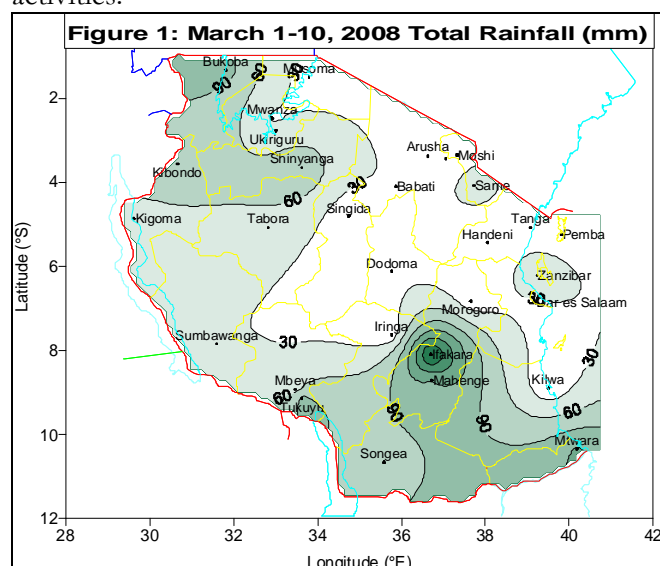


### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During March 1 - 10, the southern hemisphere systems (St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones) were relaxed due to the presence of Tropical Cyclone *Jokwe*. The Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere were still intense thus allowing zonal arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to oscillate over the region.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During March 1-10, some areas over unimodal rainfall regime experienced significant rainfall activities.



The highest recorded rainfall amount was obtained at Ifakara station 222.8 mm for the period, followed by Mtwara 120.8 mm, Tukuyu 97.6, Shinyanga 88.0 mm, Songea 76.9 mm, Kibondo 75.8 mm and Kigoma 51.4 mm. The rest of the stations recorded rainfall

that amounted to below 30 mm for the period as shown in Figure 1. The figure also indicates the seasonal dry spell over northern coast and northeastern areas.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Most areas across the country mainly over the unimodal sector obtained favorable soil moisture supply that facilitated weeding of crops at various growth stages ranging from early vegetative to pre-tasselling mainly for maize, sorghum and paddy.

Over some areas in bimodal sector along northern coast and northeastern highlands (Pwani, Tanga, Arusha, and Kilimanjaro regions), the early planted maize crops at early vegetative stages still were negatively affected by the low soil moisture levels obtained during the period, a situation that compelled some farmers to replant before actual setting in of long rains "*Masika*" season. Land preparation activities over some parts of this sector continued, while some few pockets over higher grounds of Loliondo in Ngorongoro district and Orkesmet in Simanjiro district maize crop was between ninth leaf and earing stages in moderate state. Remaining areas of the country such as parts of Lake Victoria basin (Kagera region) and western areas (Tabora and Kigoma regions) crops particularly maize was at ripeness stage and in good state, while second planting of beans continued.

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

Pasture conditions and water availability for livestock and wildlife were generally good across the country

but poor over the lowlands of the northeastern highlands.

### Hydrometeorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams are rising as well as river discharges as a result of the ongoing seasonal rains over unimodal areas.

### Environmental Summary

Temperatures were high over most parts of the country particularly northeastern highlands and northern coast while humidity was relatively high over the coastal belt.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING MARCH 11–20, 2008

During this dekad, the southern hemisphere systems (St. Helena and the Mascarene anticyclones) are expected to intensify, whereas the Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere are expected to relax and thus allowing the ITCZ to retreat northwards.

The Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere are expected to intensify allowing the ITCZ to maintain its position in the south.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING MARCH 11–20, 2008

The Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Shinyanga, and Mara regions) and western areas (Kigoma and Tabora regions) are expected to receive showers and thunderstorms over some areas. Southwestern highlands, central (Dodoma and Singida regions), southern region (Ruvuma region and Mahenge), Morogoro and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi) are expected to feature few rainshowers and thunderstorms. Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Tanga and hinterlands and island of Zanzibar and Pemba) are expected to feature partly cloudy to cloudy conditions with thundery showers over few areas. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro, and Manyara regions) are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with rain showers over few areas.

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