

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

### **OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

#### **ON APPROVING THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

Acting in accordance with Article 56 of the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia ***I hereby decide:***

1. To approve the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia pursuant to the Annex.
2. To assign to the Government of the Republic of Armenia to include the measures implementing the provisions of the Strategy mentioned in point 1 of this Executive Order in the annual programmes on combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

**President**

**of the Republic of Armenia**

**S. Sargsyan**

30 December 2014

Yerevan

NK-226-N

**Annex**  
**to the Executive Order of the**  
**President of the Republic of Armenia**  
**NK-226-N of 30 December 2014**

**NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN  
NARCOTIC DRUGS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

**INTRODUCTION**

According to the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Armenia, the distribution and transit of narcotic drugs pose an immediate threat to the national security of the country, and the participation of the Republic of Armenia in the international fight against supranational crimes, including distribution of narcotic drugs is an action aimed at ensuring national security in the field of security of the state and people.

The increase in the level of drug addiction, volume of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and their precursors, and in the rate of transnational crime related to the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, poses a serious threat to the national security of the Republic of Armenia and indicates that there is a crucial need to implement strategic measures on the national level aimed at preventing, early preventing, countering drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and eliminating the damage caused thereby.

The guaranteeing of national security of the Republic of Armenia necessitates the elaboration and implementation of a national strategy for combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs in the country with a view to ensuring security and stable development of the Republic, building the capacity of competent state bodies in combating

illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and increasing the efficiency of their activities, as well as strengthening the national and international co-operation in combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

The organising of the combat against drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs is aimed at guarding the population of the Republic against the adverse influence of narcotic drugs conditioned by illicit traffic and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and harmful consequences thereof, taking account of the fact that drug addiction, illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances adversely affect the health of people, as well as the moral and psychological ambience of the society, seriously harm the economy of the country, security of the society and law order of the country.

Not recognising state borders, nor having national identity, the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances promotes the extension of the financial base for terrorism, trafficking, corruption, extremism, as well as other types of organised crime. Moreover, despite the limited cross-border communication between the Republic of Armenia and its neighbours, conditioned by the blockade imposed by Azerbaijan and Turkey, the geographical position of Armenia may be attractive for transnational criminal groups in terms of both illegally importing narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic, and using the territory of the Republic as a transit route for transferring them to other states.

Meanwhile, it should be taken into account that the application of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in medicine is a necessity and is justified for the purpose of alleviating or excluding physical and mental pain of people, hence it is needed to undertake relevant measures to ensure the licit traffic in narcotic drugs used for such purposes and the proper supervision thereover.

The situation in the field of drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs continues to be troublesome in the Republic of Armenia and is characterised by the following:

- (1) increasing level of crimes and other offences related to the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- (2) lack of efficiency in actions undertaken by state authorised bodies against the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- (3) poor co-operation among state authorised bodies engaged in detection and early prevention of cases of legalising proceeds derived from illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;
- (4) poor organisation of early preventive, medical and rehabilitative care to drug addicts;
- (5) absence of a complex system of social and psychological support and rehabilitation for drug-dependent persons;
- (6) lack of efficiency in combating forms of organised crime related to narcotic drugs;
- (7) lack of co-ordination and permanency in measures aimed at early preventing the illicit use of narcotic drugs among the domestic population, including adolescents and youth, as well as more vulnerable groups of the population.

## **1. INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND CO-OPERATION ON COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS**

1. Since 1993, 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 Illicit Traffic in 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 Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors of 30 November 2000 signed in Minsk, as well as has signed a number of agreements and memoranda (List).
2. The issues pertaining to co-operation in combating organised crime, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs are incorporated also in a number of bilateral treaties of the Government

of the Republic of Armenia, concluded among others with the Government of the Republic of Poland (2004), Government of the Republic of Cyprus (2006), Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt (2007), as well as in the bilateral agreements of the Police of the Republic of Armenia with relevant law enforcement authorities of Georgia (2011) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (2012).

3. On 18 September 2003, a co-ordinating council of heads of competent bodies engaged in combating illicit traffic in narcotic drugs was established within the framework of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO), and, pursuant to its work plan, the "Channel" regional wide-scale operational and early preventive measure is organised and implemented annually.

4. The South Caucasus Anti-Drug Programme, which is initiated by the United Nations Development Programme and is funded by the European Union, has been implemented in the Republic of Armenia since 2001 within the framework of combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

5. The active and efficient co-operation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime continues. The annual questionnaires on the implementation of recommendations adopted at the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of HONLEA, Asia and the Pacific, filled in by competent bodies of the Republic of Armenia, as well as the information and other statistics on substances referred to in Table I and Table II of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances are regularly submitted to the Office.

