

Research Staff Collegium
Wednesday 9 November 2017
Conference Room, 11.00



Notes of meeting

Present:

31 including Peter Wezeman and Damir Esenaliev via Skype (see attached participant list).

Notes:

Suyoun Jang

Agenda:

1. Minutes and any matters arising
2. Governing Board Meeting 20 November:
 - Agenda items
 - New Board member
3. AOB

1. Minutes and any matters arising

Minutes from 31 August were accepted without objections or comments

2. Governing Board Meeting

Governing Board Meeting will be held virtually on 20 November 2017. It will last approximately 3 hours which is shorter than usual.

2.1 Agenda items

- Adoption of revised Rules of Procedure
 - There have been changes and updates in Rules of Procedure, which form the first chapter of the Staff Handbook (last updated and approved by the Board in May 2015). Changes include the appointment of a staff representative to the Board and of directors of studies, the set-up with three research clusters, and the introduction of senior management team, amongst others.
 - The Rules of Procedure shall be approved by the Governing Board according to the SIPRI Statutes.
- Executive session
 - The Executive session is reserved for Board discussions of staff issues, including performance, contract and budget, for which Board members may want to have confidentiality. The observer will not participate in the meeting at this point in the agenda.
 - These issues normally do not arise and this session may be by-passed at the meeting by decision of the Board.
- Budget

- The management team will present the 2018 budget in detail in another RSC before the Christmas break this year.
- As of now, compared to the result for the 2016 budget of around SEK 62 million, the forecast for 2017 is SEK 69.8 million and the budget for 2018 is 85 million. The forecast for 2017 has small surplus. The surplus planned in the 2018 budget is about SEK 980,000.
- SIPRI should, however, aim for an annual surplus of 2.5-3% of turnover.
- A question was asked about hiring a development consultant who could help fundraising and diversify funding sources. The Director pointed out that SIPRI benefits from *pro bono* corporate advisers who are working towards this goal. From the management side, much of the Grants Manager's work is related to managing grants and providing technical budgetary help and useful information which may help SIPRI to find opportunity to raise funds.
- Relatedly, it is necessary to increase the minimum level of overhead cost.
- Advisory committee
 - A letter will be going out to the existing members shortly before the Governing Board Meeting.
- Defining issues for future research and activities (Northeast Asia and MENA)
 - A question was raised about the process of the development of Middle East Programme. While there is no established procedure for developing a research programme, SIPRI put funding into the application for the MFA strategic grant to have someone start research on this issue.
 - As we have done for the Africa programme, we can convene internal meetings to share expertise and experience across clusters or invite external experts, such as Johan Schaar (expert in climate risk, former Sida representative to Jerusalem), in order to see what we could bring together into the programme.
 - It was noted that Haykel Ben Mahfoudh, professor of Law at the University of Carthage, Tunisia, is coming to SIPRI for Gary Milante's book launch. This could be an opportunity to explore future collaboration with an expert in the MENA region.
 - Another occasion for reaching out to experts of the region is the SIPRI Yearbook launch in Egypt to be held on 17-18 December. ATT mapping data will also expand its regional coverage to MENA.

2.2 New Board member

Jessica Tuchman Matthews has agreed to serve on the SIPRI Governing Board. The RSC agreed to reaffirm its support for her nomination to the Board. She will be invited after the formal decision by the Board.

Given that Wolfgang Ischinger will step down in May 2018 and the Director will no longer a Board member according to the revised Statutes, there will then be seven Board members (including Jessica Matthews). According to the new Statutes, the Governing Board is to be composed of the Chair and seven to nine Board members. Therefore, SIPRI needs to recruit at least one and up to three persons, after Jessica Matthews. There was a discussion about maintaining a geographical as well as a gender balance. The RSC noted this meant particular interest in someone from Middle East, Northeast Asia or Africa. Further suggestions and/or comments on the Governing Board candidates will be collected in the next RSC meeting.

Names that have been suggested include:

- Nabil Fahmy, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt
- Helga Schmid, Secretary General of European External Action Service, German diplomat
- Ambassador Michael Biontino, Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva (Replacement for Wolfgang Ischinger, will be retired in June 2018)
- Zhang Tuosheng, Director of China Foundation for International Strategic Studies
- Mohamed Ibn Chambas, former Secretary-General of ECOWAS, Ghanaian citizen
- Robert Muggah, Research Director of the Igarapé Institute (in Rio de Janeiro) and the SecDev Foundation, former research director at the Small Arms Survey (2000-2011)

3. AOB

3.1 Role of staff observer

Mark Bromley had been elected as a staff representative as observer at the Governing Board.

