

## CANADIAN PARTICIPATION

### **Q. Will Canada participate in a missile defence system?**

#### **Suggested Reply**

- The US is reviewing its options for ballistic missile defence to provide protection not only for the US, but also for deployed forces and for allies and friends. The US has not taken any decisions itself on the architecture of the system.
- We will need to know more about the approach that the US will take before we can take a position on this issue.

### **Q. The US ballistic missile defence system is expected to cost a great deal of money. If Canada were to participate, what would be the costs to Canada?**

#### **Suggested Reply**

- The new US administration has only just begun its consultations with friends and allies on missile defence and it is still reviewing its plans. The US has not taken any decisions itself on the architecture of the system. Consequently, it is not known what the system might cost.
- Until the architecture is known, and until the Canadian government decided whether and how it might participate, we cannot begin to consider the question of costs.
- President Bush spoke of a system capable of protecting all of the allies and the "common responsibility" they share with the US to provide protection. What this might mean has yet to be elaborated.