



SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Solna, 28 January 2020

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Maria Kaemmerle, Sigrún Rawet
Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

The SMT acknowledged this instance of an all-female meeting.

1. MoM approval

- The minutes from the SMT meeting on Jan 21 were approved.

2. Matters arising from the previous MoM

- Steph provided some additional info on the Munich Security Conference (MSC). SIPRI event will be on the topic “*AI going nuclear*”. Suggested format – an open conversation with Sibylle doing a brief intro to kick the discussion off. Steph and Sibylle will meet bilaterally to do necessary planning. Steph also had a discussion with Jan on the MSC and on SIPRI’s role there. Jan suggested to do an internal evaluation after this year’s MSC. The SMT agreed that it is a good idea.
- On the comment on SIPRI data on Russian military expenditure, the SMT agreed that the information currently available at our website¹ needs to be updated. Steph will ask Siemon to draft a new comment, update the website accordingly and send the link to our colleagues at NIS.
- Steph briefly went through the calendar of events for the first half of 2020 from communications perspective. She will circulate it among the SMT, with copies to Elin and Elena, also in .doc format, for general awareness. Steph informed the SMT that there are openings during the second half of March and beginning of June for an event on multilateralism that the SMT discussed during the previous meeting.
- Maria and her team are following up on the project proposals submitted under the new strategic grant. More information on that will follow.

3. Report back

- Sigrún expressed gratitude to all those at SIPRI who worked hard on the China data launch, particularly Nan. Steph provided impressive figures of media coverage. Thus, as of Jan 28 am, over 1300 single report outputs have been registered. Nan has been busy giving interviews to leading world media channels – Al Jazeera and DW, to name just a few.
- Steph and Elin met representatives from Telia and Ericsson, as part of “Target Neighbourhood” initiative. Both companies are part of the Global Network Initiative, GNI. The GNI member companies will have their joint Board meeting in April and they would like to invite SIPRI to speak at the opening. Tentative dates are April 7-8. Steph will circulate notes from the meeting among the SMT.

¹ <https://www.sipri.org/media/2018/methodology-behind-sipri-military-expenditure-data-russia-2016-17>

- Sigrún and Dan had a lunch meeting with Per Taube on January 24. Many issues have been discussed, including the premises, the Ambassadors lunch on Feb 17
- The Finance team is working hard on closing the previous financial year and preparing for the next regular audit control scheduled for the forthcoming week.
- Sibylle gave a briefing to the EU Dual-use Working Party in Brussels on 22 January about her and Mark's recent report "*Detecting, investigating and prosecuting export control violations: European perspectives on key challenges and good practices*". Right timing and the right crowd meant successful presentation with a direct impact.
- Sibylle is planning to spend the coming week in Berlin and in Hamburg where she will, among others, do a lecture at the research colloquium at the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg.
- Sigrún informed the SMT that Peter Wallensten has approached SIPRI on behalf of a "senior club" of retired professors but also former state secretaries from Uppsala University who would like to visit SIPRI. It was agreed that this half-day visit will take place on May 19.
- The SMT briefly discussed the program for the forthcoming visit to SIPRI of Sweden's Foreign Minister Ann Linde. Sigrún suggested that Sibylle should present the A&D part of our work. Sibylle will also check whether Shannon could talk about the dialogue work. Sibylle will get back to Sigrún on that.
- Sigrún had a meeting with the new Director of the Nordic Africa Institute, Therése Sjömander Magnusson, who is a very good potential counterpart for SIPRI. The SMT agreed that it would be good to invite her to SIPRI to get a more detailed briefing on our work.
- On Jan 27, Sigrún and Malin participated in a workshop organized by the MFA and Stockholm Environment Institute where all the hub members but also Sweden's development minister took part. It was an interesting whole day discussion on climate and biodiversity that also put SIPRI's work in a spotlight. Malin had an important role in bringing in strategic issues at the meeting.

4. Staffing & project issues

- Our new event assistant, Johanna Eliasson, is starting on Jan 29.
- The interviews with the RAs on emerging technologies are underway.
- Sigrún will send Vincent's project for the 2nd phase to the MFA on Jan 28.

5. AOB

- The SMT on Feb 4 – Sibylle will check whether she will be able to join by Skype.
- The SMT on Feb 18 has been rescheduled to take place on Feb 19 at 09:30 subject to Dan's availability.
- Suggested date for the next RSC: Tue 11 Feb at 10:30.
- There will be training in presentation techniques on February 17-20.

Action Points

- Prepwork for SIPRI event at the MSC – Sibylle and Steph
- Share the comms calendar of events – Steph with the rest of the SMT
- Program for the visit of Sweden's Foreign Minister – Sibylle and Sigrún

Items carried forward

- Series of events on multilateralism - planning
- Stockholm Forum 2020 – names of high-level key-note speakers and panelists
- Candidates to deliver SIPRI Lecture 2021 – at some point.