## **2. DOMESTIC LEGAL ACTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA REGULATING THE FIELD OF COMBAT AGAINST DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS**

6. On 26 December 2002, the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia adopted the Law "On narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances", which regulates the relations pertaining to traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as lays down the

legal grounds of the state policy on early prevention of their illicit traffic, and the main measures in combating drug addiction with the view to protecting the health of citizens and ensuring security of the state and the society.

7. The 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 related to the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.

8. The previous text of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia envisaged liability for use of narcotic drugs without prescription of a physician; however, as a result of legislative amendments made on 26 May 2008, Article 271 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia stipulating liability for the mentioned act was repealed. Instead, liability for use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances without prescription of a physician was stipulated in Article 44<sup>2</sup> of the Administrative Offences Code of the Republic of Armenia.

9. The illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in small amounts with no intention of realisation was decriminalised as well, and administrative liability was ascribed thereto.

10. The small amounts of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances were enshrined in the Administrative Offences Code of the Republic of Armenia, while significant, large and very large amounts thereof were enshrined in the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia.

11. The Law of the Republic of Armenia "On making amendments and supplements to the Administrative Offences Code of the Republic of Armenia", adopted on 30 April 2013, replaced Article 110<sup>2</sup> and Annex No 1 of the Code with new edition and supplemented the Code with Annex No 2, entitled "Considerable and small amounts of plants, containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, cultivation whereof is prohibited".

12. The Law of the Republic of Armenia "On making amendments and supplements to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia", adopted on 25 May 2013, supplemented the Code with Annex No 5, entitled "Large and particularly large amounts of plants, containing

narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, drastic or toxic substances, cultivation whereof is prohibited".

13. 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 Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs for 2009-2012. In this regard, pursuant to the 2009-2011 list of measures assuring the implementation of the Republic of Armenia–European Union Action Plan, approved by Executive Order of the President of the Republic of Armenia NK-68-A of 6 May 2009, the 2009-2012 National Programme on Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia was drafted, approved and implemented in our country. This programme highlighted the urgency of the problem, its tendency to turn into a serious threat to the country's national security and public health and welfare, the necessity of eliminating shortcomings and gaps accumulated in the field, increasing the efficiency of activities of subdivisions engaged in combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, as well as the international best practice in the field and peculiarities of development of the current situation in the region.

14. The provisions of the National Programme were implemented through the schedule of measures under the National Programme on Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia during 2010-2012 approved by Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 892-N of 15 July 2010.

15. The 2014 programme and schedule of measures on combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs in the Republic of Armenia were approved by Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1030-A of 28 September 2013.

16. The relations pertaining to traffic in narcotic drugs are also regulated by a number of legal acts of the Government of the Republic of Armenia (List No 2).

17. In addition to the mentioned domestic legal acts regulating the field, there have been adopted departmental legal acts not subject to promulgation.

### **3. CURRENT SITUATION OF COMBAT AGAINST DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS**

18. Complex operational and early preventive measures, which are regularly organised and implemented by law enforcement authorities of the Republic of Armenia within the whole territory of the Republic with the view to blocking all the routes of penetration of narcotic drugs into the territory of the Republic and preventing their illicit traffic within the country, play their role and have significance in prevention of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors. A wide-scale operational and early preventive measure, "Kanep-Kakach" ("Cannabis-Poppy"), is held annually throughout the Republic, in which employees of the Police of the Republic of Armenia under the Government of the Republic of Armenia, relevant subdivisions of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia, representatives of territorial administration and local self-government bodies are actively involved. The results of the measure are summarised and covered by the press and other mass media.

19. As a result of the operational intelligence and early preventive measures undertaken in the territory of the Republic in the recent years, various types of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, among them "marijuana", "hashish", "cocaine", "opium", "heroin", "methadone", etc. have been detected and seized from illicit traffic. Moreover, narcotic drugs derived from cannabis ("marijuana", "hashish"), which grows wildy throughout the Republic of Armenia, are widely used in the Republic. These narcotic drugs are used through smoking and are accessible from the point of view of both availability and affordability.



20. The brief description of measures undertaken in the Republic of Armenia by state bodies of the Republic of Armenia is provided in List No 3.

#### **4. MAIN PRINCIPLES, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY ON COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS**

21. The National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs is a fundamental instrument targeted at drafting and implementing the state anti-drug addiction policy implemented in the Republic of Armenia and is aimed at regulating the licit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as at co-ordinating the activities of state bodies in the field of countering illicit traffic and at organising the efficient combat against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

22. The main principles of the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs are as follows:

- (1) priority in domestic and foreign policy;
- (2) protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms;
- (3) equality of all before the law and inevitability of liability;
- (4) publicity, awareness of public at large and involvement of all beneficiaries in the activities of drawing up, implementation and evaluation of the combat against drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;
- (5) purposefulness and permanency of measures undertaken;
- (6) active co-operation between competent state bodies and other state, non-governmental and international organisations in the implementation of legal and organisational, as well as legal and practical measures aimed at early preventing and detecting crimes related to illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

23. The main goals of the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs are as follows:

- (1) creation of conditions necessary for reducing drug addiction, illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, and crimes related thereto in the Republic of Armenia;
- (2) elimination of conditions contributing to drug addiction, illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and root-causes thereof;
- (3) creation and development of a complex system for countering drug addiction, illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.

