



Embassy of the United States of America

August 25, 2022

The Honorable
Mauro Tuena
Security Policy Committee of the National Council
CH 3033 Berne

Dear Mr. President,

In order to provide you with an expedited response, Ambassador Miller asked that I reply on his behalf in my capacity as his military advisor.

The U.S. Embassy appreciates the Security Policy Committee's outreach and opportunity to communicate U.S. support for Switzerland's purchase of the F-35A aircraft and Patriot Ground Based Air Defense System. We firmly believe that in light of the ever-changing security environment, these systems will enhance Switzerland's defense capabilities and security sovereignty for decades to come. We also understand that the ultimate decision is for the Swiss authorities and public to make.

Throughout the selection and approval process, the United States has been sensitive to not comment on the domestic political deliberations associated with these acquisitions out of respect for Swiss institutions. Without breaking from precedent, I can affirm the validity of the U.S. position presented in the December 7, 2021, declaration signed by our two governments. I can also affirm that the Security Committee of the National Council may use the content of this declaration orally, as part of the Council's upcoming debate.

I hope this is beneficial in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gabriel Chinchilla'.

Gabriel Chinchilla
Colonel, United States Army
Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché