

**DECISION OF THE AGENCY FOR THE COOPERATION OF ENERGY
REGULATORS No 03/2017**

of 2 October 2017

**ON THE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATORS'
PROPOSAL FOR HARMONISED ALLOCATION RULES FOR LONG-TERM
TRANSMISSION RIGHTS**

THE AGENCY FOR THE COOPERATION OF ENERGY REGULATORS,

HAVING REGARD to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

HAVING REGARD to Regulation (EC) No 713/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 establishing an Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators¹, and, in particular, Article 8(1) thereof,

HAVING REGARD to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a guideline on forward capacity allocation², and, in particular, Article 4(10) thereof,

HAVING REGARD to the outcome of the consultation with the concerned national regulatory authorities and transmission system operators,

HAVING REGARD to the favourable opinion of the Board of Regulators of 28 September 2017, delivered pursuant to Article 15(1) of Regulation (EC) No 713/2009,

WHEREAS:

1. INTRODUCTION

- (1) Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a guideline on forward capacity allocation ('FCA Regulation') laid down detailed rules on cross-zonal capacity allocation in the forward markets, i.e. the markets for the allocation of cross-zonal capacity for the long-term. These rules include specific requirements for the development of harmonised allocation rules.
- (2) Under Articles 4(1), (6)(d) and 51(1) of the FCA Regulation, transmission system operators ('TSOs') are required jointly to develop a proposal for harmonised allocation rules ('HAR') for long-term transmission rights and submit it to the competent regulatory authorities for

¹ OJ L 211, 14.8.2009, p. 1.

² OJ L 259, 27.9.2016, p. 42.

approval. Then, according to Article 4(9) of the FCA Regulation, the regulatory authorities receiving the proposal on the HAR for long-term transmission rights shall reach an agreement and take a decision on that proposal, in principle, within six months after the receipt of the proposal by the last regulatory authority. According to Article 4(10) of the FCA Regulation, if the regulatory authorities fail to reach an agreement within the six-month period, or upon their joint request, the Agency is called upon to adopt a decision concerning the TSOs' proposal.

- (3) The present Decision of the Agency follows from the regulatory authorities' request that the Agency adopts a decision on the proposal concerning the HAR for long-term transmission rights, which the TSOs submitted to the regulatory authorities for approval, because the regulatory authorities were not able to agree on certain elements of the proposal. Annex I to this Decision sets out the HAR for long-term transmission rights, pursuant to Article 51(1) of the FCA Regulation, as decided by the Agency.

2. PROCEDURE

2.1 Proceedings before regulatory authorities

- (4) On 16 January 2017, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity ('ENTSO-E') and the TSOs responsible under Article 51(1) of the FCA Regulation published an 'All TSOs' draft proposal for Harmonised Allocation Rules for long-term transmission rights' for public consultation. The consultation lasted from 16 January until 17 February 2017. Moreover, during the public consultation period, ENTSO-E organised a stakeholder workshop on Harmonised Allocation Rules on 3 February 2017, giving the opportunity to interested stakeholders and various organisations impacted by the HAR to raise questions and ask clarifications from the TSOs.
- (5) On 21 April 2017, all concerned TSOs submitted to their respective regulatory authority an 'All TSOs' proposal for HAR for long-term transmission rights in accordance with Article 51 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a Guideline on Forward Capacity Allocation' dated 10 April 2017³ ('HAR Proposal'), together with a supporting document⁴.

2.2 Proceedings before the Agency

- (6) In a letter dated 17 August 2017 and received by the Agency on the same date, the Chair of the Energy Regulators' Forum - i.e. the regulatory authorities' platform to consult and

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https://www.entsoe.eu/Documents/Network%20codes%20documents/NC%20FCA/170414_Attch4_HAR_MainBody_FINAL.PDF

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https://www.entsoe.eu/Documents/Network%20codes%20documents/NC%20FCA/170410_Attch_5_HAR_SupportingDocument_FINAL.PDF

cooperate for reaching a unanimous agreement on a TSOs' proposal -, on behalf of all regulatory authorities, informed the Agency that, on 16 August 2017, all regulatory authorities agreed to request the Agency to adopt a decision, pursuant to Article 4(10) of the FCA Regulation, on the HAR Proposal because they were not able to agree on the provisions of Article 21(1)(h) of the HAR Proposal concerning the required credit rating for banks issuing collaterals for market participants. According to the letter, at least one regulatory authority opposed the proposal that, in case of an industry-wide downgrading of the credit-rating of financial institutions, the allocation platform may decrease the required rating below BBB+ for a limited period of time. The opposing regulatory authority proposed alternatively either (i) to maintain the default required credit rating level BBB+ even in the case of an industry-wide downgrading, or (ii) to delete all provisions on credit rating and leave the decision completely to TSOs. However, these alternative proposals were opposed by at least three other regulatory authorities.

- (7) The letter of 17 August 2017 included also an annex entitled '*Additional areas that all regulators agree ACER may include and take into account when reaching a decision*'. According to this annex, all regulatory authorities agreed that, although they had no concerns on the majority of the elements of the HAR Proposal, certain elements of that Proposal could also be addressed, if this were not to hinder reaching a decision on time for legal or process related reasons. Those elements were described as follows:
- a) '*Article 48(1)(a): to avoid any ambiguity, the expression "subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs" should be placed as in Article 59(1)(a), and in both Articles the adjustment of the price to reflect Allocation Constraints should be limited to Allocation Constraints as defined in Article 23(3)(b) of the CACM Regulation;*'
 - b) '*Article 58: the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline should remain set 30 minutes before the Day Ahead Market Gate Closure Time unless otherwise specified in accordance with the process described in Article 69 of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, to avoid any discrepancy between firmness deadlines applicable for long-term and day-ahead capacity rights during the transition period where HAR will be in force but the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline defined pursuant to Article 69 of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 will not yet be applicable;*'
 - c) '*Article 68: this Article shall be amended to reflect that the amendment process of the HAR is now governed by Article 4(12) of Regulation 2016/1719;*'
 - d) '*Article 76(3): a sentence should be added, symmetrically to the second sentence of the paragraph, to clarify that subcontracting by the Allocation Platform does not relieve it of any obligation or liability.*'
- (8) The letter of 17 August 2017 does not indicate that the regulatory authorities requested the TSOs to amend the HAR Proposal. In fact, there was no such request.

- (9) By e-mail of 26 August 2017, the Agency consulted the concerned TSOs and regulatory authorities with regard to potential amendments of the HAR Proposal, inviting them to submit their comments by 8 September 2017. Those amendments concerned some of the amendments suggested by the regulatory authorities in the annex of their letter of 17 August 2017, an amendment regarding the definition of a reduction period, suggested by the stakeholders during the public consultation held by ENTSO-E from 16 January until 17 February 2017, and minor wording amendments to ensure consistency with the FCA Regulation. In addition, the Agency invited the concerned TSOs and regulatory authorities to submit their comments on the issue of the required credit rating for banks, and on the alternative options mentioned in the letter of 17 August 2017. A summary and evaluation of the responses received is attached as Annex II to this Decision.
- (10) On 11 September 2017, the Agency organised a workshop on the HAR for long-term electricity transmission rights, aiming at discussing the HAR Proposal and its potential amendments also with the other stakeholders. In the announcement of the workshop on 30 August 2017, the Agency invited the stakeholders to submit any comments they may have, via e-mail, ahead of the meeting. Stakeholders did not submit any comments before the workshop.

3. THE AGENCY'S COMPETENCE TO DECIDE ON THE HAR PROPOSAL

3.1 Joint request and no agreement by the concerned regulatory authorities

- (11) Pursuant to Article 4(10) of the FCA Regulation, where the regulatory authorities have not been able to reach an agreement on terms and conditions or methodologies within six months following the receipt of the proposal for such terms and conditions or methodologies by the last regulatory authority concerned, or upon the regulatory authorities' joint request, the Agency shall adopt a decision concerning the submitted proposal within six months and in line with Article 8(1) of Regulation (EC) No 713/2009.
- (12) According to the letter of the Chair of the Energy Regulators' Forum of 17 August 2017, all concerned regulatory authorities agreed to request the Agency to adopt a decision on the HAR Proposal, pursuant to Article 4(10) of the FCA Regulation, because the regulatory authorities were not able to agree on Article 21(1)(h) of the HAR Proposal.
- (13) It follows from this letter that the concerned regulatory authorities jointly requested the Agency to take a decision on the HAR Proposal and that they could not reach an agreement on that Proposal.
- (14) Therefore, under the provisions of Article 4(10) of the FCA Regulation, the Agency became responsible to adopt a decision concerning the submitted HAR Proposal by the referral on 17 August 2017.

4. SUMMARY OF THE HAR PROPOSAL

(15) The HAR Proposal includes the following elements:

- a) general provisions, including on the scope of application and on harmonised definitions, in Title 1;
- b) requirements and process for participation in auctions and transfer, including harmonised provisions on participation conditions, in Title 2;
- c) requirements for collaterals, including harmonised provisions on financial requirements, netting policies and financial collaterals for financial transmission rights ('FTRs') – obligations, in Title 3;
- d) provisions on auctions, including the description of the forward capacity allocation process, with the auction specification, the submission of bids, the publication of auction results and contestation period, in Title 4;
- e) harmonised provisions for the return of long-term transmission rights in Title 5;
- f) harmonised provisions for the transfer of long-term transmission rights, including their notification, in Title 6;
- g) principles regarding the use and remuneration of long-term transmission rights, including harmonised Use-It-Or-Sell-It (UIOSI) provisions in case of physical transmission rights, a description of the types of long-term transmission rights which are offered, including the remuneration principles, as well as principle description of the applicable nomination rules, in Title 7;
- h) provisions regarding fallback procedures in Title 8;
- i) provisions regarding curtailments, including provisions on firmness and compensation rules, in Title 9;
- j) provisions regarding invoicing and payment, including harmonised provisions on financial requirements and settlement, in Title 10; and
- k) miscellaneous provisions, referring also to the contractual framework between the single allocation platform and the market participants, including provisions on the applicable law, the applicable language, confidentiality, dispute resolution, liability and force majeure, in Title 11.

- (16) The HAR Proposal provides that the HAR shall enter into force in accordance with the applicable national regulatory regimes and on the date announced by the allocation platform. According to the HAR Proposal, the HAR shall apply to capacity allocation for long-term transmission rights with the delivery period to be specified by the allocation platform on its website upon the entry into force of these allocation rules, it being understood that the said delivery period shall be from 1 January in the subsequent year following the adoption of the HAR in accordance with Article 4 of the FCA Regulation (Article 5 of the HAR Proposal).
- (17) The HAR Proposal describes the expected impact of the proposed HAR on the objectives of the FCA Regulation (paragraphs (8) to (16) of the HAR Proposal).
- (18) In addition, the supporting document to the HAR Proposal explains the legal context, describes the previous steps taken as part of the early implementation of the FCA Regulation, assesses the comments received during the public consultation and provides further explanations on amendments of the Proposal made after the public consultation. The document has one annex with the detailed comments received by ENTSO-E on the main body of the HAR during the public consultation.

5. ASSESSMENT OF THE HAR PROPOSAL

5.1 Legal framework

- (19) Articles 51 and 52 of the FCA Regulation set out specific requirements for the common proposal for the HAR for long-term transmission rights.
- (20) According to Article 51(1), the common proposal for HAR shall be developed in accordance with the requirements of Article 52(2) and shall be subject to consultation in accordance with Article 6 of the FCA Regulation.
- (21) According to Article 52(1), the requirements for HAR for long-term transmission rights shall cover physical transmission rights, FTRs — options and FTRs — obligations, and TSOs shall consider and duly take into account specificities related to the different types of products.
- (22) According to Article 52(2), the common proposal for HAR shall follow the principles of non-discrimination and transparency and at least contain the general requirements set out in subparagraphs (a) to (l) of Article 52(2).
- (23) As a general requirement, Article 4(8) of the FCA Regulation demands that every proposal for terms and conditions or methodologies includes a proposed timescale for their implementation and a description of their expected impact on the objectives of the FCA Regulation.

- (24) Further, for coherence reasons and as confirmed by Article 4(8) of the FCA Regulation, the common proposal must be in line with the objectives of the FCA Regulation defined in its Article 3.

5.2 Assessment of the requirements in Article 52(1) of the FCA Regulation

- (25) The HAR Proposal contains harmonised provisions for the allocation of long-term transmission rights, which, according to the definition in Article 2(2) of the FCA Regulation (that definition being applicable also for the HAR, pursuant to Article 2(1) of the HAR Proposal), mean a physical transmission right or a FTR – option or a FTR – obligation. According to Article 2(j) of the HAR Proposal, any reference to financial transmission rights shall cover both FTR – options and FTR – obligations.
- (26) Article 47 of the HAR Proposal sets out different provisions for each of the specific types of products. Furthermore, in Article 48 of the HAR Proposal on the remuneration of long-term transmission rights’ holders for non-nominated physical and financial transmission rights, the specificities of each product are taken into account for the calculation of the remuneration.
- (27) Therefore, the HAR Proposal covers physical transmission rights, FTRs — options and FTRs — obligations, and it considers and takes into account the specificities related to the different types of products, in compliance with Article 52(1) of the FCA Regulation.

5.3 Assessment of the requirements in Article 52(2) of the FCA Regulation

- (28) According to Article 7 of the HAR Proposal, any market participant may apply to be a party to a ‘Participation Agreement’, as long as he/she follows a clearly defined and harmonised process, and fulfils transparent conditions, which are the same for all market participants according to Article 6 of the HAR Proposal. This Agreement also allows access to the auction tools of the single allocation platform. Moreover, the rules set in the HAR apply to all parties and harmonise the process of participating in the long-term auctions, providing non-discriminatory access to the cross-zonal long-term capacity, as stated also in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the HAR Proposal.
- (29) Regarding transparency, the HAR Proposal clarifies which information is to be published by the single allocation platform in a centralised manner during the whole process of the capacity allocation, including provisions regarding the publication of the allocation rules, the registered participants, the bidding zone borders, the auction calendar, the auction specifications (Article 29), the auction results (Article 36), the notice board for transfer of long-term transmission rights (Article 44), the nomination rules (Article 46), any information on fallback procedures and the triggering events for curtailment (Article 57).

- (30) The HAR Proposal, as also indicated above in recital (15), comprises rules for all the areas of general requirements listed in subparagraphs (a) to (l) of Article 52(2) of the FCA Regulation.
- (31) Therefore, the HAR Proposal follows the principles of non-discrimination and transparency in accordance with Article 52(2) of the FCA Regulation and contains the general requirements mentioned in Article 52(2) of the FCA Regulation.

5.4. Public consultation

- (32) The draft HAR Proposal was consulted Union-wide with stakeholders from 16 January to 17 February 2017.
- (33) The supporting document to the HAR Proposal describes the comments received from stakeholders, assesses them and explains why comments have or have not been taken into account. The explanatory document was published together with the HAR Proposal on 14 April 2017.
- (34) Therefore, the HAR Proposal has been subject to a public consultation in accordance with Article 6 of the FCA Regulation and complies with Article 51(1) of the FCA Regulation.

5.5 Proposed timescale for the implementation

- (35) Article 5 of the HAR Proposal provides that the HAR shall apply for capacity allocation for long-term transmission rights with delivery period starting from 1 January in the subsequent year following the adoption of the HAR by all regulatory authorities or decided upon by the Agency.
- (36) Therefore, the HAR Proposal complies with the requirement of the implementation timescale in Article 4(8) of the FCA Regulation.

5.6 Expected impact on the objectives of the FCA Regulation.

- (37) Paragraphs (8) to (16) of the HAR Proposal describe the expected impact of the HAR on the objectives listed in Article 3 of the FCA Regulation.
- (38) Therefore, the HAR Proposal complies with the requirement of the impact description in Article 4(8) of the FCA Regulation.
- (39) As regards the substance of the described impact, the Agency agrees with the description in the HAR Proposal.

5.7 Assessment of the point of disagreement among regulatory authorities regarding the provisions of Article 21(1)(h) of the HAR Proposal

- (40) Article 21(1)(h) of the HAR Proposal provides that in the case of an industry-wide downgrading of the credit rating of financial institutions, the allocation platform may investigate what the new standards are and, if deemed necessary, decrease the required rating for a limited period of time, informing TSOs, who shall then inform the relevant regulatory authorities. Accordingly, the allocation platform may decrease the required rating below BBB+ for a limited period of time.
- (41) In that regard, at least one regulatory authority opposed the proposed requirement for credit rating and suggested, as alternatives, either (i) to maintain the default required credit rating level BBB+ even in the case of an industry-wide downgrading, or (ii) to delete all provisions on credit rating and leave the decision completely to TSOs.
- (42) According to the Agency, maintaining the default required credit rating level BBB+ even in the case of an industry-wide credit rate downgrading, could result, depending on the magnitude of the downgrading, in practically preventing market participants, in particular smaller ones, from accessing the long-term transmission rights allocation process, which could therefore be in conflict with the objective of non-discriminatory access to long-term cross-zonal capacity pursuant to Article 3(c) of the FCA Regulation.
- (43) Moreover, deleting all provisions on credit rating and leaving the decision to the TSOs could result in different credit rating requirements across Europe, which could also run counter the objective of non-discriminatory access to long-term cross-zonal capacity pursuant to Article 3(c) of the FCA Regulation.
- (44) The current wording of Article 21(1)(h) of the HAR Proposal, as described in recital (40) above, provides the required flexibility to the allocation platform to react in an extreme case, enabling uninterrupted access of registered participants to the allocation platform, respecting the new rating conditions. In that respect, the HAR Proposal provides harmonised provisions on financial requirements, as required in Article 52(2)(h) of the FCA Regulation, and non-discriminatory access to long-term cross-zonal capacity, promoting the objectives of FCA Regulation. For these reasons, the Agency does not deem it necessary to amend Article 21(1)(h) of the HAR Proposal.

5.8 Assessment of other minor points of the HAR Proposal

- (45) In Article 2 of the HAR Proposal, the definition of a ‘Reduction Period’ includes the ‘balancing problems’ as an example of a specific network situation that might give rise to a reduction of cross-zonal capacities. The Agency considers that this type of network situation should be addressed with other instruments in the shorter timeframes. Therefore, the Agency deems it necessary to remove this specific example from the definition.

