



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 22 2016/17 Cropping Season

Review for May 1-10 and Outlook for May 11-20, 2017

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Above normal rainfall was observed during May 1-10, 2017 in most of Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Pwani and Lindi regions, isles of Unguja and Pemba, and in few areas of Kagera, Kigoma, Mwanza, Mara, Iringa, Mbeya, Katavi, Njombe, Ruvuma and Mtwara regions.
- Crops progressed well in many parts of the country except in Dodoma region where wilting of late grown maize crop was reported.
- Farmers in Morogoro, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Pwani and Lindi regions, and isles of Unguja and Pemba are advised to take precaution against waterlogging conditions, flooding and crop damage due to the ongoing *masika* rains.

### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING MAY 1-10, 2017

During the period, the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was confined over the Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands and northern coast areas of the country. Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the southwestern Indian Ocean were warm whereas SSTs over western Atlantic Ocean (close to Angola coast) were cool. This situation supported rainfall conditions mainly over the coastal regions, Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands and south western highlands.

### RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING MAY 1-10, 2017

Rainfall exceeding 300% of long term average were experienced in many parts of Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga, Pwani and Lindi regions, isles of Unguja and Pemba, and in few areas of Manyara, Kilimanjaro, Iringa, Mbeya, Katavi, Njombe and Ruvuma regions as depicted in Figure 1. Similarly, 201-300% of long term average was experienced in some areas of Kagera, Mwanza, Kigoma, Mara, Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Lindi and Mtwara regions. However, some areas of the country experienced very much below average rainfall performance of less than 30% of the long term average rainfall as observed over much of Geita, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Arusha, Tabora, Rukwa, Katavi, Singida, Dododma, Iringa, Mbeya and Njombe). Reports form daily rainfall (not shown) indicated that heavy rainfall (>50 mm in 24 hours) was recorded at Tanga Airport, Handeni, Mlingano, Matangatuani, Pemba, Kizimbani, Zanzibar and Lyamungu meteorological stations.

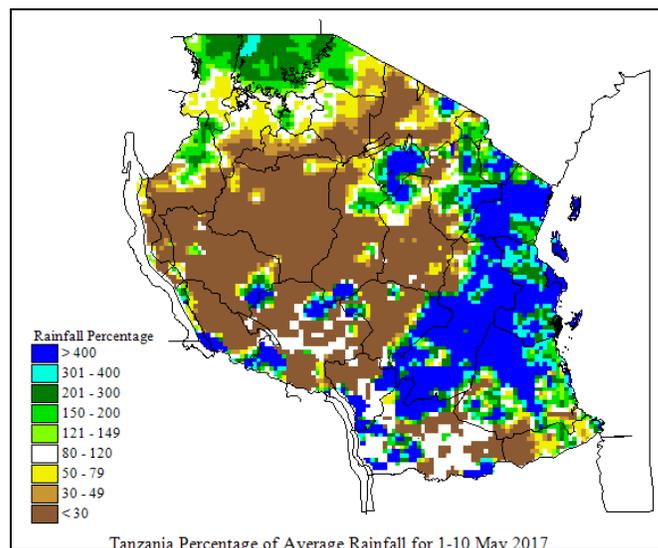


Figure 1: Rainfall performance during May 1-10, 2017 as percentage of long term average.

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING MAY 1-10, 2017

Crops progressed well over many parts of the country during the period under review. Crop stages in the bimodal areas were at different stages. In Tanga region, maize crop was at ninth leaf stage; in Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions maize crop was at tasseling stage; in Geita, Mwanza and Mara regions, maize crop was at flowering stage; in Morogoro and Pwani regions maize crop was at waxy ripeness stage. In the unimodal areas, maize crop was at ripeness stage over most areas except in Dodoma region where late grown maize crop was at tasseling stage and in Singida region where the crop was at flowering stage. Crops were in moderate condition except in Kilombero district and Tanga regions where cases of water logging conditions and flooding in crop fields were reported to cause damage to crops especially in lowland areas. Late planted maize crop in Dodoma region has also been affected

seasonal dry conditions. Water and pastures for livestock was in good conditions across the country.

Due to intensification of the southern hemisphere pressure systems, periods of strong winds are likely to occur over coastal regions including isles of Unguja and Pemba.

**HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS  
DURING MAY 1-10, 2017**

**AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND  
ADVISORY DURING MAY 11-20, 2017**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges improved significantly mainly in the areas around the Lake Victoria basin and coastal regions due to the ongoing rains.

The expected rainfall will help to improve water and pasture availability for livestock, and soil moisture for the growing crops. Livestock keepers over both unimodal and bimodal areas are advised to make good use of the available water and pastures. The ongoing rains over coastal regions and some areas of the north eastern highlands may cause waterlogging conditions, flooding and damage of crops in fields especially in lowland areas. Farmers in Morogoro, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Pwani, Lindi and isles of Unguja and Pemba are advised to take precaution by making close monitoring of their farms and drain away excess water with close consultation from Agricultural Extension Officers.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS  
DURING MAY 11-20, 2017**

Southern hemisphere pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene highs) are expected to continue intensifying while the northern hemisphere pressure systems (Azores and Siberian highs) are expected to remain relaxed, thus allowing the ITCZ to continue moving northwards. SSTs over tropical western Indian Ocean are expected to be warm whereas SSTs over the Atlantic Ocean (closer to Angola coast) are expected to continue getting cooler. This situation is expected to enhance rainfall conditions mainly over coastal areas of the country and areas around Lake Victoria Basin.

**HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY  
DURING MAY 11-20, 2017**

**EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING  
MAY 11-20, 2017**

**L**ake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions) and north-eastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions): Occasional rain showers and thunderstorms are expected. **Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba) and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions):** Frequent rain showers, with occasional thunderstorm are expected over some areas. **Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions):** Occasional rain showers and thunderstorms are expected over few areas. **Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa, Songwe and Mbeya regions) and southern region (Njombe and Ruvuma region):** Few rain showers and thunderstorms are expected over few areas.

Water levels and river flow discharge are expected to maintain as it was in the previous dekad. The ongoing *masika* rains are likely to increase water levels and river discharges mainly around the coast, Lake Victoria basin and some areas of northeastern highlands.

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