



U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON

Finance

SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY, OF IOWA - CHAIRMAN

<http://finance.senate.gov>

MEMORANDUM

To: ___ Reporters and Editors
Re: EU's Common Agricultural Policy
Da: Thursday, June 12, 2003

Sen. Chuck Grassley, chairman of the Committee on Finance, today expressed concerns regarding reports that France and Germany have agreed to work together to prevent major changes in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) of the European Union. The agreement between France and Germany was reached this week at CAP reform negotiations in Luxembourg. Grassley made the following comment on the new alliance.

“I’m very disappointed by press reports that France and Germany this week agreed to ally with one another to block substantial reforms of the EU’s Common Agricultural Policy. The EU’s current policies put producers in other countries, including those in the United States, at a significant disadvantage in the international market. Without the adoption of a more market-oriented approach by the EU, it will be much more difficult to succeed in further liberalization of agricultural trade at the WTO. And if WTO talks don’t result in increased liberalization, the whole world will suffer. I hope France and Germany will reconsider their positions and ultimately agree to major changes in the CAP.”