

**The speech of the representative of the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation during the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Platform on prevention , Prague (Czech Republic) 30-31 March 2010**

The gravity of the drug situation in the Russian Federation is defined by its structure. More than 90 per cent of all drug-addicts use heroin of Afghan origin. The development of the drug situation in Afghanistan required assuming immediate measures in changing antidrug policy both at the national and international levels, as well as elaboration of new approaches to the international cooperation of the Federal Drug Control Service with international partners.

At the same time we regret to inform you about the NATO decision from 24 March 2010 about rejection of Russian appeal to eradicate opium poppy fields in Afghanistan.

According to the UN data every year 100 thousand people die because of afghan heroin. During the first decade of new millennium about 1 million people died because of drugs, and about 16 million people suffered from drugs morally or physically.

World amount of heroin consumption in 2008 reached: in Russia 21 per cent (70 tons), in Europe (except Russian and Turkey) – 26 per cent (88 tons), in the USA and Canada – 6 per cent (22 tons).

Therefore, more than half of the whole consumed heroin in the world is consumed in the countries presented at this meeting.

It is shocking that the loss of civilians because of drug overdose in Europe is 50 times as high as the war losses in Afghanistan. This information is confirmed by the Director of UNODC Antonio Costa (according to the available data 10 thousand European citizens die annually because of Afghan drugs).

It is obvious that in that region the actions of military shouldn't be aimed at self-defense, but primarily should be aimed at the defense of their own citizens who are at the same time taxpayers paying for their jobs.

In this regard it is necessary to mention the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1917 (2010) adopted on 22 March 2010. In this Resolution countries expressed their concern “about the serious harm that opium cultivation, production and trafficking and consumption continue to cause to the security, development and governance of Afghanistan as well as to the region and internationally “ as

well as “call upon States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter the threat to the international community posed by the illicit production, trafficking, and consumption of drugs originating in Afghanistan in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility “.

According to the medical statistics 550 thousand drug-addicted are registered in the Russian Federation. According to the experts estimates there are from 2 to 2.5 million drug-uses aged between 18 – 39 years in the Russian Federation.

From the beginning of 1991 the number of drug-addicts grew by 20 times. The main increase happened in the nineties. By the year 2000 the number of drug-addicts is not growing it is constant. In fact it is a kind of rotation when some drug-addicts die others become drug-addicts.

The FDCS and other law-enforcement agencies play a great role in the fight with drug trafficking. However drug-addiction has social roots and the problem of drug-addiction can't be solved only by the law-enforcements' efforts.

The percent of the population involved in opium consuming in our country is 5 or 8 times as high as the consuming of opium in the counties of European Community.

According to the UN data the Russian Federation is among the three leading countries along with Iran and Afghanistan.

The project of the state antidrug strategy has been worked out to increase the effectiveness of antidrug activity and to consolidate the efforts of all society institutions and executive bodies of the Russian Federation.

The project contains the main concepts of implementation of the state policy, the organization and coordination of the activity of government bodies, local government, non-government organizations in prevention of drug trafficking. That is: the organization of monitoring of drug situation, its consequences and the improvement of the system of measures in drug demand reduction. This system includes the state system of prevention of medical aid, social-medical after-treatment of drug-addicts and some other measures.

The State Antidrug Committee was formed to increase the effectiveness of the fight against drug crime and drug prevention.

At the present time the Federal Target Program «Complex measures of prevention of drug abuse and its trafficking for 2011-2015 years” is being worked

out which will be aimed at the further development and improvement of coordinated work of the federal executive bodies and implementation of state policy in the sphere of prevention of non-medical drug consuming, and in prevention of drug trafficking.

The positive results of the implementation of the Federal Target Program “Complex measures of prevention of drug abuse and its trafficking for 2005-2009 years” will be taken into consideration.

The implementation of the prevention measures against drug addiction and drug crimes in the frame of the above-mentioned Program expanded the methods of anti-drug prevention work among adolescents and the youth. It made possible to involve 22 per cent of adolescents and youth at the age from 11 to 24 into prevention of drug addiction.

The statistic data about the number of drug-addicted with the detected diagnosis of drug-addiction shows the decrease of the level of drug-addiction among adolescents. In comparison with 2004 (1034 people) the decrease of the primary detected diagnosis among adolescents is 37.2 percent (649 people in 2008). According to the medical research carried out in the frame of the Program the spread of drug-addiction among adolescents per one hundred thousand decreased from 32.7 percent in 2004 to 25.7 in 2008.

Additional regional antidrug programs in the Russian Federation territorial subjects are being worked out and realized.

The organization of anti-drug prevention work among the youth in the Russian Federation territorial subjects is being implemented in the following directions:

- Prevention of drug addiction in schools, colleges and higher educational institutions;
- Work with non-governmental youth organizations;
- Organization of anti-drug public events;
- Prevention of drug addiction among youth of military age and among the youth doing military service;
- Prevention of drug-addiction and antidrug propaganda in mass media and the Internet ;

The above-mentioned work of the territorial bodies of the FDSC is being realized with the help of the complex of interagency public events such as: “ For the health and the security of our children”, “Health”, “Inform where death is

sold”, “The youth of military age”, “A member of special forces”, “For the sake of future – for the sake of children”, all-Russian Olympiad of scientific and students’ papers on drug prevention, sport events under the motto “Sport against drugs” and others.

On the whole the implementation of prevention of anti-drug measures made it possible to decrease drug trafficking in the Russian Federation to 67.8 percent as compared with the year 2004.

So the above-mentioned measures enabled to promote prevention work in coordination with other state governmental bodies, non-government organizations, religious organizations, and mass media. They promoted the improvement of the state anti-drug policy, the consciousness of danger of drug addiction among adolescents and the youth.

Thank you for your attention.