

Minute taker: Noel Kelly

Location: The Conference Room

Time: 9:00-10:30

SIPRI Armament and Disarmament Cluster Meeting

Solna, 6 December 2018

Participants:

Sibylle Bauer, Mark Bromley, Joey Fox, John Batho, Vincent Boulanin, Pieter Wezeman, Petr Topychkanov, Siemon Wezeman, Nan Tian, Alexandra Kuimova, Giovanna Maletta, Kolja Brockmann, Alexandra Manolache, Quitterie de Labbey, Martina Selmi, Ekaterina Klimenko, Ugnė Komžaitė

Agenda for A&D cluster meeting

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

Report back from Programme Heads on recent and upcoming activities

AMEX

- This is data embargo week for the AMEX Arms Production project. International interest from the media is high and interviews are being carried out in preparation for the launch of new data on 10 December.
- The interview process for a new researcher with the AMEX team is underway and all interviews will be completed by 14 December.
- AMEX worked on a consultancy for FOI as reviewers of Defence Economic Outlook 2018 during November.
- On UD 2017 project deliverables, the Black Sea project reports are due out and will be published on the SIPRI website within the next 2 weeks.
- The South East Asia paper has been through the external review process and now being worked on by Siemon. This paper is due to the editors during week 51.
- As an UD project 2018 deliverable, the AMEX and Sahel team are cooperating on preparing an internal scoping study examining the topic of the rationale and risks of military assistance to the G5 Sahel states. The scoping study will be ready before Christmas and a brown bag presentation will possibly be held during January.
- Following AMEX discussions with SIPRI Outreach/Communications, it was decided due to the importance of work carried out by Nan and Su Fei on Chinese arms industry not to include it as part of the forthcoming Arms Production project data release but rather present this early next year as a stand-alone activity. The Chinese backgrounder is ready but more will be added and the plan is to launch a SIPRI Insights Paper on 11 February.
- The sub-Saharan paper '*Military Expenditure Transparency in Sub-Saharan Africa*' came out during November and has received a lot of interest and media coverage.
- Pieter is working on the Middle East topical backgrounder on Gulf militarization. It is scheduled to go live on the SIPRI website by the latest 17 December.

- The UNROCA paper was off schedule with the editors. Siemon now estimates the draft to be ready by the end of week 51.
- The Milex database is still going through a test phase but so far the work carried out by developers Systematic is going well.

DUAT

- Work has continued on different ATT database projects. First, the FCO project on the database is continuing and involves working with computer programmers. Second, ATT database project work funded by UNSCAR for the expansion to cover MENA is near completion. A report on this project is due by the end of December.
- The EXBS project work is underway with planning for a background paper and seminar in Stockholm on investigations and prosecutions in June 2019.
- On UD grant works for 2018/19 DUAT are working on three projects. One is a report on SDG 16.4, involving Mark and Marina working together on a background paper. They have also submitted a proposal to have a session at the Stockholm Peace and Development Forum 2019. It was mentioned that Alfredo Malaret, who previously worked as a remote research assistant will come back and do a remote consultancy with SIPRI and contribute to the SDG 16.4 work.
- The second UD grant deliverable involves expanding the database to cover capacity-building efforts for SALW control, in addition to the existing focus on ATT implementation. Work is on course for this.
- The third UD grant deliverable on the subject of conventional arms control involves preparing a report and has a timeline to be ready towards the end of 2019.
- The Bio Plus X report is being worked on by Kolja, Sibylle and Vincent with over 70 pages produced so far. It is on course and will be ready for the editors on time. A request was made for knowledge about nanotechnology expertise, if we know someone please share the information.
- On 13 December, Giovanna will attend as a speaker in Brussels on "*Mapping available ICP guidance in the EU: good practices, gaps and the new Commission's proposal*" at the EU Export Control Forum, organised by the EU Commission – DG Trade.

