

## **SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Solna, 24 September 2019

### **MINUTES**

#### Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Luc van de Goor, Maria Kaemmerle, Gary Milante (by Skype), Sigrún Rawet, Dan Smith  
Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

#### 1. MoM approval

- Feedback on the draft minutes from DoSes is pending; the minutes from the previous SMT meeting on Sept 17 were not approved.

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

- NTR.

#### 3. Report back

- The Non-Proliferation and Disarmament education workshop organised by Sibylle and her team on Sept 23 and 24 at SIPRI was a success.
- Dan was in Seoul the previous week, together with Shannon and Fei. The working programme of the visit, put together by the Swedish Embassy in Seoul, was very intense. It started with a press conference at the Ambassador's residence. The media interest and subsequent coverage confirmed that SIPRI is very well known and much respected in that part of the world.
- A WFP delegation is at SIPRI on Sept 24 and 25 to discuss phase II of our joint project.
- Sigrún highlighted that the budget for 2020 presented by the Swedish government to the parliament on Sept 18, allocates 28 mln SEK for SIPRI. It is the same amount as in this year's budget.
- Within the framework of "Target Sweden / Target Youth" strategy, Steph and Elin met with a representative of Solna county's international department. There are two schools in Solna with international political focus and activities, one on China-related issues, the other on the EU. Steph and Elin mentioned our interest in reaching out to Swedish audience, including young generation through meaningful interaction/engagement. A follow up meeting to discuss concrete ideas will take place in November. Steph and Elin will reach out to colleagues for a brainstorming before that.

#### 4. Staffing & project issues

- Luc initiated the process of identifying a consultant to take forward the project on the Horn of Africa.
- Luc also reported that he is inviting two candidates for the MENA RA position to come for interviews.
- Gary reported on the successful outcome of Dylan's fundraising work that will allow full coverage of Dylan's own position plus one more position (one researcher or one research assistant). And a potential gender researcher. The SMT acknowledged Dylan's good work

and greenlighted going forward with the recruitment of a second researcher or a RA to work with Dylan.

5. SSC19

- Luc provided an update on the SSC. All preparations are on track; the panels have been sorted out; there are 120 registered participants but we are aiming to have around 180. Luc invited the SMT colleagues to circulate the invitation to the conference using personal contacts.

6. Unlocking Nuclear Disarmament Diplomacy – meeting of senior officials

- The dates for the meeting have been set (Nov 27-28, lunch to lunch) and the venue has been booked (Stallmästaregården). Senior officials from fifteen countries plus Sweden are expected to participate. The SMT agreed to ask Tytti to continue to coordinate and Noel to take care of the logistics. Dan, Sigrún, Sibylle and Tytti will have a meeting with NIS to discuss further details on Oct 2.

7. UNHCR partnership proposals

- Luc and Elena informed the SMT about the status of our discussion with the UNHCR on the MoU.
- Dan shared the lessons learnt from the partnership with the WFP that include the following:
  - Important that our partners understand that SIPRI is a research institute, not a consultant.
  - Get the timetable right from the beginning. It needs to be realistic.
  - Sort out the question of ownership of the research results.
  - Address the issue of safety of our staff during research field trips.

8. Agenda for retreat – first thoughts

- The SMT agreed that the agenda for the SMT away-day should include the following:
  - Budget 2020.
  - Cluster strategies.
  - Address SIPRI's expansion.
  - Discuss first informal feedback from the MFA on the strategic grant application (if available), and the application itself.
  - Think and talk through the concept of partnerships for the future.

9. AOB

- The SMT agreed to ask Martina to coordinate SIPRI's participation in the Aswan Forum.
- The SMT briefly discussed the necessity of introducing a Partnerships manager position. Dan explained that this is about big strategic partnerships – with the WFP, UNHCR, WB, UNEP, Astana Club and MSC. The work would involve a lot of internal coordination and external contacts. Helena is drafting an ad for it.

**Action Points**

- Strategy for interaction with the youth at two schools with international profile in Solna - Steph
- Draft JD for a new researcher and/or a research assistant to work with Dylan – Gary
- Additional points to discuss at the SMT retreat – the SMT

**Items carried forward**

- NTR.