

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

5 June 2024

### DRAFT MINUTES

#### Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Florian Krampe, Kristina Sandberg, Dan Smith, Luc van de Goor, Joakim Vaverka

#### Absent

Stephanie Blenckner

#### Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

#### Format

Hybrid meeting

### **1. Minutes**

- SMT approved the minutes of the 15, 22 and 29 May meetings.

### **2. Matters Arising**

- SMT agreed that at their next cluster and department meetings, the clusters and departments should discuss the format and content of the Monday morning all-staff meeting.
- SMT will send their vacation dates to the Director's Office by noon on 10 June.

### **3. Report back**

#### **a. Sweden**

- On 31 May, Joakim and Florian met with colleagues at the MFA for an evaluation of the Stockholm Hub. The meeting went well.
- A delegation from the Korea Foundation visited SIPRI on 3 June.
- On 4 June, Joakim met with Johan Frisell, Head of the Security Department at the MFA. The department will not financially support the SSC this year.
- On 4 June, Dan was interviewed by SVT on the threat of nuclear weapons for a new program. The program will air in the last week of October.
- Dan and Joakim met with Ann-Sofie Nilsson, head of the Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Department (NIS) at the MFA and other colleagues from NIS today. A visit to SIPRI by NIS in January 2025 was discussed.
- On 10 June, Luc and Laura will attend a pre-meeting for the Swedish Lunch, which will take place in Davos in January. Laura will speak about AI and geopolitics.

**b. International**

- Dan will be in Helsinki 11-12 June for the NATO Foresight Conference.

**c. Relations with other organizations**

- SIPRI has been working with the City of Ypres to commemorate the first ever large-scale use of lethal chemical weapons on 22 April 1915. Next April will mark the 110th anniversary of this event. The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and EU ambassadors have indicated their interest in participating in the commemoration.

**4. Requests from Chinese institutions**

- SIPRI received a request from the International Cooperation Center for a video message from Dan or Stefan for the opening of their International Peace symposium on 11 June. Given the short notice, it was decided to decline the invitation.
- SIPRI received a request for a visit and invitation letter from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences' European Studies department. Luc will follow-up to learn more about the rest of their programme while in Sweden.

**5. SMT Away Day**

- SMT discussed its Away Day, which will take place in the Seminar Room in mid-August.

**6. HR issues**

- SIPRI is in discussions with the French MFA about a guest researcher for the European Security Programme.
- Kristina and Clarisa are in discussions with 2Secure about HEAT courses based in Sweden.
- Johanna Eliasson formally resigned from her position at SIPRI.
- Jannie will leave her position at SIPRI on 16 August.

**7. Project issues**

- The CCR, Arms Transfers and European Security programmes are working on a proposal related to the Arctic. The proposal will be shared with the MFAs of Norway, Canada and Finland.
- On 4 June, Luc and Fred met with EUISS to discuss collaboration with SIPRI on an EU-funded project. EUISS and SIPRI plan to work on a 5-year project, with SIPRI receiving 1 million SEK per year.
- SIPRI and Search for Common Ground have made the next round for a partnership with Sida.
- Virginie is in contact with the EU's International Partnerships (INTPA) Desk Mali and Sahel Region in Brussels, and the delegation in Bamako to discuss 4-year follow-up funding for the current project on Mali.

**8. Due diligence**

- N/A

**9. AOB**

- The final SMT meeting before the summer will take place on 19 June.

- SMT agreed that the Governing Board meeting should be moved to 16-17 December, followed directly by interviews for the next Director on 17-20 December. SIPRI will aim to hold the Christmas Dinner on 16 December, with the Board in attendance.

## **10. Executive session**

- N/A

### **Action items:**

- SMT members to discuss the format and content of the Monday morning all-staff meeting at their next cluster of department meeting.
- Luc to follow-up with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences' European Studies department to learn more about the rest of their programme while in Sweden.
- SMT to send their vacation dates to the Director's Office by noon on 10 June.

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

- Delegation visits to SIPRI
- Use of Artificial Intelligence software
- Alternative HEAT courses
- Potential programme on foresight
- Moving allowance
- PAD Talks
- Internships