- On 27-28 November, Giovanna and Kolja attended a kick-off meeting for the Network of Universities on Strategic Trade Controls Workshop. The idea is to put together different project proposals and ideas on how to develop this project further. Ideas proposed from Giovanna and Kolja included work on the concepts of dual-use and human rights in export control, as well as more work on ICPs in the cyber surveillance sector and guidance for specific technology sectors. The outcome of this meeting will be a document containing the various proposals. It will be submitted to the European Commission's JRC because they are funding the framework project. The current work schedule for DUAT is full until the fourth quarter 2019 so there is time to see how this develops.
- Mark with Dan attended a meeting with MSB (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency) in November during week 48, and subjects raised relevant to this cluster included, governance and cyber-security (Vincent), how states use rules on foreign direct investment to control transfer of technology (Mark, Kolja). The issue of CBRN and bio weapons came up and the idea was pitched that once the Bio Plus X project is done, it could be presented to MSB and this was received positively.
- Quitterie de Labbey is leaving her DUAT internship and takes up a position at the Flemish Peace Institute in Brussels from January 2019. Another intern will join DUAT in February called Enzo Caponetti, and a guest researcher will join DUAT from April to July called Mónica Chinchilla, a PhD student from Spain working on dual-use export controls.

Emerging Military and Security Technologies

- On 13 December at an event in Moscow organised by IMEMO, Vincent is a speaker on the emerging technology panel titled 'Emerging technologies: Challenges for Global Stability'. It will not just be about military technologies but will cover a broad spectrum.
- In terms of publications, the Carnegie project Insight paper 1 will be sent to an external reviewer during this week. Vincent is also working on the SIPRI edited volume 2 collection of essays for which the deadline was last week. Most authors were late but a new deadline was given this week and most are now coming in and looking promising to get to the editors before Christmas.
- In terms of fundraising, MSB was mentioned in the DUAT report for Vincent but he also submitted a proposal to the Canadian DoD last

week for a project on autonomous weapons and this is hoped to be seed funding for a larger project. A response is expected quickly.

Nuclear Team

- On 26 November, Petr attended the 12th European Russian Forum on “Escalation of EU-Russia Relations: Perspectives for Europe in the Case of a Military Conflict.” Petr was a speaker at the plenary panel on “New War in Europe: Probability, Development, Consequences.” The event took place in the European Parliament and was attended by MEPs and EP staff.
- From 5-6 December, Tytti is attending the ‘*17th Republic of Korea-United Nations Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues*’ in South Korea. This is an event organized by UNODA and the Government of the Republic of Korea. Tytti will be a moderator and speaker on panel ‘*Is the Nuclear Nonproliferation Regime in Peril?*’
- The team has been working on the Yearbook and Shannon has been collating the contributions. The nuclear team had a meeting and worked on the plan of the Hiroshima report scheduled to be ready as a first draft in the beginning of February 2019. Following the internal round of reviews, the nuclear team will arrange a meeting in SIPRI with research associates, with the purpose to discuss the draft report.
- An INF event proposal, jointly developed with the European Leadership Network, went well and received support from The Heinrich Böll Foundation, but no further details at the moment.

EUNPDC report

- The conference is starting with a Network meeting on 17 December followed by the conference on 18/19 December. The most updated agenda has been shared with the cluster. Vincent will be a speaker in the break-out session on autonomous weapons. Sibylle will chair the break-out session on regulating arms trade and conclude the conference. Other representatives from SIPRI at the conference are Giovanna, Tytti and Pieter. At the Network meeting Sibylle and Giovanna will give an overview of the state of the Network and latest developments of the consortium, including the activities that were implemented over the past year.
- On 27 November, Siemon attended a seminar about MANPADS organized within the EUNPDC framework (by IISS) in Brussels and

also attended a meeting on 28 November by the Parliamentary Forum on SALW. Siemon was speaker at both events and these went well.

Publications

- Tytti's paper on a nuclear weapon free zone in the Middle East is in process and gone through the first round of editing.
- A background paper being worked on by external experts for Bio Plus X is expected back during week 50 for Sibylle to review.
- There are two deadlines in December for the Yearbook including the nuclear arms control chapter that is on course and the special essay by Dr. Eneken Tikk for the conventional arms control chapter.

