

Minute taker: Noel Kelly
Location: The Conference Room
Time: 09:30-11:00

SIPRI Armament and Disarmament Cluster Meeting
Solna, 16 October 2018

MINUTES

Participants:

Sibylle Bauer, Aude Fleurant, Joey Fox, John Batho, Giovanna Maletta, Kolja Brockmann, Petr Topychkanov, Alexandra Kuimova, Alexandra Manolache, Shannon Kyle, Vitaly Fedchenko, Ekaterina Klimenko, Martina Selmi, Pieter Wezeman, Siemon Wezeman, Nan Tian

Agenda

- Report back from the SMT away day
- Report back from Programme Heads on recent/upcoming activities (please include in the report any updates on UD funded work)
- Publications update (Joey)
- Website review/update A&D pages
- AOB
- Date of next meeting

* *Vincent is away for a Carnegie project related event in the U.S.*
* *Tytti is on vacation.*

Report back from Programmes on recent and upcoming activities

SPRI European Security Programme (nuclear related work)

Vitaly reported -

- Vitaly is traveling to South Korea to participate in a meeting with KINAC (Korean Institute of Non-Proliferation). KINAC have an arrangement with SIPRI to hold two seminars every year. This year it's on nuclear forensics but in general they are interested in nuclear security and in principle, in non-proliferation.
- Vitaly will take the opportunity while in South Korea to discuss future cooperation with KINAC. Jakob Hallgren will be attending the seminar and is interested in speaking with KINAC and the South Korean nuclear establishment about the disarmament verification of North Korea.

AMEX

Aude reported -

- The AMEX team are currently working on the Top 100 arms industry review. Building on the arms industry workshop we will look at manufacturing companies in the Fortune 500. First, look if it's doable and then comparing the arms industry to other big manufacturing companies to reframe the narrative on the profitability of arms trade to state GDP.
- Joey suggested this study would be a worthwhile exercise even it doesn't make it to the data launch stage. We can reflect on what is done and how we might want to change it for next year. Also important to keep in mind the Communications planning structure – how many stories they run at the same time? Keep Stephanie informed.
- The AMEX AP Data Launch is happening on 10 December 2018, perhaps a presentation two weeks before (during week 48) of the findings in-house. Governing Board meetings are on the same week but most of us will be here.
- Aude will be traveling to South Korea next week for the *U.S.-Korea Defense Acquisition and Security Cooperation Conference* organised by KIET and further details are in the cluster events calendar. Aude

will present on global arms industry trends. Colleagues from CSIS will be there and they will speak with Aude about FMS sales.

- On the [27 November](#), there is a seminar in Brussels organized within the EUNPDC framework (by IISS) about MANPADS and Siemon will attend. On 28 November, Siemon will attend the Parliamentary Forum on SALW meeting in Brussels.
- The recruitment for a new AMEX Researcher is advancing and applications have been gone through. A short list will soon be ready with at least 6 candidates for Skype interviews and the intention is to invite 3 persons for interviews. The list of applicants has been excellent in its diversity regarding gender balance and regional terms.

Nan reported on the new SIPRI Milex Database development -

- Systematic – the company hired to upgrade and develop a new database are behind with the work. The new system should have been migrated to our servers to test from the beginning of October but this was extended until today - 16 October 2018. AMEX is waiting to hear back for further developments.

Pieter reported -

- Following discussions between AMEX and the C&P cluster it was concluded it would be useful to provide internal SIPRI presentations in advance to everyone interested in the Institute for each data launch, explaining the new data and fact sheets. It would be a useful way for others in the house to understand what we do and perhaps link their work to what we do and for AMEX to rehearse their presentations before launching and receive feedback.

Alexandra reported -

- There is a discussion with SIPRI's partners in Beirut (CAUS - Centre for Arab Unity Studies, Beirut, Lebanon) to have an Arabic translation of the press release for the military expenditure and arms transfers data launches in 2019.

DUAT

Kolja/Giovanna reported –

- In the process of the final phase of checking the MENA paper – *'Building state capacity in arms transfer and small arms and light weapons controls in the Middle East and North Africa: Mapping efforts and identifying challenges'*. The paper includes the main findings of the data collection on ATT-related assistance implemented

in the MENA region, which will also be discussed during the BBL with Giovanna this Friday, 19 October 2018.

More details on travels are in the clusterswiki events calendar.

