

# All Sections Meeting Meeting

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 9:00 - 10:30 (Hybrid Format)

## Participants:

Representatives of Overseas Sections

Participation	International Section	Representative	Affiliation
Online	<b>Bangkok</b>	Supatana Auethavekiat	Chulalongkorn University
No response	<b>Beijing</b>	Zhenyu Zhou Professor	North China Electric Power Univ.
In-person	<b>Europe</b>	Arturo Buscarino	University of Catania
Online	<b>Indonesia</b>	Ridwan Wicaksono	Universitas Gadjah Mada
No response	<b>Korea(Information)</b>	Jong-Ok Kim	Korea University
In-person	<b>Malaysia</b>	Nisha Kumari Devaraj	Multimedia University
In-person	<b>Shanghai</b>	Jie Zhu	Shanghai Jiao Tong University
In-person	<b>Singapore</b>	Subramaniam Arulkumaran	Nanyang Technological University
No response	<b>Taipei</b>	Ding Wei Huang	National Taiwan University
Online	<b>India</b>	Srinivas Talabattula	Indian Institute of Science
Online	<b>Vietnam</b>	Xuan-Tu Tran	VNU Information Technology Institute

## Domestic Members:

Chairperson	Hiromi Ohashi (Furukawa Electric Co., Ltd.)
Vice Chairperson:	Hajime Nakamura (KDDI Research, Inc.)
Secretary	Ayako Matsuo (Toshiba Corporation)
Committee Members:	Tomoko Adachi (Toshiba Corporation)
”	Takeo Fujii (The University of Electro-Communications)
”	Takeya Yamazato (Nagoya University)
”	Tomoharu Shibuya (Sophia University)
”	Ryosuke Hosaka (Shibaura Institute of Technology)
”	Toru Takahashi (Mitsubishi Electric Corporation)
”	Shinji Matsuo (NTT)
”	Yoichi Sato (The University of Tokyo)
”	Takeshi Kurata (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology)
”	Kenzo Takahashi (The University of Electro-Communications)
”	Naoaki Yamanaka (Keio University)
”	Kohei Shiimoto (Tokyo City University)
”	Minoru Fujishima (Hiroshima University)
”	Makoto Ikeda (The University of Tokyo)
”	Junichi Takada (Tokyo Institute of Technology)
”	Makoto Nagata (Kobe University)

## Agenda

1. Explanation of the Current Status of Overseas Sections
    - Membership Analysis of Overseas Sections
    - Request for Recommendations for Next Committee Candidates
  2. Section Reports: Activity Reports and Challenges
    - Europe
    - Singapore
    - Vietnam
    - Shanghai
    - India
    - Malaysia
    - Indonesia
    - Thailand
  3. Discussion Topics
    - Boosting Engagement – Strategies for Overseas Section Growth
      - Satisfaction and challenges regarding current activities
      - Effective incentives and specific needs for enhancing engagement
    - The Unique Role of IEICE Global Sections
      - Perspectives on the role of overseas sections in the era of globalization
      - Concrete proposals to promote participation among young members in your section
  4. Summary of Discussion
  5. Proposal for Regular Online ASM Meetings
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## Introduction and Welcome

President Yamakawa highlighted the strengthening our relationships, especially among young and student members, and introduced a new global strategy involving publishing articles in 15 languages, as well as plans to expand local activities and workshops to other countries, aiming to make IEICE more globally attractive.

## Summary of Discussion

### 1. IEICE Global Strategy and Expansion

(1) Discussions focused on enhancing IEICE's global presence and academic reputation through international collaborations and membership growth. The organization aims to increase international membership and collaboration by implementing a global strategy to publish in multiple languages and expanding local activities and workshops globally.

(2) The analysis of overseas sections' current status revealed that **only the China (Beijing, Shanghai, Taipei Sections) meet the requirement of 20 or more members**. While IEICE overseas members can register with any overseas section of their choice, regardless of their place of residence or nationality, or they may remain unregistered, as registration is optional, challenges include the voluntary

nature of registration and the lack of differentiation in benefits among overseas sections, which does not provide sufficient motivation for registration. Nationality-wise, India, Thailand, Malaysia, and Vietnam show promising numbers, but this has not yet translated into an increase in new memberships.

## 2. IEICE International Affairs Committee Progress

The International Affairs Committee reported on the increased number of poster submissions for their 5th GlobalNet Workshop (reaching 90), the organization of an International Reception Party, efforts to deepen the significance of the ASM, addressing the stagnation in their activities, the analysis of the current status of overseas sections, and the request for recommendations for the next committee candidate.

## 3. Reports from International Sections

- **The European section** emphasized the success of the distinguished lecture program and proposed the idea of organizing an internal board for each overseas section.
- **The Shanghai and India sections** discussed the importance of their sections in enhancing IEICE's international influence and academic reputation and highlighted the need for more international academic conferences and publications.
- Also **The Shanghai section** suggested hosting international conferences every six months, while the **The India section** proposed attracting more scholars, particularly in recent fields at universities, to increase IEICE's visibility and impact factors.
- Proposals to boost engagement included considering more frequent small meetings with individual sections, exploring providing **more financial support** for local section activities and events, working on improving **English content and translations on the IEICE website** and publications, international sections **organizing regular technical webinars/talks** (aiming for one per month), considering establishing a **mentorship program** connecting senior IEICE members with students/young professionals, international sections **increasing social media presence** and outreach efforts, exploring **offering free trial memberships or discounted subscriptions**, and international sections collaborating on organizing joint workshops and conferences outside of Japan.
- The possibility of creating a social media group (e.g., WhatsApp, Facebook) for informal communication between international section leaders and international sections sharing best practices for boosting membership and engagement were also suggested.
- Proposals for European-Japanese University Collaboration included supporting student exchanges, organizing remote online meetings, and offering lectures or

courses in Europe, emphasizing the importance of networking and building connections across geographical distances.

- **Strategies for increasing overseas membership** discussed the need for financial support to invite Japanese professors to Singapore for lectures, the potential for joint workshops with IEC, online seminars, and travel support for PhD students to present papers in international conferences, as well as the importance of collaboration with local universities and research institutes.
- **Challenges faced by the International Section**, such as limited funding, language barriers, and limited involvement from new students and professors, were discussed. Proposed solutions included offering scholarships, creating awards for members, improving the IEC website, and increasing international collaboration.
- Suggestions were made for incentives and social responsibility programs, emphasizing the importance of regular communication and sharing best practices, as well as the need for target marketing and collaboration with other societies, online promotion, and clear communication.
- The proposal for regular online ASM meetings aimed to understand the current status and challenges of each overseas section and gather opinions, enhance the sense of solidarity with overseas sections, and improve the recognition and presence of the organization abroad, suggesting a frequency of once a month, approximately 30 minutes, in an online format (hybrid format may also be considered).

## Next Steps

- The International Affairs Committee will consider implementing more frequent small meetings with individual sections to improve communication.
- IEICE will work on improving English content and translations on the IEICE website and publications.
- International sections are encouraged to organize regular technical webinars/talks, aiming for one per month.
- International sections explore the possibility of social media to attract new members.
- IEICE make another effort to explain IEICE membership programs including discounted subscriptions to attract new international members.
- International sections will collaborate on organizing joint workshops and conferences outside of Japan.
- Regarding the proposed Regular Online ASM Meetings, the schedule from March onwards (including assigned sections and tentative proposed topics) will be decided respecting the preferences and availability of each section.