

REGIONAL TRAINING FOR CENTRAL ASIAN BORDER AND CUSTOMS DOG HANDLERS

The Fifth Regional Training programme for border and customs dog handlers from the five Central Asian states commenced on 24 August 2009 in Tashkent. Twenty participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan will attend a three-month training session organised by the BOMCA Programme.

The Dog Handlers course will provide training in modern practical techniques for searching for drugs and explosives. Upon successful completion of the course, the participants will be awarded certificates and receive newly trained dogs to take them back to continue their service at border crossings in their countries.

Trainers from the Uzbek National Dog Training Centre together with experts of the Canine School of the Austrian Police Academy and the French Police Dog Training Centre will teach theoretical basics and practical skills and acquaint trainees with the best EU practices in dog training.



CROSS-BORDER WORKSHOP FOR BORDER OFFICERS FROM TAJIKISTAN AND KYRGYZSTAN

Nineteen representatives from the Border Force, Customs, Phyto-sanitary, Sanitary-epidemiology and Veterinary Services participated in a training workshop on Integrated Border Management (IBM) for Border Crossing Points (BCPs) held in Tajikistan during 27 July—3 August 2009.



The training programme included a series of presentations on the implementation of Integrated Border Management methodologies (IBM) combined with practical work, case studies and a visit to the “Guliston” BCP.

The workshop was conducted by EU experts and BOMCA-trained local trainers with the support of representatives from the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD). Trainers presented examples of workflow analysis of typical EU land borders and IBM concepts. Afterwards participants reviewed case studies and discussed procedures at BCPs.

An integral part of the training was a cross border workshop held at the “Guliston” BCP for border agency representatives from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Both sides reviewed and shared their border management practices and experiences to examine ways to improve border control effectiveness and cooperation.

During a half-day training session ICMPD trainers demonstrated the use of specialist equipment for authenticating documents, modern techniques for transport and freight control, and the need for effective interaction and cooperation amongst cross border agencies.



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.

