

prayers. It is also advisable to avoid calling at Friday noon, a time when many Muslims are at prayers. During Puasa (Ramadan), the fasting month, Muslims will not eat, drink or smoke from sunrise to sunset. As a general rule, therefore, food, drink or cigarettes should not be offered to Muslims during these hours.

## General Information

**Climate.** The climate of Indonesia is tropical with temperatures varying from 21°C (69.8°F) to 33°C (92.4°F). The seasons are defined by two monsoon periods: the dry, which prevails from May to September; and the wet, which lasts from October to April. Humidity in Indonesia is consistently high, particularly in the wet season. Average annual rainfall varies from 500 cm (197 inches) in Java to 100 cm (39 inches) in the lesser Sunda islands.

**Electricity.** The state-owned Perusahaan Listrik Negara (PLN) is responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electrical energy. For industrial use, single or three phase 110/115 or 220/380 volt, 50 cycle AC is supplied. Most hotels use 220 volts, 50 cycles and two-prong, European-type plugs, although some in the provinces use 110 volts.

**Measures.** Indonesia uses the metric system.

**Post, telex, telephone.** Air mail from Canada can take anywhere from 10 to 30 days. Internal mail between main cities is quick by express service (posKILAT). Telegram and telex facilities are available 24 hours a day and are generally good. International telephone service out of Jakarta is also available 24 hours a day. Because of greatly overloaded circuits, placing a telephone call in Jakarta can be an extremely frustrating experience during peak office hours.

**Business practices.** There are three time zones within Indonesia: Western Indonesia Standard (including Jakarta) is 12 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST); Central Indonesia Standard Time is 13 hours ahead of EST; and East Indonesia Standard Time is 14 hours ahead of EST.

**Business hours.** Commercial and business offices are open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through