- (46) Article 28(4) of the HAR Proposal provides that *'additional timeframes and/or an additional form of products other than the standard products and timeframes described in paragraph 1, 2 and 3 of this Article may be offered'*. As these additional elements are specified in the regional design of long-term transmission rights, the Agency deems it useful to add at the end of the paragraph: *'as specified in the regional design of LTTRs in accordance with Article 31(4) of the FCA Regulation'*.
- (47) In Articles 48(1)(a) and 59(1)(a) of the HAR Proposal, it is provided that the price used for the remuneration of reallocated long-term transmission rights at the relevant daily allocation and the compensation for curtailed long-term transmission rights, respectively, may be adjusted to reflect allocation constraints on interconnections between bidding zones as defined in Article 23(3) of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, where these allocation constraints are included in the day-ahead cross-zonal capacity allocation process, *'subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs'*. As this adjustment is specified in the regional annexes of the HAR, the Agency deems it useful to replace the expression *'subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs'* by *'if specified in the respective regional or border specific annexes'* in both Articles 48(1)(a) and 59(1)(a). Regarding the reference to Article 23(3) of Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, the Agency notes that this provision defines allocation constraints in its subparagraphs (a) and (b). Therefore, the Agency considers a reference to Article 23(3), which is not confined to one of the subparagraphs of Article 23(3), as an appropriate reference to the legal text in the present context. This does not, however, prevent regulatory authorities from determining, in their decision on the respective regional or border specific annexes, how the allocation constraints referred to in Article 23(3) should be taken into account.
- (48) Article 59(2) of the HAR Proposal states that *'A cap may be applied to the compensations calculated according to paragraph 1 which occurred within one calendar year subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs'*. Similar to recital (46) above, the regulatory authorities' approval refers to the approval of the regional annexes of the HAR. Therefore, the Agency deems it useful to replace the first sentence of Article 59(2) by *'If specified in the relevant annexes to these Allocation Rules a cap shall be applied to the compensations on specific bidding zone borders.'*
- (49) In Article 68 of the HAR Proposal, the duration and the amendment process of allocation rules is described. However, according to Article 4(6)(d) of the FCA Regulation, the HAR Proposal belongs to the proposals of terms and conditions or methodologies subject to approval by all regulatory authorities. Furthermore, Article 4(12) of the FCA Regulation specifies provisions for the amendment process of such terms and conditions or methodologies, which are not taken into account in Article 68 of the HAR Proposal. Therefore, to comply with the amendment process requirements set by Article 4(12) of the FCA Regulation, the Agency deems it necessary to amend Article 68 of HAR Proposal.
- (50) In Article 76(3) of the HAR Proposal, an 'Allocation Platform' or 'Registered Participant' is allowed to enter into a subcontracting agreement in relation to the HAR. For the case of

the Registered Participant, there is a clause that the entry into a subcontracting agreement by a Registered Participant does not relieve the Registered Participant of any obligation or liability under its 'Participation Agreement' or the HAR. In order to ensure symmetry with the framework for Registered Participants, the Agency deems it necessary that the same clause is introduced in Article 76(3) of the HAR Proposal for the case when the Allocation Platform enters into a subcontracting agreement.

(51) In addition, the Agency introduced a few additional editorial amendments.

5.9 Conclusion

(52) The Agency considers the HAR Proposal in line with the requirements of the FCA Regulation and Regulation (EC) No 714/2009. However, in order to ensure better clarity and overall coherence with the regulatory framework, the amendments described in recitals (45) to (51) above are integrated to the Proposal.

(53) Therefore, the Agency approves the HAR Proposal subject to the necessary amendments of Articles 2, 28, 48, 59, 68 and 76 and to necessary editorial amendments. To provide clarity, Annex I to this Decision sets out the HAR Proposal as approved, including the above amendments.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The harmonised allocation rules for long-term transmission rights pursuant to Article 51 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 is adopted as set out in Annex I of this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to 50Hertz Transmission GmbH, Amprion GmbH, Austrian Power Grid AG, AS Augstsprieguma tīkls, BritNed Development Limited, ČEPS, a.s., Creos Luxembourg S.A., Croatian Transmission System Operator Ltd. (HOPS d.o.o.), EirGrid Interconnector DAC, EirGrid plc, Elering AS, ELES d.o.o., Elia System Operator SA, Energinet.dk, Electroenergien Sistemen Operator EAD, Independent Power Transmission Operator S.A., Litgrid AB, MAVIR Magyar Villamosenergia-ipari Átviteli Rendszerirányító Zártkörűen Működő Részvénytársaság, Moyle Interconnector Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission plc, National Grid Interconnectors Limited, Polskie Sieci Elektroenergetyczne S.A., Red Eléctrica de España S.A.U., Rede Eléctrica Nacional S.A., Réseau de Transport d'Electricité, Slovenská elektrizačná prenosová sústava a.s., System Operator for Northern Ireland Ltd, TenneT TSO BV, TenneT TSO GmbH, Terna – Rete Elettrica Nazionale SpA, Compania Nationala de Transport al Energiei Electrice "TRANSELECTRICA" S.A., TransnetBW GmbH.

Done at Ljubljana on 2 October 2017.

For the Agency:


Alberto Pototschnig
Director

Annexes:

Annex I – Harmonised Allocation Rules for long-term transmission rights in accordance with Article 51(1) of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a Guideline on Forward Capacity Allocation

Annex Ia - Harmonised Allocation Rules for long-term transmission rights in accordance with Article 51(1) of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a Guideline on Forward Capacity Allocation in track change mode compared to the HAR Proposal (for information only)

Annex II - Evaluation of responses to the consultation of regulatory authorities and TSOs on the HAR Proposal

Annex I

**Harmonised allocation rules for long-term
transmission rights in accordance with Article
51 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719
of 26 September 2016 establishing a
Guideline on Forward Capacity Allocation**

Whereas

- (1) This document sets out the harmonised allocation rules for long-term transmission rights on EU level (hereafter referred to as “**HAR**”) in accordance with Article 51 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 establishing a guideline on Forward Capacity Allocation (hereafter referred to as the “**FCA Regulation**”).
- (2) The HAR take into consideration the provisions on general principles of Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on conditions for access to the network for cross-border exchanges in electricity (hereafter referred to as “**Regulation (EC) No 714/2009**”).
- (3) The HAR take into account the general principles, goals and other methodologies set out in the FCA Regulation. The goal of the FCA Regulation is the coordination and harmonisation of forward capacity calculation and allocation in the long term capacity markets, and it sets requirements for the TSOs to co-operate on a pan-European level; on the level of capacity calculation regions (hereinafter referred to as “**CCRs**”), and across bidding zone borders.
- (4) In accordance with Article 52(2) of the FCA Regulation, the HAR should contain at least harmonised definitions and scope of applications, the description of the allocation process/procedure for long-term transmission rights, including the minimum requirements for participation, financial matters, type of products offered in explicit auctions, nomination rules, curtailment and compensation rules, rules for market participants in case they are transferring their long-term transmission rights, the use-it-or-sell-it principle, rules as regards force majeure and liability. In addition, the HAR should contain a contractual framework between the single allocation platform and the market participants.
- (5) In accordance with Article 52(3) of the FCA Regulation, these HAR also contain regional or bidding zone border specific requirements with regard (but not limited) to the description of the type of long-term transmission rights which are offered on each bidding zone border within the CCR, the type of long-term transmission rights remuneration regime to be applied on each bidding zone border within the CCR according to the allocation in the day-ahead time frame, the implementation of alternative coordinated regional fallback solutions, the regional compensation rules defining regional firmness regimes. These specific requirements are detailed in the relevant annexes to the HAR for the concerned regions or bidding zone borders, which should be approved by the concerned National Regulatory Authorities (hereafter referred to as “**NRAs**”).
- (6) This document thus contains the provisions of the HAR, applicable to the bidding zone borders in the EU, unless otherwise decided by the relevant NRAs in accordance with Article 30 of the FCA Regulation.
- (7) The HAR generally contribute to the achievement of the objectives of Article 3 of the FCA Regulation. In particular, the HAR serve the objective of promoting effective long-term cross-zonal trade with long-term cross-zonal hedging opportunities for market participants as the

harmonisation of all the relevant rules will ease the creation of a level-playing field across Europe. Currently, there are multiple allocation rules across the EU which should be aligned and implemented by the single allocation platform based on HAR.

- (8) The objective of optimising the allocation of long-term cross-zonal capacity is achieved with the HAR, notably because the harmonised rules will simplify the trading activities for long-term products across European borders
- (9) Also the HAR contribute to the provision of non-discriminatory access to long-term cross-zonal capacity by harmonising the process of participating in the long-term auctions (or transferring that right). To this end, HAR detail the necessary participation agreement to be signed by all interested parties. This agreement also allows access to the auction tools of the single allocation platform.
- (10) Furthermore, the HAR ensure fair and non-discriminatory treatment of all affected parties, as it sets rules to be applied by all parties. Additionally, the HAR assure transparency for the information relating to the auctions for long-term transmission rights.
- (11) Further, the HAR provide for a regime which respects the need for a fair and orderly forward capacity allocation and orderly price formation as a harmonised set of allocation rules is envisaged with a single capacity allocation algorithm based on merit order priority in the allocation.
- (12) Regarding the objective of transparency and reliability of information on forward capacity allocation, the HAR clarify which information is to be published by the single allocation platform in a centralized manner and which should be considered as confidential.
- (13) Also the HAR contribute to the efficient long-term operation and development of the electricity transmission system and electricity sector in the Union, as they optimise allocation of long-term capacity, reflecting congestion on all EU borders in an efficient way.
- (14) In conclusion, the HAR contribute to the general objectives of the FCA Regulation to the benefit of all market participants and electricity end consumers.

TITLE 1

General Provisions

Article 1

Subject-matter and scope

These Allocation Rules including the related regional and/ or border specific annexes, contain the terms and conditions for the allocation of Long Term Transmission Rights on Bidding Zone borders in the European Union, it being understood that the Registered Participant will accede to these rules by the signature of the Participation Agreement. In particular, the Allocation Rules set out the rights and obligations of Registered Participants as well as the requirements for participation in Auctions, they describe the process of Auction, including the determination of Marginal Price as a result of Auction, the conditions for transfer and return of Long Term Transmission Rights, for remuneration of holders of such returned Long Term Transmission Rights, and the processes for curtailment of Long Term Transmission Rights and invoicing/payment.

The Auctions and transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights refer to Cross Zonal Capacity only and Registered Participants may invoke no other right in connection with the Long Term Transmission Rights allocated to them than the rights in accordance with the provisions of these Allocation Rules.

The Allocation Platform will publish and keep up-to-date on its website a list of borders where Long Term Transmission Rights are allocated, together with information on the type of Long Term Transmission Rights and the applicability of a cap on compensation for curtailment according to Article 59 paragraph 2 or paragraph 3.

Article 2

Definitions and interpretation

1. Capitalised terms used in these Allocation Rules shall have the meaning given to them in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) 714/2009, Article 2 of Regulation (EC) 2013/543, Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, Article 2 of Directive 2009/72/EC, and in Regulation (EU) 2016/1719.
2. In addition, the following definitions shall apply:

Affiliate means, in relation to any person, any other person that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by or is under direct or indirect common control with that person as control is defined in the EU Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 of 20 January 2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings;

Allocation Platform means either the responsible TSO(s) at the respective Bidding Zone border(s) or an entity appointed and commissioned by them or nominated in accordance to national regulations to act on their behalf and on its own name it being a single allocation platform or regional platform(s) for the attribution of Long Term Cross Zonal Capacity through the Auctions as defined in the Participation Agreement;

Allocation Rules means the rules for Forward Capacity Allocation applied by Allocation Platform(s);

Auction Tool means the information technology system used by the Allocation Platform to perform Auctions and to facilitate other procedures described in these Allocation Rules such as transfer or return of Long Term Transmission Rights;

Auction Specification means a list of specific characteristics of a particular Auction, including the nature of offered products and relevant dates;

Bank Guarantee means an unconditional and irrevocable standby letter of credit or letter of guarantee issued by a bank;

Bid means a pair of Bid Quantity and Bid Price offered by a Registered Participant participating in an Auction;

Bid Price means the price which a Registered Participant is willing to pay for one (1) MW and hour of Long Term Transmission Rights;

Bid Quantity means the amount of Long Term Transmission Rights in MW requested by a Registered Participant;

Bidding Period means the time period within which the Registered Participants wishing to participate in an Auction may submit their Bids;

Business Account means a dedicated deposit account opened at the financial institution selected by the Allocation Platform in the name of the Allocation Platform or at the discretion of the Allocation Platform opened by the Registered Participant, but with the Allocation Platform as the beneficiary of the dedicated cash deposit, which may be used for payments by the Registered Participant;

Credit Limit means the amount of the collaterals which may be used to cover any Bid submission in subsequent Auctions and is not used for outstanding payment obligations;

EIC Code means the ENTSO-E Energy Identification Coding Scheme identifying the parties in a cross-border trade;

Financial Transmission Right Option means a right entitling its holder to receive a financial remuneration based on the day ahead allocation results between two Bidding Zones during a specified period of time in a specific direction;

Financial Transmission Right Obligation means a right entitling its holder to receive financial remuneration or obliging its holder to provide financial remuneration based on the day ahead allocation results between two Bidding Zones during a specified period of time in a specific direction;

Force Majeure means any unforeseeable or unusual event or situation beyond the reasonable control of a Party and/or the relevant TSOs, and not due to a fault of the Party and/or the relevant TSOs, which cannot be avoided or overcome with reasonable foresight and diligence, which cannot be solved by measures which are from a technical, financial or economic point of view reasonably possible for the Party and/or the relevant TSOs, which has actually happened and is objectively verifiable, and which makes it impossible for the Party and/or the relevant TSOs to fulfil, temporarily or permanently, its obligations;

Information System Rules means the terms and conditions for access to and use of the Auction Tool by Registered Participants as published on the Allocation Platform's website;

Interconnector means the interconnector as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) 714/2009;

Marginal Price means the price determined at a particular Auction to be paid by all the Registered Participants for each MW and hour of acquired Long Term Transmission Right;

Participation Agreement means the agreement, by which the Parties undertake to comply with the terms and conditions for Cross Zonal Capacity Allocation as contained in these Allocation Rules;

Party/ Parties means the Allocation Platform and/or a Registered Participant referred to individually as Party or collectively as Parties;

Physical Transmission Right means a right entitling its holder to physically transfer a certain volume of electricity in a certain period of time between two Bidding Zones in a specific direction;

Product Period means the time and date on which the right to use the Long Term Transmission Right commences and the time and date on which the right to use the Long Term Transmission Right ends;

Reduction Period means a period of time, i.e. specific calendar days and/or hours, within the Product Period in which Cross Zonal Capacities with a reduced amount of MW are offered taking into account a foreseen specific network situation (e.g. planned maintenance, long-term outages);

Registered Participant means a market participant which has entered into a Participation Agreement with the Allocation Platform;

Rights Document means a document containing the information of the maximum amount of allocated Physical Transmission Rights that can be nominated by a market participant per Bidding Zone border per day per hour and per direction or the maximum amount of Financial Transmission Rights that will be considered for financial remuneration, taking into account the volume of Long Term Transmission Rights initially acquired, the subsequent transfers and returns, and any possible curtailments which occurred before the issuance of the Rights Document.;

Working Day means the calendar days from Monday to Friday, with the exception of public holidays as specified on the website of the Allocation Platform;

Working Hours means the hours on Working Days specified within the Participation Agreement;

3. In these Allocation Rules, including its annexes, unless the context requires otherwise:
- (a) Any reference to the word Bidding Zone border may cover all interconnectors collectively or, for the purpose of the application of a cap to compensations with the meaning of Article 59(2) or 59(3) of these Allocation Rules, only one or a subset of interconnector(s) at this Bidding Zone border
 - (b) the singular indicates the plural and vice versa;
 - (c) references to one gender include all other genders;
 - (d) the table of contents, headings and examples are inserted for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of the Allocation Rules;
 - (e) the word “including” and its variations are to be construed without limitation;
 - (f) any reference to legislation, regulations, directive, order, instrument, code or any other enactment shall include any modification, extension or re-enactment of it then in force;

- (g) any reference to another agreement or document, or any deed or other instrument is to be construed as a reference to that other agreement, or document, deed or other instrument as amended, varied, supplemented, substituted or novated from time to time;
- (h) a reference to time is a reference to CET/CEST time unless otherwise specified;
- (i) where the Allocation Platform is required to publish any information under these Allocation Rules, it shall do so by making the information or data available on its website and/or via the Auction Tool; and
- (j) any reference to Financial Transmission Rights shall cover both FTR-Options and FTR-Obligations.

Article 3

Allocation Platform

1. The Allocation Platform shall undertake the allocation functions in accordance with these Allocation Rules and in accordance with applicable European Union legislation.
2. For the purposes of these Allocation Rules the Allocation Platform shall be the party signing the Participation Agreement with the Registered Participant.
3. For the purpose of the Participation Agreement with the Registered Participant, the Allocation Platform shall publish a consolidated version of these Allocation Rules including the annexes thereto as they enter into force in accordance with the applicable national regulatory regimes. In case of a conflict between the consolidated version by the Allocation Platform and the Allocation Rules including the annexes as entered into force in accordance with the applicable national regulatory regimes, the latter shall prevail.

Article 4

Regional specificities

1. Regional or border specificities may be introduced for one or more Bidding Zone borders. Such regional or border specificities shall enter into force in accordance with the applicable national regulatory regime and be attached as annexes to these Allocation Rules. In case these annexes need to be amended based on a decision of the relevant National Regulatory Authorities, Article 68 shall apply.
2. If there is an inconsistency between any of the provisions in the main body of these Allocation Rules and the regional or border specific annexes, the provisions in the annexes shall prevail.
3. TSOs may propose such regional or Bidding Zone border specificities in particular for, but without limitation to:
 - (a) the description of the type of Long-Term Transmission Rights which are offered on each Bidding Zone border within the capacity calculation region;
 - (b) the type of Long-Term Transmission Rights remuneration regime to be applied on each Bidding Zone border according to the allocation in the day-ahead timeframe in derogation to the rules of Chapter 7 of these Allocation Rules;

- (c) the implementation of alternative coordinated regional fallback solutions in derogation or in addition to the rules of Chapter 8 of these Allocation rules; and
- (d) compensation rules defining regional or border specific firmness regimes pursuant to article 55 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1719.

Article 5

Effective date and application

1. These Allocation Rules shall enter into force in accordance with the applicable national regulatory regimes and on the date announced by the Allocation Platform.
2. These Allocation Rules apply to Capacity Allocation for Long Term Transmission Rights with the delivery period to be specified by the Allocation Platform on its website upon the entry into force of these Allocation Rules, it being understood that the said delivery period shall be from 1 January in the subsequent year following the adoption of these Allocation Rules in accordance with Article 4 of the FCA Regulation.
3. Unless expressly stated otherwise by the regional or border specific annex(es) or otherwise required by the applicable governing law, these Allocation Rules shall govern all rights and obligations in connection with Long Term Transmission Rights acquired before the entry into force of these Allocation Rules but with the delivery date after 1 January of the year published on the Allocation Platform's website in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article.

TITLE 2

Requirements and process for participation in Auctions and Transfer

Article 6

General Provision

1. Market participants may acquire a Long term Transmission Right only from participation in Auctions or/and via transfer.
2. The participation both in Auctions and in transfers requires that the market participant:
 - (a) concludes a valid and effective Participation Agreement in accordance with Article 7 to Article 15; and
 - (b) has access to the Auction Tool in accordance with Article 16.
3. The participation in Auctions requires that market participants, in addition to the conditions set forth in the previous paragraph, fulfil also the following conditions:
 - (a) they comply with the requirements for provision of collaterals as specified in CHAPTER 3; and
 - (b) they accept additional financial terms where needed in accordance with Article 17.
4. In any case, market participants have to fulfil the obligations as specified in the relevant Chapters of these Allocation Rules.

