



Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs DG

Tomasz Husak
Head of Cabinet Bieńkowska

Meeting with APPLE General Counsel

Brussels, 09/06/2015, 16h00

BRIEFING NOTE

You will meet Mr BJ Watrous, Global head of IP, standards and licensing, Mr Per Hellström, Senior Director for Regulatory and Competition Policy, EMEIA, and Mr Jaymeen Patel, Senior Manager, Government Affairs, EMEIA.

Two topics have been proposed by the Apple delegation: Standardisation and the standards setting process, including common charger. As a key manufacturer, Apple is a relevant stakeholder within the on-going discussions for a new MoU on harmonisation of chargers of mobile phones and other portable devices. IP Enforcement is not on the menu, but is included in the briefing in case they should raise the link between the DSM and copyright enforcement.

- 1. LINE TO TAKE..... 2
- 2. KEY MESSAGES..... 2
- 3. BACKGROUND 5

Coordinator:

[Redacted]

Harmonisation of chargers:

[Redacted]

BASIS request ID:

[Redacted], GROW.A1 [Redacted]
 [Redacted], GROW.B3
 [Redacted]
 [Redacted]

GROW/2890

1. Line to take

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Harmonisation of chargers

- *A sound voluntary agreement is a good way to deliver the benefits for consumers and the environment that we are seeking with the harmonisation of chargers. Apple as an important manufacturer of these devices is invited to actively contribute for a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on harmonisation of chargers.*

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

2. Key messages

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Harmonisation of chargers

- We want an agreement on a common charger for the next generation of smartphones and also for other portable devices.
- The benefits for consumers and the environment are clear: no need for adaptors and no need for buying a charger with each device.

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

3. Background

3.1. CV

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.4. Harmonisation of chargers

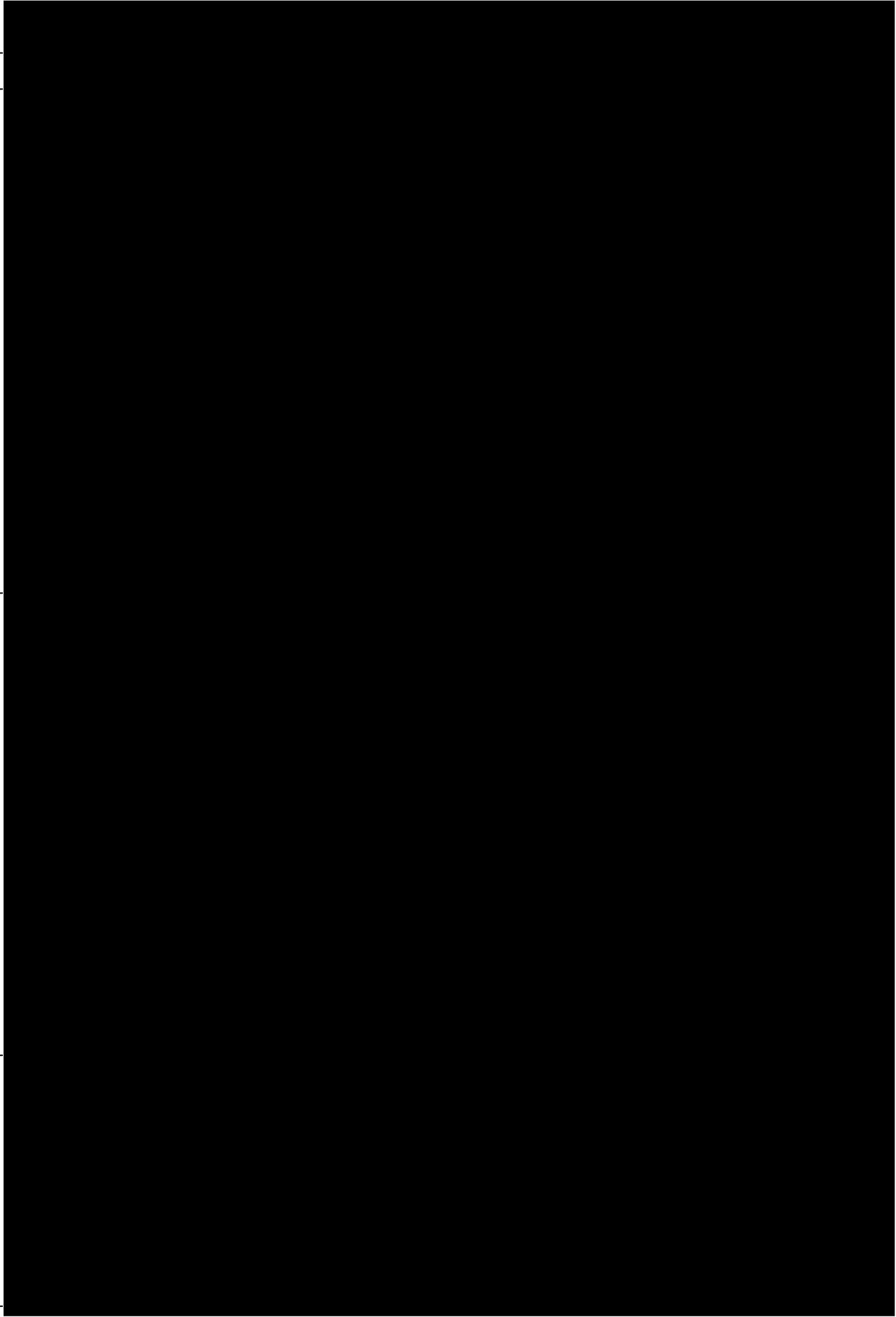
A ‘Study on the impact of the MoU on harmonisation of chargers for mobile telephones and to assess possible future options’ has been carried out and has been made available on the Europa website . The objective of this study was to evaluate the impacts of initiatives taken on the harmonisation of chargers for mobile telephones and indirectly on the markets for other portable electronic devices and to assess the potential for further harmonisation.

The Commission has taken contact with the representatives of major manufacturers of mobile telephones and has invited them to make proposals to consolidate the achievements of the 2009 regarding Harmonisation of a Charging Capability for Mobile Phones and to ensure a smooth transition towards the next generation of devices.

On the basis of these proposals, the Commission will assess whether harmonisation of chargers can be ensured through a voluntary agreement or whether a legislative proposal under Article 3 of the new Radio Equipment Directive, Directive 2014/53/EU, is necessary. The Directive is currently going through its transposition phase and will be applicable on 13th June 2016.

Mr Jaymeen Patel has met Mr F. Comptour on 13/03/2015. Apple has not yet clarified its position on whether they will be a part of the MoU. They want to continue with a specific connector to the I-phones but have not clarified if they are available to provide an adaptor in the framework of a MoU. If this is the case, the Commission would then need to assess if adaptors are to be allowed or not. To note that the EP in particular was not favourable to adaptors. If Apple is not available to consider the adaptors, the assessment of a possible legislative initiative will need to be carried out by DG GROWTH services for a decision by the Commissioner.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]