

Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) Report*by Jozef Modelski*

We need open and timely communication, consensus building, quick response to new technology opportunities, imaginative problem solving and efficient use of resources - building a truly transnational IEEE that satisfies present needs but has a bold vision for the future.

(Key issues – similar as presented in the Spring Report)

Key steps to realize the Region 8 Mission

- Provide a platform for coordination, motivation and interaction among R8 units
- Provide a link between the Region and other IEEE organizational units
- Work to achieve smooth and effective operations in different countries
- Recognizing cultural differences, and effectively cooperating with national societies and other organizations
- Expand IEEE presence and activities to new geographic locations in R8, particularly in Africa and Middle Asia
- Promote the transnational nature of IEEE within the Region and the Institute

General remarks

- Strong support for the IEEE HQ initiatives and programs in Africa and Europe
- Strengthening cooperation with industry and national/regional organizations
- Strengthening IEEE leadership through engagement of Society Presidents and Division Directors (technical leaders) in Regional committees (as well as regional volunteers in the "global IEEE")
- Cooperation and synchronization of Region and the "global IEEE" activities (not only MGA, but also TAB, PSPB, EAB, IEEE-SA, etc) - providing more and better results

Future Region 8 structure

- There is a need to engage with the European Commission on behalf of our EU members in the Region to influence policy on regulation, education, etc.
 - It may be more influential for IEEE as a transnational entity to talk to the EC than multiple national societies.
 - This is not a reason to sub-divide the Region, but we should create a mechanism, taking advantage of the new office in Brussels, to represent our EU members to the EC.
- Investigate unifying some very small Sections (could undertake more activities, viability of Chapters)

Region 8 Committee Meetings

Region 8 Committee should continue the face-to-face meetings twice per year, as at present (while the Region can afford it). The face-to-face meetings build community and allow members to share their experiences. Because a large proportion of the committee changes annually, members benefit from two meetings per year.

Cooperation with industry

- Improve communications and networking with the industry at all levels
- Enhance IEEE Image within the industry as well as IEEE members image
- Provide Complete IEEE focused packages to various industry sectors.

Cooperation with national and regional Associations and Organizations

- IEEE Region 8 should encourage cooperation rather than competition with regional and National Societies
- IEEE Region 8 should work with IEEE Societies to discourage them from holding major events in parts of Region 8 without first making contacts with the local Section, Chapter and, where appropriate, National Society.
- IEEE R8 should investigate charitable foundations and European Commission schemes to ascertain whether any are appropriate for cooperation.
- IEEE R8 should strongly support cooperation between IEEE SA and relevant EU Committees as well as other regional organizations.
- IEEE R8 should support cooperation between professional organizations in Region 8 and relevant technical IEEE Societies.