

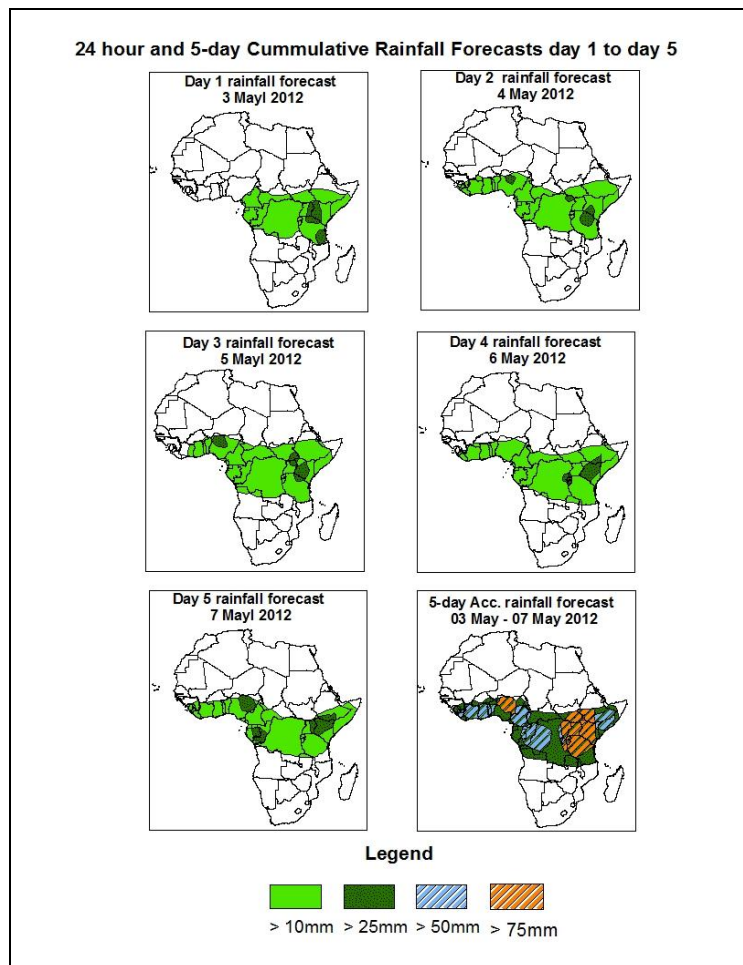


NCEP Contributions to the WMO Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) and to the African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis (AMMA) Initiative

1.0. Rainfall Forecast: Valid 06Z of 3 May – 06Z of 7 May 2012, (Issued at 15:52 Z of 2 May 2012)

1.1. Twenty Four Hour Cumulative Rainfall Forecasts

The forecasts are expressed in terms of 75% probability of precipitation (POP) exceeded, based on the NCEP, UK Met Office and the ECMWF NWP outputs, the NCEP global ensemble forecasts system (GEFS) and expert assessment.

