

SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

23 June 2020

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Luc van de Goor, Dan Smith

Helena Berger (present for item 3)

Joey Fox (present for item 6)

Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

1. MoM approval

- The minutes of the SMT meeting on June 16 were approved.

2. Matters arising

- Luc will circulate the draft agreement between SIPRI and the French MFA among the SMT. The SMT will discuss it next Tuesday.

3. Corona virus

- 17 staff members would like to work from the office during the month of July. Helena will be in touch to make sure that social distancing is being respected at all times.
- While on leave, staff members do not need to check-in daily with their line manager.
- During the month of July, if need be and in case of emergency staff members or line managers may contact Dan directly, preferably by e-mail. Dan will communicate this to the staff on Monday morning meeting on June 29, the last one before the summer break.

4. Report back

- Steph reported back about the media coverage of our latest nuclear data launch.
- Luc told the SMT about positive developments around several projects in his cluster including interest from the EU and World Bank.
- Dan reported back about the first inaugurating meeting of the international panel of the EoP 2022 initiative held on June 22. The meeting went very well, gathering all current panel members from various continents and time zones. More good news on the EoP 2022 with the German GIZ confirming its support of the project.
- On June 22, Dan, Luc, Gregory, Farah, Caroline, Marina and David met with Barbara Schumann, an epidemiologist and associate professor at Umeå University focusing on climate change and human health. A productive conversation showed there are possibilities for joint research.

5. Staffing & project issues

- Recruitment process of a statistician for the SAHEL team has been completed.
- The DUAT team has a new research assistant, Lucile Robin.
- Sibylle's cluster is about to conclude the signing of a contract with the German MFA for a project on post shipment controls.

6. Communications calendar to December 2020

- Steph presented to the SMT a tentative comms calendar for the second half of the year 2020. It is already full, and it might be very hard to accommodate any additional request, be it for an event, publication or a comment. The workload for the month of December is of particular concern. Slots in the calendar have been allocated according to the principle of launching two items per week, reflecting both internal capacity and audience appetite. The SMT discussed the situation with the workload and agreed that:

- SIPRI Editorial Board is our existing internal mechanism to discuss and to decide on publications.
- Steph and Joey will share additional information on all publications that are in the pipeline until the end of the year with Dan and DoSes.
- Steph, Dan and Luc (Sigrún and Sibylle, if possible) will meet on June 30 to have a separate discussion on how to proceed with all said publications.
- A strategic review of our comms work needs to take place. Innovative approaches need to be explored too.
- Our obligations to funders for agreed deliverables must be respected at all times.

7. AOB

- NTR.

Action Points

- Discuss comms calendar – Dan, Steph, Luc, Sibylle and Sigrún on June 30 at 09:00

Items carried forward

- Draft agreement between SIPRI and the French MFA
- Equal Opportunities, Diversity and Anti-discrimination Policy