

# IEEE Region-10 Virtual Annual General Meeting 6-7 March 2021 (WebEx)

## Minutes of the Meeting

The virtual annual Region-10 meeting was held on 6-7 March 2021 with 132 participants on each day (29 Executive Committee members, 56 primary delegates and 22 secondary delegates across Region-10 Sections/Councils, 3 Subsection chair, 13 guests, and 9 IEEE staff in addition to 3 support staff. Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, the meeting was held as a virtual WebEx meeting spanned across 2 days and conducted successfully with the support from IEEE MGA/IT teams and Region-10 Project Manager Ms.Ewell Tan.

The following are the links:

### **2020 IEEE Region 10 Virtual Meeting – Presentation**

<https://www.ieeer10.org/2021-r10-annual-meet/>

### **2021 IEEE Region 10 Virtual Meeting - First Day recording:**

<https://ieeewebex.com/ieeewebex/lsr.php?RCID=bbad9717c53e49ac9a15e6761071b3e4>

### **2021 IEEE Region 10 Virtual Meeting - Second Day recording:**

<https://ieeewebex.com/ieeewebex/lsr.php?RCID=4250c8884d1d4f6b865f8b9b2aca8376>

### **Day-1 (06 March 2021)**

1. The formal Region-10 meeting started with the roll call of all attendees recorded based on webex data. The attendee list was presented on screen to all participants which was followed by adoption of the agenda of the meeting.
2. Region-10 Director, Mr. Deepak Mathur presented the agenda and it was approved.
3. Region-10 Director presented a resolution to mourn the loss of Region 10 Director (1973-1974) Shri F C Kohli, who passed away on 26 November 2020 and the loss of all IEEE volunteers due to covid 19. A moment of silence was also observed.

4. Region-10 Director, Deepak Mathur delivered the welcome address. Director welcomed special guests to the meeting. Director presented his kind appreciation for immediate past director Prof.Akinori Nishihara for his outstanding leadership and all outgoing IEEE Region-10 ExCom members for their great contribution. He also presented the history and geographical distribution of Region-10 in brief. Director highlighted the current section statistics especially mentioning about 59 sections, 43 YP AGs and 48 WIE AGs, 16 LM AGs, 1638 Student branches as well as the Region-10 membership stats. Followed by this, the Region-10 ExCom members for 2021-22 was introduced. Under the technical activities committee (TAC), “conference quality management” is a new committee launched this year. Under the professional activities committee (PAC), “individual benefits services” and “new initiatives” committees are launched this year. He also highlighted the main focus areas under each committee of Region-10, highlighting the Region-10 thrust areas and priorities. He expressed hope to have Region-10 flagship events such as TENCON and TENSYP as in-person gatherings. Region-10 SYWLC is scheduled for 2022. Highlighted the Region-10 ExCom orientation program led by Dr. Zia Ahmed. Announced about the Region-10 Governance Webinar for section volunteers, delivered in collaboration with MGA. Conference leadership program to be held in China and Indonesia. Director presented the volunteer list of Region-10 subcommittees and he emphasised that Region-10 wants to engage more volunteers in Region-10 committees. Presented about the Region-10 YP Summit, CLAP and Region-10 funding portal as two new initiatives this year. Encouraged section volunteers to participate in the incentive scheme. Reported about Region-10 alignment: Region-10 will be splitted into two regions. Thanked Ewell Tan for her dedicated service. Mr.Deepak Mathur also expressed his sincere gratitude to his mentors and advisors for their support and guidance.
5. Director made an announcement about the participation quiz arranged in connection with AGM, which is meant for all primary delegates. Questions in the Quiz will be based on presentations of the two days of the meeting. The first 25 winners will be given upto US\$ 40 worth of IEEE technical society membership.

**Director next requested President Susan K. (Kathy) Land to address meeting attendees**

**6. Highlights of IEEE President’s Address:**

- Membership overview of IEEE
- Vision and plans for 2021

- ❑ How to work collectively to make big impact
- ❑ Outcome of membership survey conducted in November 2020 wherein members look at IEEE for
  - Technically current
  - Engage and network to enhance career
  - Volunteer opportunities
- ❑ Continue and compete critical initiatives 2021 and mitigate anticipated 2021 financial impacts
- ❑ 2021 Board of Directors (BoD) strategic retreat
- ❑ IEEE NextGen Transition- Emphasized the importance of Diversity of IEEE and its importance. 2021 goal would be to develop best practices to expand diversity. Requested volunteers to advance diversity, inclusion and equity.
- ❑ Revisions to IEEE Code of Ethics and member conduct
- ❑ New Liasons for the Board for 2021 - LM Chair, WIE Chair and YP Chair (non voting members for IEEE board)
- ❑ New IEEE Volunteering Platform
- ❑ IEEE Volunteer Stem portal

