SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2018

The northern high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) continued to intensify while the southern systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) relaxed. Although, the zonal arm of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was still further north off the country. The presence of meridional arm of ITZC which was extended further south with slight fluctuations from west to east influenced some weather over the Lake Victoria basin and western part of the country. However, continued onshore south easterly wind flow were experienced over the coastal areas. Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) over the south west Indian Ocean were neutral to slight warm resulted into moist south easterly. The southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) SSTs were neutral to slight cool which resulted into westerly wind contributed to precipitation activities over the western sector of the country.

AGROMETEROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2018

Farmers in bimodal areas continued with land preparation except in Kagera region where planting of maize and beans crops were going on. Over the unimodal areas, farmers have started land preparations for the coming msimu rainy season which normally expected to start between November and December. Water and pasture availability for livestock have been decreased slightly over much of Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Singida, Arusha, Manyara and Dodoma regions. Other areas had moderate water and pasture conditions.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2018

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges continued to decrease across the country due to current dry conditions.
The Azores and Siberian highs are expected to continue to intensify while the St. Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to relax. The zonal arm of the ITCZ is still expected to be further north off the country but orientation of its meridional arm is expected to influence precipitation making mechanisms over the Lake Victoria basin and western part of the country. Also the onshore south easterly flow is expected to continue over the coastal areas especially for the first half of this period. Over the southwest Indian Ocean, SSTs is expected to continue being neutral to slight warm, that will result into moist south easterly but possibility of cyclonic activities is expected to be very low. The southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) SSTs is expected to be neutral to slight cool which is likely to enhance precipitation making mechanisms over the Lake Victoria basin and western sector of the country.

In view of the expected synoptic conditions, Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions) and western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) are expected to feature thunder showers over few areas.

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions.

Northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to feature rain showers over few areas especially during the first half of the period.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions) and southern region (Ruvuma and Southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions.

Southern coast (Miwara and Lindi regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions.

Over the bimodal areas generally Lake Victoria basin and northern coast, rains are expected to peak during the dekad. Farmers are advised to make use of these rains for planting when there is enough soil moisture. However over Kagera region, farmers are advised to plant drought tolerant and early maturing crops due to the expected normal to below normal vlvi rains. In unimodal areas the expected off seasonal rains are not adequate for planting seasonal crops. Livestock keepers are advised to make use of the available water and pasture sparingly. Farmers, fishers and livestock keepers are advised to consult extension officers for optimal use of this forecast and advisory.

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to continue declining mostly in unimodal areas due to ongoing dry conditions. The increasing is expected in bimodal areas due to vlvi rainfall season kickoff. Water users are advised to use available water carefully.