

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2017/2196 of 24 November 2017 establishing a network code on electricity emergency and restoration

Incorporated and adapted by the Ministerial Council Decision D/2022/03/MC-EnC of 15 December 2022 on the incorporation of Regulation (EU) 2019/942, Regulation (EU) 2019/943, Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, Regulation (EU) 2016/1719, Regulation (EU) 2017/2195, Regulation (EU) 2017/2196, Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 in the Energy Community acquis, amending Annex I of the Energy Community Treaty, and on the amendments of the Ministerial Council Decisions No 2021/13/MC-EnC and No 2011/02/MC-EnC.

*The adaptations made by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC are highlighted in **bold and blue**.*

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Subject matter

For the purposes of safeguarding operational security, preventing the propagation or deterioration of an incident to avoid a widespread disturbance and the blackout state as well to allow for the efficient and rapid restoration of the electricity system from the emergency or blackout states, this Regulation establishes a network code which lays down the requirements on:

- (a) the management by TSOs of the emergency, blackout and restoration states;
- (b) the coordination of system operation across the **Energy Community** in the emergency, blackout and restoration states;
- (c) the simulations and tests to guarantee a reliable, efficient and fast restoration of the interconnected transmission systems to the normal state from the emergency or blackout states;
- (d) the tools and facilities needed to guarantee a reliable, efficient and fast restoration of the interconnected transmission systems to the normal state from the emergency or blackout states.

Article 2

Scope

1. This Regulation shall apply to TSOs, DSOs, SGUs, defence service providers, restoration service providers, balance responsible parties, balancing service providers, nominated electricity market operators ('NEMO'), and other entities designated to execute market functions pursuant to Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, and to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1719, **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**.

2. In particular, this Regulation shall apply to the following SGUs:

(a) existing and new power generating modules classified as type C and D in accordance with the criteria set out in Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**;

(b) existing and new power generating modules classified as type B in accordance with the criteria set out in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**, where they are identified as SGUs in accordance with Article 11(4) and Article 23(4);

(c) existing and new transmission-connected demand facilities;

(d) existing and new transmission connected closed distribution systems;

(e) providers of redispatching of power generating modules or demand facilities by means of aggregation and providers of active power reserve in accordance with Title 8 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**; and

(f) existing and new high voltage direct current ('HVDC') systems and direct current-connected power park modules in accordance with the criteria set out in Article 4(1) of Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**.

3. This Regulation shall apply to existing and new type A power generating modules, in accordance with the criteria set out in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**, to existing and new type B power generating modules other than those referred to in paragraph 2(b), as well as to existing and new demand facilities, closed distribution systems and third parties providing demand response where they qualify as defence service providers or restoration service providers pursuant to Article 4(4).

4. Type A and type B power generating modules referred to in paragraph 3, demand facilities and closed distribution systems providing demand response may fulfil the requirements of this Regulation either directly or indirectly through a third party, under the terms and conditions set in accordance with Article 4(4).

5. This Regulation shall apply to energy storage units of a SGU, a defence service provider or a restoration service provider, which can be used to balance the system, provided that they are identified as such in the system defence plans, restoration plans or in the relevant service contract.

6. This Regulation shall apply to all transmission systems, distribution systems and interconnections in the **Contracting Parties and with the Member States , and to regional coordination centres**, except transmission systems and distribution systems or parts of the transmission systems and distribution systems of **Contracting Parties** of which the systems are not operated synchronously with Continental Europe ('CE') synchronous area.

7. In **Contracting Parties** where more than one transmission system operator exists, this Regulation shall apply to all transmission system operators within that **Contracting Party**. Where a transmission system operator does not have a function relevant to one or more obligations under this Regulation, **Contracting Parties** may provide that the responsibility for complying with those obligations is assigned to one or more different, specific transmission system operators.

8. < ... >

Article 3

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the definitions provided for in Article 2 of Directive (EU) 2019/944 of the European Parliament and of the Council, **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**, Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 2019/943, **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, Article 2 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 543/2013, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2015/01/PHLG-EnC**, Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**, Article 2 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**, Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**, Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, and Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** shall apply.

In addition, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) 'defence service provider' means a legal entity with a legal or contractual obligation to provide a service contributing to one or several measures of the system defence plan;
- (2) 'restoration service provider' means a legal entity with a legal or contractual obligation to provide a service contributing to one or several measures of the restoration plan;
- (3) 'high priority significant grid user' means the significant grid user for which special conditions apply for disconnection and re-energisation;
- (4) 'netted demand' means the netted value of active power seen from a given point of the system, computed as (load — generation), generally expressed in kilowatts (kW) or megawatts (MW), at a given instant or averaged over any designated interval of time;
- (5) 'restoration plan' means all technical and organisational measures necessary for the restoration of the system back to normal state;
- (6) 're-energisation' means reconnecting generation and load to energise the parts of the system that have been disconnected;
- (7) 'top-down re-energisation strategy' means a strategy that requires the assistance of other TSOs to re-energise parts of the system of a TSO;
- (8) 'bottom-up re-energisation strategy' means a strategy where part of the system of a TSO can be re-energised without the assistance from other TSOs;
- (9) 'resynchronisation' means synchronising and connecting again two synchronised regions at the resynchronisation point;
- (10) 'frequency leader' means the TSO appointed and responsible for managing the system frequency within a synchronised region or a synchronous area in order to restore system frequency back to the nominal frequency;
- (11) 'synchronised region' means the fraction of a synchronous area covered by interconnected TSOs

- with a common system frequency and which is not synchronised with the rest of the synchronous area;
- (12) 'resynchronisation leader' means the TSO appointed and responsible for the resynchronisation of two synchronised regions;
- (13) 'resynchronisation point' means the device used to connect two synchronised.

Article 4

Regulatory aspects

1. When applying this Regulation, **Contracting Parties**, regulatory authorities, competent entities and system operators shall:

- (a) apply the principles of proportionality and non-discrimination;
- (b) ensure transparency;
- (c) apply the principle of optimisation between the highest overall efficiency and lowest total costs for all parties involved;
- (d) ensure that TSOs make use of market-based mechanisms as far as is possible to ensure network security and stability;
- (e) respect technical, legal, personal safety and security constraints;
- (f) respect the responsibility assigned to the relevant TSO in order to ensure system security, including as required by national legislation;
- (g) consult with relevant DSOs and take account of potential impacts on their system; and
- (h) take into consideration agreed European standards and technical specifications.

2. Each TSO shall submit the following proposals to the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article 59 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC, for approval:

- (a) the terms and conditions to act as defence service providers on a contractual basis in accordance with paragraph 4;
- (b) the terms and conditions to act as restoration service providers on a contractual basis in accordance with paragraph 4;
- (c) the list of SGUs responsible for implementing on their installations the measures that result from mandatory requirements set out in Regulations (EU) 2016/631, as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC, (EU) 2016/1388, as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC, and (EU) 2016/1447, as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC, and/or from national legislation and the list of the measures to be implemented by these SGUs, identified by the TSOs under Art. 11(4)(c) and 23(4)(c);
- (d) the list of high priority significant grid users referred to in Articles 11(4)(d) and 23(4)(d) or the principles applied to define those and the terms and conditions for disconnecting and re-energising the high priority grid users, unless defined by the national legislation of **Contracting Parties**;
- (e) the rules for suspension and restoration of market activities in accordance with Article 36(1);

(f) specific rules for imbalance settlement and settlement of balancing energy in case of suspension of market activities, in accordance with Article 39(1);

(g) the test plan in accordance with Article 43(2).

3. Where a **Contracting Party** has so provided, the proposals referred to in points (a) to (d) and (g) of paragraph 2 may be submitted for approval to an entity other than the regulatory authority. Regulatory authorities and entities designated by the **Contracting Parties** pursuant to this paragraph shall decide on the proposals referred to in paragraph 2 within six months from the date of submission by the TSO.

4. The terms and conditions to act as defence service provider and as restoration service provider shall be established either in the national legal framework or on a contractual basis. If established on a contractual basis, each TSO shall develop by **31 December 2023** a proposal for the relevant terms and conditions, which shall define at least:

(a) the characteristics of the service to be provided;

(b) the possibility of and conditions for aggregation; and

(c) for restoration service providers, the target geographical distribution of power sources with black start and island operation capabilities.

5. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall notify the regulatory authority or the entity designated by the **Contracting Party** the system defence plan designed pursuant to Article 11 and the restoration plan designed pursuant to Article 23, or at least the following elements of those plans:

(a) the objectives of the system defence plan and the restoration plan, including the phenomena to be managed or the situations to be solved;

(b) the conditions triggering the activation of the measures of the system defence plan and the restoration plan;

(c) the rationale of each measure, explaining how it contributes to the objectives of the system defence plan and the restoration plan, and the party responsible for implementing those measures; and

(d) the deadlines set out pursuant to Articles 11 and 23 for the implementation of the measures.

6. Where a TSO is required or permitted under this Regulation to specify, establish or agree on requirements, terms and conditions or methodologies that are not subject to approval in accordance with paragraph 2, **Contracting Parties** may require prior approval by the regulatory authority, the entity designated by the **Contracting Party** or other competent authorities of the **Contracting Parties** of these requirements, terms and conditions or methodologies.

7. If a TSO deems an amendment to the documents, approved in accordance with paragraph 3, to be necessary, the requirements provided for in paragraphs 2 to 5 shall apply to the proposed amendment. TSOs proposing an amendment shall take into account the legitimate expectations, where necessary, of power generating facility owners, demand facility owners and other stakeholders based on the initially specified or agreed requirements or methodologies.

