

**REGIONAL TRAINING FOR BORDER AND CUSTOMS
CYNOLOGISTS OF CENTRAL ASIA**

The Fourth Regional Training for Border Guards and Customs Cynologists (search dog trainers) began on July 28, 2008 in Almaty. Cynologists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan participate in the 3-month training.

The opening ceremony took place in the Regional Cynological Centre of the Customs Control Committee under the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Representatives of the European Commission Delegation, the United Nations Development Programme, Customs Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the BOMCA Programme took part in the ceremony.

25 participants will take part in the training, 5 from each country. The participants will be trained on keeping and breeding search dogs and training dogs in drugs detecting techniques.



The objectives of the training course also include training in practical skills of instructors and strengthening the regional cooperation among the representatives of cynological services of all Central Asian countries. The participants will pass qualification in examination upon completion of the training course, receive certificates and continue their service in their respective countries.

The best specialists of the Regional Cynological Centre of the Customs Control Committee of the Kazakh Ministry of Finance, Central Dog Kennel under the Border Service of the National Security Committee and Regional Canine Centre of the Ministry of Interior have been invited to teach theoretical basics and coach trainees.

**EU PROGRAMME ON BORDER MANAGEMENT
IN CENTRAL ASIA CALLS INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY TO COOPERATION**

On July 22, 2008 the European Union's Border Management Programme (BOMCA) in Central Asia convened representatives of the international community at a Donor Coordination Meeting in Astana to discuss possible cooperation areas.

The International Donor Community was represented by BOMCA participants, the British Embassy, the British Council, UNHCR, the US Embassy, the French Embassy, EC Delegation and UNDP. Representatives of the Border Guards Service, the Customs Committee, the Ministry of Interior and the National Security Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan were also among the invitees.



The principal goal of donor coordination meetings is to provide an opportunity for coordination and discussion on common aims to promote parallel funding from donor organizations and in-kind contributions to EU projects.

The BOMCA coordination platform includes: annual donor/government round tables to discuss strategies and approaches; regular technical-level coordination meetings for implementing agencies in each country to report on progress and share future plans; and annual reporting to the Central Asia Border Services Initiative (CABSI), a consortium of EU Member States led by Austria. Its members include the UK, Finland, France, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Croatia, Hungary and the USA as independent partner.



The main objective of the BOMCA Programme is to demonstrate to Central Asian Governments the benefits of the EU integrated border management approach for the facilitation of trade and transit, through model projects at Border Control Posts on major Central Asian trade corridors. The BOMCA is funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP. BOMCA is a multi-annual assistance Programme funded under the EC TACIS instrument.

