



Summary 2007-2010



MAOC (N) receives funding from the
EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Prevention of and Fight against Crime

JOCC Summary



**Maritime Analysis and
Operations Centre
(Narcotics)**

MAOC (N)

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MARITIME ANALYSIS OPERATION CENTRE
JOCC DRUG SUMMARY

This document reflects the operational activity which resulted in interdictions and or disruptions which partner countries coordinated through MAOC (N)

Sea Op 04/07

Vessel: WENDY
Type: SV
Flag:
Interdicting State: Portugal
Date: 14/6/2007
Seizure: 200kgs cocaine

Sailing vessel WENDY was intercepted upon arrival in Lagos by Portuguese Customs. 200 kgs of cocaine was discovered and the Spanish crew member arrested.

Sea Op 08/07

Vessel: KING ALEXANDER
Type: SV
Flag: Netherlands
Interdicting State: France
Date: 5/8/2007
Seizure: 598kgs cocaine
590 KGS of cocaine was seized onboard the S/V King Alexander by French Naval Patrol Boat La Gracieuse. S/V King Alexander departed the Caribbean, transited the Atlantic Ocean, and was intercepted in the English Channel. The operation was supported by French, British, and Irish assets



Sea Op 01/07

Vessel: ALEXANDRA
Type: MV
Flag: Venezuela
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: April 2007
Seizure: 500kgs cocaine
French maritime patrol aircraft was deployed and located this vessel. Spanish customs deployed a surface asset to intercept the vessel seizing the drugs and arresting the 7 Venezuelan crew members.

Sea Op 03/07



Vessel: SABALA
Type: Fishing Vessel
Flag: Brazil
Interdicting State: France
Date: 8/6/2007
Seizure: 840kgs Cocaine
840 KGS of cocaine were seized using France as the primary supporting/interdicting country. Following the interception phase, the F/V SABALA was rerouted by the French Navy towards Brazilian area of responsibility. On Brazilian Government request it was transferred back to the Brazilian authorities for arrest and prosecution. A Brazilian Federal Police and DEA investigation which begun following the seizure identified the organised crime



group responsible resulting in more seizures, asset forfeiture, and arrests.

Sea Op 06/07

Vessel: MACARITA

Type: FV

Flag: n/k

Interdicting State: none

Date: 5/7/2007

Seizure: 2400 kgs cocaine (jettisoned)

Known as a daughter ship from November 2006 when she was suspected to operate a transfer at sea with F/V BAHIA BONITA, F/V MACARITA was relocated in July 2007. Intelligence suggests she conducted a new transfer at sea with an unknown mother ship. This operation was interrupted and intelligence indicates the illicit cargo was jettisoned at sea. A French MPA was tasked by French authorities to relocate and identify her.



SEA Op 002/07

Vessel: Suspect Vessel (Investigations continue)

Type: FV

Flag:

Interdicting State: n/a

Date: 2007

Seizure: 1.2tons

Intelligence received in MAOC resulted in French Navy deploying a Maritime Patrol Aircraft. Reliable reporting indicates the cocaine was jettisoned. A vessel was identified and investigations continue.

LUCKY DAY

Vessel: LUCKY DAY

Type: FV

Flag: n/k

Interdicting State: Drugs discovered floating in the sea after failed importation

Date:

Seizure: *None attributed as MAOC (N) assisted in identifying associated vessel after drugs were discovered*

Irish authorities discovered 1.5MTS of cocaine floating off the coast of Cork due to a failed attempt to land the drugs. Irish authorities quickly began the investigation to establish who was behind the attempt. Post event investigation through MAOC (N) identified the S/V LUCKY DAY as the mother ship and Spanish Law Enforcement intercepted her upon arrival in Spain.



Sea Op 05/07

Vessel: OCEANA 2

Type: FV



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Flag: Venezuela

Interdicting State: Spain

Date: June 2007

Seizure: 4000kgs

Intelligence provided to MAOC and prior to requesting Portuguese support for intercept and arrest, de-confliction with the Partners highlighted Spain were also working on the activity. As a result of the intelligence fusion Spanish Authorities performed the interdiction and duplication of effort along with “blue on blue” operation was averted.



