
120th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting
Unapproved Minutes of the Meeting
25-26 March 2023
Radisson Blu Hotel, Bucharest, Romania

The presentations are available at the IEEE agenda tool: <https://agd.ieee.org/mpt/Agenda.aspx?eid=18133>.
Other backup documentation can be downloaded from the Region 8 web page:
<https://ieeer8.org/category/committee/meetings/2023-march-bucharest/>.

Items in these minutes are numbered as they are presented at the meeting.

Meeting Agenda

SATURDAY, 25 March 2023, Day 1

1. Procedural – Call to order and welcome (Piuri)
2. Procedural – Housekeeping (Karadzinov)
3. Procedural – Roll call (Karadzinov)
4. Motion – Approval of the agenda (Piuri)
5. Motion – Approval of the consent agenda (Piuri)
6. Discussion – IEEE President address (Rahman)
7. Discussion – IEEE President-elect address (Coughlin)
8. Discussion – IEEE Executive Director address (Muirhead)
9. Discussion – IEEE MGA Chair & IEEE Director address (Gostin)
10. Discussion – IEEE MGA Managing Director address (Jankowski)
11. Discussion – IEEE Region 4 Director address (Ozburn)
12. Discussion – IEEE Region 7 Director-elect address (Murad)
13. Discussion – IEEE Region 9 Director address (Tejera)
14. Discussion – IEEE Region 10 Director address (Fung)
15. Discussion – IEEE Division V Director address (Metra)
16. Discussion – Director's report (Piuri)
17. Discussion – Awards report (Luque)
18. Discussion – Nominations report (Luque)
19. Discussion & Motions – Treasurer report (Jastrzebski)
20. Discussion – Section anniversaries (Piuri)
21. Discussion – Recognitions (Piuri)
22. Procedural – Group photo (Karadzinov)
23. Discussion – & Motions Vice-Chair Technical Activities report (Antoniou)
24. Discussion – IEEE SA standards activities and reaching out to industry (Brand)
25. Discussion – IEEE Roadmaps and Data-based Business Strategy (Kumar)
26. Discussion – R8 publications and communications (Sultan)
27. Discussion & Motions – Vice-Chair Members Activities report (Lesic)
28. Discussion – Importance of volunteer leadership training (Chaurasia)
29. Discussion – IEEE EAB pre-university education (Dragoumanos)

SUNDAY, 26 March 2023, Day 2

30. Procedural – Call to order (Piuri)
31. Discussion – REACH program (Kaabunga/McKenna)

32. Discussion & Motions – Vice-Chair Students Activities report (Aliyu)
33. Discussion – R8 Section vitality and development (Zaic)
34. Discussion – R8 Diversity, equity and inclusion (Abandah)
35. Discussion & Motions – Sections Congress 2023 (Stasopoulos)
36. Discussion – Humanitarian Technologies Board address (Herbert)
37. Discussion – Region realignment: Zone Representative (Luque)
38. Procedural – Next meeting (Piuri)
39. Procedural – Old business (Piuri)
40. Procedural – New business (Piuri)
41. Procedural – Adjourn (Piuri)

Attendance

R8 Committee voting members present:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Algeria Section Chair Kouzou Abdallah | 31. North Macedonia Section Chair Anastas Mishev |
| 2. Austria Section Chair Thomas Strasser | 32. Norway Section Chair Filippo Sanfilippo |
| 3. Bahrain Section Chair Ali Zolait | 33. Oman Section Chair Abdullah Al-Badi |
| 4. Benelux Section Treasurer Valentijn De Smedt | 34. Poland Section Chair Adam Dabrowski |
| 5. Bosnia and Herzegovina Section Vice-Chair Vedad Becirovic | 35. Portugal Section Chair Rodolfo Oliveira |
| 6. Bulgaria Section Chair Valentina Markova | 36. Romania Section Chair Lucian Toma |
| 7. Croatia Section Chair Ana Katalinic | 37. Saudi Arabia (East) Section Chair Jaafar Mohammed Alibrahim |
| 8. Cyprus Section Chair Aikaterini Papanikolaou | 38. Serbia and Montenegro Section Chair Mladen Koprivica |
| 9. Czechoslovakia Section Chair Roman Marsalek | 39. Slovenia Section Chair Joze Guna |
| 10. Denmark Section Chair Sanja Lazarova-Molnar | 40. South Africa Section Chair David Oyedokun |
| 11. Egypt Section Chair Ahmed Hassan | 41. Spain Section Chair Enrique Romero-Cadaval |
| 12. Estonia Section Vice-Chair Vladimir Kuts | 42. Sweden Section Chair Andrei Gurtov |
| 13. Finland Section Chair Mahdi Pourakbari | 43. Switzerland Section Chair Thomas Hanselmann |
| 14. France Section Chair René Garello | 44. Tunisia Section Chair Habib Kammoun |
| 15. Germany Section Chair Jan Haase | 45. Turkey Section SAC Chair Murat Tümer |
| 16. Greece Section Vice-Chair Athanasios Kakarountas | 46. Uganda Section Treasurer Ekatanat Joshua |
| 17. Hungary Section Treasurer Anikó Szakál | 47. Ukraine Section Vice Chair Iryna Ivasenko |
| 18. Iran Section Chair Hossein Askarian Abyaneh | 48. United Arab Emirates Section Chair Hussain Al-Ahmad |
| 19. Israel Section Chair Shmuel Auster | 49. United Kingdom and Ireland Section Chair Izzet Kale |
| 20. Italy Section Chair Gianfranco Chicco | 50. R8 Director Vincenzo Piuri |
| 21. Jordan Section Chair Ala Khalifeh | 51. R8 Director-Elect Mike Hinchey |
| 22. Kenya Section Chair Esther Muchiri | 52. R8 Past Director Antonio Luque |
| 23. Kuwait Section Secretary Abdullah Alqallaf | 53. R8 Secretary Ljupco Karadinov |
| 24. Latvia Section Chair Anastasija Žiravecka | 54. R8 Treasurer Adam Jastrzebski |
| 25. Lebanon Section Chair Hadi Kanaan | 55. R8 Vice-Chair Member Activities Vinko Lesic |
| 26. Lithuania Section Chair Borisas Levitas | 56. R8 Vice-Chair Student Activities Abdullateef Aliyu |
| 27. Malta Section Past-Chair Conrad Attard | 57. R8 Vice-Chair Technical Activities Marios Antoniou |
| 28. Mauritius Section Chair Robert Ah King | |
| 29. Morocco Section Chair Badr Eddine El Mohajir | |
| 30. Nigeria Section Chair John Oyewole Funso-Adebayo | |

R8 Committee voting members absent:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 58. Belarus Section Chair VACANT | 64. Russia (Siberia) Section Chair Roman Gorbunov |
| 59. Ghana Section Chair Mensah Sitti | 65. Russia Section Chair Sergey Bankov |
| 60. Iceland Section Chair VACANT | 66. Western Saudi Arabia Section Secretary Ibrahim Nasar |
| 61. Iraq Section Chair Abbas Sadkhan | 67. Zambia Section Vice-Chair Mphaisha Phiri |
| 62. Qatar Section Chair VACANT | |
| 63. Russia (Northwest) Section Chair Victor Sheludko | |

Committees of R8 members present:

