

Minute taker: Noel Kelly
Location: The Conference Room
Time: 9:30-10:30am

SIPRI - Armament and Disarmament cluster meeting
Solna, 16 May 2018

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Mark Bromley, Tarja, Cronberg, Pieter Wezeman, Shannon Kile, Tytti Erästö, Petr Topchkanov, Giovanna Maletta, Nan Tian, Alexandra Kuimova, Ekaterina Klimenko, Alexandra Manolache, Emma Fredriksson, Anna Regner, Lukas Pashalidis

Agenda for A&D cluster meeting

- Report back from SMT
- Report back from Programme Heads on recent and upcoming activities
- Stockholm Security Conference 2018, 19-20 September - updates
- AOB
- Date of next meeting

Update back from SMT

Sibylle reported -

- On the EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium – the latest news is that the Consortium Agreement between the 6 consortium members is finalised and agreed and the Grant Contract with the EU is ready for signing once Jakob is back. We can start planning our activities and are the Coordinator for this round. Meaning that in addition to being the central contact point for the EU and the Consortium, we have a central role in managing, expanding and communicating within the network. One of our main activities is the policy paper series (20 over 3 years) that now will be resumed. We will need to have a discussion on how we select authors, what criteria we have and what topics? Based on past experience it is better to have our author selection process documented. Secondly, we will continue to act as a helpdesk for the External Action Service and this activity is less predictable. 18 help desk papers can be requested by the EEAS over the 3 years, with 2-3 weeks to deliver (including editing). We would normally select the authors from within SIPRI or the other Consortium members, depending on availability and expertise. As in the past, there will be ad hoc seminars (9 over 3 years) but no topics or timeline yet. These will be organised by one or more of the Consortium members, depending on availability and expertise. The consultative meeting will be in September but no date yet. The annual conference will be organised this year by the Italian Institute and the date is not fixed yet. One further development is a EU Finance Coordinator has been hired and this person from Greece will start in August.
- Concerning the GB meeting (28-29 May), cluster staff is reminded to keep some time free those days, especially the Monday lunch schedule, and there may be possibly be a strategy discussion on the Tuesday morning but more details to come.
- The new DoS for C&P, Luc van de Goor starts formally on 1 September but will come here during the Governing Board meeting week to meet staff.
- Jakob received information that NIRAS won the consortium bid in which SIPRI participated. From this cluster Mark, Aude and Pieter had submitted CVs. There will be an initial planning cooperation meeting in Copenhagen that either Lena or Marina will attend and then there will be more information following.

DUAT

Mark reported –

- DUAT are working on different grant deliverables, including UNSCAR and the UD grant. DUAT is working further on some funding proposals, including for the U.S. State Department on export controls and waiting to hear back from others.
- Travel plans are mentioned - Kolja is traveling to Geneva after the SIPRI Governing Board meeting (during week 26) for the last preparatory committee meeting before the 4th Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (CSP4).

- 12 June - C5 Trade Compliance Nordics Conference, Stockholm, Sweden. Mark will speak on the latest developments in the review of the Dual-use Regulation. <https://www.c5-online.com/trade-compliance-nordics-2/>
- In June, Giovanna and Mark will be in Brussels for various meetings. Giovanna will be there from the 12 June and Mark will join on the 13 June:
 - 12 -13 June - Military Exports and Compliance Europe 2018, Brussels, Belgium. Giovanna is attending.
 - 13 June: Annual COARM-NGO meeting at the European Parliament (agenda tbc - still draft). COARM is the European Council's Working Party on Conventional Arms Export. Both Mark and Giovanna are going.
 - 14 June: The same NGOs attending the meeting on the 13 June will meet separately the day after. Only Giovanna is going.
- 19 June (TBC): SIPRI will brief the Security and Defence Sub-Committee of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament on EU Arms Export and the upcoming review of the EU Common Position on arms export. Giovanna and Sibylle will go.
- Mark will go to Tokyo to attend the ATT CSP4 – 20-24 August 2018.

