

MEETINGS REVIEW AND PLANNING COMMITTEE 2024-2025 REPORT

Committee chair: Marianne Rauch & Alex Martinez

Committee members: Mohammed Badri, Jesse Baker, Paul Cunningham, Carmen Dumitrescu, Cengiz Esmer soy, Feng Zhang

Board liaison: Aria Abubakar

Staff liaison: Debbie Mitchell

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From November 2024 through October 2025, the committee reviewed event proposals across SEG-operated, partnered, and promoted activities, reflecting a stable volume compared with prior years. Most events were held in North America, Asia Pacific, and the Middle East, with limited activity in Europe and Oceania. No events occurred in South America or Africa during this period. Only five events were delivered virtually, consistent with last year's totals and indicating continued preference for in-person engagement.

In the second quarter of 2025, Alex Martinez transitioned from chair to committee member and was succeeded by Marianne Rauch. Committee membership remained stable and engaged throughout the year; however, new members are being sought to support future initiatives.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

Between November 2024 and October 2025, the committee reviewed 45 event proposals, all of which aligned with SEG's technical and community objectives. Only a small number required clarification prior to final endorsement, and no proposals were rejected.

The distribution of events was similar to previous years, with the Middle East (16), North America (14), and Asia Pacific (11) representing the majority. Fewer events occurred in Europe (3) and Oceania/New Zealand (1), and none were held in South America or Africa. These regions remain potential growth opportunities if a compelling business case can be developed.

The committee continued its oversight of event review and endorsement based on technical merit. In response to recent reviews, the committee reminded regional offices and program staff to submit event requests at least six months in advance to ensure timely evaluation and approval.

Membership stability supported consistent performance; however, recruitment of new members remains a priority. Looking ahead to 2026, the committee plans a membership refresh to strengthen long-term continuity and succession planning.