1. Magdalena Salazar Palma	Member	Strategic Planning Committee
2. Peter Nagy	Member	Awards & Recognition Committee
3. Andreas Koltas	Member	Finance Committee
4. Pascal Lorenz	Member	Finance Committee
5. Mohamed Neji	Member	Finance Committee
6. Gheith Abandah	Chair	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
7. Dusanka Boskovic	Member	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
8. Matej Zajc	Chair	Section Vitality & Development Committee
9. Ana Madureira	Member	Section Vitality & Development Committee
10. Adeel Sultan	Chair	Publications & Communications Committee
11. Mohammad Hossein Babaei	Member	Publications & Communications Committee
12. Fatma Zamil	Member	Publications & Communications Committee
13. Maja Matijasevic	Member	Publications & Communications Committee
14. Nick Wainwright	Member	Publications & Communications Committee
15. Mariya Antyufeyeva	Chair	Membership Development Committee
16. Sara Barros	Member	Membership Development Committee
17. Mohab Mangoud	Member	Membership Development Committee
18. Fairouz Fattoum	Member	Membership Development Committee
19. Ines Inacio	Chair	Young Professionals Committee
20. Almedin Kavaz	Member	Young Professionals Committee
21. Ali Alfayly	Member	Young Professionals Committee
22. Georgia Saridakis	Member	Young Professionals Committee
23. Mistura Muibi-Tijani	Member	Young Professionals Committee
24. Wadee HajAli	Member	Young Professionals Committee
25. Maria-Alexandra Paun	Member	Women in Engineering Committee
26. Margarida Trigo	Member	Women in Engineering Committee
27. Sally Musonye	Member	Women in Engineering Committee
28. Peter Magyar	Chair	Life Members Committee
29. Mohamad Zidan	Member	Entrepreneurship Committee
30. Kithinji Muriungi	Member	Entrepreneurship Committee
31. Rosa Maria Delgado	Member	Entrepreneurship Committee
32. Hend Kmiha	Member	Entrepreneurship Committee
33. Theodoros Chatzinikolaou	Chair	Humanitarian Activities Committee
34. Lavender Ndunya	Member	Humanitarian Activities Committee
35. George Papadimitriou	Member	Humanitarian Activities Committee
36. Lucija Brezočnik	Member	Humanitarian Activities Committee
37. Martin Bastiaans	Chair	History Activities Committee
38. Tiziana Tambosso	Chair	Conference Coordination Committee
39. Shaun Kaplan	Member	Conference Coordination Committee
40. Anna Litvinenko	Chair	Chapter Coordination Committee
41. Andrejs Romanovs	Chair	Professional and Educational Activities Committee
42. Dalius Navakas	Member	Professional and Educational Activities Committee
43. Toni Mattila	Chair	Action for Industry Committee
44. John Matogo	Member	Action for Industry Committee
45. Nihel ben Youssef	Member	Action for Industry Committee
46. Sohaib Qamar Sheikh	Member	Action for Industry Committee
47. Simay Akar	Past Chair	Student Activities Committee (SAC)
48. Vera Markovic	Chair	SAC - Contests, Awards and Recognitions AdHoc Committee
49. Khaldoun Taktak	Chair	SAC - Training and Leadership Support AdHoc Committee
50. Vildana Hrnjić	Chair	SAC - New Initiatives AdHoc Committee
51. Lee Crudgington	Member	SAC - Contests, Awards and Recognitions AdHoc Committee
52. Soula Vasiliki-Seie	Member	SAC - New Initiatives AdHoc Committee
53. George Michael	Chair	Electronic Communications Team

54. Maria Efthymiou	Member	Electronic Communications Team
55. Costas Stasopoulos		Sections Congress Coordinator
56. Mohamed Amin	Chair	Careers AdHoc Committee
57. Samarth Deo	Chair	EPICS AdHoc Committee
58. Tuncer Baykas	Chair	Standards coordination AdHoc Committee
59. Nadezhda Kunicina	Chair	Cross-section Technical Cooperation AdHoc Committee
60. Vincent Kaabunga	Chair	Continu>Ed AdHoc Committee
61. Ilhem Kallel	Chair	Cooperation with IEEE S/Cs and National Assoc. AdHoc Committee
62. Paul Cunningham	Chair	Climate Change AdHoc Committee

R8 guests present:

1. Saifur Rahman	2023 IEEE President & CEO
2. Thomas Coughlin	2023 IEEE President-Elect
3. Sophie Muirhead	IEEE Executive Director and COO
4. Jill Gostin	IEEE MGA Vice President
5. Vickie Ozburn	R4 Director
6. Tom (Thamir) Murad	R7 Director-Elect
7. Enrique Tejera	R9 Director
8. Lance Chun Che Fung	R10 Director
9. Cecilia Metra	Division V Director
10. Rakesh Kumar	IEEE Roadmaps Chair & IEEE Data Strategy Chair
11. Stamatis Dragoumanos	IEEE EAB Pre-University Education Coordination Committee Chair
12. Kelly McKenna	IEEE History Center, Senior REACH Program Manager, IEEE Staff
13. Kathleen Weeks	Senior Corporate Development Manager at IEEE, IEEE Staff
14. Clara Neppel	IEEE Global Office in Europe, Senior Director, European Business Operations
15. Eszter Lukacs	IEEE Technology Centre, Vienna, IEEE Client Services Manager
16. Hermann Brand	IEEE SA Staff, European Standards Affairs Director (IEEE Vienna Office)
17. Lloyd Green	IEEE SA Staff, Global Market Engagement & Membership

On-line presenters:

18. Mousmi Ajay Chaurasia	2023 MGA Training Committee Chair
19. Lwanga Herbert	2023 IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board Chair

Other present:

1. Fetene Yigletu Mulugeta	Ethiopia Subsection Chair
2. Ikechi Ukaegbu	Kazakhstan Subsection Chair
3. Dennis Mwigusa	Tanzania Subsection Chair
4. Nasar Aldian Ambark Shashoa	Libya Subsection Chair
5. Husham Ahmed	Bahrain Section Treasurer
6. Catarina Reis	Portugal Section Vice-Chair
7. Qinghua Wang	Sweden Section Vice Chair
8. Claire Lajoie-Mazenc	AdHoc Committee on IEEE Milestones Awareness Chair
9. Nizamettin Aydin	Türkiye Section, Sponsored Events Coordinator

Romania Section local organizing team:

1. Grigore Stamatescu	Romania Section Secretary
2. Madalina-Irina Burcea	Romania Section NTC SB Chapter Chair
3. Madalin Vasile Moise	Romania Section UPB SB Chapter Advisor
4. Iulia Stamatescu	Romania Section volunteer
5. Anda Jajaie	Romania Section volunteer
6. Andreea Chioreanu	Romania Section volunteer
7. Denis-Cosmin Oncioiu	Romania Section volunteer
8. Eduard-Iulian Atodiresei	Romania Section volunteer
9. Irina Picioroaga	Romania Section volunteer
10. Radu Plamanescu	Romania Section volunteer
11. Rodica Negroiu	Romania Section volunteer
12. Daria Dedu	Romania Section volunteer

SATURDAY, 25 March 2023, Day 1

1. Procedural – Call to order and welcome (Piuri)

Region 8 Director Vincenzo Piuri calls the Committee to order at 08:05 h (Eastern European Time, UTC+2) and opens the 120th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting welcoming all attendees.

2. Procedural – Housekeeping (Karadzinov)

Region 8 Secretary Ljupco Karadzinov presents the housekeeping rules, the meeting schedule and the social events. He reminds the participants that tomorrow starts the Summer Time (UTC+3) which is the reason for starting the Day 2 of the meeting at 09:00 h. Then Romania Section Secretary Grigore Stamatescu welcomes the participants.

3. Procedural – Roll call (Karadzinov)

Region 8 Secretary Ljupco Karadzinov takes a roll call of R8 Committee voting members and confirms there is a quorum of majority of the Section Chairs (49 out of 59) and also a total majority of all voting members (57 out of 67).

4. Motion – Approval of the agenda (Piuri)

Region 8 Director Vincenzo Piuri presents the proposed agenda. There is no discussion.

Motion, Approval of the agenda

The motion passes, the agenda is approved.

5. Motion – Approval of the consent agenda (Piuri)

Region 8 Director Vincenzo Piuri presents the items in the consent agenda. There is no discussion.