AMEX

Pieter reported -

- AMEX launched the new military expenditure data on 2 May. It received a lot of coverage with more than 3,000 articles reporting the findings. Our findings on Russian military spending had been subject to some debate. To clarify and respond to criticism of our Russia milex data findings, SIPRI have published on the front-page of our main website a further explanation of our methodology and accompanying note. As part of the SIPRI milex launch cycle Pieter was in Washington where he presented our data findings at the Stimson Center. He also went on to visit the Center for International Relations (CIR) and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).
- AMEX is still working on developing the visualization page for the new milex data.
- The 2017 UD grant work is continuing both on the Black Sea project and the Sub-Saharan Africa project looking at military expenditure and transparency efforts. Future work on the 2018-19 UD grants are also in focus including a paper on military developments in the Gulf region which is then planned to come out in October at the latest.
- Alexandra is working on a paper about Russian arms transfers in the Middle East (details previously reported in A&D meeting on 15 March – see notes).
- AMEX is waiting for the outcome of the Wallenburg proposal that Nan especially is involved in.

- Pieter and Alexandra are involved in the new MENA programme being set up here in SIPRI, and there is a related brownbag lunch meeting upcoming, on Monday 21 May.
- AMEX are also involved in some collaborative work with Transparency International looking at their government defence transparency index where they look at the risk of corruption in the defence sector. Details on pricing and timing are still to be decided.
- Siemon completed a paper funded by Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade (KIET). The subject of the paper was the Japanese defence industry and this will be published in English and Korean by KIET.
- Aude has traveled to Barcelona this week to present the latest amex data on military expenditure and arms transfers at the Centre Delas Conference on 16 May.
- Nan is traveling to Verona on 18-20 June for the Network of European Peace Scientist Conference and presents a paper on military expenditure in fragile states. On 27-30 June, Nan plans to attend the 22nd annual International Conference on Economics and Security in Northern Cyprus. Nan will present a paper co-authored with SIPRI Associate Researcher Diego Lopez da Silva on military spending, debt and oil in Venezuela.
- On the day of this cluster meeting it was mentioned at short notice we have a meeting with the Parliamentary Forum on SALW with Pieter Wezeman representing the AMEX team. Kolja from DUAT is also attending.
- The Eisenhower School paid their annual visit to SIPRI on Monday 23 April and met with the AMEX team. The Eisenhower School has 21 different programmes and this was the aircraft programme that visited looking mainly at the logistics and procurement part. It was suggested future visits could be widened out to include others from the cluster on topics such as emerging technologies. On the Eisenhower side, it may also be possible to get representatives from other programmes involved.

Emerging Technologies

Sibylle reported –

- Vincent is not back until September officially but will be here next week as SIPRI is hosting the first of three Carnegie project funded workshops on 22-23 May, titled - *Mapping the Impact of Machine Learning and Autonomy on Strategic Stability and Nuclear Risk*. Petr has shared a draft agenda and SIPRI staff is invited to attend but are reminded to let the organizers know in advance. Also if interested in meeting some of those attending as per the agenda please contact them independently or contact Petr for assistance. The second meeting will take place in Beijing during September and a third during early 2019 in India. After each meeting there will be a report and the final report at the end of 2019.
- SIPRI was asked to give a briefing on emerging technologies to the Swedish Foreign Affairs Committee at the Riksdag on 17 May. Jan, Dan and Sibylle are to give this briefing. It is mostly to give an overview of some of this work at SIPRI and to highlight the forthcoming conference.

Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Sibylle reported -

- The Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism meeting takes place on Thursday afternoon of 17 May in SIPRI. This is jointly with the Finnish Embassy. It is more of an informal brainstorming meeting.
- A publication titled *Setting the Stage for Progress Towards Nuclear Disarmament* was submitted in time for the NPT PrepCom held 23 Apr - 4 May 2018 in Geneva. This publication was presented at a side event together with the Hiroshima Prefecture and UNIDIR. The event went very well and there will be future collaboration with Hiroshima with details currently being negotiated.