Sea Op 10/07

Vessel: ZEUS X

Type: Fishing Vessel

Flag: Venezuela

Interdicting State: Spain

Date: 25th September 2007

Seizure: 3200kgs Cocaine



Spanish Customs patrol boat PETREL I intercepted FV Zeus in the Atlantic Ocean. The search revealed 3200kgs of cocaine. The crew and drugs were secure and taken to the Canary Islands for processing. The vessel sank whilst being taken back to Spain.

Sea Op 12/07

Vessel: DONA ANTONIETA 1

Type: Fishing Vessel

Flag: Venezuela

Interdicting State: US coastguard LEDET on board HMS Portland, Royal Navy

Date: 24th October 2007

Seizure: 3100kgs Cocaine



Reacting to a MAOC tasking Royal Naval Vessel HMS Portland located the Dona Antonieta 1 in the Atlantic. The Vessel had a US Coast Guard LEDET team on board. As they made the right of approach the crew began dumping bales overboard. Approximately 30 bales were videoed being jettisoned and a further 83 recovered on board.



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Sea Op 13/07

Vessel: OPNOR
Type: Motor Vessel
Flag: Panama
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: 16th October 2007
Seizure: 3700kgs Cocaine



The Irish naval vessel Niamh interdicted the UK flagged s/v Dances With Waves 150 nm off the south west coast of Ireland. Ireland's Joint Task Force (Garda, Customs and Navy) quickly responded and seized 1500kgs of cocaine. Three UK nationals on board were arrested. This operation followed close co-operation with SOCA.

Dev Op 024/08

Vessel: SAGUIM
Type: FV
Flag: Portugal
Interdicting State: Portugal
Date: June 2008
Seizure: 6447kgs Cannabis

With the support of the Portuguese Navy and Air Force, the Polícia Judiciária was able to intercept this vessel as it returned from Morocco. The substantial seizure was made and 4 crew members arrested.



Spanish Naval Asset CENTINELA with Grupo Especial de Operaciones de la Policia Nacional (G.E.O.) on board intercepted this vessel. Upon boarding approximately 128 bales were recovered. The crew comprising of 2 Dutch and 4 Ghanaians' were arrested.

Sea Op 016/08

Vessel: DANCES WITH WAVES
Type: Sloop vessel
Flag: UK
Interdicting State: Ireland
Date: 05th November 2008
Seizure: 1500kgs cocaine





Sea Op 15/07

Vessel: LAZY BONES
Type: Sailing Vessel
Flag: United Kingdom
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: 9th January 2008
Seizure: 600kgs Cocaine



MAOC coordination led to the Spanish National Police seizure of 600 kilograms of cocaine on 09th January from UK flagged S/V LAZY BONES in position 3616N-1444W. Interdiction at sea was with the support of the Spanish DAVA vessel FULLMAR.

Three individuals were arrested onboard the vessel: One Spaniard, One French, and One Italian. Four additional men were arrested in Spain. Following further investigation, conducted in Las Palmas de Gran Canarias, on 12th January, money and one weapon have been recovered.



Sea Op 002/08

Vessel: ABBIRA
Type: MV
Flag: Sierra Leone
Interdicting State: UK
Date: April 2008
Seizure: 14.5 tons Cannabis



Ocean going Tug ABBIRA was intercepted in a UK port and arrests made following an investigation by SOCA supported by HM Revenue and Customs, Leicestershire and Hampshire Constabularies. This resulted in the arrest of 6 crew and an additional 6 persons on land. Whilst the search of the vessel continues, a multi tonne quantity of hashish has been seized.

Sea Op 03/08

Vessel: BLUE ATLANTIC
Type: Fishing Vessel
Flag: Liberia
Interdicting State: France
Date: January 2008
Seizure: 2300kgs Cocaine



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French Navy ship TONNERRE with the support of French Maritime Patrol Aircraft seized 2.3 tonnes of cocaine onboard F/V BLUE ATLANTIC following MAOC coordination. The crew claimed Liberian Flag. Following an article 108 laws of the sea procedure implemented by the French government, the vessel, the drugs and crew (nine Ghana citizens) were taken to Liberia for judicial process. The French authorities and Interpol continued to monitor this process. The French Ambassador was present at the destruction of the drugs.