24. The main objectives of the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs are as follows:

- (1) ensuring of proper state supervision over licit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- (2) improvement of organisational and regulatory legal framework for combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;
- (3) improvement of laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Armenia on combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, their harmonisation with the requirements of international treaties of the Republic of Armenia and with the obligations the Republic of Armenia has assumed thereunder;
- (4) implementation of a complex policy on combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs; development, adoption and implementation of relevant measures aimed at preventing drug addiction, illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, countering crimes related to illicit traffic in narcotic drugs; development, adoption and implementation of sector-specific programmes on early prevention of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;

- (5) primary prevention of drug addiction, elimination of drug addiction through prevention and efficient treatment;
- (6) reduction of the volume of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- (7) efficient organisation of the treatment of drug-dependent persons, modernisation of narcological services, introduction of a system of social rehabilitation of persons ceasing to use narcotic drugs, and implementation of social re-integration programmes;
- (8) development of the potential of medical facilities specialised in preventing and treating drug addiction, enhancement of training programmes for the staff and ensuring of proper scientific and informational supply;
- (9) introduction and enhancement of a unified system of information on drug addiction and narcotic drugs;
- (10) increased efficiency of activities of state bodies aimed at early preventing and detecting illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and related crimes;
- (11) further development and strengthening of international, inter-state, as well as inter-agency co-operation in the field of combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;
- (12) development and introduction of a state system of monitoring and evaluation of the situation in the Republic of Armenia with regard to drug addiction and narcotic drugs;
- (13) furnishing of the logistic base for combat against drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and enhancement of the border supervision system;
- (14) carrying out of studies and researches with regard to prevalence of use of narcotic drugs, revealing causal relationship of use of narcotic drugs, and to tendencies of use of narcotic drugs;

(15) awareness-raising among the population with regard to the damage caused by and adverse consequences of drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs;

25. The Strategy includes the following main sections:

- (1) primary prevention of drug addiction;
- (2) prevention of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- (3) provision of medical, as well as social and psychological care services to persons using narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances;
- (4) outputs expected from the implementation of the Strategy;
- (5) financing of implementation of the Strategy;
- (6) monitoring, evaluation of and supervision over the implementation of the Strategy.

## **5. PRIMARY PREVENTION OF DRUG ADDICTION**

26. Goal 1 Awareness-raising among the population with regard to the damage and consequences of drug addiction, ensuring of more active works with target groups, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

- (1) develop long-term programmes of awareness-raising among the population with regard to the damage and consequences of drug addiction, arrange special broadcasts, thematic films, other informational materials on the damage caused by drug addiction;
- (2) develop state programmes on regulation of and assistance in employment of persons uncompetitive in the labour market, by extending, within the framework thereof, the opportunities of providing jobs for persons who have received relevant treatment for drug addiction and are in remission;

(3) make more frequent the surveys, aimed at assessing health and social needs of persons deemed potential beneficiaries for the purpose of implementation of rehabilitation programmes for persons ceasing to use narcotic drugs, with a view to bringing, to the maximum extent possible, the rehabilitation service capacity in line with the needs of persons deemed potential beneficiaries thereof;

(4) carry out, on a regular basis, studies and researches on prevalence, causal relationship, reasons underlying and tendencies of development of use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

27. Goal 2 Prevention of drug addiction among adolescents and youth, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

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

(2) improve the training system based on “Peer Education” methodology among adolescents and youth, and continue to conduct training through this system;

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

(4) incorporate classes, related to awareness-raising on consequences of drug addiction and early prevention thereof, in the curricula of general education schools, secondary vocational and other educational institutions, increase the level of awareness of persons teaching relevant subjects with regard to the measures aimed at early preventing drug addiction;

(5) undertake measures to raise the awareness of legal representatives of adolescents (parents, adopters, custodians and guardians) on the damage caused by drug addiction with a view to ensuring their active involvement in the process of early preventing drug addiction;

(6) ensure the active involvement of non-governmental organisations in initiatives aimed at early preventing drug addiction among adolescents and youth;

28. Goal 3 Early prevention of drug addiction among persons deprived of liberty, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

- (1) take more active measures, aimed at early preventing drug addiction among persons deprived of liberty and penetration of narcotic drugs into penitentiary institutions;
- (2) continue to implement the training system based on “Peer Education” methodology among persons deprived of liberty;
- (3) enhance the technical supply and other necessary conditions of arrest facilities and penitentiary institutions with a view to early preventing drug addiction.