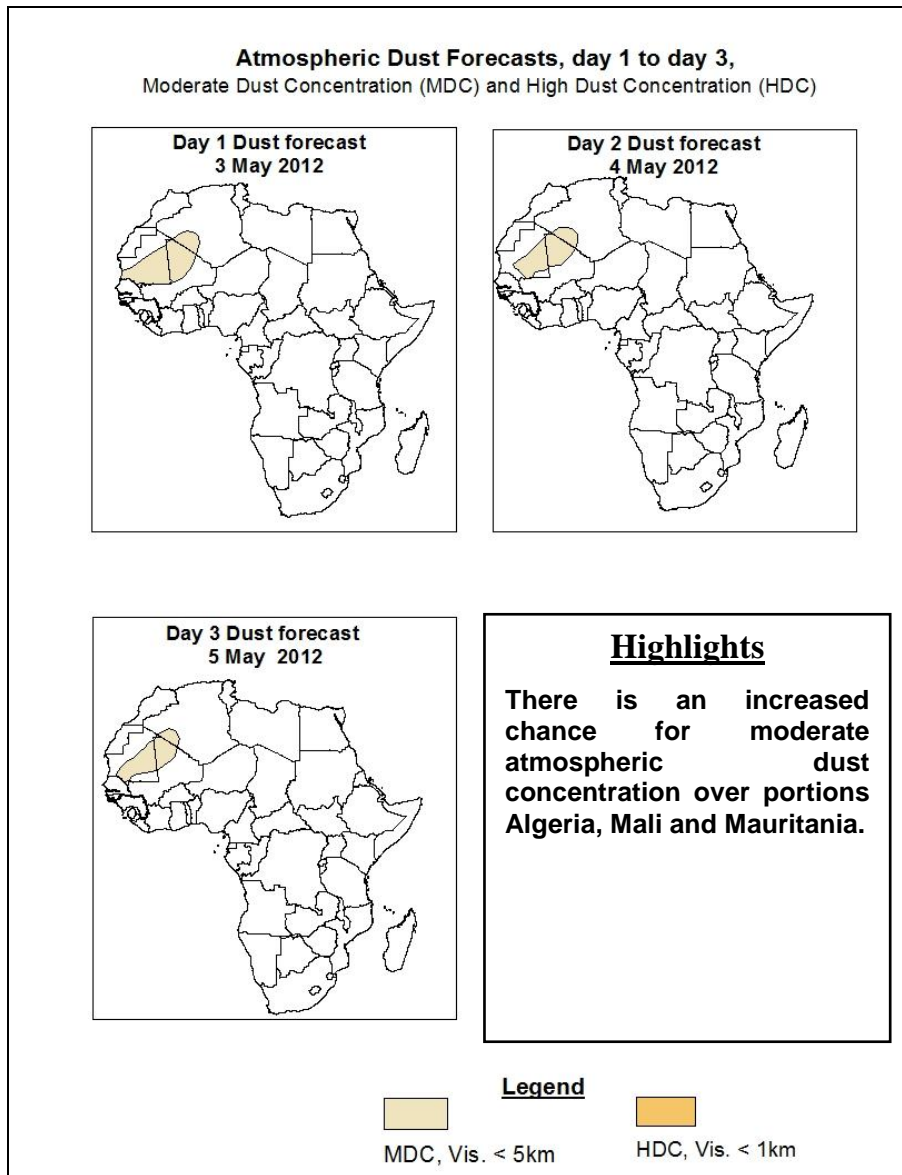


Summary

In the next five days, seasonal wind convergences in the Gulf of Guinea, convergence over central Africa and western equatorial Africa regions, convergences associated with Congo Air Mass, seasonal wind convergences in southern Ethiopia, Southern Sudan and Somalia, and cyclonic circulation off the coast of East Africa are expected to enhance rainfall across their respective regions. In general, there is an increased chance for heavy rainfall over portions of southern Ethiopia, eastern DRC, Uganda, Kenya portions of Tanzania, Rwanda, Nigeria and Burundi.

1.2. Atmospheric Dust Forecasts: Valid 3 - 5 May 2012

The NCEP/GFS, the UK Met Office, the ECMWF and the NCEP/WRF outputs are used to identify areas with high probability of dust concentration.



1.3. Model Discussion: Valid from 00Z of 2 May 2012

According to the GFS, ECMWF and UKMET models an east-west oriented trough and its associated heat lows are expected to prevail in the region between southern Mali and Sudan.

A low near Niger and Mali is expected to shift toward the border between Mali across Niger, with its central pressure value decreasing from 1004hpa in 24 hours to 1003hpa in 48 hours. The central pressure value tends to increase from 1003hpa to 1004hpa through 72 hours to 96 hours and the central pressure value tends decrease to 1003hpa in 120 hours. The central pressure value of a low over Chad and Central African Republic tends to be constant at 1004hpa through 24 to 48 hours. The central pressure value tends to be constant at 1003hpa through 72 to 96 hours and the central pressure value tends to decrease to 1002hpa in 120 hours. The low across Ethiopia, Sudan and South Sudan Republic is also expected to deepen; with its central pressure value tends to be constant at 1004hpa through 24 to 48 hours. And the central pressure value tends to increase from 1005hpa to 1001hpa through 72 hours to 120 hours.

According to UKMET and GFS models, the UKMET model of the St. Helena High pressure system over southeast Atlantic Ocean is expected to deepen; with its central pressure value tends to be constant at 1024hpa through 48 hours to 96 hours and the central pressure value tends to decrease to 1022hpa at 120 hours. According to the GFS model, the central pressure value tends to be constant at 1023hpa through 48 hours to 72 hours and the central pressure value tends to increase from 1022hpa to 1023hpa through 96 hours to 120 hours. Lastly, Accordingly to ECMWF model, the central pressure value tends to increase from 1019hpa to 1023hpa through 24 hours to 48 hours and the central pressure value tends to increase from 1022hpa to 1024hpa through 72 hours to 96 hours.