Sea Op 04/08

Vessel: JUNIOR

Type: Motor Vessel

Flag: Panama

Interdicting State: France

Date: 07th February 2008

Seizure: 3200kgs Cocaine



Following MAOC fused intelligence from numerous partners; French Navy Ship TONNERRE with the support of French MPA seized 3.2 tonnes of cocaine (107 bales) from Panama flag M/V JUNIOR.



The bales were concealed in an iron frame combined with a trolley which enabled the crew to jettison 3 tons of cocaine within 3 minutes. However the drugs were recovered. Nine crewmembers were arrested, including two Greek citizens. M/V JUNIOR was rerouted toward Brest under French Navy ship RARI escort. The vessel, drugs and crew members have been then taken into custody by OCRTIS investigation teams for prosecution in France.





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Dev Op 011/08

Vessel: ULTIMATUM

Type: SV

Interdicting State: Spain

Date: 02nd July 2008

Seizure: 1500kgs cocaine



On 6th June 2008 the “Ultimatum” was observed leaving la Romana to meet a mother vessel.

Spanish customs vessel, Petrel, with Spanish National Police (G.E.O) performed the interdiction. The vessel travelled from la Romana, Dominican Republic destined for Spain. Four crew members were arrested.

Dev Op 023/08

Vessel: LA NINA

Type: Sloop vessel

Interdicting State: Spain

Date: 28th June 2008

Seizure: 1250kgs cocaine



The “go fast” la Nina was interdicted 280 nautical miles north east of Barbados.

HMS Iron Duke, with an embarked USCG LEDET, carried out the interdiction, boarding and search. 1250 kilos of cocaine were seized and one Swede, two Venezuelans, and two Mexicans were arrested. This interdiction took place following analytical support and case development over several weeks in close collaboration between JIATF(S) and MAOC (N).

Dev Op 026/08

Vessel: ULYSSE II

Type: SV

Flag: Latvia

Interdicting State: Portugal

Date: 21th July 2008

Seizure: 46kgs cocaine



Based on a French OCRTIS Investigation, Portuguese Policia Judicaria with the support of the Portuguese Navy and Air Force intercepted the Latvian flagged S/V ULYSSE II 30 miles from the Portuguese coast.

The deep concealment containing 46 kilos of cocaine was detected during the 2nd search of the vessel.

The vessel departed from the Caribbean and was interdicted heading towards the Iberian Peninsula.

The 2 French crew members were arrested.



Sea Op 009/08

Vessel: RIO MANZANARES
Type: Sloop vessel
Flag: Venezuelan
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: 26th July 2008
Seizure: 2500kgs cocaine



Spanish Customs deployed their vessel Petrel and National Police boarded the Venezuelan flagged fishing vessel Rio Manzanares and seized 80 bales totalling 2500 kilos of cocaine. Rio Manzanares departed from Venezuela is believed to have been destined for Spain. Five Venezuelan crew members were arrested. Italy's Guardia de Finanza Maritime Aircraft support proved vital in this operation.

Sea Op 010/08

Vessel: SOJOURNER LONDON
Type: SV
Flag: UK
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: August 2008
Seizure: 820 kgs cocaine



This vessel believed to have departed South America was intercepted by the Spanish Navy with Spanish National Police. Approximately 28 bales were discovered on board and the three Lithuanian crew members were arrested.

VOI 019/08

Vessel: MARTIN
Type: SV
Flag:
Interdicting State:
Date: 2008
Seizure: 103 kgs cocaine

Some movements and sightings of this suspect vessel were reported following inclusion in the MAOC vessel of interest list. French customs and Portuguese authorities were able to provide detail before the vessel was searched in Almeria. Spanish National Police discovered 103 kilos concealed within the vessel.



