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from:	Polish <sup>1</sup> and Romanian Co-Chairs of the Dublin Group
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**GENERAL OVERVIEW**

As it can be noticed by the data supplied by the national authorities with attributions in the fight against drug trafficking, in 2010, the drug supply reduction trends are ascendant both in Republic of Armenia, as well as in Azerbaijan.

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<sup>1</sup> Poland is monitoring the illicit drug problem in Belarus, Russian Federation and Ukraine

<sup>2</sup> The document was drafted using the data collected by the Romanian diplomatic missions in the respective countries, as well as the data provided by the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) Report on the Availability of Internationally Controlled Drugs for 2011. We must mention that Georgia did not send any updates since the last report for the Dublin Group meeting in January 2011, and the data for Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Republic of Moldova represent an update of the report for the Dublin Group meeting in January 2011.

This phenomenon is specific mostly for the Republic of Armenia, where the increments are significant both, in the criminality field, still dominated by the illegal drug trafficking related crimes, as well as illegal drug market, characterized by the presence of big quantities of marijuana (cannabis herb) and methamphetamines.

Throughout the same year, in order to reduce the drug trafficking and use, the law enforcement officials from the Republic of Moldova have undertaken a number of measures focused on decreasing the illicit drug use and trafficking, by aiming at the following objectives: identification and hampering of illicit drug trafficking routes and traffickers' networks, identification and confiscation of big quantities of illicit drugs, identification of clandestine labs, as well as youth information prevention programmes through cooperation with civil society.

## **1. REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

### **1.1. General overview on crimes related to illicit drug use**

In 2010, the law enforcement institutions involved in fighting against illicit drug trafficking have revealed 1524 drug related crimes and 296 law violations. In 2009, 1238 drug related crimes and 130 law violations were revealed.

The distribution of data provided by the Armenian Police on crimes stipulated in the Penal Code of Republic of Armenia (RA) is as following:

- a) art 266 and 268 – illegal trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances, for further distribution, and illegal trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances, with no intention of distribution:
  - 2010 – 1518 cases; 2009 – 1229 cases; 23.5% increase
- b) art 266, para 1 and 2 – illegal trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances, for further distribution:
  - 2010 – 514 cases; 2009 – 375 cases; 37,1% increase
- c) art 266, para 3 – illegal possession of narcotics and psychotropic substances:
  - 2010 – 162 cases; 2009 – 83 cases; 95,2% increase

- d) art 266, para 4 – illicit sale of narcotics on the „black market“:
  - 2010 – 115 cases; 2009 – 81 cases; 42% increase
- e) art 268 – illegal trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances, with no intention of distribution:
  - 2010 – 727 cases; 2009 – 690; 5,4% increase
- f) art 269 – theft or illegal use of narcotics and psychotropic substances:
  - 2010 – 0 cases; 2009 – 1 case; 100% decrease.
- g) art 272 – persuasion or involvement of third parties in drug and psychotropic substances use:
  - 2010 – 0 cases; 2009 – 1 case; 100% decrease
- h) art 273 – illegal cultivation of illicit plants, containing narcotics, psychotropic substances or strong poisons:
  - 2010 – 5 cases; 2009 – 6 cases; 17% decrease;
- i) art 274 – setting up or making use of special designated places for narcotics and psychotropic substances use:
  - 2010 – 1 case; 2009 – 2 case; similar situations
- j) total number of crimes:
  - 2010 – 1524; 2009 – 1238; 23,1% increase

The results of the Armenian antidrug structures at the end of 2010 are as follows:

- 126,524 kg of various types of narcotics were seized, as compared to 56,762 kg in 2009 (44% increase in the efficiency of the antidrug operations)
- 76,4 g of psychotropic substances and 16,7l of precursors were seized.

In 2010, 854 persons (21 females, 2 minors, 58 foreign citizens, while the rest being Armenian males) were detained and prosecuted for crimes related to drug trafficking.

The distribution of offenders according to the place and field of work is as follows:

- 93,3% - unemployed;
- 2% - seasonal employees, without a safe wage;
- 2% - workers in agriculture;
- 1,7% clerks;
- 1% - students.

