

## **SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Solna, 4 December 2018

### **MINUTES**

#### Participants

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

Note-taker Elena Haapaniemi

#### 1. MoM approval

- Minutes of the previous meeting on November 27 will be submitted for the SMT approval at the next SMT meeting.

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

- Steph had a phone call with Benedikt Franke and it was agreed that SIPRI's subject at the MSC 2019 will be about arms control. Jan, Dan, Sibylle, Steph and Harri will represent SIPRI in Munich. Steph will draft a (concept) note.

#### 3. Report back

- Dan reported back about a very positive meeting with the MSB head Dan Eliasson on Nov 28. The outcome of the meeting consists in six ideas for cooperation, two of which – on climate risks and on cyber security - could be implemented next year.
- Dan informed the SMT that:
  - o He has a meeting with Annika Söder scheduled on Dec 7;
  - o UNA-Sweden have invited him to moderate a seminar at the Riksdag on Dec 11. The seminar will be addressed by the UK Ambassador to the UN and focus on European cooperation for multilateralism.
  - o Following a discussion he and Sigrún had with Jan, the choice for the SIPRI Lecture candidate fell on Christiane Amanpour. Jan will approach her so as to check her interest and availability.
- Gary reported back on his meeting with Rachel Kleinfeld of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace where possible funding of SIPRI's GReVD project was discussed.
- Gary informed the SMT that:
  - o He is working on a paper on fiscal policy and corruption for the International Monetary Fund.
  - o He will have meetings at PRIO in Oslo on Dec 6 and be in Stockholm in time for the Christmas Party on the 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Elena reported back on Jan's trip to St Petersburg where he was a key-note speaker in the international conference to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Petersburg Declaration. Jointly organised by the ICRC and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS, it was a very good opportunity to promote SIPRI both in Russia and in other CIS countries, and also to strengthen contacts with the ICRC. Jan and Elena had a

meeting with the ICRC President Peter Maurer whom they invited to speak at the 2019 Forum. Elena will follow up.

- Sigrún organised a briefing on SIPRI's peacekeeping database with various MFA departments. Timo will present his research and Luc, Jair and Sigrún will also participate in the event on Dec 6 on the UN SC Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.
- Steph will organise two high level events in Washington DC during next week on the occasion of the launch of the new SIPRI report on nuclear security in the Black Sea Region. The events will be co-hosted by SIPRI and George Washington University as well as the Fissile Materials Working Group. Sigrún informed the SMT that she has invited Sweden's ambassador to the US to attend the launch.
- Sibylle reported back on:
  - o A meeting in London on Nov 28 at Chatham House with representatives from PRIO and UNIDIR: there is a lot of potential for cooperation with both Chatham House and UNIDIR;
  - o The conference on science and technology organised by the UN Geneva office on Dec 3: the event was a good opportunity to map that field, in which SIPRI has a good niche;
  - o Contact with the Norwegian MFA about their call for project proposals: to follow up.
- Luc reported back about him and Ian following up on a call for project proposals in the humanities and social sciences, issued by the Swedish Research Council, that will be open between February 13 and March 19, 2019. The aim is to get longer-term funding that allows for further developing the regional programmes and to create spin-offs for policy related research. There is a potential for cross-cluster cooperation in this area.
- Maria reported back on the continuing GDPR-related work and on the end-of the year financial-related work.
- The SMT also discussed the follow up on developments around the Climate Security Hub. Sigrún will keep the MFA informed on SIPRI's position on this and plans.

#### 4. Staffing & project issues

- Gary informed the SMT on the way forward with the FORMAS project.
- Sigrún provided an update on her discussion with the MFA on the West Africa grant recalling one more time that she is the only contact point for any project and finance discussions between SIPRI and the MFA.
- The SMT discussed a temporary and part-time communications assistant position. Dan will follow up.
- Maria informed the SMT that Fredric Daudon, the financial coordinator for the SAHEL team, has started working. Nikos will be mentoring him.
- Dan drew SMT's attention to the invitation that came from the Council of Europe to a young-leaders-get-together meeting in Thessaloniki on Dec 18-19. Dan will forward the invitation to the candidates suggested by the SMT.
- Dan suggested organising a special session in presentation skills. The SMT agreed with that. Dan will contact the trainer.

#### 5. Institute strategy – filling in the gaps

- Dan invited the SMT to comment in the meeting and later in writing on the draft new Institute strategy, which he had presented at the Board meeting in November. The aim

is to present a new draft incorporating Board and SMT feedback to the next RSC meeting, and beyond that, the objective is to finalise the strategy in time for the May Board meeting in the hope it will be adopted then.

6. AOB

- NTR.

**Action Points**

- Peter Maurer's participation in the Forum - Elena
- Follow up with the Norwegian MFA – Sibylle
- Follow up on the Swedish Research Council call – Luc
- CoE invitation to Thessaloniki meeting – the SMT
- Feedback on draft Institute strategy – the SMT
- Training in presentation skills - Dan

**Items carried forward**

- Draft IT user guide & Memo comparing new mail systems.