

SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Solna, 18 September 2018

MINUTES

Participants

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

Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

1. MoM approval

- Minutes of the previous meeting on Sept 11 were approved.

2. Matters arising from the previous MoM

- The SMT discussed the preparations ahead of Jan's visit to Vienna in October.
- Gary suggested to add a section to the SMT minutes providing the list and the dates of the upcoming milestone events, e.g. the GB meeting. The SMT also suggested Elena circulates the dates of the November GB meeting among all SIPRI staff.

3. Report back

- Sibylle informed the SMT that Petr will try to organise a series of meetings with relevant researchers while attending the launch of the Russian edition of SIPRI YB in Moscow on October 18.
- Sibylle informed the SMT about the message she received from Rolf Ekéus in his capacity as the NTI Board member. Rolf asked if SIPRI could recommend relevant participants for the NTI's upcoming launch on biosecurity scheduled for the end of October. Sibylle to follow up with Rolf, if possible, already during the SSC. On a more general note, the SMT agreed that it is worth keeping an eye on NTI work on biosecurity that is gaining more space, and finance.
- Sigrún shared with the SMT positive feedback she got from the Permanent Mission of Sweden to the UN in New York on Marina's presentation on the UN police force and its role in conflict prevention. The Mission produced a short video blog featuring Marina (cf. SIPRI retweet).
- Luc reported back on the discussion Shannon had with the CMI on Sept 17 on facilitating Regional Security Dialogue on Middle East. Luc will have another meeting with the CMI on Sept 19. To keep in mind in this regard that SIPRI is still shaping up its eventual future Middle East programme and no decision on that has been made yet.
- Gary reported back on his visit to Kyiv where he participated in the NATO organised event, talking about institutional reform and governance.
- Steph reported back on the meeting with the Brazilian delegation that visited SIPRI earlier on Sept 18. The Brazilian side showed particular interest in possible cooperation on Article 36 (of the 1977 Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions) on new weapons. A concrete follow-up could include inviting Brazilian Ambassador in Stockholm to SIPRI for a more in-depth discussion.

- Steph informed the SMT that Alexandra M. is planning to update the information on the SIPRI Advisory Committee on the Institute's website. To be able to do that, she would need the latest status on the Committee. The SMT briefly discussed the current situation around and the membership of the said Committee. Sigrún will get the latest update from Jakob who followed this issue closely.
- Dan reported back on the MSB (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency) visit to SIPRI on Sept 14. The MSB delegation, headed by Director General Dan Eliasson, wished to learn more about SIPRI research on cybersecurity and climate change but also to present MSB research in those fields as to explore areas of common interest. It was agreed to meet again to continue discussion on potential cooperation, ideally while the MSB is still working on its future strategy. Elena to book both an internal follow up meeting (asap) and the one with the MSB (ideally, in November).
- Dan and Suyoun will be travelling to Rome on Sept 24-25 for the next round of talks with the WFP to take the partnership between the two institutions forward. Gary will join the discussions by Skype. Cooperation with the WFP extends beyond Rome with Dan being invited to address the WFP Regional Bureau covering Middle East and Central and West Asia at its meeting in Beirut on Oct 3.

4. Staffing & project issues

- Sibylle is in the process of identifying possible associates on CBW related issues.
- The SAHEL team presented to Sigrún and Luc their plan on how to adapt itself, first and foremost in terms of HR, in case the expected new considerable financing is indeed granted.
- On Luc's request on the basis of the list circulated by Helena, the SMT briefly discussed internal rules and procedures on accepting requests for hosting guest research fellows from the Korea Foundation at SIPRI.
- Malin and Gary are working on the FORMAS project.

5. SSC18

- Everything is on track. Volunteers are still needed!

6. PADs 2018

- The SMT provided feedback on the latest draft of PADs (the form and the two guides) prepared by Dan. Dan will integrate the comments. The SMT agreed that PAD conversations shall be conducted throughout October, with the deadline for delivery of most appraisals by Nov 2 and all of them by Nov 16. All the remaining details will be finalised at the next meeting of the HR Committee.

7. YB 2019 Chapter Outlines

- Dan informed the SMT that SIPRI has introduced a new system to approve the table of content of the individual SIPRI Yearbook Chapters. All chapters will in a final stage be formally approved by SMT.
- Steph explained that the objective is to introduce a system of "early alerts" where potential problems are spotted as they arise leaving enough time to find suitable remedy.
- At this meeting, the outlines of the Chapter on Nuclear Arms Control and the Chapter on Dual Use and Arms Trade Control were formally approved.

8. Prep for SMT strategic meeting 9 October

- The SMT agreed to proceed with the necessary preparations by email.

9. SIPRI Lecture 2019

- The SMT briefly discussed possible candidates to deliver SIPRI Lecture 2018.

10. AOB

- NTR.

Action Points

- Invite Brazilian Ambassador to a follow-up meeting to SIPRI - Steph
- Composition of SIPRI Advisory Committee – Sigrún
- Cooperation with the MSB, book follow up meetings – Elena
- PADs – Dan to update the form and the guidelines as per SMT discussion; Helena to send out the info on PADs; all managers to conduct evaluations throughout October with all appraisals to be finalised latest by Nov 16.

Items carried forward

Agenda for the SMT strategic planning away-day on Oct 9.

Horizon Europe.

Important upcoming dates

Meeting of the SIPRI Governing Board – Nov 26-27

Christmas lunch – December 7