29. Goal 4 Early prevention of drug addiction among military servants, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

- (1) organise voluntary consultations, researches and trainings among military servants with regard to drug addiction and the damage caused thereby;
- (2) ensure the implementation of planned and unplanned operational intelligence measures by territorial subdivisions of the Military Police of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia with the aim of early preventing and detecting possible cases of acquisition, entry into military units and use of narcotic drugs by military servants, through collaborating, where necessary, with territorial subdivisions of the Police of the Republic of Armenia;
- (3) train the responsible officials of the system of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia, as well as improve their qualification level with a view to enhancing their professional and practical skills related to combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs through domestic programmes and in countries having best practice in that field;
- (4) acquire and consistently modernise up-to-date means, including collections of tests for detecting narcotic drugs and portable systems for detecting narcotic drugs with the view to

enhancing the logistics supply for early prevention of drug addiction in the Armed Forces of the Republic of Armenia;

(5) incorporate complex measures, aimed at early preventing drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs among military servants, in annual work plans of the subdivisions, Military Police and works carried out with the staff of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia.

30. Goal 5 Increased role of mass media in early prevention of drug addiction, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

(1) provide regular mass media coverage on measures being implemented with the view to early preventing drug addiction; ensure regular participation of the responsible representatives of the competent bodies and organisations engaged in early prevention of drug addiction in television and radio programmes, press conferences and other public events;

(2) use the print media and other mass media to raise the awareness of the population on drug addiction and the damage caused thereby;

(3) consistently update and publish information materials covering issues of the combat against drug addiction in the Republic of Armenia;

(4) organise seminars, round-table discussions, meetings, training courses and other events to raise the awareness of journalists on issues related to drug addiction and approaches for the combat thereagainst.

## **6. PREVENTION OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR PRECURSORS**

31. Goal 1 Prevention of the illegal supply of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

- (1) ensure efficient border supervision with the view to preventing the transit and illegal importation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia;
- (2) ensure the participation in "Channel" regional international operational and early preventive measure with a view to preventing the smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia from foreign states;
- (3) develop the co-operation with competent bodies of the countries whose territories are used as transit routes for illegal transfer of narcotic drugs, sign relevant international treaties for the purpose of ensuring strong collaboration in the mentioned field;
- (4) undertake measures with the view to increasing the efficiency of the operational intelligence activity aimed at preventing illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, enhance the system of the controlled supply and test purchase of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as their confiscation as prescribed by law aimed at detecting crimes related to the illicit traffic in the mentioned substances;
- (5) ensure completeness of the inquest and preliminary investigation carried out under cases of crimes related to the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs with the view to finding out reasons of these crimes and conditions contributing to committal thereof;
- (6) ensure the supply of border check points and customs control zones of the Republic of Armenia with up-to-date technical equipment and sniffer dogs detecting narcotic drugs;
- (7) undertake measures aimed at increasing the theoretical knowledge and practical skills of servants of the scientific field of the combat against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, consistently modernise the approaches for combating and ensure exchange and introduction of the international best practice in the field concerned;
- (8) prevent the flow of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors from licit to illicit traffic;



(9) make the operational activities and early preventive measures among drug addicts and illegal drug traffickers more active, undertake measures aimed at establishing confidential hotlines and strengthening the relations with the population;

(10) take more active measures for preventing the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors in arrest facilities and penitentiary institutions, supply the penitentiary institutions with relevant technical equipment and sniffer dogs.

32. Goal 2 Capacity building of competent bodies and organisations, and strengthening of their co-operation, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

(1) ensure enhancement of the system of educating, training and improving the qualification level of the personnel of law enforcement authorities and other competent state bodies, as well as further strengthening of the logistics base of these bodies;

(2) ensure proper scientific and informational supply of the units — established in the educational institutions functioning within the system of law enforcement authorities — studying issues related to illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, and early prevention of drug addiction;

(3) ensure establishment of an operational information and analysis system on crimes and other offences related to illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, and on persons associated with such activities, as well as exchange of the obtained information among the relevant bodies.

## **7. PROVISION OF MEDICAL, AS WELL AS SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CARE SERVICES TO PERSONS USING NARCOTIC DRUGS OR PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES**

33. Goal 1 Early detection of persons using narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances and their referral to respective medical facilities, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

- (1) undertake measures to establish counselling and assistance centres outside the narcological medical facilities to provide voluntary counselling related to drug addiction and assistance and, where necessary, refer them to the respective narcological medical facilities;
- (2) ensure close co-operation between the organisations implementing projects on mutual assistance, care, support and prevention among users of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances and the medical facilities providing narcological medical care and services;
- (3) ensure the involvement of non-governmental organisations at all the stages of projects on counselling and social and psychological assistance for users of narcotic drugs or psychotropic drug, and their rehabilitation;
- (4) develop and introduce a procedure for conducting test among conscripts and persons entering military-educational institutions on use of narcotic drugs and (or) psychotropic substances.

