

SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Solna, 25 June 2019

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer (via Skype), Luc van de Goor, Gary Milante, Dan Smith
Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

1. MoM approval

- Minutes of the previous SMT meeting on June 18 were not adopted; feedback from Sibylle and Gary is pending.

2. Matters arising from the previous MoM

- The SMT went through the action points. All is on track. The decision on who has been identified as the A & D cluster's focal point in order to follow up on the Stockholm non-proliferation ministerial meeting needs to be communicated to the person concerned.

3. Report back

- Sibylle reported back on the various meetings and seminars she attended during the past week. These included a very good INF seminar in Berlin; one idea following the seminar would be for SIPRI to do a targeted event for the other successor states to the INF treaty (i.e. Belarus, Kazakhstan, Ukraine). A number of constructive meetings were held at the German MFA.
- Sibylle is currently attending a two-day workshop on Detecting, Investigating and Prosecuting Export Control Violations organized by the DUAT team and funded by the US State Department's EXBS Program in Södermalm, Stockholm.
- Dan reported back about him and Sigrún meeting Peter Olsson Fridh, the State Secretary to the Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation. The main purpose of the meeting was to present SIPRI as a whole, to present EP 2022 and to discuss funding.
- Gary will have a lunch meeting with the outgoing Forum lead from the MFA side on June 27. In terms of the post-Forum reporting, Gary confirmed being on the same page as Steph i.e. focussing on a substantive article by him and Urban Sjöström.
- Gary will do a two-pager for the HLPF. Gary will brief Karolina accordingly.
- Peace and Development Cluster will have a strategic planning away-day on June 26.

4. Staffing & project issues

- The SMT discussed the status of the ongoing recruitments.
- The SMT discussed required further recruitments.
- On projects –the Norwegian funding for Ian's three-year project proposal on attitudes to chemical weapons in South Africa and India has been almost confirmed though with reduced funding.
- Gary shared with the SMT a project opportunity that would follow up on the peacebuilding computer game Rebel, Inc. exercise done on the margins of the Stockholm Forum. The idea consists of creating ten new scenarios for this video game, each from a different perspective (a humanitarian worker, a diplomat, a member of a peace operation

etc.) so as to provide a multi-facet training for future peacebuilders. SMT agreed to come back to this issue after the summer break.

- Luc reminded the SMT that he would appreciate receiving feedback on the in-house interest to participate in the 4th Workshop for European Young Leaders to be held in Beijing on August 8-17.

5. Cluster research strategies

- Following the recommendation of the Governing Board to complete the Institute's strategy with more specific strategies per cluster and based on his initial idea, Dan suggested discussing the format and the contents of cluster strategies. These should be compatible with each other and compatible with the overall institutional strategy. From his side, Dan will complete the document with an introduction representing an analyses of the current state of the world, linking it to how SIPRI's research activities are relevant to address global challenges in terms of peace and security.
- Sibylle is planning to build on the existing cluster strategy agreed upon two years ago: linking it to Dan's strategy document and formulating it along the same headings as the latter, and reflecting discussions at the 2019 cluster Away Day.
- Gary's idea would be to draft a document that would answer two fundamental questions: where the cluster is right now and where it wants to be. Gary too will structure the final document under the same headings as Dan.
- Luc's ambition is for the strategic document to answer the following questions:
 - The mission of the cluster.
 - SWOC (C = challenges) analysis.
 - Presentation of the existing research programs.
 - Linkages that those already have with other programs both inside and outside the cluster.
 - The ambitions for the future, including funding, capacity and then linking it all to the overall Institute Strategy.
- Luc pointed out the usefulness of conducting an internal exercise to better understand what do we mean by "SIPRI being part of the global conversation," how we translate it into action in different groups and clusters in order to achieve more coherence in what we do and, ultimately, better impact.
- After a thorough discussion, the SMT agreed that cluster strategies should ideally be two-page long documents, and should each include the following four elements:
 - *Raison d'être* of the cluster and the broader research area, the nature of the field.
 - What does being engaged in the global conversation mean for the cluster?
 - Where does the cluster want to go? (NB: this part should be given main priority in the text.)
 - What needs to be done to get to there from here (which implies a brief inventory of current activities)?
- Deadline to provide feedback – August 19 for Gary and Sibylle, flexible for Luc but, if possible, by August 19 too.

6. AOB

- NTR.

Action Points

- Continued cooperation and coordination with the German MFA – Sibylle
- Follow up on the EP 2022 with the Swedish Ministry for International Development Cooperation – Dan and Sigrún
- Two-pager for the HLPF – Gary

- Feedback on the Workshop for European Young Leaders – Gary to Luc
- Cluster strategies – Sibylle, Gary and Luc to submit to Dan, ideally by August 19; deadline flexible for Luc

Items carried forward

- Strategic discussion on SIPRI publications: quality vs quantity, timing of publications, edited volumes, etc.
- Funding for Vitaly
- Gary's project idea on designing the scenarios for the video game Rebel, Inc.

Future events at SIPRI

- SIPRI-NHK-TV's co-host panel event: "A Farewell to Arms Treaties? The Future of the Nuclear Safety Net" – July 5