After the finalization of the 2010 investigations, 354 persons were sentenced, as compared to 366 persons in 2009. In 2010, 295 persons were prosecuted for using narcotics without a medical prescription, as compared to 122 in 2009.

## **1.2. The Antidrug Strategy**

### *1.2.1. Institutional framework – antidrug activities undertaken at national and international level and participation in the joint activities with Community of Independent States*

The following antidrug activities were undertaken:

- Operation „Cannabis - Poppy”- a national level operation. As a result, have been discovered 45 areas illegally cultivated with poppy and cannabis for illicit drugs production. All the crops have been destroyed, while the landlords sent to the court;
- Operation „CANAL”. This was organized in cooperation with specialized antidrug officers from the CIS. As a result, at the Armenian border points (customs points at the frontiers with Iran and Georgia) have been discovered significant quantities of illicit drugs;
- The national Armenian Plan on countering illicit drugs trafficking and use, involving participation of a number of national institutions with competences in fighting illicit drugs (Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor General Office, Ministry of Interior, Border Police-National Security Service, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Health, Labor Ministry, Sports Ministry, Yerevan City Hall, Ministry of Finance).

### *1.2.2. The international conventions signed by Republic of Armenia in fighting illicit drugs trafficking and use*

The following documents were signed:

- 1992 – Kiev, Convention on cooperation among the ministries of internal affairs from the CIS in fighting illicit drugs trafficking and use;
- 1993 – United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), as amended by the 1972 Protocol; United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971); United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988);
- 1998 – RA signs, together with representatives of the Member States of the Initiative on Economic Cooperation in the Black Sea region, the Agreement on „Cooperation in countering organized crime;

- 1999 – Governments of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Iran signed the Memorandum on Cooperation and mutual support in countering organized crime and all its forms of emergence”;
- 2000 – in Minsk, RA signed the Convention on „Cooperation between the CIS countries in countering illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors”;
- 2000 – in Chişinău, the Heads of the CIS countries sign the Convention on „Cooperation in countering illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors”;
- 2002 – Governments of the CIS countries sign, The Convention on „Cooperation between the CIS countries in countering illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors”;
- 2005 – The Republic of Armenia Police signs with the Federal Service of the Russian Federation for illicit drugs control The Agreement on cooperation in the field of illicit traffic of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors;
- 2008 – RA signs The CIS countries Inter-governmental Programme 2008-2010 in fighting the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors.

### *1.2.3. Internal strategies on countering illicit trafficking of psychotropic substances*

As of 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2009 the national Programme 2009-2012 on the fight against the drug addiction on the territory of Republic of Armenia was signed. The actions foreseen by the Programme are being implemented with EU and International Organizations support.

In August, 2010, at the Yerevan international airport „Zvartnots”, as a result of the antidrug activities undertaken by the Armenian police, has been identified a network a illicit drugs traffickers formed of Armenian and Russian citizens, who were supported in their activity by the customs officials, who were helping the criminals to transport narcotic drugs by air.

## **1.3. Participation of the Republic of Armenia in bi- and multi-lateral anti-drug programmes**

### *1.3.1. Countering the illicit drugs trafficking*

In 2010, the specialized Armenian officers have participated in the activities undertaken at the CIS countries level related to countering illicit drugs trafficking (Operation „Canal”). As a result, important quantities of illicit drugs have been seized at the customs points.

Republic of Armenia and Russian Federation have signed a Partnership on joint anti-drug operations. As a result, the representatives from the Ministries of Interior from these two countries have participated in training actions and „field operations”.

In 2010, the heads of the Anti-drug Departments from the Armenian Police have participated in 12 international missions focused on improvement of the translational cooperation methodology on increasing the efficiency in countering illicit drugs trafficking at regional and global levels.

