



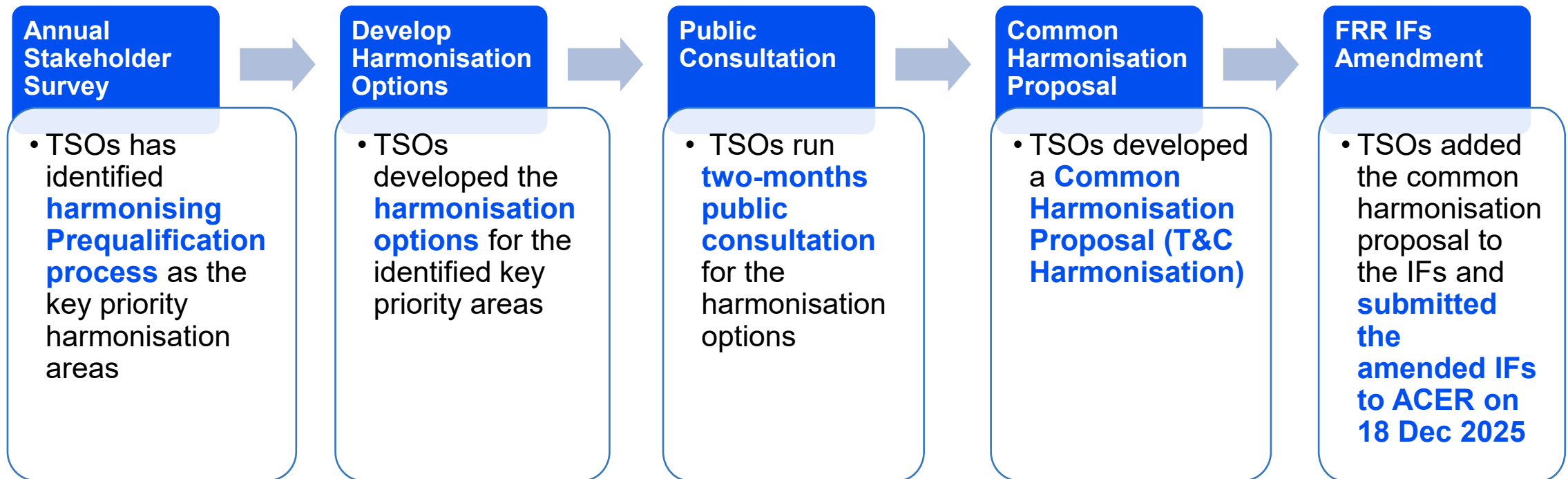
European Union Agency for the Cooperation
of Energy Regulators

ACER Decision on the All TSOs' Proposed Amendments to the Implementation Frameworks for the European Balancing Platforms (T&C Harmonisation)

EBSG meeting October 2026

Insert Sensitivity Marking

- Article 20 of the Implementation Frameworks for the European Balancing Platforms outlines the **framework for harmonisation process of terms and conditions for BSPs** requiring the TSOs to take the following steps:



Why prequalification matters?

Prequalification is the **entry door or essential first step** that market participants must complete to certify their units or groups, before they can bid and provide **balancing services**.



TSOs have different prequalification requirements and procedures. Market participants call for **easier market access** and a **level playing field**.

To increase **flexibility** in the electricity system, prequalification needs to find a **trade-off**

Stricter prequalification requirements advocated by **TSOs** to ensure **frequency and system security**



Lighter prequalification requirements and **shorter** processes advocated by **market participants** to **lower market entry barriers**

What did ACER decide?

Framework for harmonisation process

- **Every two years**, TSOs will run **stakeholders survey** to identify key priority areas where terms and conditions BSPs still needs to be aligned across countries.
- TSOs will then develop a **common proposal** for further harmonisation and **publicly consult** it.

More harmonised prequalification

- ACER introduced **requirements** for prequalification, switching, re-prequalification, termination and data exchange.
- Given the limited experience with harmonised prequalification, **some requirement will continue to be set at national level** with further harmonisation expected as TSOs gain more experience.

prequalification options

- ACER introduced three prequalification options with: **activation test**, **ex-post verification** and **fast track process**.
- Compared with prequalification with activation test, the other two offer **faster and easier market access** as services are monitored during operation instead of tested upfront.
- TSOs can choose any or all options, subject to approval by NRA.

Easier market access for smaller participants

- As existing process were designed around large conventional generators, ACER introduced some provisions on **simplification** of prequalification process for **smaller FRR providers** to make market entry easier for all participants that can provide secure and reliable balancing services and to improve liquidity.

