

Minute takers: Noel Kelly

Location: The kitchen area

Time: 09:30-11:00

SIPRI Armament and Disarmament Cluster Meeting

Solna, 26 September 2018

## **MINUTES**

Participants:

Sibylle Bauer, Sigrún Rawet, Aude Fleurant (Skype), Giovanna Maletta, Mark Bromley, Kolja Brockmann, Tarja Cronberg, Tytti Erästö, Petr Topychkanov, Alexandra Kuimova, Alexandra Manolache, Shannon Kyle, Quitterie de Labbey, Vitaly Fedchenko, Joey Fox, Martina Selmi, Pieter Wezeman

Agenda:

- Stockholm Security Conference 2018: reflections back - what next?
- Report back from Programme Heads on recent/upcoming activities (please include in the report any updates on UD funded work)
- Open call on Global Security and Disarmament MFA NO
- AOB
- Date of next meeting

*The newly arrived Programme Coordinator for the Peace & Development cluster, Martina Selmi attended the meeting and was introduced to the A&D cluster. Welcome Martina!*

## **Publications**

Joey reported -

- Joey has met or is meeting with all DoS's and Coordinators to manage the operation involved in processing through publications more efficiently. The Editors are trying to promote greater transparency in this process. There are lot of people involved in all our various projects and so a lot of situational awareness needs to happen. If people are aware that certain milestones are being missed or hit then we can recalibrate accordingly. Joey plans to announce more at Monday morning meetings about publications that are coming in and ready for review and will check if people are interested in being reviewers. The in-house and crosscutting review process has dwindled so it hoped to rejuvenate this process.
- Publications will be an agenda point going forward at cluster meetings.
- 26 September – a SIPRI Insights paper by Tytti and Tarja is launched, '*Opposing Trends: The Renewed Salience of Nuclear Weapons and Nuclear Abolitionism*'.

SIPRI Editors are working on the following for the A&D cluster:

- Currently being typeset are the six UD funded Black Sea project papers.
- Working on another round of editing for Nan's paper based on transparency and military expenditure in Sub Saharan Africa.
- Working on the DUAT team paper, *Building state capacity in arms transfer and small arms and light weapons (SALW) controls in the Middle East and North Africa: Mapping current efforts and identifying key challenges*.
- A referee has been found for a paper that Tytti is working on concerning the Middle East and a nuclear weapons free zone.
- Siemon is expected to deliver a draft policy paper about arms flows to South East Asia. This should be ready for internal (i.e. AMEX and others in-house) review on Friday (2018/09/28).
- Siemon has committed to working on a paper about UNROCA (UN Register of Conventional Arms) and hopes to submit a draft for

internal review on 6 November 2018. Joey has taken this opportunity to remind staff that if anyone is interested in reviewing these papers once drafted - please make it known.

- The first of EUNPDC paper has been added to editors schedule. The author is Nevine Schepers, a research analyst from IISS and the subject matter will be 'Russia's nuclear energy exports: status, prospects and implications'.
- Joey has flagged to touch base with her – about two papers on machine learning being planned but more information and clarification are needed.
- There will be five papers coming to the editors related to the Stockholm Security Conference 2018. Four background papers by external authors (informing the study but not published by SIPRI) are due in the first half of October plus a paper on 'BIO+X' by Kolja, Vincent and Sibylle due to editors in mid-November.
- Two items are firm future publications but as of yet have no dates: Pieter's paper on the Gulf region and a background paper from Mark and Marina concerning SDGs.
- Staff are requested to follow up with Joey about any of the items mentioned or if something was not mentioned at the meeting relating to forthcoming publications.
- Only other tentative item that Joey is aware of is from Tytti concerning a project proposal going to Ploughshares. This depends on funding being acquired. More generally, it is important to inform the editors if funding is acquired and publications are subsequently needed as soon as known.
- Standard YB and data launches are not included in the master A&D cluster check-in list yet.
- Sibylle made a point about it being important to get back into proper review habits. We need to be informing colleagues when we are finished a draft and what is actually in it. It is a two way process.

