provided drug services, especially with investment of methadone substitution treatment in 2009, in the Republic of Armenia.

According to December 13, 2013 the registered persons number, by the republic narcological services connected with drugs use, was 4,922 (according to 2012. 2011 and 2010 respectively 4332, 3893 and 2751). The registered cases include as the number of persons with the aim of treatment in the accepted institutions providing narcological services and further, persons being under the dispensary control, and narcologically expertised with the decisions of law authorities and in its result of the registered number of the fact of drugs use. The majority of the persons using registered drugs are group of persons under 28-49 - 3478 persons (71 percent).

From total number of registered persons (4,922) 2.902 persons are registered on using the drugs of cannabinoids group, 2.018 persons using opium-type substances (F11) and 2 persons using cocaine (F 14).

During 2013, 726 persons were registered by the narcological services connected with the use of drugs for the first time (including 13 women), from which the 500 persons use cannabinoid group drug and the 226 persons use opium-type substances.

Comparing with the previous years, in 2013 with the aim of decrease treatment conditioned with the use of drugs, narcologically stationary avoided persons number was a little reduced forming 187. In 2012 and 2011 this index formed respectively 212 and 206.

In the provided list of services of drug addicted persons, in 2009 the investment of substituted treatment may be consider as a great progress on the improvement of narcological medical care, Now in the 3 large cities of Republic-in Erevan. Vanadzor and Gyurjerip are being carried out medical programs of substituting methadone, as well as in penitentiary Institution of The Ministry of justice of The Republic of Armenia - providing substituted treatment of methadoneto over 350 patients having opium-type substances addiction.

The medical institutions providing narcological services closely collaborate with state, as well as non-governmental (public) organizations on HIV/AIDS prevention, on the providing treatment and care services to the people living with HIV/AIDS,

## **2. Fight against illegal drug circulation**

In the sphere of drug proposal in the Republic of Armenia the preventive measures are carried out by the forces of the Police Department Organized Crime (coworkers) in the fight against drug trafficking (TASHDPV), The Police Regional Offices, the National Security Service (N SS) The NSS State Border Guard Department and the State Revenue Committee (SRC) to fight against smuggling and double customs control.

Thanks to the efforts of law enforcement, the fight sphere against the illegal drug circulation is stable and the drug-related situation is under control. Drug formation and permanent criminal groups do not exist in the Republic.

In 2014, 1046 criminal and 450 administrative offence cases have been detected by the law enforcement authorities of the Republic of Armenia in the result operational and intelligence activities against drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors in anti-operative actions\_ For comparison, in 2013. 1,222 crimes and 389 administrative cases of offenses were discovered and in 2012 respectively 1,139 and 362.

During 2014, 883 kilos 526 grams of various drugs have been seized by operational and intelligence measures undertaken by the law enforcement authorities of the republic and in 2013 93 kg 594 g respectively. It should be noted that the main proportion of the seized drugs was more than 850 kilograms of heroin imported from Iran in January 2014, which was intended to export via the territory of Armenia to Georgia.

During 2014 in the sphere of illegal circulation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors 539 people were subjected to criminal responsibility for crimes and 686 people in 2013. In 2014 19 of the convicted persons are women. 8 are minors, 28 citizens of other countries.

During 2014 in the Republic of Armenia 402 persons were subjected to administrative responsibility for drug use without a doctor's prescription {44<sup>2</sup> article of 'Administrative Offences' RA Law) and 371 persons in 2013.

48 persons were subjected to administrative responsibility according to 11.0' Article of RA Law of 'Administrative Offences" and 15 persons in 2013..

During 2014, 1.685 of the persons presented for expertise to the "Psychiatric Medical Center' CJSC narcological clinic, and State Non-Profit Organization "National Bureau of Expertise" of the National Academy of Sciences of RA of the Ministry of Health by the law enforcement agencies were taken into accounting (24 are women, 17 minors, 40 foreigners (33 from Iran Islamic Republic, 5 from Georgia, each from Russia and Nigeria)).

