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# RCC Training and Certification

**ENTSO-E proposal for the Regional Coordination Centres' task "Training and certification of staff" in accordance with Article 37(1)(g) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the internal market for electricity**

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**For submission to ACER**

**1 April 2022**

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### Whereas

- (1) The Regulation (EU) 2019/943 on the internal market for electricity adopted by the European Parliament and the Council of 5 June 2019<sup>1</sup>, sets the basis for an efficient achievement of the objectives of the Energy Union and in particular the climate and energy framework for 2030 through establishing a modern design for the European Union’s (EU) electricity market, adapted to the new realities of the market. The Regulation (EU) 2019/943 was developed and adopted as part of the EU Clean Energy Package for All.
- (2) Article 35 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943 establishes the Regional Coordination Centres (RCCs) while Article 37(1) lists the tasks and roles of those centres. According to Article 37(1)(g) RCCs shall carry out training and certification of their staff, while point 12 of Annex I of the Regulation provides further details:

<sup>1</sup> European Union (2019), Regulation (EU) 2019/943 on the internal market for electricity adopted by the European Union and of the Council of 5 June 2019 (hereinafter “Regulation (EU) 2019/943”), available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32019R0943>

- a. “12.1 Regional coordination centres shall prepare and carry out training and certification programmes focusing on regional system operation for the personnel working for regional coordination centres.
  - b. 12.2 The training programs shall cover all the relevant components of system operation, where the regional coordination centre performs tasks including scenarios of regional crisis.”
- (3) This document is a proposal developed by the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (“ENTSO-E”) and representatives of the RCCs in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2019/943 and in particular Article 37(1)(g) and (5) on the methodology describing the obligation of the RCCs to carry out training and certification of staff working in the RCCs. It provides definitions and sets out the RCC training and certification process. Training and certification of the TSOs’ staff is excluded from the scope of this proposal.
  - (4) Pursuant Article 35(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, RCCs shall enter into operation by 1 July 2022, which means that the proposals for all the tasks listed in Article 37(1) of the Regulation shall be submitted to and approved by ACER before this date according to the approval procedure described in Article 27 of the Regulation.
  - (5) This proposal was developed in light of Article 61 of the SO GL<sup>2</sup>.

## **Title 1**

### **General provisions**

#### **Article 1**

#### **Subject matter and scope**

1. Training and certification are mandatory for all RCC Operators.
2. The RCC training and certification methodology applies to all the tasks that the RCCs carry out in accordance with Article 37(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, as well as any additional tasks which may be added according to Article 37(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943 or according to any new regulation, which would enter into force in the future.
3. The RCC training and certification methodology applies to all aspects of the training needed for the RCCs to perform the tasks for which the RCC is appointed.
4. The RCC Training programs and modules are defined by RCCs and are not subject to ACER approval.
5. The requirements of the methodology shall also cover any regional desk established according to Article 44(2) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943.

#### **Article 2**

#### **Definitions and interpretation**

1. For the purposes of this methodology, the following terms will be used:
  - a. ‘RCC Training Program’: General framework of all aspect related to training (including Training Modules and RCC annual Training Plan) and certification. The RCC Training Program is made per RCC.

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<sup>2</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 of 2 August 2017 establishing a guideline on electricity transmission system operation (hereinafter “SO GL”), available at: [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L\\_.2017.220.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2017:220:TOC](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2017.220.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2017:220:TOC)

- b. 'RCC Annual Training Plan': The annual schedule for RCC training activities and certification. The RCC annual Training plan is made per RCC.
  - c. 'Training Module': Covers the content of the training needed to operate part of or a complete task, or several tasks which are closely connected. The content includes at least training material, pedagogical objectives and participants.
  - d. 'RCCs' Joint Training Modules': Training modules for which at least the training material is common for all RCCs.
  - e. 'RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules': Training module for which at least the training material is common for at least one RCC and one TSO.
  - f. 'RCC Operators': All staff which operate one or more of the tasks for which the RCCs are appointed according to Article 37 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943. Each RCC may define one or more types of RCC Operators.
  - g. 'RCC Training Coordinator': Person in the RCC which oversees the coordination of the RCC training and certification of staff.
2. In addition, the following abbreviations shall apply:
- a. ACER: Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators
  - b. ENTSO-E: European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity
  - c. RCC: Regional Coordination Center
  - d. RSC: Regional Security Coordinator
  - e. SOR: System Operation Region
  - f. TSO: Transmission System Operator

## **Title 2** **RCC Training of staff**

### **Article 3** **RCC Training Coordinator**

1. Each RCC shall nominate at least one Training Coordinator.
2. Each RCC shall define roles and responsibilities of the Training Coordinator which shall include at least:
  - a. Evaluation of the need for Joint Training Modules and where needed, definition of RCC Joint Training Modules according to Article 5
  - b. Definition of RCC and TSOs Common Training Modules according to Article 8
  - c. Definition of RCCs' Joint Training Module formal authorisation processes according to Article 11
  - d. Definition of the RCC Training Program according to Article 4
  - e. Definition of the RCC Annual Training Plan according to Article 4(2)(d)
  - f. Coordination and cooperation with TSO and RCC Training Coordinators according to Article 5(1), Article 7(1), Article 8(1) and Article 11(1).

