

EXECUTIVE ORDER

OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

**ON APPROVING THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION
AND TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTIC DRUGS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA IN 2009-2012**

Guided by Article 56 of the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia and based on the recommendation of the National Security Council of 21 July 2009:

1. To approve the National Programme on Combating Drug Addiction and *Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs* in the Republic of Armenia in 2009-2012, pursuant to the Annex.
2. To the Government of the Republic of Armenia: to ensure elaboration, approval and implementation of the schedule of measures envisaged by the National Programme on Combating Drug Addiction and *Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs* in the Republic of Armenia in 2009-2012.
3. To the Staff of the National Security Council: to report to the President of the Republic of Armenia about the implementation of measures envisaged by National Programme on Combating Drug Addiction and *Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs* in the Republic of Armenia on semi-annual basis.

President of the Republic of Armenia

S. Sargsyan

25 September 2009

Yerevan

NK-162-N

Annex
to the Executive Order NK-162-N
of the President of the Republic of
Armenia of 25 September 2009

NATIONAL PROGRAMME

**ON COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTIC DRUGS IN
THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA IN 2009-2012**

1. INTRODUCTION

1. In the Republic of Armenia a special importance is today attached to organising the combat against drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs, aiming to guard the population of the country against the adverse influence and harmful consequences of narcotic drugs.

Drug addiction, trafficking of narcotic drugs and related crime have an adverse influence on moral and psychological atmosphere of the society, seriously harm the economy, politics and law order of the country,

Having no national origin and not recognising the state borders, the trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors may fortify the financial base of organised crime, international terrorism, corruption and extremism, develop into a serious threat for human lives and health, as well as for the national security of the State.

The geographic location of the Republic of Armenia may be used by transfrontier criminal groups for both importing of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the country, and for exporting thereof to other states.

The situation in this sector continues to be troublesome in the Republic of Armenia and is characterised by:

- (1) increase in the number of crimes and offences with regard to the trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- (2) lack of efficiency of actions undertaken by state authorised bodies against the trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- (3) still poor cooperation between state authorised bodies in detection and prevention of money laundering cases pertaining to trafficking in narcotic drugs;
- (4) poor organisation of preventive, medical and rehabilitative assistance to drug addicts;
- (5) lack of efficiency in combating organised types of crimes related to narcotic drugs;
- (6) decrease in the age range of people starting to use narcotic drugs;

(7) absence of complex social-psychological rehabilitation system.

Thus, while under Article 266 (trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors for the purpose of sale or illegal sale thereof) of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia criminal cases were instigated against 235 persons in 2007, and against 284 persons – in 2008, this number has made 228 in the first half of this year.

A larger number of charges were brought under Article 268 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia (trafficking of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances without a purpose of sale thereof). While criminal cases were instigated against 408 persons in 2007 and against 372 persons – in 2008, the number of cases has made 307 only in the first half of this year.

In the first half of 2009, 329 persons were subjected to criminal liability with regard to trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as compared to 193 persons in 2008, which has made a difference of 136 persons, or an increase of 58.7 percent.

With regard to the mentioned cases, as a result of operational-intelligence measures taken by law enforcement bodies of the Republic of Armenia, a total of 21kg and 693g of different types of narcotic drugs, 850 psychotropic pills and 2 467ml of precursors have been detected and seized in the first half of 2009 as against 4kg and 415g of narcotic drugs, 191 psychotropic pills and 339,7ml of precursors in the first half of 2008, the increase respectively has made 17kg and 277g in narcotic drugs, 659 psychotropic pills and 2127,3ml of precursors.

An increase in the kind of opium narcotic drug has been registered. While 3kg and 640g of the mentioned kind of narcotic drug has been seized in the first six months of 2008, the figure has made 16kg and 955g in 2009.

At the same time, for the purpose of prevention of smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into Armenia from different countries, law enforcement bodies of the Republic of Armenia actively participate in regional large-scale operational-preventive operation “Kanal” (“channel”) – held on permanent basis within the framework of Collective Security Treaty Organisation – aimed at combating trafficking of narcotic drugs.