[http://clusterswiki.sipri.org/index.php/Armament_%26_Disarmament_Cluster -_Calendar_of_Events_List_\(October-December_2018\)](http://clusterswiki.sipri.org/index.php/Armament_%26_Disarmament_Cluster -_Calendar_of_Events_List_(October-December_2018))

- Giovanna will be in Berlin on 8 November, attending a workshop on the review of the *EU Common Position on arms exports* and will speak at a panel on “Transparency and reporting”. The event is organized by PAX, Saferworld, ECCHR and FES.
- Kolja reported on his trip to Brussels on 4-5 October for the ‘*EUP2P Second Export Control Governance Dialogue Event*’ (part of the outreach work of the EU), where he presented on new technologies and 3D printing. It was a good opportunity and gave new contacts or updated contacts for persons involved in export control regimes, particularly relevant for a project on improving export control regime coordination and effectiveness next year – and also feeding into the ongoing bio project.
- On 17-19 October, Kolja will be in the U.S. for an event organised by the Stanley Foundation. It’s a two-day roundtable discussion on emerging technology governance relating this to the Secretary General’s disarmament agenda.
- On 6-8 November, Kolja will be in Taiwan for a workshop on ‘*Strategic Trade Controls in the Asia-Pacific*’. Kolja will be a discussant in a session on 'Issues Associated with Technology Controls and Transfers'.
- The SIPRI ‘Bio plus X’ project is kicking off now. The Australia Group has shown an interest in work being done by SIPRI - they have tentatively suggested SIPRI might present this work at the next Australia Group plenary meeting next year in Paris. This may be a good way to showcase SIPRI’s ongoing work in this area and directly impact decision-makers in the export controls regimes.

EUNPDC

Giovanna reported on the EUNPD Consortium and Network–

- The first paper was commissioned officially and the title is: ‘*Russia’s Nuclear Energy Exports, Status, Prospects and Implications*.’ This is now already in the production cycle and a few more are in the pipeline.

The titles are not yet confirmed but we will be updating at future cluster meetings. The topics to be covered include a review of the EU SALW strategy and a paper on dual use technologies and dual use research of concern in the bio area. Further information from the authors is forthcoming.

- The Seventh EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium Conference will be held on 18-19 December. There will be a side event on 17 December bringing together all members of the network. Sibylle and Giovanna will attend but a third spot is available for a SIPRI representative from our cluster. Anybody interested and available can send an email to Giovanna and Sibylle. Giovanna has circulated by email the agenda to the A&D cluster (please read it!). There will be two parallel breakout sessions in the morning, one on regulating the arms trade and one on the challenges of autonomous weapons. In the afternoon, arms control and outer space and cyber security challenges in parallel. There will be a concluding plenary session on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and keynote speech on the chemical weapons convention. It's quite a nuclear focused event overall and no speakers agenda yet.
- Between 26-30th November there will be a Consortium ad-hoc seminar on landmines on the sidelines of the Conference of the State Parties to the Ottawa Convention. FRS will arrange it. The intention from the EU side is to arrange a side event that is Consortium related and gives a chance to advertise the EU action in the landmines area.
- Yet another EUNPDC ad hoc seminar will be held in early December on the sidelines of the Conference of the State Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention, also organised by FRS (dates TBC).
- The EUNPDC monthly newsletter – IAI is in charge – includes recent publications/events/news from the Network and the EU. If we want to send input, we can do it by the 24th of each month. We should select carefully what we want to advertise. Initial recommendations should come from within each programme/team and this information forwarded to Giovanna and Cc Sibylle.
- From this year on we have in the budget for the Consortium a line to attend external events to advertise and enhance the visibility of the project. FRS thought to participate in the Amman Security Forum at the beginning of November (7-8) would be an occasion to do this and briefly present the project. The Consortium will be represented by one participant from IAI and FRS suggested that somebody else from the Consortium core group could have also attended. If somebody can

make it then let Sibylle and Giovanna know, otherwise we leave the slot to FRS. The forum is organized by the Arab Institute for Security Studies and the agenda includes mostly issues related to nuclear arms control.
(<http://acsis.org/meetings/nuclear2018/tracks.php>).

Disarmament, Arms Control, and Non-Proliferation

Petr reported –

- Vincent has sent a publishing plan to Joey in relation to the Carnegie funded project work (Machine Learning papers). The first report is with Vincent and in process for an internal review.
- Petr is currently working on arranging the third Carnegie project seminar scheduled to happen at the end of February in Delhi. It was reported that the possible partner has withdrawn due to internal issues in Delhi. Now trying to arrange some other partners and still hoped to be in Delhi.
- On nuclear issues, Petr reported on the *Berlin Arms Control Talks* event attended in Berlin 11-12 October. The event was good in terms of the subjects and representation. There were persons present from the MFA, US and other embassies. The main subject covered was about the crisis in nuclear arms control and disarmament, and the crises as mentioned were the INF treaty and JCPOA.
- Petr as part of a SIPRI delegation (Dan, Sibylle, Stephanie, Harri) is travelling to Moscow this week (17/18 October) for an event organised by IMEMO, marking 25 years of the Russian SIPRI YB translation.