SMT

- Updates on recent A&D positional changes - Shannon has been promoted to Programme Director of the SIPRI Nuclear Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-proliferation Programme. Vincent has been promoted to Senior Researcher. Giovanna and Kolja have been promoted from Research Assistants to Researchers. Congratulations to all!
- Please note, the next SIPRI wine and cheese staff reception evening is due to be organised by the A&D cluster during January 2019.
- It was discussed at SMT and repeated to the cluster that we are all ambassadors for SIPRI at all times. For those who attend a lot of events you are not just representing your individual work or projects but one should have situational awareness of what is happening within the Institute. One can listen to things, pass on contacts and help facilitate contact with the right expert if you're not the right person.
- Following our last RSC and the discussion on budget and financing we are reminded that these are issues we can discuss at cluster level and will do so as well. In terms of how you fundraise, how you plan your budgets and how you keep track, and how you think about it in terms of planning. If there are questions please raise them.
- When you get invited to an event and they cover your travel keep in the mind the expense of your time to be involved and if it is actually cost effective. Before deciding to accept or not, one should calculate the time it costs to prepare, travel and attend. If it's up to a week of your time and not project covered then that is core funding and lot of

money. If it doesn't fit into a project that you are doing or future investment one should consider carefully and strategically.

- It is important that the respective roles within teams are clear and understood in terms of responsibilities for fundraising (see the respective JDs). The Programme Director is responsible for fundraising. For researchers to learn the ropes and know what is involved in fundraising and be involved in deliverables is good for development but the lines of actual responsibility are clear. Research Assistants are not responsible for fundraising. Senior Researchers are expected to raise funds for their research, working independently or as part of teams according to opportunity, and are expected to provide advice to colleagues, especially junior ones, on fundraising possibilities and tactics.

It is worth repeating since the cluster structure was created that no contact with a funder can be taken up and no concept note sent out without the DOS signing off. This makes sure that there is nothing happening within the cluster others are not aware of. Furthermore, the DOS coordinates with the DOS from other clusters so there are no cross-purposes.

- The discussion of a fundraising workshop was raised and the information session with the Lena. Schedules did not allow it to happen in December and during January the Finance team are closing the books and busy with auditing.
- The point was raised that we could be better at mapping internally in SIPRI how much time we spend on specific things. Project management, project planning is not uniformed and we could look at tools to professionalise the process. In order to plan we need concrete evidence. How much time do we need to do a report? Does it take more time now than previously? How do we calibrate this in a budget? It would allow us to foresee more problems between the demands of core work and funded work.
- It was decided we should organise an away day for the cluster early in the New Year. It was also suggest that a meeting of just Programme Directors would be useful. There is an on-going process for the training of line managers and this will continue next year. Meanwhile, an away day for the cluster will now be organised with 2 dates suggested 6/7 February 2019.
- Sibylle reported on the Paris Peace Forum, a new annual global meeting for all governance actors. In terms of our issues there were

almost no events of relevance to this cluster apart from artificial intelligence, cyber security, and one event on the ban treaty. In summing up, this was said to be much more a development forum.

- Sibylle was in Berlin for a meeting of the Gesprächskreis Abrüstung (Disarmament discussion group), an advisory body for the German MFA organised through the German Foreign Ministry. The meeting (partly attended by the Foreign Minister) was positive and a good opportunity to pitch ideas. Reference was given to a technology session where Sibylle was asked to give input on the impact of emerging technologies on arms control. This was a very useful meeting and there will be follow-up meetings.
- On the Norwegian funding proposal, Sibylle along with Luc wanted to initiate a meeting in Oslo but schedules are difficult at the moment. However, Sibylle will be in Wilton Park during week 50 and try to meet with a Norwegian participant to discuss what they are looking for and pitch ideas.
- During November SIPRI briefed the Swedish Foreign Affairs Committee about our work and they were very interested and SIPRI well received.

Date of next cluster meeting

16 January 2019 at 9:30AM

HAPPY NEW YEAR!