Motion, Approval of the consent agenda

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

The motion passes, the minutes of the previous meeting are approved.

6. Discussion – IEEE President address (Rahman)

Saifur Rahman, IEEE President & CEO, presents his 2023 IEEE Presidency Theme and 6 points vision, synergy among IEEE's areas in focus; and gives a special emphasis on the IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on Coordinating IEEE's Response to Climate Change activities. After the presentation Rahman answers questions from the R8 Committee members.

7. Discussion – IEEE President-elect address (Coughlin)

Thomas Coughlin, 2023 IEEE President-Elect, presents his plans for IEEE in 2024 including the priorities and the 6 goals. After the presentation Coughlin answers questions from the R8 Committee members.

8. Discussion – IEEE Executive Director address (Muirhead)

Sophie Muirhead, IEEE Executive Director & COO, presents her report and the IEEE update. Starting her COO position this year, she feels super thrilled and humbled to present the first presentation at an IEEE Region meeting. At the beginning Muirhead presents her personal and professional background. Then she presents the 2023 Executive Director goals, risks and key opportunities. After the presentation questions from the audience are answered.

9. Discussion – IEEE MGA Chair & IEEE Director address (Gostin)

Jill Gostin, IEEE Vice President, MGA, presents her report on the MGA Initiatives/Priorities 2023, Region Realignment, the 2020-2025 MGA strategic plan and the 2023 priority projects. After the presentation Gostin and Muirhead answer questions from the audience.

10. Discussion – IEEE MGA Managing Director address (Jankowski)

Jill Gostin, IEEE Vice President, MGA, presents on behalf of Cecelia Jankowski, MGA Managing Director, their joint presentation on the latest IEEE membership statistics, membership dues, reduced membership fees for special circumstances & developing nations, FUTURE50 student dues discount offer outcome, how the membership dues are collected & applied, and the assessment allocations. After the presentation Gostin answers questions from the audience.

11. Discussion – IEEE Region 4 Director address (Ozburn)

Vickie Ozburn, IEEE R4 Director presents a report about Region 4 update, goals and opportunities to collaborate with Region 8. After the presentation a comment from the audience is answered.

12. Discussion – IEEE Region 7 Director-elect address (Murad)

Thamir (Tom) Murad, R7 Director-Elect, presents on behalf of the R7 Director Tom Anderson the IEEE (Region 7) Canada overview as a unique Region that is in one country.

13. Discussion – IEEE Region 9 Director address (Tejera)

Enrique Tejera, R9 Director, presents the outlines and key activities of the IEEE Region 9.

14. Discussion – IEEE Region 10 Director address (Fung)

Lance Chun Che Fung, R10 Director, presents the outlines and key activities of the IEEE Region 10.

15. Discussion – IEEE Division V Director address (Metra)

Cecilia Metra, Division V Director, presents the outlines of the IEEE Computer Society, its technical communities, working groups developing new standards and the IEEE Metaverse Initiative.

Coffee Break [10:43-11:08]

Before the coffee break, Vincenzo Piuri, R8 Director, Antonio Luque, R8 Nominations & Awards Committee Chair, and Conrad Attard, Championship Chair, present the winners of the IEEE R8 Robot Championship Malta, 3-4 December 2022 – Business Plan and Pitch Awards to:

- 1st place: AIRobotics (UAE), IEEE MAHE Dubai SB, Krishna Ajith, Ryan Fernandes, Sherwin Dsouza
 2nd place: FLAM (Tunisia), IEEE Polytech Sfax SB, Fares Gharbi, Helmy Ayedi, Iskandar Ghorbel
 3rd place: Electro Reinvented (Cyprus), IEEE UCY SB, Hafsa Maryum, Adil Farooq, Syeda Zillay Nain Zukhrif

The award plaques are collected by the Cyprus, Tunisia and UAE Section Chairs.

16. Discussion – Director's report (Piuri)

Vincenzo Piuri, R8 Director, presents Region 8 goals, areas of action and R8 Ad-Hoc Committees he appointed:

- Technical Activities
 - Standards Coordination
 - Cross-Section Technical Cooperation
 - Educational Infrastructures
 - Cooperation with IEEE S/Cs and National Associations
 - IEEE R8 on Climate Change
 - Continu>Ed
- Members Activities
 - Career
 - Senior Members Search
 - Fellow Members Search
 - EPICS
 - Territories in crisis
 - IEEE Milestones Awareness
- Student Activities Committee
 - Contests, Awards and Recognitions
 - Training and Leadership Support
 - New Initiatives
- Secretariat
- Finance Committee
 - Alternate Membership Payments
- Publications and Communications
 - Electronic Communications
 - Social Media
 - New Social Media
 - R8 Web

The list of R8 Ad-Hoc Committees members is published on the R8 website.

17. Discussion – Awards report (Luque)

Antonio Luque, R8 Nominations & Awards Committee Chair, presents: the IEEE, MGA and R8 awards and recognitions program; IEEE joint awards with national societies; 2023 call for awards nominations and timeline; preparing a successful nomination; and establishing new awards.

18. Discussion – Nominations report (Luque)

Antonio Luque, R8 Nominations & Awards Committee Chair, presents the 2023 Nominations and Election schedule and the IEEE Annual Election 2024 for the 2025-2026 Region 8 Director-Elect and the timeline:

- 1 March 2023. Call for nominations announced
- 31 May 2023. Deadline to submit nominations
- July 2023. The N&A Committee will propose a slate
- August 2023. The R8 Committee selects the slate during the 121st meeting.
- March 2024. Slate submitted to IEEE. Petition process starts.

19. Discussion & Motions – Treasurer report (Jastrzebski)

Adam Jastrzebski, R8 Treasurer, presents the Treasurer and Financial Report including: summary of recent activities; main goal of the new AdHoc Committee on Alternate Membership Payments; R8 budget coding structure; Concur and NextGen coding for R8; 2022 IEEE R8 Budget Report – revenue and expenses summary, financial position end 2022 and recent trends. Then Jastrzebski presents the R8 Financial Position 19/03/2023 and explains in details the Budget 2023 design, including income for existing activities, accrual expenses from 2022, operational surplus available for special new activities in 2023, initial budget 2023 proposals and allocation approved by R8C. Jastrzebski also informs about the request to the MGA to use 50% + \$150,000 operational surplus in the Budget 2023 and still waiting for response. Then he presents the financial planning for the 0.5 day full R8C Meeting followed by the Section Congress 2023 in Ottawa, August 2023. After the presentation questions from the R8 Committee members are answered.

The 2022 IEEE R8 Budget Report End 2022 is given in the Appendixes of these minutes.

20. Discussion – Section anniversaries (Piuri)

Vincenzo Piuri, R8 Director, presents the 50th anniversary banner to the Finland Section Chair Mahdi Pourakbari-Kasmaei.

21. Discussion – Recognitions (Piuri)

Vincenzo Piuri, R8 Director, and Antonio Luque, R8 Nominations & Awards Committee Chair, present IEEE Region 8 token of appreciation to:

1. Egypt Section and Ahmed Hassan Mohamed Yousef, 2020-2023 Chair, for exemplary service in hosting the IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting, Cairo, Egypt, 15–16 October 2022
2. Germany Section and Jan Haase, 2021-2022 Chair, for exemplary service in hosting the IEEE Region 8 Operating Committee Meeting, Berlin, Germany, 10–11 December 2022

Then Piuri and Luque present IEEE Region 8 token of appreciation/award to volunteers who were not present in person at the previous R8 Committee meetings:

3. Simay Akar for exemplary service and dedication as Region 8 Vice Chair for Student Activities 2021-2022
4. Adeel Sultan for exemplary service and dedication as Region 8 Vice Chair for Member Activities 2019-2020
5. Sohaib Sheikh for exemplary service and dedication as Region 8 Vice Chair for Technical Activities 2019-2020
6. IEEE Tanzania Subsection for exemplary service and dedication as host of AFRICON 2021, Arusha, Tanzania, 13-15 September 2021
7. 2021 Region 8 Outstanding Medium Section Award to the Iran Section for delivering excellent services to its members.

