



SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

27 November 2024

MINUTES

Participants

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

Note-taker

Sepideh Soltaninia

Format

Hybrid meeting

1. Minutes

- SMT approved the minutes of the 13 and 20 November meetings.

2. Matters arising

- Each of the DoSes has selected a research headline from the SIPRI Strategy that they will lead and facilitate internal meetings on to bring together programmes across the institute to generate ideas and apply for funding. Sibylle will lead on 'battlefields of the future', Florian on 'peacefields of the future' and Luc on 'geopolitics meets the local'.

3. Report back

a. Sweden

- On 22 November, Steph took part in a workshop for Communications Directors of organizations that are part of Giva Sverige, the Swedish Fundraising Association.
- On 26 November, Florian hosted the third internal workshop on AI for advanced research with Anders Reagan, Founder & AI Advisor at Anders AI. The workshop was well attended. A recording is available for those who are interested.
- On 6 December, SIPRI will host a small, closed roundtable with Stephan Klement, EU Special Envoy for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation and Special Advisor on the Iran Nuclear Issue.
- On 10 December, the PD cluster will host a small roundtable with Abdihakim Ainte, the Special Advisor on climate and food security to the Prime Minister's Office in Somalia. Colleagues from SIPRI, FBA, Sida and the Swedish MFA will be in attendance.

b. Relations with other countries

- SIPRI has been approached by a former Egyptian diplomat regarding a training course for capacity building of early- and mid-career diplomats in the Middle East and North Africa on armament and disarmament issues. Sibylle is taking this request forward.
- Sibylle is in discussions with the Austrian Government for funding for work on quantum technologies.
- Diego is in discussions with the Colombian government on funding for the continuation of MILAP's project on improving military expenditure transparency in Colombia.
- Lorenzo and Nan met with the EU Directorate General for Defence Industry and Space (DG DEFIS) in Brussels on 25 November to discuss potential funding on arms production data collection. DG DEFIS are very happy with MILAP's work and made several requests for further work, to be implemented by MILAP and DUAT.

c. Relations with other organizations

- On 22 November, the A&D cluster held a workshop on arms control implications of quantum technologies, jointly with Quantum Delta in The Hague. This was organized back-to-back with a larger event organised by Quantum Delta with the UN International Computing Centre to prepare the international year of Quantum, at which Alex and Sibylle co-chaired the peace, security and disarmament breakout session.
- On 27 November, the Kofi Annan Foundation released 'Resilience Rising: Youth Research Informing Global Climate and Conflict Responses', a publication they produced with support from Katongo.

d. Operations

- The results of the staff survey have been shared by Zondera. DoSes and Heads of Departments will receive their cluster/department level results on 2 December.

e. Outreach

- Preparations for the arms industry data launch are moving forward well, thanks to the MILAP programme, Outreach and Editorial. The embargoed data was shared on 25 November and the launch will take place on 2 December.
- Outreach in collaboration with the finance team is continuing efforts to include a PayPal link on SIPRI's website for donations.

4. Delegation visits

- N/A

5. HR issues

- SMT approved a visiting researcher, Malgorzata Burchard-Dziubińska, Head of the Department of Development Economics at the University of Łódź in Poland, who will visit SIPRI in September or October 2025 for two weeks.

6. Project issues

- N/A

7. Due Diligence

- SMT discussed potentially joining a consortium, led by Adam Smith International, for the EU-funded Facility on Justice in Conflict and Transition III. Luc will explore this further and revert.

8. AOB

- The last Monday morning all-staff meeting of 2024 will take place on 16 December. The meetings will resume on 13 January 2025.
- The last SMT meeting of 2024 will take place on 18 December. The meetings will resume on 8 January 2025.

9. Executive session

- SMT held an executive session.

Action items:

- Luc to revert on SIPRI potentially joining a consortium, led by Adam Smith International, for the EU-funded Facility on Justice in Conflict and Transition III.

Follow-up items:

- Traineeship
- Legal expertise
- Intranet
- Improving concept notes
- SSC and proposed ambassadorial roundtables