

However, the facts have not stopped the EU from propping up their moratorium on a flimsy foundation. In addition to their anti-American policies, the EU has more recently pursued policies to undermine the development and support of genetically engineered products around the world, including in countries facing famine, and that was the turning point in this case.

About 40 million people in Africa's famine-stricken nations are at risk of starvation and diseases brought about by incessant hunger. Additionally, 800 million children are starving worldwide. Ongoing droughts and famines have devastated these countries, leaving them without options, and much too often, without hope.

Last fall, three African countries—Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique—were pressured to turn down shipments of safe, nutritious, U.S. humanitarian biotech food aid by the EU. The EU even threatened their export markets if they accepted biotechnology food aid. To do that to a country threatened with famine is nothing less than extortion.

This is the same food that we eat here in the United States. It is unconscionable to me that the EU would promote these anti-humanitarian, anti-development policies.

The EU should try honesty for once. They should try explaining the real reason they do not like American biotechnology: they want to protect their market from competition. They want to protect European markets by ignoring the scientific evidence, which makes clear the safety and nutritional advantage of biotechnology.

Our agriculture producers are leading the biotech revolution and providing us with the most affordable, most abundant and safest food supply in the world. And Missouri's producers are among the leaders in the country.

When the U.S. wins this lawsuit, it will be a victory for our producers who have lost more than \$300 million annually in corn exports, and also for science, the environment and everyone who wants to win the war against famine and world hunger.

I applaud the President for filing this suit in the WTO. In doing so, he is once again demonstrating the kind of leadership and courage we have come to expect from him I appreciate our leadership working so quickly on this important issue.

Senator BOND and I, along with several others, have submitted a resolution in support of the action in the WTO against the European Union. I urge my colleagues to consider this resolution expeditiously, to support it, and to give the administration the ammunition they need to prosecute this lawsuit successfully.

I yield the floor.

Mr. BAUCUS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I wish to take an opportunity just before we close down tonight to express some disappointment on my part that none of the specific small business and agricultural provisions survived the final conference agreement.

I truly believe there are many provisions in the final agreement that will be generally good for small business, but there are several specialty areas that continue to need tax relief in a special way to address the particular concerns of some industries.

Many of the items included in the original Senate bill are important to the bipartisan membership of the Senate. It previously passed the Finance Committee as well as the Senate. Again, I stress bipartisanship.

I plan to continue to work on a bipartisan basis with Senator BAUCUS, the ranking member of the committee, to assure that we are able to address the tax needs of S corporations, cooperatives, particularly farm cooperatives, small business excise tax problems, livestock drought relief through the tax efforts, and historic rehabilitation, just to name a few areas of concern.

As we finalize this growth package for the Senate's final vote and the President's signature, we will review the upcoming Finance Committee schedule and move forward with these important small business and agricultural provisions, all of which have bipartisan support.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I thank my good friend, the chairman of the committee, Senator GRASSLEY, for making that statement. We both agreed. Those are provisions that are very important, particularly to certain parts of America. These are provisions that we have been working on in the past to try to get included in law, and I very much appreciate the chairman of the committee making that statement to that effect just now. I join with him and look forward to working with him as we get these measures passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, in case I do not get an opportunity tomorrow—or who knows, maybe even forget it—I am reminded by the Senator's statement that even though we have disagreed on the substance of this legislation, the Senator from Montana, the ranking member of the committee, has very cooperatively helped us move this legislation along. We have entered into several agreements to help us get amendments out of the way. A couple of times when there were some political differences, he helped smooth my path to move this bill along. That is all within the tradition of the Senate Finance Committee, and I say it not only

to bring attention to the cooperative effort of Senator BAUCUS and also of the committee but also to demonstrate to the people of the country who might be watching this debate on the Senate Finance Committee bill and feel, well, it is just all the Republicans on one side and all the Democrats on the other side, that we are always that way and very seldom is a product from the Senate Finance Committee not a bipartisan product.

I thank Senator BAUCUS for helping us move this bill along, even though he is not in agreement with the substance of the legislation.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—CONFERENCE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 2

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate proceeds to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2 at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, May 23, there be 1 hour for debate remaining divided as follows: Senator GRASSLEY, 25 minutes; Senator BAUCUS, 5 minutes; Senator CONRAD, 10 minutes; Senator DAYTON, 10 minutes; Senator DASCHLE, 5 minutes; Senator FRIST, 5 minutes.

I further ask consent that following the use or yielding back of the debate time, the Senate proceed to a vote on or in relation to the conference report, without further intervening action or debate. Finally, I ask consent that following the vote on the adoption of the conference report the Senate then begin consideration of H.J. Res. 51, the debt limit extension.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Reserving the right to object, all this assumes, I take it from the majority leader, that we actually do get the conference report in time for the debate and then the vote.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, that is a correct assumption. We do expect it sometime between now and then, and we plan on having received it to start at 8:30. If we do not receive it, we will alter these best laid plans.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, given that assurance, which I trust will occur, I do not object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business.