**Kuwait Section**          **Abdullah Alqallaf**

**Section Vitality**

The date of last Section elections for the year 2026/2028 was July 1, 2025, the date of next elections for the year 2028/2030 will be on June 1, 2027, and the section will have the practice of Vice-Chair becoming the next Section Chair from the next elections for the year 2028/2030.

Section ExCom meetings are as follows.

**Kuwait Section Executive Committee (ExCom) Activities – 2025**

The IEEE Kuwait Section held **nine ExCom meetings** during 2025. These meetings focused on discussions related to **local and regional activities**, **membership recruitment and retention**, and the development of **society chapters, affinity groups**, and **student branches** (including *Women in Engineering (WiE)* and *WiE Student Branch Affinity Groups*).

**ExCom Meetings Schedule – 2025**

1. **Meeting 1:** Wednesday, 15 January 2025 – 12:00 PM to 3:30 PM
2. **Meeting 2:** Monday, 17 February 2025 – 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
3. **Meeting 3:** Monday, 17 March 2025 – 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
4. **Meeting 4:** Tuesday, 15 April 2025 – 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
5. **Meeting 5:** Thursday, 15 May 2025 – 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
6. **Meeting 6:** Monday, 16 June 2025 – 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
7. **Meeting 7:** Tuesday, 15 July 2025 – 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
8. **Meeting 8:** Tuesday, 19 August 2025 – 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM
9. **Meeting 9:** Thursday, 18 September 2025 – 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

**Membership Retention and Recruitment Activities**

The Section implemented several initiatives to **retain existing members** and **attract new members**. The activities and their outcomes are summarized in the following items

**Students**

List of Student Branches (SB) in your Section

- American University of Kuwait (STB15371)
- Australian College of Kuwait (STB11550)
- Kuwait University (STB94941)
- Gulf University for Science & Technology (STB64282) (newly listed)

the newly formed or dissolved SBs, if any since the last meeting reporting.

List the student meetings held and Section activities addressed to Students and Young Professionals.

- Regular meetings held by Kuwait University Student Branch and its Student Branch Chapter (C16).
- Joint technical and professional events hosted with the **Kuwait Section Young Professionals Affinity Group (YP80057)**.
- Collaborative activities between Student Branches (AUK, ACK, KU, and GUST) focusing

**Affinity Groups**

List of Affinity Groups (YP, LM, WiE, SIGHT, etc.),

- **Kuwait Section Young Professionals Affinity Group (YP80057)**.
- **New Affinity Group:** Kuwait Section Women in Engineering (WIE) Affinity Group established in 2025.
- **New Student Chapter:** Kuwait University WIE Student Chapter formed and officially recognized in 2025.
- Activities planned:

o   Outreach programs to encourage women in STEM.
o   Mentorship sessions linking professional WIE members with student members.
o   Joint WIE–YP initiatives to increase inclusivity and diversity in Section activities.

**Chapters**

List of Chapters and SB Chapters in your Section,

- **CH08797 - Kuwait Section Jt. Chapter, C16/COM19/CAS04.**
- **SBC94941 - Kuwait University, C16**

**Industry**

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained.

- **Kuwait Section Young Professionals Affinity Group (YP80057)** workshop AI  and machine learning with Huwaie

**Publicity outreach**

Highlight any publicity outreach examples (other than social media) from your Section, in the local, national media, or in the Region 8 publications.

**Activities since the last report**

Over the past reporting period, the Kuwait Section has been highly active, combining **technical events, professional development initiatives, student engagement, and societal impact programs**.

**Key Highlights**

1. Technical & Professional Events

- **Technical Seminar & 27th Annual General Body Meeting (May 1, 2025)** – Featured AI for Life: Engineering the Future of Healthcare by Dr. Ali Alfayly, emphasizing the intersection of AI and healthcare innovation.
- **S4IoT'25 Symposium (May 6–7, 2025, KCST)** – Hosted international experts, with Kuwait Section YPs leading **Panel I on AIoT Opportunities & Challenges** and student/YP meet-ups. This was a strong collaboration between academia, industry, and IEEE YP.
- **AI in Blood Medicine (May 31, 2025, Mishref)** – Presented at the 1st Pan Arab Thalassemia & Sickle Cell Conference, focusing on AI for Sickle Cell diagnosis and predictive analytics. This activity linked IEEE YP to societal impact in healthcare.

