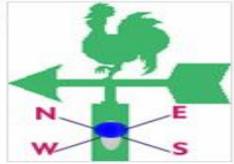
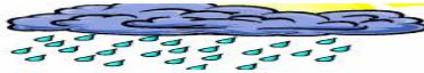




# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



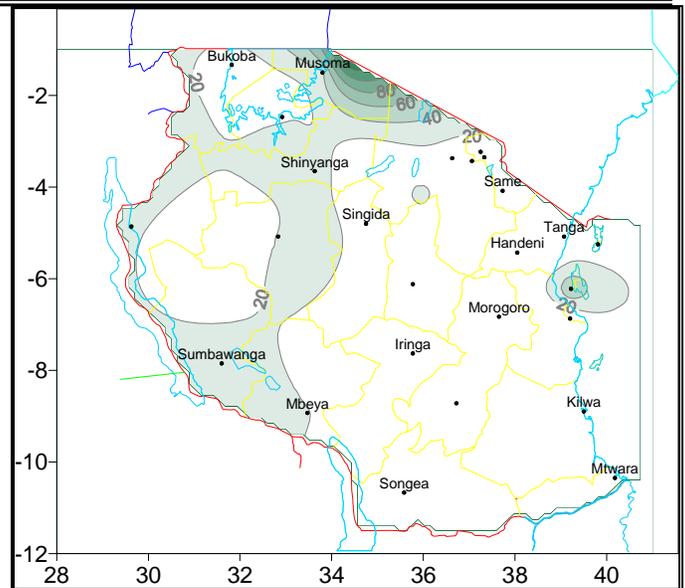
## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 8, 2008/09 Cropping Season

November 11-20, 2008

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During November 11-20, 2008, the northern hemisphere anticyclones (Azores and Siberian) continued to intensify while the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones relaxed. The above configuration contributed to a southward shift of zonal component of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over the country. There has been rise in Sea Surface Temperatures leading into low pressure and enhanced convection over the central Indian Ocean. This led to north easterly and south easterly winds to flow towards the area thus depriving moisture supply to our region and causing rainfall reduction over the coastal belt and north eastern highlands.



*Rainfall amounts during November 11- 20, 2008*

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

The dekad was generally dry as most parts especially over bimodal areas recorded rainfall far below normal levels, except Tarime station in Mara region which had the highest value 151.7 mm. Zanzibar recorded 60.1 mm, Ukiriguru 40.6 mm, Tabora 40.5 mm, Musoma 35.9 mm, Shinyanga 29.6 mm, Babati 26.5 mm, Kibondo and Mbeya each recorded 23.3 mm, while Sumbawanga received 22.6 mm. Remaining stations recorded below 20 mm of rainfall, indicating poor performance of the short rains.

Over unimodal rainfall pattern areas (central, south western highlands, and southern) remained dry, meaning that the onset of the season has not come early, Figure below.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

During the dekad areas located in bimodal sector (Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands, western and northern coast), had crops (maize and beans) at stages ranging from emergence to weeding and were in moderate state. However, the overall performance of the short rains crop has experienced inadequate levels of soil moisture supply that caused delays in planting for the season.

Over unimodal rainfall pattern areas (central, southwestern highlands, southern and southern coast regions) land preparation was on going in readiness for the seasonal onset expected by third dekad of November.

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

Pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife are declining due to a poor short rains and apparent late onset of the season in unimodal areas.

### Hydrometeorological Summary

Given the poor performance of the rains thus far, water levels in lakes and dams are falling, as well as river discharges. In view of that, water for domestic and industrial purposes should be used sparingly.

### Environmental Summary

Temperatures are increasing over most areas while low lying areas are very humid and causing a lot of discomfort.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING NOVEMBER 21-30, 2008

During the dekad, the northern hemisphere anticyclones (Azores and Siberian) are expected to continue intensifying while the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones are likely to continue weakening. The meridional component of the ITCZ is expected to be active over Lake Victoria Basin and western areas and supporting low level convergence over the areas. Occasionally this might include some parts of central region.

The zonal component of the ITCZ is expected to be move further southwards. The above configuration is very likely to increase rainfall activities over the western, central, southwestern highlands and southern sector of the country. Generally Sea Surface Temperatures are expected to be near neutral over the global oceans. The current westerly wind vector anomaly over the central Indian Ocean coupled with strong positive outgoing long wave radiation near Tanzania coast show a likelihood of persistent suppressed rainfall activities over northern coast and northeastern highlands.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING NOVEMBER 21-30, 2008

The Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, and Shinyanga regions) and western (Rukwa and Kigoma regions) are expected to feature cloudy to partly cloudy conditions with thundershowers over some areas. Northeastern highlands, northern coast and its hinterlands, isles of Zanzibar and Pemba are expected to feature generally dry conditions with few outbreaks of isolated showers. Central, southern region, south western highlands and southern coast are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with showers and isolated thunderstorms.

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