



Minute taker: Noel Kelly
Location: The Conference Room
Time: 9.00-10:30am

**SIPRI - Armament and Disarmament cluster meeting
Solna, 30 January 2018**

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Mark Bromley (Skype), Vitaly Fedchenko, Aude Fleurant, Pieter Wezeman, Alexandra Kuimova, Joey Fox, Frank Esparraga, Shannon Kile, John Hart, Tytti Erästö, Nan Tian, Giovanna Maletta, Johanna Trittenbach, Ekaterina Klimenko, Kate Sullivan, Alexandra Manolache

Agenda

- Report back on other recent and upcoming activities of cross-cluster relevance
- Update on on-going and future funding proposals and decisions
- Report back from Sibylle/SMT
- Date of next meeting

European Security Programme

Vitaly reported -

- Currently, Ian and Vitaly are travelling a lot for the Black Sea nuclear security project.
- SIPRI has a MoU with IAEA. There are strategic discussions currently in the IAEA about how to develop the whole area of nuclear forensics over the next 10 years. There is a big event in March that Vitaly is participating in:
Steering Group Consultancy for the 2019 IAEA Technical Meeting on Nuclear Forensics - 20-22 March 2018, Vienna. He will present on "Future strategic directions of the discipline of nuclear forensic analysis".
- They will keep producing the nuclear forensics newsletter.
- A South Korean delegation is visiting SIPRI on February 20th – it is a courtesy visit by KINAC (Korean Institute of Nuclear Non-Proliferation) to discuss the possibility of two seminars to be conducted on nuclear security in the near future, one in SIPRI (possibly June) and one in Seoul (possibly October) - no set dates yet.

DUAT

Mark reported –

- The main focus of DUAT work is the Intangible Technology Transfers workshop this week, February 1-2, held in Kungliga Myntkabinettet, Gamla Stan, Stockholm.
- Mark will be part of a funding proposal together with the Flemish Peace Institute for work based on a call put out by European Commission on firearms trafficking within Europe. This would involve a series of country case studies on small arms trafficking within Europe.

AMEX

Pieter reported -

- Work towards closing the database collection for last year and current Yearbook work is on going.
- AMEX are preparing for an arms industry workshop to be held here in SIPRI on March 22-23. An agenda and participant list will be circulated in due course.
- Pieter – has completed a Clingendael paper, titled: ‘Monitoring international arms flows: Sources and obstacles’.
- Pieter along with Dan and Alexandra Manolache, will be travelling for a launch event of the SIPRI Arabic version of YB2016, organised by the Swedish Institute, taking place in Alexandria, Egypt, on February 11-12.

Chemical and Biological Security Project

John reported –

- Paris meeting, January 23rd – John travelled for a chemical weapons meeting organised by the French MFA to launch an initiative organised by the French Government to try and hold individuals responsible for the use of chemical weapons. They launched a website on the day. There were two meetings, with one held in the morning for about 6-7 civil society people that John attended and one in the afternoon for a ministerial launch that John did not attend. No agenda was shared and no information given until the arrival of participants. John is working on a commentary to be published by SIPRI in the near future.

Nuclear Weapons Project

Shannon reported -

- The team are currently busy working on Yearbook activities. Dialogue project activities are also on going.

Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Programme

Sibylle – reported

On recent meetings:

- Sibylle was recently in the German Foreign Ministry for a meeting with Susanne Baumann, the Deputy Commissioner for Arms Control and Disarmament. It was a very positive meeting and strategic discussion involving work priorities that are mutually interesting. Traditionally they have funded the German Institutions such as SWP and PRIF but they would also be interested in cooperation with SIPRI. This is an opportunity we should explore further. They will get back to us but in the meantime if we have any funding proposals ready or concept notes we should send them over.

Some of the priorities mentioned included:

- Emerging Technologies, including the BTWC the focus on science and technology and outreach to academia
- Use of drones
- Taking the conventional arms control initiative forward
- US and Russia arms control cooperation and implications for European security.
- Verification efforts in the nuclear area

If anyone has a specific idea that we could launch and put forward to them – we could start a separate process and Sibylle would collate it all. Submit first concept notes, and once we have received feedback we can develop something more elaborate.