### **Article 4** **RCC Training Program**

1. Each RCC shall establish an internal RCC Training Program to ensure that the RCC Operators' know-how is kept on a consistently high level to operate the task as described in the working arrangements elaborated in accordance with Article 39 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943.
2. The RCC Training Program shall cover at least the following:
  - a. Roles and responsibilities in relation with the training activities
  - b. Definition of types of RCC Operators in accordance with Article 9 and 10
  - c. Organization and execution procedure of training activities
  - d. Establishment of an RCC Annual Training Plan (including RCC Joint Training Modules and Joint Training Modules formal authorisation process as describe in Article 5 and 10 and RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules as describe in Article 8.).
  - e. Procedure for the review and the update of the RCC Training Program
  - f. List of Training Modules (including RCC and TSO Common Training Modules and Joint Training Modules
3. Each RCC shall review its Training Programs at least annually and following significant changes to the RCC tasks which would affect the structure of the RCC Training Program.
4. Each RCC shall update its training material to reflect changing operational circumstances, market rules, network configuration and system characteristics, with particular focus on new technologies, changing generation and demand patterns and market evolution.
5. In connection to the operation of a new task, the following actions shall be executed by the RCC:
  - a. the update of the RCC Training Program of the relevant RCC
  - b. training of enough RCCs Operators to be able to go live

#### **Article 5 RCCs' Joint Training Modules**

1. When developing their Training Programs, all RCCs' Training Coordinators shall evaluate together, whether there is a need for RCCs' Joint Training Modules with other RCCs for any of the tasks listed in Article 1.
2. RCCs' Joint Training Modules shall be organized by all RCCs at least for processes which are to be operated by RCCs on Pan European Level
3. When developing a working arrangement according to Article 39 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, for each task listed in Article 1, the RCCs' Training Coordinators shall evaluate whether there is a need to organize Joint Training Modules.
4. The RCCs' Joint Training Module shall be part of the RCC Training Program of each RCC.
5. All RCCs together shall organize joint meetings and workshops to ensure a well-established relationship between RCC Operators for a seamless cross-regional cooperation.

#### **Article 6 RCCs' Joint Training Program**

1. If Joint Training Modules are defined according to Article 5, RCCs shall establish a Joint Training Program.
2. When setting up Joint Training Program, the RCC shall take into account at least:
  - a. List of Joint Training Modules
  - b. For each Joint Training Module, the Joint Training Program shall specify which aspects are joint.

- i. The Training material
    - ii. The training software environment, where relevant
    - iii. The provision of the module, for example e-learning, webinar or physical
  - c. In case of Pan-European processes as referred to in Article 5(2)(b), the role and responsibilities of each RCC shall be specified.
  - d. The different types of RCC operators
3. The Joint Training Program shall not conflict with the RCC Training Programs which is described in the Article 4(2).
4. The Joint Training Program revision shall be done in accordance with the process outlined in Article 4(3)
5. Unless agreed otherwise by the RCCs, the Joint Training Modules shall be carried out in English.

### **Article 7** **Cross-RCC Training coordination**

1. Where cross-RCC coordination between more than one and less than all RCCs is required in the processes of a task, the relevant Training Coordinators shall align the Training Module.
2. The alignment will be done according to the level of coordination required:
  - a. Where the cross-RCC coordination requires some processes of the task to be the same, then the Training Coordinators shall ensure that the related aspects of the Training Modules and assessment in each RCC are the same.
  - b. Where the cross-RCC coordination requires alignment but does not require the processes to be the same, such as the Coordinated Security Analysis Article 37(1)(b) of Regulation 2019/943, then the Training Coordinators shall ensure that the related aspects of the Training Modules and assessment in each RCC do not conflict with each other.

### **Article 8** **RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules**

1. Training Coordinators of individual RCCs together with Training Coordinators of relevant TSOs will establish a common working group, to define RCCs and TSOs common training modules, according to at least:
  - a. The target group of the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules
  - b. The Frequency and duration of the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules
  - c. The Scope of the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules
  - d. The execution of the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules
  - e. The training type of the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules
  - f. The concepts of the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules
  - g. The content of the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules
2. Based on Article 8(1) the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules shall be developed, which will be part of the RCC Training Program.
3. The RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules and the RCCs and TSOs common annual training plan shall be reviewed at least once a year by the working group established in Article 8(1).
4. Unless decided otherwise by the RCC the RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules shall be carried out in English.

