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## **IV. YOUR BUSINESS VISIT**

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### **Consult the Canadian Embassy**

When planning a visit to Iraq, advise the Commercial Division of the Canadian Embassy in Baghdad well in advance of your arrival. State the purpose of your visit and forward several copies of product brochures. It is especially helpful if the cost and freight prices on your product range are worked out. Any contacts already made in Iraq should also be listed. With this information, the trade commissioner will be pleased to arrange a tentative itinerary, make hotel reservations, if necessary, and set up appointments which can be confirmed upon arrival.

### **Travel Documents**

All foreigners who come to Iraq must first obtain an entry visa which is issued by Iraqi embassies and consulates abroad and by the Directorate General of Residence in Iraq. Usually business visas are processed within three days, as long as a properly completed application form, valid Canadian passport, passport-size photograph and a company letter of financial support are provided.

Everyone, including Iraqi nationals, who intends to work with a foreign company in Iraq requires a work permit. Work permits for foreign employees must be obtained before arrival in Iraq from the Directorate General of Residence.

Proof of HIV (AIDS) negativity is required as a condition of entry for all tourists and travellers staying longer than four days in Iraq. Medical certification can be done through the Ontario Ministry of Health (Central Laboratories, P.O. Box 9000, Terminal A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1R5) or the Department of National Health and Welfare, Federal Centre for AIDS Laboratory (Ottawa, Ontario). An additional listing of Canadian laboratories authorized to carry out the HIV antibody testing can be obtained from the External Affairs and International Trade Canada Middle East Trade Development Division.

### **Internal Travel**

Taxis are readily available and traffic is generally moderate, except in the centre of downtown Baghdad. The govern-