Existence of synthetic drug metabolism products of cannabinoid groups were detected among 1.214 bodies in the result of the chemical survey of bio environment, ones of the group of opium among 401 and ones of different groups among 70.

**3.** Drug trafficking has set deep roots worldwide and has become one of the top priority problems for big and little countries. It affects not only socio-economic structure of the countries, but also it influences political and international relations and, gradually growing into a universal problem, creates an urgent necessity for miscellaneous cooperation.

According to the evaluation of global cooperation, the main jeopardy to the security of every country remains international terrorism, the primary funding sources of which are the finances earned from sales of drugs in international markets.

With financial means acquired through trafficking of drugs criminal groups are created whose activity influences not only internal and external politics, but also makes drug trafficking a top priority problem for the world, leaves a negative impact on the gene pool of all peoples.

Despite activities and measures undertaken by the global community, the effectiveness of struggle against drug trafficking is not yet high.

The counteraction to drug trafficking, which is connected with the political, economic and cultural integration of various countries is impossible to carry out by the efforts and activities of one country alone. Preventive joint programs, aimed at reducing the demand of drugs, need to be plotted and implemented which will lead to the reduction of their supply.

According to the world drug report 230-300 million people have used drugs at least once / 3.4-6.6 % of this number belongs to the age group 15-64/.

Yearly, almost 500 milliard dollars' worth drug trade is realized, which constitutes nearly 10.0 percent of international goods turnover.

During 2014 law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Armenia have revealed **1046** crimes and **450** offences related to trafficking of drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors (for the previous 2013 year respectively **1222** crimes and **389** offences).

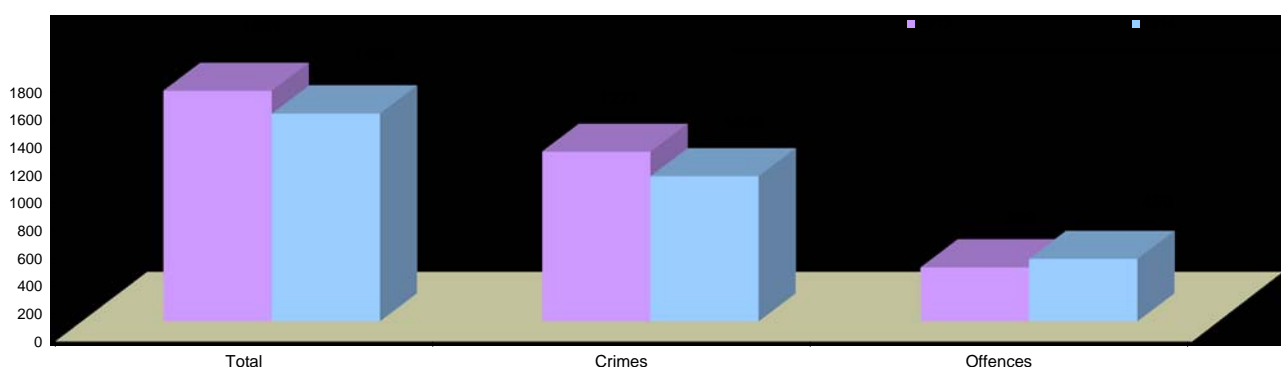


Figure 1. Quantitative picture of drug-related crimes and offences comparing 2013 and 2014 years

Articles of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia		2013	2014	+, -	%
266, 268		1052	1025	-27	2.5
Including	266, parts 1 and 2	484	515	+31	6.0
	266, part 3	24	49	+25	51.0
	266, part 4	19	7	-12	63.1
	268	525	454	-71	13.5
267		0	2	+2	
269		0	4	+4	
270		0	0		
272		0	1	+1	
273		168	14	-154	91.6
274		2	0	-2	
Total		1222	1046	-176	14.4

Table 1. Revealed drug-related crimes per corresponding articles of the Criminal Code of RA