8. Any party can complain against a relevant system operator or TSO in relation to that relevant system operator's or TSO's obligations or decisions under this Regulation and may refer the complaint to the regulatory authority which, acting as dispute settlement authority, shall issue a decision within two months after receipt of the complaint. That period may be extended by a further two months where additional information is sought by the regulatory authority. That extended period may be further extended with the agreement of

the complainant. The regulatory authority's decision shall be binding unless and until overruled on appeal.

Article 5

Consultation and coordination

1. Where this Regulation provides that a TSO shall consult concerned parties for actions it defines before real-time or in real-time, the following procedure shall apply:

- (a) the TSO shall liaise with at least the parties identified in the Articles of this Regulation requiring consultation;
- (b) the TSO shall explain the rationale and objective of the consultation and of the decision that it has to take;
- (c) the TSO shall collect from the parties referred to in point (a) any relevant information and their assessment;
- (d) the TSO shall duly take into account the views, situations and constraints of the parties consulted;
- (e) before taking a decision, the TSO shall provide an explanation to the parties consulted of the reasons for following or not their views.

2. Where this Regulation provides that a TSO shall coordinate the execution of a set of actions in real-time with several parties, the following procedure shall apply:

- (a) the TSO shall liaise at least with the parties identified in the Articles of this Regulation requiring real time coordination;
- (b) the TSO shall explain the rationale and objective of the coordination and of the actions to be taken;
- (c) the TSO shall make an initial proposal on actions to be taken by each party;
- (d) the TSO shall collect from the parties referred to in point (a) any relevant information and their assessment;
- (e) the TSO shall make a final proposal on actions to be taken by each party, duly taking into account the views, situations and constraints of the concerned parties and setting a deadline for parties to express their opposition to the actions proposed by the TSO;
- (f) where the concerned parties do not oppose executing the actions proposed by the TSO, each party, including the TSO, shall execute the actions in line with the proposal;
- (g) where one or more of the parties refuse the action proposed by the TSO within the set deadline, the TSO shall refer the action proposed to the relevant authority for decision, together with a justification of the rationale and objectives of the action proposed by the TSO and of the assessment and position of the parties;
- (h) if real-time referral to the relevant authority is not possible, the TSO shall initiate an equivalent action that has the least or no impact on the parties that refused to execute the action proposed.

3. A party may refuse to execute real time actions proposed by the TSO under the coordination procedure described in paragraph 2 if it justifies that the proposed action would lead to the violation of one or more technical, legal, personal safety or security constraint(s).

Article 6

Regional coordination

1. When designing its system defence plan pursuant to Article 11 and its restoration plan pursuant to Article 23 or when reviewing its system defence plan pursuant to Article 50 and its restoration plan pursuant to Article 51, each TSO shall ensure the consistency with the corresponding measures in the plans of TSOs within its synchronous area and in the plans of neighbouring TSOs belonging to another synchronous area of at least the following measures:

- (a) inter-TSO assistance and coordination in emergency state, pursuant to Article 14;
- (b) frequency management procedures, pursuant to Article 18 and Article 28, excluding the establishment of target frequency in case of bottom-up re-energisation strategy before any resynchronisation to the interconnected transmission system;
- (c) assistance for active power procedure, pursuant to Article 21;
- (d) top-down re-energisation strategy, pursuant to Article 27.

2. The consistency assessment of the system defence plan and the restoration plan in accordance with paragraph 1 shall include the following tasks:

- (a) exchange of information and data related to the measures referred to in paragraph 1 among the TSOs concerned;
- (b) identification of incompatibilities of measures referred to in paragraph 1, in the plans of the involved TSOs;
- (c) identification of potential threats to operational security in the capacity calculation region. These threats include, inter alia, regional common mode failures with significant impact on the transmission systems of the involved TSOs;
- (d) assessment of the effectiveness of measures referred to in paragraph 1 specified in the system defence plans and the restoration plans of the involved TSOs, to manage the potential threats referred to in point (c);
- (e) consultation with Regional Coordination Centres (RCCs) to assess the consistency of measures referred to in paragraph 1 within the entire concerned synchronous area;
- (f) identification of mitigation actions in case of incompatibilities in the system defence plans and the restoration plans of the involved TSOs or in case that measures are missing in the system defence plans and the restoration plans of the involved TSOs.

3. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall transmit the measures referred to in paragraph 1 to the relevant **RCC(s) established pursuant to Article 35 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**. Within 3 months from the submission of the measures, the **RCC(s)** shall produce a technical report on the consistency of the measures based on the criteria set out in paragraph 2. Each TSO shall ensure the availability of its own skilled experts to assist the **RCC(s)** in preparing this report.

4. The **RCC(s)** shall transmit without delay the technical report referred to in paragraph 3 to all the TSOs involved, which shall in turn transmit it to the relevant regulatory authorities, as well as to **the Energy Community Regulatory Board and ENTSO for Electricity**, for the purposes of Article 52.

5. All TSOs of each capacity calculation region shall agree on a threshold above which the impact of actions

of one or more TSOs in the emergency, blackout or restoration states is considered significant for other TSOs within the capacity calculation region.

Article 7

Public consultation

1. The relevant TSOs shall consult stakeholders, including the competent authorities of each **Contracting Party**, on proposals subject to approval in accordance with points (a), (b), (e), (f) and (g) of Article 4(2). The consultation shall last for a period of not less than one month.
2. The relevant TSOs shall duly take into account the views of the stakeholders resulting from the consultations prior to the submission of the draft proposal. In all cases, a sound justification for including or not including the views of the stakeholders shall be provided and published in a timely manner before, or simultaneously with, the publication of the proposal.

Article 8

Recovery of costs

1. The costs borne by system operators subject to network tariff regulation and stemming from the obligations laid down in this Regulation shall be assessed by the relevant regulatory authorities in accordance with Article 59 of Directive **(EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**. Costs assessed as reasonable, efficient and proportionate shall be recovered through network tariffs or other appropriate mechanisms.
2. If requested by the relevant regulatory authorities, system operators referred to in paragraph 1 shall, within three months of the request, provide the information necessary to facilitate assessment of the costs incurred.

Article 9

Confidentiality obligations

1. Any confidential information received, exchanged or transmitted pursuant to this Regulation shall be subject to the conditions of professional secrecy laid down in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4.
2. The obligation of professional secrecy shall apply to any persons subject to the provisions of this Regulation.
3. Confidential information received by the persons referred to in paragraph 2 in the course of their duties may not be divulged to any other person or authority, without prejudice to cases covered by national legislation, the other provisions of this Regulation or other relevant **Energy Community and national** legislation.
4. Without prejudice to cases covered by **Energy Community and** national legislation, regulatory authorities, bodies or persons who receive confidential information pursuant to this Regulation may use it

only for the purpose of carrying out their duties under this Regulation.

Article 10

Agreement with TSOs not bound by this Regulation

Where a synchronous area encompasses both **Energy Community** and third country TSOs, by **30 June 2024**, all TSOs **of Contracting Parties** in that synchronous area shall endeavour to conclude with the third country TSOs not bound by this Regulation an agreement setting the basis for their cooperation concerning secure system operation and setting out arrangements for the compliance of the third country TSOs with the obligations set in this Regulation.

CHAPTER II SYSTEM DEFENCE PLAN

SECTION 1 General provisions

Article 11

Design of the system defence plan

1. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall design a system defence plan in consultation with relevant DSOs, SGUs, national regulatory authorities, or entities referred to in Article 4(3), neighbouring TSOs and the other TSOs in its synchronous area.
2. When designing its system defence plan, each TSO shall take into account at least the following elements:
 - (a) the operational security limits set out in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**;
 - (b) the behaviour and capabilities of load and generation within the synchronous area;
 - (c) the specific needs of the high priority significant grid users listed pursuant to point (d) of paragraph 4; and
 - (d) the characteristics of its transmission system and of the underlying DSOs systems.
3. The system defence plan shall contain at least the following provisions:
 - (a) the conditions under which the system defence plan is activated, in accordance with Article 13;
 - (b) the system defence plan instructions to be issued by the TSO; and
 - (c) the measures subject to real-time consultation or coordination with the identified parties.
4. In particular, the system defence plan shall include the following elements:
 - (a) a list of the measures to be implemented by the TSO on its installations;
 - (b) a list of the measures to be implemented by DSOs and of the DSOs responsible for implementing those measures on their installations;
 - (c) a list of the SGUs responsible for implementing on their installations the measures that result from the

mandatory requirements set out in Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**, (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision No 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**, and (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**, or from national legislation and a list of the measures to be implemented by those SGUs;x

(d) a list of high priority significant grid users and the terms and conditions for their disconnection, and
(e) the implementation deadlines for each measure listed in the system defence plan.

5. The system defence plan shall include at least the following technical and organisational measures specified in Section 2 of Chapter II:

(a) system protection schemes including at least:

- (i) automatic under-frequency control scheme in accordance with Article 15;
- (ii) automatic over-frequency control scheme in accordance with Article 16; and
- (iii) automatic scheme against voltage collapse in accordance with Article 17.

(b) system defence plan procedures, including at least:

- (i) frequency deviation management procedure in accordance with Article 18;
- (ii) voltage deviation management procedure in accordance with Article 19;
- (iii) power flow management procedure in accordance with Article 20;
- (iv) assistance for active power procedure in accordance with Article 21; and
- (v) manual demand disconnection procedure in accordance with Article 22.

6. The measures contained in the system defence plan shall comply with the following principles:

- (a) their impact on the system users shall be minimal;
- (b) they shall be economically efficient;
- (c) only those measures that are necessary shall be activated; and
- (d) they shall not lead the TSO's transmission system or the interconnected transmission systems into emergency state or blackout state.

Article 12

Implementation of the system defence plan

1. By **30 June 2024**, each TSO shall implement those measures of its system defence plan that are to be implemented on the transmission system. It shall maintain the implemented measures henceforth.

2. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall notify the transmission connected DSOs of the measures, including the deadlines for implementation, which are to be implemented on:

- (a) the DSO's installations pursuant to Article 11(4); or
- (b) the installations of SGUs identified pursuant to Article 11(4) connected to their distribution systems; or
- (c) the installations of defence service providers connected to their distribution systems; or
- (d) the installations of DSOs connected to their distribution systems.

3. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall notify the SGUs identified pursuant to point (c) of Article 11(4) or the defence service providers directly connected to its transmission system of the measures which are to be implemented on their installations, including the deadlines for the implementation.
4. When provided for in national legislation, the TSO shall notify directly SGUs identified pursuant to point (c) of Article 11(4), defence service providers or DSOs connected to distribution systems of the measures which are to be implemented on their installations, including the deadlines for their implementation. It shall inform the concerned DSO of this notification.
5. Where a TSO notifies a DSO in accordance with paragraph 2, the DSO shall notify in turn, without delay, the SGUs, the defence service providers and the DSOs connected to its distribution system of the measures of the system defence plan that they have to implement on their respective installations, including the deadlines for their implementation.
6. Each notified DSO, SGU and defence service provider shall:
 - (a) implement the measures notified pursuant to this Article no later than 12 months from the date of notification;
 - (b) confirm the implementation of the measures to the notifying system operator, who shall, when different from the TSO, notify the confirmation to the TSO; and
 - (c) maintain the measures implemented on its installations.

Article 13

Activation of the system defence plan

1. Each TSO shall activate the procedures of its system defence plan pursuant to point (b) of Article 11(5) in coordination with DSOs and SGUs identified pursuant to Article 11(4) and with defence service providers.
2. In addition to the automatically activated schemes of the system defence plan, pursuant to point (a) of Article 11(5), each TSO shall activate a procedure of the system defence plan when:
 - (a) the system is in emergency state in accordance with the criteria set out in Article 18(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** and there are no remedial actions available to restore the system to the normal state; or
 - (b) based on the operational security analysis, the operational security of the transmission system requires the activation of a measure of the system defence plan pursuant to Article 11(5) in addition to the available remedial actions.
3. Each DSO and SGU identified pursuant to Article 11(4), as well as each defence service provider shall execute without undue delay the system defence plan instructions issued by the TSO pursuant to point (c) of Article 11(3), in accordance with the system defence plan procedures provided for in point (b) of Article 11(5).
4. Each TSO shall activate procedures of its system defence plan referred to in point (b) of Article 11(5) having a significant cross-border impact in coordination with the impacted TSOs.

Article 14

Inter-TSO assistance and coordination in emergency state

1. Upon request from a TSO in emergency state, each TSO shall provide through interconnectors any possible assistance to the requesting TSO, provided this does not cause its transmission system or the interconnected transmission systems to enter into emergency or blackout state.

2. When the assistance needs to be provided through direct current interconnectors, it may consist in carrying out the following actions, taking into account the technical characteristics and capability of HVDC system:

(a) manual regulation actions of the transmitted active power to help the TSO in emergency state to bring power flows within operational security limits or frequency of neighbouring synchronous area within system frequency limits for alert state defined pursuant to Article 18(2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**;

(b) automatic control functions of the transmitted active power based on the signals and criteria set out in Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**;

(c) automatic frequency control pursuant to Articles 15 to 18 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**, in case of islanded operation;

(d) voltage and reactive power control pursuant to Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**, and

(e) other appropriate action.

3. Each TSO may proceed to a manual disconnection of any transmission system element having a significant cross-border impact, including an interconnector, subject to the following requirements:

(a) the TSO shall coordinate with neighbouring TSOs; and

(b) this action shall not lead the remaining interconnected transmission system into emergency state or blackout state.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 3, a TSO may manually disconnect any transmission system element having a significant cross-border impact, including an interconnector, without coordination, in exceptional circumstances implying a violation of the operational security limits, to prevent endangering personnel safety or damaging equipment. Within 30 days of the incident, the TSO shall prepare a report at least in English containing a detailed explanation of the rationale, implementation and impact of this action and submit it to the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article 59 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**, and neighbouring TSOs, and make it available to the significantly affected system users.

SECTION 2

Measures of the System Defence Plan

Article 15

Automatic under-frequency control scheme

1. The scheme for the automatic control of under-frequency of the system defence plan shall include a scheme for the automatic low frequency demand disconnection and the settings of the limited frequency sensitive mode-underfrequency in the TSO load frequency control (LFC) area.
2. In the design of its system defence plan, each TSO shall provide for the activation of the limited frequency sensitive mode-underfrequency prior to the activation of the scheme for the automatic low frequency demand disconnection, where the rate of change of frequency allows it.
3. Prior to the activation of the automatic low frequency demand disconnection scheme, each TSO and DSO identified pursuant to Article 11(4) shall foresee that energy storage units acting as load connected to its system:
 - (a) automatically switch to generation mode within the time limit and at an active power set-point established by the TSO in the system defence plan; or
 - (b) when the energy storage unit is not capable of switching within the time limit established by the TSO in the system defence plan, automatically disconnect the energy storage unit acting as load.
4. Each TSO shall establish in its system defence plan the frequency thresholds at which the automatic switching or disconnection of energy storage units shall occur. These frequency thresholds shall be lower or equal to the system frequency limit defined for the emergency state in Article 18(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** and higher than the frequency limit for demand disconnection starting mandatory level laid down in the Annex.
5. Each TSO shall design the scheme for the automatic low frequency demand disconnection in accordance with the parameters for shedding load in real-time laid down in the Annex. The scheme shall include the disconnection of demand at different frequencies, from a 'starting mandatory level' to a 'final mandatory level', within an implementation range whilst respecting a minimum number and maximum size of steps. The implementation range shall define the maximum admissible deviation of netted demand to be disconnected from the target netted demand to be disconnected at a given frequency, calculated through a linear interpolation between starting and final mandatory levels. The implementation range shall not allow the disconnection of less netted demand than the amount of netted demand to be disconnected at the starting mandatory level. A step cannot be considered as such if no netted demand is disconnected when this step is reached.
6. Each TSO or DSO shall install the relays necessary for low frequency demand disconnection taking into account at least load behaviour and dispersed generation.
7. When implementing the scheme for the automatic low frequency demand disconnection pursuant to the notification under Article 12(2), each TSO or DSO shall:
 - (a) avoid setting an intentional time delay in addition to the operating time of the relays and circuit breakers;
 - (b) minimise the disconnection of power generating modules, especially those providing inertia; and

(c) limit the risk that the scheme leads to power flow deviations and voltage deviations outside operational security limits.

If a DSO cannot fulfil the requirements under points (b) and (c), it shall notify the TSO and propose which requirement shall apply. The TSO, in consultation with the DSO shall establish the applicable requirements based on a joint cost-benefit analysis.

8. The scheme for the automatic low frequency demand disconnection of the system defence plan may provide for netted demand disconnection based on frequency gradient provided that:

(a) it is activated only:

(i) when the frequency deviation is higher than the maximum steady state frequency deviation and the frequency gradient is higher than the one produced by the reference incident;

(ii) when the frequency deviation is higher than the maximum steady state frequency deviation and the frequency gradient is higher than the one produced by the reference incident;

(b) it complies with the Annex; and

(c) it is necessary and justified in order to maintain efficiently the operational security.

9. In case the scheme for the automatic low frequency demand disconnection of the system defence plan includes netted demand disconnection based on frequency gradient, as described in paragraph 8, the TSO shall submit, within 30 days of the implementation, a report containing a detailed explanation of the rationale, implementation and impact of this measure to the national regulatory authority.

10. A TSO may include in the scheme for automatic low frequency demand disconnection of its system defence plan additional steps for netted demand disconnection below the final mandatory level of demand disconnection set out in the Annex.

11. Each TSO shall be entitled to implement additional system protection schemes that are triggered by a frequency smaller or equal to the frequency of the final mandatory level of demand disconnection and which aim at a faster restoration process. The TSO shall ensure that such additional schemes do not further deteriorate frequency.

Article 16

Automatic over-frequency control scheme

1. The scheme for automatic over-frequency control of the system defence plan shall lead to an automatic decrease of the total active power injected in each LFC area.

2. In consultation with the other TSOs of its synchronous area, each TSO shall set out the following parameters of its scheme for automatic over-frequency control:

(a) the frequency thresholds for its activation; and

(b) the reduction ratio of injection of active power.

3. Each TSO shall design its automatic over-frequency control scheme taking into account the capabilities of the power generating modules concerning the limited frequency sensitive mode — overfrequency and of the energy storage units, in its LFC area. If the limited frequency sensitive mode — overfrequency does not exist or is not sufficient to fulfil the requirements set out in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 2, each

TSO shall set up in addition a step-wise linear disconnection of generation in its LFC area. The TSO shall establish the maximum size of the steps for disconnection of power generating modules and/or of HVDC systems in consultation with the other TSOs of its synchronous area.

Article 17

Automatic scheme against voltage collapse

1. The automatic scheme against voltage collapse of the system defence plan may include one or more of the following schemes, depending on the results of a TSO's assessment of system security:

- (a) a scheme for low voltage demand disconnection according to Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**;
- (b) a blocking scheme for on load tap changer according to Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**; and
- (c) system protection schemes for voltage management.

2. Unless the assessment pursuant to paragraph 1 demonstrates that implementing a blocking scheme for on load tap changer is not necessary to prevent a voltage collapse in the TSO control area, the TSO shall establish the conditions under which the on load tap changer shall block according to Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**, including at least:

- (a) the blocking method (local or remote from control room);
- (b) the voltage level threshold at the connection point;
- (c) the flow direction of reactive power; and
- (d) the maximum lapse of time between the detection of the threshold and the blocking.

