

Jakob Hallgren
Deputy Director

SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

Solna, 13 June 2017

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer (part of the meeting), Stephanie Blenckner, Jakob Hallgren, Maria Kaemmerlé, Neil Melvin, Gary Milante and Dan Smith.

1. Minutes approval

- Minutes of the 7 June meeting were approved without changes.

2. Matters arising from the Minutes, not otherwise on the agenda

- It was reported that the destination of Neil Melvin's move was Nairobi, where his wife had been appointed Swedish ambassador.

3. Report back

- The manuscript for the 2017 Yearbook will hopefully be able to meet a 15 June deadline, which will enable us to get the hardback copies in October.
- It has emerged that the SIPRI idea of a function in the UN Secretariat on Climate and Risk will be hosted by the Deputy Secretary General.
- The EU Non-Proliferation Consortium will have a Board meeting on 19 June, in the midst of continued uncertainty about its future membership and funding. However, the annual conference/meeting is planned for December.

4. Staffing and Projects

- The job description, advertisement and schedule for the internal recruitment of a new Director of Studies after Neil Melvin were discussed and agreed. Interviews will take place in August.
- A conversation is ongoing with Gary Slutkin of 'Cure Violence' on a potential project about an international dialogue about Syria. The Gates Foundation has shown interest to fund it.
- The issue of funding for the Forum on Peace and Development for the remainder of 2017 will be brought up with the Swedish MFA by Gary.

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5. The Security Conference in 2018

- Planning for the timing and theme 2018 Stockholm Security Conference has already started.
- Regional security considerations, with examples from various regions, are a potential theme. Potential collaboration with the Munich Security Conference is also explored.

6. Cluster Research Strategies – way forward

- It was decided that the Research Strategies for the three Clusters will be finalized by the end of the summer. Finalising for cluster 2 (C&P), however, will be somewhat provisional as a new DoS will be coming in during the autumn. Several concrete project ideas have sprung out of this process.

7. Allocation principle for internships

- The following principles will apply for the allocation of the 10 internship slots available at SIPRI per semester: 2 intern slots per Cluster, 1 intern slot for Outreach, and 3 intern slots to be allocated based on legitimate need and capacity to support.
- DoS's will take an enhanced responsibility for the allocation within each Cluster. Requests for interns will still go to Helena (HR) and decisions are taken by the Deputy Director.
- The Director indicated a requirement for an intern in coming period.

8. The Black Sea activities

- The schedule and responsibilities for delivery on commitments regarding the Black Sea activities of the recent Swedish MFA strategic grant were discussed in the light of Neil Melvin's move. A plan was outlined.

9. Lethal Political Violence project

- A memo drafted by Dan and Bruce Jones of Brookings on the idea of developing a work stream mapping incidents of lethal political violence and analysis emanating from that was discussed. It was considered an interesting opportunity which will developed further.

10. Reference software

- A memo drafted by Magda on reference software was discussed. The suggestion that all researchers in need of 'Endnote' should get it was endorsed and will be implemented.

8. AOB

- Issues brought up in the Cooperation Group regarding the accessibility of Directors of Studies, a wish for away days and for organizing a co-worker survey were considered.
- It was concluded that the issue of peripatetic DoS's is a known challenge that requires constant cooperation and patience from all sides.
- It was deemed reasonable that Clusters should organize half or full away days once per semester, and that resources will be set aside for that.
- It was decided by SMT on 7 February 2017 that preparations for a co-worker survey should be started. This process is ongoing and the survey will be conducted after the summer.

9. Items carried forward for future agenda

- Strategic look at researchers' transition from temporary to permanent positions.
- Job descriptions.