011/08

Vessel: RONIN
Type: SV
Flag: USA
Interdicting State: UK
Date: September 2008
Seizure: 96kgs cocaine

This vessel was believed to have been in the control of a major London based organised crime group. The drugs were seized in an intelligence led operation



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conducted by the Metropolitan Polices specialist crime directorate [Projects Team], the UK Border Agency [Maritime Branch] and Serious and Organised Crime Agency. The Royal Navy also provided assistance through the use of HMS Argyll. Portugal also deployed a naval asset to try and assist in the early stages of the operation.



The vessel departed Brazil and was interdicted heading towards the Iberian Peninsula.

Sea Op 002/09

Vessel: Go Fast
Type: GF
Flag: N/a
Date: 2009
Seizure: 4000kgs cocaine

This successful operation involving a multi ship scenario including 2 go fasts was executed by Cuerpo Nacional de Policia and involved assets from the Italy's Guardia de Finanza, Guardia Civil, Dava, Portuguese Navy, and Air Force coordinated through MAOC (N). The seizure of 4000kgs was followed by a number of arrests of those involved in this smuggling venture.

Dev Op 039/08

Vessel: SYMARIA
Type: SV
Flag: USA
Interdicting State: Portugal
Date: 07th October 2008
Seizure: 52kgs cocaine



Dev Op 003/09

Vessel: BLAS MARIA
Type: SV
Flag: Argentina
Interdicting state: Spain
Date: 17/03/2009
Seizure: 72 kgs cocaine

The Portuguese authorities intercepted the suspect sailing vessel SYMARIA on the night of 07th of October. The vessel had no visible name or flag but was later confirmed as USA flag.



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The French OCRTIS registered this vessel as suspect in MAOC-N. This suspect vessel was detected by Spanish Guardia Civil as it arrived in Tenerife. National Police arrested the crew as they attempted to transfer the drugs from the vessel to a car on the quay side.

Sea Op 003/09

Vessel: DONA FORTUNA
Type: SV
Flag: Venezuelan
Date: 26th February 2009
Seizure: 5000kgs cocaine



Coordinated through MAOC (N) Italian and Spanish authorities worked jointly on this investigation resulting in the seizure of over 5 tons of cocaine. Spanish Navy with Spanish National Police on board seized the Venezuelan flagged vessel. An Italian Maritime Patrol Aircraft from Guardia di Finanza patrolled the Atlantic locating the target.

Dev op 012/09

Vessel: KOALA II

Type: Sloop
Flag: Belgium
Interdicting State: France-Spain
Date: 01st July 2009
Seizure: 20kgs Cocaine



The KOALA II was found to be stateless, having cancelled its Belgian registration. A French OCRTIS initial investigation made clear she was involved in drug trafficking. The vessel was intercepted at sea on 26th June 2009, but no drugs were discovered. 20 kg cocaine was found in batteries during a second search which was conducted in Spain, National Police, following arrival in port the 1st July 2009. The ship was seized and crew arrested.

Dev Op 028/07

Vessel: WALKABOUT
Type: SV
Flag: UK
Interdicting State: Portugal
Date: May 2009
Seizure: 126kgs Cocaine



This vessel had been reported to MAOC in 2007 by French OCTRIS. In 2007 it was detected by Portuguese authorities as it



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entered Horta in the Azores. A search was conducted and cocaine was discovered concealed in tins of pineapple.



Dev Op 013/09

Vessel: LINNET
Type: SV
Flag: Italy
Interdicting State: Italy
Date: 2009
Seizure: 259kgs Cocaine

French Customs reported this vessel as suspicious. The vessel was detected and seized by Italian authorities in Alghero.

SEA OP 007/09

Vessel: DOLPHIN DANCE
Type: Sailing Vessel
Flag: UK
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: 06th August 2009
Seizure: 250kgs Cocaine



Intelligence indicates the DOLPHIN DANCE left the Dutch Antilles destined for Europe.

On the 06th August 2009, a Spanish patrol boat intercepted the DOLPHIN DANCE. The authorities discovered a quantity of 250kgs of Cocaine under the deck of the vessel and the two crew members were placed under arrest. The operation was supported by Italy's Guardia di Fianza aircraft.



The wider investigation, by Spanish National Police, resulted in the arrest of approximately 60 persons in Spain and UK, further drug seizures, seizure of various assets linked to the narco-trafficking venture (houses, luxury cars, weapons) and other drugs.

