



## SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

27 October 2021

### MINUTES

#### Participants

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

Lilian Ekelin for agenda item 5 and Helena Berger for agenda items 1 and 5.

#### Note-taker

Elena Haapaniemi

#### Format

Hybrid meeting

#### **1. Corona virus**

- Preparations for the organised return to the office are moving ahead; the WFH policy has been endorsed by the SMT and is going to be presented and discussed at the next Cooperation group meeting.
- Helena has started to work on a risk assessment which should cover both working from home and returning to the office procedures and processes.

#### **2. Minutes**

- The minutes of the SMT meeting on October 20 were approved.

#### **3. Matters arising**

- The SMT confirmed that the next strategic SMT away-day will be held on December 8 at SIPRI office.

#### **4. Report back and forthcoming events**

*Luc*

- On October 28, there will be a meeting with the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, MSB, organised by Timo.

*Steph*

- SIPRI is looking into opportunities of engaging with the Munich Security Conference with the focus on climate issues.

*Jannie*

- On October 29, the Forum assessment by the ECDPM will be presented to the MFA in a joint meeting with SIPRI.

- SIPRI continues to cooperate with the Swedish IPU Delegation; it has been agreed that SIPRI will provide input to both the draft resolution on the role of parliaments in peacebuilding and to the backgrounder.

#### *Joakim*

- Joakim has accepted the invitation to be on the panel “Small States in the UNSC” that will be held in Tallin on November 18.
- Joakim continues the dialogue with the French Embassy and with the Swedish MFA on a possibility of organising a joint event in the beginning of 2022 with a focus on the Africa-EU summit.

#### *Dan*

- On October 26, Dan, Luc and Fei met with the President of the Korean Foundation for Advanced Studies, KFAS and discussed the possibilities of partnering in KFAS future projects in the Nordic region.

### **5. Presentation by Lilian Ekelin of a workshop on “Work engagement”**

- Lilian presented the concept for a workshop on staff engagement at a workplace. The SMT discussed how it could be applied to SIPRI context and proposed some tweaks that Lilian will incorporate. The SMT endorsed the proposed workshop.
- Maria and Helena will work on the timing.

### **6. Budget 2022**

- Maria guided the SMT through the 2nd financial forecast and the latest draft of the 2022 budget. Both documents will be presented to the Board at the forthcoming meeting on November 15-16. In its current form, the 2022 budget is in balance.
- The DoS will have a look again at the Budget, focusing on the identified grants, and let Maria know, in the next couple of days, if there are any changes.

### **7. Update of &frankly Plan of Action**

- Joakim brought the SMT up to speed with the latest developments relating to the &frankly Plan of Action, reporting on feedback from the Cooperation group.
- The forthcoming inspection by the Swedish Work Environment Authority on October 28 is very timely in this regard, and will hopefully help provide the management with additional tools for continuing to implement the Plan of Action and, where necessary, develop it further since it is a living document.

### **8. Archiving of attic materials**

- All the boxes that remain in the corridor downstairs need to be transported to an outside storage facility. Maria will ask Christina to book this.

### **9. Staffing & project issues**

- Sibylle provided updates on two forthcoming projects:
  - The negotiations with the German export licencing authority to contribute to a Middle East project are entering their final stage; Mark has the lead on that, in close cooperation with Dylan and his team.
  - Lucie and Vincent have been discussing with the Centre for War Studies of the University of Southern Denmark SIPRI’s participation in their application to the

Danish National Research Foundation to form a center of excellence on emerging military technologies and their consequences for warfare. If successful, the project will be implemented in 2023-2028. It would involve 2 part-time post-doc guest researchers and 1-2 part-time PhD students at SIPRI, working on the 4th Industrial Revolution's impact on the arms industry.

#### Stockholm Security Conference

- Luc provided an update on the SSC. Most of the sessions are fully prepared. We have already more than 2000 registrations. All the sessions have their social media card.
- The SMT agreed to organize a dinner for the members of the opening panel plus SMT members involved in the SSC at 18:00 on the first day of the Conference.
- Dan will be meeting the three panelists at SIPRI in the morning of the November 8, prior to the panel.

#### **10. AOB**

- The visit of the Ukrainian Minister of Defense has been cancelled.
- The RSC agenda should include the following items:
  - Events planning
  - Agenda of the November Governing Board meeting.
  - Discussion on new Board members.
  - Return to the office and Working from Home policy.
  - An update on the &Frankly follow up.
  - AoBs.

#### **11. Executive session**

- The SMT held an executive session.

##### **Action points:**

- Timing for the "Engagement at workplace" workshop – Helena and Maria
- Necessary bookings to transfer the remaining archives to an external storage facility – Maria and Christina

##### **Items carried forward:**

- Recruitment Process Checklist