**Director thanked Kathy for the thoughtful presentation and also highlighted that Region-10 is a perfect example for diversity. Director next requested the Executive Director and COO Stephen Welby to address meeting attendees**

#### **7. Highlights of ED's Address:**

- ❑ IEEE Vision and Mission
- ❑ Global reach of IEEE (400 000 members, 160 countries, 46 technical societies, 107,600 Students, 1900 conferences, 5M technical documents, 200 top cited periodicals, 1300 active standards)
- ❑ Society Impact - (global public policy, global humanitarian efforts, continuing education and certification, ethics in technology)
- ❑ Total IEEE membership statistics - end of January 2021- overall membership down by 4.4%. Total IEEE higher grad membership loss- just 2%. Student Membership growth anticipated Society membership shows growth

- Student discount program -18000 students rejoined using Future50 code and majority are from India
- IEEE policy for In-person meeting and travels
- Sections congress virtual training event scheduled for April 9-11 2021
- Three milestones dedications in Region-10 - PCPT Fiber optic connectors in Japan, inverter air conditioner in Japan, Giant radio telescope in India
- Largest number of publications in IEEE for 2020 despite of pandemic - 205 000 [record]
- IEEE Conferences in Region-10 (655)
- Virtual events in Region-10
- IEEE Virtual VIC Summit and honors ceremony
- IEEE HAC related projects for COVID 19

**Director thanks Stephen and next requested the IEEE MGA Vice President and MGA Board Chair Maïke Luiken address meeting attendees.**

#### **8. Highlights of MGA VP's Address:**

- Member and Geographical Activities (MGA) Board Mission & Vision ---highlighted the revised sections
- MGA Board ---highlighted the revised sections
- Proposed MGA strategies
- IEEE MGA –Meeting the challenges of 2020 (congratulated Region-10 for meeting the 2020 challenges)
- Student Discount coupons
- Continues engagement of Region realignment- Development of acceptable options for Region realignment
- MGA - Challenges and opportunities (number of OUs and members)
- MGA Ecosystem (Local Networking/Interaction/Events with IEEE Members and/or Community members, Career enhancement, volunteer skills)
- Key MGA Activities 2021- Focus: Strengthen Member, Non-member participant and volunteer engagement -in particular at the local level
- Continue MGA pivoting in the COVID and the post-Covid 19

(Q) Wahyudi Hasbi: Is there any possibility of having bulk payment for the membership fee in Indonesia? If yes, how can we proceed. Our govt supports increasing the number of student members and GSM in Indonesia, however the membership payment method is still challenging.

(A) Maïke Luiken: Will work with the committee to try to solve this problem.

(Q) Amit Kumar: There have been queries whether any initiatives are being taken for general membership incentives/discounts. There have been job losses and other financial crises due to COVID 19.

(A) Maïke Luiken: Depends on which country you live. We have different structures for different countries. Special discounts (50%) for special economic circumstances are already available (job losses, low income, retirement)

Cecelia Jankowski: e-membership discounts available for some groups of countries.

<https://www.ieee.org/membership/group-payment-option.html>

**Director thanked Maïke Luiken and next requested IEEE MGA Managing Director Cecelia Jankowski to address meeting attendees**

#### **9. Highlights of MGA MD's Address:**

- MGA Priority Projects- Member Experience, Geographic unit activities member operations, business activities and volunteer experience
- Membership recovery efforts
- Centre for leadership excellence - training for section-chapter activities, VOLT, conference organisers workshops
- 2021 membership development - Retention/recovery, recruitment, reinstatement
- IEEE Member welcome and onboarding emails - automated
- Updates on OU analytics member activity dashboard
- IEEE Collabratec overview 11% YoY Growth, 75%+ user satisfaction
- IEEE Member contact center - 170000 inbound increase, outbound outreaches 78K+, proactive chats, staff who work in different time zones to assist members globally

**Director thanked Cecelia Jankowski and next requested Region-10 Secretary, Sameer S. M. to take over**

10. Region-10 Secretary, Sameer S. M presented the report of 2021 Region -10 virtual ExCom meeting held on 10-th January 2021
11. Followed by this, the minutes of 2020 Region-10 virtual Annual General Meeting Minutes which was held on 7-th March 2020 over WebEx. No feedback was received on the minutes circulated within the stipulated deadline. Proposed the motion to approve meeting minutes. Mr. Asthana seconded the motion. The approval was granted by all participants.