VOI 058/09

Vessel: MICHELLE LOUISA
Type: FV
Flag: Sierra Leone
Interdicting State: Netherlands
Date: 2009
Seizure: 3400 Cannabis



Portuguese authorities identified this vessel as suspect and an investigation began. Further enquiries developed Dutch



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connections and both countries worked jointly on this investigation.

VOI 048/08

Vessel: MIKKI

Type: SV

Flag: British Virgin Islands

Interdicting State: Portugal

Date: 25th September 2009

Seizure: 19,5kgs Cocaine



The vessel MIKKI was recorded as a suspect vessel at MAOC (N) by Germany. Due to its inclusion on the list it was detected in Acores-Terceira, and during a Customs visit on 25/09/2009, the PTG authorities detected several cases. A detailed search resulted in cocaine hidden within the structures being detected. The total amount seized was 19,5 kilos of cocaine.

VOI 071/09

Vessel: OCEAN FREGATTA

Type: SV

Flag: Cayman Island

Interdicting State: Portugal

Date: 24/10/09

Seizure: 553 kgs Cocaine



French Customs reported this vessel as suspicious. Following inclusion on the MAOC VOI list she was detected upon arrival in Horta, the Portuguese authorities discovered a huge quantity of Cocaine hidden into 2 little boats tied on the both sides of the boat. 1 USA and 1 French citizen have been arrested.



Sea Op 011/09

Vessel: CYAM

Type: SV

Flag: France

Interdicting State: France

Date: December 2009

Seizure: 141 kgs cocaine



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This vessel was also recorded in CeCLAD-M as a suspect vessel. In early December, JIATFS alerted the MAOC-N to a developing transatlantic drug trafficking operation involving an unidentified sailing vessel with a French crew aboard. Also included on MAOC Vessel of Interest list the collaborative efforts MAOC Liaison Officers were able to identify the vessel through the Portuguese. After being initially controlled in Spain, and as a result of continued surveillance of crew activities, French authorities were able to seize 141 kgs of cocaine and arrested 5 individuals after the vessel arrived in Frontignan Port and crew members attempted to transport the cocaine overland. 4 French people were arrested.

Sea Op 011/09

Vessel: DESTINY EMPRESS
Type: Hydrographical Research Vessel
Flag: Unknown
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: 20th December 2009
Seizure: 1 ton cocaine



Over a ton of cocaine was seized on board "Destiny Empress" with a joint operation

of the Spanish police, English and Italian authorities. A Spanish patrol boat intercepted the vessel the 20th December and escorted it to Vigo. The Spanish teams discovered a ton of cocaine in the double hull on the 22th December. The seven crew members were arrested with further arrests of some of those believed to have been involved in the organisation.

VOI 021/10

Vessel: TURTLE
Type: SV
Flag: UK
Interdicting State: Portugal
Date: 8th April 2010
Seizure: 201kgs Cocaine



The French Customs registered this vessel as suspect. The Policia Judiciaria made a link with an ongoing investigation. A search was performed when the vessel arrived in Acores. A total of 201 packages of cocaine were discovered, approximately 200 kg. Three prisoners, from 24 to 30 years old, were presented to the competent Authority of Judiciary.

Sea Op 001/10

Vessel: ARIEL IV
Type: Sloop
Flag: Brazil
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: 15th July 2010
Seizure: 1200kgs Cocaine

The Spanish National Police intercepted this 18 meter sailboat with a Brazilian flag



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seizing 1,2 tons of cocaine on board. The interception of this vessel, which came from Latin America, took place in the vicinity of the coast of Galicia in the northwest of Spain. In this operation, three crew members, two British and a Dutchman, were arrested.



VOI 072/10

Vessel: BLUE STAR
Type: SV (Cabin Cruiser)
Flag: Germany
Interdicting State: Spain and Portugal
Date:
Seizure: 3000kgs Cannabis

Portuguese Policia Judiciaria, in cooperation with Spanish customs vessel and aircraft, boarded this suspect vessel. The Portuguese investigation resulted with drugs seized and 2 crew arrested.



