

ACTION

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TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee – 17 March 2019

FROM: IEEE Region 8 Director

SUBJECT: Approval of Liberia Subsection

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Members in the country of Liberia have submitted a petition to MGA to form a Subsection. The petition has the required number of signatures. As per R8 Operations Manual section R8-8.1 the Region 8 Committee needs to approve the formation of a new Subsection and is requested to do so.

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolved that the Region 8 Committee approves the formation of the Liberia Subsection with boundaries corresponding to the boundaries of the country of Liberia.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Strategic Goal(s) Supported

- The formation of the Subsection will help in the goal of creating dynamic communities that help individuals around the world to share, collaborate, network, and engage with one another.

Financial Implications

- The Region will be obliged to forward the rebate received for the Subsection, if it fulfills the meeting activity and complies with financial and officer reporting requirements (R8 Operations Manual, R8-8.1)

Pros and/or Cons

- PROS: Better serving the members in the country.
- CONS: None.

Implementation

- After approval by the Region the petition needs to be finally approved by the MGA Board.

Background Information

On 5 March 2019 the member count in Liberia was

Senior Member: 1

Life Member: 2

Member: 26

GSM: 12

Student Member: 24

TOTAL: 64

Liberia has an area of 111,369 km² and a population in 2015 of 4,503,000. It is currently on the IEEE list of countries qualifying for electronic membership and in the list of low income countries qualifying for discounted electronic membership.



The content of the petition follows:

IEEE Liberia Subsection Petition - Business Plan

1. What was the motivating factor that led to forming this geographic unit? What member needs will be fulfilled as a result of forming this unit?

The motivating factors for the formation of the IEEE Subsection Liberia are as follows: ↯ We are interested to encourage educational growth and development for engineers, scientists, and technologists, developers, educators and media practitioners known and unknown in the country, and to guarantee them a pathfinder for maintaining their careers. ↯ To embark on a nationwide capacity building endeavors, which seek to bring together technical expertise among cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary spheres in a bid to nurture an active, robust, and an open exchange among individuals. ↯ To create a positive impact on affiliates, who are employees and volunteers so as to uphold a shared value, participate in training and development initiatives to foster capacity building, empowerment and membership drive in a more mutual, a cordial and respectful association. As a result of forming this Subsection the following member needs shall be met: The IEEE Liberia Subsection seeks the transformation of Liberian professionals to be more creative and inspirational toward a better Liberia by way of the following: } Computing } Information Communication Technology } Engineering } Futuristic Technologies } Journalism and Management

2. List the activities the unit will focus on for the first six months. What activities will engage the members of the unit with one another?

→ Forward the filled petition to form the IEEE Liberia Subsection for the approval process. → Meeting with all the IEEE members for the election of the ExCom members. We shall put in place the management and administrative functions for an effective operation, and to link with IEEE International to understand and implement its policies and procedures. → The consolidation of IEEE Liberia Subsection goals and objectives within line of IEEE, and to create scheduling and assigning of roles, tasks, and responsibilities to bolster operations. → Planning for the IEEE events and activities in the Country for the awareness of the IEEE among universities, colleges, and industries which will include workshops, seminars and guest lecturers on the latest technology topics.

3. What accomplishments will this unit strive to meet in its first year?

→ Promote IEEE student and Professional memberships in the Liberian community. → Active participation in the various IEEE student and professional activities such as IEEE Day, IEEEmadC contest, IEEE Young Professionals, IEEEExtreme 24-Hour Programming Competition etc. → Hands-on workshops and Seminars on latest technologies in the field of Information Technology, Engineering and Management. → Developed programs in public service focused on knowledge and technology as related to public policy and humanitarian efforts. → International Conference in association with IEEE Liberia Subsection. → Meetings with IEEE members and submission of the yearly report.

4. What level of local support is engaged in support of the unit activities?

→ The IEEE Liberia Subsection will receive local support from corporate companies for IEEE activities and projects. We shall encourage volunteerism, working with Universities, colleges in areas of research, innovation, and technology. → Local awareness and community engagement to ensure the vitality and relevance of our core activities in standards, conferences, education, and publications, while providing increased value to our members. → Engage civil societies, NGOs, Universities, Colleges, and Public forums to add value in the IEEE activities. → Support from volunteers, student members, professional members, senior members in the IEEE Liberia Subsection.

In addition, the following answers were provided by the petitioners:

Do you plan to form IEEE organizational units such as a Student Branch, a YP affinity group and chapters in Liberia?

Yes, we are going to form a Student Branch, a YP affinity group and chapters in different universities and colleges. Few names are BlueCrest University College Liberia, University of Liberia and Starz College, many more.

What meetings, workshops and conference you intend to organize?

Firstly, we are going to plan a meeting with all IEEE Subsection members in Liberia. For Organizing the Workshop and conferences we will form different committees and will assign the roles and responsibilities for the event. We will organize workshops, seminars, Hackathon Competition, IEEE Day, and conferences in different areas of technologies with some experts. Such as:

Workshop - International Workshop on Cloud Computing and Internet of Things (IoT)

Conference - International Conference on Information Communication Technology and Management

What are the possibilities to increase IEEE membership in Liberia?

As Liberia Country is growing in terms of technology developments in various sectors. Therefore, there is good chances to increase the IEEE membership in Liberia Country from the Universities, Colleges, Government Organizations, and Private sectors.

How many members you expect to have in Liberia after a year or two?

After one year - 250

After two year - 400

Do you have intentions to be elevated to a Section after some time, based on increased membership and increased successful activities?

Yes