

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

13 DECEMBER 2023

### MINUTES

#### Participants

Stephanie Blenckner, Kristina Sandberg, Jannie Lilja, Dan Smith, Joakim Vaverka

#### Absent

Sibylle Bauer, Luc van de Goor

#### Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

#### Format

In-person meeting

#### **1. Minutes**

- SMT approved the minutes of the 29 November and 6 December meetings.

#### **2. Report back**

##### **a. Sweden**

- Preparations for the Annual Report will begin this month.
- Joakim, Kristina, Ulla and Sofie met with the MFA on 11 December to discuss this year's audit. A decision on next year's Strategic Grant is expected before the end of the year.
- Fifteen staff members attended the Nobel Peace Prize seminar at the Swedish Parliament on 12 December.
- SIPRI hosted a hybrid roundtable on ecological security on 12 December.
- Preparations for the 2024 Stockholm Forum are underway.
- The Whistle-blower Policy was approved by SMT.

##### **b. Relations with other organizations**

- On 5 December, the Environment of Peace initiative was awarded third place in the 2023 Geneva Centre for Security Policy Prize for Innovation in Global Security.
- The Korea Foundation is planning a three-day visit to Stockholm in 2024 with a group of students. The group will likely visit SIPRI.

##### **c. Outreach**

- The 2022 data on the top 100 arm-producing and military services companies was launched on 4 December. In the first week of the launch, over 2700 articles covered the new data, the second largest coverage of the launch.

- A paper on 'Russia's Military Expenditure During Its War Against Ukraine' by SIPRI Associate, Julian Cooper, will be published today.
- A news item summarizing SIPRI's analysis on the war in Ukraine will be published on 14 December.
- SMT discussed the need for uniform terminology for SIPRI publications on the wars in Ukraine and Gaza. Editorial will put together guidelines on such terminology.

### **3. Interns in the first half of 2024**

- Eight interns will join SIPRI in-person during the first half of 2024. This includes:
  - o 1 intern with the AD cluster (3 months in-person)
  - o 2 interns with MILAP
  - o 2 interns with FPS
  - o 2 interns with the Forum team
  - o 1 intern with Outreach
- Unfortunately, due to equipment constraints, no additional in-person interns can join SIPRI in the first half of next year.
- SMT noted that some small changes to the Internship Policy are desirable but will be undertaken in the future.

### **4. SIPRI Strategy 2024-29, next steps**

- SMT agreed to establish a team, which will work closely with PMO, to improve grant acquisition. The team will include existing staff and will be discussed with the necessary individuals and the unions.
- DoSes are asked to write to Dan by 1 February explaining which of their programmes fit under the headings of Battlefields of the Future, Peacefields of the Future, and Geopolitics Meets the Local. A one-sentence explanation per programme will suffice.

### **5. Staffing and project issues**

- The Food, Peace and Security Programme has signed a contract with the Swedish Red Cross. As part of the project, members of the team will travel to South Sudan in January.
- Operations is recruiting a temporary HR Assistant.
- SIPRI has been approached to organize a panel at the World Bank Fragility Forum, which will take place in late February.

#### **Action items:**

- Editorial to put together guidelines on uniform terminology for SIPRI publications on the war in Ukraine and Gaza.
- DoSes to write to Dan by 1 February explaining which of their programmes fit under the headings of Battlefields of the Future, Peacefields of the Future, and Geopolitics Meets the Local.
- HR to investigate what insurance providers international NGOs are using and how they manage security-related evacuations (from a previous meeting)

#### **Follow-up items:**

- Office space
- Line management (with HR)