

# **CONSENSUS CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR THE GREATER HORN OF AFRICA FOR THE JUNE TO AUGUST 2010 RAINFALL SEASON**

## **SUMMARY**

June to August constitutes an important rainfall season for the northern sector of the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA), as well as coastal and western parts of the equatorial sector. The ICPAC consensus climate outlook for the June to August 2010 rainfall season indicates enhanced probabilities for above normal to near normal rainfall over southern Sudan; western, central and northern Ethiopia; much of Eritrea; Djibouti; extreme northwestern Somalia; western Kenya as well as eastern and northern Uganda. Enhance probabilities for near normal to below normal rainfall favour southern, central and western Uganda. Climatology is indicated over the rest of the GHA region.

Cold temperatures and foggy conditions are likely to dominate most of the highlands over the equatorial and southern sectors.

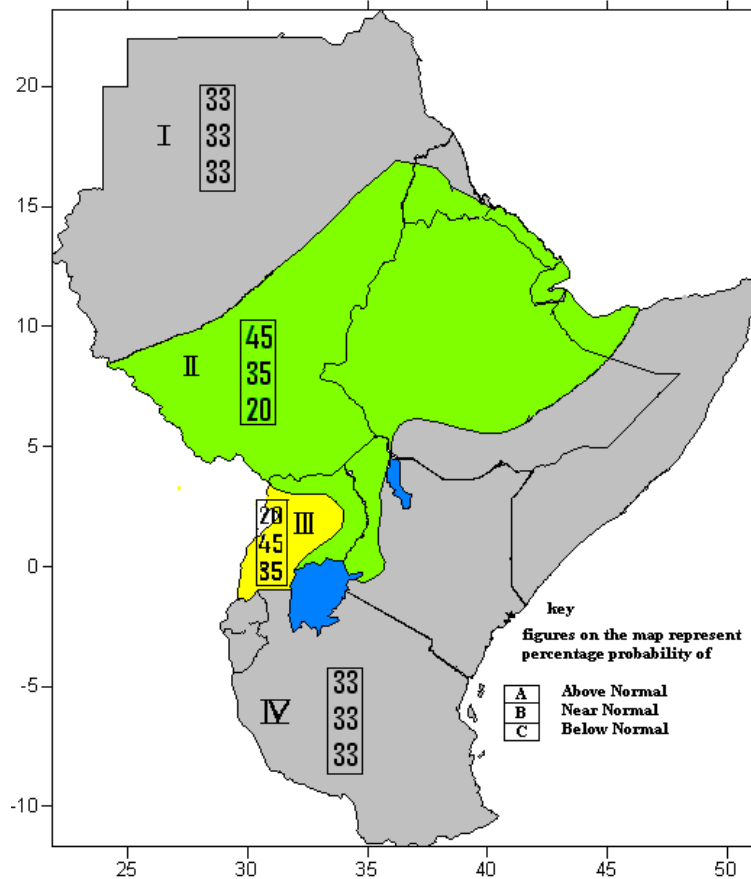
## **METHODOLOGY**

The state of the global climate system and its implications for the GHA region was reviewed to facilitate formulation of the June to August 2010 GHA climate outlook. Among the principal factors taken into account were the evolution patterns of the sea-surface temperature anomalies over various parts of the global oceans including the warmer than average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) over much of the tropical Atlantic Ocean, southwestern Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea as well as colder than average SSTs over the equatorial Pacific Ocean. Global Ocean model outputs by most of the advanced climate centres indicate that La Niña conditions are likely to strengthen during the forecast period. The centres whose products were utilised include ICPAC, University of Nairobi, the International Research Institute for climate and society (IRI); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NOAA/NCEP) and European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF).

The current status of seasonal-to-interannual climate forecasting allows prediction of spatial and temporal averages, and may not fully account for all factors that influence regional and national climate variability.

## **OUTLOOK**

June to August constitutes a major rainfall season over much of the northern sector as well as the coastal and western parts of the equatorial sector. The rainfall outlook for each zone within the sub-region is provided below.



### June to August 2010 Consensus Climate Outlook for the Greater Horn of Africa

- Zone I:** Climatology is indicated over western and northern Sudan as well as northern Eritrea.
- Zone II:** Enhanced probabilities of above to near normal rainfall favour southern and eastern Sudan; western and southern Eritrea; Djibouti; extreme northwestern Somalia; northern, central and western Ethiopia; western Kenya as well as eastern and northern Uganda.
- Zone III:** Increased likelihood of near to below normal rainfall favour western, central and southern Uganda.
- Zone IV:** Climatology is indicated over much Tanzania; Burundi; Rwanda; Kenya; Somalia and southeastern Ethiopia.

*This outlook is relevant only for seasonal time scales and relatively large areas. Local and month-to-month variations may occur. The National weather services and the ICPAC provide update forecasts. The users are therefore strongly advised to keep in contact with their National Meteorological Services for interpretation of this outlook, finer details, updates and additional guidance.*