Strengthening moisture deficits continue throughout anomalously dry areas in the Greater Horn.

1) Swarms and adult locusts have been reported in north-central Ethiopia and northern Somalia. Conditions favor migration and reproduction in these areas. Some adult locusts are also reported in Sudan where moderate impact on crop production is predicted.

2) Largely suppressed seasonal rainfall since late September had led to significant dryness across many parts of the Greater Horn of Africa. While seasonal rains over western Kenya and southern Ethiopia during late November is likely to help pastoral conditions and water availability, seasonal moisture deficits and poorly timed rainfall is expected to negatively impact crop production in the region.

3) The flood hazard will remain due to the continuation of riverine flooding across Sudd Wetlands region in South Sudan.
Lack of rain exacerbates ground condition over northeastern Tanzania.

During the past 7 days, showers prevailed across local areas of southern Somalia and southeastern Ethiopia. Between 10-25mm of rain prevailed across Ethiopia, western Kenya (Figure 1). However, the performance for the past 7 days exhibits more than 25mm below normal rainfall across southwestern and eastern Ethiopia, southern and central Somalia, Kenya, and Uganda. After the first four dekads of the October-December season, anomalous dryness throughout the Greater Horn of Africa has been significant. With seasonal rainfall climatologically expected to rapidly diminish within the next several weeks, particularly over Ethiopia and Somalia, it has reached a point where recovery is very doubtful (Figure 2). This abnormal dryness is also becoming increasingly evident further south across southern Kenya and northeastern Tanzania, where poorly distributed rains during late October to now have led to a deterioration of ground conditions. It is anticipated that any increase in shower activity during the remainder of November and early December will help improve water availability and pastoral conditions, however, adverse agriculture impacts appear imminent.

The normalized difference vegetation index reveals a progressed deterioration of ground conditions across southern and eastern Ethiopia, southern Somalia, and eastern Kenya during the first dekad of November.

During the coming outlook period, below normal rainfall is expected across the East Africa which would reduce significantly chances for possible recovery from abnormal dryness across the area.

Moisture deficit is building up across southern Madagascar.

During the past week, between 10-25mm of rain prevailed over Angola, northern South Africa including Lesotho and Eswatini, central and northern Madagascar, and central Mozambique. Below 25mm of rain prevailed over Zimbabwe, a major part of Botswana, northern Namibia, southern Malawi, western and central Zambia, and Democratic Republic of Congo (Figure 1). Over the past 30 days, conditions have been mixed across Angola with interspersed negative and positive anomalies. Positive 30-day rainfall anomalies were observed in western South Africa. In contrast, negative rainfall anomalies (10-50mm) were present over eastern South Africa, Lesotho, central Mozambique, and much of Madagascar. Looking at vegetation health, poor conditions prevailed across western Angola, northern South Africa, and much of Madagascar.

While the vegetation health index retrospect the past season vegetation condition, no notable change of vegetation coverage was observed across southern Africa.

During the coming outlook period, close to seasonable rainfall is expected across northeastern and central Madagascar, northern South Africa including Lesotho and Eswatini. Above average rainfall is expected across northeastern and central Madagascar, northern Mozambique, Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

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.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.
Figure 3: Flood Hazards, focused over West Africa

Some improvement was noticed between Jeba and Lokoja. Some newly inundated areas are noticeable in southern Nigeria.

Flooding condition over Sudd Wetlands, Sobet, and Akobo rivers are gradually improving over the week. Some newly inundated areas are noticeable in southern Nigeria.

Figure 4: Flood Hazards, focused over eastern Africa