### **Stockholm Security Conference 2018 – A&D cluster feedback**

The cluster meeting had round table discussion and gave feedback. *See this feedback reported in a separate document attached.*

**Report back from Programme Heads on recent/upcoming activities  
(please include in the report any updates on UD funded work)**

**DUAT Programme**

Mark reported –

- The contract has been signed with the U.S. State Department for a 12-month project on the enforcement of ITT controls and inter-regime dialogues. In terms of upcoming, during week 40 Mark is presenting at an OSCE Workshop on SALW in Vienna (about transparency and reporting on arms transfers). This event is a two-day workshop organised every two years about the implementation of the SALW and conventional arms instruments within the OSCE Forum on Security Cooperation, currently chaired by Sweden. As part of this process DUAT are trying to update information on reporting levels for the different arms transfers transparency instruments including UNROCA. (Siemon from AMEX is currently drafting a paper on UNROCA, to be circulated for internal review on 6 November.)
- Work is continuing on the ATT activities database and a draft of a background paper has been produced about activities in MENA. It's gone out for external review but people are invited in-house if they would like to comment on it. Mark will send out to the A&D cluster.
- On 21-22 September, Kolja along with Sibylle, attended PRIF's Annual Conference 2018: *Verification in Crisis – the Crisis of Verification: New Technology as a Hurdle to and an Enabler of Verification in Arms Control* (Kolja was on a panel about emerging technologies, presenting on 3D printing).
- From 24-25 September, Kolja was at workshop (FALEX German Industry Compliance Training) in Seligenstadt, Germany, and gave a presentation on export control and compliance challenges for industry presented by emerging technologies, using the example of the 3D printing.
- On 4-5 October, Kolja will be in Brussels at an event organised by the EU P2P an outreach programme founded by the EU to build capacity on export controls. The Commission, the export control regimes and partners countries from a variety of regions will be present.
- On 17-19 October, Kolja will be attending the 59th Stanley Foundation Strategy For Peace Conference, in Warrington, Virginia. Kolja will participate in a roundtable on 'Frontier Technologies: Designing

Multistakeholder Approaches for Technology Governance and the [UN Secretary General] Disarmament Agenda'.

- On 6-8 November, Kolja will be attending the Pacific Forum Conference in Taiwan presenting his recent paper on 'Drafting, Implementing, and Complying with Export Controls: The Challenge Presented by Emerging Technologies' (Strategic Trade Review, Vol. 4, Issue 6 (Spring/Summer2018)).
- On 27-28 November, Kolja will be in Brussels, attending an event hosted by the University Network, Liege and the JRC.

### **Emerging military and security technologies project**

Vincent reporting –

- Is currently focussed on Carnegie project work activities. There are some publications lined up and Vincent will be meeting with Joey/Editors to discuss but first will discuss a publication plan within the team. The forthcoming event in South Asia is being planned and Petr is taking the lead. It will most likely take place in India, during February or early March. Lora and Fei are working on preparing the report from the Carnegie project workshop event - *mapping the impact of machine learning and autonomy on strategic stability and nuclear risk* - organised by SIPRI and held in Beijing on 6-7 September.
- On 15 October, Vincent will be traveling to Washington for training organised by Carnegie on the topic: Strategic communication training for grantee of the Carnegie Grant on emerging technologies.
- On 22-24 October, Vincent is in Berlin to attend a meeting of an international panel on the regulation of autonomous weapons organised by SWP.

### **AMEX Programme**

Pieter reported –

- A few things finished quite recently include a publication in the EPSJ (Economics of Peace and Security Journal) special issue edition based on the arms industry workshop held in March and has come out in October (Aude & Nan wrote introduction and 5 papers produced from participants).
- Aude and Siemon participated in publication by KIET about Japanese and South Korean arms industry.

- Data collection, processing, analysis and preparing the fact sheet for arms industry launch (10 Dec.) is well underway. The milex data collection work also continues.
- The SIPRI Milex online database development work continues (near completion. Will meet with developers - [Thursday](#) 27 September - to see what they have done, testing phase in October. Deadline is November so we can use new database for YB/Launch 2019.
- AMEX has some consultancy work coming up with Transparency International related to their defence sector corruption index.
- Siemon is going to a seminar meeting on 27 November organized within the EUNPDC framework (by IISS) about MANPADS in Brussels and may take the opportunity to attend a meeting (28 November) by the Parliamentary Forum on SALW (pending funding).
- On 24 October, Aude will participate in an international conference - *U.S.-Korea Defense Acquisition and Security Cooperation* - organised by KIET/DAPA about the global arms industry in Seoul. Aude will present on global arms industry trends.
- There are possible plans for an YB launch event for the Arabic translation version, probably in November - TBC. AMEX is planning for Alexandra to represent the AMEX team at this event.
- EuroMeSCo network: Pieter had previously been the contact point but Alexandra has now taken on this role. Alexandra has been participating in EuroMeSCo projects and SIPRI has now re-established its position as an active observer to EuroMeSCo. Alexandra will provide information on relevant EuroMeSCo projects/conferences/workshops to SIPRI researchers and the hope is it will be a good opportunity for SIPRI to develop a network of researchers in Europe and be better known in MENA.
- Alexandra is also working on the policy brief '*Russia's arms transfers to the MENA*' and this should be ready to go to the Editors towards the end of October or early November. It will be published after November.
- On 12 October, in the framework of a EuroMeSCo project Alexandra is attending a workshop in Milan (organized by The Institute for International Political Studies – ISPI). This workshop is on Russia's role in MENA and Alexandra will present on Russian arms transfers to the MENA region.