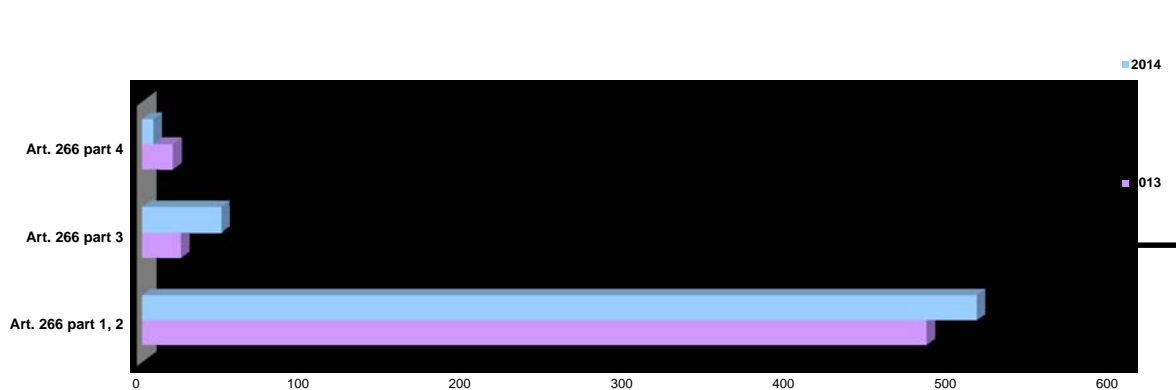


Figure 2. Revealed drug crimes connected with illegal sale of drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors as per articles

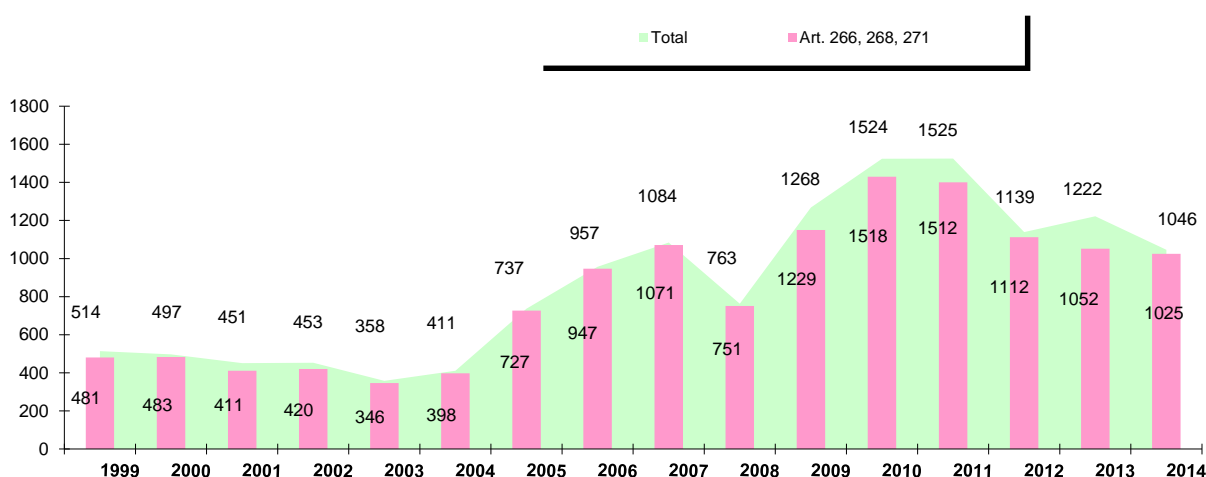


Figure 3. Revealed drug-related crimes from 1998 to 2014

The total amount of drugs seized from illegal circulation by police respective services during the reporting period of time was **883 kg 526 gram** various drugs against **93 kg 594 gram** for the previous 2013 year /according to the data provided from Criminalistic-expertise Department of the Police of RA and National Expertise Centre non-trade organization.

