

## **Defense Security Cooperation Agency**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Tunisia – 65' SAFE Archangel Boats**

WASHINGTON, August 20, 2024 - The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to the Government of Tunisia of 65' SAFE Archangel Boats and related elements of logistics and program support for an estimated cost of \$110 million. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale today.

The Government of Tunisia has requested to buy additional non-MDE 65' SAFE Archangel boats and additional non-MDE articles and services that will be added to a previously implemented case. The original FMS case, valued at \$49.3 million, included non-MDE 65' SAFE Archangel boats and non-MDE articles and services, consisting of commercial variant marine global positioning systems; navigation systems; communications equipment; training; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$110 million.

This proposed sale will support U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives by helping to improve the security of a major non-NATO ally that continues to play an important role in regional security and Peacekeeping Operations throughout Africa.

The proposed sale will better equip Tunisia to contribute to shared security objectives, promote regional stability, and build interoperability with the United States and Western partners. The Tunisian Navy uses the 65' SAFE boats for search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, and other maritime-related operations to ensure security in the country and region. The boats will build on Tunisia's existing military capability. Tunisia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and services into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor is SAFE Boats International, located in Bremerton, Washington. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this sale will not require the assignment of any U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Tunisia.

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

The description and dollar value are for the highest estimated quantity and dollar value based on initial requirements. Actual dollar value will be lower depending on final requirements, budget authority, and signed sales agreement(s), if and when concluded.

All questions regarding this proposed Foreign Military Sale should be directed to the State Department's Bureau of Political Military-Affairs, Office of Congressional and Public Affairs, pm-cpa@state.gov.