



## SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

18 January 2023

### MINUTES

#### Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Kristina Sandberg, Dan Smith, Joakim Vaverka

#### Absent

Jannie Lilja, Luc van de Goor

#### Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

#### Format

Hybrid meeting

#### **1. Minutes**

- SMT approved the minutes of the 18 December meeting but has not yet approved the minutes of the 11 January meeting.

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

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

- The WMD Programme organized a workshop on *biorisk* on 17-18 January at the Winery Hotel and SIPRI, respectively. Steph will interview some of the participants for SIPRI's video series.
- The Stockholm Hub on Environment, Climate and Security will have a high-level meeting on 26 January, hosted by the Stockholm Resilience Center.
- The Stockholm Hub working group met on 12 January to discuss the Hub's workplan for 2023. The Hub will organize meetings with relevant departments of the Swedish MFA to discuss the Hub's upcoming activities.
- Dan and Joakim are meeting with Dag Juhlin-Dannfelt, the Director-General for the Directorate-General for Global Affairs at the Swedish MFA today.
- The Swedish MFA will nominate Dan as an expert for the UN Water Conference, to be held in March.

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

- On 12 January, Joakim and Florian met with a delegation from the South Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including the Director-General for International Organizations. South Korea is standing for election to the UN Security Council in 2024-2025 and the delegation was in Stockholm to learn from Sweden's experience. The South Korean MFA

would like to work with SIPRI on climate security, artificial intelligence and cyber security issues during their UNSC term.

- The South Korean MFA has also expressed interest for SIPRI to be more greatly involved in the 2023 World Emerging Security Forum. SIPRI co-hosted the Forum last year.
- Sibylle will meet with Hannah Neuman, a German Member of the European Parliament, later this month.
- Sibylle will also meet General Chris Badia, NATO Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, this month.
- Sibylle and Simone will attend a dinner with the EU Committee of the German Parliament on 30 January in Stockholm.
- On 7 February, Sibylle will speak at a seminar during the EU Disarmament Ambassadors' Retreat in Geneva. She will discuss the New Agenda for Peace.

**c. Relations with other organizations**

- SIPRI and ICRC held their third annual roundtable on 17 January. The three-hour roundtable, co-led by Dan and Nils Melzer, the new Director of International Law, Policy and Humanitarian Diplomacy at ICRC, went well. Areas of common interest included cyber security, outer space, and working together to frame the narrative around the humanitarian case for conflict prevention.

**d. Outreach**

- Outreach will hold an internal strategy meeting on 19 January.

**e. Operations**

- Operations is working on closing the books for 2022.
- SIPRI is collaborating with a management consultant tasked with improving SIPRI's financial systems and processes.
- All clusters and departments are asked, by 20 January, to ensure that their intranet pages are up to date.

**3. Annual Plan**

- SMT discussed the 2023 Annual Plan. Sepideh will update the plan accordingly.

**4. Forthcoming Government bill on research financing**

- SMT discussed the bill ahead of a meeting on the topic with other research institutes. Joakim will participate in the meeting, chaired by the Stockholm Environmental Institute, on 19 January.

**5. Staffing and project issues**

- A professor at the Harvard Kennedy School has expressed interest to join SIPRI as a Guest Researcher from late August to end of November 2023. HR will follow-up accordingly.

**Action items:**

- All DoSes and heads of departments to ensure that their respective intranet pages are up to date by 20 January.
- Sepideh to update the Annual Plan.

- HR to follow-up with the Harvard professor interested in joining SIPRI as a Guest Researcher.

**Items carried forward:**

- Broader approach for larger scale fundraising for clusters.