- Sibylle reported on a recent meeting at the The Heinrich Böll Foundation, with Department Head Foreign and Security Policy, Giorgio Franceschini. Giorgio was previously the Chair of EUNPC. If someone wants to submit anything they will consider proposals from us carefully.
- Wallenberg Foundation - SIPRI funding proposal update. It was discussed at SMT and mentioned that this cluster had at least two ideas. One idea was on the technology area Sibylle suggested and including several technology areas that Mark proposed that could be folded in. The second idea was the one proposed by Nan and circulated to all. SMT decided an internal deadline for February 23rd (10 page proposal should be put together) and then a decision made and elaborated on what could be included in a full proposal to be submitted by the deadline on April 1st.
- Vetenskapsrådet (VR) conference money. Sibylle recently circulated this VR call for those interested in organising an event as an opportunity for funding. Not very much salary money covered but if one wants to cover flights and other conference expenses for an event, it might not be too difficult to get.

Upcoming events:

- Finnish Embassy Event in SIPRI
The will be an event with the Finnish Embassy here in SIPRI, on the Global Initiative

to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT). Proposed and probably on Thursday morning, May 17th (TBC). Ambassador Luoto (Finnish) is chairing one of the working groups and would like to do a brainstorming meeting here in SIPRI. This connects nicely with the work Vitaly and Ian and also Tytti have done and who have looked at this initiative.

- Munich Security Conference 2018 - February 16th-18th
Sibylle has received an invitation and SIPRI will be hosting a lunch event on emerging technologies. Dan and Jan are going to the Munich Security Conference along with Stephanie and Harri in the delegation going.
- Meetings in Vienna – February 9th
Sibylle will be at the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for a meeting about the EUNPDC. Sibylle will also be going to the Wassenaar Arrangement for discussions on internal compliance programmes and intangible technology transfers.
- Sibylle will have a meeting in Brussels on February 12th with the new Director of the Flemish Peace Institute.
- Sibylle will be in Japan for a week from February 26th to March 2nd for the Asia Export Controls Conference and probably go to Hiroshima afterward (Friday, March 2nd) to discuss the collaboration we have and funding for us that is currently negotiated.

Highlights from SMT:

- Training for line managers – tentatively in April? No firm dates yet but a schedule will be made. This will involve training on a wide range of areas, from labour law to personnel management.
- Stephanie has been working on strategy for enhancing the visibility of SIPRI within Sweden. This increased effort is also something the Board has requested.
- Conflict and Peace cluster – new DOS position update - Skype interviews are currently on going. Once this phase is concluded, selected candidates will be invited to Stockholm for interviews.
- Brief update on UD grant that was submitted last Friday in a revised version. This is for 2018-19 money and we are waiting to hear back.

Priorities for 2018

Looking at the priorities for 2018, and upcoming events for this year, it was noted we should discuss this as a team. Who will be present at certain events and where should we be present?

Some events fall clearly under some clusters and other events fall between clusters. Many of them relate to the international events calendar.

- In April (Apr 23 – May 4, 2018 in Geneva), there will be the NPT PrepCom, and the Hiroshima Foundation will probably expect us to participate in an event there. We have not made any decisions as to side events or who would be present?
- In May (14-16), there will be a UN high-level nuclear disarmament conference in NY. There may be interesting side events if someone is think about attending?
- In June, there is the UN Programme of Action review conference on SALW in NY, if anyone is thinking about participation or side events - please inform and brief others who may be interested.
- In August (20-24), there is the Conference of State Parties to the ATT, held in Tokyo.
- In August, there is a BWC expert meeting on science and technology.

A bit more coordination is asked for within the cluster and setting strategic priorities about where we think it would be worthwhile going is called for. It was also flagged up that in the new EUNPC grant, there is going to be a budget line for consortium representatives to attend international conferences on behalf of the consortium. SIPRI can't always make up the full delegation and as coordinator it would not be appropriate. However, it would be good if someone wanted to attend an event but did not have funding then we could try and prioritise.

