

SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Solna, 26 March 2019

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Luc van de Goor, Maria Kaemmerle, Gary Milante, Sigrún Rawet, Dan Smith

Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

1. MoM approval

- Minutes of the previous meeting on March 19 were approved.

2. Matters arising from the previous MoM

- The SMT went through the Action Points; the status is as follows:
 - Nan's topical backgrounder on Venezuela is already with Harri.
 - Note on the SSC for the Royal Court, including invitation to stay for lunch on Oct 3 – pending. Luc to follow up.
 - Circulate the concept note on the SSC among the SMT – done.
 - Schedule a time with NIS to brief on Iran and DPRK – pending. Elena to find a suitable time.
 - Briefing note on Almedalen for KH department in the MFA – done.
 - Names of Swedish moderators for the Forum – done. Gary updated the SMT that the MFA has now agreed to have two moderators, Dan and Annika Söder. No need for additional names at this point.
 - Names for the Ypres prize candidates – pending, all SMT to come up with suggestions.
 - Internship agreement with SciencesPo – work in progress, waiting for feedback from Paris on SIPRI's consolidated draft.
 - Updating the Internship policy – work in progress (cf. below p. 7).

3. Report back

- Sigrún informed the SMT that:
 - She continues looking into arranging a meeting with the new Development State Secretary, Per Olsson Fridh.
 - Jan sent his regards. Following knee surgery, Jan has a three-month flight travel ban. He will nevertheless try to honour all previously made commitments (Forum, etc.).
- Luc informed the SMT that:
 - The event on the “*New geopolitics of peace operations*” that Jair and Timo attended in Rabat the previous week was judged as successful by the participants.
 - Jair is now looking into the budget for the civilian compact project due to start on June 1. The SMT endorsed Luc's suggestion to hire a research assistant for the project on a consultancy basis.
 - A delegation from the NATO Parliamentary Assembly will visit SIPRI on May 6.

- Gary informed the SMT that several Forum partners would like to hold side meetings at SIPRI before and/or after the Forum on May 13 and 17. All meeting rooms should be made available on those two days; Elena will pre-book and inform the staff accordingly.
- The SMT briefly discussed the MFA's request to have an informal dialogue with SIPRI on the latest developments in Venezuela. It will tentatively take place in two weeks' time and should include, from SIPRI, Marina, Jose and Nan.

4. Staffing & project issues

- Having thoroughly discussed Ian's proposal to offer a six-month guest researcher position within the European Security Programme to a former Turkish journalist Abdullah Bozkurt, the SMT agreed not to go ahead with this.
- Sigrún informed the SMT that she is doing the necessary follow up work with the KH department in the MFA on Neil's two-year project on military presence in the Horn of Africa. Sigrún is updating and adjusting the application where needed.

5. Stockholm Forum

- The SMT agreed to change the Forum title so it reads, "*From crisis response to peace building*" (the word "From" has been added).
- Gary confirmed that all preparations for the Forum are on track. The next step is to find time-slots for all sessions. It is great to see the increased cross-cluster interest and involvement in the Forum preparations. It is important to keep in mind that Forum remains a unique platform for launching and/or bringing further individual research project(s).
- A special Thank You for all the hard work and dedication goes to Martina and to Sigrún.

6. SSC

- Luc has earlier circulated three SSC related updates which represent the result of cluster discussions. The SMT agreed to change the Conference title to "*Conflict and technology – now and in the future.*" The SMT endorsed the chosen direction as to the objectives and the contents of the Conference. Luc invited the SMT to come with additional comments and suggestions.

7. Internships policy

- Elena presented suggested updates to SIPRI's Internship policy. The SMT discussed the amendments; Elena will adjust the text incorporating SMT's feedback and forward the text to Helena. The SMT will resume the discussion and endorse the changes after receiving Helena's feedback.

8. SIPRI events with comms involvement 2019

- Upon Sigrún's suggestion, the SMT took a closer look at the forthcoming events at SIPRI so as to ensure that everyone is up to date (cf. the schedule in the annex to these minutes).

9. Staff training – prioritisation among the options:

- Dan invited the SMT to discuss the way forward with various staff trainings as per the following list:

Line management

- Maria and Helena need to submit suggestions for the SMT to discuss and to decide upon.

