

R8 Director

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Goals

The Director is in charge of promoting and coordinating all activities of the Region and representing the Region in the Mga Board.

Status

The appointments of all standing committees and almost all of the ad-hoc committees have been completed. Specific attention has been given to identify candidates with excellent expertise and competences specific for each committee: in the pool of equivalently competent candidates, specific care has been given to ensure gender diversity (especially among chairs) as well as geographic, age, and employment diversities. The goal has been to bring together the diversities for better addressing all issues and needs in the Region, making sure that the identified solutions are satisfactory and feasible everywhere in the Region, possibly with local adaptations. Everybody in the Region should feel that she is part of the family. Nobody should be left beyond.

A number of specific issues were identified in the last two years of direct interaction with the Sections and Subsections: this resulted in establishing various ad-hoc committees to study these problems in detail and identify possible plans for addressing them, also in cooperation with the various groups in IEEE and the central administration. The list of issues identified with Sections and Subsections as well as the list of ad-hoc committees are reported in the respective specific reports.

Membership continues to slowly recover, mainly thanks to the efforts in recruitment of students. Retention of these students and recruitment of higher-grade members will continue to be a challenge, especially in low-income countries and in the transition from students to young professionals.

Educational activities, both from the technical point of view and the soft skills, will provide opportunities to members and all individuals in the scientific and professional community to remain on the leading edge of technology and progress in the career, envisioning a life-long learning strategy.

Networking will become increasingly important to provide opportunities for sharing ideas and experiences, and grow all together. After the pandemic and the restrictions people need to have more direct and personalized interactions, also to overcome the feeling of lonesome, especially among the young generations. Teleconferences are useful to reach more people at a lower or no cost, but personal interactions is still essential for sharing ideas and establish not only a personal professional network, but also to create opportunities for friendship. This will also be fundamental for humanity since it will contribute to sustainability and peace around the world.

Identifying and training volunteers will be essential to ensure the continuous growth of our Region and expand all services and opportunities for members and, more in general, for the entire scientific and professional community. They will be the engine of our Region.

Contributing to boost the economic and social development, ensure sustainable development, promote the well-being of people, and protect the natural environment will be more and more critical and essential for the benefit of humanity, the environment, and all living beings. Will be essential for all of us and the future generations.