

**DG GROW**  
**Structured dialogue with ITRE, EP**  
**Brussels, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

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Name of the Director who has cleared the material: Gwenole Cozigou

**BASIS request ID:** CAB BIENKOWSKA/281

Room, time: European Parliament, 15:00

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Directorate/Unit: C/3, Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing Systems

<b>BRIEFING NOTE</b>
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**Defensives: The Universal Charger**

**Question:**     ***Why is taking so long to get a common charger for mobile phones and portable devices?***

**Answer:**       The European Commission has been fostering a continuous dialogue with the relevant Association of Manufacturers in order to find an acceptable solution through a voluntary Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). We believe that a final proposal for a Memorandum of Understanding will be put forward by the representatives of manufacturers within the next couple of months.

**Question:**     ***Why has the EC not imposed a common charger so far (through a Delegated Act under Article 3(3)(a) of the Radio Equipment Directive)?***

**Answer:**       We prefer to try in the first place a voluntary agreement by the manufacturers. It is our opinion that this approach facilitates reaching a common technical solution for mobile phone chargers that may be easier to implement afterwards and may help progress in innovation in this area.

**Question:**     ***Would the EC foster the adoption of a common charger also for other devices?***

**Answer:**       We have the intention to assess in depth the feasibility to extend the technical solution proposed for mobile phone chargers to all other portable electronic devices.