**Director next invited the immediate past Director, Prof.Akinori Nishihara to moderate “Addresses by IEEE President-Elect Candidates 2022 with Q&A”**

12. Introductory presentation by PE candidates for three minutes
  - C1- Francis Grosz (Nominated by IEEE Board of Directors)
  - C2- Saifur Rahman (Nominated by Petition)
  - C3- S.K. Ramesh (Nominated by IEEE Board of Directors)

**Q1- Source: India Council**

Two of the top recommendations from Sections Congress 2020 are:

Provide continuing education with true value-added for working professionals, and  
Provide resources to Sections to serve industry professionals and engage with local industries. From your perspective as an IEEE Leader, what are the expected outcomes from these recommendations, and what will you do to achieve them?

**Q2- Source: Western Australia Section**

IEEE income from conferences have greatly dropped in 2020 and the trends towards Open Access are expected to affect the incomes from IEEE publications. Given the fact that these two are the main pillars of revenues for IEEE, what do you suggest that IEEE may do to make ends meet?

**Q3- (a) Source: Indonesia Section**

During this pandemic & economic slowdown, do you think reducing the membership fee is an option?

**(b) Source: Kolkata Section**

Is it possible to allow net banking and/or debit card payment options for membership fees?

**Q4- (a) Source: Indonesia Section**

What is your action or implementation for a "never change" leadership (take the leader position for many years without replacement) in a chapter or other IEEE OU?

**(b) Source: Kolkata Section**

Is there any scope to get other kinds of funding for a Section other than the Section operating fund?

**Q5- Source: India Council**

The expectations of IEEE member benefits from different regions are different.

What is your opinion on customizing the offerings/services/benefits of IEEE Region-wise to suit those in those regions rather than having generic/common services?

If you like to go for this, what all customization would you make for Region 10?

**Q6- Source: Western Australia Section**

IEEE is working on Regional Realignment with additional 2 regions allocated to Regions 8 and 10, while reducing the total number of regions for R1-7 and R9.

(a)What is your view on how to realign Region 10?

(b)What are the possible consequences if the Board of Directors DO NOT approve the proposal?

After every question, all PE candidates were given one minute each for answering the question by following a different rotation order. Details of the answers given by PE candidates to these questions will be published in the next issue of Region-10 newsletter.

**Followed by Q&A with PE, the three Vice Chairs of Region-10 presented the activity plan for various sub-committees under each VC**

**13. Presentation by VC, Membership Activities Committee- Prof. Byung-Gook Park**

- Introduction to Membership Activities committee structure
- 2021 membership activities plan - overview
- 2021 Life Member committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Membership Development committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Section and Chapter committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Student Activities committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Women in Engineering committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Young Professionals committee plan

#### **14. Presentation by VC, Technical Activities Committee, Dr.Zia Ahmed**

- Introduction to Technical Activities committee structure
- 2021 technical activities plan - overview
- 2021 Region-10 Conference and Technical Seminar committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Conference Quality & Management committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Industry Relations committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Humanitarian Technologies Activities committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Information Management committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Awards & Recognitions committee plans
- New Region-10 Monthly Webinar Series
- New Region-10 Event Funding Portal - presented by Dr.Nia- Action plan to channelize all event funding from Region-10 through a single portal- A new initiative

#### **15. Presentation by VC, Professional Activities Committee- Prof. Nirmal Nair**

- Introduction to professional activities committee structure
- Overview- Thrust Areas for professional activities -Entrepreneurship and Career Advancement Programs, New virtual flagship conferences
- 2021 Region-10 Strategic Planning/New Initiatives committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Educational Activities committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Professional Activities committee plan



- 2021 Region-10 History and Individual Benefits Services committee plan
- 2021 Region-10 Newsletter Committee plan

16. Next Region-10 Financial Report for 2020 was presented by Region-10 Treasurer 2020, Prof. Seishi Takamura

17. Followed by this, the Financial Audit Report for 2020 was presented by the Audit Committee Chair, Prof. Takao Onoye and approval was requested. The audit report was approved by all participants.

18. Region-10 Treasurer, Prof. R B Jadeja presented the 2021 budget for Region -10.

19. This marked the end of formal agenda items for the first day of the meeting. Closing remarks were presented by 2021 Director Deepak Mathur for the day-1 meeting. He thanked speakers, ExCom members, special guests and attendees. He also thanked the IEEE staff support for the efficient work.

20. He declared that the meeting will be reconvined on the next day, 7-th March 2021.

## **Day-2 (07 March 2021)**

21. The formal Region-10 meeting Day-2 started with the roll call of all attendees recorded based on webex data. The attendee list was presented on screen to all participants.

