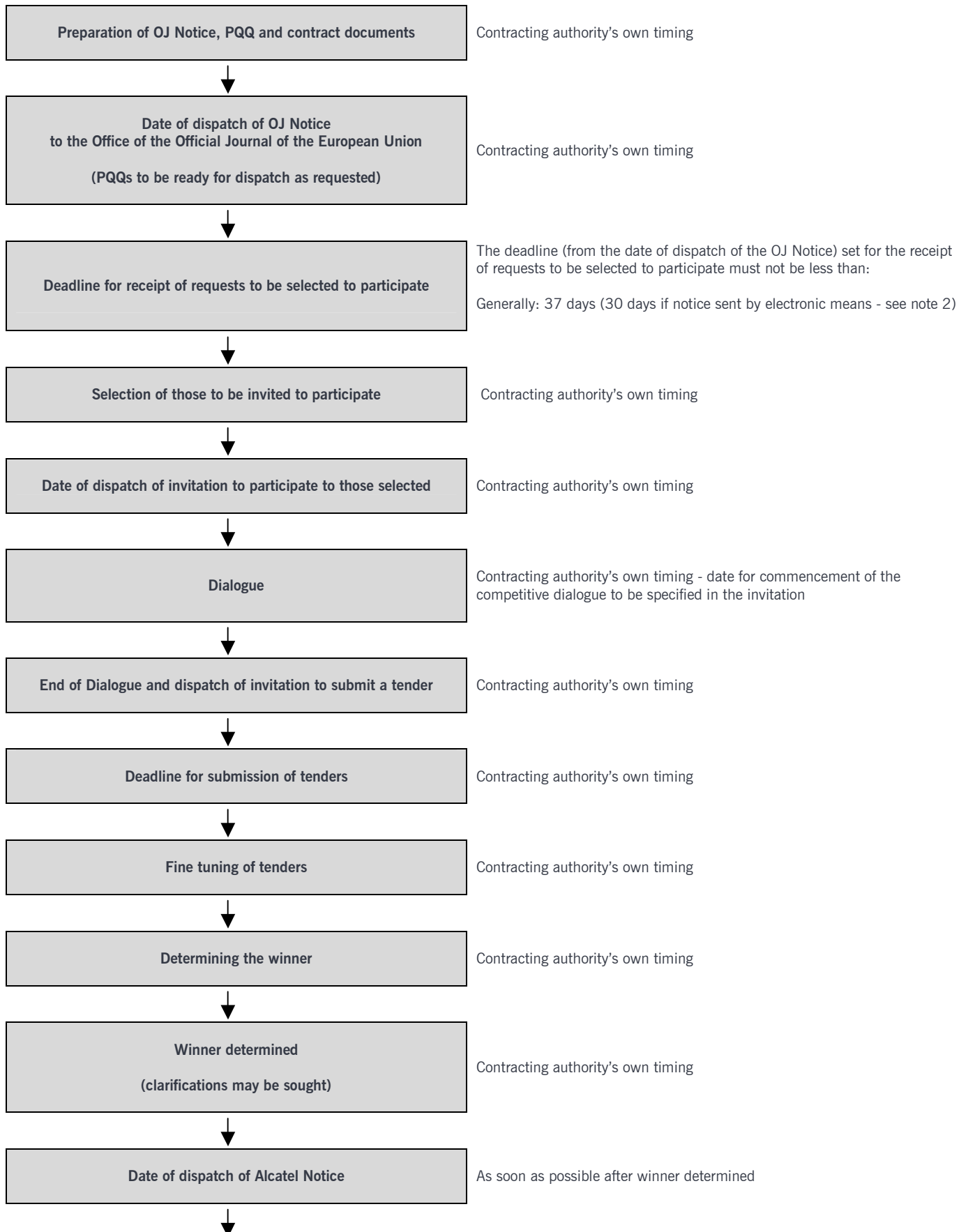


COMPETITIVE DIALOGUE PROCEDURE - SUMMARY TIMETABLE





Obligatory Alcatel Standstill Period

The contracting authority must not enter the contract until the Alcatel standstill provisions have been complied with. The duration of the standstill period depends primarily on the means of communication used for the Alcatel Notices.

If the Alcatel Notices are sent by fax or electronic means the standstill period is 10 calendar days. If the Alcatel Notices are sent by means other than fax or electronic means then the standstill period is 15 calendar days but may be 10 calendar days from the date on which the last economic operator to receive such a notice receives it if this is shorter.

The first day of the standstill period is the day after the Alcatel Notices are sent and the period ends at midnight on the last day. If the last day of the period is not a working day then the period must be extended to midnight on the next working day.

If Alcatel Notices are sent on different dates the standstill period must be calculated from the date when the last of the notices is sent. If some Alcatel Notices are sent by fax or electronic means and others are sent by other means then the standstill period will be the longer of: (a) the standstill period calculated from the date of sending of the last notice by fax or electronic means, or (b) the standstill period calculated from the date of sending of the last notice by other means.

It should be noted that participants in the process may, to the extent they have not already been provided with the information (for example in an obligatory Alcatel Notice), request specified de-brief information. The contracting authority must respond to such requests within 15 calendar days. Unlike the obligation to issue Alcatel Notices and abide by the standstill period described above responding to these requests for de-brief information does not prevent the contracting authority from entering the contract or concluding the framework agreement in question.

Contracting authority's own timing

Not later than 48 days after the award of the contract

Notes:

1. Calendar and working days - all references to "days" are to calendar days unless otherwise specified.
2. Electronic OJ Notices - it is important to note that there are detailed requirements - these are set out at Annex VIII of Directive 2004/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004.

If you have any questions about this practice note or a specific issue, please contact:

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Please note that this practice note summarises complex legal issues and is intended only to provide a general overview. This note is not a substitute for taking appropriate specialist advice in relation to specific matters.