### *1.3.2. Rehabilitation of the drug addicted persons*

According to the data provided by the Medical Psychiatry Center, by the Clinic for Addictions within the Armenian Ministry of Health and by the National Expertise Bureau (Academy of Sciences), in 2010 1153 persons received preventive treatment. After the medical examinations, the following results were recorded:

- convincing evidence proving cannabis related drug use were found in the blood of 577 persons (50%);
- 488 persons (42,3%) opiate related drug use;
- 88 persons (7,7%) – synthetic drug use

## **1.4. Place and date of Mini Dublin Group**

The Romanian Embassy in Yerevan has regular contacts with Republic of Armenia Police anti-drug squad and representatives of international organizations involved in drug prevention activities or in supporting the social reinsertion of addicted persons („International Red Cross”, „Caritas”).

## **1.5. External donor assistance priorities**

### *1.5.1. Equipment and training courses for the personnel specialized in countering illicit drug trafficking and use*

The following training courses were conducted:

- high tech computers for the improvement of electronic system used in transmission and processing of data related to anti-drug activities;
- modern checking equipments for drugs identification at the Armenian customs points and in the airports;

- training courses for Armenian officers at the international anti-drug institutions;
- field vehicles with multiple utilities, especially created to serve the purpose of the antidrug operations.

*1.5.2. Improvement of the national legislation and its alignment to the international standards in the field*

The following improvements were made:

**A.: Articles of the Armenian Penal Code**

- 266 – trafficking of illegal narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for sale purposes;
- 267 – illegal production, depositing, book-keeping, packing, transportation or transfer of narcotics and psychotropic substances;
- 268 – illegal production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances with no intent to sell;
- 269 – theft or extortion of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
- 269, para I – illegal production, use, counterfeiting or sale of false documents to obtain illegally narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and drugs precursors;
- 270 – illegal procurement of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances using counterfeited medical prescriptions or other forged documents to obtain drugs;
- 272 – incitement to or persuasion of third persons to use narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
- 273 – illegal cultivation of controlled plants containing narcotics, psychotropic substances or toxins, the processing of which is prohibited;
- 274 – making available premises for the illegal drugs use;

**B. Articles of the Armenian Code on Administrative Misdemeanors:**

- 44.1 – transportation of illegal narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, with no intend to sell;
- 44.2 – use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances without a medical prescription;
- 110, para 1 – Actions focused on keeping under control crops with narcotic content;
- 110, para 2 – illegal cultivation and other activities focused on concealing cannabis and poppy crops.

### *1.5.3. Reporting on illegal narcotic drug trafficking in Armenia*

Periodically, the Armenian public opinion is informed about the dangerous effects of drug use, especially among youth. Also, the specialized structures dealing with combating illegal drug trafficking and use, started briefing the Armenian media about the main results of their activity, emphasizing the prevention aspects and those intended to discourage the domestic and foreign traffickers. Thus, at the beginning of December 2010, the Armenian public opinion was encouraged to support anti-drug activities, taking into account the fact that 2 drug users die every day in Armenia.

Also, the increased and diverse number of crimes related to drug trafficking and use was emphasized. Various public debates were organized, with the participation of the main Armenian political parties and youth organization (the Republican Party, the Prosperous Armenia, the Legacy, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation, the State of Law).

The National Monitoring Center for Drugs, established under the National Health Institution from Yerevan, often reports on the negative, long term implications of drug use.

## **1.6. Recommendations**

The assistance related priorities maintain the same guidelines, defined by the needs for specialization and training of human resources, as well as the needs for proper endowment in the field of drug demand and drug supply reduction. There is also need for continuous improvement and harmonization of the specific legislation. An assessment of the real situation regarding drug use in Armenia is also needed, together with permanent efforts to develop the institutional capacity regarding the drug demand reduction, including the sector of raising awareness among the general public with respect to the consequences of drug trafficking and use.

We continue to strengthen the need for study visits of the MS representatives to the specialized institutions in Armenia (the Narcotherapy Clinic within the Ministry of Health, the National Monitoring Center for Drugs within the National Health Institute etc) for a better exchange of experience and best practice in the field.