22. Procedural – Group photo (Karadzinov)

The group photo is taken on the hotel stairs [12:30 h].



Fig.1. Group photo 1 taken on the stairs in the Radisson BLU hotel lobby

Lunch [12:40 h–13:40 h]

23. Discussion – & Motions Vice-Chair Technical Activities report (Antoniou)

Marios Antoniou, R8 Vice-Chair Technical Activities, presents the R8 technical activities goals, highlights, progress and plans. Then he invites the Chairs of the R8 standing and AdHoc committees under his portfolio to present their respective activities:

1. Tiziana Tambosso, Conference Coordination Committee Chair
2. Anna Litvinenko, Chapter Coordination Committee Chair
3. Andrejs Romanovs, Professional and Educational Activities Committee Chair
4. Toni Mattila, Action for Industry Committee Chair
5. Tuncer Baykas, Standards Coordination AdHoc Committee Chair
6. Nadezhda Kunicina, Cross-section Technical Cooperation AdHoc Committee Chair
7. Vincent Kaabunga, Continuity AdHoc Committee Chair
8. Ilhem Kallel, Cooperation with IEEE S/Cs and National Associations AdHoc Committee Chair
9. Paul Cunningham, IEEE R8 on Climate Change AdHoc Committee Chair
10. Sohaib Sheikh on behalf of Albert Lysko, Educational Infrastructures AdHoc Committee Chair

After the presentation Antoniou and committee's chairs answer questions from the audience.

Tiziana Tambosso, Conference Coordination Committee Chair, presents the motions regarding the next R8 flagship and portfolio conferences:

Motion: Approval of RTSI 2024

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

Title:	IEEE RTSI 2024
Dates:	24-26 September, 2024
Venue:	Politecnico di Milano University, Bovisa, Milano, Italy
General chair:	Giambattista Gruosso (IEEE Senior Member, Italy Section Vice-Chair)
Number of participants:	160
Registration fee:	USD 425-525 (reduced-regular)
Budget:	\$87,830 incomes, \$68,880 expenses, \$18,950 (21%) surplus
Region 8 share:	30% of the surplus (\$5,685)

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion: Approval of IHTC 2024

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)

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion: Approval of AFRICON 2025

Resolved that the organization of the 2025 AFRICON is hereby approved as follows:

Title:	2025 IEEE AFRICON
Dates:	6-9 September 2025
Venue:	Transcorp Hilton, Abuja, Nigeria
General co-chairs:	Tunde Yusuf Salihu, Ralph Onoshakpor (both past-chairs of Nigeria Section)
Number of participants:	380
Registration fee:	USD 250-300 (reduced-regular)
Budget:	\$187,200 incomes, \$159,000 expenses, \$28,200 (15%) surplus
Region 8 share:	30% (\$8460)

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion: Approval of RTSI 2025

Resolved that the organization of the 2025 RTSI is hereby approved as follows:

Title:	IEEE RTSI 2025
Dates:	24-26 August, 2025
Venue:	Ramada Plaza, Tunis, Tunisia
General co-chairs:	Fadoua Drira, Ernesto Damiani (both IEEE Senior Members)
Number of participants:	150
Registration fee:	USD 370-400 (reduced-regular)
Budget:	\$58,300 incomes, \$48,030 expenses, \$10,270 (18%) surplus
Region 8 share:	30% of the surplus (\$3,081)

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion: Make HISTELCON a multi-regional conference

Resolved that the R8 Committee approves to make HISTELCON a multi-regional conference.

The CoCC with R8 OPCOM support will work to produce a cooperation agreement with the involved regions.

The agreement will be presented at the next R8 meeting in Ottawa to be approved by the R8 committee.

The agreement will be in place for the next edition of the conference

The motion passes unanimously.

24. Discussion – IEEE SA standards activities and reaching out to industry (Brand)

Hermann Brand, European Standards Affairs Director (IEEE Vienna Office), presents why standards matter and IEEE standardization activities.

25. Discussion – IEEE Roadmaps and Data-based Business Strategy (Kumar)

Rakesh Kumar, IEEE Roadmaps Committee Chair and Data Based Strategy Ad Hoc Committee Chair, presents what is an IEEE Technical Roadmap and the 4 published roadmaps; as well as the Data Based Strategy initiatives AskIEEE, ForeSight, DataPort 3.0, and Digital Transformation.

26. Discussion – R8 publications and communications (Sultan)

Adeel Sultan, R8 Publications & Communications Committee Chair, presents committee activities, including Region8 News issues published and other R8 social media and online news channels.

Coffee Break [15:47 h – 16:15 h]

The second Group Photo is taken in the main meeting room Atlas I & II [15:48 h].



Fig.2. Group photo 2 taken in the Radisson BLU main meeting room Atlas I & II

27. Discussion & Motions – Vice-Chair Members Activities report (Lesic)

Vinko Lesic, R8 Vice-Chair Member Activities, starts his presentation with the information that conclusions from the R8 Strategy Retreat (Geneva, September 2022) are included in the R8 member activities goals. Then he presents the R8 membership SWOT analysis, introduces his team and invites the Chairs of the R8 standing and AdHoc committees to present their respective activities:

1. Ines Inacio, Young Professionals Committee Chair
2. Theodoros Chatzinikolaou, Humanitarian Activities Committee Chair
3. Maria-Alexandra Paun, on behalf of Wafa Ben Hmida, Women in Engineering Committee Chair
4. Kithinji Muriungi on behalf of Rawane El Jamal, Entrepreneurship Committee Chair
5. Mariya Antyufeyeva, Membership Development Committee Chair
6. Peter Magyar, Life Members Committee Chair
7. Martin Bastiaans, History Activities Committee Chair
8. Claire Lajoie-Mazenc, Milestones Awareness AdHoc Committee Chair
9. Mohamed Amin, Careers AdHoc Committee Chair
10. Samarth Deo, EPICS AdHoc Committee Chair

28. Discussion – Importance of volunteer leadership training (Chaurasia)

Mousmi Ajay Chaurasia (on-line), 2023 MGA Training Committee Chair, presents remotely the Center for Leadership Excellence (CLE) IEEE training platform, content available, CLE metrics and the VoLT program.

29. Discussion – IEEE EAB pre-university education (Dragoumanos)

Stamatis Dragoumanos, IEEE Educational Activities Board Pre-University Education Coordination Committee Chair, presents his committee activities.

Procedural – Adjourn of the Day 1

The meeting recessed at 18:02 h (Eastern European Time UTC+2). Reconvene tomorrow, Sunday, at 9:00 h (Eastern European Summer Time UTC+3).

SUNDAY, 26 March 2023, Day 2

30. Procedural – Call to order (Piuri)

Region 8 Director Vincenzo Piuri calls the Committee to order at 09:07 h (Eastern European Summer Time UTC+3) and opens the second day of the 120th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting.

31. Discussion – REACH program (Kaabunga/McKenna)

Kelly McKenna, REACH Sr. Program Manager, presents the IEEE REACH free open education resource program for secondary educators' interdisciplinary program, developed for Social Studies Teachers and STEM teachers, an IEEE foundation program. The program has 50% users from R8 with a UNESCO pilot program in Uganda.