According to UKMET model, the Mascarene high pressure system over southwestern Indian Ocean is expected to shift eastwards (from about 65°E to 74°E, while giving way to the interactions between mid-latitude and tropical systems during 24 hours to 72 hours with its central pressure value is expected to increase from about 1027hpa to about 1033hpa through 24 hours to 72 hours and the central pressure value tends to decrease from 1031hpa to 1029hpa through 96 hours to 120 hours (about 66°E to

79°E). According to the ECMWF model, the central pressure value of this high tends to increase from 1027hpa to 1032hpa, by shifting from about 65° E to 76° E through 24 hours to 72 hours and the central pressure value is expected to decrease from 1031hpa to 1030hpa through 96 hours to 120 hours (about 77°E to 78°E). Lastly, Accordingly to GFS model of the Mascarene high pressure system over southwestern Indian Ocean is expected to shift eastwards (from about 60°E to 80°E), while giving way to the interactions between mid-latitude and tropical systems during 24 hours to 120 hours with its central pressure value is expected to increase from about 1027hpa to about 1035hpa through 24 hours to 120 hours.

At 925hpa level, zone of moderate and dry northerly and easterly winds (25 to 35kts) are expected to prevail over parts of Sudan, Libya, Egypt, Chad, Mali, Algeria, Northern Senegal, and Mauritania through 24 to 120 hours.

At the 850hpa level, a lower tropospheric wind convergence associated with the West African Monsoon is expected to prevail over parts of Mali, Burkina Faso, Benin, Northern Nigeria and Niger tend to shift toward Niger through 24 hours to 120 hours. Then, the convergence is expected to extend towards Chad, Northeastern Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic and Sudan by the end of forecasting period. Seasonal lower level convergences are expected to remain active over Southern Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia throughout the forecast period. The convergence associated with the meridional arm of the ITCZ is expected remain active across North Tanzania, Kenya and over Uganda during 24 hours to 48 hours. During 72 hours to 120 hours, the convergence tends to become a cyclonic circulation over Coast of Kenya, Somalia and Tanzania.

At 500hpa level, a mid-latitude trough across Northern Africa and the neighboring areas is expected to deepen gradually with its axis over Western Sahara, Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Northern Mauritania through 24 to 72 hours. A mid-latitude frontal trough is also expected propagate across South Africa Republic during 24 to 72 hours.

At 200mb, the Sub-Tropical Westerly Jet across northeastern Atlantic Ocean, North Africa and Eastern Egypt is expected to have a wavy pattern, with cores over Northwest and Northeast Africa. The core speed over Western Sahara, Algeria, Mauritania, Mali,

Libya, Tunisia, Egypt and Morocco is expected to exceed 110kts during 24 to 48 hours, and it tends to shift northwards through 72 to 120 hours. The winds speed across the core over Egypt, Sudan and the Red Sea is expected to exceed 90kts during 24 to 72 hours, and then it tends to weaken the wind speed values of below 70kts towards end of the forecast period.

In the next five days, seasonal wind convergences in the Gulf of Guinea convergence over central Africa and western equatorial Africa regions, convergences associated with Congo Air Mass, seasonal wind convergences in southern Ethiopia, Southern Sudan and Somalia, and cyclonic circulation off the coast of East Africa are expected to enhance rainfall across their respective regions. In general, there is an increased chance for heavy rainfall over portions of southern Ethiopia, eastern DRC, Uganda, Kenya portions of Tanzania, Rwanda, Nigeria and Burundi.

There is an increased chance for moderate atmospheric dust concentration over portions Algeria, Mali and Mauritania.

