



SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Solna, 2 April 2019

MINUTES

Participants

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

Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

1. MoM approval

- Minutes of the previous meeting on March 26 were approved.

2. Matters arising from the previous MoM

- The SMT went through the Action Points; the status is as follows:
 - Luc's note with the information on the SSC for the Royal Court is now with Sigrún.
 - Meeting with the NIS department is scheduled for May 7.
 - Sibylle will compile the list of candidates suggested by SIPRI for the Ypres prize and submit it for discussion by SMT next week.
 - Elena continues to be in touch with SciencesPo. All SIPRI suggestions to the draft agreement have been accepted and the text is now finalized; feedback from SciencesPo on the suggested amendments to one of the annexes is pending.
 - Elena finalized the updated text of the Internship policy. The SMT approved it. The revised Internship Policy will be made available to all staff through SIPRI intranet.
 - All SIPRI meeting rooms have been made available in case Forum partners wish to have bilateral meetings at SIPRI on May 13 and/or 17; all staff have been informed.
 - Martina is collecting suggestions for thematic dinners during the Forum. SMT members are still welcome to submit theirs.
 - Helena is checking whether places are available for FBA's next HEAT training.
 - Maria and Helena are working to organise the new round of line management training.
 - Katia, as one of SIPRI's safety officers, is arranging the appointment of fire marshals.
 - The notice for the staff's Mid-Term Performance Reviews is ready to go. SMT discussed and agreed the timeline. Dan will circulate the notice.

3. Report back

- Sibylle provided feedback from the latest cluster meeting held earlier that day; one of the suggestions was to move the weekly Thursday fika from morning to afternoon. The request will now be negotiated with the management through the cooperation group.
- Sibylle reported on proposals to the Norwegian MFA; the deadline is next week. One of them is Ian's three-year project proposal on attitudes to chemical weapons in South Africa and India. The SMT welcomed the project and agreed that while Ian is a member of the C&P cluster, this project is part of A&D's work.
- Steph informed the SMT that the INF event scheduled for April 9 is generating good interest, including among the media.
- Steph informed the SMT about a discussion about communications with the SAHEL team. Steph and Luc will follow up if need be.

- Luc reminded the SMT about the CMI visiting SIPRI on April 10. MENA region, Horn of Africa and the DPRK are on the agenda.
- Luc is still working on the no-cost extension for the SIDA project in Mali.
- Luc informed the SMT that the EU rejected SIPRI project proposal on Chad because it was “not a priority”. Luc and the SAHEL team are exploring the other way forward. The Forum might be an occasion for meeting relevant EU actors.
- Michelle Ndiaye (*Gary, is that the person you meant?*), head of secretariat of the Tana high-level forum on security in Africa, invited SIPRI to the Forum to be held in Ethiopia on May 4-5. The SMT will consider this and decide whether to attend and who should go.
- Gary asked for guidance in relation to the capacity building visit with DPRK in the end of May. Dan is not yet aware of the details and will check with Shannon.
- Maria drafted an estimated budget for the three training courses identified as the main priorities by the SMT – i.e. HEAT, presentation techniques and line management. The estimated costs are almost twice as high as the training budget for this year. The SMT agreed to use the forthcoming budget review to see if it is possible to raise the training budget. Use of project budgets for some training (e.g. HEAT) may also be appropriate.
- Maria informed the SMT that she is working on the budget review. She invited all the SMT members to provide their input so as to facilitate this task.
- Maria informed the SMT that she will review the memo written by Magda on email systems and then present it to the SMT.
- Dan informed the SMT about his meeting with the ICG president Robert Malley on March 27. Gary and Dan agreed that it would be good to invite Robert Malley to the Forum. Dan will follow up on that.
- Dan informed the SMT that Lena is drafting a budget for the preparation of a major report on climate and security to be delivered in 2022. Dan will shortly start writing a concept note.

4. Staffing & project issues

Horn of Africa partnership

- The SMT agreed to support the idea of this new partnership suggested by Florian. Florian should develop the proposal further as suggested by Gary.

Richard Ghiasy and associate fellowship

- The SMT endorsed to appoint Richard Ghiasy as an associate fellow.

Asia programme

- Luc reported that Jiayi will be now working 20 per cent for the Asia programme.
- Sibylle informed the SMT about a PhD candidate in Germany who is working on earlier US-DPRK negotiations and might like to come to SIPRI as a guest researcher. The SMT invited Sibylle to pursue this path.

5. Stockholm Forum update

- NTR.

6. SSC 19 update

- Luc reiterated the importance of knowing whether SIPRI can count on Riksdagen's participation before proceeding with the detailed planning.
- The SMT discussed and decided on a number of practicalities:
 - Live- streaming: yes during plenary opening and closing sessions, no during break-out sessions as the Chatham House rule will apply;
 - Audio recording: no;

- Conference report: no if it's boring but yes if it is based on instant report, which will be done in the Forum, or story-harvesting;
- Filming: yes;
- Reception at the end of day 2: yes to a simple one provided that the budget would allow.

7. China and Asia Security Programme

- The SMT approved the title for the programme, *China and Asia Security*. The available funding allows SIPRI to proceed with advertising for a position of a senior researcher for the programme. Recruitment endorsed by the SMT.

8. AOB

- Sibylle informed the SMT about a seminar on the INF to be organized in Berlin on June 21.

Action Points

- Compile the list of candidates SIPRI suggests nominating for the Ypres prize – Sibylle
- Discuss the project proposal on CW and attitudes in South Africa and India – Dan, Luc, Sibylle and Ian
- Schedule a time with Per Olsson Fridh – Sigrún
- Follow up with KH on Neil's project application – Sigrún
- Training in professional writing in English, check with Charlotta Sparre – Sigrún
- Outcome of the planning meeting for next steps in line managers' training – Maria
- Book HEAT training – Helena
- Deciding whether to attend the Tana Forum in Ethiopia and, in the affirmative, who should go – Dan and the SMT
- DPRK capacity building visit – Dan to check the details with Shannon
- Write to Robert Malley – Dan
- Concept note on the 2022 climate report – Dan

Items carried forward

- "Stockholm's platform", proposal by Måns Nilsson

Future events at SIPRI

- The INF event – April 9 between 15:30 and 17:00
- Presentation techniques training – April 8-11
- NATO PA delegation visit – May 6
- Kuwait visit – May 8
- SIPRI Governing Board meeting – May 27-28