REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND MINERAL RESOURCES

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

Dagoretti Corner, Ngong Rd, P. O. Box 30259, 00100 GPO, Nairobi, Kenya
Telephone: 254 (0) 20 3867880-7 / 3876957/60 / 3873682
Mobile: 254(0)724255153/ 254(0)724255154
Fax: 254 (0) 20 3876955/3877373/3867888/3874501
e-mail: director@meteo.go.ke; **Website**: http://www.meteo.go.ke

SEVEN DAY WEATHER REVIEW FROM 20TH – 26TH OCTOBER, 2011 AND THE SEVEN-DAY FORECAST VALID 28TH OCTOBER – 3RD NOVEMBER, 2011

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1. SUMMARY

Review of weather for the last Seven-day period (20th – 26th October 2011)

During the review period (20th – 26th October 2011):

- There was a major reduction of rainfall activities over most parts of the country.
- Some parts of the Central Highlands maintained reasonably wet weather conditions recording seven-day rainfall totals above 60mm.
- Dry conditions were sustained over the North western region throughout the review period.
- Day-time (maximum) temperatures were relatively higher than in the previous review period over the whole country except areas around Lake Basin.
- Minimum temperatures were higher in some locations and lower in other areas than the previous review period.

Forecast for the next Seven days (28th October – 3rd November 2011):

The forecast for the next seven-day period (28th October – 3rd November 2011) indicates:

- A pick up in rainfall activities over most parts of the country with very heavy rainfall (> 50mm in 24hrs) likely to be experienced in some parts of the western and the northeastern areas in the first half of the forecast period; and
- A reduction of rainfall activities in the northeastern parts, the coastal strip and the southeastern lowlands in the second half of the forecast period.

2. WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

2.1 WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD 20TH – 26TH OCTOBER 2011

2.1.1 Rainfall Review

There was a major reduction of rainfall activities in most parts of the country except for some parts of the Central Highlands which maintained reasonably wet weather conditions with seven-day rainfall total amounts above 60mm. The Highlands west of the rift valley and Central rift valley were also a bit active recording rainfall above 30mm.

Daily heavy rainfall events (> 20mm) were confined to very few places in the central highlands. Meru Meteorological station recorded highest rainfall amounts of 41.6mm and 40mm on 20th and 24th of October 2011 respectively. Nyeri had 28.6mm on 26 October 2011.

Meru Meteorological Station once again recorded the highest seven-day rainfall total of 93.4mm followed by Thika (60.9mm), Kakamega(40.8mm), Kangema(38.6mm), Embu(37.7mm),

Kericho(31.7mm), Nakuru(31.3)mm, and Kisii(30.7mm). All other stations recorded rainfall amounts of less than 30mm. ***(See Figures 1 and 2 below***).

