

Jakob Hallgren  
Deputy Director

## **SIPRI SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Solna, 29 August 2017

### **MINUTES**

#### Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Maria Kaemmerlé, Neil Melvin, Gary Milante, Jakob Hallgren and Dan Smith.

#### 1. Minutes approval

- Minutes of the 21 August meeting were approved with minor changes.

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

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#### 3. Report back

- Discussions at a recent meeting with the Armaments & Disarmaments Cluster had identified a need to exchange information on parallel SIPRI projects on the Black Sea.

- A project by Ian A assessing European military capabilities for possible Swedish MFA funding was discussed, Jakob will follow up.

- Stephanie reminded all involved in the Swedish MFA programme grant to think through whether they need editorial assistance and if so to signal it early.

- A financial forecast for the remainder of the year is being finalized by Maria & Co. A close look at the use of the Swedish MFA grant is part of it.

- Jakob reported from a meeting at the Swedish MFA where plans for a two year follow-up MFA programme grant for 2018 and 2019 are beginning to take shape. Jakob will draft an internal time table, including appropriate time to consider both strategic direction and activities.

- Jakob also mentioned that a sizeable increase of the core grant was in the pipeline, however no exact figure had been given yet.

- A revised time table for the delivery of the FES funded project on the maritime leg of OBOR had been approved by FES.

- A concept note for next year's Forum was being circulated by Gary & team.

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**STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL  
PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

Signalistgatan 9  
SE-169 70 Solna, Sweden  
Telephone: +46 8 655 97 00  
Fax: +46 8 655 97 33  
Email: [sipri@sipri.org](mailto:sipri@sipri.org)  
Internet: [www.sipri.org](http://www.sipri.org)

- A draft proposal for a project mapping acts of lethal political violence will be discussed with the NYU CIC in Washington on 15 November.
- Dan reported from a meeting with Deputy Chair of the Riksdag Foreign Affairs Committee Karin Enström. The Committee would like to task SIPRI with a report on how the EU and Nato are changing in a new geopolitical landscape. We await further information.
- A seminar with IPIS (the Institute for Political and International Studies) in Teheran will take place at SIPRI on 4 September.

#### 4. Staffing and Projects

- Dr Lora Saalman has accepted to become Director of Studies for the Conflicts and Peace Cluster after Neil. She will start on 11 September.
- The PA recruitment process has stalled; a temporary PA will be recruited in the meantime.

#### 5. Progress on the revision of Job Descriptions (JD)

- After a tour de table it was concluded that the 8 September deadline for the finalization of the revision of all researchers' Job Descriptions will be kept.

#### 6. The September Security Conference, update

- All is on track and the conference looks very promising.

#### 7. The September Security Conference 2018, first thoughts

- A discussion was held on the basis of a draft concept note elaborated by Dan. The input will be reflected in a second draft.

#### 8. RSC 31 August

- The draft agenda for the 31 August Research Staff Collegium was discussed.

#### 9. Items carried forward for future agenda

- The values discussion.
- Researchers' transition from temporary to permanent contracts, initial thoughts.