Shannon reported –

- Dialogue project activities are continuing. In relation to project work, there will be two visiting fellows coming to SIPRI on 5 November for a month, working with Shannon and researching peace and security issues in the Korean Peninsula.

Publications

Joey reported -

Things are moving along well for the A&D cluster.

- Siemon's policy paper on arms flows to Southeast Asia is soon ready to go to a referee.
- Joey is waiting for comments back on Tytti's paper about a Middle East nuclear weapons free zone.

- The DUAT teams MENA paper (see above) is now in a second edit.
- As a general update on the status of six Black Sea background papers (Georgia, Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Ukraine and Russia) these will now be published together as a package - now waiting for a response from Neil Melvin for this to be done. It is hoped to launch this BS package in November.
- Joey received information and schedule about forthcoming Machine Learning papers from Vincent.
- Currently Joey is waiting for comments from Ian Davis and Sibylle on the TOC for YB sent by AMEX.

SMT report, including feedback from away day

Sibylle reported –

Forthcoming

- Sibylle will be part of the SIPRI delegation travelling to Moscow this week (see above). Both Sibylle and Petr will be speakers at this event.
- Sibylle will be in Brussels on Friday (19 October) for the bi-annual scientific advisory board meeting of the Flemish Peace Institute. A project on arms trafficking (Diversion of Fire Arms in Europe) in collaboration with FPI will start in January, with Mark in the lead for SIPRI.
- Dan and Sibylle met with Ambassador Susanne Baumann and representatives from the German Embassy here at SIPRI on Monday, 15 October. Ambassador Baumann took over as Commissioner and Head of the Federal Foreign Office's Directorate-General for International Order, the United Nations and Arms Control in late July 2018. She would like to cooperate more with us in future. It is a good channel for us and we will be using in the future.
- On 4-5 October, Sibylle was in Berlin recently for an arms control seminar. This was organised by the Association of German Scientists (VDW - Vereinigung Deutscher Wissenschaftler). This was an interesting event, primarily aimed at bringing in the natural sciences into the peace research discussion. There were representatives from IT departments, physicists, all sorts of natural sciences represented. A lot were not aware of the technologies work we are doing here but are interested in communicating and cooperating.

- Michael Brzoska is now formally a SIPRI Associate after SMT approved his interest. More generally, the question was raised on the process for suggesting persons for SIPRI Associate titles. This was actually discussed at the SMT away day. The formal procedure is a nomination which must be submitted to SMT via Programme Directors who will discuss and make a decision. It would be good to diversify more globally and have more women. It was suggested Programmes have a think about this and bring names forward they would like to suggest to the next cluster meeting.
- SMT had discussions about fundraising options going forward. We need to think about more strategic funding, not just small project funding. We have had a lot of funding from the Swedish MFA and we still have this next year but we don't know if the same levels of commitment can continue. SIPRI need to start thinking about other big funding possibilities. We can have strategic funding discussion at one of the forthcoming cluster meetings.
- To follow up from our cluster fundraising workshop discussion in May, a date with Lena to present to the cluster will be arranged as soon as possible.
- We should be hearing back on the Wallenberg funding proposal in November.
- Social media presence was discussed in how to sustain interest in our work even beyond the peaks of our data launches.
- GDPR was discussed. You can't give away control of personal data; you need to be able to delete it. We should delete everything personal, all CVs for information no longer needed (e.g. recruitment procedures that have been concluded) and we should check if any doubts with Maria and Stephanie. **Please read the internal guidance distributed.**
- The point was raised to pass onto HR that for future job applications calls we can mention a personal photograph is not necessary. We are interested in substance, your experiences and skills.
- Sigrun made the point at the SMT away day that we engage more actively and proactively with the different departments of the Foreign Ministry. For example, it would be good to think more about when we have publications how we'd like to engage and present directly. Sigrun can be conduit for the SIPRI with UD and very easily set up such events. We will have an ongoing dialogue about this.

AOB

Sibylle reported –

- An issue that came out of the PAD talks so far was a request by some for project management tools. Something we can put on the agenda for the future, some training could be good but sharing information on software tools would be very practical.

Website review/update A&D pages

Alexandra reported –

- On the Communications work and development of the website and social media reporting. An ongoing exercise and a request to each Programme is to look at their webpages and check the text and information already there. What is out-dated or no longer relevant? What is missing? This should be a regular exercise but we are reminded to inform Communications and Alexandra directly who is responsible for updating the webpages. We are requested to send the latest updates by the end of October and updates will be carried out at the start of November. We can have a more strategic discussion on the website at future cluster meeting.

Dates of remaining A&D cluster meetings in 2018:

- 7 Nov. A&D cluster meeting at 2:00pm.
- 6 Dec. A&D cluster meeting at 9:00am.

**All meetings booked in the conference room.*