### **Title 3 RCC Certification of staff**

#### **Article 9 Organization and Structure of the Certification**

1. As part of their Training Program each RCC shall define a process of certification of RCC Operators. The scope of the certification is per each type of RCC Operator. The process shall include at least:
  - a. Roles and responsibilities in relation with the certification activities;
  - b. Process and criteria for obtaining and maintaining the certified status including the required competence level and the required English language skills;
  - c. Documentation to be maintained to keep record of the status of the training and certification activities including keeping record of the certified staff.
2. The certification process is not required to refer to any official national or international certification standard.

#### **Article 10 Requirements of the certification**

1. An RCC Operator shall not perform work in the scope of the tasks of his or her RCC without supervision of certified RCC Operators for the operation of the tasks for his or her RCC unless he or she is certified.
2. All RCC Operators shall be certified following a successful formal authorisation process which shall comprise an oral and/or written assessment(s) and/or practical assessment(s) with pre-defined success criteria in accordance with Article 9(1)(b).
3. Each RCC shall keep a copy of the formal authorisation results. Upon request by the regulatory authority of the country where it has its seat or by a participating TSO, the RCC shall provide a copy of the certification records.
4. Each RCC shall record the period of validity of the certification issued to any RCC Operator.
5. The RCC shall determine the period of validity of the certification, which shall not exceed 5 years, but which may be extended based on criteria determined by each RCC and may take into account the participation of RCC Operators in a continuous Training Program with sufficient practical experience.

#### **Article 11 RCCs' Joint Training Module formal authorisation process**

1. For each of the Joint Training Modules implemented according to Article 5, the RCC training Coordinators shall define a Joint Training Modules formal authorisation process.
2. The RCCs' Joint Training Module formal authorisation process can be organized jointly between RCCs or individually per RCC as long as the formal authorisation process requirements are the same
3. For each Training Module formal authorisation process, pre-defined success criteria shall be defined by the Training Coordinators.
4. The RCCs' Joint Training Module formal authorisation process shall assess that the knowledge of the RCC Operator is sufficient to operate the steps described in the Training Module, according to the pre-defined success criteria above.

5. The documentation for the RCCs' Joint Training Module formal authorisation process shall be managed according to Article 9(1)(c).
6. RCCs' Joint Training Module formal authorisation process shall be included as part of the requirements of the certification.

## **Title 4**

### **Final provisions**

#### **Article 12**

##### **Role and responsibilities**

1. Each RCC is responsible for the implementation of the methodology in accordance with Article 13.
2. Each RCC is responsible for ensuring that its staff is trained and certified in due time, in accordance with the methodology, for being able to operate all the task covered by Article 37(1) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, as well as any additional tasks which may be added according to Article 37(2) or according to any new regulation which would enter into force in the future.
3. Each RCC shall define the types of RCC Operators needed for operating the tasks where the RCC is appointed. According to the individual RCC operational organization, needs and regional specificities, the type of RCC operators may be different within a RCC and between RCCs.
4. The type of RCC Operators can be different between the RCCs.
5. In case of RCCs' Joint Training or Cross RCC training coordination or RCCs and TSOs Common Training Modules, the staff training and certification shall remain under the individual responsibility of each RCC.

#### **Article 13**

##### **Timescale for implementation**

1. Each RCC with the support of all relevant TSOs and ENTSO-E where relevant shall implement for all the tasks which are operational according to Article 37(1)(a-f) of the Regulation (EU) 2019/943, the training and certification of its staff in accordance with the articles above as soon as possible but no later than 24 months after the ACER approval of the methodology.
2. Until the implementation of the methodology, each RCC will train and certify its RCC Operators according to the current practices, which might be to not certify the RCC operators.
3. The current certification of the RCC Operators will be valid until the end of its currently defined validity period or until they are certified according to the new scheme.
4. Once this methodology is implemented, each RCC Operator that needs to be recertified will be recertified according to the RCC Training and certification of Staff approved methodology.
5. RCCs shall plan their implementation timelines for future tasks according to Article 1(3) so that they are able to meet the training and certification needs before go-live.

#### **Article 14**

##### **Language**

6. The reference language for this methodology shall be English.
7. For the avoidance of doubt, where TSOs or RCCs need to translate this methodology into their national language(s), in the event of inconsistencies between the English version published by ACER and any



version in another language, the relevant TSOs or RCCs shall, in accordance with national legislation, provide the relevant national regulatory authorities with an updated translation of the methodology.