A wide-scale anti-narcotic drugs preventive measure “Kanep-Kakach” (“Cannabis-Poppy”) is held annually throughout the Republic, in which the officers of the Police adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia and of subdivisions of the Defence Ministry of the Republic of Armenia, the representatives of local self-government bodies and mass media are actively involved.

2. In combating drug addiction and narcotic drugs, the competent authorities closely cooperate with the United Nations Development Programme Armenia office, which implements the South Caucasus Anti-Drug Programme.

Within the framework of European Neighbourhood and Partnership instrument implemented by the European Union and other international organisations in neighbouring countries including Armenia, it was recommended to draft a National Programme on Combating Drug Addiction and Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs for 2009-2012.

In this respect, the draft National Programme on Combating Drug Addiction and Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia in 2009-2012 was elaborated in accordance with the list of measures in 2009-2011 as approved by the Executive Order of the President of the Republic of Armenia NK-68-A of 6 May 2009, assuring the implementation of the European Neighbourhood Policy's Republic of Armenia-European Union Action Plan – bearing in mind the urgency of issue, the tendency of the latter to turn into a serious threat for country's national security and public health, the necessity of eliminating shortcomings and gaps accumulated in the sector and increasing the efficiency of actions of subdivisions involved in combating drug addiction and illicit distribution of narcotic drugs, as well as international best practice in the sector and peculiarities of the situation in the region. The Republic of Armenia has signed and ratified international agreements regulating relations arising in the sector, and has adopted relevant domestic legal acts.

The Republic of Armenia has joined the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances and the 1988 United Nations Convention against Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as well as the Agreement on Co-operation among CIS Member States in Combating Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors of 30 November 2000 signed in Minsk.

The National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia adopted on 26 December 2002 the Law “On Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances”, which regulates relations pertaining to the trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and lays down legal bases of state policy on securing the trafficking thereof and major means of combating drug addiction for assuring health of the citizens and security of the state and public. Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia adopted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia on 18 April 2003 stipulates liability for criminal acts pertaining to trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.

The previous text of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia envisaged liability for use of narcotic drugs without the permission of a physician. Yet, as a result of legislative amendments made on 26 of May 2008, Article 271 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia, laying down liability for the mentioned act, was repealed. Instead, liability for use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances without the permission of physician was laid down in Article 44(2) of the Administrative Offences Code of the Republic of Armenia. Likewise, the trafficking of small quantities of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances with no intention of sale thereof was decriminalised and administrative liability was ascribed thereto.

By another legislative amendment, the small quantities of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances were prescribed in the Administrative Offences Code of the Republic of Armenia, while significant, large and extremely large quantities are prescribed in the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia as Annexes.

3. Since 2001, the South Caucasus Anti-Drug Programme – initiated by the United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter referred to as “UNDP”) and funded by the European Union – has been implemented.

Since 2003, national annual reports are published within the framework of the Programme, while the focus of the phase V of the Programme is the elaboration of a support programme for combating drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs and adoption thereof by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

In the phase V of the Programme, the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On making amendments and supplements to the Law of the Republic of Armenia on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances” was elaborated and adopted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia on 8 September 2008.

The Government of the Republic of Armenia has also adopted a number of legal acts regulating relations arising in this sector.

In particular, a Standing Commission on Drug Control was set up in the Republic of Armenia by the Decision No. 496 of 17 August 2000 of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, while the latter’s Decision No. 392 of 29 May 2001 approved the Charter of the Commission.

Elaboration of recommendations on control of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and licensing applications to carry out activity pertaining to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in the Republic of Armenia was set as the major subject of activities of the Commission.

Upon Decision No. 1714-N of the Government of the Republic of Armenia of 27 November 2003, the Interagency Commission for Circulation and Prevention of Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the Republic of Armenia was created (hereinafter referred to as Interagency Commission). Pursuant to the Decision, the Interagency Commission headed by the Head of the Police of the Republic of Armenia is tasked with submitting for the consideration of the Government of the Republic of Armenia yearly programmes on combating drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs by November 1 of each year – in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances”.