- Alexandra also sent a report for the minutes on her recent trip to a workshop - *Experts Workshop on Security Challenges and Prospects in the Maghreb* - held in Tunisia on 18-20 September. Alexandra participated in the round table on the role of the International Community and the security challenges in the Maghreb and presented on Russian perspectives. Alexandra had a presentation on 'Russia's role in the Maghreb (military cooperation incl. arms transfers to the region). FES is planning to publish some of the presentations from the workshop including Alexandra's. They have yet to decide on the format.

### **Nuclear team**

- Due to limited time there was not enough time for a standard report. However, one recent development from the SIPRI China and Global Security Programme on a planned workshop happening in January did come up for discussion. The workshop will be about regional security in North East Asia and looking at CBRN elements of this, it looked really like something that could have been done by experts from the SIPRI nuclear team. The team were not aware until a revised draft version was sent to the Japanese MFA and they do have funding for this. However, the information has come too late in the day for the nuclear team. Also as the SIPRI nuclear team only got to see the revised draft version they weren't in a position to make many substantive changes or suggestions and the Japanese had already given preliminary approval. A lesson to take forward is we need to improve coordination going forward on regional and topic activities, as there can be a good degree of overlap.

### **Open call on Global Security and Disarmament MFA NO**

- There are two different calls of interest to SIPRI, one under Development and Disarmament and one under Global Security Challenges. These are on-going calls.

<https://grants.mfa.no/#call/1101>

<https://grants.mfa.no/#call/1081>

- It is recommended we have in-depth discussions in the programmes and we can feed back results of these discussions to Sibylle. Vitaly had asked externally about this call (1101) and reported it is not possible to apply with competing projects from the same institute under this call but has to be one proposal. Although the proposal many have different components they should link together under one proposal. Brainstorming within SIPRI on different ideas about what can be

included is suggested and then to have a joint SIPRI decision to put forward.

## IDEAS

- Ideas were forthcoming from Vitaly, Tytti, Pieter (1101), Vincent and Alexandra (call 1081).
- Vitaly – Referenced two possible options that may be explored, titles - *convergence of verification mechanism* OR *concerning nuclear security*.
- Tytti/Petr – Mentioned possibly doing something on India and Pakistan from an arms control perspective. As they are two non-NPT members, perhaps the proposal could include some academic exchange or working with civil society. It was reported as an opportunity to bring experts from these countries to SIPRI. Questions addressed could be similar to what was done for the Hiroshima project – in cooperation with India and Pakistani experts – examining how to remove obstacles in the way of disarmament. Also an opportunity to include other SIPRI researchers under the title of multilateral arms control as it may be about technology, new technologies, or different countries. It will help us to engage developing countries.
- Vincent – Would like to examine the objective raised in the call that is looking to strengthen the ability of developing countries to deal with cyber threats and protect their digital infrastructure. Vincent has been working on such a topic with the SIPRI YB some years ago. A possibility would be to partner and develop the connection with NUPI, Norway. It would be a way to connect the work that Mark is doing on cyber security technologies but moving it away from the pure export control angle and bring in people from the P&D cluster. Mark expressed an interest in feeding into such a project. Looking at cyber governance in the developing world would be a really interesting project to many and it has the real possibility to be cross institute project. Sibylle will run this by Gary too for interest.
- Alexandra – The Sahel and West Africa team together with AMEX have a research idea they would like to apply to MFA NO for. The project idea is to report arms procurement by the regional organisation of G5 Sahel States established in 2014 that includes, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. Analyse external military support to these countries by different external actors since 2014. Supporting states include from the EU, Gulf countries, the USA and Russia. It is

an opportunity obviously for the Sahel team and AMEX teams to work together in-house.

- Concept notes based on the SIPRI template are to be sent to Sibylle by Monday, 8 October.

## **AOB**

- FYI - SMT have an away day on 9 October.
- You are once again reminded to please send to the Cluster Coordinator or add directly information for your forthcoming events list into the clusters wiki:

[http://clusterswiki.sipri.org/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://clusterswiki.sipri.org/index.php/Main_Page)

**Next A&D cluster meeting is on 16 October at 9:30am, in the conference room.**