Conference Coordination Committee (CoCC) — René GARELLO

Goals

Goals	KPI
Efficient management of the CoCC (internal goal) 1. CoCC Meeting minutes 2. Reports for the R8 OpCom 3. Reports for the R8 meetings 4. CoCC webpages updated	Number of CoCC Meeting minutes Number and timely reports for the R8 OpCom and R8 meetings Timely update of the CoCC webpages
Timely review of the financial and technical co-sponsorship (TCS/FCS) requests	Number of evaluated TCS/FCS requests in 2025
Ensure success of the R8 flagship/portfolio conferences: call for bids, support, oversight	Oversight the process from call for bids to conference closing and budget control. Propose the Steering Committee for the R8 flagship and portfolio conferences to be approved by the OpCom Participation of at least one R8 CoCC representative to the R8 flagship/portfolio conferences (exception in case of multi-region conferences). Percentage of successful flagship/portfolio conferences (timely reporting, financial surplus, papers published in IEEE Xplore, number of special events organized in cooperation with other R8 committees)
Ensure success of IEEE conferences TCS/FCS by R8	Oversight the process from Application form to final report and budget control (for FCS conferences) Percentage of successful conferences (timely reporting, financial surplus, papers published in IEEE Xplore)
Increase IEEE R8 visibility through conferences	1. No. of conferences programs including R8 speech / presentation in opening or closing conferences
	2. Liaison with R8 TA Committees:
	2.1 No of TCS/FCS conferences including industry-focused events (coordination with Action for Industry subcommittee)
	2.2. No of TCS/FCS conferences including climate change events (coordination with Climate Change ad hoc committee)
	2.3. No of TCS/FCS conferences including standards workshops (coordination with standards ad hoc committee)
	3 Liaison with R8 MA and SA Committees:
	3.1. No of TCS/FCS conferences including women in engineering workshops (coordination with WIE Committee)
	3.2. No of TCS/FCS conferences including Young Professional events (coordination with YP Committee)
	3.3. No of TCS/FCS conferences including R8 booths (coordination with Membership Development committee)
	3.4. No of TCS/FCS conferences including Humanitarian events (coordination with Humanitarian Committee)
	3.5. No of TCS/FCS conferences including student sessions / challenges/events (coordination with SAC)
Support the sections' conference coordinators, section chairs and IEEE R8 TCS/FCS Conference organizers	1. Number of appointed section / subsection conference coordinator (59 sections + 10 subsections) 2. Number of webinars and training events

Ensure good relationship with MGA, CEE/ICC, and other regional conference coordinators	Percentage of participation in the MGA and CEE/ICC meetings and workshops Participation in Convene 2025
Engage more industries in R8 conferences (Liaison with AfI Committee)	Number of R8 TCS/FCS conferences with strong industry involvement
Promote the involvement of IEEE Societies/Councils in the R8 TCS/FCS conferences (Liaison with the ad hoc committee on Cooperation with S/TCs and NA)	Number of conferences TCS/FCS by the Region with the involvement of IEEE Societies/Councils as FCS/TCS
Promote Multi-Sections Events	Number of MoU among Sections for organizing multi-Section Conferences and events

Progress against goals since the last report

1. **Efficient management of the CoCC**

We increased the number of training events, with participation from CEE.

CoCC meetings were held regularly every month (except August) with detailed minutes containing task distribution and reports on activities.

All CoCC documents are available to all members and VC-TA in a dedicated google drive folder.

2. **Timely review of the financial and technical co-sponsorship (TCS/FCS) requests and conc unit approval**

From April 2025:

5 R8 FCS and TCS requests have been approved for 2025 and 4 for 2026.

5 requests of Conc. Unit. evaluation have been approved, 1 declined, 2 in progress.

3. **Ensure success of the R8 flagship conferences: call for bids, support, oversight**

The organization process of each flagship/portfolio conference is supervised from the application form check list to the final report submission and budget control.

The R8 steering committees are working with the organizers to supervise and give support.

The steering committees of conferences held in previous years have worked with the organizers to close the pending actions (R8 final reports and final financial report, best practices and lessons learned documents).

Several R8 flagship and portfolio conferences (EUROCON 2025, RTSI 2025, IHTC 2025, HISTELCON 2025) were held successfully.

The steering committees of AFRICON 2025 (10-12 December 2025, Polokwane, South Africa (https://2025.ieee-africon.org/) is meeting very regularly.