34. Goal 2 Provision of up-to-date and scientifically substantiated treatment, rehabilitation and harm reduction services to users of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

- (1) undertake measures aimed at improving the hospital conditions of narcological medical facilities and refurbishment with relevant medical equipment;
- (2) undertake measures aimed at raising the scientific and educational level of institutions preparing professionals in the field of narcology;
- (3) ensure specialisation and regular trainings for doctors and paramedical staff in the field of narcology;
- (4) ensure the referral of the respective professionals by the science and educational institutions providing education and training of psychologists and social sector workers to narcological medical facilities;

(5) ensure application of various treatment forms and methods (detoxification, ultra-rapid detoxification, replacement treatment, and traditional treatment) by narcological medical facilities;

(6) revise and introduce the standards for treatment of narcological patients.

35. Goal 3 Post-treatment social re-integration of persons dependent on narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, which is aimed at implementing the following strategic objectives:

(1) implement target programmes on employment assistance, including also job placement for persons who are registered at medical facilities providing narcological services and are in remission;

(2) undertake measures aimed at introducing the rehabilitation programme for persons who are registered at medical facilities providing narcological services and are in remission, accomplish the works on establishment of the rehabilitation centre for drug-dependent persons;

(3) carry out a survey on health and social needs of persons deemed potential beneficiaries of the rehabilitation centre with the view to bringing, to the maximum extent possible, the intended rehabilitation services in line with the needs of potential beneficiaries of the centre.

## **8. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF STRATEGY REALISATION**

36. The implementation of the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs is targeted at achieving certain outcomes.

37. The following outcomes are expected from the strategic objectives implemented for the purpose of primary prevention of drug addiction:

(1) the measures implemented with the aim of early preventing drug addiction to be covered regularly by the press and other mass media; the officials of bodies and representatives of organisations responsible for the early prevention of drug addiction and illicit traffic in

narcotic drugs to partake regularly in television and radio programmes, press conferences; thematic films and other informational materials on the damage caused by drug addiction to be released;

(2) the opportunities of providing jobs to persons who suffer from drug addiction and have received relevant treatment to be extended upon the implementation of state programmes on regulation of and assistance in employment of persons uncompetitive in the labour market;

(3) a unified system of assessing health and social needs of persons deemed potential beneficiaries for the purpose of implementation of rehabilitation programmes for drug addicts to be established, creating an opportunity to bring, to the maximum extent possible, the opportunities of rehabilitation services in line with the real needs of potential beneficiaries thereof;

(4) the continuity of implementation of the “Peer Education” training system among adolescents and youth, as well as fixed-term military servants and persons deprived of liberty to be ensured;

(5) classes related to early prevention of drug addiction to be incorporated in the curricula of general education schools and other educational institutions;

(6) the awareness of legal representatives of adolescents (parents, adopters, custodians and guardians) on drug addiction and the damage caused thereby to be raised;

(7) non-governmental organisations to be involved in initiatives on early prevention of drug addiction among adolescents and youth;

(8) a computer network host for regularly updating materials covering the combat against drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs in the Republic of Armenia to be established;

(9) the awareness level of journalists on issues related to drug addiction and approaches for the combat thereagainst to be raised.

38. The following outcomes are expected from the strategic objectives implemented for the purpose of prevention of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors:

(1) the efficient functioning of the border supervision system of the Republic of Armenia to be ensured with the view to preventing the illegal importation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the territory of the Republic;

(2) the efficiency of operational and early preventing measures implemented with the aim of preventing the smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors into the Republic of Armenia to increase; the co-operation with the countries, whose territories are used as transit routes for illegal transfer of narcotic drugs, to increase;

(3) the control over illegal transportation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors through border customs points to be strengthened;

(4) the system of the controlled supply and test purchase of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as their confiscation by competent bodies of the Republic aimed at detecting crimes related to the illicit traffic in the mentioned substances to be enhanced;

(5) the completeness, objectivity and lawfulness of the inquest and preliminary investigation carried out under cases of crimes related to the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs to be ensured, the revealing of reasons of these crimes and conditions contributing to committal thereof to be ensured;

(6) the level of technical supply of border check points and customs control zones of the Republic of Armenia, as well as the theoretical knowledge and practical skills of servants of the scientific field of the combat against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs to rise, the

approaches for combating to be modernised, and the exchange and introduction of international best practice in the relevant field to be ensured;

(7) the legalisation of proceeds derived from illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors to be prevented;

(8) the system of educating, training and improving the qualification level of the personnel of law enforcement authorities and other competent state bodies to be enhanced, the logistics base of these bodies to be strengthened

(9) the proper scientific and informational supply of the units established in the educational institutions functioning within the system of law enforcement authorities to be ensured;

(10) an operational information and analysis system on crimes and other offences related to illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, and on persons associated with such activities to be introduced, and the exchange of the information obtained among the relevant bodies to be ensured.

