

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

21 JUNE 2023

MINUTES

Participants

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

Absent

Sibylle Bauer, Joakim Vaverka

Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

Format

Hybrid meeting

1. Minutes

- SMT has yet to approve the minutes of the 14 June meeting.

2. Dissemination of SIPRI data

- SMT discussed SIPRI's data launches and other occasions when publications are promoted. SMT agreed that continued attention must be paid to what findings are highlighted in press releases to minimize risks to staff travelling in potentially unsafe areas.
- To manage risks, the DoSes will develop a list of countries where this might be an issue to support a red flag review of press releases.

3. Report back

a. Sweden

- On 16 June, the EU Political and Security Committee and HRH Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden visited SIPRI for a briefing on environment and security.
- On 16 June, Jannie met with Anna Ståhlgren Nislander, Political Advisor to Johan Forssell, Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade.
- On 14-15 June, Environment of Peace held a successful two-day workshop on how to operationalize the findings of the EP report.

b. Events

- SIPRI staff are reminded that they must think through research activities with external participants before organizing them to consider the burden they may unwittingly place on outreach and operations staff. Staff must also consider the reputational risk of

activities that take place at SIPRI but are organized with or by other organizations whose level of professionalism and efficiency is deficient.

4. Finances

- With the scale of the strategic grant for 2023 now clear, SIPRI has salary coverage for all current staff until the end of the year.
- SMT agreed that remaining programme funds will be reconsolidated to the cluster level for travel and fundraising. This is not an annual allocation so clusters should not count on it being replenished once used up. Dan will write to programme directors about the consolidated funds.
- Operations is assessing the availability of the remaining Strategic Grant funds. A significant part of the 2023 grant has already been allocated to cover salary costs and the direct costs for the Forum.
- Directors of Studies will determine how the remaining funds should be prioritized.
- Programme-level fundraising has been highly successful this year and should continue.
- The Project Management Office has also done a great job managing resources.

5. Stockholm Security Conference 2023

- SMT discussed SSC23. Once the budget is finalized, the Director's Office will send fundraising letters to a select list of embassies in Stockholm.

6. Staffing and project issues

- The EU will provide an additional 50 000 EUR to the *Mali-centre pour le sécurité et le développement* project in 2023.
- The World Bank approved an 18-month project with SIPRI consisting of survey work in South Sudan on the perceptions of government officials and the general population on the social contract.
- SMT discussed and agreed to finalize the draft job description for the new Project Development position.
- The advertisement for the Communications Assistant in Events and Media will be posted this week.
- Recruitment for the Programme Directors of the European Security Programme and China and East Asia Security Programme are ongoing.
- SMT discussed the job description for a Head of Major Initiatives position. Dan will finalize the job description.
- SMT approved Rod Schoonover as an Associate Senior Fellow.

Action items:

- DoSes to develop a list of countries where staff safety may be at risk due to SIPRI's data launches other occasions when publications are promoted. This list will support a red flag review of press releases.
- Dan to write to the programme directors about the consolidated funds.
- Directors of Studies to determine how the remaining Strategic Grant funds should be prioritized.
- Director's Office to send fundraising letters for SSC23 to a select list of embassies in Stockholm.

- Dan to finalize the job description for the Project Development and the Head of Major Initiatives positions.
- Joakim, Kristina and Luc to update the Safeguarding policy for discussion at a future SMT meeting (from a previous meeting).