There was some confusion about the procedure for the observer consulting staff. According to the document on the role of staff observer, endorsed by the RSC meeting on 31 August 2017, “On behalf of the staff, having consulted at a RSC meeting that is open to all staff members, the observer can propose items for discussion by the Board. The agenda is drafted by the Board Chair and SIPRI management and proposed for acceptance or amendment at the start of each Board meeting.”

There was a discussion on the format of a ‘consultation’ including reaching out to staff observer bilaterally via email, utilising RSC framework since it convenes every other month, and having a separate, smaller group, meeting apart from RSC in order for staff to raise issues in different hierarchy so as to be more inclusive. It was noted that we could take advantage of existing cluster meeting for this purpose. This time, however, staff observer proposed to have a meeting on Monday, 20 November, after the Monday morning meeting.

3.2 RSC representative on the Cooperation Group

Vincent Boulain will step down when he goes on paternity leave and RSC members were invited to volunteer to replace him.

3.3 Value, culture and ethics of organisation

The question was raised about organisational culture at SIPRI. Apart from research ethics, mutual respect and the norms established by Swedish law, SIPRI does not have explicit cultural norms. This discussion could develop further if staff members are interested.

SIPRI
RESEARCH STAFF COLLEGIUM

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Date: 9 Nov 2017

Subject(s): Governing Board Meeting Agenda Items & New Board Members

Name	Name
1. SUYOUN JANG	19. Florenz Kraemer
2. Zee Norman	20. Mark Brunley
3. Marisa Bellum	21. DAN SMITH
4. Helene Berger	22. Jacob Haggreen
5. Alexandra Handlache	23. Maria Capurro
6. Alexandra Kuimova	24. Isabelle Baur
7. Diego	25. Yeonju Jung
8. Nan Tion	26. Anastasia Malyshova
9. Giandomenico Belotti	27. Kolja Brochmann
10. Noel Kelly	28. Pernille Nordgrift
11. Peter Wersäll (skype)	29. Damir Esenaliev (skype)
12. Kate Sullivan	30. Ulla Henty Nilsen
13. Jiayi Zhou	31. Stephanie Blencker
14. Gulzhan Asylbek kyzy	32.
15. Shannon Kile	33.
16. Vincent Boulanger	34.
17. Claude Flenniken	35.
18. Maun Motjøen	36.



Re: RSC 09 November 11.00

From : Jakob Hallgren <hallgren@sipri.org>
Subject : Re: RSC 09 November 11.00
To : staff <staff@sipri.org>, interns <interns@sipri.org>

Thu, 09 Nov, 2017 10:36

1 attachment

Dear all,

Please find attached, in view of the RSC discussion today, the latest version of the agenda for the 20 November Governing Board meeting.

Best wishes,

Jakob

Jakob Hallgren
Deputy Director

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Copy Selection 

From: "Dan Smith" <dan.smith@sipri.org>
To: "staff" <staff@sipri.org>, "interns" <interns@sipri.org>
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2017 4:09:57 PM
Subject: RSC 09 November 11.00

Dear All

This is to remind you of the next meeting of the Research Staff Collegium on **Thursday 9 November - 11.00 in the Conference Room.**

The agenda is attached.

Jessica Matthews has now agreed to serve on the SIPRI Governing Board if invited. Inviting her to join the Board was discussed and agreed some time back but she indicated she was unable to accept; she has now changed her mind, finding that at least one major commitment she had taken on is less time-consuming than she initially thought. I am attaching the material on her Wikipedia biography entry as background.

The major item on this RSC's agenda, however, will be a discussion of issues on the Board meeting's agenda. I will circulate it before the meeting.

Best wishes

Dan

Dan Smith
Director

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 **Governing Board Agenda 20 Nov 2018 meeting - draft 9 November .docx**
226 KB

RSC 09 November 11.00

From : Dan Smith <dan.smith@sipri.org>
Subject : RSC 09 November 11.00

Mon, 06 Nov, 2017 16:09

 3 attachments

To : staff <staff@sipri.org>, SIPRI interns and guest researchers
<interns@sipri.org>

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Dan Smith
Director

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-  **RSC Agenda 09.11.17.docx**
642 KB
-  **Jessica Matthews.docx**
114 KB

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Agenda

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