39. The following outcomes are expected from the strategic objectives implemented for the purpose of provision of medical and social-psychological services to persons using narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances:

(1) measures to be undertaken aimed at the renovation of narcological medical facilities, improvement of hospital conditions and refurbishment with relevant medical equipment;

(2) the scientific and educational level of the institutions preparing professionals in the field of narcology to rise;

(3) proper specialisation and training of doctors and paramedical staff in the field of narcology to be ensured;

(4) the qualification and professional competence level of psychologists and social sector workers of scientific and education institutions to rise;

(5) the quality and effectiveness of treatment of narcological patients to increase;

- (6) the standards for treatment of narcological patients to be revised and introduced;
- (7) employment assistance and job placement target programmes for persons who are registered at narcological medical facilities and are in remission to be implemented;
- (8) rehabilitation centre for persons registered at medical facilities providing narcological services and in remission to be established, health and social needs of persons deemed potential stakeholders of the centre to be assessed, the intended rehabilitation services to be, to the maximum extent possible, in line with the needs of potential beneficiaries of the centre.

## **9. PARTIES OF THE COMBAT AGAINST DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS**

40. The Government of the Republic of Armenia ensures the development, approval, and implementation of measures aimed at implementing the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, including the searching and disposal of financial means.

41. The general co-ordination of the measures aimed at implementing the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia, the provision of official information on the process of implementation and outcomes thereof, as well as the assessment and monitoring of the implementation of the Strategy is carried out by the Interagency Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia, established upon the Executive Order of the President of the Republic of Armenia "On establishing an Interagency Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia" NK-12-N of 30 January 2010.

42. The republican bodies of state administration of the Republic of Armenia perform, within the framework of their competence, functions of countering the illicit traffic in

narcotic drugs and their precursors, as well as early preventing the use of narcotic drugs for non-medical purposes.

43. The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia carries out the development and implementation of the policy of the Government of the Republic of Armenia on the traffic in narcotic drugs in the healthcare sector, as well as the medical assistance and service to persons suffering from drug addiction.

44. The Regional Governors of the Republic of Armenia co-ordinate the measures implemented by territorial services of the Republican executive bodies on the level of Marzes within the framework of the state anti-drug addiction policy.

45. The local self-government bodies assist, within the framework of their powers, in implementation of the measures under the state anti-drug addiction policy.

46. Non-governmental organisations and religious associations, in compliance with their statutory objectives, participate in the activities carried out to ensure implementation of the state anti-drug addiction policy, early prevention of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and their precursors, and rehabilitation and social re-integration of drug-dependent persons.

47. Mass media carry out state anti-drug addiction policy, cover the combat against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, provide information to the public at large with regard to the damages of drug addiction, current progress and outcomes of the measures of combating illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

48. The following co-operate in the field of combating drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs:

(1) Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia;

(2) Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia;

(3) Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia;

(4) Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia;



- (5) Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia;
- (6) Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia;
- (7) Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia;
- (8) Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia;
- (9) Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Armenia;
- (10) Police of the Republic of Armenia adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia;
- (11) National Security Service adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia;
- (12) State Revenue Committee 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 (upon consent);
- (16) Standing Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia;
- (17) local self-government bodies (upon consent);
- (18) mass media (upon consent);
- (19) relevant agencies of the United Nations and other international organisations (upon consent);
- (20) local and international non-governmental organisations (upon consent).

## **10. PROGRAMME OF MEASURES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

49. With the view to implementing the provisions of the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia, the Government of the Republic of Armenia drafts and adopts the Programme of Measures of the Government of the Republic of Armenia on Implementation of Provisions of the National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia.

## **11. FINANCING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS**

50. The financing of this Strategy is carried out at the expense of the state budget of the Republic of Armenia and other sources not prohibited by law, including at the expense of financial assistance provided by international organisations, commercial and non-governmental organisations, charitable foundations and other extra-budgetary funds.

## **12. MONITORING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS**

51. The monitoring of this Strategy and measures aimed its implementation is carried out by the Interagency Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia, established upon the Executive Order of the President of the Republic of Armenia "On establishing an Interagency Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in the Republic of Armenia" NK-12-N of 30 January 2010. Recommendations will be submitted based on the monitoring results, and

deemed a priority, they will be taken into account when developing further measures aimed at ensuring the implementation of the provisions of this Strategy.

