TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee, March 2023

FROM: Marios Antoniou, Vice Chair Technical Activities
Tiziana Tambosso, Chair Conference Coordination Committee

SUBJECT: Approval of IHTC 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The IEEE International Humanitarian Technology Conference (IHTC) is a Multi-Regional Conference Series rotating between R7 (Canada), R8 (Africa, Europe and Middle East), and R9 (Latin America and Caribbean).
This inter-disciplinary conference series focuses on showcasing challenges, success stories, lessons learnt, case studies and technological innovation related to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ICT4D and the application of Humanitarian Technologies (including Disaster Relief and Disaster Recovery) and facilitating engagement stakeholders from the public, private, education and research and societal sectors around the world. We place a particular emphasis on facilitating participation by key stakeholder groups from low and lower middle-income countries as well as low resource communities.
IHTC was established in R7 and since 2021 it has become a multi-regional conference.

Previous editions:

- 2023: Colombia – Santa Marta (in progress) Hybrid
- 2022: Canada (virtual)
- 2021: R8 (virtual)
- 2017: Canada - Toronto
  2014: Canada - Montreal

The Conference Coordination Committee (CoCC) sent to the R8 section chairs and R8 members a call for proposals to organize the 2025 R8 flagship and portfolio conferences.

Only one bid to organize 2024 IHTC was received and evaluated by the Conference Coordination Committee and on February 27th, 2023, after detailed analysis and discussions, the CoCC members anonymously agreed to recommend the **proposal to host in Bari (Italy) the 2024 IHTC**

The R8 CoCC recommendation to organize IHTC 2024 in Bari, Italy was submitted for approval to the R8 OPCOM of March 13th, 2023

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolved that the organization of the 2024 IHTC is hereby approved as follows:

Title: IEEE IHTC 2024
Dates: 23-25 October, 2024
Venue: Polytechnic University of Bari, Bari, Italy
General chair: Massimo La Scala (IEEE Fellow)
Number of participants: 75 onsite 75 online
Registration fee: $315-378 (reduced-regular) $130-156 (reduced-regular)virtual
Budget: $72,175 incomes, $46,750 expenses, $25,425 (35%) surplus
Region 8 share: 60% of the surplus ($15,255)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Bid from Prof. La Scala does shows:
- Experienced organizing team (international)
- Good venue infrastructure and travel facilities
- Section and chapters technically involved (endorsement letters from Italy section and 5 chapters)
- Support from National Associations and Research Centers
- Industrial financial Patrons - letters of financial support
- Expected Impact and benefits for R8, Section/Chapters
- Low registration fee
- Three budgets (expected, best, worse) discussed and motivated

Further details in the following documents:
- R8 Call for bids
- Bari's proposal
- Bari's budget