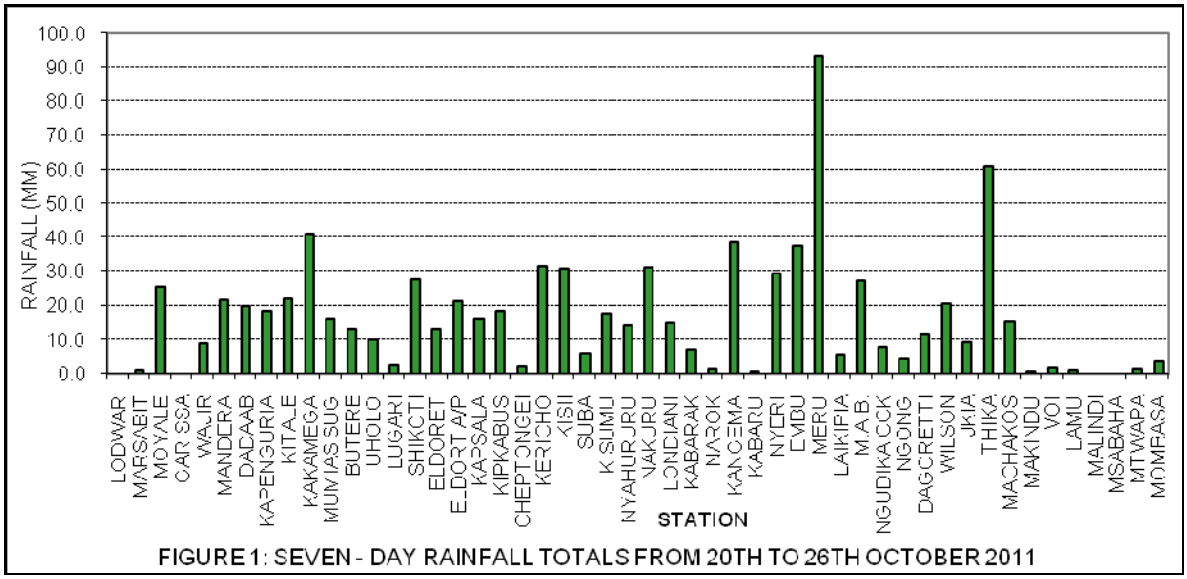

FIGURE 1: SEVEN - DAY RAINFALL TOTALS FROM 20TH TO 26TH OCTOBER 2011

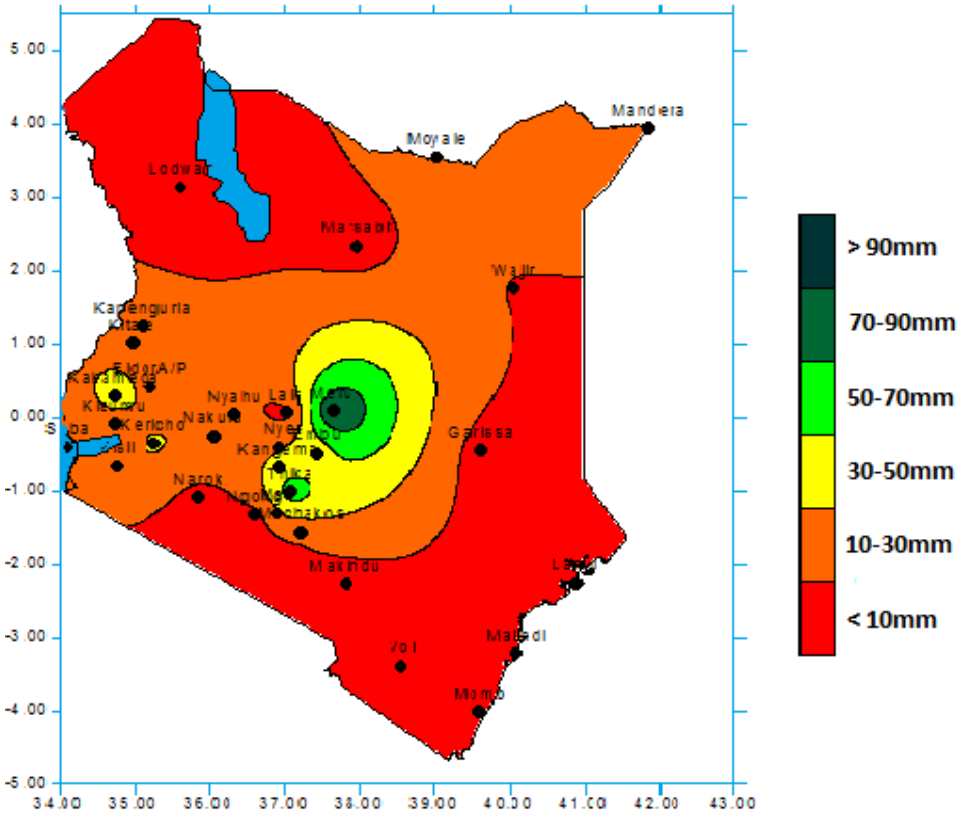

Fig 2: Spatial rainfall distribution for the period 20th – 26th October 2011.

2.2 Temperature

During the review period, day-time (maximum) temperatures were relatively higher than the previous review period over much of the whole country except areas around Lake Basin. Minimum temperatures were relatively higher than those in the previous review period over the North eastern area, parts of western Kenya, Nairobi area and the Southeastern lowlands. They were relatively lower than in the previous review period over the central highlands, coastal strip and the

Northwestern areas. The highest daily maximum temperature of 36.4°C was recorded at Lodwar Meteorological Station on 21st of October 2011 while the lowest daily minimum temperature of 7.1°C was recorded at Nyahururu Meteorological Station on 23rd October 2011. The same stations recorded the highest average maximum and minimum temperature of 35.7°C and 9.6°C respectively. ***(See figure 3).***