## **2. AZERBAIJAN**

### **2.1. General overview on crimes related to illicit drug use**

According to the INCB Report on the Availability of Internationally Controlled Drugs for 2011, the transit of narcotics and other illegal substances through the territory of Azerbaijan remains a significant concern, as Azerbaijan is situated along major drug trafficking routes from Afghanistan and Iran to Europe and Russia. According to government data, the quantity of drugs seized by the authorities in Azerbaijan, as well as the number of reported crimes related to drugs, has increased over the last decade.

The importance of Azerbaijan for the transit of illegal substances through the Caucasus has grown considerably, in part due to the strengthening of border regimes in Turkey and Georgia. Meanwhile, the corresponding domestic usage of drugs in Azerbaijan remains relatively low. Societal influences limit drug usage in rural and urban areas alike, but reports indicate that the availability and use of narcotics in and around prisons is a concern. Few notable government-sponsored programs exist in Azerbaijan to aggressively address the drug use that does occur in the country; however, media reports indicate that new programs have demonstrated increased support for drug use prevention efforts.

The cultivation of illegal substances in Azerbaijan, such as cannabis and opium poppy, is not widespread, but it does occur, mostly for consumption in the former Soviet republics. Government authorities in Azerbaijan regularly identify and destroy significant amounts of illegally cultivated and wild narcotic producing plants within the territory of the country.

According to the official data provided with the support of the Romanian diplomatic mission in Baku, the crimes related to the production, trafficking and storage of drugs in Azerbaijan in 2010 are presented as follows:

**Number of crimes: drug related crimes**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Total no of crimes</b>	3247	3190	- 57
<b>Out of which:</b>			
<b>Distribution</b>	1338	1115	-223
<b>Storage</b>	1788	1970	+182
<b>Production</b>	121	105	-16

**Plants harvested from the spontaneous flora (hemp etc, by tons)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Total green weight</b>	458	331	-127

**Seized drugs (Kg)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Marijuana</b>	214,833	375,594	+160,761
<b>Hashish</b>	1824,354	1668,763	-155,591
<b>Opium</b>	207,464	125,7724	-81,6916
<b>Heroin</b>	234,832	185,236	-49,596
<b>Cocaine</b>	0,005	0,126	+ 0,121
<b>Others</b>	0,005	43,269	+43,264
<b>Total</b>	2481,493	2398,7604	-82,7326

**Distribution of persons condemned for drug related crimes (number of persons)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Total</b>	2741	2604	-137
<b>Under 18 years</b>	5	2	-3
<b>18-25 years</b>	207	232	+25
<b>26-29 years</b>	459	405	-54
<b>30 years old and above</b>	2070	1965	-105
<b>Females</b>	87	60	-27
<b>At first conviction</b>	1982	1956	-26
<b>Foreign citizens</b>	98	65	-33

According to the data provided by the INCB Report mentioned above, Afghan opiates transit to Azerbaijan by three primary routes: from Central Asia and across the Caspian Sea, or from Iran through the south of the country, or through uncontrolled regions which remain in conflict. Up to an estimated 11 metric tons of heroin could transit through Azerbaijan every year, much of it entering through the Southern border with Iran. As Georgia and Turkey have strengthened their border control procedures in recent years, Azerbaijan may in the future become a favored transit country for drugs destined for Europe and Russia.

The Azeri Government, however, repeatedly identifies and prosecutes drug smugglers entering Azerbaijan from Iran and other countries, and destroys any recovered illicit substances. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, approximately 11 metric tons of heroin enter the Caucasus every year; 4 metric tons of that is either consumed or seized each year within the region.

More than 3,200 persons were prosecuted in Azerbaijan for crimes related to drug trafficking in 2009 and almost one ton of narcotics were identified and destroyed by the GOAJ from 2005 to 2009. In July 2010, the Azerbaijan Ministry of National Security seized 425 kg of drugs after detaining 15 drug smugglers, who were identified as citizens of Russia and Azerbaijan.

The State Customs Service revealed that in May 2010 approximately 77 kg of narcotics had been identified through raids targeted to combat illegal drug trafficking across the borders of Azerbaijan. In 2010, more than 400 tons of illegally cultivated and wild narcotics-producing plants were destroyed in Azerbaijan as of November of that year.

