

Minute taker: Noel Kelly  
Time: 9:30-11:00PM

**SIPRI Armament and Disarmament Cluster Meeting**  
Solna, 11 September 2019

**Participants:**

Sibylle Bauer, Shannon Kile, Mark Bromley, Pieter Wezeman (Skype), Tytti Erasto, Petr Topychkanov, Nan Tian, Kolja Brockmann, Giovanna Maletta, Diego Lopes, Alexandra Kuimova, John Batho, Lena Kappelin, Moa Peldán Carlsson, Vitaly Fedchenko, Paul Gerharz, Enzo Caponetti

**Agenda for A&D cluster meeting 11 September 2019:**

- Report back from the Programme/Project Heads on recent/upcoming activities/meetings
- Implementation of ongoing UD grant: update on all deliverables
- Grant application updates (Read and check information on Excel sheet circulated on 6 September)
- Report back from SMT/Sibylle
- UNGA 1st Committee - A&D Cluster representation
- Intern recruitment for A&D
- In-house cluster events: recap on logistics procedures and planning of upcoming events
- 2019 Stockholm Security Conference - update
- 2020 SIPRI Yearbook
- Publications updates (Joey/John)
- Report back on activity from other Clusters -
- AOB
  - Clusterwiki
  - Emerging technologies in-house meeting on a research strategy (date)

## 2019 Stockholm Security Conference - update

- The meeting started with an update about the 2019 Stockholm Security Conference – *Conflict and technology: now and in the future*. The general audience invitations were sent out during this week (w.37) including to staff and those planning to attend are asked to ensure they register. The Cluster was advised that a general invitation being sent out could be shared with ones own networks.

## Emerging Military and Security Technologies

- On the 18-22 August Vincent and Moa were in Geneva for a meeting with the *Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (GGE LAWS)*. This information is in the [clusterswiki](#). The first meeting was held in March and this second meeting was more technical in nature with a lot of discussion on language. It was reported to be very useful for the SIPRI project representatives to be there and engage in side discussions with current funders but also with potential future funders and partners.
- The Dutch MFA who currently help fund the project work on human control is keen to continue through next year. Discussions about next steps are in process with The *International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)* to continue the working relationship. Vincent has been in discussions with UNIDIR about having a joint project related to AI and Swarms.
- Vincent has also been engaged with Cluster 3 and the Climate change and risk team on potential collaboration and together have submitted a proposal for the next round of the Mistra grant for a project examining how AI can be used to forecast climate change related security risk. This project would run for 4 years and start in 2021.
- Vincent will be going to the UN General Assembly's First Committee on International Security and Disarmament for the ICRC project on 24 October and present research findings. The panel meeting Vincent will attend is organised by the German Foreign Office.
- For the Carnegie project, Anja Kasperson from UNIDIR in Geneva has invited the project to hold a launch event on 3 December at the UN library.

## DUAT

- Mark attended a meeting in Stockholm during August organised by the Global Challenges Foundation. This was a preparatory meeting for a larger meeting happening in Geneva called the "*New Shape Forum: Weapons Governance*" being held on 30 September - 1 October. For the event in Geneva, Sibylle has agreed to Chair a session on *Data & Monitoring*. The Forum is being jointly organised by the Global Challenges Foundation and the Geneva Disarmament Platform and Chatham House are also a partner.

The Fifth Conference of States Parties (CSP5) of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) was held in Geneva, Switzerland from 26-30 August 2019. Distinguished Associate Fellow, Ambassador Paul Beijer, represented a presence for SIPRI.

- On 26 August, Aude, Pieter, and Mark met with Noelle Pourrat a representative of Carnegie Corporation of New York, here in SIPRI. DUAT and AMEX had previously applied to Carnegie for a project on arms exports that was rejected on this occasion. Noelle gave feedback on the application by SIPRI and a main point made was on a failure to have a communications strategy. Vincent and Lora were previously as grantee recipients, at communication training offered by Carnegie, and Vincent is happy at some point to present the key highlights from his training and share with others. Communications must be involved and it was agreed Vincent's proposal should be followed up on. Mark has agreed to pull together ideas for Carnegie to consider along with the AMEX team and the Emerging military and security technologies project team. Close coordination is needed on this and Mark has given an internal deadline by end of week 38 (Friday/20/09). A key point made about drafting a project proposal for Carnegie is to emphasise why the project is necessary and what is the purpose. It must be clear, well indicated and measurable, not just the purpose being to write a report.
- For UD grant work, Mark, Enzo and Jose are finalising a report on reporting instruments that covers arms transfers and arms transfers controls. This report focuses particularly on the records and challenges faced by developing states. The report will be with the Editors by the end of October. The arms flows and SDG 16.4 work is done but Marina and Mark may update the background paper released. The work on the ATT database is done.
- On 3-4 October, Mark is travelling London for the World ECR Conference and giving a presentation titled, *Taking stock: EU export control reform*. More information is in the [clusterswiki](#). Mark and

DUAT intern Paul Gerharz are working on a blog piece at the moment on this issue.

