

SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

15 September 2020

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Luc van de Goor, Maria Kaemmerle, Jannie Lilja, Dan Smith, Joakim Vaverka

Helena Berger (present for item 1)

Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

1. Corona virus

- Nothing to report.

2. Minutes

- The minutes from the SMT meeting on September 8 were approved.

3. Matters arising

- Nothing to report.

4. Report back

- Maria has been reaching out to Gelba AB about renovation of the attic.
- Luc provided an update from his cluster:
 - Gregory has been approached by NIRAS about a project proposal on Cameroun. It covers a period of two years, with the possibility to extend for two additional years. The SMT endorsed going ahead with the proposal on SIPRI side.
 - Dylan and Meray will be participating in the hybrid “Joint Tafahum Workshop” organised by CARPO on Sept 22-23.
 - Luc is going to be in touch with the Chinese embassy to follow up on the Connectivity webinar and to discuss further issues relating to our cooperation.
- Steph informed the colleagues that her team has now prepared a visual professional introduction to be used at our virtual events. It will be made available to all concerned staff.
- Sibylle reported that she:
 - Participated in the steering committee of the EU Non-proliferation and Disarmament Consortium. The project will request a no-cost extension until November 2021 since sufficient funding is available to continue activities until then. All participants in the meetings, including EEAS and the European Commission FPI, were in favour of such a request.
 - Attended a debrief following Odessa summer school which was held in partnership with SIPRI under its disarmament education strand. Both students and professors shared lots of positive feedback. The idea is to follow up with a

- virtual winter school and another summer school next year involving, if possible, students from additional countries.
- Will circulate a formal memo on the upgrade of the arms transfers database, to be discussed by the SMT at the next regular meeting on Sept 29.
- Jannie informed SMT about:
 - A reference group meeting for the EBA study of Sweden's implementation of the New Deal principles with representatives from the MFA, SIDA and G7plus. Mali has been added to the list of case studies.
 - The MISTRA Geopolitics annual conference taking place on Sept 15-16.
 - Malin participating this week in two NATO seminars.
 - Gary attending UN75 Global Governance Forum where he will discuss GReVD.
- Joakim reported about:
 - A planned meeting at the Royal Court on Sept 16 to prepare a visit of the Crown Princess to SIPRI.
 - His membership, replacing Sigrún, in the Swedish advisory committee on international law and disarmament. At the first meeting Sweden's forthcoming OSCE chairmanship was one of the issues on the agenda, in addition to a report from the Internal Working Group on LAWS; Protection of Health Facilities; the NPT RevCon and the Stockholm Initiative on Disarmament.
- Dan informed the SMT about a round table arranged by Florian between SIPRI and the Russian Federation Mission to the UN to discuss climate change and security. It was an interesting exchange. The parties agreed to resume the dialogue in a couple of months.

5. Staffing & project issues

- Maria reminded the DoSes about the importance of promoting and endorsing the implementation of the Project Management Guidelines and the planning tool. Maria will brief Joakim and Jannie about them.
- Sibylle's proposal to appoint Nivedita Raju as SIPRI Associate Researcher on space was endorsed by the SMT.
- The position of a food and security RA will be advertised by the end of the current week.
- Recruitment of Forum content manager is underway.

6. SSC

- Luc presented all the latest updates relating to the SSC, including the invitation letter template, internal agenda, information about the SSC 2020 to be sent out with invitations, plus costs estimates depending on the use/no use of the studio. All of the above was discussed in detail by the SMT and endorsed. All additional feedback should be submitted to Luc by the end of the current week.
- For filming and streaming, SMT decided to invest in a sustainable in-house solution instead of the studio option. Steph will take the lead in working with AV huset who are helping SIPRI to convene the event at the SIPRI premises.

7. Data back-up system (proposal by IT team)

- Maria shared with the SMT Magda's proposal for a sustainable solution for storage of our data back-ups. The suggestion to use Amazon services was endorsed by the SMT.

8. Sahel/West Africa Programme: Partnership with French MFA-DGM

- The French MFA is donating a significant amount to our Sahel/West Africa programme. Luc will circulate relevant paperwork, agreed upon before the summer break. SMT

decided upon a silent procedure. If there are no negative comments by the end of the week, the agreement with the French MFA-DGm is endorsed.

9. KPIs

- SMT discussed some of the yet to be finalised KPIs. A few remaining bits and pieces need to fall in place before the document can be endorsed. Maria and Dan will meet this Friday to finalise it.

10. AOB

- Nothing to report.

Action Points

- Memo on the upgrade of the arms transfers database – Sibylle to SMT
- Briefing on Project Management guidelines and the technical tool – Maria to Joakim and Jannie
- Visit of the Crown Princess to SIPRI – Joakim
- Panel discussion in cooperation with the French Embassy - Joakim

Items carried forward

- Upgrade of the arms transfers database
- Schedule of publications and events, Jan-June 2021 – to discuss in October 2020