

## **SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Solna, 10 September 2019

### **MINUTES**

#### Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Luc van de Goor, Maria Kaemmerle, Gary Milante (by Skype), Sigrún Rawet, Dan Smith

Lena Kappelin joined the discussion on the strategic MFA grant

Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

#### 1. MoM approval

- Minutes of the previous SMT meeting on 3 Sept were approved.

#### 2. Matters arising from the previous MoM

- Luc confirmed that the recruitment processes of the RA for the MENA program and of the RA for the China program are underway.
- Sibylle is going to schedule interviews with the two short-listed candidates for the Amex PD position.

#### 3. Report back

- Luc presented to the SMT the latest version of the preliminary agenda for the SSC. The SMT briefly discussed the current stage of preparations, reviewed the list of confirmed panel speakers etc. Intense preparatory work for the SSC continues.
- Steph informed the SMT that Ian is lining up an event at SIPRI on Nov 4 in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine in Stockholm. Ukrainian Foreign Minister might participate; this has however not been confirmed yet.
- Steph pointed out that the number of foreign delegations that would like to visit SIPRI is steadily growing. The SMT agreed that all requests to receive foreign delegations where the level of participants would require Dan's or Sigrún's intervention should be channelled internally via Elena.
- Sigrún suggested having an internal discussion on the "disarmament hub of excellence", as a follow up of one of the discussions at the NPT expert meeting held at SIPRI the previous week. Sibylle and Sigrún will coordinate the time for that.
- Maria informed the SMT that the Christmas lunch 2019 for all staff members has been booked for December 11.
- Sibylle visited Munich University where she discussed how SIPRI can access and build ties with the University's missile experts.
- Sibylle informed the SMT that Joseph Pilat will deliver a lecture "Where the world would be without the NPT" at SIPRI on Sept 25.
- Sibylle also informed the SMT that the German Export Control Ambassador will be visiting SIPRI on Sept 12.
- Dan updated the SMT on the status of strategic partnerships:

- The WFP might allocate a generous grant over the next three years for our knowledge partnership; Dan is in the process of discussing the details of programming with his counterparts at the WFP.
- Two new partnerships with the UN institutions – UNHCR and UNEP – are taking shape. Dan had a phone conversation to that end with the UNHCR on Sept 6 and with the UNEP on Sept 9.
- On Sept 9, Dan had a conversation with the WB's Sustainability Group in order to present and to discuss the EP 2022.
- Considering the increasing number of strategic partnerships and the growing level of our ambition towards such partnerships, Dan is considering introducing a new position of a Partnerships Director that would be part of the Director's office. Dan will draft a JD and submit to the SMT for discussion.

#### 4. Staffing & project issues

- Aron Lund, the Swedish scholar specialised in Syrian politics and history, regional conflicts, authoritarian systems, and religious militancy, will have the status of a guest researcher at SIPRI.
- While a specialised recruitment company will be handling the hiring of SIPRI project controller, an *ad interim* person will be employed.

#### 5. MFA strategic grant proposal

- Sigrún presented and the SMT discussed the draft application for the Swedish MFA strategic grant for the years 2020-2022. Sigrún stressed that this is an application for a flexible funding and not a project proposal. The programs are structured under three main headings: SIPRI strategic work on the global level, on the regional level and on the local level. The SMT discussed the structure, the programs and their contents. Lena provided the figures for the tentative budget. Following this discussion, Dan will do the necessary redrafting. Lena will complete the application with the budget part. The application needs to be submitted to the MFA latest by Sept 13.

#### 6. AOB

- The SMT agreed that SIPRI should not enter into any new internship agreement.
- The SMT discussed the possibility of organising Swedish language courses at SIPRI for those interested.

#### **Action Points**

- Follow up of the NPT expert meeting (“hub of excellence”) – Sigrún and Sibylle
- Draft JD of a Partnerships Director – Dan
- Finalize the Strategic Grant application – Dan and Sigrún, Lena for the budget

#### **Items carried forward**

- Follow up with the ICRC