Nevertheless, despite the existence of the abovementioned legal acts and works carried out aimed at their implementation, many issues relating to combating drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs in the Republic of Armenia still remain unsolved.

Particularly, there is no uniform information system on narcotic drugs and drug addiction. research works relating to the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and identification of the causes for addiction are very few, and the findings are in some cases contradictory. For example, according to the study conducted in this area by the “National Centre for AIDS Prevention” State Non-Commercial Organisation, in 2000 the estimated number of narcotic drug users in Yerevan constituted 19 000-20 000, about 2 000 of which were injecting drug users (IDUs). Meanwhile, in accordance with the World Health Organisation (WHO) data, in 2004 the estimated number of IDUs in the Republic of Armenia was from 7 000 to 11 000.

Moreover, during a consultation meeting of national accord on “Assessment of the size of injecting drug users group” on 26 September 2008, summarising the lowest and highest limits based on expert assessment, the participants concluded that the average estimated number of IDUs in the Republic of Armenia makes 5 000 people.

Coordinated measures aimed at primary prevention of drug addiction are not implemented sufficiently. In particular, there are no projects on prevention of drug addiction envisaged for general public. The children studying in general educational establishments and those having been excluded from such, their parents, as well as mass media, etc. are worth mentioning. Among individual measures, the introduction of educational course “Healthy lifestyle” for students of eighth and ninth grades of general education schools may be distinguished, which includes classes on prevention of use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Improvement of the quality of medical and psychosocial services provided to narcotic drug and psychotropic substance users is of special importance. Treatment of drug dependent persons in the Republic of Armenia is presently implemented both in inpatient and outpatient conditions under state funding, whilst anonymous treatment is provided against a charge. In this context, improvement of the training of the personnel involved in the treatment of drug-dependent persons and respective curricula is important.

In 2005-2008, the number of patients that referred to the Narcological Clinic of “Psychiatric medical centre” CJSC of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia increased critically. In 2008, 466 drug-dependent patients underwent detoxication in the inpatient department of the Narcological Clinic, as against 122 patients in 2007 and 104 – in 2006. The tendency of increase in the number of people willing to get rid of drug dependency is explained by increase in the overall number of IDUs in the country, as well as improved quality of services rendered by the newly established Emergency Narcology Department. The number of drug users under the dispensary surveillance in the Narcological Clinic in 2008 was 524, as against 374 in 2007 and 309 in 2006.

Development and implementation of measures aimed at prevention of illicit supply and trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors is an urgent issue requiring a systemic solution.

2. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES, TASKS AND MAJOR DIMENSIONS

4. The major objectives of the Programme are:

(1) creation of necessary conditions for decrease in number of crimes related to trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;

(2) assurance of co-ordinated activities of state administration bodies and other state organisations in implementation of organisational-legal, organisational-practical measures aimed at early prevention and detection of trafficking of narcotic drugs and related crimes;

(3) elimination of reasons giving rise to phenomena dangerous for the public.

5. The major tasks of the Programme are:

(1) increase of efficiency of state bodies' activities aimed at early prevention and detection of trafficking of narcotic drugs and related crimes;

(2) improvement of the Republic of Armenia laws and other legal acts regulating the combat against drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs, harmonisation thereof to the requirements of international treaties of the Republic of Armenia;

(3) introduction and improvement of a unified information system on narcotic drugs and drug addiction;

(4) primary prevention of drug addiction;

(5) effective arrangement of treatment of drug-dependent persons, modernisation of narcological services and introduction of a social rehabilitation system;

(6) development of the potential of professional medical organisations in prevention of drug addiction and in the sphere of treatment, improvement of training curricula of the medical staff of the mentioned organisations and ensuring proper supply of scientific-informational materials thereto;

(7) strengthening of international and interagency co-operation in the sphere of combating drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs.