- Giovanna is working on a short piece for Treccani, the Italian institute for encyclopaedia. This will be the entry 'Armaments' for a new editorial project that focuses on the key words of XXI century.
- Kolja reported on recent meetings with the German MFA. They are continuing their initiative on technology developments, one of their main focus areas. This is within the larger framework of the German Presidency of the European Council in 2020. There is an ambition to organise a large technology conference probably in Brussels building on a series of roundtable events. The conference should not just be a reiteration of ideas discussed at previous roundtable discussions but further new ideas are wanted. Discussions are on going and if you want to know more check with Kolja. More information on roundtable meetings that Kolja and Sibylle attended is in the [clusterswiki](#).
- On 9 September, Kolja attended a Conference organised by the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control in Berlin. He delivered a keynote speech on '*Bio Plus X: New developments in biotechnology and emerging technologies*'.
- On 25-27 September, Kolja is attending a large technical conference in Darmstadt, Germany. This event brings together all the technical universities in Germany who are doing activities that are arms control related. Kolja has submitted a paper and poster for the conference.
- Sibylle mentioned in relation to the German initiative that one of the ideas floated is there could be an event leading up to German funded conference in Brussels in collaboration with the EUNPDC. The Germans are willing to pay for it and Sibylle will raise it with the EU. We need to think to what extent SIPRI takes the lead on it? It could be an interesting opportunity in late spring of 2020 and the logical thing would be to do this jointly with PRIF.

## **EUNPDC**

- The Cluster is reminded that the EUNPDC Conference this year will be held on the 13/14 December. On 12 December the Consortium will host a Next Generation Workshop and the Annual Network Meeting. Sibylle suggested sending around the agenda for the conference in December to ascertain interest in the topics. Anybody who would like to go can then send a message to Giovanna. Sibylle and Giovanna will

need to check how many slots are available for SIPRI participants in total and how many can be funded.

- A EUNPDC Ad-hoc seminar on arms control in outer space will take place on 9 December in Brussels, organised by FRS.

### **Nuclear disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation**

- On 2/3 September the Programme held a meeting on the subject of unlocking nuclear disarmament diplomacy, an activity funded by the Swedish MFA. The meeting brought together a group of international experts and was well balanced in terms of geographical representation and gender balance. Tytti is preparing a two-page paper that will provide an operational guideline in preparation for a senior officials meeting scheduled here in Stockholm during November.
- On the current Hiroshima Prefecture Grant, this is the third consecutive year and Petr is a lead author this year for the report on reducing the salience of nuclear weapons. The report will be presented in connection with the 2020 NPT Conference.
- The project application *Assessing Nuclear Deterrence Risks and Challenges in South Asia* is awaiting approval by the German MFA. It focuses on interactions between China, India and Pakistan.
- On 12 September, Shannon travels to Seoul for a number of meetings set up with South Korean officials. Former SIPRI Deputy Director and current Swedish Ambassador Jacob Hallgren will host the visiting party from SIPRI.
- On 27 September, Tytti will travel to Teheran, Iran, and visit the Institute for Political and International Studies for a research visit in relation a EU Consortium paper to be written with a working title of; *The arms control-regional security nexus in the Iran nuclear issue*.
- At the end of October, Shannon is planning to go to China for a conference organised by the PLA and the Chinese MFA.
- Further information on the SIPRI Nuclear teams upcoming trips are in the A&D clusterswiki.

### **AMEX**

- Current activities include being in the process of collecting arms industry data with the annual launch scheduled on 9 December. On UD

work, the AMEX team are working on finishing up an ODA Factsheet and an Off-Budget Policy Paper/Insights Paper (TBD) and this will be sent on 18 September to the Editors for internal review.