22. Opening remarks by Region-10 Director, Deepak Mathur- Requested to brainstorm and bring new initiatives for members. He also welcomed all invited guests and speakers.

**Director invited Region-10 Nominations and Advisory (N&A) Committee Chair, Prof. Akinori Nishihara to present the report.**

### **23. Highlights of the Report by Region-10 N&A Committee Chair**

- Committee Structure and Scope of the committee
- Work plan

- Nomination deadlines for MGA committee chairs-15th March and member positions-1st August
- Responsible for nominating volunteers in Region-10 for leadership positions
- Recommend candidates for standing committee chairs and members
- Recommend MGA positions, committee chairs and committee member positions
- Presented 2021 IEEE volunteers from Region-10 in global committees
- Next Director Elect - Due on 1st August 2021

**Director thanked Prof. Nishihara and invited IEEE HAC Chair Mr.Sampathkumar Veeraraghavan for his address**

#### **24. Highlights of HAC Chair's Address**

- How HAC fits into the IEEE Strategic Plan 2020 -2025
- Benefits for individual IEEE Members
- Global footprint - 15000 sight members in 123 countries and 174 SIGHT groups and 76 SIGHT groups from Region-10
- Emphasised about engaging Students and Young Professionals
- HAC 2021 Strategic Goals
- IEEE HAC/SIGHT COVID projects
- Call for actions - provide Educational opportunities, project funding, leadership

(Q) Amit kumar: How HAC and SIGHT plan to cover scalability and replication of COVID 19 successful and impactful projects? Are there a place where one can find the list of successfully completed projects?

(A) Sampathkumar: Made available in the website of HAC

This was followed by the report of flagship events of Region-10 for 2020, 2021 and 2022 as well as 2021 Section Congress Virtual Training and are summarized as below:

#### **25. TENCON 2020 Report -Japan Council- Prof. Takao Onoye**

- Conference date: 16-19 November 2020
- Conference theme: Advancing Technologies for Sustainable Development Goals to Transform Our World

- Conference venue: Osaka, Japan (Virtual)
- Presented the paper statistics of the conference
- Region-10 SAC postgraduate paper contest collaboration with Region-10 SAC. The winners presented the papers in TENCON
- Presented the financial summary of the conference

#### **26. TENSYPM 2020 Report - Bangladesh Section- Prof. Celia Shahnaz**

- Date: 5-7 June 2020
- Theme: Technology for Impactful Sustainable Development
- Venue: Dhaka, Bangladesh (Virtual)
- First Region-10 flagship conference that was fully virtual
- Presented conference paper statistics
- Presented the conference program in brief
- Best paper awards given
- Parallel tracks : WIE , YP, HAC , Industry Academia Collaboration track, SPS workshop
- Presented the financial report
- Post conference events - Virtual Conference Organizers Program

#### **27. HTC 2020 Report - Malaysia Section/Sarawak Subsection- Prof. Bee Theng Lau**

- Date: 1-3 December 2020
- Theme: Digital Ecosystem for Humanity
- Venue: Kuching, Malaysia (Virtual)
- Pre conference special sessions: Humanitarian technologies and mini POCO
- Statistics: 200 students/YPs/funders/authors and presenters
- USD 7000 funding for humanitarian activities from Region-10 and HQ
- Presented the financial report

#### **28. SYWL Congress 2020- Chair: Zia Ahmed**

- Initially scheduled to be in Bangkok. But due to Covid, Decision to go virtual congress
- Date: 19 September- 4 October 2020
- 16 days congress

- 26 sessions
- 120 speakers
- Registration Scheme- sections nominate delegates
- Sessions were live streamed via FB - 10000 additional audience
- Collaborators - IEEE societies
- SB partnership programs - 78 SBs (locally stream the sessions)
- Highlights of students, YP, WIE, LM
- Contests and networking opportunities
- General sessions- EA, IEEE STAndards and HUmanitarian activities

### **29. Sections Congress Virtual Training 2021 - Ms. Loretta Arellano**

- In-person Section Congress event cancelled
- Recommendation process to be held virtually - Completed in September 2020
- Date: 9-11 April 2021
- Open to all OU volunteers
- Virtual Training session program
- On24 platform
- All presentations will be available in CLE
- 2 Networking sessions
- Virtual Exhibit
- Registration opens in March

### **30. Presentation on TENCON 2021 - New Zealand North Section- Dr. Nirmal Nair**

- Date: 7-10 December 2021
- Theme: IEEE Future Directions
- Venue: Auckland, New Zealand
- Mode: Conference will be hybrid - online+venue
- Expected Programs - Smart Cities and Technologies, Future of work in world of AI/Automation, Future of space technologies, Future of space technologies, Low-Carbon, Energy Future
- Timeline- Call for papers in April 2021

