



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 24 2016/17 Cropping Season

Review for May 21-31 and Outlook for June 1-10, 2017

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Most of the country experienced less than 30% of long term average rainfall during May 21-31, 2017 except some areas of Pwani, Dar-es-Salaam, Isles of Unguja and Pemba, Kagera, Mara, Arusha, and few areas of Tabora, Singida and Dodoma regions that experienced above 120% of long term average rainfall.
- Crops progressed well whereby maize crop was at harvesting stage in Kigoma, Tabora, Rukwa, Katavi, Iringa, Mbeya, Njombe, Lindi, Ruvuma and Mtwara regions. Over bimodal areas, maize crop was generally at waxy ripeness stage.
- Periods of strong winds are likely to occur in coastal regions including isles of Unguja and Pemba.
- Farmers in Kigoma, Tabora, Rukwa, Lindi, Mtwara, Ruvuma and Njombe regions are advised to take precaution against damage of mature crops by the expected rainfall.

### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING MAY 21-31, 2017

During the period, high pressure systems in the southern hemisphere (St. Helena and Mascarene) intensified slightly, causing an overland ridge covering areas from central to southern sector of the country. The high pressure systems in the northern hemisphere (Azores and Siberia) on the other hand relaxed slightly. This confined the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over the Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands and northern coast regions of the country. Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the southwestern Indian Ocean were slightly warm whereas slightly warm to cool SSTs were experienced over western Atlantic Ocean (close to Angola coast).

### RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING MAY 21-31, 2017

In view of the observed synoptic conditions, seasonal dry conditions prevailed in most of the unimodal areas during the period with most of the country experiencing less than 30% of long term average rainfall. Off-seasonal rainfall with performance of 80 - 120 % of long term average rainfall was also experienced in some areas over Rukwa, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Iringa, Mbeya, Njombe and Ruvuma regions. However, above 120% of long term average rainfall was experienced in some areas of Pwani, Dar-es-Salaam, Isles of Unguja and Pemba, Kagera, Mara, Arusha, and few areas of Tabora, Singida and Dodoma regions. Enhanced rainfall of above 400% of long term average rainfall was experienced in few localized areas in Arusha, Tabora, Dodoma, Pwani, and Lindi regions.

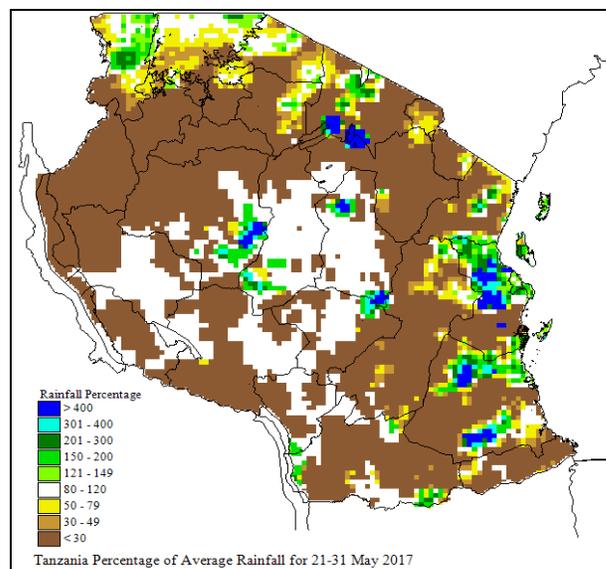


Figure 1: Rainfall performance during May 21-31, 2017 as percentage of long term average.

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING MAY 21-31, 2017

Crops progressed well in most areas of the country during the period. In the bimodal areas crops were at different stages. In Tanga region, Kilimanjaro and Arusha regions, the maize crop was at flowering stage while in Geita, Mwanza, Mara, Manyara, Morogoro and Pwani regions, and isles of Unguja and Pemba, maize crop was at waxy ripeness stage. In the unimodal areas, maize crop was at full ripeness stage in Kigoma, Tabora, Rukwa, Katavi, Iringa, Mbeya, Njombe, Lindi, Ruvuma and Mtwara regions. In Katavi, Rukwa and Njombe farmers have started to harvest maize crop. Water and pastures availability for livestock were in good

conditions over most areas of the country except in Ngorongoro, Longido, Monduli and Simanjiro districts, where fewer rains have been recorded.

### HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING MAY 21-31, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges remained enhanced over most areas of the country due to persistence of *masika* rains.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 1-10, 2017

The southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) are expected to continue intensifying while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian highs) are expected to relax, thus allowing the ITCZ to continue moving northwards. SSTs are expected to be warm over tropical western Indian Ocean and cooler over the Atlantic Ocean (closer to Angola coast). This situation is expected to cause rainfall conditions mainly over Lake Victoria basin, extreme northern coast, north eastern highlands and western regions. Due to intensification of the southern hemisphere pressure systems, periods of strong winds and cool temperatures are likely to occur in coastal regions including isles of Unguja and Pemba.

### EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 1-10, 2017

**L**ake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions) and **northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions):** Occasional rain showers, thunderstorms and cool temperatures are expected over some areas. **Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the Isles of Unguja and Pemba):** Rain showers, occasional thunderstorm and cool temperatures are expected over some areas. **Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) and southern region (Njombe and Ruvuma regions):** Few off seasonal rain showers and thunderstorms, and cool temperatures are expected over few areas. **Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa,**

**Songwe and Mbeya regions):** Mainly dry conditions with very few Off-seasonal rain showers, occasional thunderstorms and cool temperatures are expected over few areas. **Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions):** Few off-seasonal rain showers, occasional thunderstorms and cool temperatures are expected over few areas. Periods of strong winds are also likely to occur along coastal regions.

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JUNE 1-10, 2017

The expected occasional rainfall will help to improve water and pasture for livestock. Livestock keepers over both the unimodal and bimodal areas are advised to make good use of the available water and pasture. Late grown crops over coastal regions are likely to benefit from the expected rainfall. However, over the unimodal areas where maize crop is at harvesting stage, off seasonal rains may have negative effect on crops including lowering crop quality. Farmers in Kigoma, Tabora, Rukwa, Lindi, Mtwara, Ruvuma and Njombe regions are advised to take precaution against damage of mature crops by the expected rainfall.

### HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JUNE 1-10, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharge are expected to slightly decrease especially over central areas, western regions, southern coast, southern region and southwestern highlands due to cessation of rain season. Water users are advised to make good use of the available water.

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