Tropical cyclone Eloise has tremendously helped alleviate the moisture deficit over the western part of Madagascar.

1) New swarms have been reported over northeast Ethiopia. There is a high risk of movement of those swarms toward the Tigray during the coming weeks. A continuation of swarm’s progression overall Kenya from its northern entrance has been observed, this proliferation of swarms will produce more hopper bands by February-March in the region.

2) During the short rains season, a strong moisture deficit has been recorded during October-November while moisture surplus has been recorded during late December through January. The drought and abnormal dryness polygon should be removed next week to start the new coming season over the area.

3) Tropical cyclone Eloise has been beneficial over the northern and western part of Madagascar. It helped alleviate the progressive dryness over the area, however, the abnormal dryness is still progressing over the east coastal area and the central part of the country.

4) Even though the eastern part Angola received rainfall recently, the amount of rainfall recorded is below average. The far northwestern part of Namibia has performed a below average rainfall for the past six weeks as well.

5) The potential locust outbreak polygon will be maintained over the several part in the southern part of Africa for the coming outlook period.

6) Tropical cyclone Eloise has favored a decrease of moisture deficit over the northern part of Mozambique but not enough to alleviate significantly the abnormal dryness installed in the region.

7) Flash flood has been reported over the central part of Mozambique, the central part of Zimbabwe and some local areas of the northern part of South Africa.
Flash flood has been reported in Bujumbura province of Burundi.

The unprecedented desert locust in the eastern part of Africa is still present and will more likely continue in February-March. The Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden area of south Yemen are under swarm’s invasion which is predicted to move toward north Somalia and east Sudan. During the past 7 days, a flash flood has been reported over a local area of Burundi. Localized light to moderate rainfall has been recorded over the western and southern part of Ethiopia, the eastern and western part of Kenya. Light to moderate rainfall has been recorded over Angola and the northern part of Tanzania. Moderate to heavy rainfall has been recorded over the southern part of Tanzania for the second consecutive week which could trigger flash flood over the area (Figure 1). The rainfall performance during the past 30 days has been favorable for Ethiopia, Kenya, Angola and Tanzania which also correlate the SPI CMORPH 1-month positive coverage over the eastern part of Africa.

The NDVI over the eastern part of Africa is still showing poor vegetation coverage for the second dekad of January, however, the recent rainfall should change positively the NDVI values for the last dekad of January.

During the coming outlook period, a below average is expected over Ethiopia, Uganda and the western part of Kenya. Seasonal to slight above average rainfall is expected over Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi.

Flash flood has been reported over north Madagascar.

During the past 7 days, the passage of tropical cyclone Eloise has triggered several flash floods over the northern part of Madagascar, the central part of Mozambique, the central part of Zimbabwe. Heavy rainfall has been recorded over the northern part of Botswana, Malawi and the southern part of Zambia. Light to moderate rainfall has been recorded over the remaining part of Zambia, the northern and southern part of Zimbabwe, the southeastern part of Angola and the northern part of Namibia. The past 30 days has been beneficial over the northern part of Mozambique, the northern and western part of Madagascar due to the passage of Tropical cyclone Eloise which tremendously help to alleviate the progress of moisture deficit over those areas. A continuation of moisture deficit has been observed over the western part of Angola and now extended to its eastern part. The northern part of South Africa has observed a noticeable recovery from moisture deficit due to the recent increase of rainfall over the area. The NDVI is starting to show some regression of vegetation coverage over the northeastern part of Mozambique and the central part of Angola during the second dekad of January.

For the coming outlook period, heavy rainfall is expected over the central part of South Africa, the northwestern part of Madagascar. Light to moderate rainfall is expected over Botswana and Zimbabwe while a seasonal rainfall is expected over Zambia, the southeastern part of Angola, Mozambique and Tanzania. Below average is expected over the western part of Angola which would aggravate the moisture deficit over the area.

Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It 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.

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