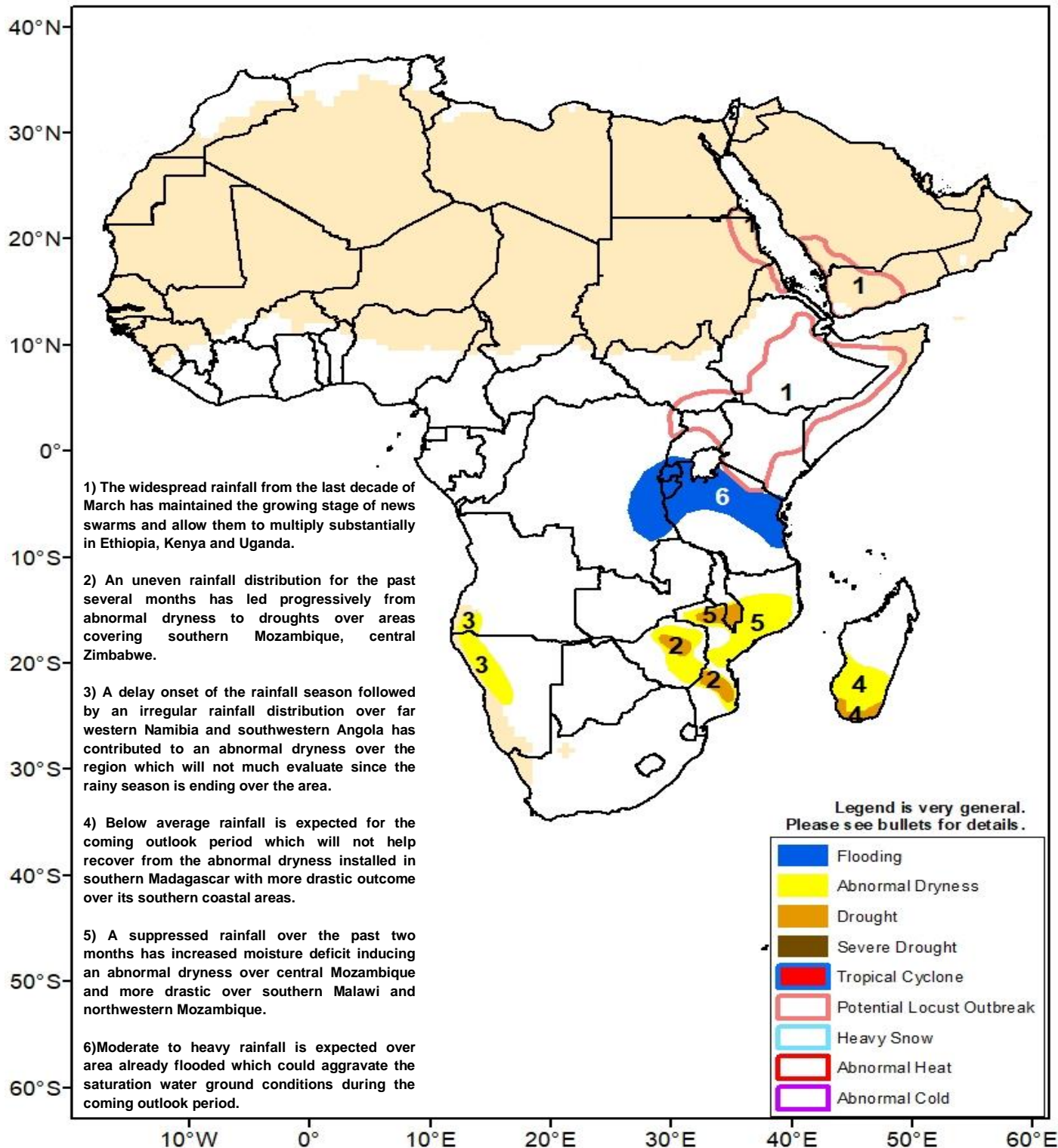




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook April 16 – 22, 2020

- Flash flood has been reported over Haut-Lomami Province in Democratic Republic of Congo
- An increasing number of new swarms give rise to a high risk of food security over Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia



An onset of rainy season over the Gulf of Guinea countries has been observed.

During the past week, a visible northward movement of the ITCZ has been observed over the northern part of Cote d'Ivoire, Togo, Ghana and Benin (**Figure 1**). Light to moderate rainfall has been registered over the western part of Ethiopia, western South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and surrounding countries boundaries.

During the past 30 day, a weak deficit of rainfall has been observed over the northern part of Ethiopia with could sign of a delay onset of rainy season (**Figure 2**).

The vegetation NDVI has showed an unfavorable vegetation conditions over the northern part of Ethiopia and southern eastern part of Ethiopia while its western part is showing a growing conditions which could be explained by the regular amount received over that area for the past two weeks.

During the coming outlook period, light rainfall is expected over the Gulf of Guinea countries which will be consider as a below-normal rainfall including over Central Africa. Light to moderate rainfall is expected over the countries in the central part of Africa. Moderate rainfall is expected over Ethiopia, northern Somalia, Uganda and Kenya.

Unexpected increase of rain over eastern part of South Africa.

This past 7 days, a very localized rainfall pattern has been registered over the central Mozambique, eastern Zimbabwe, central-western Botswana, northern Namibia and central South Africa covering Lesotho. Tanzania has received a good distribution of moderate rainfall overall the country.

The lack of rainfall during its rainy season in the southern part of Africa has been very hard on the agriculture occasioning loss of crops and dryness even ending to drought in southern Malawi, central Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique. Despite the late start of the rainy season flowed by regular rainfall amount, the season ended below-normal rainfall which led to an abnormal dryness over the coastal area of far west Namibia and southwestern Angola.

During the coming outlook period, moderate rainfall is expected over the coastal area of Tanzania which could aggravate the actual saturation ground water condition including the southeastern area in Democratic Republic of Congo. Moderate rainfall is expected over the eastern part of South Africa including Lesotho and EsWatini. A seasonal rainfall is expected over Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe which could not unfortunately help alleviate the abnormal dryness installed in the region due to the ending rainy season over the areas.

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.