### **13. FINAL PROVISIONS**

52. The adoption of the Strategy will promote the reinforcement of the combat against drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, the strengthening of protection and guaranteeing of human rights, law and order in the Republic of Armenia, ensuring of stability and natural growth of the economy, will boost the international co-operation in combating transnational crime related to the drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

**Agreements and memoranda, signed by the Republic of Armenia, on the combat against drug addiction, illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors**

The Agreement "On co-operation among Ministries of the Interior of the CIS Member States in combating illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances" was signed in Kiev in 1992 by the Ministers of the Interior of the CIS member states.

The Agreement "On co-operation in combating illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" was signed in 1993 between the Customs Department of the Republic of Armenia and the Customs Committee of the Republic of Georgia.

The Agreement "On co-operation in combating smuggling and violation of customs rules, as well as illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" was signed in 1995 between the Customs Department of the Republic of Armenia and the Customs Committee under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The Agreement "On co-operation in combating smuggling and violation of customs rules, as well as illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" was signed in 1996 between the Customs Department of the Republic of Armenia and the State Customs Inspectorate under the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Agreement "On co-operation in the field of combating crime, in particular its organised forms" was signed in 1998 between the Governments of the member states of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

The memorandum of mutual understanding "On co-operation in the fields of international control on narcotic drugs and money laundering" was signed in 1999 between the Governments of Armenia, Georgia, Iran and UNDCP.

The Agreement "On co-operation in combating smuggling and violation of customs rules, as well as illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors" was signed in 1999 between the Ministry of State Revenue of the Republic of Armenia and the Customs Committee under the Ministry of State Revenue of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Agreement "On co-operation of the CIS member states in combating the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors" was signed by the heads of CIS member states in Chisinau in 2000.

The Concept "On co-operation of the CIS member states in combating the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors" was signed by the heads of CIS member states in 2002.

The Agreement "On co-operation in combating the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors" was signed in 2005 between the Police of the Republic of Armenia and the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation.

The Agreement "On co-operation in combating terrorism, organised crime, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their precursors and other crimes" was signed in 2010 between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Latvia.

**Decisions of the Government of the Republic of Armenia regulating the relations  
pertaining to traffic in narcotic drugs**

A Standing Commission on Drug Control has been set up in the Republic of Armenia by Decision No 496 of 17 August 2000 of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, and the Statute of the Commission was approved by Decision No 392 of 29 May 2001. The main objective of the Commission is the elaboration of recommendations on control of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and applications on licensing the activity pertaining to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in the Republic of Armenia.

"The composition (list) of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors subject to control in the Republic of Armenia" was approved upon Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1129-N of 21 August 2003.

An Interagency Commission on Traffic and Early Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the Republic of Armenia was set up upon Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1714-N of 27 November 2003. The Commission was assigned to elaborate the annual programme on combat against drug addiction and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs in compliance with the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" and submit it to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for consideration every year, prior to 1 November.

"The list of drugs, containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances subject to control in the Republic of Armenia" was approved upon Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 258-N of 26 February 2004.

The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia "On granting a permit to the "National Bureau of Expertises" state non-commercial organisation of the National Academy

of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia to receive, maintain standard (comparative) samples of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and carry out expertise using them" No 1015-N was adopted on 6 September 2007.

The "Rules on the traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their precursors" were approved by Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 270-N of 18 March 2010, and the "Procedures for licensing of manufacture, exportation, importation or wholesale of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances or of their precursors prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, and the forms of licences for carrying out such activities" were approved by Decision No 281-N of 18 March 2011.

The new procedures for licensing of manufacture, exportation, importation or wholesale of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, and the forms of licences for carrying out such activities were approved by Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia "On making amendments and supplements to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 281-N of 18 March 2011" No 717-N of 7 June 2012.

An integrated social services system is being introduced in the Republic in compliance with Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia "On approving the programme of introducing an integrated social services system in the Republic of Armenia" No 952-N of 26 July 2012; in particular, it implies complete assessment of social needs of those prone to drug addiction and provision of a social service package adequate thereto. Works, targeted at persons, who are registered at medical centres of the Marzes as users of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, are carried out with the view to prescribing treatment and involving them in community service.

The "Procedure for subjecting citizens undergoing service in the police, as well as the police servants to a psychophysical test, a test for alcohol, addition to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" was drafted and approved upon Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1330-N of 27 September 2012, pursuant to the List of Measures Aimed at Ensuring the Implementation of the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On making

amendments and supplements to the Law of the Republic of Armenia 'On service in the Police'", approved by Decision of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia No 145-A of 21 February 2012.

The public administration bodies, authorised by the Government of the Republic of Armenia to grant a certificate for conducting of supervision over the traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, and over the early prevention of their illicit traffic, for importation or exportation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their preparations, as well as to approve applications on importation or exportation of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, were recognised as such by the Decision "On recognition of public administration bodies authorised by the Government of the Republic of Armenia" No 702-A of 4 July 2013.