Drug control and law enforcement agencies have continued cooperation with the Russian Federal Drug Control Service, started through an agreement signed in April 2008, which facilitates joint operations, cooperative training and sharing interdiction techniques. During one operation in the summer of 2010, through close coordination between Russian and Azerbaijani law enforcement authorities, approximately 500 kg of heroin and 600 kg of hashish were confiscated from smugglers in Russia.

As the land border between Azerbaijan and Iran has become increasingly popular with drug traffickers, the water route across the Caspian Sea from the port city of Turkmenbashi in Turkmenistan has fallen somewhat into disuse, according to recent field research from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Additionally, seizure data indicates limited direct trafficking between Turkmenistan and Afghanistan, with most of the drugs now passing through Azerbaijan coming via Iran and, to a much smaller degree, other countries in Central Asia.

In the second half of 2010, government authorities identified a large shipment of drugs in air freight bound for China. However, as a percentage of the overall volume of drugs transiting through Azerbaijan, the amount of drugs trafficked by air remains small.

## **2.2. The Antidrug Strategy**

### *2.2.1. The international conventions signed by Azerbaijan in fighting illicit drugs trafficking and use*

Azerbaijan is party to the 1988 UN Drug Convention, the 1971 UN Convention on psychotropic Substances, and the 1961 UN Single Convention as amended by its 1972 Protocol. Azerbaijan also is a party to the UN Convention against Corruption, and to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols.

### *2.2.2. Internal strategies on countering illicit trafficking of psychotropic substances*

According to the representative of the Azeri State Commission for Drug Control, Azerbaijan has the necessary legislation in the field to fight against drug trafficking. However, further efforts are needed for its implementation and the increase of the efficiency of the institutions responsible for its implementation.

New measures on the more accurately elaboration of statistics are being adopted, including by establishing a National Information Center (most probably under the coordination of the current State Commission for Drug Control).

In the next period, the specialized Azeri structures will start elaborating a new national antidrug strategy for 5 years. It is estimated that the document will be finalized by the end of this year. The modernization of the existing customs code, which has not occurred since Soviet times, remains part of the 2010 agenda for parliament in Azerbaijan. It is expected that a modernized customs code will greatly enhance the abilities of the well-funded State Customs Committee (SCC) to stem drug smuggling through Azerbaijan.

## **2.3. Participation of Azerbaijan in bi- and multi-lateral anti-drug programmes**

### *2.3.1. Countering the illicit drugs trafficking*

Since 2002, the United States has funded counter-narcotics assistance to Azerbaijan through the Freedom Support Act. During the past year, Azerbaijan has sought to develop and implement a regional approach to addressing drug trafficking by actively participating and seeking involvement in new and existing multilateral organizations and bilateral agreements. The government of Azerbaijan played an active role in the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Center (CARICC) – an organization which serves to enhance the abilities of its seven member states to combat the flow of illicit substances across the region. Azerbaijan continued its participation with the South Caucasus Integrated Border Management (SCIBM) program, primarily funded and implemented by the European Union and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Though few government-sponsored drug rehabilitation or awareness programs currently exist, the Azeri government has recently begun to focus some attention on domestic and societal issues associated with drug usage, particularly amongst young people. In May 2010, government officials organized a conference in the southern region of Azerbaijan designed to address both the problems associated with illicit drug trafficking and drug addiction in the local regions. Azerbaijan has also begun to place greater emphasis on preventing and addressing drug addiction among young people in Azerbaijan, through programs and activities directed by the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The government has also placed notable emphasis on the modernization of its customs code to address the growing threat posed by drug trafficking and the flow of illicit goods across the border.

### *2.3.2. Rehabilitation of the drug addicted persons*

Newly available data from the UNODC indicates that the annual prevalence rate for opiate use for persons aged 15 to 64 in Azerbaijan has decreased from 0.3% in 2004 to 0.2% in 2008. The most recent data suggests that the prevalence rate for cannabis usage for that same age group was 3.5% in 2008. Current figures provided by the Azeri government indicate that there are 24,000 identified drug addicts in Azerbaijan, with 6,000 of those persons identified as young adults; however, government officials acknowledge that international experts often state that those figures do not reflect the actual situation in Azerbaijan. Some international experts have placed the figure significantly higher.