Drug type	2013 /amount in grams/	2014 /amount in	+, -
Marijuana	11388,4	13511	+2122.6
Cannabis plant	64839,3	7932.5	-56906.8
Hashish	1485,1	504.2	-980.9
Hashish oil	0,3	12.1	+11.8
Cocaine	15,2	3984	+3968.8
Opium	14707,1	2505	-12202.7
Acetylised opium	4,48	80.1	+75.62
Heroin	3,9	850197.2	+850193,3
Buprenorphine	10,16	30.2	+20.04
Morphine	-	0,02	+0,02
Methadone	58,03	19,1	
Codeine	9,4	11.7	+2.3
Dezomorphine	1,05	4	+2.95
Amphetamine	0,57	22,35	+21,78
Methamphetamine	65,18	4533.7	+4468.52
Tetrahydrocannabinol	0,8	0,54	-0.26
MDA	0,46	0	-0,46
<b>Total</b>	<b>93594</b>	<b>883526</b>	<b>+789932</b>

Table 2. Quantity of drugs seized from illegal trafficking during 2013 and 2014

**44.2 gr** of different psychotropic substances as well as **2520 ml** of precursors were seized also, in the previous year were seized **40.7 gr** of psychotropic substances and **337.5 ml** of precursors.

“Heroin”, “opium” and “amphetamine” from the so-called “heavy” drugs /98%/ are generally illegally imported from the Islamic Republic of Iran by overland and air routes, “heroin” is also imported in small amounts from Turkey through overland routes, and synthetic drugs, especially “subutex”, the seizure of which has grown throughout the years, is imported from France by air route.

In December 2011 a crime was detected as a result of which 11 kg “hashish” was seized which too had been illegally imported from the Islamic Republic of Iran. Drugs from the Islamic Republic of Iran are usually imported by citizens of the country with the purpose of their sale.



In March 2013 a crime was detected as a result of which “cocaine” and “methadone” type drugs were detected and seized from illegal trafficking which had been smuggled into Armenia from the city of Saint Petersburg of the Russian Federation.

In December 2013 a crime was revealed which resulted in the seizure of 4 kg 260 gr “opium” which had been meant to be sent to Canada through international mail. In the same month “Spice” and “Ecstasy” type drugs were detected and seized which had been imported from Turkey.

In January 2014 more than 850 kg of “heroin” smuggled into Armenia from the Islamic Republic of Iran and which had been meant to be sent to Georgia was seized on the border check-point of Meghri.

With HO-35 law of the Republic of Armenia from 21.05.2013 additions were made to the N1 appendix of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia, also the Criminal Code has been enriched with appendix 5 in which the following notion was defined 'Large and especially large quantities of plants containing narcotics, psychotropic, psychoactive or toxic substances, prohibited to cultivate'.

With HO-36 law from 21.05.2013 additions were made in appendix 1 of the law of RA on administrative offences, and with appendix 2 'Minor and considerable quantities of plants containing narcotics, psychotropic substances prohibited to cultivate'.

With reference to the detection of designer drugs /cigarette mixtures named “Spice”/ in the Republic of Armenia with the initiative of the Police of the Republic of Armenia, a list of similar synthetic cannabinoids has been prepared with their chemical ingredients and doses, the circulation of which is to be prohibited. For this reason the decision of the Government of RA 'On making changes and additions in the decision No 1129-N of the Government of RA from 21.08.2003', draft laws 'On making changes and additions in the Criminal Code of RA ' and 'On making changes and additions in the law of RA on administrative offences' have been prepared. The prepared package of changes and additions has been presented to the Government of RA where it has received approval and been presented to the National Assembly of RA and in December 2014 that changes and additions were added in Criminal Code and in the law on administrative offences of RA.

For the reporting year **539** people were subjected to criminal responsibility for the commitment of crimes connected with trafficking of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors (for 2013 their number was **686**), out of them - 19 females (in 2013 - 104), 8 minors (in 2013 – 7 minors) and 28 foreigners (in 2013 - 22). According to the article 266 (illegal drug sale) of the Criminal Code of Armenia, 116 persons have been subjected to criminal responsibility (against 121 for 2013).

