

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

24 November 2021

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Luc van de Goor, Maria Kaemmerle, Jannie Lilja, Dan Smith, Joakim Vaverka

Note-taker

Elena Haapaniemi (not present for item 11)

Format

Hybrid meeting

1. Corona virus

- Recent covid-related developments in Europe and expected renewed travel restrictions might affect SIPRI, so everyone is encouraged to stay up-to-date, especially those colleagues who are planning to travel abroad.
- The SMT continues to monitor the situation in Sweden.

2. Minutes

- The minutes of the SMT meeting on November 17 were approved.

3. Matters arising

- Two TBC events that have been mentioned in the previous minutes, namely a high-level OSCE event and the launch of the Anthropocene book will no longer take place in December but will be rescheduled.

4. Report back and forthcoming events

Luc

- The EU application submitted by the Sahel/West Africa team has been approved. This will be a 36-month project on the establishment of a regional network for peacebuilding in 18 West Africa and Lake Chad Bassin countries, in a consortium led by the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) and including the Danish Refugee Council (DRC).

Steph

- Timo's CSDP report launch event in Brussels was very well received.
- The arms industry data launch preparations are going on smoothly; the team is doing a great job.
- SIPRI will host two external events in the afternoon of November 30: first, the annual visit of NIS department of the Swedish MFA and then an event with the Swedish OSCE network.

Maria

- The finance team is planning for the year end. All teams should remember to send in all the invoices in good time before the end of the year.

Jannie

- Jannie is getting ready to participate, virtually, in the IPU deliberations.

Joakim

- On November 18, Joakim participated in the conference "Small states in the UN Security Council: ambitions and achievements of Estonia and Norway" held in Tallin. The event was successful and provided food-for-thought for future SIPRI advice to elected Security Council members.
- On November 19, Joakim participated in the Stockholm Environment Hub 2.0 retreat, which was very successful. A re-launch of the Hub will take place next year. SIPRI and partners SIWI, SEI and SRC have received three year funding for this work from the Swedish MFA.

Dan

- For her speech at a conference in Berlin organised by Challenges Forum together with the German Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), Ann Linde used Florian's contribution and referenced SIPRI's research and data.

5. Allocation of the 2022 strategic grant

- The SMT went through the project proposals. Based on this discussion, the list has been trimmed but further trimming will be needed considering the funds available. The DoSes will complete the document with a short description per project plus budget, latest by December 3. After that, the SMT will review the proposals and make decisions.

6. Update on review of policies

- This agenda item has been deferred until December 1.

7. SMT Away Day agenda

- The SMT adopted the agenda for the strategic away-day scheduled to take place at SIPRI in the afternoon of December 8.

8. Archiving of attic materials

- NTR.

9. Staffing & project issues

- Both Timo's December workshop and related reception by the French embassy might be affected by the covid situation. Joakim will follow up with the French Embassy. Also related to the workshop, Dan will approach Margot to see whether she could do the opening remarks.
- On December 14, the EP team will host a hybrid panel meeting in Stockholm. First drafts of each section of the EP report have been completed.
- The OSCE high level event has been postponed until January, precise date TBC..
- The SMT endorsed extending the internship of Pranav R. Satyanath, a part-time remote intern with the nuclear team, until the end of January 2022.

- Dan, Dylan and Florian will meet Johan Schaar, most probably in January, to discuss his continued collaboration with SIPRI.
- The Münster International Peace Research Initiative, based at the University of Münster, Germany, approached SIPRI for a possible partnership. The SMT agreed not to enter in a full scale partnership at this stage.

10. AOB

- NTR.

11. Executive session

- The SMT held an executive session.

Action points:

- Further input on project applications under the strategic grant for 2022 – DoSes by Dec 3
- Follow up with the French embassy for the workshop reception - Joakim

Items carried forward:

- Update on review of polices
- Recruitment Process Checklist
- SSC 2021 – lessons learnt and the way forward