CENTRE AFRICAIN POUR LES APPLICATIONS DE LA METEOROLOGIE AU DEVELOPPEMENT

AFRICAN CENTRE OF METEOROLOGICAL APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Institution Africaine parrainée par la CEA et l'OMM

African Institution under the aegis of UNECA and WMO

AFRICAN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTRE

LONG RANGE FORECAST PRODUCT FOR AFRICA VALID FOR FEBRUARY-MARCH-APRIL 2020 AND MARCH-APRIL-MAY 2020 SEASONS. ISSUED ON JANUARY 31, 2020

Highlights

- The latest observations show that rainfall has been deficit during the past 30 days over the northern part of North Africa, to Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. the outlook shows that this situation could persist during the FMA and MAM 2020 seasons.
- Below average precipitation were observed over the central part of the Central Africa region, while in the southern part of the region, above average precipitation were expected. During the month of February to May 2020, below normal precipitation will be observed in southern Cameroon, most part of Gabon and Equatorial Guinea and southern Congo and southwestern DRC with will experience between normal to above seasonal normal precipitation during the same season.
- The Horn of Africa region has been characterized by a very wet season since last November with heavy precipitation which has caused dangerous climatic events, the forecast trend for the FMA and MAM 2020 season will still be wet with normal precipitation close to above seasonal normal
- It is with sporadic rains that the rainy season in the SADC Region that started in late November and settled in the North-east, the current observation shows above normal precipitation over most parts of the region to the Southwest Islands of the Indian Ocean with deficit areas in the center of the Region and southern Madagascar. The climatic outlook for the season from February to May 2020, predict normal to above average precipitation is expected over the north-east, central west, south-east and north of Madagascar. Normal to near below normal precipitation will observe over the central-eastern part of the region and southern Madagascar.
- For the temperature near to above average is expected over Northern Africa, northern parts of the Sahel region and much of Southern Africa during February to May 2020, and above average temperature over the central part of the SADC region

RECENT SST CONDITIONS AND OUTLOOK

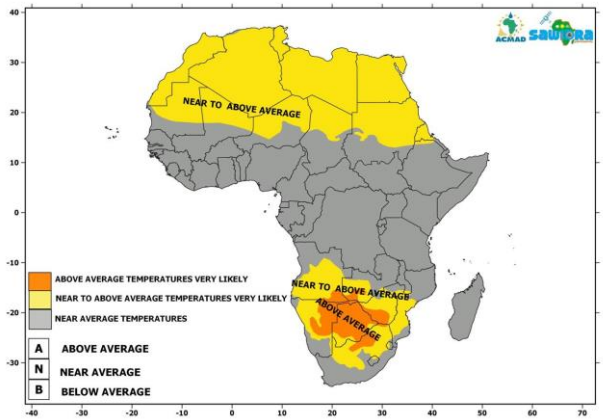
- Above average of SSTs were observed over Western parts of Equatorial pacific and near average to near below average over eastern Equatorial Pacific region. Model output and experts' assessment predicts the neutral conditions over western and eastern Pacific Equatorial during February to May 2020.
- Over the Tropical North Atlantic (TNA), near average to below average SSTs were observed during January 2020. This condition will be persisting during the coming three months.
- Over Equatorial Atlantic in the Gulf of Guinea above average SSTs prevailed during the last month. This condition will be persisting during the coming few months.
- The Tropical South Atlantic (TSA) region was characterized by above average SSTs during the month January 2020. From February to April 2020 above average SST in this region is expected.
- The SSTs in the Mediterranean Sea was near average over the western parts and near to above average over eastern parts. These conditions are very likely to persist in the next three months.
- Near to above average SSTs were observed over the Western Tropical Indian Ocean (WTIO). Above average condition will be observed in the next three months.
- Over the Southeastern Tropical Indian Ocean (SETIO), near to above average SSTs prevailed during the past month. The persistence of this state pattern is expected during the coming season.
- Below average SSTs were observed over the Southwestern Indian Ocean (SWIO), Persistence of this condition is favorable during the coming few months.

Given these SST anomalies, sub-surface temperature patterns and trends, knowledge and understanding of seasonal climate variability in Africa, and the available long range forecast products from Global Producing Centers for Long Range Forecasts, the following outlooks for precipitation and temperature are provided for February-March-April (FMA) 2020 and March-April-May (MAM) 2020 seasons across Africa (see the figures below):

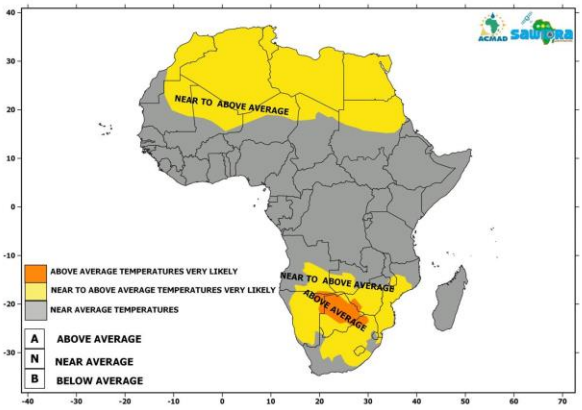
- During February to May 2020, below average precipitation is very likely over northern Morocco, Tunisia, north-eastern Algeria, southernmost part of Cameroon, much of Guinea Equatorial and Gabon.
- Near to below average precipitation is very likely over southernmost part of Zambia, north-eastern Botswana, much of Zimbabwe, Eswatini Kingdom, north-eastern part of South Africa and southern Madagascar from February to May 2020.
- Over south-eastern of Congo, south-western and easternmost DRC, south-easternmost of South Sudan, southern Ethiopia, Somalia, much of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania and Malawi, northern Zambia, Mozambique, south-western Angola, south-eastern Botswana, central north of South Africa and northern Madagascar near to above average precipitation is very likely during the season of the February to May 2020.
- Near to above average is expected over Northern Africa, northern parts of the Sahel region and much of Southern Africa during February to May 2020, and above average temperature over the central part of the SADC region

NB: Users are advised to seek more detailed climate information on the distribution of precipitation during the season, impacts and action options from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and ACMAD website (www.acmad.net/www.acmad.org).

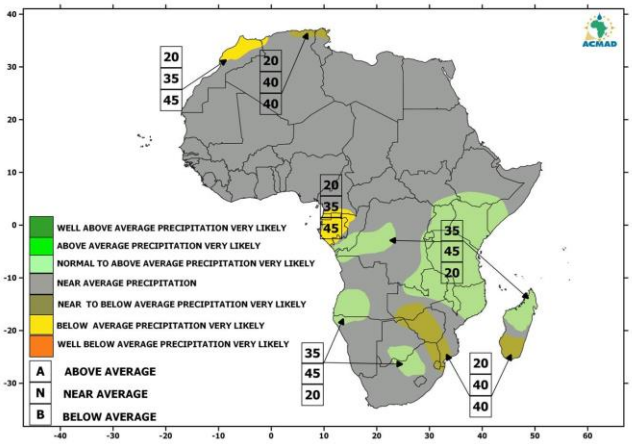
SEASONAL TEMPERATUE FORECAST
FOR FEBRUUARY-MARCH-APRIL 2020
ISSUED ON JANUARY 31, 2020



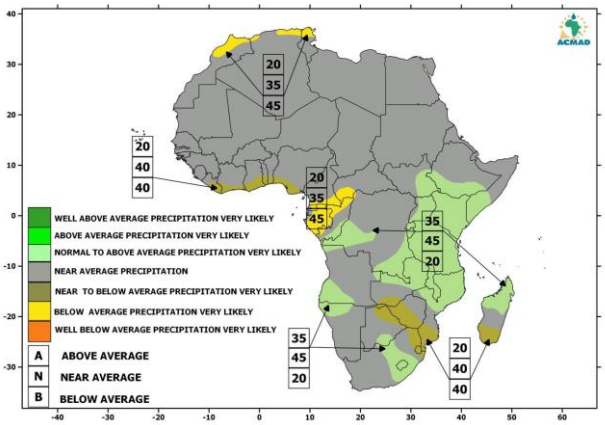
SEASONAL TEMPERATUE FORECAST
FOR MARCH-APRIL-MAY 2020
ISSUED ON JANUARY 31, 2020



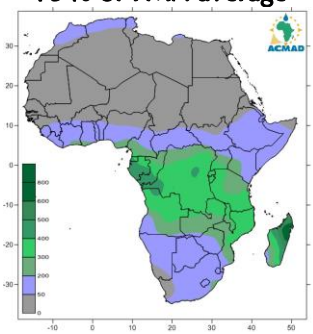
SEASONAL PRECIPITATION FORECAST
FOR FEBRUARY-MARCH-APRIL 2020
ISSUED ON JANUARY 31, 2020



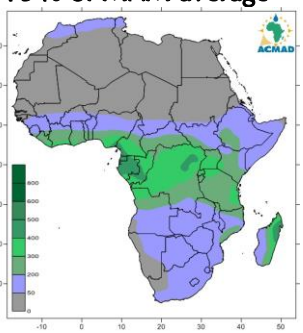
SEASONAL PRECIPITATION FORECAST
FOR MARCH-APRIL-MAY 2020
ISSUED ON JANUARY 31, 2020



75% of FMA average



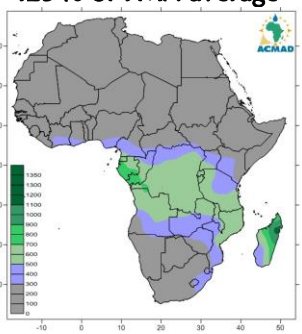
75% of MAM average



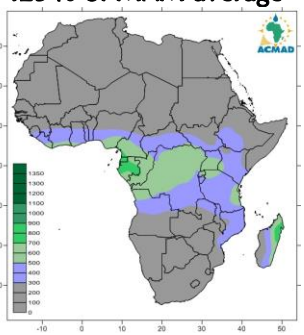
The African seasonal precipitation average based on reference period 1981-2010 for February-March-April (FMA) and March-April-May (MAM), the threshold 75% depicts areas under significant deficits or drought.

Data source: NOAA/NCEP/CPC/CAMS-OPI

125% of FMA average



125% of MAM average



The African seasonal precipitation average based on reference period 1981-2010 February-March-April (FMA) and March-April-May (MAM), the threshold 125% depicts areas under significant excess precipitation.

Data source: NOAA/NCEP/CPC/CAMS-OPI