The 2026 R8 flagship conferences (**MELECON 2026, RTSI 2026**, **ENERGYCON 2026**) MoUs are done or underway (RTSI, ENERGYCON).

MELECON 2026 is at an advanced stage of organization. Also the organization of 2026 R8 FCS conferences EDUCON and WiSEE, both in cooperation with IEEE Societies/Councils, is in progress, MoU signed and liaisons are following the status of advancement.

The following steering committees have been approved at the OpCom Meeting of June 2-3, 2025

RTSI 2027 - Italy (Catania) 6-8 September 2027
Chair: Giambattista Gruosso (General Chair RTSI 2024 and Italy Section Chair)
Maide Bucolo (General Chair RTSI 2027)
Andrea Di Matteo (General Chair RTSI 2027)
Sergio Rapuano (past general chair of RTSI and steering committee chair of RTSI 2025)
Fadoua Drira (General Chair RTSI 2025)
Pourakbari Kasmaei Mahdi (General Chair RTSI 2026)
Ibrahim Kucudemiral R8 CoCC representative
René Garello R8 CoCC representative
Tiziana Tambosso (R8 Committee Representative)
Toni Matila (R8 AfI Committee chair representative)

(when defined), RTSI 2028 General chair

EUROCON 2027 Bosnia Herzegovina (Sarajevo) 9-11 June 2027
Chair: Ibrahim Kucukdemiral
Adnan Mujezinović (General Chair EUROCON 2027)
Izudin Džafić (General Chair EUROCON 2027)
Ireneusz Czarnowski (General co-Chair EUROCON 2025)
Marek Tomasz Jasinski (General co-Chair EUROCON 2025)
Branko Blanusa, Bosnia and Herzegovina Section chair representative
Katerina Papanikolaou R8 CoCC Representative
Abdellah Kouzou Africa Council Representative

AFRICON 2027 Ghana (Kumasi) 23-25 September 2027
STC Chair: Albert Lysko
George Eduful (AFRICON 2027 General Chair)
Mensah Sitti (IEEE Ghana Section chair representative)
Mthulisi Velempini (General Chair AFRICON 2025)
Abdallah Kouzou (Africa Council Chair 2026-2027)
René Garello (R8 CoCC Chair)
Ahmed (R8 CoCC Representative and chair of the AFRICON 2025 steering committee)
Abdullateef Alyou (R8 Zone representative)

IHTC 2027 Croatia (Zagreb) 17-20 November, 2027
We postponed the decision about this committees because many representatives are not yet defined and we need the feedback from R7 and R9

An annex to the original agreement for HISTELCON which was signed by four Regions: R7, R8, R9 and R10 has been proposed by the R8 VC-TA, to solve the problem of superposition of two multi-region conferences (IHTC 2029 and HISTELCON 2029) in the same region (R9).
The annex reports a change in the organizing Regions of HISTELCON 2028 and 2029.
The update refers to the HISTELCON 2028 which will be organized in R9 and HISTELCON 2029 which will be organized in R8.

4. Increase IEEE R8 visibility through conferences

The cooperation with the other R8 TA Committees (AfI, ChCC, Climate Change, Standard), R8 MA Committees (YP, WIE, LM, HA, MD, …) and R8 SAC has been fruitful, and many special events/ panels/ workshops/ competitions have been organized during EUROCON 2025, RTSI 2025 and HISTELCON 202, attracting more participants: from industry, students and YPs.

5. Support the sections' conference coordinators, section chairs and IEEE R8 TCS/FCS Conference organizers

The updated list of the Section Conference Coordinators is available on the R8 CoCC website <link>.

- Training workshop at R8 VLT – Tunis 18-19 July 2025
Successfully held on July 19. More than 25 participants onsite

- Another very successful training workshop was organized in conjunction with **RTSI 2025**, on 25 August, 2025 in Tunis.
20 participants onsite and 50 online.
The IEEE President and Marie Hunter were there and gave two presentations.
Ilhem, Ahmed, Filippo, Tiziana presented for the CoCC. We had also presentations from Adam (R8 treasurer), Peter Nagy (member of MGA Conference ad hoc), Giambattista Gruosso (RTSI 2024 general chair), Massimo La Scala (IHTC 2024 general chair).
Program and slides of the conference leadership workshop of 25 Aug. 2025 are available on the R8 CoCC website (link).

Committee of R8 Specific Issues 1

None.

Points of Concern

The number of conferences is quite high and adding some support would be appreciated.

Proposals for improvements/Other Issues to report

We could develop a descriptive document on "how to follow up conferences" for new members.