It is quite openly formulated in the grant, international conferences, side events, and also internationally conferences like the Carnegie Conference. Have a think and let Sibylle know where you would like to attend?

Sometimes you can build travel into your funding proposal. We have done this before, where one has done a paper and launches it at a side event.

Tytti mentioned that if a proposed paper is ready in time for the NPT PrepCom she would be interested.

Mark is thinking about attending the POA event in June but no funding at the moment. However, for the CSP4 ATT in Tokyo, Mark has funding to attend and is planning to do a side event.

In a further tour de table, further 2018 priorities were reported:

Vitaly – as reported the Black Sea nuclear security project is the main priority. In April, they will attend a big conference in Romania. Following this it will be writing up the results and publishing in a policy paper. This project will run until the end of September.

Tytti is searching for further funding. Shannon is thinking about how they can do an overarching project looking at the future of strategic stability and arms control and missile defence would be part of this. Shannon would also like to come out with OUP publication – ‘the future of strategic stability and arms control’. Best funding avenues for this work will be explored.

John – the idea is basically creating a forensic training module following a baseline study on sarin exposure videos. Also working on a draft paper on the joint investigative mechanism and this will involve travel to different institutions. Further publications planned include work to be done on worldwide chemical evidence destruction - chapter in Chemical Toxicology by CRC Press. Planning to do something on guidance for drones. Also planning to work on some follow up with regards CTBTO.

Vincent – the Carnegie Project work continues. Lora had a recent meeting in NY with Carnegie on January 29th about the project. The first thing to prepare is a 1.5-day workshop on May 22-23rd here in SIPRI. The second event will be in China during September 2018 and then the third event will be Sri Lanka during 2019.

Vincent may try to organise a side event at the next GGE on autonomous weapons but the calendar for this event has been shifting with the first meeting in April and the second in August. If possible time wise for Vincent in April, the idea would be to do a physical launch of the report by Vincent & Maaike - *Article 36 reviews: Dealing with the challenges posed by emerging technologies*.

Aude - reported that for AMEX, the priority is the work on developing a new milex database (led by Nan). Also following the arms industry workshop in March, the challenge is what to do following this? Can we adapt the database or change the way we present data on the arms industry? The workshop should produce a lot of different information and ideas to take forward. Anyone in SIPRI that is interested in attending the workshop should let us know. Aude will circulate an agenda and participant list in due course.

Nan – reported about the milex database development project. Companies have submitted bids and by May 2018, a company will be selected. The ambition is to be finished by November 2018 in line with the data collection and ready for data launch in 2019.

Outside of core work and milex database development, Nan has forthcoming publications. One is a paper titled ‘The Cost of Civil War in Fragile States’ that will be published in the *Journal of Development and Economics*. There is book chapter titled ‘Military Spending and Development Re-visited’ in Ron Mathews book, *The Political Economy of Defence*. There is a revise and re-submit paper titled ‘The Spill Over Effects of Civil War’ in the *Journal of Peace Research*. Two of these publications mentioned should at least come out this year.

Planning for interns 2018

DUAT - Johanna will leave at the end of February and they plan to bring in a new intern during the Spring. They have couple of names but will go through the applications.

Sibylle together with Tytti will have a meeting with a potential intern (Swedish) on Wednesday, January 31st and consider an offer following this meeting. AMEX will not have time to manage an intern until September. The possibility of bringing in a Moroccan arms transfers guest researcher was discussed and AMEX are advised to check first with Helena about office space and the timing. This person may also be able to help with Mark's work and Aude will circulate their information.

Revised strategy

Sibylle will get back to us on this but is still waiting for further feedback from the cluster. Please forward to Sibylle.

Next cluster meeting

Armament & Disarmament cluster meeting – March 15th at 11:00am (conference room)

Armament & Disarmament cluster fund raising budget workshop – March 21st at 9:30am (conference room)