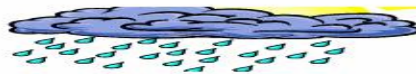




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No..17 2007/08 Cropping Season

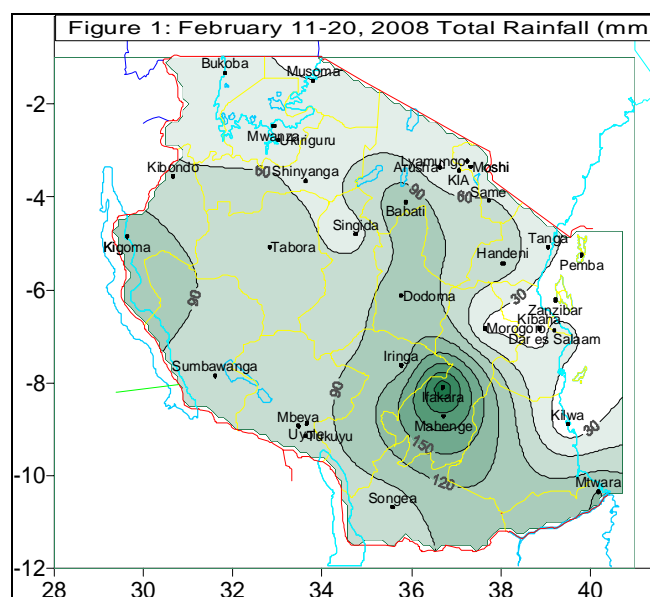
February 11-20, 2008

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the dekad, February 11-20, the Southern Hemisphere systems (the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones) remained relaxed. The Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the Northern Hemisphere were intense and the Arabian ridge was the main dominant feature over northwestern Indian Ocean thus allowing zonal arm of the ITCZ to be more effective over southern areas and southwestern highlands. At the mid of the dekad, development of tropical cyclone "IVAN" over Southwestern Indian Ocean (East of Madagascar) enhanced rainfall activities over most parts of the country including seasonal rains over western, central regions, southwestern highlands and southern regions.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During February 11-20, more rainfall activities continued over both unimodal and bimodal rainfall sectors of the country with low amounts of below 60 mm obtained mainly over bimodal areas, maintaining a normal trend of separation between the two seasons in this sector, short-rains and long rains. Higher amounts of rainfall for the period were far above 90 mm and observed over the unimodal sector whereby Ifakara recorded the highest rainfall of 267.2 mm, followed by Mahenge 203.1 mm, Tumbi 124.4 mm, Babati 123.4 mm, Mtwara 122.1 mm, Kigoma 108.7 mm, Dodoma 104.7 mm and Iringa 103.8 mm. The remaining stations in this sector received rainfall amounts ranging between 90 and 60 mm as shown in Figure 1.



IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Soil moisture supply during the dekad was adequate mainly over most parts of the unimodal sector where the moisture was quite essential to growing crops (maize and paddy) ranging between early vegetative and pre-tasselling, while beans crop was at flowering stage and in generally good state as reported from southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions), and over the rest of this sector including central areas (Dodoma and Singida) regions where crops like maize, sorghum and paddy reached the advanced vegetative stage and were in moderate state. Over western parts of Lake Victoria basin

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(Biharamulo, Muleba, Karagwe and Ngara districts) in Kagera region, maize crop entered ripeness stage and in good state while beans harvesting was almost ended and second planting started. As for northern coast (Pwani and Tanga regions) farmers were in land preparations for the long rainy season (Masika) which normally starts in mid March.

Market supply for cassava over several areas of the country continued fairly well.

Pasture conditions and water availability for livestock and wildlife especially over central and northeastern highlands are improving.

Hydrometeorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams are rising as well as river discharges as a result of the ongoing seasonal rains over unimodal areas.

Environmental Summary

Temperatures were high over most parts of the country while humidity was particularly high over the coastal belt.

February 11-20, 2008

Ocean the remnants of sub-tropical cyclone IVAN are expected to continue enhancing rainfall activities over the southern coast. Occasional intensification of the Azores and Siberian anticyclones will result into west-east oscillations of the meridional component of the ITCZ.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING FEBRUARY 21-29, 2008

The Lake Victoria Basin and Western areas (Kigoma and Tabora region) are expected to receive showers and thunderstorms over few areas. Southwestern highlands, central (Dodoma and Singida), southern region (Ruvuma and Mahenge), Morogoro and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi) are expected to feature isolated thunderstorms. Northern coast (mainly Dar-es-Salaam and Zanzibar) are expected to feature partly cloudy to cloudy conditions with thundershowers over few areas. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, K.I.A, Moshi, Same, Lyamungo and Babati) are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with rain showers over few areas.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING FEBRUARY 21-29, 2008

During this dekad, the southern hemisphere systems (the St.Helena and the Mascarene anticyclones) are expected to slightly intensify. Over central Indian

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