

**Candidate for  
IEEE Region 8 2024  
Africa & Middle East  
Zone Representative:**

**Albert Lysko**

**R8 meeting, 19 October 2024**

# Job: Zone Representative

- ▶ Defined by **R8 By-Laws** in section **R8-3.1.8 ZONE REPRESENTATIVE** and by **MGA Operations Manual**, section **2.7 ZONE REPRESENTATIVE** (Effective 1 January 2023):
  - The Region 8 Zone Representative to the MGA Board shall be elected by the Region 8 Committee from nominations provided by the Region 8 Nominations and Appointments Committee.
  - Their term of office shall be for two years. They cannot be reelected for a second consecutive term for the same position.
  - The qualifications for Zone Representative and functions of the role are identified in Section 2.7 of MGA Operations Manual
  - The Zone Representative shall serve as a member of the Member and Geographic Activities Board.
- ▶ A. QUALIFICATIONS
  - 1. The individual shall be an IEEE member of Senior Member or Fellow grade.
  - 2. Be prepared to serve two years in the position.
  - 3. Experienced in Section and Region committee activities.
  - 4. Reside in and be a member of the Region electing him/her and of one of the Sections in the Zone he/she is representing.
- ▶ B. FUNCTIONS
  - 1. **Represents** the membership of his/her Zone, **along with the Region Director**.
  - 2. Serves as a **voting member of the MGA Board**.
  - 3. May serve as a representative of MGA to other IEEE organizational units.
  - 4. May serve on MGA committees or other organizational units.
  - 5. Any other function assigned by the respective Region Bylaws.

# Who is Albert?



- ▶ Person
- ▶ Professional
- ▶ Volunteer

# Personal background

- ▶ Live in and volunteer from Pretoria, South Africa
- ▶ Family
  - One daughter
    - Granddaughter and grandson



# Professional / Researcher

- ▶ PhD from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, **Norway**
- ▶ **Principal Researcher:** Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Pretoria, South Africa, plus volunteer as
  - **Adjunct Professor:** Cape Town University, South Africa
  - **Extraordinary Researcher:** North-West University, South Africa
- ▶ Work in telecommunications, focus on wireless
- ▶ **CSIR says** (<https://www.csir.co.za/dr-albert-lysko>): *“While at the CSIR, his leading experimental research in television white spaces (TVWS) enabled the provision of the Internet to over 20 000 users in two African countries and the setting up of the South African National TVWS Regulation, and he also contributed to TVWS regulations in Ghana and the USA.*  
*He has authored three patents, a book, two book chapters, over 150 research papers, popular science and news articles, and led production of several technology demonstrators.”*
- ▶ **Results & Awards:** TVWS operational in South Africa (team), 4 best paper awards, National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) and CSIR awards, delivery of plenary, keynote, and invited talks

# Volunteer of 14+ years experience

- ▶ Over 100 events + 3 conferences (co-)organized, mostly in Africa
  - Participated in creating and now actively work with IEEE Africa Council
- ▶ Member in 11 IEEE Societies, participant in several Standardisation working groups
  - Co-founder of IEEE APS online resources subcommittee
- ▶ Countless TPCs, paper reviewing, ...
- ▶ **20 positions held** at various levels (from Chapter, Section, to R8, MGA, and IEEE)
- ▶ As Chair: IEEE South Africa AP/MTT/EMC Joint Chapter
  - Series of IEEE Distinguished Lecturer tours
  - National conference
- ▶ As Chair: IEEE South Africa Section, e.g.
  - 2 MD awards for growing the Section
  - 3x increase in the number of events
  - 2 new chapters and a Student Branch (co-)established
  - 2x MD training (R8 MD workshop + in IEEE Africon'17)
  - 9 Senior Membership elevation workshops → ↑↑↑ incr. in SMIEEE in South Africa
  - ...
- ▶ As Chair: IEEE R8 Chapters Coordination,
  - Restarted the committee from scratch, revitalized it, increase in R8 Chapters
- ▶ Now, Vice-Chair: IEEE Ethics and Member Conduct Committee (EMCC)
  - Chair: EMCC Member Support & Conduct subcommittee