2.0. Previous and Current Day Weather Discussion over Africa

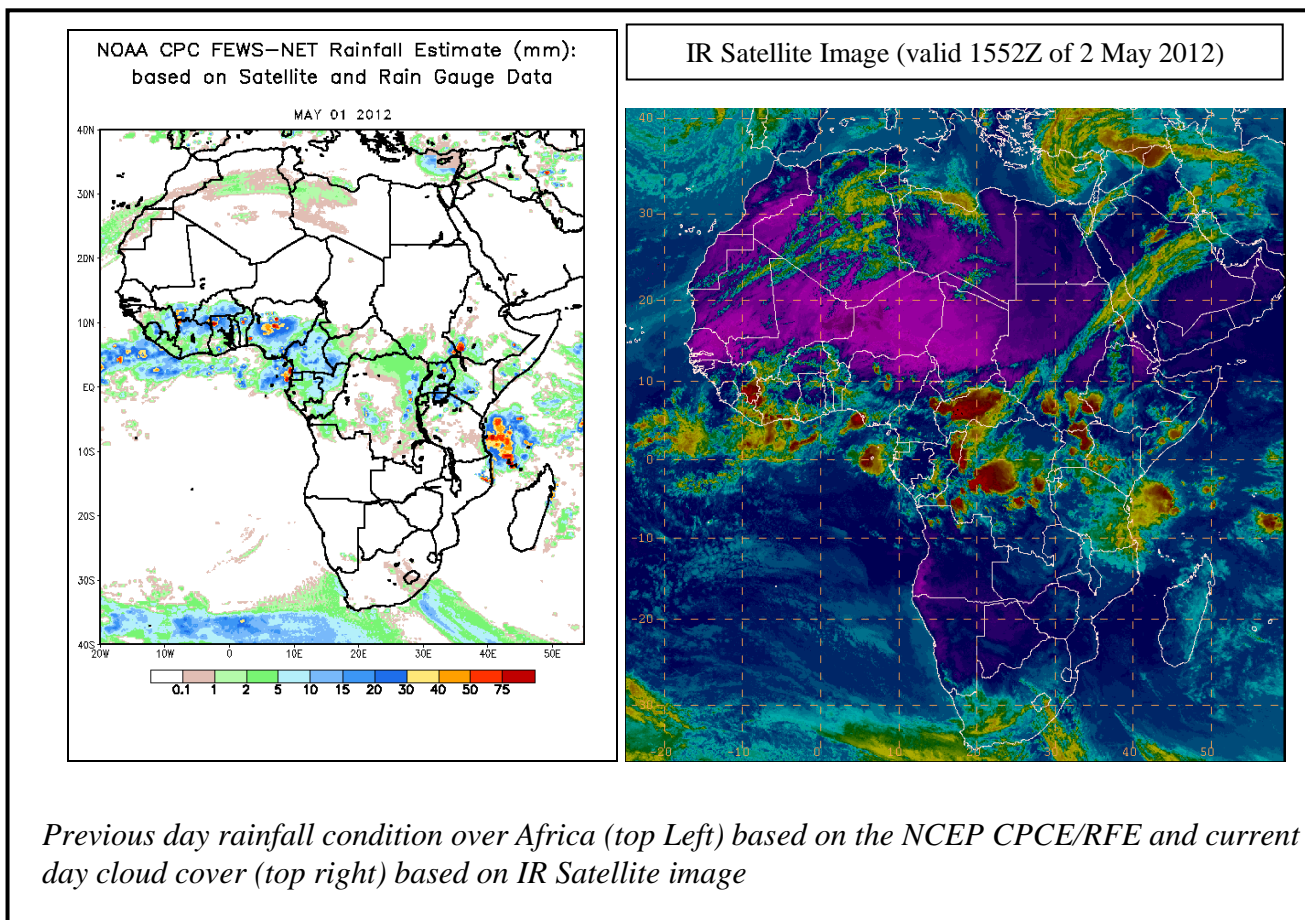
(1 May – 2 May 2012)

2.1. Weather assessment for the previous day (1 May 2012)

During the previous day, moderate to locally heavy rainfall was observed across portions of Cameroon, Southern Sudan, DRC, Southern Ethiopia, Uganda, Northern Tanzania, Gabon, Western Kenya and Benin, Nigeria, Somalia, Congo, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Central Africa Republic, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Sierra Leone.

2.2. Weather assessment for the current day (2 May 2012)

Intense clouds are observed across Guinea, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Central African Republic, Congo, DRC, Tanzania, Kenya, Somalia, Southern Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Cameroon



Authors: Eugene V. S. Gar-Glahn, (Liberia Meteorological Service / CPC-African Desk); eugene.gar-glahn@noaa.gov
Ezekiel Njoroge, (Kenyan Meteorological Department / CPC-African Desk); ezekiel.njoroge@noaa.gov