Article 7

Participation Agreement conclusion

1. At least seven (7) Working Days before the first participation in an Auction, any market participant may apply to be a party to a Participation Agreement by submitting, to the Allocation Platform, two (2) signed copies of the Participation Agreement, as published on the website of the Allocation Platform, together with all duly completed information and documents required by Article 8 to Article 16. The Allocation Platform shall assess the completeness of the information submitted in accordance with Article 9 and Article 13 within five (5) Working Days of receipt of the completed and signed Participation Agreement.
2. The Allocation Platform shall before the expiration of the five (5) Working Days deadline ask the market participant to provide any outstanding information which the market participant fails to submit with its Participation Agreement. On receipt of the outstanding information, the Allocation Platform shall within an additional five (5) Working Days review the information and inform the market participant if any further information is required.
3. Once the Allocation Platform has received all necessary information, it shall return one copy of the Participation Agreement signed by it to the market participant without undue delay. Signature of the Participation Agreement by the Allocation Platform shall not itself indicate compliance with any other condition set in these Allocation Rules for the participation in the Auctions. The Participation Agreement comes into force on the date of signature by the Allocation Platform.

4. The Allocation Platform shall publish a list of Registered Participants eligible to transfer long-term transmission rights.

Article 8

Form and content of the Participation Agreement

1. The form of the Participation Agreement and the requirements for its completion shall be published by the Allocation Platform and may be amended from time to time by the Allocation Platform without changing any terms and conditions specified in these Allocation Rules unless otherwise stated in these Allocation Rules.
2. As a minimum, the Participation Agreement will require the market participant to:
 - (a) provide all necessary information in accordance with Article 9 and Article 13; and
 - (b) agree to be bound by and comply with these Allocation Rules.
3. Nothing in these Allocation Rules shall prevent the Allocation Platform and the Registered Participant from agreeing in the Participation Agreement additional rules, out of the scope of these Allocation Rules, including but not limited to the participation in day-ahead or Intraday Explicit Allocation or any fall-back process for day-ahead Implicit Allocation.
4. In the event of difficulty of interpretation, contradiction or ambiguity between these Allocation Rules and the Participation Agreement, the text of the Allocation Rules shall prevail.

Article 9

Submission of information

1. The market participant shall submit the following information with its completed and signed Participation Agreement:
 - (a) name and registered address of the market participant including general email, facsimile and telephone number of the market participant for notifications in accordance with Article 74.
 - (b) if the market participant is a legal person, an extract of the registration of the market participant in the commercial register of the competent authority;
 - (c) contact details and names of persons authorised to represent the market participant and their function;
 - (d) EU VAT registration number where applicable;
 - (e) Taxes and levies to be considered for invoices and collateral calculations;
 - (f) Energy Identification Code (EIC);
 - (g) bank account information for payment to the applicant to be used by the Allocation Platform for the purposes of Article 65 paragraphs 8 and 9.
 - (h) financial contact person for collaterals, invoicing and payment issues, and their contact details (email, facsimile and telephone number) for notifications where required in these Allocation Rules in accordance with Article 74;

- (i) commercial contact person and their contact details (email, facsimile and telephone number) for notifications where required in these Allocation Rules in accordance with Article 74; and
 - (j) operational contact person and their contact details (email, facsimile and telephone number) for notifications where required in these Allocation Rules in accordance with Article 74.
- 2. A Registered Participant shall ensure that all data and other information that it provides to the Allocation Platform pursuant to these Allocation Rules (including information in its Participation Agreement) is and remains accurate and complete in all material respects and must promptly notify the Allocation Platform of any change.
- 3. A Registered Participant shall notify the Allocation Platform if there is any change to the information, submitted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article, at least seven (7) Working Days before the change comes into effect and, where that is not possible, without delay after the Registered Participant becomes aware of the change.
- 4. The Allocation Platform will confirm the registration of the change or send a refusal note of registration of the change to the Registered Participant, at the latest, five (5) Working Days after the receipt of the relevant notification of change. The confirmation or refusal note will be sent via email to the commercial and operational contact person specified by the Registered Participant in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article. If the Allocation Platform refuses to register the change, the reason shall be provided in the refusal note.
- 5. The change becomes valid on the day of the delivery of the confirmation to the Registered Participant.
- 6. If additional information is required from a Registered Participant as a consequence of an amendment to these Allocation Rules, then the Registered Participant shall submit the additional information to the Allocation Platform within ten (10) Working Days after the request for such submission by the Allocation Platform.

Article 10
Warranties

- 1. By the signature of the Participation Agreement the market participant warrants that:
 - (a) it has not commenced any proceedings seeking a judgement of insolvency or bankruptcy or any other relief under any bankruptcy or insolvency law or other similar law affecting creditors' rights;
 - (b) no insolvency, bankruptcy or other similar legal proceeding affecting creditors' rights have been commenced in relation to the applicant;
 - (c) no winding-up or liquidation proceedings have been commenced with regard to the applicant; and
 - (d) it has no overdue payment obligations towards any current, previous or future Allocation Platform.

Article 11

Declaration for participation in transfer only

As part of the submission of the information in accordance with Article 7 and Article 9, the market participant shall declare to the Allocation Platform whether it intends to participate in transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights only. In such a case, it shall not be entitled to participate in any Auction.

Article 12

Dedicated Business Account

As part of the submission of the information in accordance with Article 7 and Article 9, the market participant shall declare to the Allocation Platform whether it intends to open a dedicated Business Account for the purposes of depositing cash collaterals and/or for the purposes of making payments on the basis described in Article 65(8).

Article 13

Acceptance of the Information System Rules

By signing the Participation Agreement the market participant accepts the applicable Information System Rules, as amended from time to time and published on the website of the Allocation Platform.

Article 14

Costs related to the Participation Agreement

All applications to become a Registered Participant and any subsequent participation in Auctions and/or the notification of transfer or the return of Long Term Transmission Rights shall be at the Registered Participants' own cost, expense and risk. The Allocation Platform shall not be liable to any person for any cost, damages, or expense in connection with the Registered Participant participating in Auctions and/or transfer or return of Long Term Transmission Rights unless otherwise explicitly stated in these Allocation Rules.

Article 15

Refusal of application

1. The Allocation Platform may refuse to enter into a Participation Agreement with a market participant in the following circumstances:
 - (a) when the applicant has not submitted a duly completed and signed Participation Agreement in accordance with Article 7, Article 8 and Article 9; or
 - (b) the Allocation Platform has previously terminated a Participation Agreement with the applicant as a result of a breach of the Participation Agreement by the Registered Participant in accordance with Article 72(3) and (4) and unless the circumstances leading to termination have ceased to exist or the Allocation Platform is reasonably satisfied that the breach will not occur again; or
 - (c) if entering into a Participation Agreement with the applicant would cause the Allocation Platform to breach any condition of any mandatory legal or regulatory requirement; or
 - (d) if any of the warranties of the Registered Participant under Article 10 are found to be not valid or false.

Article 16

Access to the Auction Tool

1. The Allocation Platform shall grant access to the Auction Tool free of charge if the following requirements are satisfied:
 - (a) the Registered Participant has signed and delivered a completed form included in the Information System Rules identifying the person(s) for which the user account(s) in the Auction Tool shall be established, including any third parties authorised to act on behalf of the Registered Participant for the purposes of return and transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights in accordance with Article 39 and Article 42; and
 - (b) the Registered Participant has fulfilled the requirements on authentication as set forth by the Information System Rules published by the Allocation Platform; such requirements may include but are not limited to the obligation to provide an electronic certificate for signing and encryption or other technology for authentication purposes.
2. The Allocation Platform shall confirm the creation of the user account or may send a refusal note to the Registered Participant, at the latest, five (5) Working Days after the receipt of the relevant signed and completed form by the Registered Participant. The confirmation or refusal note shall be sent via email to the operational contact person specified by the Registered Participant in accordance with Article 9.
3. The Allocation Platform shall send the duly justified refusal note if the requirements listed in paragraph 1 of this Article are not fulfilled and access to the Auction Tool will not be granted.

Article 17

Conclusion of additional financial terms

The Allocation Platform may develop and publish additional standard financial terms to be accepted by the Registered Participants. These additional financial terms may include provisions to enable joint collaterals for long term and other processes organized by the Allocation Platform in accordance with the Participation Agreement, as long as these additional financial terms comply with these Allocation Rules.

Article 18

Regulatory and legal requirements

It is the responsibility of each market participant to ensure that it complies with national and European legislation, including requirements of any relevant competent authority, and obtained all necessary authorisations in connection with its participation in Auctions or in transfer and the use of Long Term Transmission Rights.

TITLE 3

Collaterals

Article 19

General provisions

1. Registered Participants shall provide collaterals in order to secure payments to the Allocation Platform resulting from Auctions of Long Term Transmission Rights and, where applicable, potential other payments falling due under the additional financial terms in accordance with Article 17.
2. Only the following forms of collaterals shall be accepted:
 - (a) a Bank Guarantee;
 - (b) a cash deposit in a dedicated Business Account.
3. Collaterals may be provided in one of the forms mentioned in paragraph 2 of this Article or a combination of these forms, provided that the Allocation Platform is entitled as beneficiary to the full collateral.
4. Credit Limit shall always be greater or equal to zero.
5. The collaterals shall be provided in Euros (€).

Article 20

Form of cash deposit

1. For collaterals that are provided in the form of a cash deposit in a dedicated Business Account the following conditions shall apply:
 - (a) the money shall be deposited in a dedicated Business Account at a financial institution selected by the Allocation Platform;
 - (b) the dedicated Business Account shall be opened and used in accordance with additional financial terms to be concluded between the Allocation Platform, or where relevant the financial institution and the Registered Participant;
 - (c) until withdrawal as permitted by the following provisions of Article 26, the cash deposit in the dedicated Business Account belongs to the Registered Participant if not stated otherwise in the additional financial terms in accordance with Article 17;
 - (d) withdrawals from the dedicated Business Account pursuant to Article 24 and Article 26 may be made solely on the instruction of the Allocation Platform;
 - (e) the dedicated Business Account may be used in addition for settlement as set forth in Article 65 upon request of the Allocation Platform; and
 - (f) interest on the amount deposited in the dedicated Business Account shall accrue for the benefit of the Registered Participant, after deduction of taxes and bank charges if any.

Article 21

Form of Bank Guarantee

1. Collaterals that are provided in the form of a Bank Guarantee shall comply with the following specifications:
 - (a) the Bank Guarantee shall be provided in the form of the template that is available on the website of the Allocation Platform and updated from time to time or in a form that substantially follows the template;
 - (b) the Bank Guarantee shall be written in English;
 - (c) the Bank Guarantee covers all Auctions organized by the Allocation Platform subject to these Allocation Rules;
 - (d) the Bank Guarantee shall allow partial and multiple drawing by the Allocation Platform, up to the maximum amount guaranteed;
 - (e) the Bank Guarantee shall provide for payment upon first request of the Allocation Platform. It shall further provide that, if the Allocation Platform calls upon the Bank Guarantee, the bank shall pay automatically without any other condition than the receipt of a written demand by registered letter from the Allocation Platform.
 - (f) the Bank Guarantee shall be irrevocable, unconditional and non-transferable;
 - (g) the bank issuing the Bank Guarantee shall be permanently established, including via a branch in a EU member state, European Economic Area or Switzerland;
 - (h) the bank issuing the Bank Guarantee or the financial group it belongs to shall have a long term credit rating of not less than BBB+ by Standard and Poor's Corporation, BBB+ by Fitch or Baa1 by Moody's Investors Service Inc. If the rating requirement is not fulfilled by the issuing bank itself but by the financial group to which it belongs, the issuing bank shall provide the Allocation Platform with a parental guarantee or an equivalent document issued by the financial group. If the issuing bank or the financial group, the issuing bank belongs to ceases to have the required long term credit rating, the Registered Participant shall within five (5) Working Days submit to the Allocation Platform a substitute Bank Guarantee by a bank complying with the required long term credit rating or replace the Bank Guarantee by deposit. If there are industry-wide downgrades of financial institutions, the Allocation Platform may investigate what the new standards are and, if deemed necessary, decrease the required rating for a limited period of time, informing TSOs, who shall then inform the relevant NRAs.
 - (i) the bank issuing the Bank Guarantee shall not be an Affiliate of the Registered Participant for which the Bank Guarantee is issued.
2. A Bank Guarantee shall contain the following:
 - (a) a maximum amount guaranteed;
 - (b) the Allocation Platform's identification as beneficiary, as specified on the website of the Allocation Platform;

- (c) the Allocation Platform's bank account, as specified on the website of the Allocation Platform;
 - (d) the Allocation Platform's bank's address, as specified on the website of the Allocation Platform;
 - (e) the Registered Participant's full identification, including name, address, commercial/company register;
 - (f) full identification of the providing bank; and
 - (g) the validity time.
3. The Registered Participant shall submit the Bank Guarantee at least two (2) Working Days before the Bidding Period closure of the Auction for which it shall be used as collateral or otherwise, it shall be considered for the subsequent Auctions.
 4. The Allocation Platform shall accept the Bank Guarantee provided by a Registered Participant if the Bank Guarantee is provided in line with the specifications set out in paragraph 1 to 2 of this Article and the original of the Bank Guarantee has been received by the Allocation Platform.
 5. The Allocation Platform shall confirm the acceptance of the Bank Guarantee or send a refusal note to the Registered Participant, at the latest, two (2) Working Days after the receipt of the original of the Bank Guarantee. The confirmation or refusal note shall be sent via email to the commercial and operational contact persons specified by the Registered Participant in accordance with Article 9. The refusal note shall include reasoning for refusal.

Article 22

Validity and renewal of the Bank Guarantee

1. Collaterals in the form of a Bank Guarantee shall be valid for the minimum periods as follows:
 - (a) for product(s) with a duration of more than one month, until at least thirty (30) days after the end of each next calendar month within the Product Period(s);
 - (b) for product(s) with a duration of one month, until at least thirty (30) days after the end of the Product Period(s); and
 - (c) for product(s) with a duration of less than one month, until at least sixty (60) days after the end of the Product Period(s).
2. The Registered Participant shall replace or renew the collaterals in form of a Bank Guarantee to fulfil the requirements of paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 23

Credit Limit

1. The Allocation Platform shall calculate and continuously update the Credit Limit of each Registered Participant in respect of each subsequent Auction. The Credit Limit shall be equal to the amount of the collaterals in place minus any outstanding payment obligations. In case of a Bank Guarantee such Bank Guarantee shall be only considered if the requirements in Article 22 related to its validity for the respective Auction are fulfilled. The Allocation Platform

shall make this information available to each Registered Participant individually through the Auction Tool.

2. Outstanding payment obligations are calculated according to Article 63 subject to additional rules in paragraph 3 to 5 of this Article and in Article 34.
3. For the purpose of the Credit Limit calculation, outstanding payment obligations shall be increased to include the taxes and levies in force subject to Article 64.
4. Reduction Periods are taken into consideration for the calculation of the Credit Limit as set forth in Article 63.
5. Maximum payment obligations for a Registered Participant resulting from its Bid(s) registered at the closure of the Bidding Period, calculated according to Article 34, shall be considered provisionally as the outstanding payment obligations. From the publication of the provisional Auction results until the moment when the Auction Results become final the due amount notified according to Article 36 paragraph 3(b) and (c) shall be provisionally considered as outstanding payment obligations for Credit Limit calculation for any concurrent Auction. The Credit Limit shall be revised based on the actual allocated Long Term Transmission Rights when the provisional Auction results are published as described in CHAPTER 4.

Article 24

Modifications of the collaterals

1. A Registered Participant may request in written form an increase of the collaterals in form of a Bank Guarantee, a decrease of the collaterals in form of a Bank Guarantee and/or cash deposit or change of the form of the collaterals at any time in accordance to paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article.
2. A decrease of the collaterals of a Registered Participant shall only be allowed if the Credit Limit after applying the requested decrease of the collaterals would be greater than or equal to zero.
3. The Allocation Platform shall accept the modification of the collaterals if the request for a modification of collaterals is compliant with the condition set out in paragraph 2 of this Article in case of a decrease or with the conditions set out in Article 21 and Article 22 in case of an increase of collaterals in the form of a Bank Guarantee and in case of a change in the form of the collaterals from cash on deposit to Bank Guarantee.
4. The modification of the collaterals shall become valid and effective only when the Allocation Platform has made the requested modification of the collaterals of the Registered Participant within the Auction tool.

The Allocation Platform shall assess the request for modification of collaterals and confirm the acceptance or send a refusal note to the Registered Participant, at the latest, two (2) Working Days after the receipt of the request. The confirmation or refusal note shall be sent via email to the commercial and operational contact persons specified by the Registered Participant in accordance with Article 9. The refusal note shall include reasoning for refusal.

Article 25

Collateral incident

1. A collateral incident occurs in the following cases:

- (a) the collaterals are insufficient to secure the amount due for the Long Term Transmission Rights held by a Registered Participant on the next payment date as set forth in Article 65 considering the amount and the validity of the collaterals; or
 - (b) the collaterals are not renewed in accordance with Article 22 paragraph 2; or
 - (c) the collaterals are not restored after a payment incident in accordance with Article 26 or new collateral was provided that is not compliant with the conditions specified in Article 19(3), Article 20 and Article 21.
- 2. The Allocation Platform shall notify the collaterals incident to the Registered Participant by email. The Registered Participant shall increase its collaterals within two (2) Working Days from sending of the notification if this is done during Working Hours or two (2) Working Days starting from the next Working Day if sent after Working Hours. If the collaterals provided by the Registered Participant remains insufficient after this period, the Allocation Platform may suspend or terminate the Participation Agreement in accordance with Article 71 and Article 72.

Article 26

Calls on collaterals

- 1. The Allocation Platform is entitled to call upon collaterals of a Registered Participant in the event of a registered payment incident in accordance with Article 67.
- 2. The Registered Participant shall restore its collaterals after a payment incident or collaterals incident by following the conditions as set forth in Article 19(3), Article 20 and Article 21 unless the Participation Agreement is suspended or terminated in accordance with Article 71 and Article 72.

TITLE 4

Auctions

Article 27

General provisions for Auctions

1. The Allocation Platform shall allocate Long Term Transmission Rights to Registered Participants by way of Explicit Allocation. Prior to the Auction the Allocation Platform shall publish Auction Specifications on its website.
2. The Auctions shall be organised via the Auction Tool. Each Registered Participant fulfilling the requirements for participating in the Auction may place Bids in the Auction Tool until the relevant deadline for placing Bids in the specific Auction expires according to the respective Auction Specification.
3. After the relevant deadline for placing Bids in the specific Auction has expired, the Allocation Platform shall evaluate the Bids including against the respective Credit Limits of the Registered Participants.. The results of the Auction will be notified to Registered Participants via the Auction Tool.
4. The Allocation Platform shall provide information on forthcoming Auctions by publishing on its website a provisional Auction calendar with the dates of Auctions reasonably in advance before the Auctions take place. For standard Forward Capacity Allocation timeframes specified in Article 28(1) a provisional Auction calendar for each calendar year shall be published no later than 1 December of the year preceding including provisional information on the form of the product, Product Period and Bidding Period.

Article 28

Capacity Allocation timeframe and form of product

1. The standard Forward Capacity Allocation timeframes, subject to product availability, are defined as follows:
 - (a) yearly timeframe: it starts on the first day and ends on the last day of a calendar year; and
 - (b) monthly timeframe: it starts on the first day and ends on the last day of a calendar month.
2. For the standard timeframes listed in paragraph 1 and subject to Cross Zonal Capacity availability, the Allocation Platform shall organise by default at least one Auction per year for the yearly timeframe and one Auction per month for the monthly timeframe. For the avoidance of doubt, this shall not exclude the possibility to perform a joint Auction of Cross Zonal Capacity of several Bidding Zones' borders and directions or to allocate Cross Zonal Capacity on individual or different subsets of interconnector(s) of a Bidding Zone border separately.
3. The standard form of the Auction product shall be a base product by which a fixed amount of MW throughout the Product Period is allocated subject to announced Reduction Periods.

4. Additional timeframes and/or an additional form of products other than the standard products and timeframes described in paragraph 1, 2 and 3 of this Article may be offered, as specified in the regional design of LTTRs in accordance with Article 31(4) of the FCA Regulation.

Article 29

Auction Specification

1. The Allocation Platform shall publish a provisional version of the Auction Specification and a final version of the Auction Specification as set forth in paragraphs 2 to 3 of this Article.
2. For yearly Auctions the Allocation Platform shall publish the provisional and the final Auction Specification no later than one (1) week and for any other shorter Capacity Allocation timeframe no later than two (2) Working Days before the end of the Bidding Period of an Auction. The provisional Auction Specification shall state in particular:
 - (a) the code identifying the Auction in the Auction Tool;
 - (b) type of Long Term Transmission Rights;
 - (c) Capacity Allocation timeframe (e.g. yearly, monthly or other, as described in Article 28);
 - (d) form of product (e.g. base, peak, off-peak as described in Article 28);
 - (e) identification of the Bidding Zone border(s) or a subset of the Interconnectors on the Bidding Zone border and direction covered;
 - (f) deadline for return of the Long Term Transmission Rights allocated in previous Auctions for the respective Bidding Zone border(s).
 - (g) the Product Period;
 - (h) Reduction Period(s) associated with the Product Period when applicable;
 - (i) the Bidding Period;
 - (j) the deadline for the publication of the provisional Auction results;
 - (k) the contestation period in accordance with Article 37;
 - (l) the provisional Offered Capacity which shall not include Cross Zonal Capacity released via return of Long Term Transmission Rights and Cross Zonal Capacity released in accordance with Article 71 and Article 72.
 - (m) any other relevant information or terms applicable to the product or the Auction.
3. Not earlier than four (4) hours after publication of the provisional Auction Specification, the Allocation Platform shall publish the final Auction Specification for that Auction stating the final Offered Capacity and any other update of relevant information or terms applicable to the product or the Auction
4. The final Offered Capacity shall consist of:

- (a) the provisional Offered Capacity;
 - (b) the available Cross Zonal Capacity already allocated to Registered Participants for which a valid request for return of Long Term Transmission Rights has been submitted for this Auction in accordance with Article 38 and Article 39; and
 - (c) the available Cross Zonal Capacity already allocated to Registered Participants which will be reallocated as a result of suspension or termination in accordance with Article 71 and Article 72.
5. The Allocation Platform shall publish the format of the bids to be used.

Article 30

Reduction Periods of Offered Capacity

1. The Allocation Platform may announce one or more Reduction Periods in the Auction Specification. In this case, the Auction Specification shall include for each Reduction Period information on the duration of the Reduction Period and the amount of Offered Capacities.
2. For the avoidance of doubt, Reduction Periods do not apply to already allocated Long Term Transmission Rights and shall not be considered for any purpose including compensation as a curtailment according to CHAPTER 9.

Article 31

Bids submission

1. The Registered Participant shall submit a Bid or set of Bids to the Allocation Platform in accordance with following requirements:
 - (a) it shall be submitted electronically using the Auction Tool and during the Bidding Period as specified in the Auction Specification;
 - (b) it shall identify the Auction via an identification code as specified in Article 29 paragraph 2 (a);
 - (c) it shall identify the Registered Participant submitting the Bid through its EIC code;
 - (d) it shall identify the Bidding Zones border and the direction for which the Bid is submitted;
 - (e) it shall state the Bid Price, which shall be different for each Bid of the same Registered Participant unless otherwise provided for in the Information System Rules, exclusive of taxes and levies, in Euros per MW for one hour of the Product Period, i.e. Euro/MW and hour, expressed to a maximum of two (2) decimal places, and equal to or greater than zero;
 - (f) it shall state the Bid Quantity in full MW which must be expressed without decimals, minimum amount of a single Bid is one (1) MW.
2. The Registered Participant may modify its previously registered Bid or set of Bids at any time during the Bidding Period including its cancellation. In case the Bid has been modified only the last valid modification of the Bid or set of Bids shall be taken into account for the Auction results determination.

3. If a Bid Quantity, or a quantity calculated as a sum of the Bid Quantity for several Bids submitted for the same Auction, by a Registered Participant exceeds the Offered Capacity announced in the final Auction Specification, this Bid or these Bids shall be completely rejected. Where a modification of previously submitted Bids results in exceeding the Offered Capacity, the modification shall be rejected and the previously registered Bids will stand.
4. If a Bid Quantity or a quantity calculated as a sum of the Bid Quantity for several Bids submitted for the same Auction by a Registered Participant exceeds the relevant Offered Capacity announced after the Bids submission, the Bids with the lowest Bid Price will be rejected one (1) by one (1) until the total allowed Bid Quantity is lower than or equal to the Offered Capacity. In case where the Information System Rules allows submission of Bids with the same Bid Price by one Registered Participant the Allocation Platform may apply additional criteria or rules to decide which Bid shall be rejected. Such additional criteria or rules shall be included in the information System Rules and shall be one or more from the following:
 - (a) chronological submission (time stamp); and/or
 - (b) Bid identification assigned by the Auction Tool; and/or
 - (c) rejection of all relevant Bids with the same Bid Price.
5. The above mentioned process shall apply to all forms of an Auction product and all Forward Capacity Allocation timeframes.

Article 32
Bid registration

1. The Allocation Platform shall not register a Bid that:
 - (a) does not comply with the requirements of Article 31; or
 - (b) is submitted by a Registered Participant who is suspended in accordance with Article 71.
2. Provided that a Bid or a set of Bids fulfils the requirements set forth in Article 31, the Allocation Platform shall confirm to the Registered Participant that such Bid(s) have been correctly registered by an acknowledgment of receipt via the Auction Tool. If the Allocation Platform does not issue an acknowledgment of receipt for a Bid, such Bid shall be deemed not to have been registered.
3. The Allocation Platform shall notify a Registered Participant whose Bid is rejected as invalid and the reason for this rejection, without undue delay after the Bid is rejected.
4. The Allocation Platform shall maintain a record of all valid Bids received.
5. Each valid Bid registered at closure of the Bidding Period shall constitute an unconditional and irrevocable offer by the Registered Participant to buy Long Term Transmission Rights up to the Bid Quantity and at prices up to the Bid Price and under the terms and conditions of these Allocation Rules and the relevant Auction Specification.

Article 33
Default Bid

1. The Registered Participant has the option to place default Bids for Auctions.
2. A default Bid, once identified as such by the Registered Participant, shall apply automatically to each subsequent relevant Auction as defined by the Registered Participant when placing the default Bid. At the opening of a relevant Bidding Period, the registered default Bid shall be considered as a Bid submitted by the Registered Participant for the relevant Auction. This Bid shall be considered as a delivered when the Allocation Platform sends an acknowledgment of receipt to the Registered Participant.
3. If a default Bid Quantity or a quantity calculated as a sum of the Bid Quantity for several default Bids submitted for the same Auction by a Registered Participant exceeds the final Offered Capacity, the Bids with the lowest Bid Price shall be rejected one (1) by one (1) until the total allowed Bid Quantity is lower than or equal to the Offered Capacity. In case where the Information System Rules allows submission of Bids with the same Bid Price by one Registered Participant the Allocation Platform may apply additional criteria or rules to decide which Bid shall be rejected. Such additional criteria or rules shall be included in the information System Rules and shall be one or more from the following:
 - (a) chronological submission (time stamp); and/or
 - (b) Bid identification assigned by the Auction Tool; and/or
 - (c) rejection of all relevant Bids with the same Bid Price.
4. A Registered Participant who wants to modify a default Bid for a future Auction shall change the Bid Quantity and the Bid Price of its default Bids before the applicable Auction Bidding Period opening.
5. A Registered Participant not wishing to submit the default Bid on the Auction Tool for future Auctions can cancel its default Bids before the subsequent Auction Bidding Period opening.

Article 34
Credit Limit verification

1. Upon submission by a Registered Participant of a Bid or set of Bids to the Auction Tool the Allocation Platform shall check whether the maximum payment obligations (MPO) connected with that Registered Participant's registered Bid(s) calculated according to paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Article at the time of Bid(s) submission exceed the Credit Limit. If the maximum payment obligation connected with such registered Bids exceed the Credit Limit, the Allocation Platform shall issue automatically via the Auction Tool a warning to the Registered Participant to modify the Credit Limit. Bids shall not be rejected automatically if the maximum payment obligation attributed to registered Bids exceeds the Credit Limit at Bid submission but only after the process described in paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. At closure of the Bidding Period the Allocation Platform shall check again whether the maximum payment obligations connected with registered Bids calculated according to paragraph 5 of this Article exceed the Credit Limit. If the maximum payment obligations connected with these Bids exceed the Credit Limit, these Bids, starting with the Bid with the lowest Bid Price, shall be one (1) by one (1) excluded, until the maximum payment obligations

are less than or equal to the Credit Limit. The Allocation Platform may apply additional criteria or rules to decide which Bid shall be rejected. Such additional criteria or rules shall be included in the information System Rules and shall be one or more from the following:

- (a) chronological submission (time stamp); and/or
 - (b) Bid identification assigned by the Auction Tool; and/or
 - (c) rejection of all relevant Bids with the same Bid Price.
3. The Allocation Platform shall indicate insufficient collaterals as the reason for the Bid exclusion in the Auction results notification to the Registered Participant.
 4. The Allocation Platform shall continuously assess all the Bids irrespectively to which Auction and with regard to which Bidding Zone border and direction they are submitted. In case of Bids connected with various and overlapping Auctions the Allocation Platform shall consider all calculated maximum payment obligations as outstanding payment obligations according to Article 23
 5. For the calculation of the maximum payment obligations related to one Bidding Zone border and direction the Allocation Platform shall sort the registered Bids of a Registered Participant by Bid Price in descending order (merit-order). Bid 1 shall be the Bid with the highest Bid Price and Bid n shall be the Bid with the lowest Bid Price. The Allocation Platform shall calculate the maximum payment obligations according to the following equation:

$$MPO = \sum_{hours} \text{Max} \left[\text{Bid Price (1)} * \text{Bid Quantity (1)}; \text{Bid Price (2)} * \sum_{i=1}^2 \text{Bid Quantity (i)}; \dots \right. \\ \left. \dots; \text{Bid Price (n-1)} * \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \text{Bid Quantity (i)}; \text{Bid Price (n)} * \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Bid Quantity (i)} \right]$$

6. When calculating the maximum payment obligations according to paragraph 5 of this Article, the Allocation Platform shall also take the following into account:
 - (a) if applicable, for each individual hour of the Reduction Period the maximum quantity of Long Term Transmission Rights which can be allocated to the Registered Participant during the Reduction Period;
 - (b) increase of the maximum payment obligations with applicable taxes and levies in force subject to Article 64; and
 - (c) in respect of Long Term Transmission Rights with a Product Period of one (1) or more months, one (1) or two (2) monthly instalments respectively should be secured in compliance with due amount calculation according to Article 63(5).

Article 35

Auction Results Determination

1. After the expiration of the Bidding Period for an Auction and the Credit Limit verification pursuant to Article 34, the Allocation Platform shall determine the Auction results and allocate the Long Term Transmission Rights in accordance with this Article.
2. The Auction results determination shall include the following:
 - (a) determination of the total quantity of the allocated Long Term Transmission Rights per Bidding Zone border and direction;
 - (b) identification of winning Bids to be fully or partially satisfied; and
 - (c) determination of the Marginal Price per Bidding Zone border and direction.
3. The Allocation Platform shall determine the Auction results using an optimisation function aiming at maximisation of the sum of the Registered Participants' surplus and the Congestion Income generated by the winning Bids while respecting the constraints of the optimisation function in form of relevant Offered Capacities. The Allocation Platform shall publish additional explanatory information on the optimisation function of the algorithm on its website.
4. The Allocation Platform shall determine the Marginal Price at each Bidding Zone border and direction based on the following criteria:
 - (a) if the total quantity of Cross Zonal Capacity for which valid Bids have been submitted is lower than or equal to the relevant Offered Capacity for the relevant Auction, then the Marginal Price shall be zero;
 - (b) if the total quantity of Cross Zonal Capacity for which valid Bids have been submitted exceeds the relevant Offered Capacity for the relevant Auction, the Marginal Price shall be set at the lowest Bid(s) Price(s) allocated in full or in part using the respective Offered Capacities.
5. If two (2) or more Registered Participants have submitted for one Bidding Zone border and direction valid Bids with the same Bid Price, that cannot be accepted in full for the total requested quantity of Long Term Transmission Rights, the Allocation Platform shall determine the winning Bids and the quantity of the allocated Long Term Transmission Rights per Registered Participant as follows:
 - (a) the Cross Zonal Capacity available for the Bids which set the Marginal Price shall be divided equally between the number of the Registered Participants which submitted these Bids;
 - (b) in case the quantity of Long Term Transmission Rights requested by a Registered Participant at Marginal Price is lower than or equal to the share calculated according to item (a) above, the request of this Registered Participant shall be fully satisfied;
 - (c) in case the requested quantity of Long Term Transmission Rights by a Registered Participant at Marginal Price exceeds the share calculated according to item (a) above, the request of this Registered Participant shall be satisfied up to the amount of the share as calculated according to item (a) above;

- (d) any remaining Cross Zonal Capacity after the allocation according to items (b) and (c) shall be divided by the number of the Registered Participants whose requests have not been fully satisfied and allocated to them applying the process described in items (a), (b) and (c) above.
- 6. Where a Reduction Period is indicated in the Auction Specification for an Auction, the Allocation Platform shall determine the Auction Results in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 3 to 5 of this Article, modified as follows:
 - (a) winning Bids and Marginal Prices for respective Bidding Zone border and direction are determined according to paragraphs 3 to 5 of this Article;
 - (b) for each Reduction Period the quantity of Long Term Transmission Rights to be allocated to individual Registered Participants shall be calculated on a pro-rata basis taking into account the quantity of Long Term Transmission Rights corresponding to the respective winning Bids of each Registered Participant and the respective reduced Offered Capacities. The Allocation Platform shall publish on its website clarifications and examples concerning the calculation of the quantity of Long Term Transmission Rights to be allocated to individual Registered Participants in the Reduction Period.
- 7. Whenever the calculation set forth in paragraphs 3 to 6 of this Article does not result in a whole MW amount in accordance with Article 31 paragraph 1(f), the Long Term Transmission Rights shall be rounded down to the nearest full MW. The case when Long Term Transmission Rights allocated to individual Registered Participants are equal to zero after rounding shall not impact the Marginal Price determination.
- 8. The Long Term Transmission Rights are deemed to have been allocated to a Registered Participant from the moment the Registered Participant has been informed of the Results and the contestation period is closed in accordance with Article 37. In the event that the Auction was not successfully performed, the fallback procedures as set forth in CHAPTER 8 shall apply.

Article 36

Notification of provisional Auction results

- 1. The Allocation Platform shall publish on its website the provisional Auction results as soon as possible but not later than specified in the final Auction Specification.
- 2. The publication of the provisional Auction results for each Bidding Zone border included in the Auction shall comprise at least the following data:
 - (a) total requested Long Term Transmission Rights in MW;
 - (b) total allocated Long Term Transmission Rights in MW;
 - (c) Marginal Price in Euros/MW per hour;
 - (d) number of Registered Participants participating in the Auction;
 - (e) list of names and number of Registered Participants who placed at least one winning Bid in the Auction;
 - (f) list of registered Bids without identification of the Registered Participants (bid curve); and

- (g) Congestion Income per Bidding Zone.
- 3. No later than 30 minutes after the publication of the provisional Auction results the Allocation Platform shall make available via the Auction Tool to each Registered Participant who submitted a Bid to a specific Auction for each Bidding Zone border included in the Auction at least the following data:
 - (a) allocated Long Term Transmission Rights for each hour of the Product Period in MW;
 - (b) Marginal Price in Euros/MW per hour; and
 - (c) due amount for allocated Long Term Transmission Rights in Euro, rounded to two decimal places; and
 - (d) due amount for one monthly instalment for allocated Long Term Transmission Rights in Euro, rounded to two decimal places, in the event that the Product Period is longer than one month.
- 4. In the event that the Auction Tool is unavailable, the Allocation Platform shall inform the Registered Participants of the provisional Auction Results in accordance with CHAPTER 8.

Article 37

Contestation of Auction Results

- 1. Registered Participants shall check the Auction results and, where reasonably appropriate, may contest Auction results within the contestation period set out in paragraph 2 of this Article. The Allocation Platform shall only consider a contestation where the Registered Participant is able to demonstrate an error by the Allocation Platform in the Auction results.
- 2. The Registered Participant may contest the Auction results within the deadline set out in the relevant Auction Specification but no later than two (2) Working Days after the provisional Auction results have been notified to the Registered Participant.
- 3. The contestation shall be notified to the Allocation Platform and headed as “contestation”.
- 4. Any contestation shall contain the following:
 - (a) Date of contestation;
 - (b) identification of contested Auction;
 - (c) identification of the Registered Participant;
 - (d) name, e-mail address and telephone number of the Registered Participant;
 - (e) detailed description of the facts and the reason for contestation; and
 - (f) evidence of erroneous Auction results;
- 5. The Allocation Platform shall notify its decision on the contestation to the Registered Participant no later than four (4) Working Days after the provisional Auction results have been notified to the Registered Participant.

6. At the end of the fourth (4th) Working Day after the publication of the provisional Auction Results and unless an Auction is cancelled, the provisional Auction results shall be considered as final and binding with no further notification.

