

## Monday morning meeting

3 February 2025

### Notes

#### New colleagues

- Bárbara Magalhães Teixeira, a researcher, who recently joined the Peace & Development Cluster.
- Rafael Andlip, a new TALOS Fellow joining the Governance of AI team. Rafael will introduce himself at the next staff meeting as he is in the workshop taking place today.

#### Director's Office

- Dan is attending a Workshop on "Geopolitics of Sustainability" on Monday.
- Charlotta will attend a track II conference on regional security in MENA, in the end of the week.
- Sofie finalized the report on the Strategic Grant and sent to the MFA last week and we are in the final stage of finalizing also the Director's Annual Report.
- On Friday, 31 January, the Board held an extraordinary meeting to agree on the next director. We are now initiating the process regarding contract, will inform the Unions and prepare for MBL. Hope to soon be able to share the name.

#### Outreach

- We have a workshop in the building Monday and Tuesday hosted by Laura and our events team on *Bias in Military AI and International Humanitarian Law*.
- Tomorrow there is an event at the Irish embassy (starting at 8.30) featuring among others Charlotta on the topic of women's leadership in peace mediation. If you are interested, you are welcome to register.

#### Operations

##### GAD:

- Congratulations to Sibylle and the A&D cluster for securing funding for a 4-day training for 15 diplomats from the MFA of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It will take place in early May and involve various SIPRI staff and associates.
- Congratulations to Mark and the DUAT programme for a new multi-year project on 'Regulating the international trade in data-intensive security technologies' as part of a larger facility, funded by the Luminate group. The work will be done in coordination with Privacy International.
- Congratulations to Jair, Gretchen and the Peace Operations and Conflict Management for securing a consultancy for a timely policy paper on strategies in light of stabilization priorities for eastern DRC.
- Congrats to Forum team – the contract confirming FBA's financial support (2M SEK) to the 2025 Forum was signed last week
- The first session of the Fundraising helpdesk will take place in the Seminar room and online on Thursday at 9.30 am.

##### Finance:

- A gentle reminder, e-mails were sent out last week:
  - All time sheets for **January** should be submitted at the latest today **Monday, 3 February by COB**.

- We are implementing a new routine from 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2025 for time reporting when it comes to internal time. Previous **Sipri internal time** will now be reported in 6 new projects. These projects are for **INTERNAL time only**.
- This week, from Monday to Wednesday – BDO are conducting their external audit of fiscal year 2024 and our Annual Report. It would be great if you all could be prepared in case any clarifications are needed about your projects, that we can't answer.
- Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> we had a visit from the new auditor from MFA, who had a good chance to familiarize himself with SIPRI.
- As soon as we have an audited result, we will inform you all about our financial status.

#### **Armament & Disarmament**

- Nan will be in Lusaka this week for a roundtable hosted by the African Center for Strategic Studies on national security strategy implementation.
- Mark will be at Wilton Park in the UK Wednesday to Friday to attend 'Advancing the ATT: The role of interagency cooperation and the next decade of the ATT'. He will be chairing a breakout group and making a presentation inter-agency cooperation and export controls.
- Laura is hosting an expert workshop on Bias in Military AI and International Humanitarian Law.
- Vincent will head to Paris on Friday for the series of event linked to AI Action Summit.
- Sibylle will participate in the Opening of the International Year of Quantum declared by the UN General Assembly, at the UNESCO in Paris on Tuesday and Wednesday.

#### **Conflict, Peace & Security**

- Barbara will be in Oslo on Monday and Tuesday, speaking at a panel on "Europe alone with Russia?" at the Oslo Security Conference.
- This week, Cyrielle and Virginie will be in Nouakchott, Mauritania to conduct interviews on a research project on the consequences of the Sahel crisis with a focus on refugee camps.
- In preparation for the RECAP conference (Regional Network on Prevention of Extremism, Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention), Pauline and Marie will be in Dakar from Thursday.

#### **Peace And Development**

- On Friday, Barbara presented at Folk och Försvar seminar "Säkerhetsutmaningar i klimatförändringarnas spår" (Climate related security challenges).
- Abeer, Dan, Claire and Jiayi are attending the Mistra geopolitics final conference on Tuesday.
- Simone and Caroline are having their kick-off meeting with WFP Mauretania to start the Mauritania project.
- Kheira, together with IOM, will host a roundtable in Mogadishu this Sunday. The event will bring together government stakeholders, UN agencies, and civil society organizations to discuss climate security and steps to address the interconnected risks. The discussion will focus on actionable steps to address these challenges, with a particular emphasis on engaging the security sector and government stakeholders.

#### **Staffing structure**

- With reference to Dan's e-mail last Thursday, the first steps in a change in the staffing structure have now been taken. The Unions have been informed and later this week, on Friday, 7 February there will be a first discussion with Union representatives.
- Clarisa will share an invitation to a Q&A session 30 minutes before the fika on Thursday. You are welcome to drop by the HR room, book an individual meeting with HR or e-mail HR with any questions you may have.