Presentation

- Elena has made all the necessary arrangements for the first two training sessions in presentation techniques with Michael Trigg scheduled for April 8-9 and April 10-11. Once completed, the impact of the training will be evaluated and follow up decided upon accordingly.

HEAT

- There is no doubt among the SMT as to the necessity of HEAT training for all staff members who travel to potentially dangerous areas. Helena will check whether there are still places available for the next training due in June 2019 and report back to the SMT. Priority should be given to the SAHEL team and to Caroline.

Professional writing in English

- There are a few staff members who could benefit from such a course. Sigrun will ask Charlotta Sparre, head of the MFA diplomatic training programme, for guidance and advice.

CPR

- Maria informed the SMT that prior to organising a CPR course, fire marshalls need to be appointed; the latter is the responsibility of safety officers. Maria will send them a reminder to this end.

Data visualisation

- The SMT discussed proposal on training in data visualisation submitted by Steph. Tentative dates are in August and tentative number of participants is twenty. The added value of such training is undeniable; however, Maria needs to check the budget first. In parallel, the SMT agreed to ask Caroline who is going to get training in visualization techniques at the CMU within the framework of the GReVD project, to share acquired knowledge with the rest of SIPRI staff.
- Summarizing the discussion, the SMT agreed that the priorities in terms of staff training include HEAT and line management as well as training in presentation techniques (already agreed upon).

10. AOB

- Luc informed the SMT about the CMI visiting SIPRI next week.
- Sibylle reminded about the need to start planning for the mid-term review exercise. Dan and/or Maria will ask Helena for the timeline.

Action Points

- Note on the SSC for the Royal Court, including lunch invitation – Luc
- Schedule a time with NIS to brief on Iran and DPRK – Elena
- Schedule a time with Per Olsson Fridh - Sigrún
- Names for the Ypres prize candidates – all SMT
- Internship agreement with SciencesPo – Elena
- Internship policy – Helena to submit additional comments, Elena to finalize the document, SMT to endorse
- Pre-book all meeting rooms at SIPRI on May 13 and 17 for Forum partners - Elena
- Circulate among the SMT memo on additional staff for the China programme - Luc
- Follow up with KH on Neil's project application - Sigrún
- Suggestions for thematic dinners at the Forum – all SMT

- Continue prep work for the SSC – Luc and his team
- Suggestions on the line management training – Helena and Maria
- Book HEAT training for the SAHEL team – Helena
- Training in professional writing in English, check with Charlotta Sparre – Sigrún
- Reminder to safety officers re. appointment of fire marshalls - Maria
- Data visualization training in August as per Steph's suggestion – Maria to check whether budget is available
- Mid-term reviews – Helena to give guidance on the timeline

Items carried forward

- “Stockholm’s platform”, proposal by Måns Nilsson
- Hiring of staff for the China programme

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

SIPRI events with SMT involvement 2019

<i>May</i>	<i>Panel of all new SIPRI data</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Washington</i>	<i>Stimson</i>	<i>Amex and comms</i>
<i>June</i>	Event with Kuwait Embassy	8	Stockholm	SIPRI	Dan, comms
	Lancet Commission	9-10	TBC	TBC	Sigrún, Steph
	Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development	14-16	Stockholm	Münchenbryggeriet	Gary team and comms
	SIPRI Lecture	27	Stockholm	Nybrokajen 11	Sigrún, Jan E, Comms
	SIPRI Governing Board meeting I	27-28	Stockholm	SIPRI	Sigrún, all staff
	Launch of the Peace operations data	29	Stockholm	Online	Comms, Jair, Timo
	Northern Friends	1	Stockholm	N/A	MFA, Dan, Sigrún, Shannon
	Swedish MFA Ministerial prepcom NPT	TBC	Stockholm		
	ACTION EVENT HIGH LEVEL LECTURE (TBC)	13-14	TBC	TBC	TBC
	Online launch of the SIPRI Yearbook	17 (24)	Stockholm	online	Comms team, Shannon, Dan
<i>July</i>	ICRC event	18-19	Stockholm	SIPRI	Vincent, others
	Almedalen: SIPRI event on hunger and conflict	2	Visby	Sida torget	Jan E, Dan, Steph
	High Level Political Forum Expert meeting	9-12	New York	United Nations	TBC
	High Level Political Forum Expert meeting	15-17	New York	United Nations	TBC