

SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Solna, 7 May 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

- The minutes of the previous SMT meetings on April 23 and 30 were approved.

2. Matters arising from the previous MoM

- The SMT went through the action points checking the status. All on track.

3. Report back

- Sibylle reported back about attending the NPT PrepCom in NY the previous week. Overall, technology, gender and transparency are issues that are emerging more and more in the NPT related conversations. Sibylle also mentioned that China, who has been chairing the P-5 process, announced a P-5 side event on national doctrines at the 2020 review conference. She also mentioned an informal side-meeting with BASIC on possible collaboration.

- Luc is finalizing the contract with the Chinese embassy.

- Maria informed the SMT that Suyoun's application for the HEAT training has been accepted.

- Sigrún reported back about:

- The expert meeting on climate and security held at SIPRI on May 2-3. Dan used this opportunity to launch the Environment of Peace 2022 initiative; it was very well received. Next steps for obtaining support for the EP 2022 include the meeting with State Secretaries Annika Söder and Per Olsson Fridh. Meetings with both are scheduled for May 22, when Dan and Sigrún will also present the conclusions of the expert meeting. Prior to that, Dan will also meet Inger Buxton on May 10. He will also present the EP 2022 initiative at the Governing Board meeting on May 27-28.

- The public launch on 6 May of the main messages Sweden will present at the HLPF in July. The event was organized by the MFA. SIPRI contributed to drafting the so called implementation briefs on the SDGs, particularly SDG 16; SIPRI's role was underlined more than once at the meeting. The briefs are in English and Sigrún will distribute them among the SMT.

- Gary reported back about:

- The IFIT meeting on methodology for secret talks, held in Bogota last week. IFIT is planning to issue a 4-page practice brief on the secret talks,

- summarizing the Institute's practical experience in this field. SIPRI has been asked to comment; Gary will ask Shannon to have a look at the document.
- The importance of ensuring that SIPRI is present at relevant international fora, such as Tana Forum, if not on senior management than on senior researchers' level.
- Steph informed the SMT that:
 - This year's milex launch has been the most successful data launch in SIPRI's history, reaching a total of 3800 outlets as of May 5. To quote Steph, "we are going ballistic on social media" too, not least due to the graphics designed by Shannen. It is confirmation that our data and our analysis are highly relevant and in demand.
 - SIPRI has been invited to an event "Process of Peace" that IM Swedish Development Partner will organize on September 25. Steph will circulate the invitation among the SMT and ask the organizers for more information on the event so as to decide whether SIPRI should participate.
 - Three papers drafted by Neil Melvin on the Horn of Africa will be published on SIPRI website.
 - Preparations for Almedalen in collaboration with SIDA are underway. MFA's participation is yet to be confirmed. The SMT agreed to discuss the necessary follow up during the next SMT meeting.
- Talking about the RSC discussion of the draft Institute strategy earlier that day, Dan mentioned a valuable comment from Timo on transparency and accountability. Dan will reflect this in the strategy he will present to the Board.

4. Staffing & project issues

- Elena informed the SMT that the internship agreement with SciencesPo has been finalised. Once signed by SciencesPo, it will enter into force enabling SIPRI to choose interns among candidates from one of the world's leading schools of international affairs.

5. SSC19 update

- The Swedish parliament has not confirmed its readiness to co-host a pre-conference seminar on the eve of the SSC. While waiting, the SMT agreed to go ahead with save-the-date invitations to the conference with no mention of the possible seminar.
- Luc continues liaising with potential partners, whose list now also include CMI along with MSC and IWEP.

6. Stockholm Forum update

- Gary provided the latest update on the Forum: the registration is closing and the programme is closing too. All the printing seems on track. Gary will be finalising the thematic dinners.
- Sigrún went briefly through the programme for the Open Day; it will be fine-tuned at the meeting with the MFA on May 8.

7. MFA strategic grant 2020-2022: deliverables

- Sigrún informed the SMT on the expectations and the requirements for our application for the MFA strategic grant following her consultations at the ministry. We need to submit to the MFA a brief document, maximum two pages, asap. It will be supplemented by a more elaborated application this autumn.
- The SMT agreed that the first brief document shall be based on the new institutional strategy and be drafted in a way that makes it easy for the MFA to see the practical value of SIPRI work. One option is to structure the document by identifying the current global challenges and geographical regions of concern and then suggesting the ways in which

SIPRI could help address those. This is how we can make this or that SIPRI programme, project or activity interesting and relevant to the MFA. DoSes need to draft/fine-tune their inputs asap and submit them to Sigrún. The discussion will be resumed at the SMT away-day on June 3.

8. AOB

- The next SMT meeting will take place on May 21.

Action Points

- Circulate MFA's implementation briefs on the SDGs among SMT – Sigrún
- Any comments on the IFIT practice brief – Shannon and Gary
- Follow up on the invitation received from IM Swedish Development Partner – Steph
- Inputs to the application for the strategic MFA grant – all DoSes, Sigrún coordinates

Items carried forward

- SIPRI at Almedalen

Future events at SIPRI

- SIPRI-MSB workshop - May 24
- SIPRI Governing Board meeting – May 27-28
- SIPRI IISS event on the DPRK – June 18
- SIPRI - ICRC Workshop on Autonomous Weapons and Human Control – June 18-19