Tarja reported -

- Further on the NPT PrepCom, Tarja reported about how much focus there was on the Middle East, not on the main floor but there were five side events covering the region.
- On developments with JCPOA, activities are busy in Europe to keep the Iran deal even if the Americans exit. There have been track2 meetings and Tarja spoke at a CEPS in Brussels. Outcomes reported include doubts that the EU can be united on this issue despite pressure that the EU should have a united approach.

Tytti reported-

- Tytti along with Sibylle and Tarja attended the first week of the NPT PrepCom.
- Tytti along with Dan went to the 4th *ROK-EU International Conference on Middle Eastern and North African Affairs*, organized jointly by the South Korean Foreign Ministry and the EEAS, and held 3-4 May. Tytti gave a presentation with a title called - *Role of sanctions in the making and breaking of the Iran nuclear deal*.
- Tytti has been active with writing and giving interviews on Trump's Iran decision.

Shannon reported –

- Trump's decision to withdraw from the JCPOA means interest in Iran is very much back on the work agenda again. Specifically in the context of SIPRI's continuing Iran dialogue project work. Further dialogue activity in the case of North Korea is on standby and nothing is definite pre-summit North Korea - US. A proposed multilateral US–Russia–Europe strategic stability dialogue is under consideration and will be discussed at the upcoming Governing Board meeting.
- On 22-23 May, SIPRI is hosting the Carnegie funded workshop titled - *Mapping the Impact of Machine Learning and Autonomy on Strategic Stability and Nuclear Risk*.

Baltic Security Conference 2018

Katja reported –

- Preparations for the Baltic Security Conference are shaping up well. The BSC begins on 11 June at 16:30 with a plenary discussion followed by dinner. The BSC agenda continues on 12 June with a full day of activity starting at 8:30am. The invitations to the broader audience are due to be sent out this week and next week (w.20) invitations to SIPRI staff will be sent out.

Stockholm Security Conference 2018

Katja reported –

- Title - *Emerging Technologies: Unseen Connections, Missing Players, Absent Solutions.*
- Currently Emma and Katja are drafting templates for invitations and are preparing the registration website page. They are also drafting a save the date message. Once this is all ready they will start send and they are also drafting a save the date message.

Sibylle reported -

- Sibylle reminded the cluster that the outline agenda has been circulated to us but has not yet gone outside SIPRI. Suggestions for speakers have been received for some of the sessions. However, we haven't moved on yet of who to invite. Sibylle will involve those who have sent information. Some have sent ideas and information for topics but no speakers and those are encouraged to have a think about potential speakers and send suggestions to Sibylle.
- The Munich Security Conference are on board as partner and will be sponsoring for what is termed a hyper-sonic subject related lunch for part of the group. They will do this in cooperation with the Rand Corporation and European Space Agency.
- The Munich Security Conference are hosting a cyber-security summit in Tallinn for which SIPRI will co-host a nightcap session (10-11:00pm). Dan and Ian will be there and given our involvement we can advertise our forthcoming SSC in their conference booklet at this event.

AOB

- On Monday 28 May, following the Governing Board meeting, Hans Blix will give a lecture in the Musikaliska Stockholm. We are reminded of protocol as the King and Queen of Sweden are attending to be seated early and not later than 5:20pm with the lecture scheduled to begin at 5:30pm.
- The issue was raised on creating a diverse network for young or rising researchers regardless of age from different regions around the world. It was suggested this should be an issue for a future cluster discussion.

- Cluster staff is reminded the A&D fundraising and budget workshop takes place on Wednesday, 24 May at 11:00am in the Conference room.

Next A&D Cluster Meeting

- 11 June at 2:00pm