	2013		2014	
Total	<b>686</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>x</b>
Women	<b>104</b>	<b>15,1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3,5</b>
Minors	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,5</b>
18-24 age group	<b>67</b>	<b>9,7</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>10,2</b>
25-29 age group	<b>61</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>13,9</b>
30-49 age group	<b>344</b>	<b>50,1</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>56,2</b>
50 and more	<b>207</b>	<b>30,2</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>18,2</b>
Foreigners	<b>18</b>	<b>3,2</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5,1</b>

Table 3. Age group of convicted people for the drug-related crimes during 2013 and 2014

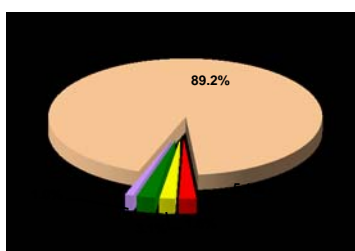


Figure 4. Social group of convicted people for the drug-related crimes during 2013 and 2014

During 2014, 402 people have been called to criminal responsibility for the illegal use of drugs without doctor's prescription (Article 44.2 of the Administrative Code of the Republic of Armenia) and respectively 371 people during 2013. According to Article 110 of the Administrative Code of the Republic of Armenia 48 people have been called to administrative responsibility (18 people during 2013).

According to the data provided by the Narcological clinic of the Ministry of Health as well as data of the National Expertise Center, during the reporting period of time **1685** people were registered for the illegal use of drugs. Out of them **24** were females, **17** minors, **40** foreigners. Among the registered drug users those having taken cannabis group drugs were **1214** people or 72%, those having taken opium group drugs made **401** people or 23.8% and **70** or 4.2% of them used different synthetic drugs. In 2013 number of registered people was **1523**, out of which 26 were females, **6** minors and **29** foreigners.



Figure 5: Registered people according to the drug types they used

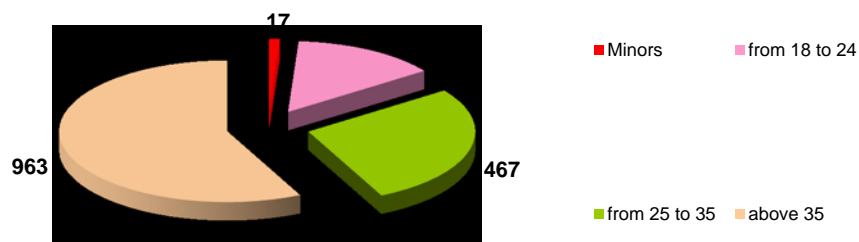


Figure 6: Age group of people having used drugs without doctor's permission

According to the general organizational plan of the Police of the Republic of Armenia the complex of operative-preventive operation “**Hemp-Poppy 2014**” was organized in the period from 4th of August up to 6th of September 2014. The representatives from Police, Ministry of Defense, local authority bodies and mass media were included in that operation. The purpose of the operation was to detect and destroy wildly or purposefully grown green masses of hemp and poppy.

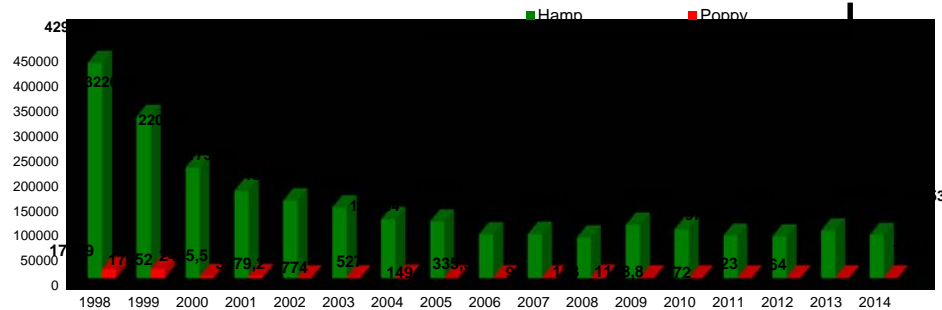


Figure 7. Quantitative picture of green masses of hemp and poppy detected and destroyed as a result of preventive-operative measures 'Hemp-poppy' /kilograms/

In pursuance of the decision of Collective Security Treaty Organization member-states Security Council of September 2008 and CSTO member states Council of directors of the competent authorities decision for 2014-2015 main organizational plan in the fight against illegal drug trafficking, “**Channel-South trap**” joint operative-preventive operation was held from 20<sup>th</sup> up to 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2014.