TITLE 5

Return of Long Term Transmission Rights

Article 38

General Provision

1. Long Term Transmission Right holder(s) may return some or all of their Long Term Transmission Rights to the Allocation Platform for reallocation at any subsequent long term Auction once the final Auction results are published.
2. Returned Long Term Transmission Rights shall be a constant band of whole MW(s) over the specific timeframe of the subsequent Auction. The Auction at which the Long Term Transmission Rights were allocated and the subsequent Auction to which the Long Term Transmission Rights are to be returned shall be for the same form of products.
3. The minimum volume for a returned Long Term Transmission Right shall be one (1) MW over the specific timeframe of the subsequent Auction.
4. The Allocation Platform shall make the volumes of returned Long Term Transmission Rights available at the subsequent long term Auction, increasing the Offered Capacity announced in the provisional Auction Specification accordingly and equally for each hour of the Product Period. The same applies for where the Offered Capacity announced in the provisional Auction Specification for the subsequent long term Auction contains a Reduction Period.
5. If the returned Long Term Transmission Rights are rounded down in accordance with the process described in Article 35(7), the Allocation Platform shall remunerate the Market Participant for the full amount of the returned Long Term Transmission Rights in accordance with Article 40.

Article 39

Process of the return

1. Long Term Transmission Right holder(s) wishing to return their Long Term Transmission Rights shall send a notification, directly or indirectly through an authorised third party, via the Auction Tool to the Allocation Platform in line with the corresponding Information System Rules no later than the deadline specified in the provisional Auction Specification for the subsequent Auction to which the Long Term Transmission Right is to be returned.
2. A valid notification of the return pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article shall contain the following information:
 - (a) EIC code of the Long Term Transmission Right holder;
 - (b) identity of the subsequent Auction to which the Long Term Transmission Right is returned; and
 - (c) the volume of the Long Term Transmission Rights for return.
3. In order to be able to return Long Term Transmission Rights the Registered Participant shall:
 - (a) have a valid and effective Participation Agreement with the Allocation Platform;

- (b) hold the relevant Long Term Transmission Rights at the time of the notification of the return;
 - (c) send the notification before the deadline pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article; and
 - (d) fulfil or secure its financial obligations pursuant to these Allocation Rules .
- 4. If the requirements set forth in paragraph 3 of this Article are fulfilled, the Allocation Platform shall send without undue delay a notification to the Registered Participant via the Auction Tool containing:
 - (a) a message confirming the acceptance of the return subject to paragraph 7 of this Article; or
 - (b) a message rejecting the return including the reasons for rejection subject to paragraph 7.
- 5. If the return is accepted, the Allocation Platform shall decrease the total volume of the Long Term Transmission Rights held by the respective Long Term Transmission Right holder by the amount returned.
- 6. Long Term Transmission Right holder(s) wishing to modify their return as notified in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, shall send a notification via the Auction Tool with the adjusted volume of the Long Term Transmission Rights to be returned before the deadline for return of Long Term Transmission Rights pursuant to paragraph 1 expires. Where the volume of the Long Term Transmission Rights to be returned is adjusted to zero (0) MW, the related return shall be deemed as cancelled.
- 7. If the Allocation Platform is unable to register a return as set forth in this Chapter, the Allocation Platform may apply a fallback procedure for data exchange pursuant to Article 53. If no fallback procedure for return is technically possible, no financial compensation may be claimed by the Registered Participants.

Article 40

Remuneration of Long Term Transmission Right holders

- 1. Registered Participants who returned Long Term Transmission Right are entitled to receive a remuneration equal to the value of the returned Long Term Transmission Rights set during the relevant subsequent Auction(s) calculated for each hour as follows:
 - (a) the Marginal Price of the Auction at which the returned Long Term Transmission Right was reallocated in Euros/MW per hour multiplied by
 - (b) the amount of MW which was reallocated.
- 2. On return the Registered Participant ceases to be holder of Long Term Transmission Right for the returned amount of Long Term Transmission Right. This means that all rights and obligations of the Registered Participant connected to the returned amount of Long Term Transmission Right will cease except those connected to its payments obligations pursuant to CHAPTER 10 and the remuneration set forth in this CHAPTER 5. All rights and obligations of the Registered Participant related to the not returned proportion of Long Term Transmission Right will remain unaffected.

TITLE 6

Transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights

Article 41

General provisions

1. Long Term Transmission Right holder(s) may transfer some or all of their Long Term Transmission Rights to another Registered Participant once the Auction results in respect of those rights are final. Regardless of how the transfer was concluded, it shall be notified to the Allocation Platform following the process pursuant to Article 42 and via the Auction Tool according to a format specified on the Allocation Platform's website.
2. The minimum volume of Long Term Transmission Rights that may be transferred shall be one (1) MW over one (1) hour.

Article 42

Process of the transfer

1. The transferor shall send a notification, directly or indirectly through an authorised third party, of the transfer to the Allocation Platform via the Auction Tool with the following information:
 - (a) the EIC codes of the transferor and transferee;
 - (b) the time period of the transfer including the start and end dates and hours; and
 - (c) the volume (MW) of the transferred Long Term Transmission Right in whole MW(s) defined per hour.
2. The notification of the transfer shall be delivered to the Allocation Platform no later than at 12:00 p.m. on the second (2nd) day preceding the day of delivery.
3. In order to be able to transfer the Long Term Transmission Rights the following requirements shall be fulfilled:
 - (a) the transferor and transferee have a valid and effective Participation Agreement with the Allocation Platform at least for transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights; the transferor holds the concerned Long Term Transmission Rights at the time of the notification of the transfer;
 - (b) the transferor has fulfilled or secured its financial obligations pursuant to this Allocation Rules regardless whether the transferor transfers all or only part of its Long Term Transmission Rights and even in the case of multiple transfers among several Registered Participants; and
 - (c) the transferor has delivered the notification of the transfer before the deadline pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Article.
4. The Allocation Platform shall issue without undue delay an acknowledgement of receipt of the notification to the transferor. Where the notification fulfils the requirements pursuant to paragraph 3 of this Article the Allocation Platform shall inform the transferee about the notification of the transfer.

5. In the event that the acknowledgement is not sent by the Allocation Platform, the concerned notification shall be deemed not to have been submitted.
6. The notification of transfer shall be confirmed by the transferee within four (4) hours upon receiving the transfer information from the Allocation Platform and no later than at 12:00 p.m. the second (2nd) day preceding the day of delivery
7. In the event that the transferee does not confirm the transfer by the deadline pursuant to paragraph 6, the Allocation Platform shall automatically cancel the process of the transfer notification.
8. The Allocation Platform shall then issue without undue delay to the transferor and the transferee a second acknowledgement via the Auction Tool stating either:
 - (a) that the transfer notification has been accepted and is effective; or
 - (b) that the transfer notification has been rejected including the reason(s).
9. If for any technical reason the acknowledgement is not sent by the Allocation Platform, the concerned transfer is deemed not to have been submitted.
10. The Transferor shall not be entitled to withdraw the transfer notification once the transferee has accepted it. The transferee may initiate another transfer to transfer the Long Term Transmission Rights further.
11. In the event of Auction Tool failure, a fallback procedure pursuant to CHAPTER 8 shall apply. If the process of the transfer notification cannot be completed in accordance with this Article due to an IT system and/or fallback procedure failure, Registered Participants shall not be entitled to claim any financial compensation from the Allocation Platform.

Article 43

Legal consequences of the transfer

All rights and obligations resulting from these Allocation Rules, with exception of the payment obligation of the original Long Term Transmission Right holder regarding the allocation of Long Term Transmission Right pursuant to Article 62(1), shall be transferred together with the Long Term Transmission Right.

Article 44

Notice board

1. The notice board shall facilitate only the exchange of information between the Registered Participants regarding their interest in buying and/or selling Long Term Transmission Rights. No agreements may be concluded via this notice board. Use of the notice board is free of charge.
2. Any notices published via the notice board by the Registered Participants shall not be considered as an evidence for a valid and effective contract for the transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights.
3. The Allocation Platform shall not be held liable for the accuracy and completeness of the information published by a Registered Participant on the notice board.

4. The Allocation Platform may delete from the notice board any information it considers not relevant for the purpose of the notice board. In case of such a deletion, the Allocation Platform shall provide the reasons for the deletion to the respective Registered Participant.

TITLE 7

Use and remuneration of Long Term Transmission Rights

Article 45

General principles

1. Physical Transmission Rights shall be subject to the Use it or Sell It principle.
2. The holder of allocated Physical Transmission Rights may nominate the Physical Transmission Rights for its physical use in accordance with Article 46. The holder of allocated Financial Transmission Rights shall not be entitled to nominate them for physical delivery.
3. In case the Registered Participant does not nominate its Physical Transmission Rights, the Allocation Platform shall make the underlying Cross Zonal Capacity of the non-nominated Physical Transmission Rights available for the relevant daily allocation. The Physical Transmission Right holders who do not nominate their Physical Transmission Rights for physical use of their rights or has not reserved its Physical Transmission Rights for the balancing services shall be entitled to receive remuneration in accordance with Article 48.
4. Holders of Financial Transmission Rights shall be subject to the remuneration rules in accordance with Article 48.
5. In case the Long Term Transmission Rights holder reserves its Physical Transmission Rights for the balancing services, such Cross Zonal Capacity shall be excluded from the application of the remuneration processes as detailed in Chapter 7. The process of notification of such reservation shall be subject to the relevant rules entered into force in accordance with the applicable national regulatory regime and published by the responsible Allocation Platform.

Article 46

Nomination of Physical Transmission Rights

1. Persons eligible to nominate Physical Transmission Rights shall fulfil the requirement described in applicable Nomination Rules. Eligible persons may be the following:
 - (a) the Physical Transmission Rights' holder; or
 - (b) the person notified by the Physical Transmission Rights' holder during the Nomination process to the respective TSOs in line with the relevant Nomination Rules; or
 - (c) the person authorised by the Physical Transmission Rights' holder to nominate in line with the relevant Nomination Rules and notified to the Allocation Platform.
2. The Allocation Platform shall provide on its website an overview of the options listed in paragraph 1 of this Article which are applicable on each Bidding Zone border.
3. For the process of the notification of the eligible persons to the Allocation Platform in accordance with paragraph 1(c) of this Article the following criteria should be met:
 - (a) the eligible person shall have an EIC Code in order to allow its identification in the Rights Document; and

- (b) the Physical Transmission Rights' holder shall notify the eligible person to the Allocation Platform via the Auction Tool in accordance with the Information System Rules and at the latest one (1) hour before the sending of the Rights Document for a specific day.
4. The Allocation Platform shall not take into account notifications of eligible persons which do not meet the criteria in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article when sending the Rights Document in respect of a day of delivery of electricity.
 5. The Nomination shall be done in compliance with the Rights Document.
 6. The Allocation Platform shall publish a list with the relevant Nomination Rules for the Bidding Zone borders on its website.
 7. The long term nomination deadlines for respective Bidding Zone borders are set forth in the relevant Nomination Rules. The Allocation Platform shall publish information on its website on the long term nomination deadlines per Bidding Zone border. In case of any discrepancy between the deadlines published by the Allocation Platform and those of the valid and legally binding relevant Nomination Rules, the latter shall prevail and the Allocation Platform shall not be held liable for any damages due to such a discrepancy.

Article 47

Rights Document

1. The Rights Document shall contain the information about the volume in MW that eligible persons are entitled to nominate at specific Bidding Zone borders or subsets of interconnectors of Bidding Zone borders and directions and for hourly periods in case of Physical Transmission Rights. In case of Financial Transmission Rights Options the Rights Document shall contain the information about the volume in MW at specific Bidding Zone borders or subsets of interconnectors of Bidding Zone borders and directions and for hourly periods for which the holder is entitled to financial remuneration in accordance with Article 48. In case of Financial Transmission Rights Obligations, the Rights Document shall contain the information about the volume in MW at specific Bidding Zone borders and directions and for hourly periods for which the holder is entitled to receive or obliged to pay a financial remuneration in accordance with Article 48.
2. The Allocation Platform shall send the Rights Document daily and no later than at 1:00 p.m. on the second (2nd) day preceding the delivery day via the Auction Tool to the eligible person according to Article 46(1) a) and/or c).

Article 48

Remuneration of Long Term Transmission Rights holders for non-nominated Physical Transmission Rights and Financial Transmission Rights

1. The Allocation Platform shall remunerate the Long Term Transmission Rights holder for the Long Term Transmission Rights which are reallocated at the relevant daily allocation. The Allocation Platform shall remunerate the Long Term Transmission Rights holder for each MW which was non-nominated for the relevant hourly period in the case of Physical Transmission Rights and for all allocated MW per relevant hourly period in the case of Financial Transmission Rights. The remuneration shall be calculated in the case of Physical Transmission Rights as the difference between the volumes stated in the Rights Document and the final volumes nominated and accepted by the relevant TSO, in the case of Financial Transmission Rights as

the volumes stated in the Rights Document, multiplied by a price, depending on the type of the day-ahead allocation, as follows:

- (a) in case of day-ahead Implicit Allocation, including in case of fallback allocation for Implicit Allocation, the price shall be the Market Spread at the concerned Bidding Zone border for the concerned hourly period only in case the price difference is positive in the direction of the Long Term Transmission Rights of the day-ahead Implicit Allocation in which that Cross Zonal Capacity was reallocated, and 0€/MWh, otherwise. If specified in the respective regional or border specific annexes, this price may be adjusted to reflect Allocation Constraints on interconnections between Bidding Zones as defined in Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, Article 23, paragraph 3, where these Allocation Constraints are included in the day-ahead Cross Zonal Capacity allocation process.
- (b) in case of day-ahead Explicit Allocation different from fallback allocation for Implicit Allocation for Physical Transmission Rights, the price shall be the Marginal Price of the daily Auction at which that Physical Transmission Right was reallocated, for the concerned hourly period; and
- (c) in case of fallback allocation of Implicit Allocation or Explicit Allocation where no reference price is calculated for the daily allocation timeframe the price for the Long Term Transmission Rights remuneration shall be the Marginal Price of initial Auction.

Where Financial Transmission Rights Obligations are in place, holders of such Rights shall be obliged to provide remuneration to the Allocation Platform if the price difference is negative in the direction of the Financial Transmission Rights Obligation. The remuneration shall be calculated as the volumes of Financial Transmission Rights Obligations stated in the Rights Document multiplied by a price, calculated in line with the principles of paragraph 1, considering that the price difference is negative. . .

- 2. The Allocation Platform shall compensate the Long Term Transmission Rights holder for the Financial Transmission Rights and non-nominated Physical Transmission Rights which are not reallocated at the relevant daily allocation in accordance with CHAPTER 9 in case of the triggering event listed in Article 56.
- 3. The Allocation Platform shall compensate the Long Term Transmission Rights holder in accordance with Article 59(1) letter (a) and (b) for the Financial Transmission Rights and non-nominated Physical Transmission Rights which are not reallocated at the relevant daily allocation for other reasons than these mentioned in paragraph 2 of this Article.

TITLE 8

Fallback Procedures

Article 49

General provisions

1. The Allocation Platform shall, to the extent reasonably practicable, organize a fallback procedure in the following cases of failure of a standard process:
 - (a) if it is technically not possible to hold an Auction following the process set forth in CHAPTER 4;
 - (b) if it is technically not possible to register a return of Long Term Transmission Rights following the process as set forth in CHAPTER 5;
 - (c) if it is technically not possible to register a notification of transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights following the process as set forth in CHAPTER 6; and
 - (d) if it is technically not possible to register a notification of an eligible person in following the process as set forth in CHAPTER 7.
2. The Allocation Platform may use one or all of the following fallback procedures:
 - (a) introduction of a fallback procedure for data exchange according to Article 50;
 - (b) postponement of the Auction to a later date/time;
 - (c) another ad hoc fallback procedure if considered appropriate by the Allocation Platform to overcome any technical obstacles.
3. The Allocation Platform shall, to the extent practicable and without undue delay, inform Registered Participants of possible deviations from the standard processes and the application of a fallback procedure via email and the Allocation Platform's website and using the Auction Tool.
4. Registered Participants shall immediately inform the Allocation Platform of any observed problems with the use of the Auction Tool and all potential consequences via e-mail. In case of an urgent problem, which shall be solved immediately and which is identified during Working Hours, the Registered Participant shall immediately contact the Allocation Platform by phone at the telephone number indicated on the website of the Allocation Platform for this type of problems.

Article 50

Fallback procedure for data exchange

1. In case of a failure at the site of the Allocation Platform of the standard processes for data exchange via the Auction Tool as described in these Allocation Rules, the Allocation Platform may inform Registered Participants that a fallback procedure for data exchange may be used as follows:

- (a) by the applicable deadlines unless otherwise announced by the Allocation Platform the Registered Participant shall request via email the Allocation Platform to enter the relevant data into the Auction Tool by using this fallback procedure for data exchange;
 - (b) with the request the Registered Participant shall provide to the Allocation Platform in the format specified in the Information System Rules the relevant data to be entered in the Auction Tool;
 - (c) the Allocation Platform shall enter the submitted data into the Auction Tool;
 - (d) the Allocation Platform may set in Information System Rules an identification process for the Registered Participant at the moment when the Registered Participant submits the relevant operational or commercial data and requests the Allocation Platform to enter this data into the Auction Tool on its behalf by means of the fallback procedure. If the Registered Participant or the person authorized by the Registered Participant for this purpose does not clearly identify itself, the Allocation Platform shall be entitled not to perform the data entry;
 - (e) the Registered Participant shall provide the Allocation Platform with a telephone number, which can be used in case of a necessary communication;
 - (f) once the Allocation Platform has entered the provided data into the Auction Tool on behalf of the Registered Participant, the Allocation Platform shall inform, without undue delay, the Registered Participant by telephone and/or via e-mail of the entry; and
 - (g) the Allocation Platform shall under no circumstances be held responsible if it fails to reach the Registered Participant through the means of communication above.
2. In case of application of the fallback procedure for data exchange, all necessary information which is made available via the Auction Tool during the standard processes may be distributed to the Registered Participants via email by the Allocation Platform or where appropriate published on the website of the Allocation Platform.

Article 51

Fallback procedures for Auction

1. The postponement of the Auction shall be the default fallback procedure for Auctions before the Bidding Period has opened. The Allocation Platform may postpone an Auction by notifying Registered Participants of the revised date and/or time of the new Auction.
2. After the Bidding Period has opened, the Allocation Platform shall:
 - (a) where reasonably practicable postpone the end of the Bidding Period by notifying Registered Participants about the revised deadlines in the Auction Specification; or
 - (b) cancel the initial Auction according to Article 52 and organise a new Auction for the same Product Period.
3. If the fallback procedure described in paragraph 1 and 2 of this Article cannot be implemented for the same Product Period, the respective Cross Zonal Capacities shall be offered in subsequent Capacity Allocation process.

4. The Allocation Platform shall inform all Registered Participants, without undue delay, of the postponement by notification published in the Auction Tool and/or on the webpage of the Allocation Platform and/or by e-mail.