In 2009, the government discontinued its anti-narcotics public service announcement program that used kiosks and billboards in downtown Baku; however, the government has replaced this program with one designed to focus primarily on students. New lesson plans and homework assignments were created for primary school students to provide anti-drug information and education. Azerbaijan has also funded NGOs to provide anti-drug training and advertisements on university campuses, as well as to provide drug specialists to meet with college students.

The government continued efforts to foster anti-narcotics activities in prisons and provided guidance to journalists on how to write reports dealing with narcotics.

Treatment centers for addicts in Azerbaijan are inadequate to meet the demand. A taboo in Azerbaijani society associated with drug addiction, and an overall lack of experience of policymakers and health professionals in dealing with the problems associated with drug addiction account for this problem.

Though the Azeri government has expressed its desire to address substance abuse and drug addiction, these underlying issues, coupled with the lack of effective structured government-sponsored programs targeting drug abuse, hinder progress in combating drug abuse.

## **2.4. Recommendations**

The Azeri government continues to develop and implement measures, both unilaterally and with other international and regional partners, designed to secure its borders and guarantee the lawful flow of goods and persons through Azerbaijan

However, it is also necessary for Azerbaijan to demonstrate its commitment to working with international partners, through multilateral agreements, such as the CARICC and SCIBM programs, to better address regional narcotics trafficking activities

## **3. REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

### **3.1. General overview on crimes related to illicit drug use**

#### *3.1.1. Data on drug related crimes*

In the reference period, in order to stop the drug trafficking and abuse, the representatives of the law enforcement agencies from the Republic of Moldova took various measures to reduce the drug use, by identifying and prosecuting the persons involved in drug related crimes.

In order to increase the efficiency of the antidrug activities, the following objectives were set: identification of criminal groups, identification and seizure of large and very large quantities of drugs, identification of clandestine laboratories, prevention of drug use among youth, including through cooperation with the civil society.

As a result of the operational activities undertaken by the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the reporting period have been identified and recorded 1983 cases related to illicit drugs trafficking (compared to 2196 in 2009), from which 753 in Chisinau (compared to 845 in 2009).

From the total number of the investigated cases, 1773 (as compared to 1865 in 2009) are stipulated by the Criminal Law. The figure has decreased by 4,9 % (by 92 cases less).

From the total number of pending cases, 1684 have been investigated and sent to the Prosecutor's Office. This figure represents 95% of the total number. 1086 penal cases have been sent to the Court (61,3%). Related to exceptionally serious crimes - one single case have been identified (2 kg of heroin).

In the reporting period 37 exceptionally serious crimes have been recorded (2009-14), out of which 30 cases, representing 81,1 %, being sent to the Prosecutor's Office.

In the reporting period 224 serious crimes were registered (2009-260), out of which 206 cases (2009-284), representing 92 % (2009- 94,7%) being sent to the Prosecutor's Office.

In 2010, 1512 offences and less serious crimes were registered (2009-1384), out of which 1448 (2009-1564) cases, representing 95,8% (2009- 95,8%) being sent to the Prosecutor's Office. In 224 cases, the illicit drugs have been confiscated while the traffickers were trying to deliver them. Correspondingly, we have an increase of the activity by 51 cases compared to similar period in 2009, representing 29,5%.

In pursuing its objectives, the Antidrug squad has identified 3 criminal organizations, as compared to 5 in 2009, out of which 2 organized criminal groups responsible for illicit drugs trafficking from producing countries to and from the EU member states.

