

POLICY JUSTIFICATION**Egypt – AIM-9M-1/2 Sidewinder Missiles**

The Government of Egypt has requested a possible sale of 414 AIM-9M-1/2 Sidewinder air-to-air missiles, missile containers, support equipment, spare and repair parts, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and support services and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$50 million.

This sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country that has been and continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The missiles obtained in this proposed sale will augment existing inventories of AIM-9L and AIM-9M-1/2 Sidewinder air-to-air missiles and improve the defensive air intercept capabilities of Egyptian Air Force's F-16 fighters. Egypt will have no difficulty absorbing the additional missiles into its munitions inventory.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not affect the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor is the Raytheon Systems Corporation of Tucson, Arizona. There are no offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government and contractor representatives in Egypt. However, there will be U.S. Government representatives for two-week intervals twice annually to participate in training, program management and technical review.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.