

Minute taker: Noel Kelly
Location: The Conference Room
Time: 10-11:30AM.

SIPRI - Armament and disarmament cluster meeting

Solna, 21 June 2017

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Mark Bromley, John Harte, Shannon Kile, Tarja Cronberg, Maaike Verbruggen, Aude Fleurant, Siemon Wezeman, Pieter Wezeman, Nan Tian, Alexandra Kuimova, Giovanna Maletta, Kolja Brockmann, Juan Guillaume, Young Ju Yun, Lena Kappelin, Noel Kelly.

Agenda

- Report back on SMT
- Report back on recent and upcoming activities
- Dutch MFA Project (Project number 55389): discussion with participants - progress so far.
- Date of next meeting

Report back on recent and upcoming activities of cross-cluster relevance and on ongoing and future funding proposals and decisions (has blended together)

SMT report by Sibylle –

The Cluster was informed of the Institute's need to come up with a fair procedure for allocating interns. There are 10 places for interns, 2 per cluster, and 1 for outreach and of course some ad hoc space may be allowed as needs must (3 based on legitimate needs and capacity to support). At the Cluster level we should agree when interns are coming in and this was discussed. The head of a programme or project should inform the DoS in writing with an intern request and we will try to find a fair balance among the 4 projects.

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On Neil leaving –

Formally remains in his DoS function through the summer. The internal recruitment effort is on going. Following Neil's departure - how the work of the Black Sea Project continues has been discussed and resolved.

Secure Cities updates from the Cluster –

Mark is doing a panel on gun violence on cities in Latin America in conjunction with UNLIREC. This is in process and invites have been sent out.

Maaike – Panel looking at artificial intelligence for counter terrorism purposes. In process and the invites have also been sent out.

Pieter still plans to contribute to the panel on Yemen currently being organised through Katja.

There will be another SMT next week but none in July but they will of course resume in August.

Dual Use and arms control

Mark –

Recent activities were in Brussels for NPC consultative meeting.

Funding –

Confirmation from Swedish MFA to do work on expanding ATT assistance mapping database and this covers South East Asia and East Asia. Work will begin in July and finish in December.

Money from State Department will come to work on intangible technology transfers. The outcome will involve 3 background papers on the challenges involved in controlling ITTs' and also a small workshop in early December involving industry and government officials. This is a follow on to recently completed ICB work.

Still pursuing the Australians via their Geneva mission for funding to do some further work on ATT assistance.

Kolja informed the Cluster that he would be joining as a Research Assistant from July and working on ATT mapping project.

Sibylle reporting

Last week (week 23) – Brussels events

Sibylle gave presentation at a dual-use capacity building event that is now called P2P (Partner to Partner).

COARM NGO meeting – Sibylle attended and was speaking on EU annual reporting. Also attended a dedicated session on SALW strategy.

EUNPC consultative meeting report – ends on 2nd July.

The NPC Board has elected Sibylle as Chair for 2 weeks (until end of the contract). What happens next? There is currently a discussion on whether there will be a new CD adopted through the end of the year, for the go ahead on funding the next EUNPC conference. The 13/14th December are proposed conference dates if it goes ahead, with SIPRI organising a smaller event with attendance of about 150. We should know in the next 2 weeks.

Sibylle will be in Hiroshima in early August attending the annual round table nuclear disarmament discussions.

AMEX team reported on the general work on going.

Nan is currently travelling and recently was in Malawi for conference about managing security resources in Africa. He is now in Brussels for an economic and security conference.

Pieter is off to Geneva to the UN in July (9-15) on behalf of GGE to discuss milex reporting. Pieter will be at LSE for a 1-day event organised by the Conflict research Programme that is headed by Mary Keldor and discussing arms transfer issues. Pieter also reported on recent side event at the ATT PrepComm meeting in Geneva.

Aude will be in Paris next week for Lucie Beraud-Sudreau (former Sipriot) PhD defence. Luice is now based at IISS.

Siemon – will be away in Indonesia during July in for the first Indonesian international Defence and Science seminar organised by Indonesian Defence University.

Biological, Chemical and Nuclear Weapons team report –
Shannon -

The annual nuclear forces data launch is coming up, with an embargo next Monday on June 26th and launching 1 week later, on Monday July 3rd.

The Swedish MFA has approached with an interest towards providing further funding for dialogue activities.

European Security Programme -
Tarja reported on attending the NPT Prep-Comm in Vienna.

Tarja will participate in ban treaty negotiations during the first week of July in New York. She has also been invited to Ulaanbaatar for a conference on non-proliferation with a particular regional focus.

Tarja is working on a Clingendael project with the objective of producing a policy paper on how to make the 2020 NPT a success.

Emerging military and security technologies
Maaike reported –

Vincent is currently attending an experts meeting on autonomous weapons systems in Brussels. Otherwise, work continues on preparing for the workshop on emerging technologies happening in September.

Lena Kappelin -
Reminded the Cluster she will be away from the office in July. No Grants Manager function until July 24th when Maria is back.

Dutch MFA project 55389 – progress on going.

First part of the report went to the MFA on 13th June and the first section on 20th June. Andy Mash is the editor working on this and Sibylle has asked Dutch for style preferences. Feedback on all sections will come Friday, 23rd June from the Dutch. Everyone can start working on this on Monday, 26th June. The revisions should go back before end of week 26 or first week of July if people are not on vacation.

Date of next A&D cluster meeting:

23 August – 10:00AM conference room