R8 Ad’Hoc Committee Milestone Awareness

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Goal
The committee have to contribute to increase the awareness about the IEEE Milestones and the benefits for the local community, recommending best practices to the local community to identify candidate discoveries, inventions, and innovations deserving this recognition.

Progress against goals since the last report
The first step was an initial situation analysis of the available materials on the process description, the already dedicated milestones as well as the potential milestones already identified and prepared by the History Committee, and its sharing during the 120th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting, asking for input from section chairs about their needs or good practices.

In the meanwhile, this analysis brought some priorities:
- Targeting sections with no or very few milestones, as African and Middle East sections – because of conflicts in Israel, African zone should be targeted in priority in 2024.
- In the same way, targeting achievements made by women, in relation with WiE
- Communicating widely on the importance of knowing and celebrating great past achievements to build a better and more efficient future, in relation with YP and Students

So actions are undertaken in these 3 axis, and shared amongst the members of the Ad’hoc Committee.

A panel was organized during ISGT23 in Grenoble with a clear focus on the importance of milestone for women. A keynote speech in the French SYP annual meeting in Lille was made to explain to young people why milestone are important to add value to the future they will build.

Another action has been taken with the UK and Ireland Section for sharing good practices and motivate to propose Ada Lovelace as a valuable woman Achievement as a milestone.

Points of Concern
No feedback from section chairs despite the demand during last Committee meeting.

Proposals for improvements/Other Issues to report
On-board young members and women from SYP and WiE to engage them and help energizing the milestones proposals.