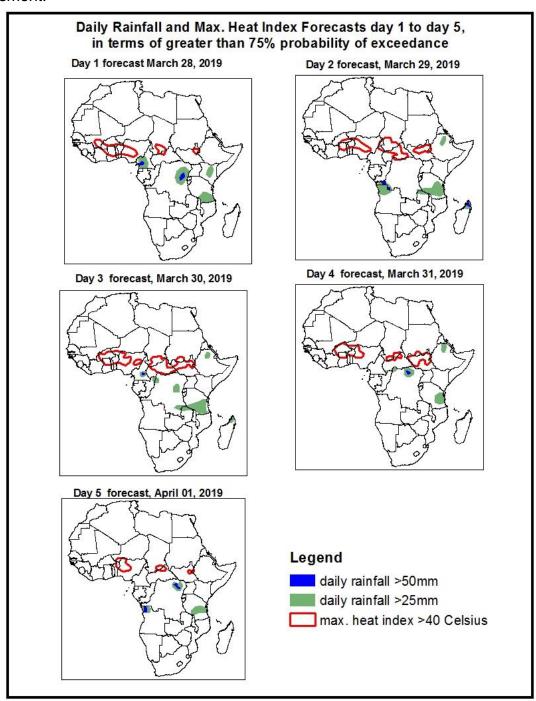
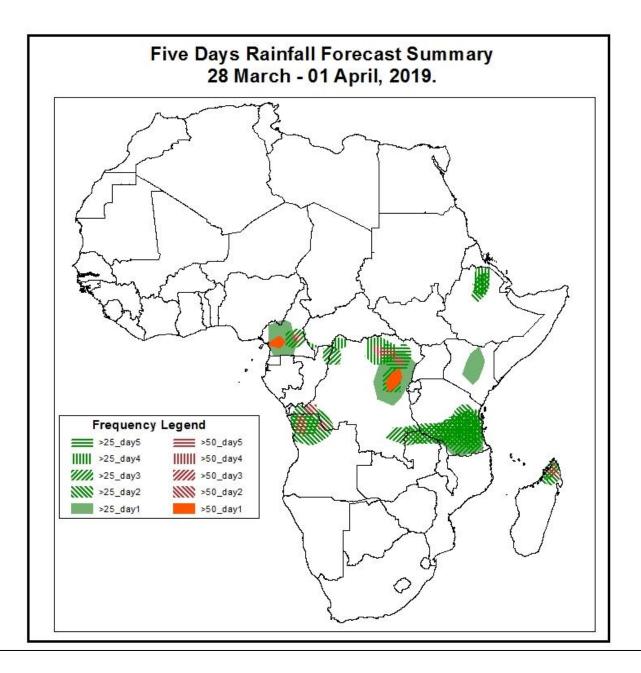
1. Rainfall, Heat Index and Dust Concentration Forecasts, (Issued on March 27, 2019)

1.1. Daily Rainfall and Maximum Heat Index Forecasts (valid: 28March - 01 April, 2019)

The forecasts are expressed in terms of high probability of precipitation (POP), valid 06Z to 06Z, and exceedance probability of maximum heat index (>40°C), based on the NCEP/GFS and the NCEP Global Ensemble Forecasts System (GEFS) and expert assessment.