Article 52

Auction cancellation

1. In case the Allocation Platform cancels an Auction, all Bids already submitted, all returns already accepted and any results of the respective Auction shall be deemed null and void.
2. The Allocation Platform shall inform all Registered Participants without undue delay, of the Auction cancellation by notification published in the Auction Tool or on webpage of Allocation Platform and by e-mail.
3. An Auction cancellation may be announced in the following cases:
 - (a) before the end of the contestation period in case the Allocation Platform faces technical obstacles during the Auction process like a failure of standard processes and fallback procedures in the event of erroneous results due to incorrect Marginal Price calculation or in the event of incorrect allocation of Long Term Transmission Rights to Registered Participants or similar reasons; and
 - (b) after the end of the contestation period, in the event of erroneous results due to incorrect Marginal Price calculation or incorrect allocation of Long Term Transmission Rights to Registered Participants or similar reasons.
4. In case of Auction cancellation before the contestation period elapses, no compensation shall be paid to the Registered Participants.
5. The Allocation Platform shall publish on its website, without undue delay, the reasons for the Auction cancellation.

Article 53

Fallback procedure for return of Long Term Transmission Rights

1. In case of failure in the standard process for the registration of the return of Long Term Transmission Rights via the Auction Tool as set forth in CHAPTER 5, the Allocation Platform may apply the fallback procedure for data exchange in accordance with Article 50.
2. The Allocation Platform shall publish information about the possibility to use the fallback procedure for data exchange in due time before the expiration of the deadline for Long Term Transmission Rights return.
3. In case the fallback procedure for data exchange cannot be executed as necessary to enable the registration of the return of Long Term Transmission Rights, all requests for Long Term Transmission Rights return already submitted that cannot be registered in the Auction Tool shall be automatically cancelled.

Article 54

Fallback procedure for transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights

1. In case of failure in the standard process for the registration of the transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights organised via the Auction Tool as set forth in CHAPTER 6 the Allocation Platform may apply the fallback procedure for data exchange in accordance with Article 50.
2. The Allocation Platform shall publish information about the possibility to use the fallback procedure for data exchange in due time before the expiration of the deadline for Long Term Transmission Rights transfer.
3. In case the fallback procedure for data exchange cannot be executed as necessary to enable the registration of the transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights, all requests for Long Term Transmission Rights transfer already submitted and not confirmed by transferee shall be automatically cancelled.

Article 55

Fallback procedure for eligible person notification

1. In case of failure in the standard process of eligible person notification to the Allocation Platform via the Auction Tool as set forth in CHAPTER 6, the Allocation Platform may apply the fallback procedure for data exchange in accordance with Article 50.
2. The Allocation Platform shall publish information about the possibility to use the fallback procedure for data exchange in due time before the expiration of the deadline for eligible person notification.
3. In case the fallback procedure for data exchange cannot be executed as necessary to enable the registration of the eligible person, the eligible person shall be deemed notified as set forth in Information System Rules.

TITLE 9

Curtailment

Article 56

Triggering events and consequences of curtailment on Long Term Transmission Rights

1. Long Term Transmission Rights irrespectively of the Product Period may be curtailed in the event of Force Majeure, or to ensure operation remains within Operational Security Limits before the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline
2. Curtailment may be applied on allocated Long Term Transmission Rights including, where the case may be, on nominated Physical Transmission Rights.
3. Long Term Transmission Rights may be curtailed after the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline in the case of Force Majeure or emergency situation in accordance with Article 72 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222. For the avoidance of doubt, Long Term Transmission Rights when curtailed after the Day Ahead Firmness Deadlines shall be curtailed in the same way as day-ahead and intraday capacity and compensated in accordance with the applicable legislation.
4. In the case of Physical Transmission Rights, each Registered Participant affected by curtailment shall lose its right to transfer, return or nominate for physical use the concerned Physical Transmission Rights or to receive remuneration based on the Use-It-Or-Sell-It principle. In the case of Financial Transmission Rights, each Registered Participant affected by curtailment shall lose its right to transfer or return the concerned Financial Transmission Rights or to receive remuneration in accordance to Article 48.
5. In case of curtailment, the affected Registered Participant is entitled to receive reimbursement or compensation according to Article 59 to Article 60 and where applicable Article 61.

Article 57

Process and notification of curtailment

1. In all cases curtailment shall be carried out by the Allocation Platform based on a request by one or more TSO(s) at the Bidding Zone border where Long Term Transmission Rights have been allocated.
2. The Allocation Platform shall notify the affected holders of Long Term Transmission Rights as soon as possible of a curtailment of Long Term Transmission Rights including the triggering event via email and on the webpage of the Allocation Platform. The notification shall identify the affected Long Term Transmission Rights, the affected volume in MW per hour for each concerned period, the triggering events for curtailment as described in Article 56 and the amount of Long Term Transmission Rights that remain after the curtailment.
3. The Allocation Platform shall publish the triggering events for curtailment in accordance with Article 56 including their estimated duration on its website as soon as possible.
4. The curtailment shall be applied to Long Term Transmission Rights of the concerned periods on a pro rata basis, which means in proportion to the held Long Term Transmission Rights, regardless of the time of allocation.

5. In the event of curtailments of Physical Transmission Rights after the nomination deadline, and as long as the capacity has not been reallocated in the day-ahead allocation, the curtailment shall be applied on a pro rata basis to both nominated and not nominated Physical Transmission Rights.
6. Compensation rules according to Article 59 to Article 60 and where applicable Article 61 also apply if offered day-ahead Cross Zonal Capacities are lower than the amount of non-nominated Long Term Transmission Rights in case of Physical Transmission Rights and the total amount of Long Term Transmission Rights in the case of Financial Transmission Rights.
7. For each affected Registered Participant, remaining Long Term Transmission Rights which have not been curtailed shall be rounded down to the nearest MW. The same rounding applies for the curtailment of both nominated and non-nominated Physical Transmission Rights according to paragraph 4 of this Article.
8. In cases of curtailment, any transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights to be curtailed, which is not yet accepted by the transferee, shall be automatically cancelled and the transferor shall remain the holder of the Long Term Transmission Rights. If the transfer has already been notified to the Allocation Platform and accepted by the transferee, the compensation or reimbursement for curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights shall be paid to the transferee.
9. The Allocation Platform shall cancel all notifications for return of Long Term Transmission Rights that have been accepted for a subsequent long term Auction for which curtailment is necessary and for which the final Auction Specifications have not yet been published. By this cancellation, the Long Term Transmission Rights are given back to the Long Term Transmission Right holders that have requested the return. If the final Auction Specification has already been published the return shall not be cancelled and the compensation or reimbursement for curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights shall be paid to the holder who returned the Long Term Transmission Rights.

Article 58

Day Ahead Firmness deadline

The Allocation Platform shall publish on its website and take into account for the calculation of compensation for curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline which for the purpose of these Allocation Rules is set sixty (60) minutes before the respective Day Ahead Market Gate Closure Time, unless otherwise specified in accordance with the process described in Article 69 of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222.

Article 59

Compensation for curtailments to ensure operation remains within Operational Security Limits before the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline

1. In cases of curtailment to ensure operation remains within Operational Security Limits before the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline the compensation for each affected hour and Registered Participant shall be calculated as the Long Term Transmission Rights in MW per hour corresponding to the difference between the allocated Long Term Transmission Rights held by the Registered Participant before and after the curtailment multiplied by a price calculated as follows:

- (a) the Market Spread at the concerned Bidding Zone border for the concerned hourly period only in case the price difference is positive in the direction of the curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights, and 0€/MWh, otherwise. If specified in the relevant annexes to these Allocation rules, this price may be adjusted to reflect Allocation Constraints on interconnections between Bidding Zones as defined in Article 23, paragraph 3 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, where these Allocation Constraints are included in the day-ahead Cross Zonal Capacity allocation process. The direction of the curtailed Long-Term Transmission Right shall be determined by the destination and the origin Bidding Zones as defined in the Auction Specifications of the concerned Long Term Transmission Right; or
 - (b) the Marginal Price of the initial Auction if the day-ahead price is not calculated at least in one of the two relevant Bidding Zones.
2. If specified in the relevant annexes to these Allocation Rules, a cap shall be applied to the compensations on specific bidding zone borders. The cap shall be determined as the total amount of Congestion Income collected by the concerned TSOs on the respective Bidding Zone border in the relevant calendar year, deducting all remunerations paid according to Articles 40 and 48 and compensations paid according to Article 60 and where applicable Article 61.
 3. In case of Direct Current interconnectors, the cap shall be determined as the total amount of Congestion Income collected by the concerned TSOs on the Bidding Zone border in the relevant month, deducting all remunerations paid according to Article 40 and Article 48 and compensations paid according to Articles 60 and where applicable Article 61 for the considered month. The total amount of Congestion Income in one month is defined as the sum of a twelfth of the revenues raised at yearly Auction on the concerned Bidding Zone Border and the revenues generated by the monthly Auction and congestion income from other timeframes which occurred during this month on the concerned Bidding Zone border.
 4. If, before application of the relevant cap described in paragraph 2 of this Article, the total calculated compensations of curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights exceed the relevant cap, the compensations of curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights shall be reduced on a pro rata basis. This will be based on the proportion of uncapped compensation of allocated Long Term Transmission Rights due to each Registered Participant in the relevant period (calendar month or calendar year). The compensations due to each Registered Participant will be calculated as follows:

$$\left[\frac{\text{[(Uncapped compensations of curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights due to Registered Participant)]}}{\text{[(Total uncapped compensations of curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights due to all Registered Participants)]}} \right] \times \text{(Relevant Cap as described in paragraph 2 of this Article)}$$

Article 60

Reimbursement for curtailments due to Force Majeure before the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline

1. In the case of Force Majeure before the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline, holders of curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights shall be entitled to receive a reimbursement equal to the price of the Long Term Transmission Rights set during the Long Term Transmission Rights Allocation Process, which for each affected hour and Registered Participant shall be calculated as:
 - (a) the Marginal Price of the initial Auction; or

- (b) in case the Marginal Price of the initial Auction cannot be identified, the weighted average of Marginal Prices of all the Auctions for which the Registered Participant holds Long Term Transmission Rights where the weight is given by Long Term Transmission Rights which the Registered Participant holds before the curtailment; multiplied by
- (c) the volume in MW per hour corresponding to the difference between the Long Term Transmission Rights held by the Registered Participant before and after the curtailment.

Article 61

Reimbursement or compensation for curtailments due to Force Majeure or emergency situation after the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline

In the event of Force Majeure or an emergency situations after the Day Ahead Firmness Deadline, holders of curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights shall be entitled to receive a reimbursement in accordance with Article 72 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222.

TITLE 10

Invoicing and Payment

Article 62

General principles

1. A Registered Participant shall pay the amounts due as calculated in accordance with Article 63 for all Long Term Transmission Rights allocated to him. This obligation shall be fulfilled irrespective of any return or transfer or curtailment of all or some of these Long Term Transmission Rights in accordance with these Allocation Rules.
2. The Registered Participant may upon payment use the Cross Zonal Capacity connected with the allocated Long Term Transmission Rights as described in these Allocation Rules only. Any right for physical use of the transmission system in case of a Physical Transmission Rights may be subject to separate agreements between the Registered Participant and the concerned TSOs.
3. All financial information, prices and amounts due shall be expressed in Euros (€), except if deviations are required by applicable law or regulations.
4. The payment shall be settled on the date upon which the given amount is credited to the account of the beneficiary. Any interest for late payment shall be considered as settled on the date when the payment was credited from the account of the payer.
5. Payments shall be done in Euros (€).
6. The Allocation Platform shall consider taxes and levies at the rate and to the extent applicable when assessing payment obligations and issuing invoices under these Allocation Rules subject to Article 64.
7. The Registered Participant shall provide the Allocation Platform with relevant information for justifying whether or not respective taxes and levies are applicable when signing the Participation Agreement as well as any changes in this respect without undue delay.
8. Where Financial Transmission Right Obligations are in place, the Allocation Platform shall through a clearing house calculate the amounts to be remunerated to and received from the holders of such Long Term Transmission Rights. All costs incurred by the Allocation Platform associated with the clearing of Financial Transmission Rights Obligations will be invoiced to the holders of such Long Term Transmission Rights.

Article 63

Calculation of due amounts

1. Registered Participants shall pay for each of the Long Term Transmission Rights allocated to them an amount equal to:
 - (a) the Marginal Price (per MW per hour); multiplied by
 - (b) the sum of Long Term Transmission Rights in MW allocated in individual hours of the Product Period incorporating any Reduction Period where relevant in accordance with Article 35.

2. The amount due plus any applicable taxes and levies, duties or other charges subject to Article 64, shall be rounded to two decimal places.
3. The Allocation Platform shall calculate the due payments in monthly instalments when the Cross Zonal Capacity product has a duration of more than a month.
4. Monthly instalments shall be equal for each month and determined by dividing the amount due as set forth in paragraph 1 of this Article by the duration of the Cross Zonal Capacity products expressed in months and rounded to two decimal places. The last instalment shall in addition include the balance due to the rounding down applied in the other monthly instalments.
5. If the first payment date of the Cross Zonal Capacity product with a duration of more than one (1) month occurs after the start of the Product Period, then the first payment shall include two (2) monthly instalments.

Article 64
Tax Gross-up

1. Each Registered Participant must make all payments to be made by it under the Allocation Rules without any tax deduction, unless a tax deduction is required by law.
2. If a tax deduction is required by law to be made by a Registered Participant, the amount of the payment due from the Registered Participant to the Allocation Platform will be increased to an amount which (after making the tax deduction) leaves an amount equal to the payment which would have been due if no tax deduction had been required.
3. Paragraph 2 of this Article does not apply with respect to any tax assessed on the Allocation Platform on any payment received in connection with the Allocation Rules under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the Allocation Platform is incorporated or, if different, the jurisdiction (or jurisdictions) in which the Allocation Platform is treated as resident for tax purposes or has or is deemed for tax purposes to have a permanent establishment or a fixed place of business to which any payment under the Allocation Rules is attributable. Paragraph 2 of this Article does not apply to value added tax as provided for in the VAT directive 2006/112/EC as amended from time to time and any other tax of a similar nature.

Article 65
Invoicing and payment conditions

1. Payments shall be settled before the start of the Product Period if the Auction timeline allows so. If the Cross Zonal Capacity product has a duration of more than one (1) month, each monthly instalment shall be settled before the start of each respective month if the Auction timeline allows so. If the settlement of an amount due for allocated Long Term Transmission Rights is not possible before the start of the Product Period then the payment will be settled at the next fixed invoice date.
2. The Allocation Platform shall issue invoices for payments for all Long Term Transmission Rights on a monthly basis and no later than the tenth (10th) Working Day of each month.
3. The invoices shall be issued for the following payments:
 - (a) the amount of the monthly instalment(s) if the Long Term Transmission Right has a duration of more than a month as set forth in Article 63(4) and (5);

- (b) the amount due set forth in Article 63(2) if the Long Term Transmission Right has a duration equal to a month or less;
 - (c) if requested by the Registered Participant amounts for advanced payment of monthly instalments that would otherwise be settled with subsequent invoices; and
 - (d) any relevant taxes and levies subject to Article 64.
- 4. The Allocation Platform shall send the invoice only by e-mail to the Registered Participant at the e-mail address of the financial contact person submitted in accordance with Article 9(h) or it should make it available to the Registered Participant via the Auction Tool. The date of issuance of the invoice shall be the date on which the email is sent or the date when the invoice is made available via the Auction Tool if this is done during Working Hours or the next day if sent after Working Hours.
- 5. In the cases of curtailment of Long Term Transmission Rights, return of Long Term Transmission Rights according to Article 40 or remuneration of Long Term Transmission Rights according to Article 48, the invoices shall take into account any payments to be credited to the Registered Participant. The payments to be credited to the Registered Participants shall:
 - (a) be settled through self billing mechanism which shall allow the Allocation Platform to issue invoices in the name and on behalf of the Registered Participant; and
 - (b) be notified through the same invoice as the one used for the payments of the Registered Participant as set forth in paragraph 3 of this Article.
- 6. Where compensations are due to the Registered Participant in respect of curtailment of Long Term Transmission Rights and are subject to a cap set forth in Article 59(2), such compensations shall be settled with the first invoice to be issued after the end of the relevant month and subject to a cap determined as the total amount of Congestion Income collected by the concerned TSOs on the Bidding Zone border in the relevant month, deducting all remunerations paid according to Article 40 and Article 48 and compensations paid according to Article 60 and where applicable Article 61 for the considered month. The total amount of Congestion Income in one month is defined as the sum of a twelfth of the revenues raised at yearly Auction on the concerned Bidding Zone Border and the revenues generated by the monthly Auction and Congestion Income from other timeframes which occurred during this month on the concerned Bidding Zone border.
- 7. An invoice shall be issued after the end of the relevant period over which caps on compensation are calculated in accordance with Article 59(2), reconciling any discrepancy between the compensations paid out on a monthly basis and the compensations required to be paid out in accordance with Article 59(2). In the case of default of a market participant, TSO cost recovery shall be ensured by relevant NRAs in accordance with the applicable legislation.
- 8. The payments due shall be netted by the Allocation Platform taking into account the amount as set forth in paragraph 3 and 5 of this Article.
- 9. If the balance of the payments as set forth in paragraph 3 and 5 of this Article results in a net payment from the Registered Participant to the Allocation Platform, the Registered Participant shall settle this balance within five (5) Working Days after the date of issuance of the invoice.

10. Payments by the Registered Participant as set forth in paragraph 7 of this Article shall be collected as follows:

- (a) based on the standard procedure, the Allocation Platform shall collect the payment automatically from the dedicated Business Account of the Registered Participant on the respective due date of the invoice; or
- (b) alternatively, the Registered Participant shall ensure payment through a non-automated transaction to the account of the Allocation Platform specified on the invoice by indicating the invoice reference.

The alternative procedure may be used upon request of the Registered Participant and with the consent of the Allocation Platform. The Registered Participant shall notify the Allocation Platform by email the request to use the alternative procedure at least two (2) Working Days before the date of issuing of the next invoice as set forth in paragraph 2 of this Article. Once the alternative procedure is agreed, it shall be deemed to be valid until otherwise agreed between the Registered Participant and the Allocation Platform.

- 11. If the balance of the payments as set forth in paragraph 3 and 5 of this Article results in a net payment from the Allocation Platform to the Registered Participant, the Allocation Platform shall pay this balance within seven (7) Working Days after the date of issuance of the invoice to the bank account as announced during the accession process in accordance with Article 9 paragraph 1(g) by the Registered Participant who is entitled to the payments at the due date.
- 12. Upon the collection of the payment as set forth in paragraph 8 of this Article, the Allocation Platform shall update the Credit Limit accordingly.
- 13. In case of an erroneous invoice resulting in an additional payment of the Allocation Platform or the Registered Participant the Allocation Platform shall correct the invoice and any due amount shall be settled as soon as they have been notified to Registered Participant.
- 14. Bank fees of the payer's bank shall be covered by the payer. Bank fees of the receiving bank shall be covered by the beneficiary. Bank fees of any intermediary bank, shall be covered by the Registered Participant.
- 15. The Registered Participant shall not be entitled to offset any amount, or withhold any debts arising in connection with obligations resulting from an Auction, against any claims towards the Allocation Platform, whether or not arising out of an Auction. Nevertheless, the right to offset and the right to withhold are not excluded in case the Registered Participant's claim against Allocation Platform is established by a legally binding judgement or is uncontested.