- **Live and volunteer in Africa**
- **Work with the Africa & Middle East**
- **Work hard** – organized lots (100+)
- **Take initiative, many “first-ever”, eg**
  - R8 MD workshop for Africa
  - MGA Outstanding Medium Section Award for ZA Section
- **Both Quality and Quantity** in what I do, as **recognized by IEEE awards**
  - MGA Achievement Award
  - R8 Best Poster “Africa for Africa”
  - R8 Volunteer Award
- **Rich volunteering experience** at all levels and **know how IEEE works:** Chapters, SB, SBC, Section, R8, MGA and IEEE



# POSITION STATEMENT: 2024 IEEE Region 8 Africa & Middle East Zone Representative Candidate

## ► Position statement

- I focus on creating a positive impact and on being useful.
- If elected, I will advocate for the needs of Africa and the Middle East.
- I will **foster improved communication channels** between Sections, Subsections, and the Region 8 leadership to **ensure that our issues and suggestions are heard and acted upon**.
- I will hold the flag of Africa and the Middle East high and leverage my experience and networks to **work with Sections, Subsections, and members** to raise/develop, support, and promote local initiatives that address the specific needs of our members.

## ► Intended approach

- I will **regularly interact** with IEEE Sections/SubSections in the Middle East and Africa and **translate these discussions into representing and lobbying our needs** in appropriate forums so that **our needs are attended to and addressed**.
- I will **work with IEEE in both Europe and the Middle East and Africa** to continue **growing the bridges and relationships** and ensure the application of IEEE resources and networks to provide training, mentorship, and funding opportunities to Sections/Subsections and members.

# Stronger together

Together, we have the opportunity to build something extraordinary. Let's raise the flag of IEEE high and lead into a future of innovation and collaboration

**I ask for your support in making this vision a reality**



# The END – Reserved Slides

# IEEE ACTIVITIES

## ▶ AWARDS:

- ▶ \* 2020 MGA Achievement Award
- ▶ \* 2020 IEEE Region 8 Volunteer Award
- ▶ \* 2019 IEEE MGA Outstanding Medium Section Award
- ▶ \* IEEE Region 8 BEST POSTER/ work in "Africa for Africa": Athens, March 2018

## ▶ COMMITTEES/BOARDS: (IEEE Major Boards and Committees)

- ▶ \* Vice-Chair: IEEE Ethics and Member Conduct Committee (EMCC), 2022-
- ▶ \* Chair: IEEE EMCC Member Support and Conduct subcommittee, 2022-
- ▶ \* MGA vTools committee member, 2020-21

## ▶ REGIONS: (Region 8 and others)

- ▶ \* Chair: IEEE Region 8 Chapters Coordination subcommittee Chair, 2018-19
- ▶ \* Member: IEEE R8 Awards & Recognitions subcommittee, 2021-22
- ▶ \* Member: IEEE R8 Conference Coordination subcommittee, 2021-22
- ▶ \* Member: IEEE R8 Chapter Coordination subcommittee, 2021-22
- ▶ \* Member: IEEE R8 Sections Vitality and Development subcommittee, 2019-20
- ▶ \* Member/contributor: IEEE Africa Area/Council, 2017-2019
- ▶ \* Member: IEEE Region 8 Membership Development subcommittee, 2018-
- ▶ -- AWARD: IEEE Region 8 BEST POSTER/ work in "Africa for Africa": Athens, March 2018
- ▶ \* Member: IEEE Region 8 Committee, 2017-