Article 18

Frequency deviation management procedure

1. The procedure for the management of frequency deviations of the system defence plan shall contain a set of measures to manage a frequency deviation outside the frequency limits defined for the alert state in Article 18(2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**. The frequency deviation management procedure shall be in line with the procedures set out for remedial actions which need to be managed in a coordinated way in accordance with Article 78(4) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** and shall fulfil at least the following requirements:

- (a) a decrease of generation shall be smaller than the decrease of load during under-frequency events; and
- (b) a decrease of generation shall be greater than the decrease of load during over-frequency events.

2. Each TSO shall adapt the operating mode of its LFC in order to prevent interference with manual activation or deactivation of active power as laid down in paragraphs 3 and 5.

3. Each TSO shall be entitled to establish an active power set-point that each SGU identified pursuant to point (c) of Article 11(4) shall maintain, provided that the set-point fulfils the technical constraints of the SGU. Each TSO shall be entitled to establish an active power set-point that each defence service provider shall maintain provided this measure applies to them pursuant to the terms and conditions referred to in Article 4(4) and the set-point respects the technical constraints of the defence service provider. The SGUs and defence service providers shall execute without undue delay the instructions given by the TSO directly or indirectly through DSOs and shall remain in that state until further instructions are issued. Where the instructions are given directly, the TSO shall inform the relevant DSOs without undue delay.

4. Each TSO shall be entitled to disconnect SGUs and defence service providers, directly or indirectly through DSOs. SGUs and defence service providers shall remain disconnected until further instructions are issued. Where SGUs are directly disconnected, the TSO shall inform the relevant DSOs without undue delay. Within 30 days of the incident, the TSO shall prepare a report containing a detailed explanation of the rationale, implementation and impact of this action and submit it to the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article 59 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC, as well as make it available to the significantly affected system users.

5. Prior to the activation of the automatic low frequency demand disconnection scheme set out in Article 15 and provided that the rate of change of frequency allows it, each TSO shall, directly or indirectly through DSOs, activate demand response from the relevant defence service providers and:

(a) switch energy storage units acting as load to generation mode at an active power set-point established by the TSO in the system defence plan; or

(b) when the energy storage unit is not capable of switching fast enough to stabilise frequency, manually disconnect the energy storage unit.

Article 19

Voltage deviation management procedure

1. The procedure for the management of voltage deviations of the system defence plan shall contain a set of measures to manage voltage deviations outside the operational security limits set out in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC.

2. Each TSO shall be entitled to establish a reactive power range or voltage range and instruct the DSOs and SGUs identified for this measure pursuant to Article 11(4) to maintain it, in accordance with Articles 28 and 29 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC.

3. Upon request of neighbouring TSO in emergency state, each TSO shall make available all reactive power capabilities that do not lead its transmission system into emergency state or blackout state.

Article 20

Power flow management procedure

1. The procedure for power flow management of the system defence plan shall include a set of measures to manage power flow outside the operational security limits set out in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**.

2. Each TSO shall be entitled to establish an active power set-point that each SGU identified pursuant to point (c) Article 11(4) shall maintain provided that the set-point respects the technical constraints of the SGU. Each TSO shall be entitled to establish an active power set-point that each defence service provider shall maintain provided this measure applies to them pursuant to the terms and conditions referred to in Article 4(4) and the set-point respects the technical constraints of the defence service providers. The SGUs and defence service providers shall execute without undue delay the instructions given by the TSO directly or indirectly through DSOs and shall remain in that state until further instructions are issued. Where the instructions are given directly, the TSO shall inform the relevant DSOs without undue delay.

3. Each TSO shall be entitled to disconnect SGUs and defence service providers, directly or indirectly through DSOs. SGUs and defence service providers shall remain disconnected until further instructions are issued. Where SGU are directly disconnected, the TSO shall inform the relevant DSOs without undue delay. Within 30 days of the incident, the TSO shall prepare a report containing a detailed explanation of the rationale, implementation and impact of this action and submit it to the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article 59 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**.

Article 21

Assistance for active power procedure

1. In case of absence of control area adequacy in the day-ahead or intraday timeframe, identified pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 107 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, and prior to any potential suspension of market activities pursuant to Article 35, a TSO shall be entitled to request assistance for active power from:

(a) any balancing service provider, which, upon the TSO request, shall change its availability status to make available all its active power, provided it was not already activated through the balancing market, and conforming to its technical constraints;

(b) any SGU connected in its LFC area, which does not already provide a balancing service to the TSO, and which, upon the TSO request, shall make available all its active power, conforming to its technical constraints; and

(c) other TSOs that are in the normal or alert state.

2. A TSO may activate the assistance for active power from a balancing service provider or a SGU, under points (a) and (b) of paragraph 1, only if it has activated all balancing energy bids available, taking into account the available cross zonal capacity at the moment of absence of adequacy of the control area.

3. Each TSO who has been subject to a request for assistance for active power pursuant to paragraph

1(c) shall:

(a) make available its unshared bids;

(b) be entitled to activate the available balancing energy, in order to provide the corresponding power to the requesting TSO; and

(c) be entitled to request the assistance for active power from its balancing service providers and from any SGU connected in its LFC area which does not already provide a balancing service to the TSO, in order to provide the corresponding assistance for active power to the requesting TSO.

4. When activating the active power requested pursuant to paragraph 1(c), the requesting and the requested TSOs shall be entitled to use:

(a) available cross-zonal capacity in case the activation is made before the intraday cross-zonal gate closure time and if the provision of concerned cross-zonal capacities has not been suspended pursuant to Article 35;

(b) additional capacity that may be available due to real-time status of the system in which case the requesting and the requested TSOs shall coordinate with other significantly affected TSOs in accordance with Article 6(5).

5. Once the requested and requesting TSOs have agreed on the conditions for the provision of assistance for active power, the agreed amount of active power and timeslot for the provision shall be firm, unless the transmission system of the TSO providing the assistance enters into the emergency or blackout state.

Article 22

Manual demand disconnection procedure

1. In addition to the measures set out in Articles 18 to 21, each TSO may establish an amount of netted demand to be manually disconnected, directly by the TSO or indirectly through DSOs, when necessary to prevent the propagation or worsening of an emergency state. Where demand is to be directly disconnected, the TSO shall inform the relevant DSOs without delay.

2. The TSO shall activate the manual disconnection of the netted demand referred to in paragraph 1 to:

(a) resolve overloads or under voltage situations; or

(b) resolve situations in which assistance for active power pursuant to Article 21 has been requested but is not sufficient to maintain adequacy in day-ahead and intraday timeframes in its control area, pursuant to Article 107 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, leading to a risk of frequency deterioration in the synchronous area.

3. The TSO shall notify DSOs of the amount of netted demand established pursuant to paragraph 1 to be disconnected on their distribution systems. Each DSO shall disconnect the notified amount of netted demand, without undue delay.

4. Within 30 days of the incident, the TSO shall prepare a report containing a detailed explanation of the rationale, implementation and impact of this action and submit it to the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article 59 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**.

CHAPTER III RESTORATION PLAN

SECTION 1 General provisions

Article 23 Design of the restoration plan

1. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall design a restoration plan in consultation with relevant DSOs, SGUs, national regulatory authorities or entities referred to in Article 4(3), neighbouring TSOs and the other TSOs in that synchronous area.
2. When designing its restoration plan, each TSO shall take into account, at least, the following elements:
 - (a) the behaviour and capabilities of load and generation;
 - (b) the specific needs of the high priority significant grid users listed pursuant to paragraph (4); and
 - (c) the characteristics of its network and of the underlying DSOs networks.
3. The restoration plan shall contain at least the following provisions:
 - (a) the conditions under which the restoration plan is activated, as provided for in Article 25;
 - (b) restoration plan instructions to be issued by the TSO; and
 - (c) measures subject to real-time consultation or coordination with identified parties.
4. In particular, the restoration plan shall include the following elements:
 - (a) a list of the measures to be implemented by the TSO on its installations;
 - (b) a list of the measures to be implemented by DSOs and of the DSOs responsible for implementing those measures on their installations;
 - (c) a list of the SGUs responsible for implementing on their installations the measures that result from mandatory requirements set out in Regulations (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**, (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**, and (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**, or from national legislation and a list of the measures to be implemented by those SGUs;
 - (d) the list of high priority significant grid users and the terms and conditions for their disconnection and re-energisation;
 - (e) a list of substations which are essential for its restoration plan procedures;
 - (f) the number of power sources in the TSO's control area necessary to re-energise its system with bottom-up re-energisation strategy having black start capability, quick re-synchronisation capability (through houseload operation) and island operation capability; and
 - (g) the implementation deadlines for each listed measure.

5. The restoration plan shall include at least the following technical and organisational measures specified in Chapter III:

- (a) re-energisation procedure, in accordance with Section 2;
- (b) frequency management procedure, in accordance with Section 3; and
- (c) resynchronisation procedure, in accordance with Section 4.

6. The measures contained in the restoration plan shall comply with the following principles:

- (a) their impact on system users shall be minimal;
- (b) they shall be economically efficient;
- (c) only those measures that are necessary shall be activated; and
- (d) they shall not lead the interconnected transmission systems into emergency state or blackout state.

Article 24

Implementation of the restoration plan

1. By **30 June 2024**, each TSO shall implement those measures of its restoration plan that are to be implemented on the transmission system. It shall maintain the implemented measures henceforth.

2. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall notify the transmission connected DSOs of the measures, including the deadlines for implementation, which are to be implemented on:

- (a) the DSO's installations pursuant to Article 23(4); and
- (b) the installations of SGUs identified pursuant to Article 23(4) and connected to their distribution systems; and
- (c) the installations of restoration service providers connected to their distribution systems; and
- (d) the installations of DSOs connected to their distribution systems.

3. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall notify the SGUs identified pursuant to Article 23(4) and restoration service providers directly connected to its transmission system of the measures that are to be implemented on their installations, including the deadlines for implementation pursuant to point (g) of Article 23(4).

4. When provided for in national legislation, the TSO shall notify directly the SGUs identified pursuant to Article 23(4) and restoration service providers and DSOs connected to distribution systems and shall inform the concerned DSO of this notification.

5. Where a TSO notifies a DSO in accordance with paragraph 2, the DSO shall notify in turn, without delay, the SGUs, restoration service providers and DSOs connected to its distribution system of the measures of the restoration plan which they have to implement on their respective installations, including the deadlines for implementation, pursuant to point (g) of Article 23(4).

6. Each notified DSO, SGUs and restoration service provider shall:

- (a) implement the measures notified no later than 12 months from the date of notification;
- (b) confirm the implementation of the measures to the notifying system operator, who shall, when different from the TSO, notify the TSO; and

(c) maintain the measures implemented on its installations.

Article 25

Activation of the restoration plan

1. Each TSO shall activate the procedures of its restoration plan in coordination with the DSOs and SGUs identified pursuant to Article 23(4) and with restoration service providers in the following cases:

- (a) when the system is in the emergency state in accordance with the criteria in Article 18(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, once the system is stabilised following activation of the measures of the system defence plan; or
- (b) when the system is in the blackout state in accordance with the criteria in Article 18(4) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**.

2. During system restoration, each TSO shall identify and monitor:

- (a) the extent and borders of the synchronised region or synchronised regions to which its control area belongs;
- (b) the TSOs with which it shares a synchronised region or synchronised regions; and
- (c) the available active power reserves in its control area.

3. Each DSO and SGU identified pursuant to Article 23(4), as well as each restoration service provider shall execute without undue delay the restoration plan instructions issued by the TSO, pursuant to point (b) of Article 23(3) in accordance with the restoration plan procedures.

4. Each TSO shall activate those procedures of its restoration plan that have a significant cross-border impact in coordination with the impacted TSOs.

SECTION 2

Re-energisation

Article 26

Re-energisation procedure

1. The re-energisation procedure of the restoration plan shall contain a set of measures allowing the TSO to apply:

- (a) a top-down re-energisation strategy; and
- (b) a bottom-up re-energisation strategy.

2. Regarding the bottom-up re-energisation strategy, the re-energisation procedure shall contain at least measures for:

- (a) managing voltage and frequency deviations due to re-energisation;
- (b) monitoring and managing island operation; and

(c) resynchronising island operation areas.

Article 27

Activation of the re-energisation procedure

1. When activating the re-energisation procedure, each TSO shall set up the strategy to be applied, taking into account:

- (a) the availability of power sources capable of re-energisation in its control area;
- (b) the expected duration and risks of possible re-energisation strategies;
- (c) the conditions of the power systems;
- (d) the conditions of the directly connected systems, including at least the status of interconnectors;
- (e) the high priority significant grid users listed pursuant to Article 23(4); and
- (f) the possibility to combine top-down and bottom-up re-energisation strategies.

2. When applying a top-down re-energisation strategy, each TSO shall manage the connection of load and generation with the aim to regulate the frequency towards the nominal frequency with a maximum tolerance of the maximum steady-state frequency deviation. Each TSO shall apply the conditions for connection of load and generation defined by the frequency leader, where appointed in accordance with Article 29.

3. When applying a bottom-up re-energisation strategy, each TSO shall manage the connection of load and generation with the aim to regulate the frequency towards the target frequency established in accordance with point (c) of Article 28(3).

4. During re-energisation, the TSO shall, after consultation with DSOs, establish and notify the amount of netted demand to be reconnected on distribution networks. Each DSO shall reconnect the notified amount of netted demand, while respecting the block loading and taking into account the automatic re-connection of load and generation in its network.

5. Each TSO shall inform its neighbouring TSOs on its capability to support a top-down re-energisation strategy.

6. For the activation of a top-down re-energisation strategy, the TSO shall request neighbouring TSOs to support the re-energisation. This support may consist in assistance for active power, in accordance with paragraphs 3 to 5 of Article 21. The requested TSOs shall provide assistance for the re-energisation, unless it would lead their systems to the emergency or blackout states. In this case, the requesting TSO shall use the bottom-up re-energisation strategy.

SECTION 3

Frequency management

Article 28

Frequency management procedure

1. The frequency management procedure of the restoration plan shall contain a set of measures aiming at restoring system frequency back to the nominal frequency.
2. Each TSO shall activate its frequency management procedure:
 - (a) in preparation of the resynchronisation procedure, when a synchronous area is split in several synchronised regions;
 - (b) in case of frequency deviation in the synchronous area; or
 - (c) in case of re-energisation.
3. The frequency management procedure shall include at least:
 - (a) a list of actions regarding the setting of the load-frequency controller before the appointment of frequency leaders;
 - (b) the appointment of frequency leaders;
 - (c) the establishment of target frequency in case of bottom-up re-energisation strategy;
 - (d) frequency management after frequency deviation; and
 - (e) frequency management after synchronous area split.
 - (f) the determination of the amount of load and generation to be reconnected, taking into account the available active power reserves within the synchronised region in order to avoid major frequency deviations.

Article 29

Appointment of a frequency leader

1. During system restoration, when a synchronous area is split in several synchronised regions, the TSOs of each synchronised region shall appoint a frequency leader, in accordance with paragraph 3.
2. During system restoration, when a synchronous area is not split but the system frequency exceeds the frequency limits for the alert state as defined in Article 18(2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, all TSOs of the synchronous area shall appoint a frequency leader, in accordance with paragraph 3.
3. The TSO with the highest real-time estimated K-factor shall be appointed as the frequency leader, unless the TSOs of the synchronised region, or of the synchronous area, agree to appoint another TSO as the frequency leader. In that case, the TSOs of the synchronised region, or of the synchronous area, shall consider the following criteria:
 - (a) the amount of available active power reserves and especially frequency restoration reserves;

- (b) the capacities available on interconnectors;
 - (c) the availability of frequency measurements of TSOs of the synchronised region or of the synchronous area; and
 - (d) the availability of measurements on critical elements within the synchronised region or the synchronous area.
4. Notwithstanding paragraph 3, where the size of the synchronous area concerned and the real time situation allow it, the TSOs of the synchronous area may appoint a predetermined frequency leader.
 5. The TSO appointed as frequency leader pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 shall inform the other TSOs of the synchronous area of its appointment without delay.
 6. The appointed frequency leader shall act as such until:
 - (a) another frequency leader is appointed for its synchronised region;
 - (b) a new frequency leader is appointed as the result of resynchronisation of its synchronised region with another synchronised region; or
 - (c) the synchronous area has been completely resynchronised, the system frequency is within the standard frequency range and the LFC operated by each TSO of the synchronous area is back to its normal operating mode in accordance with Article 18(1) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**.

Article 30

Frequency management after frequency deviation

1. During system restoration, when a frequency leader has been appointed pursuant to Article 29(3), the TSOs of the synchronous area, other than the frequency leader, shall as a first measure suspend the manual activation of frequency restoration reserves and replacement reserves.
2. The frequency leader shall establish, after consultation with the other TSOs of the synchronous area, the operating mode to be applied on the LFC operated by each TSO of the synchronous area.
3. The frequency leader shall manage the manual activation of frequency restoration reserves and replacement reserves within the synchronous area, aiming at regulating the frequency of the synchronous area towards the nominal frequency and taking into account the operational security limits defined pursuant to Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**. Upon request, each TSO of the synchronous area shall support the frequency leader.

Article 31

Frequency management after synchronous area split

1. During system restoration, when a frequency leader has been appointed pursuant to Article 29(3), the TSOs of each synchronised region, with the exception of the frequency leader, shall as a first measure suspend the manual activation of frequency restoration reserves and replacement reserves.
2. The frequency leader shall establish, after consultation with the other TSOs of the synchronised region,

the operating mode to be applied on the LFC operated by each TSO of the synchronised region.

3. The frequency leader shall manage the manual activation of frequency restoration reserves and replacement reserves within the synchronised region, aiming at regulating the frequency of the synchronised region towards the target frequency established by the resynchronisation leader, if any, pursuant to point (a) of Article 34(1) and taking into account the operational security limits set out pursuant to Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**. When no resynchronisation leader is appointed for the synchronised region, the frequency leader shall aim at regulating the frequency towards the nominal frequency. Upon request, each TSO of the synchronised region shall support the frequency leader.

SECTION 4 Resynchronisation

Article 32 **Resynchronisation procedure**

The resynchronisation procedure of the restoration plan shall include, at least:

- (a) the appointment of a resynchronisation leader;
- (b) the measures allowing the TSO to apply a resynchronisation strategy; and
- (c) the maximum limits for phase angle, frequency and voltage differences for connecting lines.

Article 33 **Appointment of a resynchronisation leader**

1. During system restoration, when two synchronised regions can be resynchronised without endangering the operational security of the transmission systems, the frequency leaders of these synchronised regions shall appoint a resynchronisation leader in consultation with at least the TSO(s) identified as the potential resynchronisation leader and in accordance with paragraph 2. Each frequency leader shall inform without delay the TSOs from its synchronised region of the appointed resynchronisation leader.