From 12<sup>th</sup> up to 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2014 “**Channel-Valley**” operative-preventive operation was organized also.

Article from the Criminal Code	Contents	Penalty sanctions
<i>Article 266. Illegal circulation of narcotic substances or psychotropic substances for the purpose of their sale</i>	<p>1. Illegal preparation, processing, purchase, storage, transportation and transfer for the purpose of sale or illegal sale of narcotics or psychotropic substances.</p> <p>2. The same actions committed 1) by a group of individuals; 2) when involving large quantities; 3) at the places of serving one's sentence in the form of deprivation of freedom or arrest, either at the places of custody; 4) in educational/corrective institutions.</p> <p>3. Actions provided for by parts 1 and 2 of the given article and committed: 1) by an organized group; 2) at especially large scale</p>	<p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from three to seven years.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from five to ten years with the confiscation of property or without confiscation.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from seven to fifteen years with or without the confiscation of property.</p>
<i>Article 267. Violation of the rules of production, purchasing, storage, registration, shipment or transfer of narcotic or psychotropic substances</i>	<p>1. Violation of the rules of production, purchasing, storage, registration, shipment or transfer of narcotic or psychotropic substances by the person responsible for the compliance with these rules, where this results in the stealage or illegal circulation of the substances in question,</p> <p>2. Actions, provided for by part 1 of the present article, committed at a large scale</p>	<p>Punishable by the payment of fine equal to the minimum salary multiplied by 200 – 500, or deprivation of freedom for the term not exceeding 3 years with the deprivation of right to hold certain positions or conduct certain activities for the term not exceeding three years.</p> <p>Punishable by the payment of fine equal to the minimum salary multiplied by 500 – 800, or</p>

	<p>3. Actions, provided for by part 1 of the present article, committed at an especially large scale</p>	<p>deprivation of freedom from two to four years with the deprivation of right to hold certain positions or conduct certain activities for the term not exceeding three years.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from three to five years with the deprivation of right to hold certain positions or conduct certain activities for the term not exceeding three years.</p>
<p><i>Article 268. Illegal circulation of narcotic substances or psychotropic substances without the purpose of their sale</i></p>	<p>1. Illegal preparation, processing, purchase, storage, shipment or transfer of narcotic substances or psychotropic substances without the purpose of their sale.</p> <p>2. The same actions committed at a large scale.</p> <p>3. The same actions committed at an especially large scale.</p>	<p>Punishable by detention for the term not exceeding two months or deprivation of freedom for the term not exceeding one year.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom for the term not exceeding three years.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from two to six years.</p>
<p><i>Article 269. Steal or extortion of narcotic or psychotropic substances</i></p>	<p>1. Steal or extortion of narcotic or psychotropic substances</p> <p>2. The same action committed : 1) by a group of individuals by a prior agreement; 2) by abuse of an official power; 3) by violence, not dangerous for life or health, or the threat to use violence; 4) at a large scale.</p> <p>3. Actions provided for by parts one and two of the present article, and committed: 1) by an organized group; 2) at an especially large scale; 3) by violence, not dangerous for life or health, or the threat to use violence.</p>	<p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from three to seven years.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from six to ten years, with or without the confiscation of property.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from eight to fifteen years, with or without the confiscation of property.</p>