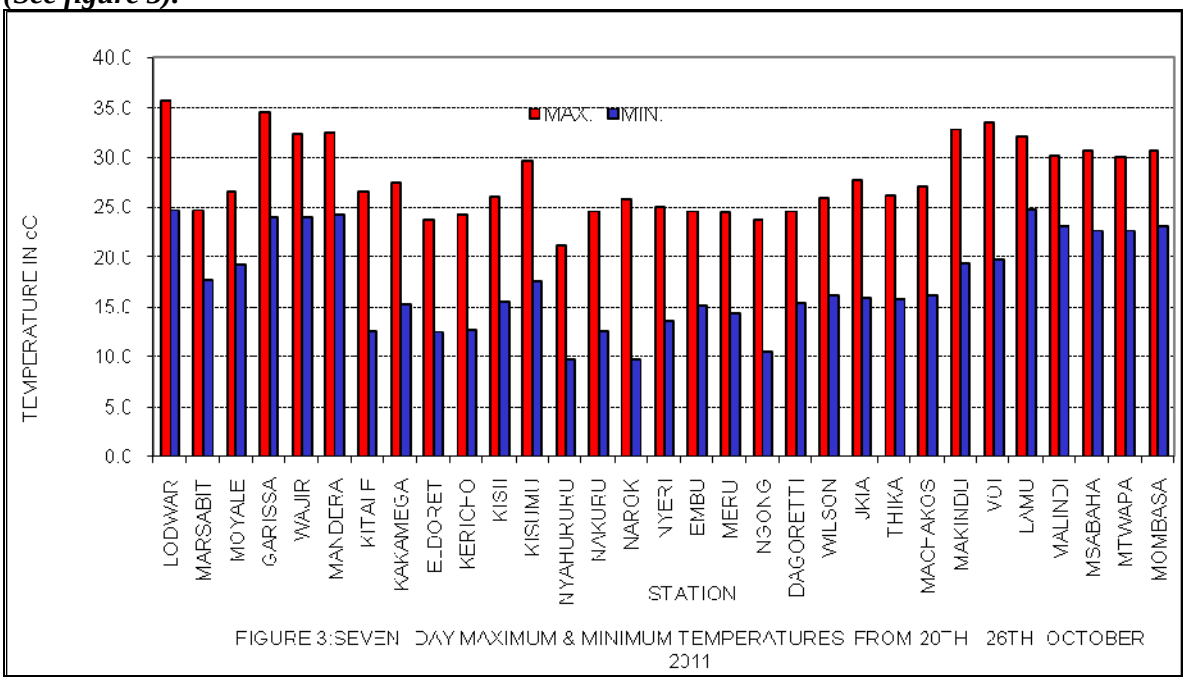

FIGURE 3:SEVEN DAY MAXIMUM & MINIMUM TEMPERATURES FROM 20TH 26TH OCTOBER 2011

3. EXPECTED SYNOPTIC DEVELOPMENTS FROM 28TH OCTOBER – 3RD NOVEMBER, 2011

It is expected that pressures will be;

- Moderately strong over southern Atlantic ocean (St. Helena) throughout the forecast period;
- Moderately weak over the tip of southern Africa in the first half of the forecast period, strengthening as the forecast period progresses;
- Moderately weak over the Mozambique channel for most of the forecast period, slightly strengthening at the end of the forecast period;
- Moderately weak over Southwest Indian ocean (Mascarene) in the better half of the forecast period, weakening in the last two days of the this forecast;
- Moderately Strong over the Azores region in the first half, weakening towards the end of the forecast period;
- Strong over the Mediterranean region, weakening at the second half of the forecast period; and
- Moderately strong over the Arabian region throughout the forecast period.

It is also expected that winds will be:

- Weak North easterlies near the surface (lower levels), turning to westerlies at the start of the forecast period. Strong South easterlies over the Indian ocean diverging to south westerlies and easterlies over the central and western sector of the country;
- Strong easterlies over the far eastern sector of the country, changing to south easterlies and north easterlies over the larger sector of west of Kenya in the first day of the forecast period. Moderate easterlies dominate the flow in the rest of the forecast period.

These developments point towards:

- A pick up in rainfall activities over most parts of the country with very heavy rainfall (> 50mm in 24hrs) likely to be experienced in some parts of the western and the northeastern areas in the first half of the forecast period; and

- A reduction of rainfall activities in the northeastern parts, the coastal strip and the southeastern lowlands in the second half of the forecast period.

4. FORECAST FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS FROM 28TH OCTOBER – 3RD NOVEMBER, 2011

The Lake Victoria Basin, Highlands west of the Rift Valley Central and south Rift Valley (Kitale, Kakamega, Kisumu, Kisii, Migori, Nyamira, Kericho, UasinGishu, Nakuru, Narok, Nyandarua counties etc) will experience morning rains over few places and afternoon showers accompanied by thunderstorms over several places at the beginning reducing slightly to few places at the end of the forecast period. Some areas are likely to record very heavy showers (> 50mm) at the beginning of the forecast period.

The Northwestern counties (Turkana, West Pokot etc), will experience light morning rains followed by sunny intervals, afternoon showers and thunderstorms over several places at the beginning reducing to few places in the second half of the forecast period.

Central highlands including Nairobi area (counties of Meru, Murang'a, Kiambu, Nyeri, Nairobi, Embu, etc) will experience cloudy early morning with rains over several places breaking into sunny intervals and then afternoons/night showers and thunderstorms over several places during the forecast period.

Northeastern counties (counties of Marsabit, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Moyale etc) will mainly experience morning rains and afternoon showers and thunderstorms over several places in the first half of the forecast period, reducing to sunny intervals at the end of the forecast period. Very heavy showers are likely to occur in the counties of Garissa and Wajir in the first half of the forecast period.

Southeastern lowlands (Taita Taveta, Makueni, Machakos, Kitui, Mwingi counties etc), will mainly experience morning rains and afternoon showers and thunderstorms over several places in the first half of the forecast period, reducing to sunny intervals at the end of the forecast period.

The Coastal strip (Mombasa, Malindi, Kilifi, Lamu, Kwale etc) will experience morning showers over few places and sunny intervals in the afternoon for much of the forecast period.

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%

Peter G. Ambenje
FOR: DIRECTOR OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES