

## **Statement from USTR Spokeswoman Neena Moorjani on Interim Wine Agreement between the U.S. and European Community**

**11/23/2005**

"The United States and the European Community today signed an interim agreement, in the form of an exchange of letters, related to wine trade between the United States and the EC. This exchange of letters is the precursor to the broader Wine Agreement, announced by USTR on September 15, 2005, and ensures that U.S. wine exports to the EU will not be disrupted pending the signing and entry into force of the Wine Agreement. Specifically, under the exchange of letters the EC will continue to recognize U.S. wine-making practice, the United States will accept EC wine-making practices, and EC wine imported into the United States does not have to be accompanied by a certification attesting that the wine is made in accordance with U.S. wine-making practices. EC procedures to consider signing the Wine Agreement are currently under way and a final decision on it is expected by the end of the year."

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