<i>Article 269.1 Or psychotropic drugs (psychotropic) substances in use attract or involving</i>	<p>1. Illegal preparation, use or the forgery of prescriptions or other documents, authorizing the receipt of narcotic and psychotropic substances</p> <p>2. The same action committed: by a group of individuals with prior agreement</p>	<p>Punishable by the payment of fine equal to the minimum salary multiplied by 300-600, or keeping in custody for the term not exceeding three months, or deprivation of freedom for the term not exceeding 2 years.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom for 2-5 years</p>
<i>Article 270. Illegal provision of narcotic or psychotropic substances or the forgery of prescriptions or other documents, authorizing the receipt of the named substances</i>	Illegal provision of narcotic or psychotropic substances or the forgery of prescriptions or other documents, authorizing the receipt of the named substances.	Punishable by deprivation of freedom for the term not exceeding two years, with the deprivation of right to hold certain positions or conduct certain activities for the term not exceeding three years or otherwise.
<i>Article 272. Persuading or involving to use narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances</i>	<p>1. Persuading or involving to use narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances</p> <p>2. Persuasion or involvement to use narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances: 1) in case of minors; 2) in case of two or more people; 3) through deception; 4) by violence or the threat of its use.</p> <p>3. The same actions entailing, due to carelessness, the death of the victim or causing harm to his health.</p>	<p>Punishable by corrective labor for the term not exceeding two years, or keeping in custody for the term not exceeding three months, or the deprivation of freedom for the term not exceeding three years.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from three to eight years.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from six to twelve years.</p>
<i>Article 273. Illegal sowing or growing of plants prohibited for cultivation, containing narcotic, psychotropic, strong and poisonous substances</i>	<p>1. Illegal sowing or growing of plants prohibited for cultivation, containing narcotic, psychotropic, strong and poisonous substances, committed at a large scale.</p> <p>2. The same actions committed: 1) by a group of individuals by a prior agreement; 2) by an organized group; 3) at an exceptionally large scale.</p>	<p>Punishable by payment of fine equaling to the amount of minimum salary multiplied by 300 – 500, or keeping in custody from one to three months, or deprivation of freedom for the term not exceeding two years.</p> <p>Punishable by deprivation of freedom from three to eight years.</p>
<i>Article 274. Arrangement and</i>	1. Arrangement and maintenance of dens	Punishable by deprivation of

<i>maintenance of dens for the consumption of narcotic and psychotropic substances</i>	for the consumption of narcotic and psychotropic substances.  2. The same actions committed: 1) by an organized group; 2) by the abuse of an official position, 3) educational/corrective institutions.	freedom for the term not exceeding four years.  Punishable by deprivation of freedom from three to seven years.
<i>Article 44.1</i>	Illegal turnover of little quantity of narcotic drugs or psychotropic materials without the purpose of sale	Administrative Code of RoA
<i>Article 44.2</i>	Use of narcotic drugs or psychotropic materials without prescription	Administrative Code of RoA
<i>Article 110 prim 2</i>	Seeding and cultivation of plants containing narcotics, psychotropic, psychoactive and toxic substances	Administrative Code of RoA

Table 6. Drug and human trafficking related articles from the Criminal Code of the RA

### 3. Bilateral and multilateral programs

Since August 2010, methadone substitution treatment programs are being implemented by "Psychiatric Medical Center" narcological clinic of the Ministry of Health of RA, since May 2011 in penitentiary Institution of The Ministry of Justice of The Republic of Armenia, since July 2013 also by "Lori Regional Neurological dispensary" and since December 2013 by "Mental Health Center" of Gyumri in the framework of grant program "support of national program against HIV / AIDS of the Republic of Armenia" financed by Global Fund of the Ministry of Health of RA against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

### 4. Need for external assistance

In the sphere of drug demand reduction the cooperation of conducting activities of state bodies and organizations with international organizations and individual countries will greatly contribute to the quality of drug demand reduction measures and efficiency.

Suggestions on possible areas of cooperation are presented below:



1. Explore drug use prevention methods recommended by leading international organizations with the aim to promote the effectiveness of the preventive measures.
2. Explore principles and methods related to medical care of drug addicts which are recommended by UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, then apply them.
3. Explore recommendation of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, provided during drug addicted aid related to psychological and social support services, individual countries expertise in this field, educate / train qualified specialists, psychologists, social workers.
4. Explore recommendation of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization related to rehabilitation treatment for drug addicts.
5. Examine researches and studies on population, youth and children, the prevalence of drug use among specific groups of population.
6. Invest and develop drugs informational united (complex) national system through the cooperation with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the European Centre of Drugs Monitoring.

