

Africa Council

Gloria Chukwudebe

Goals

- Coordinate the inter-Sectional activities of the constituent Sections and Subsections.
- Provide effective representation and support for the constituent Sections and Subsections.
- Promote IEEE activities in Africa.
- Assist with development of activities in Africa including developing new Sections, Subsections, Chapters and Affinity Groups.
- Provide for joint meetings of Sections, Subsections, conferences and symposia within the Council, coordinate student activities within the Council and assist Sections, Subsections, Chapters and Affinity Groups in the administration and documentation of activities within the Council.

Status

- IEEE Africa council was formed on 23 June 2018 by Algeria Section, Ghana Section, Kenya Section, Morocco Section, Nigeria Section, South Africa Section, Tunisia Section, and Zambia Section;
- IEEE Africa council bylaws was approved on 17 November 2018
- Two face to face meetings were organized: in Tunisia on 29 June 2018 and in Bulgaria on 21 October 2018;
- Uganda was upgraded to Section and Burkina Faso subsection were formed on 17 November 2018;
- IEEE CB account was created.

Outlook

- First election of the Africa council committee: Chair, Chair-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary;
- Working with members from African countries to recruit new IEEE members and to create their IEEE subsections;
- Organize IEEE Technical and Humanitarian Activities in Africa;
- Organize 4 SYP congresses (North Africa, West Africa, East Africa, South Africa);
- Establish cooperation agreements with IEEE sections;
- Formation of Liberia and Ethiopia subsections, and upgrade of Mauritius from subsection to a Section.

Points of Concern

- Reduce membership fees and add benefits;
- Facilitate payment of membership fees;
- Provide to non-English speaking members access to the IEEE Technical English online courses for free;
- Transition of some of the work of the Ad Hoc to the Africa Council;
- Receive financial support from IEEE, MGA, Region 8, European commission, etc;
- Receive the annual rebate related to IEEE members belongs to non IEEE countries;
- Allow people to donate for the Africa council via IEEE Foundation website; <https://www.ieeefoundation.org/donate>;
- Present IEEE in the main events in Africa;
- Attract more IEEE volunteers to help organizing more activities.

Other Issues to report

- Access to Internet and Power are still issues for sub-Saharan African countries, it affects activities of volunteers.
- The IEEE membership is expensive in African countries. It costs in some countries the half or more of members salaries.

