

## SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

30 June 2020

### MINUTES

#### Participants

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

Helena Berger (present for item 3)

Claire McAllister (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 23 were approved.

#### 2. Matters arising

- As agreed last week, the SMT had a special comms planning meeting earlier that day to discuss how to meet all donors' commitments for 2020 while still paying close attention to SIPRI's audiences and the overall balance of our output. Steph will communicate decisions that were taken to all research staff concerned individually; further communication will take place with Joey in August.
- NB: Agreed deadlines need to be kept at all times.

#### 3. Corona virus

- Nothing additional to report.

#### 4. Report back

- Sigrún reported back about the second virtual meeting of the SIGHT-Lancet commission on June 29-30. Marina is coordinating the research component of SIPRI's input to the commission. Thanks to Yenyou, José, Marina and Laura for interesting case studies.
- Sigrún is closing her files and preparing the hand-over to Joakim.
- Sigrún noted that the Swedish government has decided to establish a national China knowledge centre under the auspices of the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, UI. She encouraged SIPRI colleagues to be in good contact with UI.
- Luc informed the SMT that the Dutch MFA has approved the project proposal of the "Just Future" Consortium, in which SIPRI participates, for a period of five years, initially focusing on Mali and Niger.
- Luc's cluster has discussed the set-up of the SSC2022 breakout sessions and came up with three working titles so far:
  - Session One: *Changing Dynamics of Security Cooperation: The Rise of China*.
  - Session Two: (Dis)functional International Security Institutions: Multilateralism Today.
  - Session Three: *International Security Cooperation in Africa Today*.
- The SSC2022 coordination team will consist of Johanna, Katia and Noel.

- Dan informed the SMT about an agreement reached with the CGIAR partnership and Wageningen University on a PhD programme, for which CGIAR has raised funds, on climate and food security.
- On July 3, Dan will participate in a panel on “*Resilience across global challenges*” as part of London Climate Action week. Dan will share the details with Steph so SIPRI can “push” the event on social media.

#### 5. Staffing & project issues

- The process of recruitment of Mark’s temporary replacement is almost concluded.

#### 6. Update on EP 2022

- Claire briefed the SMT on EP 2022. There already is a full project team, a distinguished international panel, an outline narrative, an understanding within the team on the research needs, a comms consultant, a soon to-be-seconded Swiss researcher and secured funding for 2020 through MFA strategic grant as well as from Norwegian and Swiss MFAs.
- The project team has been exploring synergies with the other SIPRI programs e.g. WFP. The SMT suggested that Claire also stays in touch with Luc’s and Sibylle’s clusters since there are interlinkages between EP and much of the research done by the clusters.
- The SMT endorsed Claire’s idea is to convene an internal “SIPRI Board” every three months to discuss project’s progress, starting already in August. DoSes and Steph will be called to take part in the Board, along with Dan and Joakim; each DoS will also nominate a representative from their respective cluster.
- The SMT thanked Claire for the presentation, and for all good work already done in such a short period of time.

#### 7. Stockholm Forum 2021

- The SMT had a conversation about how to go about the organisation of the Forum in 2021 in terms of the set-up of SIPRI Forum team.

#### 8. 2 CPS proposals under MFA grant

- Luc has circulated among the SMT two project proposals, one with a regional Asian focus and the other with a more thematic focus.
- The SMT gave its feedback and Luc will follow up accordingly with colleagues.

#### 9. AOB

- On behalf of the SMT and the whole of SIPRI, Dan once again expressed gratitude to Sigrún for all her hard work to strengthen and to promote SIPRI, its staff and its research. Sigrún thanked SMT and all SIPRI staff for a fantastic time at SIPRI and is looking forward to continued cooperation in new capacity.

#### Action Points

- Contact the UI re. the National Knowledge Centre on China - Luc

#### Items carried forward

- Equal Opportunities, Diversity and Anti-discrimination Policy