REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND MINERAL RESOURCES

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

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WEATHER REVIEW FOR THE LAST FOUR DAYS 4TH –7TH MARCH 2010 AND THE EXPECTED CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT FOUR DAYS VALID, 9TH– 12TH MARCH 2010

1. WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

During the review period (4th to 7th March 2010):

- Wet weather activities continued over most parts of the country except over the coastal strip and the northwestern sector.
- Generally daytime temperatures declined and nighttime temperatures increased over the northeastern, southeastern and central highlands including Nairobi.

The forecast for the next four days (9th to 12th March 2010) indicates that:

- Rainfall activities are expected to reduce over most parts of the country.

2. WEATHER SUMMARY

(a) Rainfall

Wet weather activities continued over most parts of the country except over the costal strip and the northwestern region, which remained under low-key activities during the review period (4th to 7th March 2010). Some stations over the northeastern, the southeastern and western sectors experienced heavy rainfall amounts. For example, on 6th March 2010, Makindu and Kabarak stations recorded 82.8mm and 33.4mm respectively. While on 7th March 2010, Wajir station recorded 32.1mm of rainfall. Makindu station also recorded the highest total amount of rainfall of 109.0mm in four days followed by Kisii (60.2mm), Voi (39.7mm), Suba(38.0mm), Machakos(37.4mm), Dagoretti(35.3mm), Wajir(34.9mm), Kabarak(34.8mm), Moyale(33.5mm), Kericho(33.4mm), Kitale(32.0mm), Embu(31.9mm), Meru(28.1mm), Kisumu (25.4mm), and Kakamega(21.1mm)**.** The rest recorded less than 20mm of rainfall or no rainfall all **Figure 1**.

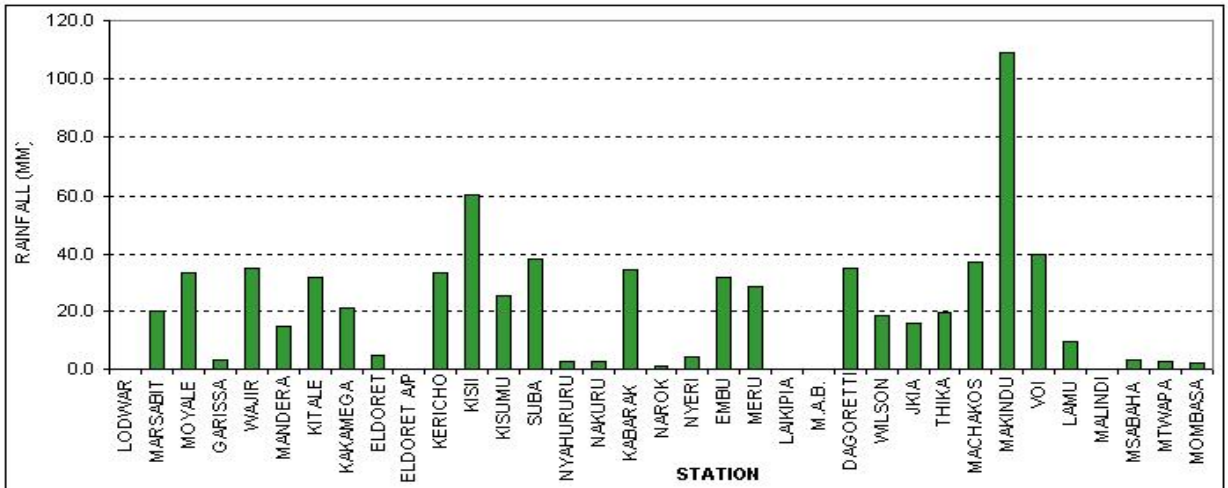

FIGURE 1:FOUR-DAY RAINFALL TOTALS FROM 4TH TO 7TH MARCH 2010

(b) Temperature

Daytime temperatures decreased while nighttime temperatures rose over the northeastern, southeastern and central highlands including Nairobi area during the review period. Rising trend characterized both daytime and nighttime temperatures over the northwestern region. Elsewhere, there were no clear trends observed.

Wajir and Nyahuruu stations recorded the highest daytime and lowest nighttime temperatures of 38.4°C and 8.4°C on 7th March 2010 respectively. The two stations also recorded the highest and the lowest average daytime and nighttime temperatures of 36.3°C and 9. 3°C respectively (**Figure 2**).

