

# EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN,  
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

## PRESS RELEASE

### EU-UNDP Project helps to reduce drug addiction in prisons

**PAVLODAR, 20 August 2009** – Today the EU-UNDP Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP) handed over four computers and other equipment to the rehabilitation centre for drug addicts at prison N162/2 near Pavlodar. The total cost of the equipment is about €6000.

The CADAP project "Prisons" introduce "Atlantis" rehabilitation programme in pilot prisons of the Central Asian countries. The "Atlantis" approach is a 12-step therapy programme helping to treat and rehabilitate drug-dependent prison inmates.

Besides Pavlodar prison, the "Atlantis" programme was introduced in a prison in Astana. In Kyrgyzstan, there are three of eight rehabilitation centres in prisons which are supported by CADAP.

As a component of the programme, the so called "Clean Zones" have been also established within the pilot prisons. These are separate areas which offer better living conditions, opportunity for education and vocational training. Prisoners can only transfer to a "Clean Zone" if they agree to give up all drugs and undergo regular screening to confirm their drug-free status.

In all Central Asian countries, non-governmental organisations have been contracted to carry out renovation and reconstruction work and supply the necessary equipment for prisons. The total budget of the project, including construction and rehabilitation work, equipment, training and a study tour of prison officers to Poland is €486,000.

The overall objective of the EU-UNDP CADAP Programme is to foster a public health approach to drug demand and addiction, with an interdiction approach to drug supply in line with European Commission drug strategies. CADAP is funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP.

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The project is funded by the European Union

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