**31. Presentation on TENSYP 2021- Seoul Section- Prof. CheonWon Choi**

- Date: 23-25 August 2021
- Theme: Good Technologies for Creating Future
- Venue: Jeju Island, Republic of Korea
- Mode: Conference will be hybrid
- Regular sessions and Special session
- Plenary speeches - IT in post pandemic years
- WIE, YP and LM Tracks

**32. Presentation on HTC 2021 - Bangalore Section, Dr.Bindhumadhava S. Bapu**

- Date: 30 September- 2 October 2021
- Theme: Reverse Innovation for Humanitarian Technology Solutions using Science, Technology and Engineering (STEM)
- Venue: Bangalore, India
- Mode: Conference will be hybrid
- Highlights - Call for papers, workshops, short courses, tutorials, mini poco, competition, networking, awards, etc
- Special tracks for WIE, Young Professionals and Students

**33. Presentation on TENCON 2022 - Hong Kong Section- Dr.Paulina Yenbic Chan**

- Date- November 2022
- Theme: Tech-Biz Intelligence
- Venue: Hong Kong

**34. Presentation on TENSYP 2022 - Bombay Section- Dr.Satyanarayana Bheesetti**

- Date: September 2022
- Venue: Mumbai
- Topics to be finetunes after TENSYP 2021

**35. Presentation on HTC 2022 - Hyderabad Section- Dr. Sreenivas Jasti**

- Date: 16-18 September 2022
- Theme: IoT and Industry 4.0 - a world of engineering challenges

- Venue - Vivanta by Taj
- Timeline: paper submission opens 1st October 2021

**36. 2020 Awards Presentation-** Prof. Wu Qun, 2021 Region-10 Awards Committee Chair formally presented the winners of various awards of Region-10. He also presented the details of MGA and other global IEEE award winners from Region-10 Sections in 2020.

**Followed by this, Director [Deepak Mathur](#) invited Prof. Janina Mazierska, Chair, IEEE History Committee to give a presentation on “IEEE History Committee and its 2021 Strategy” for the first time presentation on history committee in Region-10 meeting**

### **37. Highlights of Chair, History Committee’s Presentation**

- Purpose of History Committee
- Contributions to IEEE
- History Committee Programs - 213 milestones awarded and 21 waiting for dedications
- History Center Programs - ETHW, IEEE History since 1984
- Flagship program - IEEE Milestones
- Milestones in Region-10 - 36 (18%) major contributions from Japan, 40% of IPs from Region-10
- Membership Summary of Region-10 - Only region has increased membership for higher members and graduate student members compared to other regions
- Strategic goals for Region-10 proposed - establish History/Milestones Coordinators Councils as well as Sections to establish milestones (10 milestones, except for Japan), invite life members to support the history committee, Keep recording of Region-10 history and submit to history book
- Strategic goals of history committee

**Deepak Mathur thanked Janina and invited Lorena Garcia, IEEE EAB Pre University Education Coordinating Committee Chair for the presentation on New IEEE Pre-University Volunteer STEM Portal**

### 38. Highlights of Chair, EAB Pre University Education Coordinating Committee Chair's Presentation

- Educational resources for pre-university students/programs
- EA launched STEM portal - drive STEM outreach
- Searchable library lead by volunteers and some partners
- Series of resources for volunteers to assist with the process
- Invited attendees to visit tryengineering website and try the portal
- Requested the attendees to share about STEM outreach program by reporting at the portal

39. During the next agenda item on “New Business/ Other Matters” proposed by the Secretary, Sameer S. M., Director Deepak Mathur invited the two other regional directors, Dr. Tim Lee, R6 Director and Dr. Jason Gu, R7 Director, who have attended Region-10 AGM as special guests to address the delegates of Region-10 AGM and they talked for a few minutes about the activities of their regions.

Followed by this, based on a special request by Deepak Mathur for sharing advice to meeting delegates, Prof. Toshio Fukuda, immediate past president of IEEE and Prof. Kukjin Chun, immediate past VP of IEEE MGA delivered a special talk and advice for Region-10 volunteers.

40. Special announcement by Director and Adjournment: Director, Deepak Mathur informed that a special memento consisting of specially designed mugs, masks and Region-10 pin will be shipped to all the attendees of the meeting as a door gift. He then offered the concluding remarks with thanks to all the invited guests and participants and adjourned the 2021 Region-10 virtual AGM.