6. The strategies and actions presented in this Programme are aimed at the efficient combat against drug addiction and narcotic drugs in the Republic of Armenia and encompass nine main sections:

(1) study of the international treaties of the Republic of Armenia regulating the area of combating drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs and improvement of the domestic legal acts;

(2) introduction and improvement of a unified information system on narcotic drugs and drug addiction;

(3) primary prevention of drug addiction;

(4) improvement of efficiency of medical and psychosocial services provided to narcotic drug and psychotropic substance users;

(5) prevention of trafficking of drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;

(6) international co-operation in the sector;

(7) monitoring and assessment of the sector;

(8) management, co-ordination and collaboration of the sector;

(9) funding of, and fund raising for the sector.

3. IMPROVEMENT OF DOMESTIC LEGAL ACTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA REGULATING THE AREA OF COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTIC DRUGS, AND HARMONISATION THEREOF TO INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

7. Objective 1: Improvement of domestic legal acts of the Republic of Armenia and harmonisation thereof to international treaties

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to carry out analysis of the provisions of the international treaties of the Republic of Armenia on the respective area, including the international conventions of the United Nations, and ensure their more comprehensive inclusion and implementation in the legal system of the Republic of Armenia;

(2) implement a systemic analysis of the domestic legal acts of the Republic of Armenia regulating the area of combating drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs and present recommendations on making legislative amendments thereto such, where appropriate;

(3) make the concepts related to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances consistent in the legal acts of the Republic of Armenia and in the official Armenian texts of the international treaties of the Republic of Armenia.

8. Objective 2: Ensuring the efficient enactment of the international treaties and the domestic legal acts of the Republic of Armenia

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to carry out analysis of the enactment practice of the provisions of the international treaties and domestic legal acts of the Republic of Armenia related to combating drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs and make recommendations on their improvement;

(2) to develop methodical guidelines on the law enactment activities in the area of combating drug addiction and trafficking in narcotic drugs for the courts, law enforcement bodies and other stakeholders;

(3) to ensure the designation of a domestic authority for mutual legal assistance as specified by the 1988 UN Convention against the Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

9. Expected outcomes:

(1) the laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Armenia will be improved, their full approximation with the international obligations of the Republic of Armenia will be ensured, efficient enactment of the laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Armenia will be ensured,

(2) the approaches of the courts, law enforcement and other bodies of the Republic of Armenia in relation to the interpretation of the provisions of the legal acts regulating the area of combating drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs will be unified, and

(3) the clear operation of the international treaties of the Republic of Armenia on the area under discussion will be ensured.

4. INTRODUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A UNIFIED INFORMATION SYSTEM ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AND DRUG ADDICTION

10. Objective 1: Introduction and improvement of a unified information system on narcotic drugs and drug addiction and the unified system of monitoring and evaluation of drug addiction

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) for creating proper legal grounds for further activities of the Monitoring Centre for Narcotic Drugs and Drug Addiction to set up within the “National Institute of Health after Academician S. Avdalbekyan” CJSC (hereinafter referred to as *Monitoring Centre for Narcotic Drugs and Drug Addiction*) within the framework of the phase V of the South Caucasus Anti-Drug Programme for introducing a unified information system on narcotic drugs and drug addiction, to make amendments to the Charter of the National Health Institute laying down the status of the Monitoring Centre;

(2) for proper collection, analysis and dissemination of information on issues related to narcotic drugs and drug addiction, to ensure the timely submission by the relevant agencies and organisations of data on narcotic drugs to the Monitoring Centre for Narcotic Drugs and Drug Addiction, as well as the active involvement of the relevant state agencies and non governmental organisations in the process;

(3) for raising the efficiency of the activities of the Monitoring Centre for Narcotic Drugs and Drug Addiction, to study and gradually implement the internationally recognised best practices and experience in drug-related epidemiological information collection, analysis and provision on the basis of the Guidelines of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) (website www.emcdda.europa.eu). For exchange of the received information and efficient experience, promote the development of close and effective international co-operation;

(4) to develop and implement a drug abuse epidemiological control system meeting the requirements of the Guidelines of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction;

(5) to ensure the special protection and confidentiality of personal data of drug users.

