**Temperatures:**

During the last week, widespread below normal temperatures were observed throughout much of the region, with the largest temperature anomalies (9-15°C) felt across eastern half of Kazakhstan. Both minimum and maximum daily temperatures remained below freezing throughout northern and eastern Kazakhstan, however nighttime minimum temperatures were warmer than normal across the central and southern provinces of Afghanistan. For the upcoming outlook period, there is some potential for abnormal cold across eastern Kazakhstan, however, above normal temperatures are likely for many parts Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan with positive departures of (4-8°C) forecast.

**Precipitation**

For the past couple of weeks, suppressed and poorly distributed precipitation has been observed across the southern portion of the region. The highest weekly precipitation amounts were registered over eastern Kazakhstan (10-25mm), with lighter and more scattered precipitation amounts further south across the higher elevations of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and northeastern Afghanistan. Since late October, moisture deficits have strengthened and expanded across northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. For the upcoming outlook period, a favorable increase in moisture is forecast, with a more seasonable distribution of precipitation (5-25mm) expected throughout much of Afghanistan, and locally heavier amounts (>50mm) over parts of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan during the next seven days. A heavy snow hazard is posted for areas where the GFS model indicates snowfall amounts likely to exceed 30 cm over a 24 hour period.

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**Note:** The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.