

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

29 September 2021

MINUTES

Participants

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

Note-taker

Elena Haapaniemi

Format

Hybrid meeting.

1. Corona virus

- As of September 29, most covid-related restrictions in Sweden are being lifted.

2. Minutes

- Feedback from Joakim is pending on the minutes from the SMT meeting on September 22, 2021.

3. Matters arising

- Maria did a draft seating arrangement plan; it is being shared with SIPRI safety officer, Ulla.
- The SMT will look into the requirements for attending digital meetings for those who share rooms/while at work.

4. Report back and forthcoming events

Luc

- On September 24, SIPRI hosted Joost Flaman, Director of Security Policy of the Dutch MFA. It was a good meeting that included discussion of our research in the Sahel and on maritime security as well as the Turkey round tables. Joakim, Pauline, Sibylle, Ian and Luc participated for SIPRI.

Jannie

- Joakim is in Vienna together with Anniek and Niklas Bremberg to present the SIPRI study on the climate change and the OSCE; the event is hosted by the Swedish mission.

Steph

- On Oct 4, invitations to the SSC will be sent out.

- On Sept 29, Steph will be meeting with the defence attaché of the Ukrainian embassy to discuss and to prepare for the visit of the Ukrainian Minister of Defence.
- Steph and team are working on finalising a brief document on clearance procedures for time-sensitive online commentary pieces; once ready, the document will be shared with the SMT.

Maria

- On behalf of the whole Institute including the SMT, Maria congratulated the IT team on the thoroughly prepared and smoothly implemented migration of the e-mail system. Magda, William and Leif - very well done and a wholehearted Thank You from the SMT and from all SIPRI staff!
- There is a lot of follow up work linked to the migration, which will keep our IT colleagues very busy for some time ahead.

Sibylle

- Earlier that day, Sibylle delivered a lecture on exports control for 30 diplomats within the framework of a diplomatic training program in Vienna. Later that day, Sibylle was going to deliver a lecture to another group of diplomats, this time in the Netherlands.
- Efforts to connect the SSC with an event in Ypres on the Armistice Day continue; Sibylle will keep the SMT up-to-date on that.

Dan

- On September 24, Dan travelled to Oslo to participate in an event organised by the WFP and the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo on the theme of “Fix the Food”.
- On September 28, Dan, Joakim and Jannie had a working lunch with, Helen Eduards, the new Director General for International Development Cooperation at the Swedish MFA.

5. Outline ideas for the 2022 budget

- As a first step in preparing the 2022 budget, the DoSes and Heads of the Outreach and Operations presented their overarching ideas on areas for investment in 2022.

Follow up:

- Dan thanked the SMT for the input and noted that the first draft of the budget must be presented to the Board at the November meeting.
- Dan reminded SMT about the request from the Board for a report on all of our cyber-related work; the report needs to be ready ahead of the Board meeting on November 15-16. The report does not have to be lengthy but it needs to document all that we are doing in terms of cyber security.

6. Archiving of attic materials

- There has been good progress but there is more to do.

7. Staffing & project issues

- The SMT approved recruitment of a RA for the MILAP team.
- The HR group will have its regular meeting on Oct 1.

8. AOB

- NTR.

9. Executive session

- The SMT held an executive session.

Action points:

- Finalising the seating plan – Maria
- Publications’ clearance procedures – Steph
- 2022 draft budget– Maria
- Report on the cyber-related work – Dan, Sibylle.

Items carried forward:

- Travel policy
- Diversity and inclusion training
- SIPRI Intranet
- Recruitment Process Checklist
- Procedure for in-house review of external publications by SIPRI staff