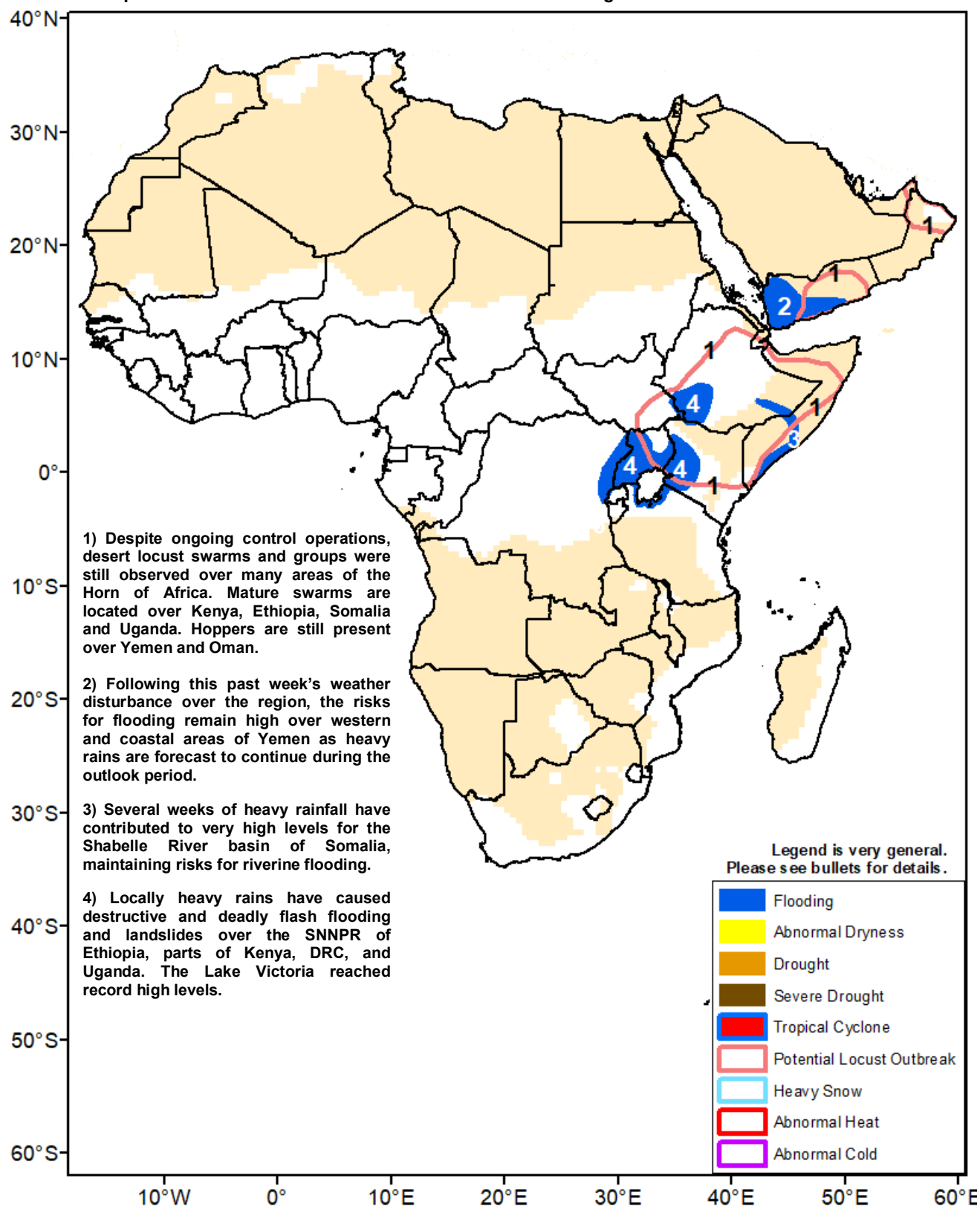




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook June 4 – 10, 2020

- Consistent, heavy rains resulted in flooding and fatalities over many areas of eastern and central Africa.
- Widespread abundant rains have maintained wetter-than-average conditions across West Africa.



A favorable March-May rainfall performance observed over eastern Africa

An analysis of the accumulated rainfall since the beginning of March showed that well above-average seasonal rainfall was registered over much of the Greater Horn of Africa. Seasonal rainfall surpluses in excess of 200 mm were observed over many areas, including South Sudan, Uganda, western and southern Kenya, southern and eastern Ethiopia, northern and central Somalia, western and coastal Yemen (**Figure 1**). Although some areas of Ethiopia and Somalia experienced a slow onset of the seasonal rainfall during March, abundant rainfall was received throughout the sub-region during the following month in April and May. This has resulted in flooding and landslides, causing fatalities and affected people over many local areas. During this past week, moderate to locally heavy rains fell in the Gamo Zone of the SNNPR of southern Ethiopia, which triggered landslides and killed people, according to reports. Farther east, moderate to heavy rains were observed in northern Somalia and along coastal and western Yemen.

Beside flooding and landslides over many local areas, desert locust swarms and groups were still present across the Horn of Africa, including Uganda, parts of South Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Somalia despite ongoing operations control, according to the FAO reports. Current breeding could produce new swarms that may impact harvest of the previous cycle.

During the outlook period, wet weather patterns with heavy rains are again forecast over western Kenya, western Ethiopia, western and coastal areas of Yemen, maintaining increased risks for flooding and landslides over many local areas. Moderate to locally heavy rains are expected over Uganda, South Sudan, and northern Somalia. Light rains are possible over southern Somalia.

Widespread abundant rains fell over West Africa during the past observation period.

During late May, widespread copious amounts of rainfall were recorded over West Africa, particularly along the Gulf of Guinea, where rainfall estimates exceeded 50 mm (**Figure 2**). The bulk of the weekly rainfall totals were observed over areas of Sierra Leone, Liberia, southern Cote d'Ivoire, southern Ghana, southeastern and central Nigeria. Farther inland, moderate to locally heavy rains fell over Guinea-Conakry, southern Mali, western Burkina Faso, and local areas of southern Niger. Over the past thirty days, positive rainfall anomalies were registered throughout much of West Africa, with the largest surpluses over Sierra Leone and western Liberia. The continuation of seasonal rainfall should, in general, help maintain favorable conditions for cropping activities in the region.

An analysis of recent vegetation conditions has also indicated that average to above-average biomass conditions were observed over the sub-region due to a favorable distribution of rainfall over the past several weeks.

During the outlook period, while moderate to locally heavy rains are forecast over Sierra Leone and Liberia, reduced rainfall amounts with light accumulation are expected along the Gulf of Guinea spreading from Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, to south-central Nigeria. Farther north, moderate to heavy rains are likely over northern Nigeria, southern Niger, Burkina Faso, and southern Mali. Light to moderate rains are expected in southern Chad, while light rains are forecast elsewhere.

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.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.