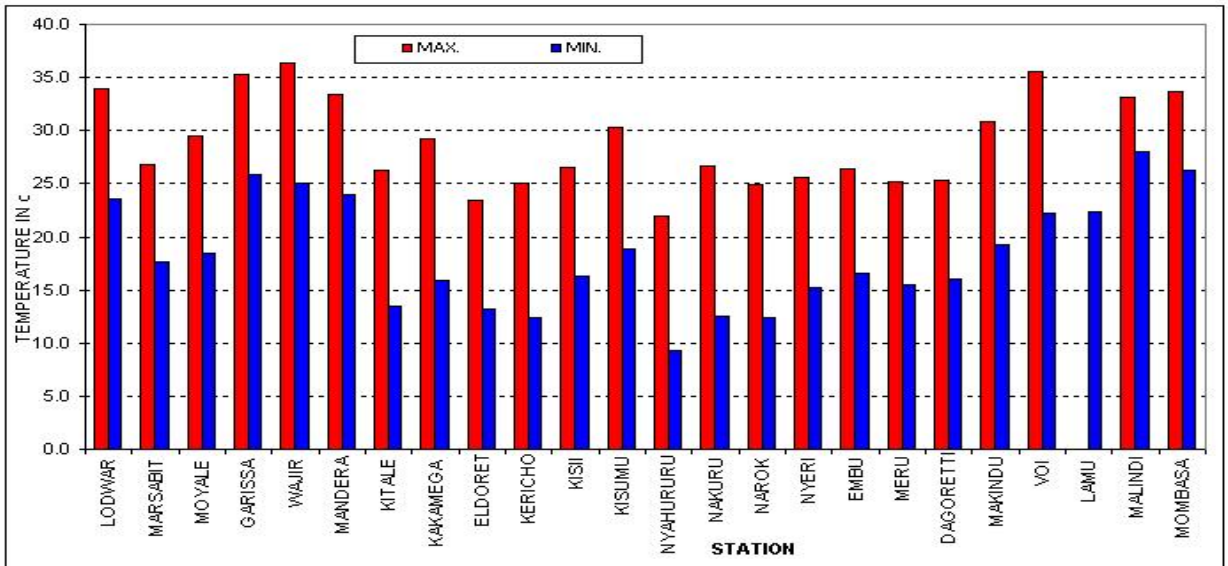

FIG2:FOUR-DAY MAXIMUM & MINIMUM TEMPERATURES FROM 4TH TO 7TH MARCH 2010

3: EXPECTED SYNOPTIC DEVELOPMENTS FROM 9TH –12TH MARCH 2010

Pressures are expected to be;

i) Moderate over the Southern Atlantic Ocean (St. Hellena) throughout the period;
ii) Strong over central Europe and the Mediterranean region, weakening towards the end of the period;
iii) Moderate over the South West Indian Ocean (Mascarene) and the Mozambique Channel, weakening slightly with time;
iv) Weak and maritime over the Arabian Ridge, becoming moderate and continental as the period progresses.

The low-pressure systems (depression over the western Indian Ocean), which have been enhancing west-east pressure gradients, are expected to fill up.

Wind fields;

Weak westerly and easterly wind components are will dominate the lower and upper levels of the atmosphere respectively.

Following the above synoptic developments, reduction in rainfall activities is expected over most parts of the country.

4: FORECAST FOR THE NEXT FOUR DAYS FROM 9TH –12TH MARCH 2010

The Lake Victoria basin, Highlands west of the Rift Valley and Central Rift Valley (Kitale, Kakamega, Kisumu, Kisii, Kericho, Eldoret, Nakuru, Narok, Nyahururu, etc) will experience afternoon showers and thunderstorms over several places reducing to few places.

The Northwestern districts (Lodwar, Lokitaung, Lokichoggio, etc), will experience afternoon showers over few places giving way to mainly sunny intervals.

The Central highlands including Nairobi area (Nyeri, Meru, Dagoretti, Embu, etc) will experience afternoon showers/night rains over few places giving way to mainly sunny intervals. Occasional morning rains are likely to occur over few places.

The Northeastern districts (Marsabit, Moyale, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa etc), will experience morning rains and afternoon showers over several places reducing to few places with time.

Southeastern lowlands (Voi, Makindu, Machakos etc), will experience night showers/morning rains over several places reducing to few places. Occasional afternoon showers are likely to occur over few places

The Coastal region (Mombasa, Kilifi, Malindi, Lamu etc) will experience mainly sunny intervals with occasional morning showers over few places.

N.B: This forecast should be used in conjunction with the daily 24-hour forecast issued by this Department.

KEY OF SCIENTIFIC WORDS USED
High Pressure System (Anticyclone): An area associated with clear skies or fine weather.
Ridge: An elongated area of high pressure from which winds flow outward.
Most Places: Between 66% and 100%.
Several Places: Between 33% and 66%
Few Places: Between 0 and 33%

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