TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee, November 2021

FROM: Peter Nagy, Vice Chair Technical Activities

 Habib Kammoun, Chair Conference Coordination Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Consider RTSI as an R8 Conference

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The IEEE International forum on Research and Technology for Society and Industry (RTSI) was founded by the IEEE Italy section in 2015.

The RTSI is an annual meeting of researchers and industry professionals in the field of electrical, electronic, and information science and engineering. Specifically, the main purposes of the event are:

* to promote and strengthen partnerships and cooperation between Academia and Industry;
* to increase understanding and awareness of how engineering and technology can positively affect quality of life;
* to promote discussion between the research community and government bodies about effective and successful research policies;
* to disseminate recent advancements, discoveries and applications;
* to discuss ideas and promote cooperation between researchers working in different research areas.

Six editions were organized till now. The conference attracts a large number of R8 members from Industry and Academia.

The Conference Coordination Subcommittee proposes to **add RTSI to the R8 conference portfolio**, starting from 2022 edition by signing an Operating Agreement to settle the terms of the collaboration with Italy Section and eventually with other Sections in the Region.

The next editions will be organized by France section (2022), UK and Ireland section (2023), and Italy section (2024).

The first call for bids for RTSI conference will be for the 10th edition in 2025.

**PROPOSED ACTION**

Resolved that Region 8 Committee approves the execution of the RTSI Operating Agreement with the Italy Section as presented.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

* Region 8 will have a financial co-sponsorship share for every edition of the conference and will receive part of the surplus or contribute part of the losses (30%).
* Region 8 will provide a seed funding of up to $5,000 to each edition of the conference, to be returned to the Region after the conference takes place.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

The agreement will be in place for the 2022 edition of the conference, while the location will be selected by R8 for the first time in 2025.