11. Objective 2: Modernisation of the scientific approaches in the area of narcotic drugs and drug addiction; ensuring the introduction of the world scientific experience in the area

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to study the world leading scientific experience in the area under discussion and undertake measures to introduce it in the Republic of Armenia (introduction of innovative scientific methods, computer software for carrying out research and processing of data obtained, etc.);

(2) to develop and conduct surveys in order to reveal the situation in drug use, assess the trends and developments and disclose the causal relations, as well as to identify the areas for future activities.

12. Expected outcomes:

(1) in order to introduce a unified information system on narcotic drugs, proper legal bases will be created for further activities of the Monitoring Centre for Narcotic Drugs and Drug Addiction;

(2) internationally recognised best methods and practice in collection, analysis and provision of epidemiological data on narcotic drugs based on Guidelines of the European Monitoring Centre for Narcotic Drugs and Drug Addiction will be introduced;

(3) a drug abuse epidemiological control system meeting the requirements of the Guidelines of the European Monitoring Centre for Narcotic Drugs and Drug Addiction will be developed and introduced;

(4) special protection and confidentiality of personal data of drug users will be ensured;

(5) efficiency of long-term programmes aimed at narcotic drugs trafficking and drug addiction will increase due to application of the findings of the surveys conducted in the area.

5. PRIMARY PREVENTION OF DRUG ADDICTION

13. Objective 1: Prevention of drug addiction among minors and youth

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to develop up-to-date and scientifically substantiated approaches for prevention of drug addiction among minors and youth;

(2) to introduce a training system based on “Peer Education” methodology among minors and youth and conduct training by this system;

(3) to carry out projects related to extracurricular activities and leisure of minors and youth to promote social immunity towards the use of narcotic drugs;

(4) to incorporate classes related to prevention of drug addiction in the curricula of general education schools and other educational institutions;

(5) to increase the awareness level of persons teaching the respective subjects at general education schools and other educational institutions on drug addiction and the measures aimed at prevention thereof;

(6) to undertake measures to raise the awareness of the lawful representatives of minors (parents, adopters, guardians and curators) on drug addiction and the harm it causes to ensure their active involvement in the process of preventing of drug addiction;

(7) to ensure the involvement of non governmental organisations in drug addiction prevention initiatives among minors and youth.

14. Objective 2: Prevention of drug addiction among persons deprived of liberty

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to activate the measures aimed at prevention of drug addiction among persons deprived of liberty;

(2) to introduce a training system based on “Peer Education” methodology among persons deprived of liberty and conduct training by this system;

(3) to develop the capacities of police holding facilities and penitentiary institutions in order to prevent from drug addiction.

15. Objective 3: Prevention of drug addiction among conscripts

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to carry out measures aimed at prevention of drug addiction among conscripts;

(2) to introduce a training system based on “Peer Education” methodology among conscripts and conduct training by this system;

(3) to develop the capacities of military units, military formations and military institutions in order to prevent from drug addiction;

(4) to incorporate complex measures in annual working plans of military police and staffing departments of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia for prevention of drug addiction among military servicemen.

16. Objective 4: Increasing the role of mass media in prevention of drug addiction

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to develop long-term plans jointly with the television and radio companies of the Republic of Armenia aimed at coverage of prevention of drug addiction, including through continuous broadcast of special programmes, video clips on the harms incurred due to drug addiction, as well as thematic and documentary films;

(2) to provide regular mass media coverage on the measures implemented to prevent from drug addiction; make regular the participation of responsible representatives of the competent authorities and organisations responsible for prevention of drug addiction in television and radio programmes and press conferences;

(3) to use the printed media and other mass media to raise the awareness of the population on drug addiction and the harms caused thereby;

(4) to provide for the establishment of a computer network host and regularly update the materials covering the combat against drug addiction in the Republic of Armenia;

(5) to organise seminars and training courses for raising the awareness of journalists on drug addiction related issues and the approaches for combat against drug addiction.