In the reference period, the following types of drugs were seized:

Type of drugs	Number of cases		Seized amounts		Drug Price (lei) 2010
	12 months 2009	12 months 2010	12 months 2009	12 months 2010	
Marijuana	899	905	658 kg 607 gr	538 kg 178 gr	13042424
Hemp Plant	293	414	197229 plants (59 t 169 kg)	146467 plants (44t 383kg)	466031363
Poppy Plants	272	377	47749 plants	64993 plants	324965
Poppy straws	134	61	73 kg 600 gr	73kg 884 gr	292600
Hemp seeds		6		317,4 gr	
Opium	230	119	27 l 142 ml	3 l 033 ml	241760
Methamphetamine	8	3	618,51 gr	25 gr	15050
Amphetamines	6	12	26 gr	2 kg 411 gr	931000
Heroin	101	113	1 kg 642 gr	4 kg 157 gr	8314000
Liquid Heroin	3	57	49,9 ml	192,8 ml	21520
Cocaine	12	1	5 kg 958 gr	4 gr	8000
Ecstasy	34	7	1854 tablets	1172 tablets	118580
Hashish	30	15	25 kg 130 gr	35 kg 367 gr	4966300
Hashish Oil	28	32	3052 ml	26,9 ml	2690
Farmaceutical Products	154	71	21 pills, 46 gr, 2567 ml, 7943 tablets	20 pills, 83 vials, 64 ml, 1803 tablets	19600
Precursors	25	29	281 gr	1008 gr 1000 ml	9620
Ephedrine	2	2	1502 ml	178 ml	
Spice				117 tablets	
Piperazine				20 tablets	
Torrent				350 tablets	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2123</b>	<b>2224</b>			<b>494339472</b>

### 3.1.2. Data on drug use

During 2010, it was noticed that the opium use has decreased, while the injecting heroin use has increased. At the same time, the number of persons using Ecstasy-type drugs has increased.

The constant rhythm of drug use will have dramatic consequences, both for the health's population and for the drug related crimes. Thus, another priority at the level of the Moldavian Ministry of Interior is the identification of criminal networks specialized in synthetic drug trafficking.

<b>Types of Crimes</b>	<b>Nr.</b>
<b>Drug poisoning and suicide attempts</b>	106
<b>Deaths</b>	3
<b>Investigated persons at the beginning of 2010</b>	134
<b>Wanted/ Detained Persons</b>	138
<b>Wanted persons / Unknown</b>	123
<b>Investigated throughout the year</b>	119
<b>Detained shipments related to drug related crimes</b>	109
<b>Drug stores which broke the law</b>	0
<b>Smuggling cases</b>	9
<b>Illicit drug trafficking in prisons</b>	88

The illicit use of medication with psychotropic content favours in a way the illicit drug use in the country, so that the authorities have undertaken a number of important measures focused on reducing the trafficking of such drugs.

As a result of the prevention measures and activities to reduce the phenomenon, in the reporting period have been recorded 71 cases (of illicit circulation of medication with psychotropic effects, compared to 86 cases in the similar period of the previous year. Another objective of the antidrug institutions from RM is fighting illicit drugs supply to the prisons. As a result of the supply reduction activities carried out in prison settings, the responsible bodies have identified and sanctioned 88 cases of drug storage with a view to distribution among inmates, as compared to 54 cases in 2009

In 2010, 9 cases of narcotic smuggling were recorded.

The persons suspected of drug abuse were referred to medical examination, 3772 files being recorded, according to art 85/1 Criminal Code (Illegal purchasing or possession of narcotics or other psychotropic substances in small amounts or their abuse without a medical prescription), 3336 files according to art 86 (Not taking the necessary measures to ensure the protection of plants containing narcotics or other psychotropic substances) and 428 files according to art 87 (Illegal cultivation of plants containing narcotics or other psychotropic substances).

At the same time, at the level of drug clinics, 8664 persons are recorded.

In order to reduce the effects associated to drug use among young people, the territorial police structures together with the school personnel organized and carried out 4845 prevention activities in schools, informing the target population with respect to the drug use and necessary protection measures.

Together with the public local administration authorities, 4943 meetings with the citizens were carried out, where drug use and penalties were debated.

A main attribute in preventing drug trafficking and use is represented by the cooperation with mass media. In order to inform and educate the public opinion with respect to the drug use and traffickers, the Press Center of MAI permanently organizes press conferences and distributes short documentaries about anti-drug activities to all national tv channels. 89 materials were published in the territorial newspapers and 68 tv documentaries were broadcast to various TV channels.

