

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

28 JUNE 2023

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Jannie Lilja (left early), Kristina Sandberg, Dan Smith, Luc van de Goor, Joakim Vaverka

Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

Format

Hybrid meeting

1. Minutes

- SMT has yet to approve the minutes of the 14 and 21 June meeting.
- Regarding the reconsolidated travel and fundraising funds noted in the 21 June minutes, SMT agreed that Operations should not reconsolidate the funds until SMT can revisit the issue in August.

2. Report back

a. Sweden

- On 20 June, Joakim and Alaa met with Luigi Di Maio, EU Special Representative for the Gulf region. Di Maio will be travelling to the Gulf region and asked to debrief SIPRI following his mission.
- On 27 June, Joakim met with the head of the office of HRH Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden.
- On 27 June, the Swedish Research Council cancelled its call for development research after the government decided that no new decision on funding can be taken for development research.
- On 4 July, Joakim will receive Per Taube and the organizers of the Swedish Lunch, which takes place at the World Economic Forum.

b. International

- On 27 June, Dan spoke in Dublin at the Irish government's Consultative Forum on International Security Policy.

c. Relations with other organizations

- In order to facilitate better implementation of the project, the partners of the Research & Action for Peace (REcAP) Network (SIPRI, the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, the Danish Refugee Council), will meet on 30 June.

- Joakim was in Karlsruhe, Germany on 20-21 June for a presentation and visit to the EU Joint Research Centre, which conducts research on nuclear safety and security.
- On 27 June, Sibylle attended the Annual European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) conference in Brussels.
- Jannie will speak at a panel on conflict resolution at the Chatham House annual London Conference on 29 June.
- On 7 July, Florian will be in Vienna to speak at the OSCE High-Level Conference on Climate Change.

3. Upcoming meetings and events

- In August, the Director's Office will reach out to the offices of the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for International Development Cooperation to schedule meetings with the respective ministers. The Director's Office will also reach out to various Swedish MFA departments to schedule visits.
- The Armament and Disarmament Summer School will take place from 21-25 August. Sibylle will share the final programme with SMT.
- A senior representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will visit SIPRI on 29 August for an invitation-only roundtable. SIPRI will also organize a small event with the representative at Steninge Slott in the evening of 29 August.
- The All Staff Away Day will take place from 10.00-13.30 CEST on 31 August.
- At the end of August/early Sept SMT will host a meeting with all programme directors to discuss events, cooperation with other organizations, and fundraising.

4. SIPRI Lecture

- SMT briefly discussed the SIPRI Lecture. SMT will revisit this topic in August.

5. Steninge Dialogue Series

- SIPRI will host a series of private events at Steninge Slott in Märsta with Sweden's foreign policy and business communities. The events will feature high profile officials and thinkers visiting Sweden. The visit by a senior representative of the IAEA will kick-off the series.

6. Staffing and project issues

- The recruitment for two Research Assistants in the Sahel-West Africa Programme has been completed.
- The recruitment for the new Programme Director of the China and Asia Security Programme has been completed. The new Programme Director will begin working remotely in August and should arrive in Sweden in November.
- The recruitment of the Programme Director for the European Security Programme is in its final stages.
- SMT approved an in-person intern who will support Dan from August to December on research related to ecological security.
- SMT will revisit how SIPRI engages with its Associates.
- SMT approved a potential partnership between SIPRI and the African Development Bank.
- The Centre for Arab Unity Studies will continue to translate the SIPRI Yearbook in 2023.

Action items:

- Sibylle to share the final A&D Summer School programme with SMT.
- For August:
 - o Director's Office to reach out to the offices of the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for International Development Cooperation to schedule meetings with the respective ministers. Director's Office to also reach out to various Swedish MFA departments to schedule visits.
 - o Director's Office to schedule a meeting between SMT and programme directors to discuss events, cooperation with other organizations, and fundraising.
- Directors of Studies to develop a list of countries where staff safety may be at risk due to SIPRI's data launches and other occasions when publications are promoted. This list will support a red flag review of press releases (from a previous meeting).
- Directors of Studies to determine how the remaining Strategic Grant funds should be prioritized (from a previous meeting).
- Director's Office to send fundraising letters for SSC23 to a select list of embassies in Stockholm (from a previous meeting).
- Dan to finalize the job description for the Head of Major Initiatives positions (from a previous meeting).

Items carried forward:

- Reconsolidated funds for travel and fundraising (August)
- SIPRI Lecture (August)
- Engagement with SIPRI Associates
- Safeguarding policy (August)