32. Discussion & Motions – Vice-Chair Students Activities report (Aliyu)

Abdullateef Aliyu, R8 Vice-Chair Students Activities, presents the team, the R8 student activities goals, membership statistics and OUs update, SAC activities highlights and timeline. Then he invites the Chairs of the AdHoc committees under his portfolio to present their respective activities:

1. Khaldoun Taktak, SAC - Training and Leadership Support AdHoc Chair
2. Vera Markovic, SAC - Contests, Awards and Recognitions AdHoc Chair
3. Lee Crudgington, SAC – Awards Coordinator
4. Vildana Hrnjić, SAC - New Initiatives AdHoc Chair

After the presentation Aliyu and committee's chairs answer questions from the audience.

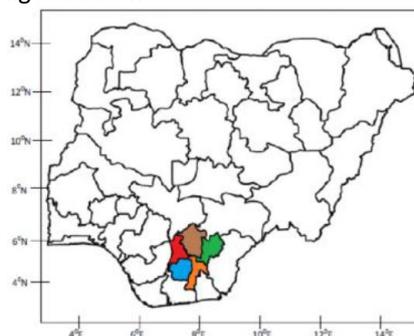
33. Discussion – R8 Section vitality and development (Zajc)

Matej Zajc, Section Vitality & Development Committee Chair, presents the proper Sections and other OUs elections process and timeline, and reminds the participants that elected officer's term start/end date should be 1 January/31 December. All officers shall not serve in any one position, in any single organizational unit, more than 6 years. After the presentation Zajc answers questions from the audience.

Zajc presents a motion regarding approval of the Nigeria South-East Subsection, with the Nigeria Section as a parent. Piuri and John Funso, Nigeria Section Chair, explain the background and petitioning process.

Motion: Approval of Nigeria South-East Subsection

Resolved that the Region 8 Committee approves the formation of Nigeria South-East Subsection, with Nigeria Section serving as a parent, and with boundaries corresponding to the boundaries of the five states (Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Imo), colored in the map of Nigeria below.



The motion passes unanimously.

Coffee Break [10:34-11:15]

Before the coffee break, Vincenzo Piuri, presents to Lucian Toma, Romania Section Chair, the plaque of the 2021 Region 8 Section Award for Industry Engagement, as the most active industry engagement Section of 2021 and in recognition of the excellent services to its members. The plaque was not possible to present earlier due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

34. Discussion – R8 Diversity, equity and inclusion (Abandah)

Gheith Abandah, R8 DEI Committee Chair, presents volunteers diversity and inclusion analysis at the R8 level and at the Section level, regarding member's grade and gender. Only 17 out of 59 Sections reported on DEI (Fall 2022). After the presentation Abandah answers questions from the audience.

35. Discussion & Motions – Sections Congress 2023 (Stasopoulos)

Costas Stasopoulos, SC2023 Region 8 Coordinator, presents information about the forthcoming Sections Congress 2023 in Ottawa, Canada, 11-13 August 2023: overall schedule, program session overview (breakout and ignite sessions), what is covered by MGA or R8 for primary and non-primary delegates, and the 3 steps how to proceed with the SC2023 Registration (SC registration, hotel booking, air plane ticket). Stasopoulos also presents information about the next IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting that will be held on 11 August 2023 before the opening of the SC23, in the Lord Elgin Hotel, Ottawa. Karadinov, R8 Secretary, informs that if the plane ticket is more expensive than US\$ 1,500, the R8 volunteers shall ask for help and approval from the R8 Assistant Treasurer Pascal Lorenz lorenz@ieee.org. Jastrzebski, R8 Treasurer, explains the Concur codes for expenses reimbursement that can be done in 2 installments, first one now, after plane ticket purchase, the second one in August after returning home. Rob Anderson, R7 Director informs that obtaining entry visas to Canada is a lengthy process, and urges attendees to apply ASAP. Other numerous questions from the audience are answered by Stasopoulos, Piuri, Karadinov and Jastrzebski.

Stasopoulos continues with the explanation of the SC2023 Recommendation Process and presents the eleven recommendations received from the R8 volunteers. After a short discussion, it is unanimously agreed to merge the first and the second into a single one. Voting takes place to choose the three most important for R8 to be sent to the SC23.

36. Discussion – Humanitarian Technologies Board address (Herbert)

Lwanga Herbert (present on-line), 2023 IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board Chair, gives an overview of this board vision and mission, the activities through the IEEE Special Interest Groups on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT) feet-on-the-ground initiative, and the benefits and the opportunities for the individual IEEE members. Questions are answered after the presentation.

37. Discussion – Region realignment: Zone Representative (Luque)

Antonio Luque, R8 Past Director, reports on the current status of the IEEE Region realignment process and presents the governance changes in R8 related to Zones that have to be made in regard to MGA OpMan 9.2. Highlights:

- Realignment of the Regions was approved at MGAB and BoD in Nov 2022
- R10 splitting into new R10 and R11, R1 and R2 merging into new R2, effective 1 Jan 2028
- Zones in R10 (until 31 Dec 2027) and in R8 (forever in principle)
- Zone representative as voting member of MGAB
- Zone representative is a position at MGAB, where R8 will have two members according to its size, and where geographical diversity will be guaranteed thanks to the Zone distribution
- MGA OpMan 9.2
 - The Zone boundaries shall be approved by the MGA Board.
 - The method of appointment of Zone Representatives shall be specified in the Region bylaws.
 - The Region Director and Zone Representative shall originate from different Zones in their Region.
 - Region 8 shall have:
 - Zone 8.A: Europe, Greenland, Turkey, Israel, and the countries of Asia north of Iran, west of Pakistan, north and west of Afghanistan, and north of Mongolia and China
 - Zone 8.B: Africa and the countries of Asia located west of Pakistan and not included in the previous definition.
- In 2022 the R8 Committee decided to extend the term of the Zone representative until the end of 2024.
- The Region shall appoint the Zone representative using a method specified in our Bylaws.

- A new appointment will be needed during 2024 and it would be good to have the method of election already in the R8 Bylaws.

Discussion takes place to:

- Collect the feelings of the R8 Committee and other volunteers present about all processes related to the Zone Representative in the Region.
- Prepare a proposal for changes to the R8 Bylaws and the R8 Operations Manual by the OpCom for discussion and potential approval during the 121st R8C meeting in Ottawa (11 Aug 2023).

Conclusion: A consensus is reached that the R8 Zone Representative shall be a member of the R8 Committee being elected in a similar procedure as the R8 Vice-Chairs by the R8 Committee voting members.

38. Procedural – Next meeting (Piuri)

Vincenzo Piuri, Region 8 Director informs that the next in-person 121st R8 Committee meetings will be held on Friday morning, 11 August 2023, before the opening of the SC23, in the Lord Elgin Hotel, Ottawa. As this meeting is earlier than usual (Oct/Nov) in the year, if needed there may be another third R8 Committee meeting, however only on-line as there is no budget for that.

Then Piuri invites Section Chairs to express willingness to host the next year 2024 R8 Committee in-person meetings. Bahrain Section Chair Ali Zoalit expresses willingness to organize the 2024 Fall R8 Committee meeting in Bahrain. Discussion follows regarding the dates of the 2024 Spring R8 Committee meeting to have it in early March to avoid the holy Muslim month of Ramadan, which is important for the R8 volunteers from about 15 Sections.

39. Procedural – Old business (Piuri)

No issues reported under this agenda point.

40. Procedural – New business (Piuri)

No issues reported under this agenda point.

41. Procedural – Adjourn (Piuri)

Region 8 Director Vincenzo Piuri invites all participants to join him and form a circle in the middle of the room holding connected extension power cords with a light bulb at the end. Then he closes the meeting with a thankyou speech to all R8 volunteers for their dedicated work: “From my heart and my mind, thanks to all volunteers who participated in our Region Committee meeting. Thank you for this opportunity of working together and building our collective vision to guide activities in our Region. Thank you for being the conduit which brings the light of knowledge back to the local communities to promote the advancement of science and technology, to stimulate innovation, to make our collective vision a reality for the benefit of humanity, the environment, and all living beings! And thanks to all the volunteers who will work with you!” The meeting adjourns at 13:30 h (UTC+3).



