



ICPAC

PRESS RELEASE

The regional consensus Climate outlook for the next four months indicates increased likelihood of near normal rainfall over most parts of the northern sector of the GHA region.

16th May 2017 Khartoum Sudan: June - September (JJAS) constitutes an important rainfall season over the northern sector as well as parts of the coastal and the western areas of the equatorial sector of the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) region. Over most parts of the northern sector there is an increased likelihood of near normal rainfall with some areas including northern Ethiopia, parts of the Sudan, South Sudan, parts of Uganda and western Kenya having increased likelihood of above normal rainfall.

Although the consensus temperature outlook indicates enhanced likelihood of above normal mean temperatures over many parts of GHA, cool and cloudy conditions are anticipated over the highlands of the equatorial and southern sectors during JJAS 2017. The outlook indicates increased likelihood of early to timely onset/start of the JJAS 2017 rains over much of the northern sector and delayed onset/start and early withdrawal of rainfall at the northern edge of the monsoon rain-belt and in the lowlands of extreme north-eastern Ethiopia.

According to the climate outlook released in Khartoum on Tuesday 16 May 2017, the northern regions of GHA including northern Ethiopia, parts of the Sudan, South Sudan, parts of Uganda and western Kenya will have increased likelihood of above normal rainfall.

Speaking when he released the regional climate outlook on Tuesday, the Director General of the Sudan Meteorological Authority, Dr Ahmed Mohamed Abdalkareem, said the outlook is only relevant for the season but local and month-to-month variations might occur as the season progresses. Dry spells may occur in areas with an increased likelihood of near normal to above normal rainfall. Episodic heavy rainfall events leading to flash floods might also occur even in areas with an increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rainfall.

He pointed out that the Global climate centres under the coordination of World Meteorological Organisation will continue to provide status of global climate including El Niño updates, ICPAC will also provide regional updates on regular basis while the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) will provide detailed national and sub-national updates.

The Forty Sixth Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF46) was convened by ICPAC and sponsored by UNDP and USAID; hosted by the Government of Sudan, to formulate a consensus regional climate outlook for the June and September 2017 rainfall season over the GHA region.

The GHA region comprises of Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

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About ICPAC

ICPAC is the specialised IGAD institution which covers IGAD members' states plus Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi. The mission of ICPAC is to foster climate services and knowledge to enhance community resilience for prosperity in the Greater Horn of Africa. ICPAC extends its services to four main sectors including water, agriculture, and health and disaster risk management.