IEEE Region 8 Secretary Report March 2011 98th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting, Berlin

The 97th IEEE Region 8 meeting in San Francisco was organized in conjunction with the Section Congress and was successful in participation numbers. The actual meeting went excellent without any problems. The organization of the meeting was well prepared and got favorable comments by many participants.

My first priority after the San Francisco meeting was the preparation of the OpCom meetings in Rome in October and in Athens in February. Both meetings were excellent and among other things we had the opportunity to meet with the local Executive Committees of Italy and Greece Sections respectively. Some members from the Student Branches also took active part in the meetings with presentations and discussions. We thank both the Italy and the Greece Sections for their hospitality.

My aim is to provide quality services to Sections and to ordinary members by answering to queries and requests, by taking action in solving problems and by encouraging people to excel in their fields. Since we are all volunteers and there is a constant change in positions and duties, it is essential to have guidance in every step. IEEE is getting to be a very complex organization with many issues, policies, meetings and projects happening at the same time all over the world. I try to support and give information to the Sections and try to redirect them to the right people.

As you might have noticed our web page has changed and migrated to a new platform that will enable us to have more functionality and flexibility. The new platform is called WordPress "A semantic publishing platform". It allows us to have multiple teams with their own work space. It gives us a wide range of management and monitoring tools. It also supports advertisements and social media connectivity. This required an enormous amount of effort since all the documents had to be manually transferred and edited to the new site. A team of people worked for that under the coordination of George Michael: George did most of the work but was helped by Maria Efthimiou and Hossam Fahmy. Thank you guys for all the hard work!

I would like to thank our Director, all the OpCom members, all the Section Chairs and other Region 8 Committee members for their help and active participation in Regional matters, for their hard work and for making Region 8 the best Region in IEEE. Last but not least I would like to thank our Electronics Coordinator for his cooperation and hard work.

Costas Stasopoulos IEEE Region 8 Secretary