



Defense Security Cooperation Agency
NEWS RELEASE

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Morocco - M109A5 155mm Self-propelled Howitzers

WASHINGTON, August 3, 2007 - The Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Morocco of M109A5 155mm self-propelled howitzers as well as associated equipment and services. The total value, if all options are exercised, could be as high as \$29 million.

The Government of Morocco has requested a possible sale of 60 M109A5 155mm self-propelled howitzers, 30 High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle engines, 233 wheel assemblies, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, Quality Assurance Team support services, U. S. Government logistics personnel services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$29 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 continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in North Africa.

Morocco currently operates M109A1B self-propelled howitzers and will use this new procurement to re-equip existing units, retire older artillery pieces, and modernize the Army's fire support capability. Morocco will have no difficulty absorbing the howitzers into its armed forces.

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

No contractor is involved for this purchase of the howitzers. Equipment is considered long supply and is no longer utilized by the U.S. Government.

There will be a U.S. Government Quality Assurance Team in country for one year to check out the equipment. A Technical Assistance Field Team also will participate for two-week intervals twice annually to participate in program management and technical reviews.

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

This notice of a potential sale is required by law; it does not mean that the sale has been concluded.