

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

30 AUGUST 2023

MINUTES

Participants

Lucie Béraud-Sudreau, Stephanie Blenckner, Jannie Lilja, 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 16 August meeting.
- SMT approved the minutes of the 23 August meeting.

2. Report back

a. Sweden

- The Armament and Disarmament Summer School, which took place last week, was very successful.
- On 24 August, Luc, Lucie, Fei and Jiayi met with members of the UK Embassy at SIPRI and presented SIPRI's activities.
- Also on 24 August, the PD cluster hosted an internal seminar on 'Cyber Resilience' with Lora Saalman.
- The roundtable, press conference and dinner with Rafael Grossi, Director General of the IAEA, on 29 August were a success. All major Swedish press outlets and all Stockholm-based international news agencies participated in the press conference.
- Also on 29 August, SIPRI and Save the Children Sweden organized an event on 'Climate Change, Food Insecurity and Conflict in South Sudan' at Medelhavsmuseet. Caroline was a panellist at the event. Congratulations to Martina and Lucas for making the event a success.
- Joakim will be in Sundsvall on 31 August to provide a lecture at Senioruniversitetet, entitled "From Geopolitical Turbulence to Ecological Challenges – Understanding Contemporary Threats to International Peace and Security".
- Also on 31 August, Luc, Timo, Fei and Laura will meet with the Dutch Embassy.

b. Relations with other organizations

- SMT agreed to move forward with discussions on a possible partnership with Peace Invest.

- SIPRI has been asked by the Swedish Defence University, Sciences Po Paris, Queen Mary University and the Danish Institute of International Affairs to sign on as an associate partner in a response to a call from HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area) and CHANSE (Collaboration of Humanities and Social Sciences in Europe) on the topic of 'Crisis – Perspectives from the Humanities'. SMT is considering the request.

c. Operations

- Operations will share a paper on programme funds for discussion at the SMT Away Day.
- Operations is continuing to work on how to make fuller use of the possibilities provided by the Maconomy financial system.
- The IT team will conduct technical maintenance on 31 August.

3. Promotion Process

- SMT discussed the promotion process at SIPRI. A memo on this is being developed.

4. Safeguarding Policy

- SMT will comment on the updated draft of the Safeguarding Policy by COB 1 Sept.

5. Staffing and project issues

- SIPRI is seeking an HR intern who will support HR with diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) issues. DEI is a priority at the institute and, given the demands on the HR team, the team requires support to continue work on these issues.
- Recruitment for a Senior Researcher in the Governance of AI programme is ongoing.
- The 'Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS) IV' project has received funding from the Swiss, Dutch and Swedish MFAs.
- DUAT is cooperating with Deloitte on a bid for a framework contract with the European Commission to support the EC in various policy studies, including the evaluation and impact assessment of the Firearms Directive.
- MILAP is in the process of renewing its contract with the EU Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space for data on the European arms industry.
- MILAP plans to submit a proposal to the Fritz Thyssen Foundation on disaggregated military expenditure data, together with West Point Military Academy, the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy and University of Western Australia.

Action items:

- SMT to provide feedback on the request for SIPRI to sign on as an associate partner for a call from HERA and CHANSE.
- SMT to comment on the updated draft of the Safeguarding Policy by COB 1 Sept.

Items carried forward:

- Environmental Policy