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Experts from EU and CA exchanged views regarding drug situation

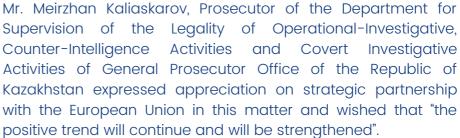
On July 07-08 in Brussels, Belgium, the EU-Central Asia Dialogue has been conducted under chairmanship of the Czech Republic. The purpose of this Dialogue was to strengthen international cooperation, exchange views and support the proper development of policy. CADAP Programme supported participation in the Dialogue of delegations from 4 Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Central Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) among the representatives of relevant state institutions, whose activities include countering drug smuggling and developing state policy in the field of drugs. The delegates presented reports on the situation in the countries of Central Asia.

The EU side was represented by EU Member States and representatives of the EU institutions and agencies such the European Commission, EMCDDA, EUROPOL, European External Action Service. Particularly, the European Commission presented the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025 and its Action Plan 2021-2025 and EU agencies shared the information on recent development in the EU. Expert dialogues on drugs are the fundamental part of the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025 that strongly supports information sharing on the strategies, aims and relevant initiatives through the dialogues on drugs international partners, both at regional and bilateral level.

CADAP TECHNICAL COMMITTEES TAKING PLACE IN CENTRAL ASIA

We have started the 2nd round of Technical Committees meetings to discuss the main developments within the action to date and agree on the way forward. Two first meetings from the series have been conducted in Nursultan on June 16 and Bishkek on June 30. The action's main stakeholders were convened to the events, including the European Union Delegations and the Government authorities such as the Ministries of Foreign and Internal Affairs, Education, Justice, Health. The meeting resulted in forming and agreeing on a country work plans of the Programme for the upcoming year with specific outputs, activities and technical partnership arrangements. The Technical Committees continue to serve as a basis for monitoring progress towards project goals and a reference point for efficiency of cooperation and partnerships with the beneficiaries during the implementation phase.

"Being a platform for exchanging opinions and planning next steps, the technical committee targets the needs of a wide range of partners involved in combatting drug abuse and illicit trafficking: policy makers, law enforcement bodies and health specialists"



Укрепление партнерства между ЕС и Центральной Азией

Ms. Cholpon Tabaldieva, Senior Operations Officer of Organizational and Analytical Department of Counter-Narcotics Service of Ministry of Interior emphasized that "Countering drugs continues to be a priority area of the Kyrgyz Republic and it is supported by country strategic planning documents, including the National Security Concept of the Kyrgyz Republic and the National Development Program of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period up to 2026. In this regard, contribution of CADAP Programme is very relevant".



ASSESSMENT MISSION ON RESULT 3 - "PREVENTION"

Between 27 and 30 June, a group of experts from the National Center on Prevention of Addictions (Poland) conducted an assessment mission in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. Janusz Sieroslavsky and Boguslawa Bukowska arrived in Kyrgyzstan to conduct a detailed evaluation of the needs and proposals of national partners for Component 3 of CADAP 7 program – "Prevention".

"Drug use prevention programmes are effective when they respond to the needs of a community, involve all the relevant sectors and are based on scientific evidence; effective programmes should also incorporate strong monitoring and evaluation components."



As part of the mission, bilateral meetings have been held in CADAP office with national partners - Anti-Drug Trafficking Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, Center for Mass Communications and Health, Center for Narcology and Psychiatry, during which the needs were discussed and preventive measures have been planned for 2022-2023. Findings of the assessment together with the draft working plan with specific focus on prevention measures was presented during Technical Committee meeting.





4 PSYCHOLOGISTS TOOK PART IN HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS TECHNIQUES TRAININGS

4 psychologists from Narcology centers of Nursultan, Kazakstan and Dushanbe, Tajikistan, have been supported by CADAP 7 to take part in Hostage Negotiations Techniques trainings, organized by the EU-funded Project LEICA (Law-enforcement in Central Asia). The five-days trainings included theoretical lessons and role-playing exercises on terrorism, prison crisis and other criminal hostage scenarios. Trainings have been conducted by EU MS experts In Nur-Sultan and Dushanbe in April and May 2022 respectively.

CADAP TEAM WELCOMES CARICC DELEGATION

On August 10 CADAP team in Madrid have met the delegation of CARICC - the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Center for Combating Drug Trafficking. During the meeting, information on the the implementation of CADAP7 was announced, proposals and wishes regarding bilateral cooperation were discussed. The current drug situation has been discussed, taking into account the threats of international drug trafficking and the spread of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances of synthetic origin emanating from Afghanistan.



Then CADAP team joined CARICC delegation in a meeting with the Spanish Centre for Intelligence against Terrorism and Organized Crime (CITCO) where they exchanged knowledge and experiences on fighting- against drug trafficking in Spain and in Central Asia, focusing on operational plans, data analysis and seizure.



"FUTURE WITHOUT DRUGS" CONFERENCE

On June 24, CADAP 7 Director Ernest Robello took part in scientific and practical conference "Future Without Drugs" held in a hybrid format by the Almaty Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The event was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, representatives of Almaty authorities, international and public organizations, experts of drug prevention programs implemented in the region, specialists in the field of treatment and psychiatric care.

The participants discussed the latest trends related to illicit drug trafficking and psychotropic substances in Central Asia and new threats.



Vision

In line with the EU Drugs Strategy 2021–2025, and the Joint Communication on "The EU and Central Asia: New Opportunities for a Stronger Partnership", CADAP 7 reflects the continuity of the EU long-term engagement with Central Asian partners to help further strengthen their drug demand reduction national plans and continue cooperating in the development of integrated and balanced drug policies. With a 42-month implementation period, the overall objective of CADAP 7 is to contribute to the reduction of drug use and its associated risks and harms. CADAP gives support to Central Asian governments in the development of integrated and evidence-based drug policies and to improve access to quality drug demand reduction interventions to vulnerable groups including a gender and human rights-based approach (HRBA).



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Mission

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02

- •Enhance the incorporation of an evidence-based approach and mainstream the Agenda 2030 into national and regional drug policies
- •Strengthen National Information Systems to produce objective, reliable, gender sensitive, scientific standards-based information on drug situation based on EU good practices and international standards

03

04

- •Improve evidence-based prevention programmes, both in their formulation and implementation, including a focus on young people, women and vulnerable groups
- •Increase and improve heathcare and social responses to tackling drug use by consolidating good practices and better-quality services for drug users

05

•Increase efficiency and effectiveness of the programme by implementing a systematic gender and HRBA to the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the targeted interventions

