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## PRESS RELEASE

***The Greater Horn of Africa regional consensus climate outlook for the next three months indicates an increased chance of above normal rainfall over much of southern and western parts of the equatorial sectors.***

**22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 Zanzibar, Tanzania, October to December (OND)** constitutes an important rainfall season over the equatorial sector comprising of Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, and Kenya, of the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) region. The Forty Seventh Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF 47) was convened to formulate a consensus regional climate outlook for the OND 2017 rainfall season over the GHA region. There is an increased likelihood of near to above normal rainfall over much of southern and western parts of equatorial sector. Over much of the northern sector i.e., southern and central Ethiopia, much of Somalia and South Sudan, there is an increased likelihood of near normal to below normal rainfall is indicated over.

There is also increased likelihood of above to near normal mean temperatures over much of the GHA. Increased likelihood of near normal to below normal mean temperatures is indicated over north-eastern parts of the northern sector.

The outlook further indicates increased likelihood of early to timely onset/start of the OND 2017 rains over much of the southern sector and delayed onset/start and early withdrawal of rainfall over the north-eastern edge of the region and in the lowlands of extreme south-eastern Ethiopia.

Speaking during the release of regional climate outlook on Tuesday 22 August 2017, the Director General of the Tanzania Meteorological Agency, Dr. Agnes Kijazi, said that the outlook is only relevant at seasonal timescale but local and month-to-month variations might occur as the season progresses. Dry spells may occur in areas with an increased likelihood of above to near 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.

She pointed out that the Global climate centres under the coordination of World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) 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 Seventh Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF47) was convened by ICPAC and sponsored by WMO, AfDB, UNDP, USAID and DFID while the Government of Tanzania hosted the forum.

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

## CONTACT US



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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.