2. For each pair of synchronised regions to be resynchronised, the resynchronisation leader shall be the TSO that:

- (a) has in operation at least one substation equipped with a parallel switching device on the border between the two synchronised regions to be resynchronised;
- (b) has access to the frequency measurements from both synchronised regions;
- (c) has access to the voltage measurements on the substations between which potential resynchronisation points are located; and
- (d) is able to control the voltage of potential resynchronisation points.

3. Where more than one TSO fulfils the criteria under paragraph 2, the TSO with the highest number

of potential resynchronisation points between the two synchronised regions shall be appointed as the resynchronisation leader, unless the frequency leaders of the two synchronised regions agree to appoint another TSO as resynchronisation leader.

4. The appointed resynchronisation leader shall act as such until:

(a) another resynchronisation leader is appointed for the two synchronised regions; or

(b) the two synchronised regions have been resynchronised, and all the steps in Article 34 have been completed.

Article 34

Resynchronisation strategy

1. Prior to the resynchronisation, the resynchronisation leader shall:

(a) establish, in accordance with the maximum limits referred to in Article 32:

(i) the target value of the frequency for resynchronisation;

(ii) the maximum frequency difference between the two synchronised regions;

(iii) the maximum active and reactive power exchange; and

(iv) the operating mode to be applied on the LFC;

(b) select the resynchronisation point, taking into account the operational security limits in the synchronised regions;

(c) establish and prepare all necessary actions for the resynchronisation of the two synchronised regions at the resynchronisation point;

(d) establish and prepare a subsequent set of actions to create additional connections between the synchronised regions; and

(e) assess the readiness of the synchronised regions for resynchronisation, taking into account the conditions set out in point (a).

2. When carrying out the tasks enumerated in paragraph 1, the resynchronisation leader shall consult the frequency leaders of the involved synchronised regions and, for the tasks listed in points (b) to (e), it shall also consult the TSOs operating the substations used for resynchronisation.

3. Each frequency leader shall inform the TSOs within its synchronised region of the planned resynchronisation without undue delay.

4. When all conditions established in accordance with point (a) of paragraph 1 are fulfilled, the resynchronisation leader shall execute the resynchronisation by activating the actions established in accordance with point (c) and (d) of paragraph 1.

CHAPTER IV MARKET INTERACTIONS

Article 35

Procedure for suspension of market activities

1. A TSO may temporarily suspend one or more market activities laid down in paragraph 2 where:

- (a) the transmission system of the TSO is in blackout state; or
- (b) the TSO has exhausted all options provided by the market and the continuation of market activities under the emergency state would deteriorate one or more of the conditions referred to in Article 18(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**; or
- (c) the continuation of market activities would decrease significantly the effectiveness of the restoration process to the normal or alert state; or
- (d) tools and communication means necessary for the TSOs to facilitate market activities are not available.

2. The following market activities may be suspended pursuant to paragraph 1:

- (a) the provision of cross zonal capacity for capacity allocation on the corresponding bidding zone borders for each market time unit where it is expected that the transmission system shall not be restored to the normal or alert state;
- (b) the submission by a balancing service provider of balancing capacity and balancing energy bids;
- (c) the provision by a balance responsible party of a balanced position at the end of the day-ahead time-frame if required by the terms and conditions related to balancing;
- (d) the provision of modifications of the position of balance responsible parties;
- (e) the provision of schedules referred to in Article 111(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, and
- (f) other relevant market activities the suspension of which is deemed necessary to preserve and/or restore the system.

3. In case of suspension of market activities pursuant to paragraph 1, upon request of the TSO, each SGU shall operate, where technically possible, at an active power set-point established by the TSO.

4. When suspending market activities pursuant to paragraph 1, the TSO may fully or partially suspend the operation of its processes impacted by such suspension.

5. When suspending market activities pursuant to paragraph 1, the TSO shall coordinate at least with the following parties:

- (a) the TSOs of the capacity calculation regions of which the TSO is a member of;
- (b) the TSOs with which the TSO has arrangements for the coordination of balancing;
- (c) the 'NEMO' and other entities assigned or delegated to execute market functions in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 **and Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** within its control area;

- (d) the TSOs of a load-frequency control block of which the TSO is a member of; and
 - (e) the coordinated capacity calculator of the capacity calculation regions of which the TSO is a member of.
6. In case of suspension of market activities, each TSO shall launch the communication procedure set out in Article 38.

Article 36

Rules for suspension and restoration of market activities

1. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall develop a proposal for rules concerning the suspension and restoration of market activities.
2. The TSO shall publish these rules on its website following their approval by the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article **59** of Directive **(EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**.
3. The rules for suspension and restoration of market activities shall be compatible to the extent possible with:
 - (a) the rules on provision of cross zonal capacity within the concerned capacity calculation regions;
 - (b) the rules for submission by balancing service providers of balancing capacity and balancing energy bids resulting from arrangements with other TSOs for the coordination of balancing;
 - (c) the rules for provision by balance responsible party of a balanced position at the end of day-ahead timeframe if required by the terms and conditions related to balancing;
 - (d) rules for provision of modifications of the position of balance responsible parties; and
 - (e) the rules for provision of schedules referred to in Article 111(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**.
4. When developing the rules for suspension and restoration of market activities, each TSO shall convert the situations referred to in Article 35(1) into objectively defined parameters taking into account the following factors:
 - (a) the percentage of load disconnection in the LFC area of the TSO corresponding to:
 - (i) the inability of a significant share of balancing responsible parties to maintain their balance; or
 - (ii) the necessity for the TSO not to follow the usual balancing processes to perform an efficient re-energisation;
 - (b) the percentage of generation disconnection in the LFC area of the TSO corresponding to the inability of a significant share of balancing responsible parties to maintain their balance;
 - (c) the share and geographic distribution of unavailable transmission system elements corresponding to:
 - (i) the desynchronisation of a significant part of the LFC area rendering the usual balancing processes counterproductive; or
 - (ii) the reduction to zero of cross zonal capacity on a bidding zone border(s);
 - (d) the inability of the following affected entities to execute their market activities for reason(s) outside their control:

- (i) balance responsible parties;
 - (ii) balancing service providers;
 - (iii) NEMOs and other entities assigned or delegated to execute market functions pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**;
 - (iv) transmission connected DSOs;
- (e) the absence of properly functioning tools and communication means necessary to perform:
- (i) the single day-ahead or intraday coupling or any explicit capacity allocation mechanism; or
 - (ii) the frequency restoration process; or
 - (iii) the reserve replacement process; or
 - (iv) the provision by balance responsible party of a balanced position in day ahead and the provision of change of its position; or
 - (v) the provision of schedules referred to in Article 111(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**.
5. The rules for suspension and restoration of market activities shall define a time delay to be respected for each parameter defined pursuant to paragraph 4, prior to starting the procedure for suspension of market activities.
6. The concerned TSO shall assess in real-time the parameters defined pursuant to paragraph 4, on the basis of the information at its disposal.
7. **When reporting** on the level of harmonisation of the rules for suspension and restoration of market activities established by the TSOs and identifying, as appropriate, areas that require harmonisation, **in accordance with Article 36(7) of Regulation (EU) 2017/2196, the ENTSO for Electricity, acting in accordance with Article 3 of Procedural Act No 2022/01/MC-EnC, shall extend this report to include the Contracting Parties.**
8. By **30 June 2024**, each TSO shall submit to ENTSO for Electricity the data required to prepare and submit the report in accordance with paragraph 7.

Article 37

Procedure for restoration of market activities

1. The concerned TSO, in coordination with the NEMO(s) active in its control area and with the neighbouring TSOs, shall launch the procedure for the restoration of market activities suspended pursuant to Article 35(1) when:
- (a) the situation triggering the suspension has ended and no other situation referred to in Article 35(1) applies; and
 - (b) the entities referred to in Article 38(2) have been duly informed in advance in accordance with Article 38.
2. The concerned TSO, in coordination with neighbouring TSOs, shall launch the restoration of TSO processes impacted by the suspension of market activities when the conditions of paragraph 1 are fulfilled or before, if necessary to restore market activities.

3. The concerned NEMO(s), in coordination with TSOs and entities referred to in Article 35(5), shall launch the restoration of the relevant single day ahead and/or single intraday coupling processes as soon as the TSO(s) notifies that the TSOs' processes have been restored.
4. When the provision of cross zonal capacity has been suspended and subsequently restored, each concerned TSO shall update the cross zonal capacities for capacity allocation by using, from the following, the most feasible and efficient option for each market time unit:
 - (a) by using the latest available cross zonal capacities calculated by the coordinated capacity calculator;
 - (b) by launching the regional capacity calculation processes applicable in accordance with Articles 29 and 30 of Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**; or,
 - (c) by determining, in coordination with TSOs of the capacity calculation region, cross zonal capacities based on the actual physical network conditions.
5. When part of the total coupled area where market activities have been suspended is back to the normal state or alert state, the NEMO(s) of this area shall be entitled to execute a market coupling in a part of the total coupled area, in consultation with the TSOs and entities referred to in Article 35(5), provided that the TSO has restored the capacity calculation process.
6. No later than 30 days after the market activities have been restored, the TSO(s) that suspended and restored market activities shall prepare a report at least in English containing a detailed explanation of the rationale, implementation and impact of the market suspension and a reference to the compliance with the rules for suspension and restoration of market activities and shall submit it to the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article 59 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**, and make it available to the entities referred to in Article 38(2).
7. The regulatory authorities of the **Contracting Parties** or the **Energy Community Regulatory Board** may issue a recommendation to the concerned TSO(s) to promote good practices and prevent similar incidents in the future.

Article 38

Communication procedure

1. The rules for suspension and restoration of market activities developed pursuant to Article 36 shall also contain a communication procedure detailing the tasks and actions expected from each party in its different roles during the suspension and restoration of market activities.
2. The communication procedure shall provide that information is sent, simultaneously, to the following entities:
 - (a) the parties referred to in Article 35(5);
 - (b) the balance responsible parties;
 - (c) the balancing service providers;
 - (d) the transmission connected DSOs; and
 - (e) the relevant regulatory authority of the concerned **Contracting Parties** in accordance with Article 59

of Directive **(EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**.

3. The communication procedure shall include at least the following steps:

- (a) the notification by the TSO that market activities have been suspended in accordance with Article 35;
- (b) the notification by the TSO of best estimate for the time and date for transmission system restoration;
- (c) the notification by the NEMO and other entities designated to execute market functions according to Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** and to Regulation (EU) 2016/1719 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** of the suspension of their activities, if any;
- (d) the updates by the TSOs on the process for restoration of the transmission system;
- (e) the notification by the entities referred to in points (a) to (d) of paragraph 2, that their market tools and communication systems are operational;
- (f) the notification by the TSO(s) that the transmission system has been restored back to normal state or alert state;
- (g) the notification by the NEMO and other entities assigned or delegated to execute market functions according to Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** of the best estimate for time and date when market activities will be restored; and
- (h) the confirmation by the NEMO and other entities assigned or delegated to execute market functions according to Regulation (EU) 2015/1222 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** that market activities have been restored.

4. All notifications and updates by the TSO(s), the NEMO(s) and other entities assigned or delegated to execute market functions referred to in paragraph 3, shall be published on the websites of those entities. When notification or update on the website is not possible, the entity subject to the obligation to notify, shall inform via email, or via any other available means, at least those parties directly participating in the suspended market activities.

5. Notification pursuant to point (e) of paragraph 3 shall be done via email or via any other available means to the concerned TSO.

Article 39

Rules for settlement in case of suspension of market activities

1. By **31 December 2023**, each TSO shall develop a proposal for rules for imbalance settlement and settlement of balancing capacity and balancing energy which shall be applicable for imbalance settlement periods during which the market activities were suspended. The TSO may propose the same rules it applies for normal operations.

The TSO shall publish these rules on its website following their approval by the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article **59** of Directive **(EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC**.

A TSO may delegate the TSO's tasks referred to in this Article to one or more third parties, provided that

the third party can carry out the respective function at least as effectively as the TSO(s). A **Contracting Party** or, where applicable, a regulatory authority, may assign the tasks referred to in this Article to one or more third parties, provided that the third party can carry out the respective function at least as effectively as the TSO(s).

2. The rules referred to in paragraph 1 shall address the settlements of TSO's and third parties, where relevant, with balance responsible parties, and balancing services providers.

3. The rules developed in accordance with paragraph 1 shall:

- (a) ensure the financial neutrality of each TSO and relevant third party referred to in paragraph 1;
- (b) avoid distortions of incentives or counterproductive incentives to balance responsible parties, balance service providers and TSOs;
- (c) incentivise balance responsible parties to strive to be balanced or help the system to restore its balance;
- (d) avoid any financial penalties imposed on balance responsible parties and balancing service providers due to the execution of the actions requested by the TSO;
- (e) discourage TSOs from suspending market activities, unless strictly necessary, and incentivise TSOs to restore the market activities as soon as possible; and
- (f) incentivise balance service providers to offer services to the connecting TSO that helps restore the system to normal state.

CHAPTER V

INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND COMMUNICATION, TOOLS AND FACILITIES

Article 40

Information exchange

1. In addition to the provisions of Articles 40 to 53 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, each TSO, when in the emergency, blackout or restoration states, shall be entitled to gather the following information:

(a) from DSOs identified in accordance with Article 23(4), the necessary information about at least:

- (i) the part of their network that is in island operation;
- (ii) the ability to synchronise parts of their network that is in island operation; and
- (iii) the capability to start island operation.

(b) from SGUs identified in accordance with Article 23(4) and restoration service providers, information about at least the following conditions:

- (i) the current status of the installation;
- (ii) the operational limits;
- (iii) the full activation time and the time to increase generation; and
- (iv) the time critical processes.

2. During the emergency, blackout or restoration states, each TSO shall provide in due time and for the

purposes of system defence plan procedures and restoration plan procedures, the following information, where available to the TSO:

- (a) to neighbouring TSOs, information about at least:
 - (i) the extent and borders of the synchronised region or synchronised regions to which its control area belongs;
 - (ii) the restrictions to operate the synchronised region;
 - (iii) the maximum duration and amount of active and reactive power that can be supplied via inter-connectors; and
 - (iv) any other technical or organisational restrictions;
 - (b) to the frequency leader of its synchronised region, information about at least:
 - (i) the restrictions to maintain island operation;
 - (ii) the available additional load and generation; and
 - (iii) the availability of operational reserves;
 - (c) to transmission connected DSOs identified in accordance with Article 11(4) and 23(4), information about at least:
 - (i) the system state of its transmission system;
 - (ii) the limits of active and reactive power, block loading, tap and circuit breaker position at the connection points;
 - (iii) the information on the current and planned status of power generating modules connected to the DSO, if not available to the DSO directly; and
 - (iv) all necessary information leading to further coordination with distribution connected parties;
 - (d) to defence service providers, information about at least:
 - (i) the system state of its transmission system; and
 - (ii) the scheduled measures that require participation of the defence service providers;
 - (e) to DSOs and SGUs identified pursuant to Article 23(4) and to restoration service providers, information about at least:
 - (i) the system state of its transmission system;
 - (ii) the ability and plans to re-energise couplings; and
 - (iii) the scheduled measures that require their participation.
3. TSOs in emergency, blackout or restoration state shall exchange among themselves information concerning, at least:
- (a) the circumstances that led to the current system state of its transmission system, to the extent that they are known; and
 - (b) the potential problems making assistance for active power necessary.
4. A TSO in emergency, blackout or restoration state shall provide, in due time, information about the system state of its transmission system and, where available, additional information explaining the situation on the transmission system:
- (a) to the NEMO(s), who shall make this information available to their market participants, as provided

for in Article 38;

(b) to its relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article 59 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC, or when explicitly provided for in national law, to the entities referred to in Article 4(3); and

(c) to any other relevant party, as appropriate.

5. TSOs shall inform each affected party about the test plan developed pursuant to Article 43(2) and (3).

Article 41

Communication systems

1. Each DSO and SGU identified in accordance with points (b) and (c) of Article 23(4), each restoration service provider and each TSO shall have a voice communication system in place with sufficient equipment redundancy and backup power supply sources to allow the exchange of the information needed for the restoration plan for at least 24 hours, in case of total absence of external electrical energy supply or in case of failure of any individual voice communication system equipment. **Contracting Parties** may require a minimum backup power capacity higher than 24 hours.

2. Each TSO shall establish, in consultation with the DSOs and SGUs identified in accordance with Article 23(4) and with restoration service providers, the technical requirements to be fulfilled by their voice communication systems as well as by the TSO's own voice communication system in order to allow their interoperability and to guarantee that the TSO's incoming call can be identified by the other party and answered immediately.

3. Each TSO shall establish, in consultation with its neighbouring TSOs and the other TSOs of its synchronous area, the technical requirements to be fulfilled by their voice communication systems as well as by the TSO's own voice communication system in order to allow their interoperability and to guarantee that the TSO's incoming call can be identified by the other party and answered immediately.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, those SGUs identified in accordance with Article 23(4) that are type B power generating modules and those restoration service providers that are type A or B power generating modules, shall have the possibility to have only a data communication system, instead of a voice communication system, if agreed upon with the TSO. This data communication system shall fulfil the requirements laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2.

5. **Contracting Parties** may require that, in addition to the voice communication system, a complementary communication system be used to support the restoration plan; in that case, the complementary communication system shall fulfil the requirements laid down in paragraph 1.

Article 42

Tools and facilities

1. Each TSO shall make available critical tools and facilities referred to in Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC for at least 24 hours in case of loss of primary power supply.

2. Each DSO and SGU identified pursuant to Article 23(4) as well as restoration service provider shall make available critical tools and facilities referred to in Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC** and used in the restoration plan for at least 24 hours in case of loss of primary power supply, as defined by the TSO.
3. Each TSO shall have at least one geographically separate backup control room. The backup control room shall include at least the critical tools and facilities referred to in Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**. Each TSO shall arrange a backup power supply for its backup control room for at least 24 hours in case of loss of primary power supply.
4. Each TSO shall prepare a transfer procedure for moving functions from the main control room to the backup control room as quickly as possible, and in any case in a maximum time of three hours. The procedure shall include the operation of the system during the transfer.
5. Substations identified as essential for the restoration plan procedures pursuant to Article 23(4) shall be operational in case of loss of primary power supply for at least 24 hours. <...>

CHAPTER VI COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW

SECTION 1

Compliance testing of TSO, DSO and SGU capabilities

Article 43

General principles

1. Each TSO shall periodically assess the proper functioning of all equipment and capabilities considered in the system defence plan and the restoration plan. To this end, each TSO shall periodically verify the compliance of such equipment and capabilities, in accordance with paragraph 2 and with Article 41(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**, Article 35(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision No 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**, and Article 69(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**.
2. By **30 June 2024**, each TSO shall define a test plan in consultation with the DSOs, the SGUs identified pursuant to Articles 11(4) and 23(4), the defence service providers and the restoration service providers. The test plan shall identify the equipment and capabilities relevant for the system defence plan and the restoration plan that have to be tested.
3. The test plan shall include the periodicity and conditions of the tests, following the minimum requirements outlined in Articles 44 to 47. The test plan shall follow the methodology laid down in Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**, Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group**

Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC, and Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**, for the corresponding tested capability. For SGUs that are not subject to Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**, Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision No 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**, and Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**, the test plan shall follow the provisions of national law.