1) The information was provided by the State Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Fight against Drug Addiction and Trafficking of Illicit Drugs and regards the results of fight against illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors in Azerbaijan for the year of 2014.

During the year of 2014, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of National Security, the State Customs Committee, the State Border Service and the Prison Service of the Ministry of Justice seized 1 tone 321 kg 255 . 658 gr of different type of drugs (including: 153 kg 948,443 grams of hashish, 296 kg 126,546 grams of heroin, 327 kg 140,538 grams of opium, 487 kg 286,322 grams of marijuana, 56 kg 899,469 grams of other drug types.

Besides that, 239 tones 441 kg 339 grams of drug-containing plants were seized and destroyed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Border Service.

In general, the law-enforcement bodies discovered 3349 facts, out of which 931 were related to acquisition, storage, transportation and transfer of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, with the purpose to sell; 203 – illicit cultivation of drug-containing plants; 2202 - illegal acquisition and storage of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors without a purpose to sell; 13 other kind of facts.

During the year out of the 2579 individuals brought to justice, 1 was under 18 years old, 578 under 30 years old, 1926 higher than 30 years old, 24 workers, 8 servants, 1 transport system employee, 1 student of higher education institution, whereas 77 were women.

68 out of those brought to justice were foreign citizens. More than 200 kg of different kind of narcotic drugs were seized from them. 32 of the foreigners were citizens of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 22 - Georgia, 8 - Russian Federation, 2 - Turkey, 1 - Lithuania, Ukraine, 1 - Turkmenistan, 1 - Canada.

According to the information dated 31.12.2014, of the Drug Treatment Center of the Ministry of Health 28.656 (28.376 in 2013) were registered in the Center out of whom 23.042 were in the clinic and 5.614 registered for prophylaxis. 554 of them were women, 152 toxic maniacs, 20.276 (409 women) were injection drug users. 1.235 individuals were newly registered in 2014, 955 were removed from the register.

According to the Anti-AIDS Center of the Ministry of Health, in 2014 the number of infected with HIV were 604,586 of whom (97%) were citizens of Azerbaijan, 18 (3%) - foreigners.

In general, within the period from the first detection of the HIV in Azerbaijan in 1987 till the end 2014, the Republican AIDS Centre had registered 4902 HIV infected, 4735 (96.6%) of whom were citizens of Azerbaijan, 167 (3.4%) foreigners, 3728 (76.1%) of those infected with HIV were men and 1174 (23.9%) - women.

2636 (53.8%) HIV infections out of 4902 occurred as a result of injection drug use, out of whom 2376 (48.5%) were registered in the clinic.

2) In compliance with paragraph 42.2 of the Action Plan on the implementation of the "State Program on the fight against illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and drug addiction for the years of 2013-2018" there was developed and submitted for consideration a Draft Law on Amendments to the "Code of Administrative Offences of the Republic of Azerbaijan". The same Draft was approved as a law on 30 May 2014 (The "State Program on the fight against illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and drug addiction for the years of 2013-2018" was adopted with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan (#2966, dated 24 June 2013).

For the purpose of implementation of Paragraph 4.2.7 of the Action Plan, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted a Decision (#276, dated 13 August 2014) which approved the "Program on treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration of those suffering from drug addiction".

Moreover, relevant amendments to the normative legal framework regulating the issues related to fight against trafficking of illicit narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, while taking into account the international experience, are under consideration.

The purpose of the Program is to strengthen the fight against illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as against drug abuse, holding of anti-drug propaganda against illegal drug trafficking and drug addiction, prevention, promotion of awareness, treatment of persons with drug addiction, helping them to return to a healthy life, treatment and rehabilitation, adapting to the demands of the modern era, contributing to further improvements in the area of legislation, research and practical research to study the effectiveness of penalties, and other large-scale issues in the development of international cooperation.

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