OECD to Publish Highlights of its Annual Report on Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries

The OECD will publish highlights of its annual report on “Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries: Monitoring and Evaluation 2002” on Thursday June 6 2002. This key global reference work on domestic agricultural policies in OECD countries includes the OECD’s oft-cited Producer and Consumer Support Estimates.

Key findings for 2001 include:

- Total support to agriculture in OECD countries amounted to USD 311 billion, or 1.3% of OECD GDP.
- Support to producers accounted for 31% of total farm receipts, and ranged from a low of 1% to highs of more than 60% in some countries.
- Support to milk, sugar and rice was over 50% of farm receipts for those commodities.
- Both the level and nature of current policy support continue to shield producers in OECD countries from world market signals. They impose a burden on consumers and taxpayers, contribute to environmental damage, and constrain growth and development opportunities in poorer, developing countries.

The highlights of the report will be available on the OECD’s website on 6 June. They will be presented to journalists in Paris by the Head of the OECD’s Policies, Trade and Adjustment Division of the Food and Agriculture Directorate of the OECD, Carmel Cahill, and the Head of its Policies and Environment Division, Wilfrid J. Legg, at a news conference at 11.00 a.m. on Thursday 6 June 2002 at the Centre d’Accueil de la Presse Étrangère (CAPE), Maison de Radio France, 116, avenue du Président Kennedy, 75116 Paris (tel: [33] 1 56 40 50 25).

For further information, journalists are invited to contact the OECD’s Media Relations Division (tel. [33] 1 45 24 97 00 or news.contact@oecd.org).