4. Each TSO, DSO, SGU, defence service provider and restoration service provider shall not endanger the operational security of the transmission system and of the interconnected transmission system during the test. The test shall be conducted in a way that minimises the impact on system users.

5. The test is deemed to be successful when it fulfils the conditions established by the relevant system operator pursuant to paragraph 3. As long as a test fails to fulfil these criteria, the TSO, DSO, SGU, defence service provider and restoration service provider shall repeat the test.

Article 44

Compliance testing of power generating module capabilities

1. Each restoration service provider which is a power generating module delivering black start service shall execute a black start capability test, at least every three years, following the methodology laid down in Article 45(5) of Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**.

2. Each restoration service provider which is a power generating module delivering a quick re-synchronisation service shall execute tripping to houseload test after any changes of equipment having an impact on its houseload operation capability, or after two unsuccessful consecutive tripping in real operation, following the methodology laid down in Article 45(6) of Regulation (EU) 2016/631, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/03/PHLG-EnC**.

Article 45

Compliance testing of demand facilities providing demand side response

1. Each defence service provider delivering demand response shall execute a demand modification test, after two consecutive unsuccessful responses in real operation or at least every year, following the methodology laid down in Article 41(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**.

2. Each defence service provider delivering demand response low frequency demand disconnection shall execute a low frequency demand disconnection test within a period to be defined at national level and following the methodology laid down in Article 37(4) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**, for transmission connected demand facilities or according to a similar methodology defined by the relevant system operator for other demand facilities.

Article 46**Compliance testing of HVDC capabilities**

Each restoration service provider which is an HVDC system delivering a black start service shall execute a black start capability test, at least every three years, following the methodology laid down in Article 70(11) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1447, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/04/PHLG-EnC**.

Article 47**Compliance testing of low frequency demand disconnection relays**

Each DSO and TSO shall execute testing on the low frequency demand disconnection relays implemented on its installations, within a period to be defined at national level and following the methodology laid down in Article 37(6) and Article 39(5) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1388, **as adapted and adopted by Permanent High Level Group Decision 2018/05/PHLG-EnC**.

Article 48**Testing of communication systems**

1. Each DSO and SGU identified pursuant to Article 23(4), each TSO and each restoration service provider shall test the communication systems defined in Article 41, at least every year.
2. Each DSO and SGU identified pursuant to Article 23(4), each TSO and each restoration service provider shall test the backup power supply of their communication systems at least every five years.
3. By **30 June 2024**, each TSO, in consultation with other TSOs, shall define a test plan for testing the inter-TSO communication.

Article 49**Testing of tools and facilities**

1. Each TSO shall test the capability of main and backup power sources to supply its main and backup control rooms, provided for in Article 42, at least every year.
2. Each TSO shall test the functionality of critical tools and facilities referred to in Article 24 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**, at least every three years, covering both main and backup tools and facilities. Where these tools and facilities involve DSOs or SGUs, these parties shall participate in this test.
3. Each TSO shall test the capability of backup power sources to supply essential services of the substations identified as essential for the restoration plan procedures pursuant to Article 23(4), at least every five years. When these substations are in distribution systems, DSOs shall execute this test.

4. Each TSO shall test the transfer procedure for moving from the main control room to the backup control room, provided for in Article 42(4), at least every year.

SECTION 2

Compliance testing and review of system defence plans and restoration plans

Article 50

Compliance testing and periodic review of the system defence plan

1. Each DSO concerned by the implementation of the low frequency demand disconnection on its installations shall update once a year the communication to the notifying system operator provided for in point (b) of Article 12(6). This communication shall include the frequency settings at which netted demand disconnection is initiated and the percentage of netted demand disconnected at every such setting.

2. Each TSO shall monitor the proper implementation of the low frequency demand disconnection on the basis of the yearly written communication referred to in paragraph 1 and on the basis of implementation details of TSOs' installations where applicable.

3. Each TSO shall review, at least every five years, its complete system defence plan to assess its effectiveness. The TSO shall in this review take into account at least:

(a) the development and evolution of its network since the last review or first design;

(b) the capabilities of new equipment installed on the transmission and distribution systems since the last review or first design;

(c) the SGUs commissioned since the last review or first design, their capabilities and relevant services offered;

(d) the tests carried out and the analysis of system incidents pursuant to Article 56(5) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 **as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC**; and

(e) the operational data collected during normal operation and after disturbance.

4. Each TSO shall review the relevant measures of its system defence plan in accordance with paragraph 3 before any substantial change in the configuration of the grid.

5. When the TSO identifies the need to adapt the system defence plan, it shall amend its system defence plan and implement these amendments in accordance with points (c) and (d) of Article 4(2) and Articles 11 and 12.

Article 51

Compliance testing and periodic review of the restoration plan

1. Each TSO shall review the measures of its restoration plan using computer simulation tests, using data from the DSOs identified pursuant to Article 23(4) and the restoration service providers, at least every five years. The TSO shall define these simulation tests in a dedicated testing procedure covering at least:

- (a) the energising restoration path from restoration service providers with black start or island operation capabilities;
 - (b) the supply of power generating modules main auxiliaries;
 - (c) the demand reconnection process; and
 - (d) the process for resynchronisation of networks in island operation.
2. In addition, where deemed necessary by the TSO for the effectiveness of the restoration plan, each TSO shall execute operational testing of parts of the restoration plan, in coordination with the DSOs identified pursuant to Article 23(4) and the restoration service providers. The TSO shall set out, in consultation with the DSOs and restoration service providers, those operational tests in a dedicated testing procedure.
3. Each TSO shall review its restoration plan to assess its effectiveness, at least every five years.
4. Each TSO shall review the relevant measures of its restoration plan in accordance with paragraph 1 and review their effectiveness before any substantial change in the configuration of the grid.
5. When the TSO identifies the need to adapt the restoration plan, it shall amend its restoration plan and implement these amendments in accordance with points (c) and (d) of Article 4(2) and Articles 23 and 24.

CHAPTER VII IMPLEMENTATION

Article 52 **Monitoring**

1. **ENTSOE-E acting in accordance with Article 3 of Procedural Act No 2022/01/MC- EnC**, shall monitor the implementation of this Regulation **in the areas covered by this paragraph. To the extent the monitoring covers Contracting Parties located outside the Continental Europe synchronous area or not being member of ENTSO for Electricity, the Energy Community Secretariat shall collect data from the relevant transmission system operators.** Monitoring **by ENTSO for Electricity** shall cover in particular the following matters:
- (a) identification of any divergences in the national implementation of this Regulation for the items listed in Article 4(2);
 - (b) consistency assessment of system defence plans and restoration plans carried out by TSOs in accordance with Article 6;
 - (c) thresholds above which the impact of actions of one or more TSOs in the emergency, blackout or restoration states is considered significant for other TSOs within the capacity calculation region in accordance with Article 6;
 - (d) the level of harmonisation of the rules for suspension and restoration of market activities established by the TSOs in accordance with Article 36(1) and for the purposes of the report provided for in Article 36(7);
 - (e) the level of harmonisation of the rules for imbalance settlement and settlement of balancing energy in case of market suspension, referred to in Article 39.
2. <...>

3. Relevant TSOs shall submit to ENTSO for Electricity the information required to perform the tasks referred to in paragraph 1 <...>.

4. Following a request of the relevant regulatory authority in accordance with Article 59 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC, DSOs and the entities pursuant to Article 39(1) shall provide TSOs with the information under Article 52 paragraph 2 of Regulation 2017/2196 unless that information is already available to the regulatory authorities, TSOs, the Energy Community Regulatory Board or ENTSO for Electricity in relation to their respective implementation monitoring tasks, with the objective of avoiding duplication of information.

Article 53

Stakeholder involvement

The Energy Community Regulatory Board, in close cooperation with ENTSO for Electricity, shall organise stakeholder involvement regarding the implementation of this Regulation. Such involvement shall include regular meetings with stakeholders to identify problems and propose improvements related to the requirements of this Regulation.

CHAPTER VIII FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 54

Amendments to contracts and general terms and conditions

All relevant clauses in contracts and general terms and conditions of TSOs, DSOs and SGUs relating to system operation shall comply with the requirements of this Regulation. To that effect, those contracts and general terms and conditions shall be modified accordingly.

Article 55

Entry into force

This Decision D/2022/03/MC-EnC enters into force upon its adoption and is addressed to the Parties and institutions of the Energy Community.¹

Article 2 of Decision D/2022/03/MC-EnC

Each Contracting Party shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with <...>, Regulation (EU) 2017/2196, <...> by 31 December 2023.

¹ The text displayed here corresponds to Article 13 of Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC.

Each Contracting Party shall notify the Energy Community Secretariat of completed transposition by sending the text of the provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Decision and of any subsequent changes within two weeks following the adoption of such measures.

ANNEX

Automatic low frequency demand disconnection scheme characteristics:

Parameter	Values SA Continental Europe	<...>	<...>	<...>	Measuring Unit
Demand disconnection starting mandatory level: Frequency	49	<...>	<...>	<...>	Hz
Demand disconnection starting mandatory level: Demand to be disconnected	5	<...>	<...>	<...>	% of the Total Load at national level
Demand disconnection final mandatory level: Frequency	48	<...>	<...>	<...>	Hz
Demand disconnection final mandatory level: Cumulative Demand to be disconnected	45	<...>	<...>	<...>	% of the Total Load at national level
Implementation range	± 7	<...>	<...>	<...>	% of the Total Load at national level, for a given Frequency
Minimum number of steps to reach the final mandatory level	6	<...>	<...>	<...>	Number of steps
Maximum Demand disconnection for each step	10	<...>	<...>	<...>	% of the Total Load at national level, for a given step