17. Expected outcomes:

(1) the “Peer Education” training system will be introduced among adolescents and youth, conscripts, people deprived of liberty and training will be conducted through this system;

(2) classes on prevention of drug addiction will be incorporated in the curricula of general schools and other educational institutions;

(3) the awareness level of persons teaching the respective subject matters at general schools and other educational institutions on drug addiction and the measures aimed at prevention will increase;

(4) the awareness level of the legal representatives of adolescent children (parents, adopters, guardians and curators) on drug addiction and the harm it causes will increase;

(5) non-governmental organisations will be involved in drug addiction prevention initiatives among adolescents and youth;

(6) measures aimed at prevention of drug addiction will be implemented among conscripts;

(7) the measures undertaken for prevention of drug addiction will be periodically covered by the mass media; the participation of competent authorities and organisations in the Republic of Armenia responsible for prevention of drug addiction in television and radio programmes and press conferences will become regular;

(8) a computer network host will be established and the materials covering the combat against drug addiction in the Republic of Armenia will be regularly updated;

(9) the awareness level of journalists on drug addiction related issues and the approaches for combat against drug addiction will increase.

6. MEDICAL AND SOCIAL AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES PROVIDED TO DRUG AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCE USERS

18. Objective 1: Early identification of drug and psychotropic substance users and their referral to respective medical facilities

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to ensure close co-operation between the organisations implementing projects on mutual assistance, care, support and prevention among drug or psychotropic substance users and medical facilities providing narcological services;

(2) to strengthen out-patient control over drug users by the primary health care institutions;

(3) to undertake measures to establish counselling and psychological assistance centres outside the narcological medical facilities to provide voluntary counselling related to drug addiction and psychological assistance and, if necessary, refer them to the respective narcological medical facilities;

(4) to ensure the involvement of non-governmental organisations at all the stages of projects on counselling and social-psychological assistance for drug or psychotropic drug users and their treatment and rehabilitation.

19. Objective 2: Provision of up-to-date and scientifically substantiated treatment, rehabilitation and harm reduction services to drug and psychotropic substance users

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

- (1) to undertake measures aimed at the improvement of hospital conditions of narcological medical facilities and refurbishment with relevant medical equipment;
- (2) to undertake measures aimed at raising the scientific and educational level of the institutions training professionals in the area of narcology;
- (3) to ensure proper continuing education, specialisation and trainings for doctors and paramedical staff in the area of narcology;
- (4) to ensure the referral of the respective professionals by the science and educational institutions training and/or retraining psychologists and social sector workers to narcological medical facilities;
- (5) to ensure the application of various treatment ways and/or methods (detoxication, substitute treatment, psychotherapeutic measures and traditional treatment) by narcological medical facilities;
- (6) to ensure the full implementation of harm reduction among intravenous drug abusers (vein care, overdose prevention, prevention of blood-borne viruses, etc.); to develop relevant standards, guidelines;
- (7) to ensure close co-operation with the interested organisations in the implementation of measures aimed at harm reduction among the intravenous drug abusers approved by the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No. 398-N of 1 March 2007 on Approving the National Programme on HIV/AIDS Prevention;
- (8) to develop the potential of organisations implementing harm reduction programmes among the intravenous drug abusers to ensure the efficient implementation of projects.

20. Objective 3: Post-treatment social reintegration of drug or psychotropic substance dependent persons

Under this objective, it is envisaged to develop social assistance and employment projects for drug and psychotropic substance users and recommend the local self-government bodies and community organisations to implement these projects.