## ▶ SECTIONS/CHAPTERS:

- ▶ \* Chair: IEEE South Africa Nominations & Appointments Committee, 2019-
- ▶ \* Past Chair: IEEE South Africa Section, 2019-2020
- ▶ \* Chair: IEEE South Africa Section, 2017-2018
- ▶ -- Drove and supported establishing 2 new Chapters (NPS/MAG/IM/PC, 2020 and VT06, 2018) and a new Student Branch (UWC IEEE SB, 2018)
- ▶ -- AWARD: 2019 MGA OUTSTANDING MEDIUM SECTION AWARD (for 2018)
- ▶ -- AP/EMC/MTT Chapter received "Best Chapter" award from MTT-S
- ▶ \* Chair: IEEE South Africa Section Awards and Recognitions, 2016-
- ▶ \* Vice-Chair: IEEE South Africa Section, 2015-2016
- ▶ \* VTools Chair: IEEE South Africa Section, 2012
- ▶ \* Past Chair: IEEE South Africa Joint AP/MTT/EMC Chapter, 2015-2016
- ▶ \* Chair: IEEE South Africa Joint AP/MTT/EMC Chapter, 2013-2014
- ▶ -- Chapter conference (2014) with 90+ attendees and 6 int'l plenary speakers
- ▶ \* Drove and supported establishing 2 new Chapters (NPS/MAG/IM/PC, 2020 and VT06, 2018) and a new Student Branch (UWC IEEE SB, 2018)

## ▶ CONFERENCES:

- ▶ \* Lightning Talks Chair: IEEE ComSoc GlobeCom 2022
- ▶ \* Sponsorship Chair: IEEE Wireless Africa Conference Aug 2019
- ▶ \* Sponsorship Chair: IEEE 5G Summit Pretoria, May 2019
- ▶ \* TECHNICAL CHAIR: IEEE R8 flagship conference Africon 2017 (200+ talks), Sep 2017
- ▶ \* GENERAL CHAIR: 3rd IEEE Int'l Conf. on Advances in Computing, Comm. and Eng. (ICACCE-2016): 140+ submissions, 70+ talks
- ▶ \* CO-ORGANIZER for the ESoA course «Antennas for Radio Telescopes» held in in 2016 (19 students + 7 lecturers from Africa and Europe) and co-sponsored by IEEE AP-S
- ▶ \* CO-ORGANIZER: South African IEEE Joint AP/MTT/EMC Chapter Conference 2014 held in May 2014 (90+ attendees)
- ▶ \* MAIN ORGANIZER and Chair: Special Technical Session: "Cognitive Radios, Dynamic Spectrum Management and ... Digital Dividend" at the conference IEEE R8 Africon 2011, Zambia (25 submissions; 12 talks; 2 papers won "best paper" awards, out of 5 such awards in this conference)
- ▶ \* LEADING POSITIONS in many international conferences, since 2008

## ▶ OTHER: (Society Memberships)

- ▶ \* Member in 11 Societies and IEEE SA:
- ▶ \* IEEE AP-S Education committee member, 2015-
- ▶ -- co-founder of online resources subcommittee
- ▶ \* IEEE AP-S SIGHT committee member, 2018-
- ▶ \* IEEE 5G/Future Networks Testbed Roadmap Working Group (WG) member, 2017-
- ▶ \* IEEE SA committees 145, 1600-6a, P2061

## ► Qualifications

- Prof Lysko is uniquely positioned to represent the needs of members and Sections from Africa and the Middle East. He lives in Africa. He frequently works with volunteers from the Middle East and Africa and has co-organised many successful events. Prof Lysko has served at various levels of IEEE, from Chapter Chair and Section Chair, to leading a Region 8's Chapters Coordination and Educational Infrastructures Committees, to volunteering with the MGA committee and vice-charing an IEEE level committee (Ethics). In these, he has displayed excellence reflected in 4 awards received. He understands the workings of the IEEE. From his professional work, he adds a further solid track record of leadership, project management, and international collaboration.

## ► Achievements

- Prof Lysko has continuously volunteered and served members for well nearly 15 years. During these years, he organised over 100 events, including the first-ever R8 Membership Development workshop for Africa, and Africa-wide Senior membership and Fellow elevation workshops. For example: in his Section, he doubled both the number of events and successful Senior membership elevations in the IEEE South Africa Section and created new OUs. His Section received its very first MGA Outstanding Medium Section Award. As R8 Chapters Coordinator, he revitalised the IEEE R8 Chapters Coordination subcommittee and ensured the growth of R8 Chapters and their activities.

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