Fig.3. R8 Director Vincenzo Piuri closing thankyou speech

Respectfully submitted,
Ljupco Karadzinov, IEEE R8 Secretary

Appendixes:

1. 2022 IEEE R8 Budget Report End 2022
2. Motion: Approval of RTSI 2024
3. Motion: Approval of IHTC 2024
4. Motion: Approval of AFRICON 2025
5. Motion: Approval of RTSI 2025
6. Motion: Make HISTELCON a multi-regional conference
7. Motion: Nigeria South-East Subsection

BUDGET 2022 REPORT End 2022

Treasurer
Adam Jastrzebski



Dated
31/12/2022

Nominal Code	Actual	BUDGET (\$) 2022	Existing Activity (\$)	Special New Activity (\$)	Description/Comments	Variance
0100 - Income: Balance/savings carried forward from previous year	\$698,004	\$698,004	\$133,014	\$564,990		-
0110 - Income: Regional Assessment: Membership Dues Element	\$489,941	\$482,493	\$482,493			\$7,448
0120 - Income: Rebate: MGA Allocation for Management of the Region	\$175,651	\$175,721	\$175,721			(\$70)
0130 - Income: Interest received: Bank accounts	\$6,452	\$4,112	\$4,112			\$2,340
0140 - Income: From Conference Co-sponsorship	\$16,490	\$12,995	\$12,995			\$3,495
0180 - Income: R8 SYP Registrations, Sponsorship	\$53,639	-	-		Tunis	\$53,639
0190 - Income: Other	\$44,977	-	-		Transfer from Assessment	\$44,977
0210 - Income: Voluntary Contributions: Member Donations	\$94,001	\$11,428	\$11,428		Transfer from Donations	\$82,573
0220 - Income: Support for Members outside of Sections	-	-	-			-
0230 - Income: Support from Organisations	\$1,992	-	-			\$1,992
0240 - Income: Support for Projects	\$3,706	-	-		Grant Entrepreneurship Proj.	\$3,706
0700 - Income: R8 as Intermediary	\$9,300	-	-			\$9,300
Budget Income Total	\$1,594,153	\$1,384,753	\$819,763	\$564,990		\$209,400
1010 - R8 Committee Meeting Spring: Accommodation & Social	(\$104,342)	(130,000)	(110,000)	(20,000)	Warsaw	\$25,658
1020 - R8 Committee Meeting Spring: Travel	(\$41,425)	(90,000)	(90,000)			\$48,575
1030 - R8 Committee Meeting Fall: Accommodation & Social	(\$108,581)	(110,000)	(100,000)	(10,000)	Cairo	\$1,419
1040 - R8 Committee Meeting Fall: Travel	(\$55,677)	(90,000)	(75,000)	(15,000)	Cairo	\$34,323
1050 - OpCom Meetings: R8	(\$39,811)	(30,000)	(24,000)	(6,000)	Palermo, Berlin	(\$9,811)
1060 - R8 News: Mailing and Production	(\$3,231)	(13,000)	(13,000)			\$9,769
1070 - R8 Summit	(\$57,317)	(120,000)		(120,000)	Meeting of the R8 Committees	\$62,683
1080 - Student & Young Professional Congress: R8 Support	(\$96,157)	(60,000)	(60,000)		Tunis	(\$36,157)
1090 - VCF Awards	(\$1,026)	(4,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)		\$2,974
1100 - Banking and card charges	-	(16,000)	(16,000)			\$16,000
1101 - Bank charges (trans chgs on NW a/c)	(\$277)	(600)	(600)			\$323
1102 - Bank charges (trans chgs on CB a/cs)	(\$492)	(60)	(60)			(\$432)
1103 - Card charges dues	(\$11,545)	(14,000)	(14,000)			\$2,455
1130 - Section Congress (savings towards)	(\$90,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)			(\$30,000)
1140 - Reserve fund /Strategic Projects	-	(100,000)		(100,000)		\$100,000
1700 - Payment: R8 as Intermediary	(\$9,354)	-	-	-		(\$9,354)
1750 - Loans	(\$4,409)	-	-	-		(\$4,409)
1000 Committee general Total	(\$623,642)	(\$837,660)	(\$564,660)	(\$273,000)		\$214,018
2010 - Representing Region 8	(\$7,719)	(8,000)	(8,000)			\$281
2020 - Vitality Project : R8	-	(2,500)	(2,500)			\$2,500
2030 - Ad-hoc committees, appointments and incentives	(\$26,317)	(60,000)		(60,000)		\$33,683
2040 - Discretionary fund for activities and section support	(\$442)	(5,000)	(5,000)			\$4,558
2190 - Director Other	(\$2,999)	-	-	-		(\$2,999)
2000 Region 8 Director Total	(37,478)	(75,500)	(15,500)	(60,000)		\$38,022
3010 - Representing R8 at Section, Chapter & Conference activity	-	(4,000)	(4,000)			\$4,000
3020 - Representing R8 in IEEE Meetings (Board of Directors)	(\$1,274)	(4,000)	(4,000)			\$2,726
3030 - Strategic Planning Process	(\$203)	-	-	-		(\$203)
3190 - Director-Elect Other	-	-	-	-		-
3000 Region 8 Director-Elect Total	(1,477)	(8,000)	(8,000)	-		\$6,523
4010 - Nomination & Appointments Committee	-	(2,500)	(2,500)			\$2,500
4020 - Award & Recognition Committee	(\$3,754)	(2,500)	(2,500)			(\$1,254)
4030 - Section Development	-	(3,000)	(3,000)			\$3,000
4190 - Past-Director Other	(\$7,120)	-	-	-		(\$7,120)
4000 Region 8 Past-Director Total	(10,874)	(8,000)	(8,000)	-		(\$2,874)
5010 - Technical Activity Sub-Committees Coordination	(\$11,382)	(15,260)	(3,440)	(11,820)		\$3,878
5020 - Conference Committee: R8	(\$12,706)	(21,000)	(5,000)	(16,000)		\$8,294
5030 - Chapters Coordination	(\$2,355)	(24,860)	(20,000)	(4,860)		\$22,505
5040 - Professional & Educational Activities	(\$17,889)	(46,500)	(18,500)	(28,000)		\$28,611
5050 - Standards Coordinator	(\$3,251)	(9,000)	(9,000)			\$5,749
5060 - Action for Industry	(\$26,378)	(17,000)	(17,000)			(\$9,378)
5080 - FCS Conference Seed Funds	-	(14,000)	(5,000)	(9,000)		\$14,000
5000 Vice Chair for Technical Activities Total	(73,961)	(147,620)	(77,940)	(69,680)		\$73,659
6010 - Member Activity Sub-Committees Coordination	(\$2,590)	(13,420)	(11,920)	(1,500)		\$10,830
6020 - Membership Development	(\$1,669)	(13,330)	(10,230)	(3,100)		\$11,661
6030 - Publications & Communications	-	-	-	-		-
6040 - Women in Engineering	(\$4,071)	(25,000)	(7,000)	(18,000)		\$20,929
6050 - Life Members	(\$3,517)	(12,400)	-	(12,400)		\$8,883
6060 - History Activities	(\$1,284)	(5,000)	(1,500)	(3,500)		\$3,716
6070 - Young Professionals	(\$8,057)	(20,900)	(8,900)	(12,000)		\$12,843
6080 - Humanitarian Activities	(\$9,551)	(35,400)	(3,500)	(31,900)		\$25,849
6090 - Projects & Initiatives - Entrepreneurship Project	(\$7,144)	(8,500)	-	(8,500)		\$1,356
6000 Vice Chair for Member Activities Total	(37,883)	(133,950)	(43,050)	(90,900)		\$96,067
7010 - Student Awards	(\$673)	(3,800)	(3,150)	(650)		\$3,127
7020 - Student Activities Coordination (SAC)	(\$18,953)	(45,000)	(16,000)	(29,000)		\$26,047
7030 - Student Paper Contest	(\$8,249)	(6,000)	(6,000)			(\$2,249)
7040 - Student Branch Support Coordination (SAC)	(\$8,503)	(24,450)	-	(24,450)		\$15,947
7050 - Regional Student Representative (RSR)	(\$3,728)	(4,000)	(4,000)			\$272
7190 - Expenses: Vice Chair for Student Activities: Other	(\$3,320)	-	-	-		(\$3,320)
7000 Vice Chair for Student Activities Total	(43,426)	(83,250)	(29,150)	(54,100)		\$39,824
8010 - Administrative Support to R8	-	(2,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)		\$2,000
8020 - Secretarial (Committee Registration and Agenda Books)	-	(2,700)	(1,000)	(1,700)		\$2,700
8030 - Electronic Communications Coordination / Information mgmnt	(\$2,162)	(4,000)	(1,500)	(2,500)		\$1,838
8000 Region 8 Secretary Total	(2,162)	(8,700)	(3,500)	(5,200)		\$6,538
9010 - Audit & Accounting	-	(3,000)	(3,000)			\$3,000
9020 - Office & Software Charges	(\$2,352)	(4,560)	(4,560)			\$2,208
9030 - VCF Coordination	-	(1,000)	-	(1,000)		\$1,000
9040 - Treasurer support to Region 8	(\$6,257)	(6,000)	-	(6,000)		(\$257)
9090 - Expenses: R8 Treasurer: Other	-	-	-	-		-