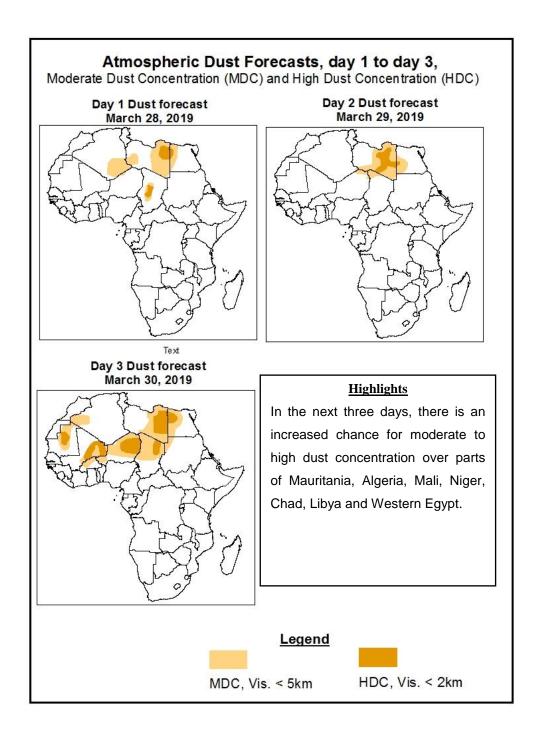


Highlights

- In the next five days, lower-level wind convergences near DRC/CAR border, interactions between mid-latitude and tropical systems across northeastern Africa, and lower-level wind convergence over portions of Angola and Tanzania are expected to maintain rainfall in the regions.
- There is an increased chance for daily rainfall amount to exceed 25mm for two or more days over parts of Angola, DRC, Ethiopia, Cameroon as well as Tanzania.
- There is a high likelihood for heat index to exceed 40°C across parts of Mali, Burkina Faso, northern Togo, northern Benin, western Niger, northern Nigeria, Chad, CAR and local areas in northern South Sudan.

1.2. Atmospheric Dust Concentration Forecasts (valid: 28 – 30 March 2019)

The forecasts are expressed in terms of high probability of dust concentration, based on the Navy Aerosol Analysis and Prediction System, NCEP/GFS lower-level wind forecasts and expert assessment.



1.3. Model Discussion, Valid: 28 March - 01 April 2019

The Azores High Pressure system over the North of Atlantic Ocean is expected to be eroded by a coming low pressure system from the West, and is likely to remain rather weak during most of the forecast period. However, it is expected to rebuild towards the end of the period.

The St. Helena High Pressure system over Southeast Atlantic Ocean is expected to migrate eastwards and intensify from 1020hPa to 1032hPa.

The Mascarene High Pressure system over Southwest Indian Ocean is expected migrate eastwards while intensifying from 1028hPa to 1025hPa.

At 925hPa, an area of dry and strong northeasterly to easterly wind is expected across Sahel region. In contrast, moist southwesterly flow is expected to be maintained across the central and eastern portions of the Gulf of Guinea countries.

At 850hPa, the frontal low in the Northern Hemisphere is expected to cause interaction between Tropical and Extra-tropical systems across Northeastern Africa, especially over Ethiopia and Northern Kenya. Otherwise Western Tanzania is under favorable converging winds as the result of Congo air mass and the effects of Meridional arm of the ITCZ migrating towards the East.

At 700hPa, a broad area of cyclonic circulation is expected to propagate towards Northeast Mediterranean Sea and the Northeast Africa, with its associated trough extending southwards into Sudan and western Ethiopia. Also, generally easterly flow is expected to steer convective activities from DRC towards the West affecting the Gulf of Guinea and central Africa regions.

At 500hPa, wind speed in excess of 30kts is expected to prevail across the equatorial Africa region during the first 48 hours of forecast period.

At 200hPa, a strong wind (>90kts), associated with the subtropical westerly jet, is expected to prevail across northern Africa, with the strongest wind (>130kts) and significant bending over Northern and Northeastern Africa.

In the next five days, lower-level wind convergences near DRC/CAR border, interactions between mid-latitude and tropical systems across northeastern Africa, and lower-level wind convergence over portions of Angola and Tanzania are expected to maintain rainfall in the regions. There is an increased chance for daily rainfall amount to exceed 25mm for two or more days over parts of Angola, DRC, Ethiopia, Cameroon as well as Tanzania. There is a high likelihood for heat index to exceed 40oC across parts of Mali, Burkina Faso, northern Togo, northern Benin, western Niger, northern Nigeria, Chad, CAR and local areas in northern South Sudan.

2.0. Previous and Current Day Weather over Africa

2.1. Weather assessment for the previous day (March 26, 2019)

Daily rainfall totals exceeded 25mm over parts of southeast Tanzania.

2.2. Weather assessment for the current day (March 27, 2019)

Intense convective clouds are observed over some areas of equatorial, Central and Eastern Africa.

