

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE POLICE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AND  
THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The Police of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and the Drug Enforcement Administration of the Department of Justice of the United States of America, hereinafter referred to as the Participants;

Reaffirming their commitment to the principles of mutually beneficial and equitable cooperation,

Proceeding from the mutual interest in countering illicit trafficking of narcotics, psychotropic substances (hereinafter referred to as “drugs”), and their analogues and precursors, with strict respect for the sovereignty of the States of the Participants and the principle of non-interference in internal affairs,

Acknowledging that the illicit trafficking of drugs, their analogues and precursors, along with their abuse, present a serious threat to the health and well-being of the population of the States of the Participants,

Recognizing the close links between transnational crimes, including in some cases, between drug trafficking and terrorism,

Expressing their readiness to cooperate consistent with generally recognized principles and norms of international law,

Each Participant, acting in accordance with its national legislation and within its authorities, will endeavor to cooperate in the following manner:

**Article 1  
Objective**

The Participants under this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter “Memorandum”), while acting within their areas of competence and consistent with the national legislation and international commitments of their countries, will endeavor to cooperate in the fight against illicit drug trafficking, their analogues and precursors, as well as related money laundering offenses flowing from these criminal activities.

*This non-binding Memorandum regarding sectoral cooperation is not intended to contradict mutual legal assistance provisions of multilateral treaties with mutual legal assistance provisions to which both the United States of America and the Republic of Armenia are parties.*

## **Article 2 Cooperation**

For the purpose of implementing this Memorandum, the Participants intend to cooperate in the following areas:

- 1) Exchanging operational information, and analysis of information of mutual interest within the framework of cooperation discussed in Article 1 of this Memorandum;
- 2) Engaging in bilateral actions (operations) intended to reduce the movement of illicit drugs, their analogues and precursors, in international channels, including participation in international controlled deliveries when appropriate;
- 3) Informing each other about national laws and legislation, including information about changes and amendments, related to investigating and prosecuting drug trafficking offenses;
- 4) Providing, when appropriate, necessary quantities of substances for analytical or investigative purposes;<sup>1</sup>
- 5) Providing assistance to strengthen mutual cooperation to prevent and counter the illicit flow of money linked to drug trafficking, drug analogues, and precursor chemicals;
- 6) Engaging in formal and informal meetings, conferences, training and other events related to professional development of personnel;
- 7) Promoting international cooperation in responding to NPS (new psychoactive substances) and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine;
- 8) Developing additional ways to cooperate consistent with this Memorandum, or developing additional arrangements.

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<sup>1</sup> As specified by the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988, Article 9.

### **Article 3**

#### **Development of cooperation**

The Participants expect that this Memorandum will not prevent them from engaging in other mutually acceptable activities and ways of cooperating consistent with Article 1 of this Memorandum.

### **Article 4**

#### **Information exchange**

Information exchange under this Memorandum includes, but is not limited to, information about the following:

- 1) Sources of drug supply, their analogues and precursors, for illicit drug trafficking and the methods used to stop their distribution;
- 2) Ways drug traffickers conceal drugs in transportation, as well as law enforcement methods of detection;
- 3) Specific facts and investigations related to illegal movement, or plans for the illegal movement of drugs, their analogues and precursors, from the territory of other countries to the territory of the Republic of Armenia;
- 4) Facts, incidents and circumstances related to illicit trafficking of drugs, their analogues and precursors, laundering proceeds derived from such activities;
- 5) Routes of transportation of drugs, their analogues and precursors;
- 6) New types of drugs, their analogues, and precursors;
- 7) Ways and methods of laundering proceeds derived from illicit trafficking in drugs, their analogues and precursors;
- 8) Types of illicit substances, technologies for their production and new methods of their use in illicit trafficking, including drug crimes committed using computer technologies and the Internet;
- 9) Other issues of mutual interest.
- 10) The exchange of personal data within the framework of this Memorandum of cooperation is not intended.

## **Article 5**

### **Request for assistance**

The Participants intend to implement cooperation in connection with this Memorandum based either on a request for assistance from a Participant, or upon initiative of a Participant that assumes that such assistance is of interest to the other Participant.

Requests for assistance ordinarily will be submitted in writing. In urgent cases requests may be transmitted orally, but are expected to be confirmed in writing, which may include via email or similar electronic means.