### **3.2. The Antidrug Strategy**

#### *3.2.1. Institutional framework – Domestic anti-drug operations and participation in integrated operations at the level of the CIS*

During the reporting period, 3 special operations were carried out:

- NARCOMAN, according to the MAI Disposition no. 2/ 1117 of 18 February 2010; as a result of the measures taken by the territorial structures, 97 drug law offences (purchase, transport, storage and sale) were identified and 34 criminal cases were conducted. The value of the seized drugs during the operation amounted to 2080445 lei and 6 drug related crimes were identified during the operation;
- Within the special operation MAC-2010 (01.06 - 31.08.2010), according to the MAI Disposition no 2/ 4200 of 26 05 2010, carried out at the national level, various operative-preventive activities were taken to dismantle the raw materials (hemp and poppy plants). Thus, throughout the operation, 623 criminal cases were identified. 34 persons were detained and charged with drug related offences. The value of the drugs seized from the „black market” amounted to 47 368 501 lei RM and 15 drug related crimes were identified during the operation;

- At the same time, following the request of the Azeri partners, between 15.09-15.10.2010, the NARCOSTOP – 2010 operation took place, according to the MAI Disposition no 2/ 7191 of 15 09 2010, aimed at dismantling the criminal groups involved in the international drug trafficking, especially in the GUAM states. As a result of the measures taken by the territorial structures, according to the reported data, 160 drug law offences (purchase, transport, storage and sale) were identified and 124 criminal cases were conducted. The value of the drugs seized from the „black market” amounted to 9 269 741 lei RM and 14 drug related crimes were identified during the operation.

The assessments carried out in the drug prevention field show that 90,1% of the persons involved in drug trafficking committed this offence for the first time, while 8,8% of them having previous records.

### *3.2.2. Internal strategies on countering illicit trafficking of psychotropic substances*

On 14 December 2010, the draft of Government Decision on the elaboration of the 2011-2018 National Antidrug Strategy and the 2011-2013 National Action Plan was approved. Also, the Government Decision no 853/ 21 September 2010 on the supplementation with 36 new drugs and psychotropic substances of the drug table was adopted.

### **3.3. Place and date of Mini Dublin Group**

On 23 August 2010, the Mini Dublin meeting took place in Chisinau, where the representatives of the Antidrug Directorate debated on various aspects: updating the drug related data, latest trends, progress and collaboration framework.

### **3.4. Identification of External Assistance Needs**

- permanent identification and dismantling of drug trafficking routes and networks;
- identification of high drug flows and exposure of persons and organized criminal groups involved in smuggling and production of narcotic substances;
- establishing collaboration relations and facilitating experience exchange with similar authorities from other states, in order to gather information about the criminal groups involved in international drug trafficking;

- ending the production of vegetable drugs;
- repression of drugs in prisons;
- identification and seizure of large amounts of trafficked drugs;
- identification of places for cultivation and production of drugs in clandestine laboratories;
- supporting territorial units and training the personnel;
- implementation in the daily practice of new technologies and methods, with the support of countries with experience in the field of combating drugs.

### **3.5. Recommendations**

- The organization of visits by the representatives of the Member States to institutions instrumental in the fight against drugs and other drug facilities;
- Development of the training curriculum in order to include both drug demand and drug supply topics.

## **4. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is necessary that a sole body be designated in the reporting country in order to collect, analyse and send the necessary data to the Mini Dublin annual report, by using the country report pattern disseminated within the Mini Dublin groups as well as the specific terminology.

The data reported until the moment do not allow an assessment of the progress as they do not refer to none of the recommendations made in the previous report. Moreover, the data on the estimation of the drug abuse are different and there is no unitary position in this regard.

At the same time, there should be noticed that the reporting deadlines for the national contributions sent to the Romanian responsible authorities, through the known official channels, have not been observed. In this sense, it is highly recommended that the procedures established within the DG both on the structure of the national report (the compulsoriness to observe the Annex 3) and on the deadline announced by the Secretariat be obeyed, taking into account the time necessary for each integrator country to draw up the final report (with the best coordination of the national contributions).