VOI 057/10

Vessel: DODO
Type: Sailing Yacht
Flag: Poland
Interdicting State: Greece

Date: 19th July 2010
Seizure: 84kgs Cocaine



This vessel was recorded in MAOC as a suspect vessel. Greek authorities located the vessel and seized 84kgs of Cocaine. This followed a 3 month long investigation, spanning from Venezuela to Greece involving the Hellenic National Police, DEA Athens, and the Hellenic Coast Guard working jointly to interdict this vessel and arrest 12 members of the drug trafficking organisation. As well as seizing approximately 84 kilograms cocaine, 7 guns and close to 492,000 Euros was also recovered. MAOC assistance to Partners was able to ensure the best operational outcome was achieved.

VOI 083/10

Vessel: PHOENIX III
Type: SV
Flag: French
Interdicting State: Spain
Date: August 2010
Seizure: 5738 Cannabis

Dutch authorities worked closely with Spanish colleagues to intercept this vessel. July 2010 an investigation started in The Netherlands as a follow up of the investigation Auriga already known in MAOC (N). Via the Netherlands Liaison in Madrid and MAOC, French Police and Spanish authorities worked to develop the intelligence. Intelligence indicated that



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the crew would pick up drugs near Morocco with destination The Netherlands. The Dutch team asked the Spanish customs to seize the vessel as soon as it was loaded.

On 25-08-10 two boats and one helicopter from DAVA (Spanish Customs) intercepted PHOENIX III.

More than 100 bales of cannabis with a total amount of 5.738 kilos was discovered

Sea Op 004/10

Vessel: TORTUGA

Type: Sailing yacht

Flag: USA

Interdicting State: Cape Verde / UK

Date: 28th August 2010

Seizure: 25kgs Cocaine



Acting on French OCRTIS intelligence, received by MAOC, a Royal Navy destroyer, HMS Gloucester, with a Law Enforcement Detachment (LeDET) on board intercepted a yacht smuggling approximately 25kgs of cocaine.

The yacht, the Tortuga, was taken to Cape Verde. Due to the professionalism of the Cape Verde search team a sophisticated concealment was discovered in the vessels rudder.

VOI 045/10

Vessel: SOLERO

Type: SV

Flag: Swedish

Interdicting State: France

Date: 02/06/2010

Seizure: 1391kgs Cocaine

This was a joint investigation through Europol involving Sweden, France, Spain and the Netherlands. It was registered in MAOC as a VOI. The final interception was coordinated through OCRTIS Caribbean. International cooperation (JIT) involving Sweden, Spain and France via EUROJUST. French OCRTIS in Caribbean area had a key role in the high seas interdiction carried out by the French Customs.

Sea Op 005/10

Vessel: LA FLIBUSTE

Type: SV

Flag: UK

Interdicting State: Spain

Date: 17th September 2010

Seizure: 1510kgs Cocaine



Spanish National Police seized 1510 kilos of cocaine hidden in the false ceiling of a cabin of the sailboat La Flibuste. The ship was intercepted near Cadiz following the support to the coordination via MAOC (N). The police discovered the drug, in the false ceiling of a cabin. This seizure caused the arrest of the three crew members.

VOI 101/10

Vessel: CARIRO II

Type: SV



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Flag: Spain

Interdicting State: Spain

Date: September 2010

Seizure: 3200 Cannabis

Spanish National Police working closely with their colleagues from the UK's Serious Organised Crime Agency mounted this operation resulting in the seizure. This joint enforcement operation led to further arrest and seizures.



MAOC (N) Coordinated Operations and Vessel of Interest related seizures

TOTAL Cocaine: 52.3 Tons

Cannabis: 47.8 Tons

The continued success and cooperation of Partner States allows MAOC (N) to deliver its mission task of coordinating the allocation of assets working towards a common goal. Once the often multinational assets are deployed the operation is handed over in full to the investigating state.

Should you have any operations which you would like to discuss or feel MAOC (N) may be able to offer assistance please contact us through your Country Liaison Officer (CLO). Conor Shields from the Joint Operations Coordination Centre can also be contacted 24/7 on **00351 914795506**.