In case there is doubt regarding the reliability or content of a request, an additional confirmation may be requested.

A request for assistance is expected to contain:

- 1) Title of the official, designation of the Participant, requesting the assistance;
- 2) Presentation of the merits of the request;
- 3) Indication of the purpose and a justification for the request;
- 4) Description of contents of the requested assistance;
- 5) Any other information which may be useful for proper execution of the request.

The Participants intend to timely fulfill the requests of the other Participant. The reasonable time to respond to a request is expected not to exceed 30 days, unless the request specifies a different period.

If it is not possible to execute or timely execute a request for assistance, the Participant receiving the request will endeavor to inform the other Participant promptly about the reasons for the declination or for the delay and the anticipated time to fulfill the request.

Either Party may partially or completely decline to execute a request consistent with Article 6 of this Memorandum.

This Memorandum is not intended to cover or address the issues of extradition of individuals or the formal provision of mutual legal assistance in criminal cases, including pursuant to authorities expressly authorizing the provision of such assistance.

## **Article 6**

### **Refusal in assistance**

The Participants acknowledge that either Participant may partially or completely refuse to execute the activities discussed in this Memorandum, or restrict execution to certain conditions, if, in its opinion, cooperation may negatively affect the security or interests of its state, contradict national legislation or international commitments, violates human rights or for any other reason it deems appropriate.

A Participant that declines to execute activities under this Memorandum will endeavor to notify the other Participant in writing about the reasons for such declination as promptly as reasonably possible.

## **Article 7**

### **Limited use of the received information and documents**

The Participants intend to maintain the confidentiality of information received under this Memorandum.

The Participants undertake not to use information, items and documents received on the basis of this Memorandum for purposes other than those stated in the original request, and also undertake not to transfer such information, items and documents to a third-party without the prior written consent of the Participant that provided the information, item or documents.

The Participants may conduct mutual exchange of information, materials and information located in their respective databases.

As appropriate, the Participants may further mutually decide on specific conditions and rules for the use of information or materials related to operational and investigative information activities carried out bilaterally.

## **Article 8**

### **Coordination of cooperation and language**

For the purposes of implementing this Memorandum, the Participants are expected to provide each other with information on the units or persons responsible for coordination of cooperation and immediately notify each

other of any changes in their names, competences and contact details.

Within the framework of cooperation under this Memorandum, English and Armenian languages may be used, unless the Participants indicate otherwise, on a case-by-case basis.

## **Article 9 Disclosure**

In the United States, this Memorandum is exempt from public disclosure under the United States Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

## **Article 10 Expenses**

Each Participant is expected to be responsible for its own expenses related to implementation of this Memorandum within the framework of the budget allocated by the national legislations of the country for the Participant, unless the Participants determine otherwise, on a case by case basis in specific matters.

## **Article 11 Resolution of disputes**

The Participants expect to resolve any disputes between them that occur in connection to interpretation or application of the provisions of this Memorandum through consultation and discussion.

## **Article 12 Modifications**

Modifications may be made to this Memorandum by written mutual consent of the Participants.

## **Article 13 Relation to international agreements**

This Memorandum, regulating sectoral cooperation, is not an international

treaty and is not legally binding, and is not intended to affect the rights or obligations of the Participants derived from other international agreements, to contradict mutual legal assistance provisions of multilateral treaties to which both the Republic of Armenia and the United States of America are parties.

**Article 14**  
**Inception and discontinuation of this Memorandum**

This Memorandum should become effective upon last signature by the authorized representative of both Participants and will remain in effect for an indefinite period.

A Participant that wishes to discontinue its participation under this Memorandum is expected to provide 30 days' written notice to the other Participant of its intent.

Signed, in duplicate, on May 24, 2024, in Yerevan, in Armenian and English languages.

**For the Police of the Ministry  
of Internal Affairs of the  
Republic of Armenia**

Head of Police – Deputy  
Minister of Internal Affairs of  
the Republic of Armenia,  
Police Major-General  
Aram Hovhannisyan



**For the Drug Enforcement  
Administration of the  
Department of Justice of the  
United States of America**

Acting Special Agent in Charge  
Middle East Division  
Christopher A. Dzedzic