### **List No 3**

#### **Brief description of measures implemented by the state bodies of the Republic of Armenia**

1222 cases of crime related to the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs were detected in 2013 (1139 cases in 2012). In 2013, 686 people were held criminally liable for the committal of the mentioned crimes (686 people in 2012).

In 2013, the number of people, registered at the Narcological Clinic of "Psychiatric Medical Centre" CJSC of the Ministry of Health of Republic of Armenia, who used narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances without prescription of a physician, comprised 1523 (1009 in 2012).

According to the data of the Narcological Clinic of "Psychiatric Medical Centre" CJSC of the Ministry of Health of Republic of Armenia, the number of registered drug addicts comprised 4332 as of 1 January 2013, of which 55 and 11 of solvent abusers are women.



The so-called hard drugs are imported into Armenia mainly from the Islamic Republic of Iran (opium, heroin, amphetamine, metamphetamine), through Meghri border check point by Iranian citizens. Narcotic drugs of the "hashish" and "methadone" type have been imported from Iran as well.

In 2011-2012, as a result of the measures jointly conducted by officers of the Police of the Republic of Armenia, Border Guard Troops of the National Security Service of the Republic of Armenia, several criminal groups were unmasked as engaged in illegal transportation of the mentioned narcotic drugs from the Islamic Republic of Iran attempting to use the territory of the Republic as a transit route (the amphetamine type drug — Iran-Armenia-Russia-Thailand, Iran-Armenia-Spain, "heroin" — Iran-Armenia-US, "hashish" — Iran-Armenia-Georgia).

Heroin and ecstasy type narcotic drugs were smuggled from Turkey through the territory of Georgia, though the border check points of Bagratashen and Gogavan.

Subutex type narcotic drug was smuggled by air from Europe, particularly France.

Narcotic drugs of "heroin", "marijuana" and, recently, also "methadone" and "cocaine" types have been imported in small amounts from the Russian Federation.

Measures are carried out persistently by the State Revenue Committee under the Government of the Republic of Armenia with the view to preventing the illegal transfer of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors. Under the Programme of Measures for 2011-2015 aimed at the RA Border Security and Comprehensive Border Management Strategy, works are carried out to ensure the technical re-equipment, professional training of the personnel of border check-points, as well as increase in the efficiency of inter-agency co-operation in early prevention of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.

The heads of the Garrison Military Police Units and the commanders of military units of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia have conducted joint early preventive

measures for detecting sources of obtaining narcotic drugs, preventing their penetration into military units.

The first session of the Interagency Commission on Traffic and Early Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the Republic of Armenia was held at the Police of the Republic of Armenia on 19 November 2012, as a result of which the Working Plan of the Commission for 2012-2013 was approved.

Upon Order of the Head of the Police of the Republic of Armenia No 878-A of 2 March 2012, a group, studying issues related to the early prevention of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, drug addiction, was set up at the educational complex of the Police of the Republic of Armenia, which has drafted and published a scientific practical manual, entitled "Combat against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs" jointly with various chairs of the faculty of law of the educational complex.

Within the framework of the measures on prevention of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances among persons deprived of liberty, at penitentiary institutions the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia ensures the provision of voluntary individual consultation with psychologists and social workers to the convicts on whom compulsory treatment for drug addiction was imposed by a criminal judgement of the court.

The "National Institute of Health named after Academician Avdalbekyan" CJSC of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia drafted the Development Strategy for the National Observation Station for Combating Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, which will ensure the collection, entry and evaluation of data on level of prevalence of drug addiction in the population in compliance with guidelines of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.

The Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Armenia provides methodological assistance to primary and middle level vocational educational institutions in implementing measures to promote the healthy lifestyle, incorporating issues related to the combat against

use of narcotic drugs in extracurricular educational activities, envisaging such issues in the training programmes implemented by the National Institute of Education, organising seminars on issues of early prevention of drug addiction within higher educational institutions.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia has elaborated a Draft Rehabilitation Programme for Persons Inclined to Drug Addiction, which implies creation of Rehabilitation Centre for persons inclined to drug addiction on the basis of "Hans Christian Kofoed" Charitable Foundation in Vardashen, which has adequate facility conditions. The programme was approved at the session of 7 March 2012 of the Interagency Commission on Traffic and Early Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the Republic of Armenia and was communicated to the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction with the view to receiving financial aid. Within the framework of the negotiations with the management of the Centre, arrangements have been made on financing of the programme on establishing a centre for the social rehabilitation of drug-dependent persons and on provision of technical and counselling assistance to its implementation.

**Chief of Staff of the President**

**of the Republic of Armenia**

**V. Sargsyan**