

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

18 OCTOBER 2023

MINUTES

Participants

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

Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

Format

Hybrid meeting

1. Minutes

- SMT approved the minutes of the 11 October meeting.

2. Report back

a. Sweden

- On 6 October, Jannie briefed the Minister of International Development and Foreign Trade, Johan Forssell. They discussed SIPRI's research, including SIPRI's work on humanitarian, development and peacebuilding financing.
- On 16 October, Dan and Joakim met with Frida Jangsten, the new Deputy Director of the Multinational Partnerships Department of the MFA.
- Today, Dan and Joakim met with the Director of the UN Department of the MFA, as well as the desk officer responsible for SIPRI's strategic grant application.
- The Director's Office is organizing a visit by members of the Africa Department of the MFA to SIPRI.
- Joakim will speak on a panel at the Folke Bernadotte Academy's staff away day today.
- SIPRI will host an event with the Governing Board on 13 November at Medelhavsmuseet.

b. Relations with other organizations

- SIPRI will join a project proposal, led by the Flemish Peace Institute, to strengthen the network of peace institutes in Europe. If and when funding is available, we will lead a working group on 'Peace and Climate', focused on the interlinkages between climate, conflict and peace.
- The Flemish Peace Institute's Scientific Council meeting will take place on 20 October. Sibylle is a member of the Scientific Council and will participate in the meeting.
- On 17 October, Dan led the second call in a three-part online learning series, organized by the Global Network Initiative, in collaboration with the ICRC and SIPRI. The learning

series focuses on ways that ICT companies' business activities can have an impact and be impacted in the context of armed conflict.

- Jannie and Kyungmee were in Reykjavik from 10-11 October for the Imagine Forum. The Forum, which took place in the framework of the Icelandic Chairpersonship of the Nordic Council of Ministers, was organized around the theme of 'Nordic Solidarity for Peace', included panels and a cultural programme.

c. Operations

- HR is working on updating the delegation of work environment responsibilities.
- HR will send line managers a reminder regarding remaining vacation days for the staff that they manage.

3. SIPRI Strategy

- The strategy will be discussed in breakout groups at the next RSC meeting, scheduled for 26 October. Following the RSC meeting, colleagues are asked to discuss the strategy further at the cluster/department and programme levels.

4. 2024 Budget

- SMT discussed the 2024 budget. A draft budget will be shared during the next RSC meeting.
- SMT will return to the discussion on the reconsolidation of programme funds.

5. Internship policy

- SMT finalized the Internship policy following comments from the Cooperation Group in December 2022. The finalized text will be shared with staff and uploaded to the intranet.

6. Staffing and project issues

- Recruitment for the Coordination Officer substitute position is ongoing.
- The Governance of AI programme is working on an application for funding from Google DeepMind.
- The MILAP and AT programmes are working on an application for funding from the Open Society Foundation for the upgrade of SIPRI's databases.

Action items:

- HR to update delegation of work environment responsibilities.
- HR to send line managers a reminder regarding remaining vacation days for the staff that they manage.
- HR to share finalized Internship policy with staff and upload it to the intranet.

Follow-up items:

- Reconsolidation of programme funds