9000 Region 8 Treasurer Total	(8,609)	(14,560)	(7,560)	(7,000)	\$5,951
9100 - Committee General (Exp from Prev yrs budget)	-	-	-	-	-
9101 - Prev yr budget: R8 Comm mtg: Spring Accom/Social	-	-	-	-	-
9102 - Prev yr budget: R8 Comm mtg: Spring travel	(\$655)	-	-	-	(\$655)
9103 - Prev yr budget: R8 Comm mtg: Autumn Accom/Social	-	-	-	-	-
9104 - Prev yr budget: R8 Comm mtg Autumn Travel	(\$6,504)	(37,000)	(37,000)	-	\$30,496
9105 - Prev yrs budget: Opcom meetings R8	(\$3,585)	(10,000)	(10,000)	-	\$6,415
9137 - Prev yr: Intermediary transactions	-	-	-	-	-
9200 - Region 8 Director (Expenses from prev yr budget)	-	-	-	-	-
9300 - Region 8 Director-Elect (Exp from Prev yrs budget)	-	-	-	-	-
9400 - Region 8 Past-Director (Exp from Prev yrs budget)	-	-	-	-	-
9500 - Technical Activities (Exp from prev yr budget)	(\$4,948)	-	-	-	(\$4,948)
9600 - Member Activities (Exp from prev yr budget)	(\$600)	-	-	-	(\$600)
9700 - Student Activities (Exp from Prev yrs budget)	(\$2,312)	(15,000)	(15,000)	-	\$12,688
9800 - Secretary (Exp from Prev yrs budget)	-	-	-	-	-
9900 - Treasurer (Exp from Prev yrs budget)	-	-	-	-	-
9100 Expenses from previous year budget Total	(\$18,604)	(62,000)	(62,000)	-	\$43,396
Budget Expenses Total	(\$858,117)	(1,379,240)	(819,360)	(559,880)	\$521,123
Balance:	\$736,036	\$5,513	\$403	\$5,110	62%

ACTION**M- 1 of 2**

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee, March 2023

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

SUBJECT: RTSI 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RTSI (Research and Technology for Society and Industry) 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.

The conference originally created by the Italy Section and held in Italy for its previous 6th editions was included among the R8 portfolio conferences according to an operating agreement between R8 and Italy Section entered on 2021-11-7. Every three years the conference will be organized in Italy.

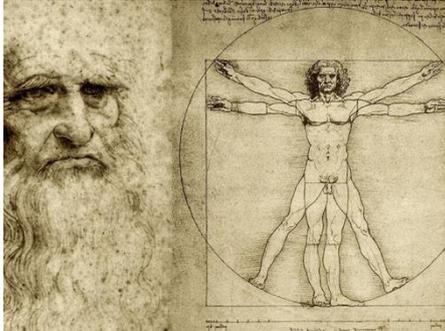
Previous editions:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ● 2023: not assigned | ● 2018: Italy-Palermo |
| ● 2022: France-Paris | ● 2017: Italy-Modena |
| ● 2021: Italy-(Virtual) | ● 2016: Italy-Bologna |
| ● 2019: Italy-Firenze | ● 2015: Italy-Torino |

Edition 2024 will be in Italy as agreed in the above-mentioned Operating Agreement

PROPOSED ACTION

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



Title: IEEE RTSI 2024

Dates: 24-26 September, 2024

Venue: Politecnico di Milano University, Bovisa, Milano, Italy

General chair: Giambattista Gruosso (IEEE Senior Member, Italy Section vice-Chair)

Number of participants: 160

Registration fee: USD 425-525 (reduced-regular)

Budget: \$87,830 incomes, \$68,880 expenses, \$18,950 (21%) surplus

Region 8 share: 30% of the surplus (\$5,685)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Very Experienced organizing team
- Good venue infrastructure
- Section, chapters, other R8 sections involved
- Potential Industrial financial Patrons
- Side events (WIE, Entrepreneurship, panels and special workshop with industries, tutorials, keynote from industry)

Further details in the following documents:

- Italy's presentation
- Italy's budget

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](#)

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee, March 2023

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

SUBJECT: Approval of AFRICON 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AFRICON is an IEEE Region 8 flagship bi-annual conference on the African continent. Topics cover the full area of IEEE, e.g., Communications, Networks, Electronics, Energy, Mobile Computing, Cloud Computing, Software, Engineering, Nanotechnology, and E-learning.

Previous editions:

- 2023: Kenya
- 2021: Tanzania
- 2019: Ghana
- 2017: South Africa
- 2015: Ethiopia
- 2013: Mauritius
- 2011: Zambia
- 2009: Kenya
- 2007: Namibia
- 2004: Botswana

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

Bids to organize 2025 AFRICON were received and evaluated by the Conference Coordination Subcommittee on February 27th, 2023. After detailed analysis and long discussions, the Conference Coordination Committee members made the decision to select the **Nigeria Section to host in Abuja the 2025 AFRICON** as the best submitted proposal that fits with the objectives and the strategy of the R8.

Approval for organizing the 2025 AFRICON conference in Abuja, Nigeria was submitted for approval to the R8 OPCOM of March 13th, 2023

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolved that the organization of the 2025 AFRICON is hereby approved as follows:

Title: 2025 IEEE AFRICON

Dates: 6-9 September 2025

Venue: Transcorp Hilton, Abuja, Nigeria

General co-chairs: Tunde Yusuf Salihu, Ralph Onoshakpor (both past-chairs of Nigeria Section)

Number of participants: 380

Registration fee: USD 250-300 (reduced-regular)

Budget: \$187,200 incomes, \$159,000 expenses, \$28,200 (15%) surplus

Region 8 share: 30% (\$8460)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Nigeria bid does shows:

- Experienced organizing team
- Good involvement of industry
- Good venue infrastructure
- Airport well connected
- Section and chapters involved
- Lower registration fee
- Section is a member of the IEEE Africa Council

Further details in the following documents:

- [R8 Call for bids](#)
- [Nigeria's proposal](#)
- [Nigeria's budget](#)

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee, March 2023

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

SUBJECT: Approval of RTSI 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RTSI (Research and Technology for Society and Industry) 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.