Article 66

Payment disputes

- 1. A Registered Participant may dispute the amount of an invoice, including any amounts to be credited to the Registered Participant. In this case, the Registered Participant shall notify the nature of the dispute and the amount in dispute to the Allocation Platform as soon as practicable and in any event within fifteen (15) Working Days after the date of issuance of the invoice or credit note by registered mail and email. Beyond this period, the invoice shall be deemed to have been accepted by the Registered Participant.

2. If the Registered Participant and the Allocation Platform are unable to resolve the difference within ten (10) Working days after the notification, the procedure for the dispute resolution in accordance with Article 70 shall apply.
3. A dispute shall in no way relieve the Party from the obligation to pay the amounts due as set forth in Article 65.
4. If it is agreed or determined based upon the dispute resolution procedure as set forth in Article 70 that an amount paid or received by the Registered Participant was not properly payable, the following process shall apply:
 - (a) the Allocation Platform shall refund any amount including interest to be calculated according Article 62(4) to the Registered Participant in case that the amount paid by the Registered Participant as set forth in Article 65(3) and (6) was higher or the amount paid by the Allocation Platform was lower than the due amount. The Allocation Platform shall make the payment to the bank account indicated by the Registered Participant for this reimbursement in accordance with Article 9 paragraph 1 (g).
 - (b) the Registered Participant shall pay any amount including interest to be calculated according to Article 62(4) to the Allocation Platform in case that the amount paid by the Registered Party as set forth in Article 65(3) and (6) was lower or the amount paid by the Allocation Platform was higher than the due amount. The Registered Participant shall make the payment in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 65(8). Upon such payment the Allocation Platform shall update the Credit Limit of the Registered Participant as set forth in Article 65(10).
5. The interest paid in case of a payment in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Article shall be applied from the first (1st) day following the date on which the payment was due up to the date on which the disputed amount was refunded and it shall apply also to all taxes and levies required by law.

Article 67

Late payment and payment incident

1. In case the Registered Participant has not fully paid an invoice by the due date specified on the invoice, the Allocation Platform shall notify the Registered Participant that a payment incident will be registered if the amount including applicable interest due is not received within three (3) Working Days upon sending of the notification. In case of no payment within the deadline, the Allocation Platform shall notify the Registered Participant that the payment incident was registered.
2. Immediately after registration of the payment incident the Allocation Platform may invoke the collaterals.
3. The Allocation Platform may suspend or terminate the Participation Agreement in case of registered payment incident in accordance with Article 71 and Article 72.
4. In case of late payment or refund, the Parties shall pay interest on the amount due including taxes and levies from the first (1st) day following the date on which the payment was due until the date on which the payment is done. The interest shall be equal to the highest amount of:
 - (a) a flat rate of 100 €; or

- (b) in accordance with Article 5 of Directive 2011/7/EU, eight (8) percentage points per annum above the reference interest rate as officially published by the national authorities of the country in which the Allocation Platform is located and round up to the nearest half percentage point.

TITLE 11

Miscellaneous

Article 68

Duration and amendment of Allocation Rules

1. The Allocation Rules are of indefinite duration and are subject to amendment in accordance with the Article 4, paragraph 12 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1719. The Allocation Platform shall publish the amended Allocation Rules and send an amendment notice to Registered Participants.
2. The amendment shall apply at the date and time specified in the amendment notice but not earlier than thirty (30) calendar days after the amendment notice is sent to Registered Participants by the Allocation Platform.
3. Unless expressly stated otherwise by the Allocation Platform the amended Allocation Rules shall govern all rights and obligations in connection with these Allocation Rules including those acquired before the date of amendment but with the delivery date after the amendment takes effect. In case Financial Transmission Rights are introduced at a respective Bidding Zone border replacing Physical Transmission Rights, transitional arrangements may be introduced in a regional or border specific annex with regard to the return of already acquired Physical Transmission Rights according to CHAPTER 5 and with regard to the right to nominate such Physical Transmission Rights according to CHAPTER 7 after the amendment takes place.
4. Any amendment of these Allocation Rules shall apply automatically to the Participation Agreement in force between the Allocation Platform and the Registered Participant, without the need for the Registered Participant to sign a new Participation Agreement but without prejudice to the Registered Participant's right to request the termination of its Participation Agreement in accordance with Article 72(1). By participating in the Auction after the Registered Participant was informed about the changes and/or adaptations of the Allocation Rules and after these changes and/or adaptations of the Allocation Rules entered into force, it is deemed that the Registered Participant has accepted the changed, i.e. the valid and effective version of the Allocation Rules.
5. The Allocation Rules and the border and /or regional specific annexes included thereto shall be periodically reviewed by the Allocation Platform and the relevant TSOs at least every two years involving the Registered Participants. This biennial review is without prejudice of the competence of National Regulatory Authorities to request at any time amendments of the Allocation Rules and the annexes included thereto in accordance with the existing legislation.
6. These Allocation Rules are subject to the legislation prevailing at the time at which they take effect. In the event that there is a change in legislation or any action by competent authorities at national or European Union level which have an effect on these Allocation Rules and/or their annexes then, notwithstanding any other provision of these Allocation Rules, the Allocation Rules shall be amended accordingly and pursuant to the Article 4, paragraph 12 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1719.

Article 69

Liability

1. The Allocation Platform and the Registered Participants are solely responsible for the fulfilment of any obligation they undertake or are subject to and which arises from or is in connection with the Allocation Rules and the Participation Agreement.
2. Subject to any other provisions of these Allocation Rules the Allocation Platform shall only be liable for damages caused by:
 - (a) fraud, gross negligence or wilful misconduct.
 - (b) death or personal injury arising from its negligence or that of its employees, agents or subcontractors.
3. A Registered Participant shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Allocation Platform and its officers, employees and agents from and against any and all loss or liability (including legal costs) related to a damage that it has caused, which any of them may suffer or incur by reason of any claim by any third party on account of any and all loss (whether direct or indirect) suffered by the claimant or any of the claimant's officers, agents, subcontractors or employees in connection with these Allocation Rules.
4. The Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant acknowledges and agrees that it holds the benefit of paragraph 3 of this Article for itself and as trustee and agent for its officers, employees and agents.
5. The Registered Participant shall be solely responsible for its participation in Auctions including but not limited to the following cases:
 - (a) the timely arrival of Bids and transfer and return notifications by the Registered Participant;
 - (b) technical failure of the information system on the side of the Registered Participant preventing the communication via the channels foreseen in accordance with these Allocation Rules.
6. In case of remuneration in accordance with Article 48 or curtailment compensation due to Force Majeure or in order to ensure operation remains within Operational Security Limits or in Emergency Situation in accordance with Article 59 and Article 60 and Article 61 or in accordance with any regional or border specific annex Registered Participants shall not be entitled to other compensation than the compensation described in these Allocation Rules.
7. The Registered Participant shall be liable with respect to any sanctions, penalties, or charges that may be imposed by financial authorities on the Allocation Platform for incorrect tax treatment due to wrong or incomplete information provided by the Registered Participant.
8. This Article survives the termination of the Registered Participant's Participation Agreement.

Article 70

Dispute resolution

1. Without prejudice to paragraphs 6 and 8 of this Article, where there is a dispute the Allocation Platform and the Registered Participant shall first seek amicable settlement through mutual

consultation pursuant to paragraph 2. For this purpose, the Party raising the dispute shall send a notification to the other party indicating:

- (a) the existence of a Participation Agreement between the Parties;
 - (b) the reason for the dispute; and
 - (c) a proposal for a future meeting, physical or not, with a view to settle the dispute amicably.
2. The Parties shall meet within twenty (20) Working Days after the matter has been referred to them and seek to resolve the dispute. If no agreement is reached or no response received within a period of thirty (30) Working Days from the date of the aforementioned notification, either Party may refer the matter to the senior management of the Parties to resolve the dispute pursuant to paragraph 3.
3. The senior representative of each of the Allocation Platform and the Registered Participant with authority to resolve the dispute shall meet within twenty (20) Working Days of a request to meet and seek to resolve the dispute. If the representatives are unable to resolve the dispute within twenty (20) Working Days of the meeting or such longer time as may be agreed then the dispute shall be determined by arbitration in accordance with paragraph 4.
4. Where a dispute is to be referred to arbitration under paragraph 3, either the Allocation Platform or the Registered Participant may give notice to the other stating the nature of the dispute and referring the dispute to arbitration. Arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Arbitration of the Chamber of Commerce (ICC). The arbitration shall be conducted before one (1) arbitrator to be nominated upon agreement of the Parties unless a Party requests the appointment of three (3) arbitrators. In case of one (1) arbitrator, the Parties shall agree on the nomination of the arbitrator within two (2) months after the notice was given by the Party referring the dispute to arbitration. If no agreement can be found, the arbitrator shall be appointed by the ICC Court. In case of three (3) arbitrators the claimant shall nominate one (1) arbitrator and the respondent shall nominate one (1) arbitrator. The arbitrators nominated by each Party shall then nominate the chairman of the arbitral tribunal within three (3) Working Days from the confirmation of the appointment of the second arbitrator by the respondent. If the arbitrators nominated by each party cannot agree on the appointment of the chairman, the chairman shall be appointed by the ICC Court. The arbitration shall take place in the location of the Allocation Platform unless otherwise defined in the Participation Agreement and in accordance with the governing law of these Allocation Rules while the language of the arbitration proceedings shall be English. The emergency arbitrator provisions according to the Rules of Arbitration of the Chamber of Commerce shall not apply but the interim or injunctive relief measures under the governing law shall apply.
5. Arbitration awards shall be final and binding on the Allocation Platform and the relevant Registered Participant as from the date that they are made. The Allocation Platform and the Registered Participant shall carry out any award of an arbitration relating to any dispute without delay and each waive their right to any form of appeal or recourse to a court of law or other judicial authority, in so far as such waiver may validly be made.
6. Notwithstanding paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Article, the Parties may jointly agree to apply court proceedings instead of arbitration to settle a dispute arisen in connection with these Allocation Rules.

7. In cases of late payment and notwithstanding Article 67 and paragraphs 1 to 4 of this Article, a Party may bring court proceedings against the other Party for any amount due under or in connection with these Allocation Rules and unpaid for more than twenty (20) Working Days after the date the amounts were due.
8. The Parties agree that proceedings referred to in paragraph 6 or paragraph 7 may be brought in any competent court to hear such claim. The Registered Participant irrevocably waives any objection which it may have now or hereafter regarding the venue of such proceedings in any competent court and any claim that any such proceedings have been brought in an inconvenient forum.
9. Notwithstanding any reference to amicable settlement, expert resolution or arbitration under this Article, the Allocation Platform and the Registered Participant shall continue to perform their respective obligations under these Allocation Rules and the Registered Participant's Participation Agreement.
10. This Article survives the termination of the Registered Participant's Participation Agreement.

Article 71

Suspension of the Participation Agreement

1. The Allocation Platform may by notice to the Registered Participant suspend temporarily the Registered Participant's rights in connection with these Allocation Rules with immediate effect if the Registered Participant commits a major breach of an obligation in connection with these Allocation Rules which may have a significant impact to the Allocation Platform as follows:
 - (a) if a Registered Participant fails to pay any amount properly due and owing to the Allocation Platform pursuant to Article 67;
 - (b) if a Registered Participant fails to provide and maintain collaterals in accordance with Article 25;
 - (c) any breach which may have a significant financial impact to the Allocation Platform;
 - (d) the Allocation Platform has reasonable grounds to believe that the Registered Participant no longer satisfies one or more of any other conditions to participate in Auctions according to these Allocation Rules unless termination applies according to Article 72.
2. In any case of a minor breach in relation to these Allocation Rules such as but not limited to the failure of the Registered Participant to notify a change in the submitted information in accordance with Article 9, the Allocation Platform may by notice to the Registered Participant inform the Registered Participant's that its rights in connection with these Allocation Rules may be suspended unless the Registered Participant remedies the suspension event in the time period specified in the notice. The suspension shall take effect when the period specified for remedy has elapsed without that such remedy has taken place. After the suspension takes effect in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, the suspended Registered Participant may no longer participate in an Auction or in the transfer or return of Long Term Transmission Rights and unless the payment of the Long Term Transmission Right is fully settled or fully secured by collaterals by the suspended Registered Participant, the suspended Registered Participant shall not be entitled to use Long Term Transmission Rights according to CHAPTER 7. For the avoidance of doubt, the Long Term Transmission Rights, which the

Registered Participant is prohibited from using as a result of such suspension, may be offered by the Allocation Platform in subsequent Auctions and the Allocation Platform shall not remunerate those Long Term Transmission Rights in accordance with Article 48.

3. The Allocation Platform may withdraw a notice under paragraphs 1 or 2 of this Article at any time. Having given a notice under paragraphs 1 or 2 of this Article, the Allocation Platform may give a further or other notice at any time in respect of the same or a different suspension event.
4. Once the Registered Participant has fulfilled or remedied the suspension event as notified to it in the notice sent by the Allocation Platform, the Allocation Platform shall reinstate as soon as reasonably practicable the Registered Participant's rights in relation to use of its allocated Long Term Transmission Rights and its ability to participate in Auctions and/or the transfer and return of Long Term Transmission Rights by written notice to the Registered Participant. As from the date of effect of the reinstatement, the Long Term Transmission Rights allocated prior to the suspension and which remain unused may be nominated in the case of Physical Transmission Rights and the Registered Participant may participate in Auctions and/or the transfer and return of Long Term Transmission Rights and is entitled to receive remuneration for Long Term Transmission Rights in accordance with Article 48.
5. If the Allocation Platform gives a notice to a Registered Participant under paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article, such notice of suspension does not relieve the Registered Participant from its payment obligations under CHAPTER 10, including its payment obligations in relation to the Long Term Transmission Rights for which the Registered Participant loses the right of use pursuant to paragraph 2.

Article 72

Termination of the Participation Agreement

1. A Registered Participant may at any time request the Allocation Platform to terminate the Participation Agreement to which the Registered Participant is a Party. The termination shall take effect after thirty (30) Working Days upon receipt of the termination request by the Allocation Platform and if all outstanding payment obligations are settled.
2. A Registered Participant may terminate the Participation Agreement to which the Registered Participant is a Party for good cause when the Allocation Platform has committed a major breach of an obligation connected with these Allocation Rules or the Participation Agreement in the following cases:
 - (a) where the Allocation Platform repeatedly fails to pay any amount properly due and owing to the Registered Participant with a significant financial impact;
 - (b) where there is a significant breach of the confidentiality obligations in accordance with Article 75.

The Registered Participant shall send a notice to the Allocation Platform stating the reason for termination and giving the Allocation Platform twenty (20) Working Days to remedy the breach. Unless the Allocation Platform remedies the breach within the abovementioned deadline, the termination shall take effect immediately upon expiration of such deadline. A holder of Long Term Transmission Rights whose Participation Agreement is terminated under this paragraph is under no obligation to pay remaining instalments for the Long Term Transmission Rights' and is entitled to a refund to the extent that any instalment includes an

amount in respect of use after the date of termination, to be calculated pro-rata from the date termination takes effect.

3. If any of the termination events in paragraph 4 occurs in relation to a Registered Participant, the Allocation Platform may by notice to the Registered Participant terminate the Participation Agreement, including the Registered Participant's rights connected with these Allocation Rules. A termination under this paragraph takes effect from the time of the notice or any later time specified in it. The Registered Participant may not at a later stage enter into the Participation Agreement with the Allocation Platform until the circumstances of termination continue to exist or it is not sufficiently guaranteed that the breach may not occur again.
4. The termination events referred to in paragraph 3 shall be the following:
 - (a) if the rights of the Registered Participant are suspended for longer than thirty (30) Working Days;
 - (b) if a Registered Participant does not qualify for the participation in the Auction as set forth in Article 10;
 - (c) if a Registered Participant repeatedly breaches these Allocation Rules or a Participation Agreement, whether or not the breach is capable of remedy;
 - (d) if a competent authority (i) determines that the Registered Participant has committed a misuse or fraudulent act and (ii) requests the Allocation Platform to terminate the Participation Agreement to which such Registered Participant is a Party or (iii) agrees that the Allocation Platform has reasonable grounds to believe that the Registered Participant has committed a misuse or fraudulent act in participating in Auctions and transfer/return of Long Term Transmission Rights; or
 - (e) if the Registered Participant has taken any action which may lead to the damaging or reduction in effectiveness of the Auction Tool (it being understood that such an action is deemed to happen in case of any behaviour that can be assimilated to an attack on the information system such as, but not limited to, deny of service, spam, virus, brute forcing, Trojan horse attack).
5. After the termination takes effect in accordance with paragraphs 1 to 3 of this Article and from that time, the Registered Participant may no longer participate in an Auction or in the transfer or return of Long Term Transmission Rights it has acquired. CHAPTERS 5,6 and 7 shall not apply to such acquired Long Term Transmission Rights. For the avoidance of doubt, the Long Term Transmission Rights, which the Registered Participant is prohibited from using as a result of termination, may be offered by the Allocation Platform in subsequent Auctions and the Allocation Platform shall not remunerate those Long Term Transmission Rights in accordance with Article 48.
6. Termination of a Participation Agreement does not affect any rights and obligations under or in connection with the Participation Agreement and these Allocation Rules which arose prior to that termination unless otherwise specified in this Article. Accordingly, any Registered Participant whose Participation Agreement is terminated will remain liable, subject to and in accordance with the Allocation Rules, in respect of all such rights and liabilities. This paragraph shall apply without prejudice to other remedies available to the Allocation Platform under these Allocation Rules.

