



SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

24 October 2024

MINUTES

Participants

Sibylle Bauer, Stephanie Blenckner, Florian Krampe, Kristina Sandberg, Dan Smith, Charlotta Sparre, Luc van de Goor

Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

Format

In-person meeting

1. Minutes

- SMT has yet to approve the minutes of the 16 October meeting.

2. Report back

a. Sweden

- The Stockholm Security Conference, which took place on 22-23 October at the Dutch Embassy, was a success. Colleagues working on the conference went out of their way to help set-up and ensure the conference ran smoothly, conducting tasks often outside of their remit. The Swedish MFA spoke highly of the conference as did embassy partners, who have already noted their willingness to support the conference in the future.
- On 22 October, Dan and Charlotta met with Dag Hartelius, State Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Anna Hammarlund Blixt, Deputy Head of Department for Disarmament, Non-proliferation and Export Control at the Swedish MFA. The meeting went very well and the State Secretary expressed great interest in SIPRI's work.
- On 23 October, Charlotta met with Christian Danielsson, State Secretary to the Minister for EU Affairs. He also spoke highly of the SSC and the important topics it covered.
- Kristina, Charlotta and Timo are meeting with the Governing Board recruitment committee today to discuss shortlisted candidates for the Director position.
- On 1 November, Dan will meet with Daniel Wolvén, Head of the Department for Asia, Pacific and Latin America at the Swedish MFA to discuss SIPRI's possible partnership with the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.
- Charlotta is scheduling a meeting with Diana Janse, State Secretary to the Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade, to discuss SIPRI's work on peace and development, and the Strategic Grant application.

b. Relations with other countries

- The DUAT programme shared a proposal with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs for events and publications for the Australia Group anniversary. While Australia is unable to fund the proposed project, they have requested via an official communiqué, that other countries in the Australia Group financially support the project. The Australia Group is an informal forum of countries which, through the harmonisation of export controls, seeks to ensure that exports do not contribute to the development of chemical or biological weapons.
- Charlotta will be in Lund on 15 November and is considering travelling to Copenhagen in the afternoon for meetings with the Danish MFA. Colleagues working or in contact with the Danish MFA are encouraged to reach out to Charlotta.
- Dan will be travelling to Nagasaki and Seoul (funded externally) to speak at events and conferences and meet with officials. He may also stop in Tokyo.

c. Relations with other organizations

- Florian was in Singapore from 14-17 October to speak at the 25th Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers. His trip was externally funded. Following up from the trip, he is in discussions with RSIS at the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore on a knowledge partnership to be launched during the Swedish Royal visit to Singapore on 19 November.
- Sibylle will be in China from 28 October to 1 November to speak at or participate in various events, all funded externally.
- Steph and Caroline will be in Colombia from 27 October to 1 November for the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP16). SIPRI will host a side event at the conference. Steph and Caroline will also meet with the Swedish Embassy, the Organization of American States and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) colleagues in Colombia. The trip is funded through the Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative (SIANI) grant.
- Sibylle will be in Berlin on 11 December to take part in the internal discussions on armament and disarmament at FES. The trip is externally funded. She will also have fundraising meetings at the German MFA the day before

3. Delegation visits

- In addition to the delegation visits noted during last week's SMT meeting, the following visits were also discussed:
 - o 14 November, 10.00-11.00: Delegation from the United Nations University
 - o Date and time TBC: Delegation from the German Defence University

4. SIPRI finances

- SMT reminded each other and staff that all trips should be externally funded except in exceptional cases.
- SMT reviewed the figures that will be shared at this afternoon's RSC meeting.
- Discussions are ongoing with the unions on a very small salary increase for this and next year.

5. HR issues

- N/A

6. Project issues

- Fred shared two calls for proposals from NATO. SMT noted the need to coordinate if there are several programmes that would like to apply to an individual call.

7. Due Diligence

- N/A

8. AOB

- N/A

9. Executive session

- N/A

Action items:

- N/A

Follow-up items:

- Potential programme on foresight
- Traineeship
- Legal expertise
- Intranet