21. Expected outcomes:

- (1) close co-operation will be ensured between the organisations implementing projects on mutual assistance, care, support and prevention among drug or psychotropic substance users and narcological medical facilities;
- (2) fight for elimination of discrimination against persons with drug addiction will be strengthened;
- (3) counselling and psychological assistance centres will be established outside the narcological medical facilities;
- (4) the involvement of non-governmental organisations will be ensured at all the stages of projects on counselling and psychological assistance for drug or psychotropic drug users, their treatment and rehabilitation;

- (5) measures will be undertaken aimed at the renovation of narcological medical facilities, improvement of hospital conditions and refurbishment with relevant medical equipment;
- (6) the scientific and educational level of the institutions training professionals in the area of narcology will rise;
- (7) proper specialisation and trainings of doctors and paramedical staff will be ensured;
- (8) the full implementation of harm reduction projects among the intravenous drug abusers will be ensured; relevant standards, guidelines will be developed;
- (9) close co-operation with the interested organisations in the implementation of measures aimed at harm reduction among the intravenous drug abusers will be ensured;
- (10) the potential of the harm reduction project implementing organisations will be strengthened;
- (11) social assistance and employment projects for drug and psychotropic substance users will be developed to be implemented by the local self-government bodies and community organisations.

7. PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTIC DRUGS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR PRECURSORS

22. Objective 1: Prevention of illicit supply of drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

- (1) to ensure efficient border control pursuant to the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On the national border" and other legal acts, as well as implement complex border control programmes to prevent from transit and illicit import of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia;
- (2) to conclude respective intergovernmental treaties in order to prevent illicit import of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia from foreign states and to ensure close cooperation in the field concerned;
- (3) to ensure participation in the regional large-scale preventive operation "Kanal" (Channel) in order to prevent the smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia by foreign states, as well as develop co-operation with the competent authorities of such countries, the territories of which are used as transit routes for illicit transportation of narcotic drugs;
- (4) to conduct operational preventive and special measures at state border customs posts of the Republic of Armenia aimed at detecting and preventing the smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- (5) to improve the system prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia for controlled supply, controlled purchases, as well as seizure and confiscation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic

substances and their precursors by the authorised agencies for disclosing crimes related to trafficking of the mentioned substances;

(6) to improve the reporting system for activities related to narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and the system of registration of such activities;

(7) to prevent the flow of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors from legal circulation to trafficking;

(8) to activate measures aimed at prevention of trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors among persons deprived of liberty and military servants;

(9) to ensure the undeviating implementation of measures aimed at the prevention of legalising the proceeds from trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.

23. Objective 2: Strengthening the capacities of authorised bodies and organisations and reinforcement of co-operation between them

Under this objective, it is envisaged to implement the following strategic tasks:

(1) to ensure the preparation of law enforcement and other competent state bodies' personnel, and to promote the logistics;

(2) to ensure modernisation and proper scientific information provision of the narcological service, as well as the reinforcement of the logistics of health facilities specialised in prevention and treatment of drug addiction;

(3) to establish units in the special educational institutions functioning within the system of law enforcement bodies examining issues related to trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and prevention of drug addiction;

(4) to activate the work on developing recommendations on the principles for making lists and schedules of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors to be controlled in the Republic of Armenia, the structure of such lists and schedules, and the amounts of narcotic drugs discovered in trafficking to be included in such lists and schedules;

(5) to ensure the implementation of an operational information and analysis system on the offences related to trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as individuals and legal entities associated with such activities, and exchange of information with the relevant authorities.

24. Expected outcomes:

(1) the efficiency of the border control system of the Republic of Armenia will be ensured to prevent illicit import of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia;

(2) respective intergovernmental treaties will be concluded to prevent illicit import of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia from foreign states and to ensure close cooperation in the field concerned;

(3) the activities aimed at the prevention of smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia by other foreign states will be strengthened, the co-operation will be developed with the competent authorities of such countries, the territories of which are used as transit routes for illicit transportation of narcotic drugs;

(4) the control over the illicit transportation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors through customs posts will be strengthened;

(5) the reporting system for activities related to narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and the system of registration of such activities will be improved;

(6) the system prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia for controlled transportation, controlled purchase, as well as seizure and confiscation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors by the authorised agencies for disclosing crimes related to the said substances will be improved;

(7) the flow of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors from legal circulation to trafficking, as well as legalisation of the proceeds from trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors will be prevented;

(8) measures aimed at prevention of trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors among persons deprived of liberty and among military servants will be implemented;

(9) modernisation and proper scientific information provision of the narcological service will be ensured, as well as the logistics of health facilities specialised in prevention and treatment of drug addiction will be reinforced;

(10) an operational information and analysis system on the offences related to trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as individuals and legal entities associated with such activities will be established, and exchange of information with the relevant agencies will be ensured.

8. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

25. The following strategic activities should be implemented in this field:

(1) to continue the co-operation between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the UNDP in the further implementation of the phase V of the South Caucasus Anti-drug programme;

(2) to ensure broad co-operation with the international organisations accredited in the Republic of Armenia in order to organise combat against drug addiction and the trafficking of narcotic drugs;

(3) to enhance and improve co-operation with foreign law enforcement bodies and international organisations specialised in the field concerned;

(4) to organise special training courses and discussions, as well as study visits to other states to explore advanced systems for combating drug addiction and the trafficking of narcotic drugs and to gradually implement these in the Republic of Armenia;

(5) to organise and conduct international seminars, conferences, round tables and other events dedicated to the international day of combat against drug addiction and narcotic business (June 26).

26. Expected outcomes:

(1) co-operation with UNDP will be continued within the framework of Anti-drug Programme in South Caucasus to contribute to the implementation of this Programme;

(2) broad co-operation will be ensured with the international organisations accredited in the Republic of Armenia, as well as foreign law enforcement bodies and international organisations specialised in the field concerned;

(3) international training courses and discussions, as well as study visits to the countries having advanced systems for combating drug addiction and the trafficking of narcotic drugs will be organised.

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

27. The following strategic activities should be implemented in this field:

(1) to establish a monitoring and evaluation system for this Programme;

(2) to regularly conduct evaluation of outcomes of the implementation of the Programme.

28. Expected outcomes:

(1) a complete monitoring and evaluation system of the national programme for combat against drug addiction and trafficking of narcotic drugs will be established in the Republic of Armenia;

(2) the outcomes of the implementation of the programme will be regularly evaluated.

10. MANAGEMENT, CO-ORDINATION, CO-OPERATION AND FINANCING

29. Co-ordination of the combat against drug addiction and the trafficking of narcotic drugs at the national level

The general co-ordination of measures implemented under this Programme shall be carried out by the Interagency Commission on Combat against Drug Addiction and Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia.

The co-ordination of measures implemented by public administration and other state bodies shall be performed by the relevant structural units of the bodies concerned and responsible persons.

(point 29 amended by NK-11-N of 30 January 2010)

30. Co-ordination of the combat against drug addiction and the trafficking of narcotic drugs at the regional level

Co-ordination of the activities implemented at the regional level shall be ensured by Marzpets (regional governors) through relevant organisations acting under their subordination.

31. Co-operation

The co-operating parties for implementation of the Programme:

- (1) Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia;
- (2) Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia;
- (3) Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia;
- (4) Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia;
- (5) Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Armenia;
- (6) Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia;
- (7) Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia;
- (8) Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia;
- (9) Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia;
- (10) Police of the Republic of Armenia adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia;
- (11) State Revenue Committee adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia;
- (12) National Security Service adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia;
- (13) Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic of Armenia (upon consent);
- (14) Central Bank of the Republic of Armenia (upon consent);
- (15) Standing Committee on Healthcare of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia;
- (16) Standing Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia;
- (17) mass media (upon consent);
- (18) relevant agencies of the United Nations Organisation and other international organisations (upon consent);
- (19) local and international non-governmental organisations (upon consent).

This Programme is financed by the budget of the Republic of Armenia and other sources not prohibited by law; *i.e.*, allocations of non-governmental and private sectors, as well as assistance by international organisations, including the financial support provided by the South Caucasus Anti-Drug Programme.

Chief of Staff to the President of the Republic of Armenia

K. Karapetyan