The conference originally created by the Italy Section and held in Italy for its previous 6th editions was included among the R8 portfolio conferences according to an agreement between R8 and Italy Section (every three years the conference will be organized in Italy).

Previous editions:

- 2024: Italy- Milano (in progress)
- 2022: France-Paris
- 2021: Italy-(Virtual)
- 2019: Italy-Firenze
- 2018: Italy-Palermo
- 2017: Italy-Modena
- 2016: Italy-Bologna
- 2015: Italy-Torino

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.

Bids to organize 2025 RTSI were received and evaluated by the Conference Coordination Committee on February 27th, 2023. After detailed analysis and discussions, the Conference Coordination Committee members made the decision to select the **Tunisia Section to host in Tunis the 2025 RTSI** as the best submitted proposal, that fits with the objectives and the strategy of R8.

The R8 CoCC recommendation to organize RTSI 2025 in Tunis, Tunisia was submitted for approval to the R8 OPCOM of March 13th, 2023

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolved that the organization of the 2025 RTSI is hereby approved as follows:

Title: IEEE RTSI 2025

Dates: 24-26 August, 2025

Venue: Ramada Plaza, Tunis, Tunisia

General co-chairs: Fadoua Drira, Ernesto Damiani (both IEEE Senior Members)

Number of participants: 150

Registration fee: USD 370-400 (reduced-regular)

Budget: \$58,300 incomes, \$48,030 expenses, \$10,270 (18%) surplus

Region 8 share: 30% of the surplus (\$3,081)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Tunisia bid does show a fairly complete 2025 proposal, and shows:

- Experienced organizing team
- Good venue infrastructure (free airport transfer)
- Section, chapters and societies involved
- Potential Industrial financial Patrons
- Potential international keynote speakers
- Detailed program of side events (student and industrial competitions)
- Expected Impact on Section and Chapter Vitality
- Low registration fee
- Two budgets (expected, best)

Further details in the following documents:

- [R8 Call for bids](#)
- [Tunisia's proposal](#)
- [Tunisia's budget](#)

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee, March 2023

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

SUBJECT: Make HISTELCON a multi-regional conference

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HISTELCON (History of Telecommunications Conference) is an IEEE Region 8 portfolio bi-annual conference organized in one of the Region 8 Sections/Subsections. HISTELCON is dedicated to any aspects of the history of electrical engineering, electronics, telecommunications, computing, and their impact on social and economical development.

Original and innovative contributions are invited in areas including, but not restricted to:

- Origins and early developments of electro-technologies
- Milestones in different fields of electro-technology, both early and modern
- Scientists and Technologists involved in the above
- Museum items and educational methods illustrating the above

Previous editions:

- 2008: France
- 2010: Spain
- 2012: Italy
- 2015: Israel
- 2017: Japan (R10)
- 2019: Scotland
- 2021: Russia
- 2023: Italy
- 2025: call for bid in progress

MOTIVATION

This conference is the only one in the IEEE that addresses the history of technology and its implications for modern society, industry and education.

IEEE History Committee supports this conference and in 2023 is one of the technical co-sponsors. Some Region directors have already given their support to this action and many others could join. Sharing this conference at the multi-regional level could be a stimulus to enlarge the audience and enrich the experience. There was a precedent, in 2017 HISTELCON was organized in Japan with the support of R10.

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolved that the R8 committee approves to make HISTELCON a multi-regional conference.

The CoCC with R8 OPCOM support will work to produce a cooperation agreement with the involved regions.

The agreement will be presented at the next R8 meeting in Ottawa to be approved by the R8 committee.

The agreement will be in place for the next edition of the conference

ACTION

M- 1 of 4

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee – March 2023

FROM: Section Vitality and Development Sub-Committee

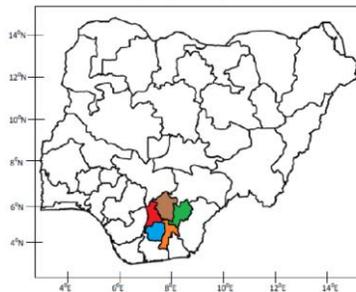
SUBJECT: Approval of Nigeria South-East Subsection

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Members in the country of Nigeria have submitted a petition to form a Subsection, namely Nigeria South-East Subsection. The request has been evaluated based on activities and the SVD guidelines. 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 Nigeria South-East Subsection, with Nigeria Section serving as a parent, and with boundaries corresponding to the boundaries of the five states (Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Imo), colored in the map of Nigeria below.



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 Nigeria Section will be responsible for distributing the rebate received to the Subsection according to the current IEEE regulations (MGA Operations Manual 3.4.B).
- No financial implications for the Region.

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

As of February 2023, the number of IEEE members in the five states is over 120 volunteers, exceeding the required number of over 50 voting members. They also report to have 7 Student Branches in the region of Nigeria South-East. For the last two years they report over 40 events and propose a plan of 11 meetings this year.

Nigeria Section fully supports the petition. In March 2023 Nigeria Section member count is: Member: 157, SM: 42, LS: 2, AM: 1, GSM: 32, StM: 65, TOTAL: 299.

Nigeria has an area of 923,769 km² and with a population of over 230 million.



The content of the petition follows:

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?

Nigeria is a big country. Nigeria covers an area of 923,769 square kilometers and a GDP per capita of \$2,060, according to the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook database (October 2021). This economic reality makes it difficult for many members and student members to attend IEEE events, which are held in far-flung locations. With over 200 million, Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and the world's sixth-most populous country. It is becoming practically difficult for one Section to coordinate the IEEE activities

in a big country like Nigeria. Nigeria is divided into six geo-political zones: North Central, North East, North West, South West, South East, and South-South. From observation, many volunteers do not attend IEEE events held outside their geo-political zone. This is because of the long-distance travel that is involved to attend such an event.

There are existing active Student branches in the locality. These include but are not limited to:

- i. Enugu State University of Science and Technology Student Branch
- ii. The Federal University of Technology Owerri Student Branch
- iii. Institute of Management Technology Student Branch
- iv. Nnamdi Azikiwe University Student Branch
- v. Federal Polytechnic Nekede Student Branch
- vi. The University of Nigeria Student Branch.
- vii. Enugu State Polytechnique Student Branch (Newest student branch)

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?

2023 PLAN

- January, 14: Exco Meeting
- February, 27: General Meeting
- April, 3: Exco Meeting
- May, 6: General Meeting
- June, 12: Webinar
- July, 15: Webinar
- August, 5: Exco Meeting
- September, 17: General Meeting
- October, 5: Webinar/ IEEE Day Celebration
- November, 12: Exco Meeting (Review of Activities)
- December, 17: General Meeting

The detailed efforts include. • Organizing IEEE Skill-up Tech-Talent Exhibition Career Development Talks for young and unskilled individuals focusing on startups. • Generate new membership up to 90% while building their capacities using IEEE professional codes of ethics. • Create a homogeneous platform for engagement with the industry. • Develop extensive resource repository for member career growth. • Collaborate with the Nigerian Government for Educational curriculum re-design • Create a Triple Helix structure for Academia, Government, and Industry consultants • Continuous consulting best practices and Educational professional developments • Building capacity for various humanitarian supports (intervention in Education, and health). • Affinity groups' readiness for collaborative activities. • Financial support and Equipment support from volunteers.

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

On a high level, the general plan is to strengthen IEEE in Southeast Nigeria. This will be done through regular meetings, workshops, and Seminars. The existing Student Branches will be the focus of IEEE activities in the locality. Student Branches will be established in

ACTION**M- 4 of 4**

higher institutions without any. Most student branches uploaded their 2023 plans before January 31st, 2023.

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

The petition has full support of Nigeria Section.