

# Press release

## Czech government confirms Gripen selection

The government of the Czech Republic at a cabinet meeting today has confirmed the recommendation of its evaluation committee to select Gripen as the interim air defence solution to meet the Czech Republic's national and NATO needs.

Gripen will replace the Russian MIG 21 aircraft currently operated by the Czech Air Force.

FMV (Swedish Defence Materiel Administration) will now, on behalf of the Swedish government, embark on a period of negotiation with our Czech partners in order to achieve successful implementation of this important contract.

Sweden has offered the Czech Republic to lease 14 new Gripen aircraft of the latest version (twelve single seater and two dual seater) for a period of up to ten years. The offer also includes training of Czech pilots and maintenance personnel as well as a logistic package.

The Czech Republic is the second NATO nation to select Gripen for its air defence. Hungary became the first with its decision in 2001.

Subject to successful contract negotiations, Czech Air Force Gripen fighters will be delivered between April and August in 2005.

Any queries regarding this press release should be addressed to Ulf Lindstrom FMV's Press Relations Manager, mobile + 46 70-982 63 96.

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