

Brazil Mulls Arms Purchase

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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SAO PAULO — Brazil's Defense Ministry said it will recommend that the government buy anti-aircraft defense systems from Russia pending advanced talks with Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev this month.

The ministry said in a statement on its website late Friday that it hoped to acquire Russian anti-aircraft systems and would present a proposal to President Dilma Rousseff for approval.

"We are interested in acquiring three batteries of medium-level Pantsir-S1 missiles and two batteries of Igla missiles," General Jose Carlos de Nardi said in the statement.

De Nardi said Brazilian and Russian officials had drafted an agreement that, if signed, would include the sharing of technologies without restrictions and construction of a production plant in Brazil.

Brazil is also considering multibillion-dollar proposals from the United States and France to upgrade its antiquated fighter jet fleet.

(Reuters)

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