



## **SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Solna, 11 February 2020

### **MINUTES**

#### Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Luc van de Goor, Maria Kaemmerle, Sigrún Rawet, Dan Smith

Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

#### 1. MoM approval

- The minutes from the SMT meeting on Feb 4 were approved.

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

- All is set for SIPRI lunch at the MSC.
- Maria had her first meetings with Sybille and Luc to start processing applications under the strategic grant. Next in line are discussions with Malin and Marina.
- Maria will circulate among the SMT the strategy implementation indicators template suggested by Fred and Nikos. Luc informed the SMT that his cluster had a discussion on the indicators at the latest cluster meeting. Sibylle's cluster will do the same on their away day on March 4.

#### 3. Report back

- Maria updated the SMT on the status of the Annual Report. Once the auditors have provided their feedback, the report is good to go to the Governing Board members. A special thank you to Elin for translating the original English text into Swedish. Much appreciated by the auditors.
- Sibylle reported back on her trip to Hamburg and meeting with Ursula Schröder, IFSH Director. On behalf of SIPRI, Sibylle extended an invitation to Ursula Schröder to visit SIPRI which she accepted.
- Sigrún summarized the outcome and the SMT discussed the take-aways of the first visit to SIPRI by Ann Linde, Sweden's FM – forthcoming Sweden's chairmanship in the OSCE, regional security architecture and China. Thank you to everyone who arranged and participated in this brief first meeting that went smoothly. We should schedule a meeting with the new State Secretary to update him as well on SIPRI work. Regretfully, the FM will not be able to attend the SIPRI Lecture this year. However, she will both open and close the Stockholm Forum 2020.
- Sibylle suggested to discuss the OSCE more into detail at the next SMT meeting. She also reminded the SMT that SIPRI is part of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions. Possibilities for working with or through this network could be explored.
- Sigrún updated the SMT on the status of the "Ambassadors Lunch" scheduled for Feb 17. 15 ambassadors out of 17 invited have confirmed their participation.
- Dan reported back on his trip to Rome where he:
  - Gave a lecture at the Center for High Defense Studies (IASD) on peace operations.
  - Took part in the workshop with WFP, CGIAR and PIK and the climate theme in Phase 2 of the WFP partnership.

#### 4. Staffing & project issues

- Recruitment of a RA on emerging technologies is in its final stage.
- Luc reiterated the need to proceed with hiring of a statistician for the Sahel/West Africa team. The draft JD needs some adjustment. Luc will circulate it among the SMT for feedback.
- Marina is following up on a SIDA call and also on possible cooperation with the IRC.
- Dan informed the SMT that the position of a SR to work with the WFP program will be advertised soon as will be position(s) to work with EP 2022.
- Sopideh Soltaninia has been appointed as SIPRI Partnerships manager. She will start end of February – beginning of March.
- The Belgian UN mission has invited Dan to brief the UNSC during a session on Feb 24 on the situation in Somalia. Dan will present the findings of SIPRI Somalia report written by Florian and Karolina.

#### 5. Coronavirus policy

- The SMT discussed the situation around the coronavirus, agreeing to stay informed and to proceed according to the feedback received from other actors. The SMT agreed that the Arctic workshop most probably needs to be postponed. Luc will talk to the Embassy of Japan, Sigrún will use her MFA contacts and Elena will follow up with MSB and ECDC.

#### 6. SSC 20 – follow-up

- The location – Norra Latin, other space than last year – has been booked.
- Luc and Sibylle will draft a save-the-date text.
- Topics still need to be fine-tuned.
- The format will include 2 plenaries and 6 breakout sessions.
- We still need to think through how our GB members can best contribute.
- Luc and Sibylle will develop a brief for the GB members.

#### 7. Governing Board candidates

- The SMT had a look at the list of GB candidates suggested by the GB meeting in November. SMT agreed that two names are of particular interest.

#### 8. AOB

- There will be no SMT meeting on February 25 during *sportlov*.

#### **Action Points**

- Processing the applications under the strategic grant – Maria, Malin and Marina
- Schedule a meeting with the State Secretary - Sigrún
- Find out more on the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions - Sibylle

#### **Items carried forward**

- Series of events on multilateralism - planning
- Stockholm Forum 2020 – names of high-level key-note speakers and panelists
- Candidates to deliver SIPRI Lecture 2021 – at some point.