Article 73

Force Majeure

1. The Allocation Platform or a Registered Participant, which invokes Force Majeure, shall promptly send to the other Party a notification describing the nature of Force Majeure and its probable duration and shall continue to furnish reports with respect thereto with reasonable frequency during the period of Force Majeure. The Party invoking the Force Majeure shall make every possible effort to limit the consequences of the Force Majeure.
2. The affected obligations, duties and rights of a Party subject to Force Majeure shall be suspended from the beginning of Force Majeure, with the exception of the confidentiality provisions in accordance with Article 75.
3. Suspension under paragraph 2 is subject to the following:
 - (a) suspension will be of no greater scope and of no longer duration than is required by the Force Majeure;
 - (b) the suspension applies only for so long as the Party invoking to Force Majeure is using reasonable efforts to remedy their inability to perform.
4. The consequences of a Force Majeure event, which is not subject to any discussion or litigation between the Allocation Platform and the Registered Participant, are:
 - (a) the Party invoking Force Majeure cannot be held responsible to pay compensation for any damage suffered, due to the non-performance or partial performance of all or any of its obligations during the Force Majeure and when such non-performance or partial performance is due directly to Force Majeure;
 - (b) the acquired Long Term Transmission Rights which have been entirely paid and become subject to Force Majeure are reimbursed for the duration of the Force Majeure in accordance with any applicable legislation and these Allocation Rules; and
 - (c) where the Long Term Transmission Rights' holder is the party claiming the Force Majeure event, the Allocation Platform may, for its own benefit, reallocate the holder's Long Term Transmission Rights to the subsequent Auctions and for the duration of the Force Majeure event.
5. If the Force Majeure continues for a period longer than six (6) months, the Allocation Platform or each Registered Participant may, by notice to the other given at any time while the Force Majeure continues beyond that period, unilaterally terminate the Participation Agreement. The termination shall take effect ten (10) Working Days after the notice is given or any later date specified in the notice. A holder of Long Term Transmission Rights whose Participation Agreement is terminated under this paragraph is under no obligation to pay remaining instalments for the Long Term Transmission Rights' and is entitled to a refund to the extent that any instalment includes an amount in respect of use after the date of termination, to be calculated pro-rata from the date termination takes effect.
6. For avoidance of doubt this Article is without prejudice to the provisions of CHAPTER 9 regarding the curtailment of Long Term Transmission Rights.

Article 74

Notices

1. Any notice or other communication to be given under or in connection with these Allocation Rules shall be in English.
2. Unless otherwise expressly provided in these Allocation Rules, all notices or other communications shall be in writing between the Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant and shall be sent to the email address and if not possible, by facsimile number and marked for the attention of the other Party's representative as set out in the Participation Agreement or as notified by the Registered Participant from time to time in accordance with Article 9.
3. All notices or other communications shall be given by letter delivered by hand against receipt or sent by registered mail or courier in the following cases:
 - (a) the conclusion of the Participation Agreement in accordance with Article 6;
 - (b) the suspension and termination according to Article 71 and Article 72; and
 - (c) the submission of the bank Guarantee in accordance with Article 21 paragraph 3 .
4. All notices or other communications shall be deemed to have been received:
 - (a) in the case of delivery by hand, when delivered against receipt; or
 - (b) in the case of recorded delivery prepaid post, on the day following the recorded day of delivery; or
 - (c) in the case of facsimile, on acknowledgement of receipt by the addressee's facsimile receiving equipment; or
 - (d) in the case of email, when delivered to the other party but only if an acknowledgement of receipt is requested and obtained by the Party sending the e-mail.
5. If a notice or other communication has been received outside normal Working Hours on a Working Day), it is deemed to have been received at the opening of business on the next Working Day.

Article 75

Confidentiality

1. The Participation Agreement and any other information exchanged relating to its preparation and the application of a market participant shall be considered as confidential.
2. Subject to paragraph 3 of this Article, the Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant who is a recipient of confidential information in relation to these Allocation Rules shall preserve the confidentiality of such information and shall not directly or indirectly reveal, report, publish, disclose, transfer or use any item of the confidential information otherwise than for the purpose for which it was disclosed.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2 of this Article, the Allocation Platform or a Registered Participant may disclose confidential information of a disclosing Party to a third party with the other Party's prior consent expressed in writing and subject to the condition that the receiving Party

has given assurance that such third party is bound by equivalent confidentiality obligations as set out in these Allocation Rules directly enforceable by the other Party.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 2 of this Article the Allocation Platform or a Registered Participant may disclose confidential information of a disclosing Party:
 - (a) to the extent expressly permitted or contemplated by the Allocation Rules;
 - (b) to any person who is one of the directors, officers, employees, agents, advisers or insurers of the recipient and who needs to know the confidential information in connection with these Allocation Rules;
 - (c) as far as required in order to comply with applicable national or EU legislation such as REGULATION (EU) No 1227/2011 and REGULATION (EU) No 543/2013 or any other relevant domestic administrative acts such as grid codes;
 - (d) as far as required by a court, arbitrator or administrative tribunal or an expert in the course of proceedings before it to which the recipient is a Party;
 - (e) as may be required by the relevant TSOs for the proper fulfilment of their mission and their obligations in accordance with applicable laws and these Allocation Rules by themselves or through agents or advisers; or
 - (f) as far as required in order to obtain clearances or consents from a competent authority.
5. Moreover, the obligations arising from this Article shall not apply:
 - (a) if the Party which receives the information can prove that at the time of disclosure, such information was already publicly available;
 - (b) if the receiving Party provides proof that, since the time of disclosure, the said information has been legally received from a third party or has become publicly available;
 - (c) to confidential information communicated, in accordance with the legal and regulatory provisions, in an incorporated form from which no item of information specific to a market participant can be deduced;
 - (d) to information whose publication is explicitly provided for by the present Allocation Rules.
6. The obligations of confidentiality in this Article shall remain valid for a period of five (5) years after termination of the Registered Participant's Participation Agreement.
7. The signature of a Participation Agreement and the exchange of confidential information do not confer any rights to patents, knowledge or any other form of intellectual property concerning information or tools made available or sent by one Party to the other under the terms of these Allocation Rules.

Article 76

Assignment and subcontracting

1. The Allocation Platform may assign, novate or otherwise transfer any of its rights or obligations under a Participation Agreement or these Allocation Rules to another Allocation Platform. The Allocation Platform shall notify the Registered Participants of the change by sending an email with acknowledgment of receipt as soon as possible and in any event at least ten (10) Working Days before the date on which the change takes effect.
2. Without prejudice to Article 41, a Registered Participant may not assign, novate or otherwise transfer any of its rights or obligations under its Participation Agreement or these Allocation Rules without the prior written consent of the Allocation Platform.
3. Nothing in this Article shall prevent an Allocation Platform or Registered Participant from entering into a subcontracting agreement in relation to this Allocation Rules. Entry into a subcontracting agreement by a Registered Participant does not relieve the Registered Participant of any obligation or liability under its Participation Agreement or these Allocation Rules. Entry into a subcontracting agreement by the Allocation Platform does not relieve the Allocation Platform of any obligation or liability under these Allocation Rules.

Article 77

Governing law

These Allocation Rules shall be governed by and construed in all respects in accordance with the law of the location of the registered office of the Allocation Platform unless otherwise specified in the Participation Agreement.

Article 78

Language

The applicable language for these Allocation Rules shall be English. For the avoidance of doubt, where TSOs need to translate these Allocation Rules into their national language, in the event of inconsistencies between the English version published by the Allocation Platform and any version in another language, the English version published by the Allocation Platform shall prevail.

Article 79

Intellectual property

No Party shall acquire any right, title, licence or interest in or to any intellectual property rights of the other Party in connection with these Allocation Rules.

Article 80

Relationship of the Parties

1. The relationship of the Allocation Platform and the Registered Participant is that of service provider and service user respectively. Except as expressly provided in these Allocation Rules, nothing contained or implied in these Allocation Rules constitutes or is deemed to constitute the Allocation Platform or a Registered Participant, the partner, agent or legal representative of the other for any purpose whatsoever including transfer of Long Term Transmission Rights or create or be deemed to create any partnership, agency or trust between the Parties.
2. The Registered Participant acknowledges that neither the Allocation Platform nor any person acting on behalf of or associated with the Allocation Platform makes any representation, gives

any advice or gives any warranty or undertaking of any kind in respect of these Allocation Rules, the Participation Agreements or the disclosed information or otherwise in relation to or in connection with these Allocation Rules, the Participation Agreements and the disclosed information or any transaction or arrangement contemplated by these Allocation Rules, the Participation Agreements and the disclosed Information except as specifically provided in these Allocation Rules or the Participation Agreement.

Article 81

No third party rights

The Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant acknowledge and agree that a person who is not a party to the Participation Agreement between them, including any other market participant, has no rights to enforce these Allocation Rules or the Participation Agreement as between the Allocation Platform and that Registered Participant.

Article 82

Waiver

1. No omission to exercise or delay in exercising any right, power or remedy provided by law or under these Allocation Rules shall impair or constitute a waiver of such or any other right, power or remedy. No single or partial exercise of any such right, power or remedy precludes or impairs any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power or remedy provided by law or under these Allocation Rules.
2. Any waiver of any right, power or remedy under these Allocation Rules must be in writing and may be given subject to any conditions thought fit by the grantor. Unless otherwise expressly stated, any waiver is effective only in the instance and only for the purpose for which it is given.

Article 83

Entire agreement

These Allocation Rules and the Participation Agreement contain or expressly refer to the entire agreement between the Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant with respect to the subject matter hereof and expressly exclude any warranty, condition or other undertaking implied at law or by custom and supersedes all previous agreements and understandings between the Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant with respect thereto. The Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant acknowledge and confirm that none of them accede to these Allocation Rules or the Participation Agreement in reliance on any representation, warranty or other undertaking (other than where made fraudulently) not fully reflected in the terms of these Allocation Rules or the Participation Agreement.

Article 84

Remedies exclusive

The rights and remedies provided by these Allocation Rules and the Participation Agreement to the Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant are exclusive and not cumulative and, to the extent permissible by law, shall exclude and be in place of all substantive (but not procedural) rights or remedies expressed or implied and provided by law or statute in respect of the subject matter of these Allocation Rules and the Participation Agreement. Accordingly, the Allocation Platform and each Registered Participant hereby waives to the fullest extent possible all such rights and remedies provided by law or statute, and releases each other of them if it is liable to any other of them, its officers, employees and agents to the same extent from all duties, liabilities, responsibilities or obligations provided by law or statute in respect

of the matters dealt with in these Allocation Rules and the Participation Agreement and undertakes not to enforce any of the same except as expressly provided herein.

Article 85

Severability

If any provision of these Allocation Rules or a Participation Agreement is declared invalid, unenforceable or illegal by the courts of any jurisdiction to which it is subject or pursuant to arbitration or by order of any competent authority, such invalidity, unenforceability or illegality shall not prejudice or affect the remaining provisions of these Allocation Rules and the Participation Agreement which shall continue in full force and effect notwithstanding such invalidity, unenforceability or illegality. Any invalid, illegal, void and/or unenforceable part(s) or provision(s) shall be replaced by valid, legal and/or enforceable part(s) or provision(s) in order to achieve the intended economic and legal effect.

Annex II

Evaluation of responses to the NRAs and TSOs consultation on the HAR Proposal

1 Introduction

Pursuant to Article 4(6)(d) and 51(1) of Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719¹ (the FCA Regulation), all concerned Transmission System Operators (TSOs) submitted a common proposal regarding the harmonised allocation rules on Long-term transmission rights (the HAR Proposal) to their respective national regulatory authorities (NRAs) for approval. The date on which the last NRA received the HAR Proposal was 21 April 2017.

The NRAs were unable to reach a unanimous decision on the HAR Proposal as stated in their letter of 17 August 2017 because they were not able to agree on the provisions of Article 21(1)(h) of the HAR Proposal concerning the required credit rating for banks issuing collaterals for market participants. Therefore, in accordance with Articles 4(10) of the FCA Regulation and Article 8(1) of Regulation (EC) No 713/2009², the Agency became responsible for adopting a decision concerning the HAR Proposal as of 17 August 2017. In order to take an informed decision on the HAR Proposal, the Agency invited, on 26 August 2017, the concerned TSOs and NRAs to express in writing their views on the elements of the HAR Proposal with regard to potential amendments. Those amendments concerned some of the amendments suggested by the regulatory authorities in the annex of their letter of 17 August 2017, an amendment regarding the definition of the reduction period, suggested by stakeholders during the public consultation held by ENTSO-E from 16 January until 17 February 2017, and other minor wording amendments to ensure consistency with the FCA Regulation. In addition, the Agency invited the concerned TSOs and NRAs to submit their comments on the issue of the required credit rating for banks and on the alternative possible option.

The deadline for comments was 8 September 2017.

¹ OJ L 259, 27.9.2016, p. 42.

² OJ L 211, 14.8.2009, p. 1.

2 Responses

By the end of the consultation period, the Agency received responses from 1 NRA and ENTSO-E.

The Agency would like to take this opportunity to thank the respondents for participating to the Agency's consultation.

This evaluation paper summarises all received comments and responds to them. The table below is organised according to the proposed amendments in the consultation and provides the respective views from the respondents.

Respondent's views	ACER views
Article 2: <i>“Reduction Period means a period of time, i.e. specific calendar days and/or hours, within the Product Period in which Cross Zonal Capacities with a reduced amount of MW are offered taking into account a foreseen specific network situation (e.g. planned maintenance, long-term outages, foreseen balancing problems);”</i>	
(ENTSO-E) TSOs support keeping the reference to foreseen balancing problems. When defining the products in advance TSOs have to take into account several factors, including the ones related to balancing problems (e.g. in case of high renewable production associated with low consumption period). By deleting foreseen balancing problems for this definition, the volume of cross-border capacities offered to the market on long term timeframe would risk to not be optimized. Thus, the wording in this definition should not be modified.	The Agency considers this type of network situation not relevant in the long-term timeframe, as there are other instruments that TSOs could use to address these problems in the shorter timeframes.
Article 21(1)(h): <i>“[...] If there are industry-wide downgrades of financial institutions, the Allocation Platform may investigate what the new standards are and, if deemed necessary, decrease the required rating for a limited period of time, informing TSOs, who shall then inform the relevant NRAs.”</i> Alternative options: (i) to maintain the default required credit rating level BBB+ even though there is an industry-wide downgrade, or (ii) to delete all provisions of credit rating and leave the decision completely to TSOs.	
BNetzA does not agree with the possibility of a further downgrade ,arguing that The financial risks born by bank insolvencies shall not be socialised to energy end consumers. BNetzA demands to delete this modality or to leave the fixation of credit rating levels completely to TSOs.	The Agency considers that maintainingmaintaining the default required credit rating level BBB+, even in the case of an industry-wide credit rate downgrading, could result, depending on the magnitude of the downgrading, in practically preventing market participants, in particular smaller ones, from accessing

Respondent's views	ACER views
	the LTTRs allocation process, which could therefore be in conflict with the objective of non-discriminatory access to long-term cross-zonal capacity pursuant to Article 3(c) of the FCA Regulation. Moreover, deleting all provisions on credit rating and leaving the decision to the TSOs could result in different credit rating requirements across Europe, which could also run counter the objective of non-discriminatory access to long-term cross-zonal capacity pursuant to Article 3(c) of the FCA Regulation. The current wording of Article 21(1)(h) of the HAR Proposal, as described in paragraph (40) above, provides the required flexibility to the allocation platform to react in an extreme case, enabling uninterrupted access of registered participants into the allocation platform, respecting the new rating conditions. In that respect, the HAR provides harmonised provisions on financial requirements, as required in Article 52(2)(h), and non-discriminatory access to long-term cross-zonal capacity, promoting the objectives of FCA Regulation.
(ENTSO-E) TSOs prefer keeping the option for decreasing the credit ratings. It should be highlighted that such decrease should occur only in extreme cases of industry-wide downgrades of financial institutions (e.g. results of an extensive crisis). In such cases, swift almost immediate reaction is essential and thus the provisions in the Article do not include lengthy decision making processes. Any delay in the decision-making or the lack thereof might significantly increase risk of	The Agency agrees.

Respondent's views	ACER views
higher negative financial consequence for the Allocation Platform, respectively TSOs. Since these costs typically pass through costs for TSOs, this means that these potentially higher costs would be borne by the end consumers. If a default credit rating in case of industry-wide downgrades is forced, this will possibly mean that very few market participants have the possibility of participating in the auctions, and thus the access to hedging positions for market participants will be limited, which is not an acceptable solution. In the event where it is up to the TSOs to define the ratings with different levels across the borders, the result can be an uneven playing field for the market participants, this will also lead to a lack of transparency. Moreover, there will possibly be stricter requirements for some market participants compared to others which is not acceptable, and lastly it will complicate the administration for JAO. It is important to note that it is a very rare occasion where a crisis in the financial markets has occurred. TSOs should be able limit any disruptions by having a clear and streamlined process, in line with what the original proposal represents. In conclusion, TSOs support keeping the initial wording where there is a possibility of reducing the requirements to the credit rating of the issuing bank for bank guarantees in the event of industry-wide downgrades. In such a case, the Allocation Platform shall consult on the reductions with the TSOs.	

Respondent's views	ACER views
Article 48(1)(a): <i>“in case of day-ahead Implicit Allocation, including in case of fallback allocation for Implicit Allocation, the price shall be the Market Spread at the concerned Bidding Zone border for the concerned hourly period only in case the price difference is positive in the direction of the Long Term Transmission Rights of the day-ahead Implicit Allocation in which that Cross Zonal Capacity was reallocated, and 0€/MWh, otherwise. If applicable this price may be adjusted, subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs, to reflect Allocation Constraints on interconnections between Bidding Zones as defined in Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, Article 23, paragraph 3(b), where these Allocation Constraints are included in the day-ahead Cross Zonal Capacity allocation process subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs.”</i>	
(ENTSO-E) The proposed change in the place of the part “subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs” is acceptable. Nevertheless, TSOs propose not to make a reference only to point (b) of Article 23(3) of Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 but keep the initial wording that also covered point (a). It should also be noted that in the FCA Regulation there is no limitation to refer only to point (b).	The Agency agrees not to limit the reference to only point (b) of Article 23(3) of Regulation (EU) 2015/1222. Regarding the first amendment, the Agency deemed it necessary to refer to the annexes of the HAR, where this price adjustment is specified, instead of using the phrase “<i>subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs</i>”.
Article 59(1)(a): <i>“the Market Spread at the concerned Bidding Zone border for the concerned hourly period only in case the price difference is positive in the direction of the curtailed Long Term Transmission Rights, and 0€/MWh, otherwise. If applicable this price may be adjusted, subject to the approval of the relevant NRAs, to reflect Allocation Constraints on interconnections between Bidding Zones as defined in Article 23, paragraph 3(b) of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, where these Allocation Constraints are included in the day-ahead Cross Zonal Capacity allocation process. The direction of the curtailed Long-Term Transmission Right shall be determined by the destination and the origin Bidding Zones as defined in the Auction Specifications of the concerned Long Term Transmission Right; or”</i>	
(ENTSO-E) TSOs propose not to make a reference only to point (b) of Article 23(3) but keep the initial wording that also covered point (a).	The Agency agrees (please also refer to the comment above).

Respondent's views	ACER views
Article 68: several wording amendments were proposed in order to align the amendment process with the one described in FCA Regulation.	
(ENTSO-E) TSOs agree with the proposed amendments.	
Article 76(3): <i>"Nothing in this Article shall prevent an Allocation Platform or Registered Participant from entering into a subcontracting agreement in relation to this Allocation Rules. Entry into a subcontracting agreement by a Registered Participant does not relieve the Registered Participant of any obligation or liability under its Participation Agreement or these Allocation Rules. Entry into a subcontracting agreement by the Allocation Platform does not relieve the Allocation Platform of any obligation or liability under these Allocation Rules."</i>	
(ENTSO-E) TSOs agree with the proposed addition.	

