

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

10 MAY 2023

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Kristina Sandberg, Dan Smith, Luc van de Goor, Joakim Vaverka

Absent

Jannie Lilja

Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

Format

In-person meeting

1. Minutes

- SMT approved the minutes of the 26 April SMT meeting and has yet to approve the minutes of the 2 May SMT meeting.

2. Report back

a. Sweden

- Preparations for the May Governing Board meeting are underway.
- SMT will host bi-monthly meetings, starting in June, with programme directors to discuss and coordinate SIPRI's fundraising activities.
- On 8 May, Dan met with Karin Enström, Party Secretary of the Moderaterna.
- Luc, Fei, Xiao and Lucie met with officials from the French Ministry of Defence on 10 May to discuss coast guards in the Indo-Pacific region.

b. International

- The Ypres Peace Prize will be awarded to Princess Okokon, a former victim of, and advocate against, human trafficking. Sibylle chaired the 2022 prize selection committee. High school students in Ypres chose the laureate from a list of six candidates which were taught at the schools throughout the year.
- On 8 June, Sibylle will speak at the 2023 Australia Group plenary, on engaging the natural sciences in upstream export control, along with SIPRI Associate Dr Mirko Himmel. The Australia Group, which was established in 1985, is an informal group of countries aimed at identifying exports that should be controlled to stop the proliferation of chemical and biological weapons.

c. Relations with other organizations

- On 8 May, Dan met virtually with Benedikt Franke, CEO of the Munich Security Conference (MSC), to discuss next steps in SIPRI's cooperation with MSC, including a possible staff exchange.
- On 8-9 May, Sibylle attended the "Reimagining peace: New agendas for research and policy in times of conflict" conference, hosted by the Flemish Peace Research Institute.

d. Outreach

- Preparations for the Forum and the Yearbook are ongoing.
- SIPRI will launch its new Peacekeeping Operations data on 29 May.

e. Operations

- The door to the kitchen was left open on 9 May. Staff are reminded to never use that door to enter or exit the building.
- HR will host the first of a series of seminars for line managers on 13 June.

3. Safeguarding Policy

- Joakim, Kristina and Luc will review SIPRI's Safeguarding Policy and recommend changes, if any, to SMT at the 7 June SMT meeting.

4. Report of the Informal Working Group on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

- SMT discussed the Informal Working Group's recommendations. Kristina will follow-up on SMT's response to the report.

5. &frankly Plan of Action

- SMT approved the &frankly Plan of Action. It will be posted on the intranet and discussed at cluster and department meetings.

6. Staffing and project issues

- Recruitments are underway in the programmes on Governance of AI, Arms Transfers, European Security, and Food, Peace and Security.

Action items:

- Joakim, Kristina and Luc to review SIPRI's Safeguarding Policy and recommend changes, if any, to SMT during the 7 June SMT meeting.
- Kristina to follow-up on SMT's response to the Informal Working Group on DEI's report.
- Luc and Sibylle to draft a note on the topic, scope and budget of this year's SSC for discussion at the 24 May SMT meeting (carried forward from a previous meeting).

Items carried forward:

- Environment Policy