

## **SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

30 November 2022

### **MINUTES**

#### Participants

Stephanie Blenckner, Jannie Lilja, Kristina Sandberg, Dan Smith, Luc van de Goor, Joakim Vaverka

Sibylle Bauer and Hedvig Brage (for item 3)

#### Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

#### Format

Hybrid meeting

#### **1. Minutes**

- SMT approved the minutes of the 23 November meeting.

#### **2. Report back**

##### **a. Sweden**

- Ian Anthony will join a Swedish Ministry of Defence and Swedish Defence University delegation in a scenarios of war tabletop exercise on the Arctic at the National Defence University in Washington, DC from 5-9 December.
- The Peace and Development Cluster had a great retreat on 29 November. The retreat included two external guests: Johan Broché, Associate Professor at the Department for Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University and Henrik Hammargren, Executive Director of the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation.

##### **b. International**

- Ian Anthony has been invited by the Japanese government to be a member of the 'International Group of Eminent Persons for a World without Nuclear Weapons'. Ian will attend the first meeting of the group in Hiroshima on 10-11 December.

##### **c. Relations with other organizations**

- The NATO Defence College would like to co-host a conference on NATO's enlargement to Finland and Sweden with SIPRI and the Finnish Institute of International Affairs. Dan has agreed to this. The date and location of the conference are yet to be confirmed.

- Dan recently met with Nils Melzer, ICRC's new Director of International Law, Policy and Humanitarian Diplomacy. ICRC would like to deepen its partnership with SIPRI. The next SIPRI-ICRC Annual Roundtable will take place in January 2023.
- The Swedish Red Cross would like to strengthen its collaboration with SIPRI on research on food systems in Africa.
- UNHCR is interested in a new regional project with SIPRI and other partners on young internally displaced people in the Sahel region, the factors motivating their migration and the potential risks of violent extremism.
- Oxfam Great Britain is interested in working with SIPRI on assessing their country programming.
- SIPRI and the g7+ will sign a formal partnership MoU tomorrow.
- SMT discussed follow-up with the African Union on a potential partnership. Dan will seek advice from Hafsa Maalim, Associate Senior Researcher at SIPRI.
- The Sahel-West Africa Programme's event last week in Dakar with the Danish Refugee Council went well.

**d. Operations**

- The HR department will move to Operations as of 1 December.
- An interim audit took place last week. SIPRI is waiting for the report.

**e. Strategic Grant 2020-2022 report**

- Joakim will share an updated timetable for the report with DoSes today.

**3. &frankly survey**

- SMT discussed HR's conclusions from the &frankly conversations that took place in teams, departments and clusters at SIPRI. This will be discussed during the 1 December Research Staff Collegium.

**4. 2023 SIPRI Lecture**

- SMT discussed whether to hold the SIPRI Lecture in 2023 and, if so, how and when it should be held. SMT will revisit the discussion at a later date.

**5. Career structure at SIPRI**

- In response to a query raised in the Cooperation Group, SMT discussed the career structure at SIPRI. The matter will be discussed at the next Cooperation Group meeting.

**6. Staffing and project issues**

- SMT approved the creation of a Research Assistant position in the Sahel-West Africa Programme.
- Recruitment for a (Senior) Researcher in Peacebuilding is underway.

**Action items:**

- Dan to seek advice from Hafsa Maalim on follow-up with the AU.
- Joakim to share an updated timetable for the report with DoSes today.
- Kristina to share an update with SMT on the remaining 2020-2022 Strategic Grant funds.

**Items carried forward:**

- Use of approval functions in Maconomy and/or Microsoft Teams.
- Discussion of the 2023 SIPRI Lecture.