- The other two data launches dates will be arms transfers on 7 March 2020, and milex on 20 April 2020. Reminders for the SIPRI milex questionnaire are currently being sent out.
- The UD South East Asia paper by Siemon will shortly come to Editorial for final editing.
- The AMEX team will receive a visiting PhD student named Tamara Lorincz, from the Balsillie School of International Affairs, Canada. Tamara will be here for a few days in October and give a presentation of her work about Canadian arms and military spending and do some research at SIPRI.
- AMEX in collaboration with Ian Anthony will receive a visit by Michael Sohlman, an expert on Russia's economy and transition economies for an informal presentation of his work on the Russian economy. The date is to TBC but sometime in late October or November.

### **Grant application updates**

All in good order for A&D and the information on the sheet is up to date.

### **Chemical Weapons project**

- On SIPRI chemical weapons project work, Sibylle reported that Ian is working on a UD funded paper with Christer Ahlström, titled '*Responding to chemical weapon use: Assessing the implications of the CSP-SS4 decisions of June 2018*'. They are both travelling to Hague during week 38 for meetings with OPCW. On the Norway grant application for 'Strengthening Global Regimes to Promote Nuclear and Chemical Security' it is still in process and we await a decision. Ian is also trying for funding from other sources.

### **Report back from SMT/Sibylle**

- When we have an in-house visiting delegations our point of contact is Elena who should always be informed. Elena will find out if Dan or Sigrun are available to meet. If you are the main contact person that

agreed to meet a delegation and cannot make it then you must find a replacement in-house.

- On the cooperation with UNIDIR they remain very interested in a strategic partnership with SIPRI. It was suggested we could bring John Borrie to meet our Cluster for a brainstorming session on what we could work on in partnership. Before such a meeting it would be useful to have an internal discussion first and more to come on this.
- On the 12 September the German export control Ambassador Dr Julia Monar will visit SIPRI and have a greeting meeting with Sigrun and then meet with the DUAT team.
- On 23/24 September we are hosting an NPD Education Workshop here in SIPRI. Sibylle has the lead and Noel is helping to organise this event. The first morning session is about identifying the issues by having a scan broadly of the 'state of play' within NPD education in the different regions that will be represented around the table. The afternoon on day 1 will be about good practices and models to follow: What kind of e-modules are there? What kinds of courses are being taught that are relevant? What modules are included within different university departments that focus on disarmament issues? Etc. Day 2 - will be about the way forward: How there could be more collaboration, through exchanges of visiting professors, guest lectures, exchanging interns, fellowships and shared classrooms. The broader issue will be discussed of how this can be linked to the EU Non-Proliferation Consortium initiative. We want to have a larger event next year focussing on building up education capacity in Europe on arms control and non-proliferation disarmament and involving the whole network.
- Sibylle highlighted Markus Schiller, from Munich University, as a contact person of interest for those working on missile issues.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/markus-schiller-769478100/>

- An update on the next UD grant was given. Following internal Cluster staff input, the respective DoS's compiled a draft into one document and Dan is going through this before sending it in. Anything clearly related to an SDG will be included and all the dialogue work and issues related to SALW. What went in from our Cluster falls under 4 headings:

- 1) Disarmament Education
- 2) Technology access in developing countries
- 3) SDG 16.4 – covers illicit arms trade

4) Transparency/ accountability (Enabling civil society actors and others to scrutinise their governments on defence spending)

- Once we know the overall extra financial UD support available we need to do a specific budget.

On the subject of cluster representation at the UNGA 1<sup>st</sup> Committee meeting, Vincent will probably attend, Petr maybe and Lora maybe.

### **Interns**

- We could not discuss yet in detail but the Cluster is advised to plan ahead. Vincent is keen to bring in an intern soon and Mark has also expressed an interest. This will be followed up on.

### **In-house Cluster Events**

- If you are planning an in-house event the first person to contact is the Cluster Coordinator. Noel can help organise practicalities and outsource to others.

### **SIPRI Yearbook 2020**

- Mark requested this be put on the agenda. Researchers have been asked to submit outlines for their respective chapters to the Editors by the end of the month and their general involvement. Mark had requested sharing a comparison of plans or any particular thematic issues. Researchers from each of Programmes gave a brief outline. The Cluster are reminded there are very strict page limits this years with the ambition being to slim down the Yearbook.

### **Publications**

- Editorial are stretched at the moment with Frank working more with Communications at the moment to help fill in the gap since Harri's departure.

### **Website**

- More time needs to be invested in some of our webpages. Kolja will be contact for the biological project work and Sibylle for the chemical project work developing in SIPRI.

### **Brainstorming Meeting: SIPRI Strategy on Emerging Technology**

- This meeting will be held on 9 October at 13:00PM. Vincent will send a concept note beforehand.

### **Cluster Meeting**

- The next meeting will be held on 10 October at 13:00PM.