2. Student & Young Professionals Engagement

- **IEEE Kuwait Students & YP Meet-Up (May 6, 2025)** – Introduced IEEE benefits, networking, and mentorship, engaging new student members at KCST.
- **Introduction to IEEE Student Branch – GUST (July 8, 2025, Mishref)** – Orientation session to formally launch the GUST SB, bridging students with YP programs and leadership opportunities.
- **4th Annual Winter Camp (Jan 12, 2025)** and **KNRC Competition (Feb 10, 2025)** – Continued to support student innovation and Pre-U STEM outreach.

3. Outreach & Societal Impact

- **Tooth & Tech Workshop (May 8, 2025, Salmiya)** – AI in dental research for endodontic residents, positioned as an **IEEE YP integrity initiative** on responsible AI in healthcare.
- **Higher Education Summit (April 15, 2025, Kuwait)** – Section members participated in national-level discussions on innovation, challenges, and employability in higher education.
- **Cultural & Social Events** – Activities such as National Day celebrations and exhibitions maintained community engagement and visibility of IEEE.

**What Worked Well**

- Strong **collaboration between YP, students, and academia**, especially through S4IoT'25.
- Increased visibility of IEEE Kuwait Section in **societal healthcare applications of AI** (dental research, blood medicine).
- Expansion of **student branches** (notably GUST), with smooth onboarding of new members.

**Challenges / Lessons Learned**

- **Event scheduling** overlap occasionally reduced attendance (e.g., multiple technical events in May).
- Need for more **structured follow-up with student branches** to maintain momentum post-launch.
- Securing **sponsorship and funding** for larger events remains a challenge, especially for sustained outreach.

Planned Activities

- **IEEE Day 2025** – Kuwait Section is preparing a series of technical talks, student competitions, and community outreach activities to mark IEEE Day with broad engagement from students, YPs, and industry partners.
- **35 Years Anniversary of IEEE Kuwait Section** – A milestone celebration is planned to highlight the Section's history, achievements, and contributions to the engineering community in Kuwait. This will include keynote speeches, recognition of senior volunteers, and student/YP showcases.
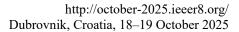
How Region 8 Can Help

**Challenges Faced**

- **Petitions and Affinity Group Processing** – Delays in the approval of newly petitioned groups (e.g., WIE Kuwait Section AG) create uncertainty and reduce momentum with enthusiastic volunteers.
- **Sponsorship & Financial Support** – Securing long-term funding for larger events (e.g., SYP, anniversary, technical symposiums) is a persistent challenge, especially for outreach programs in healthcare and education.
- **Student Branch Sustainability** – While new Student Branches (e.g., GUST) have been successfully launched, consistent mentorship and follow-up remain resource-intensive.

**Requested Support from Region 8**

- **Faster processing and support** for new Affinity Groups and Student Branch petitions.
- **Financial and logistical support** for high-visibility events like the 35th Anniversary and IEEE Day.
- **Mentorship models** from other active Sections on sustaining Student Branches and ensuring leadership continuity.

- **Increased visibility and promotion** of Kuwait Section activities at the Region 8 level to strengthen local partnerships.

**Suggested Agenda Items for R8 Committee Meeting**

1. Best practices in **funding models and industry partnerships** for Sections with limited sponsorship.
2. Strategies for **cross-border collaboration** in Region 8 (joint technical or professional events).
3. Streamlining **petition and approval workflows** for new Affinity Groups/Chapters.
4. Enhancing **integration of societal impact projects** (healthcare, education, sustainability) under IEEE YP and Section initiatives.