



Forecast guidance for Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP)

SHORT RANGE FORECAST DISCUSSION 14H00 EST 19th March 2007

**AFRICA DESK
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER
National Centers for Environmental predictions
National Weather Service
NOAA
Camp Springs MD 20746**

FORECAST DISCUSSION 14H00 EST 19th March 2007

Valid: 00Z 20th March 2007- 00Z 22nd March 2007.

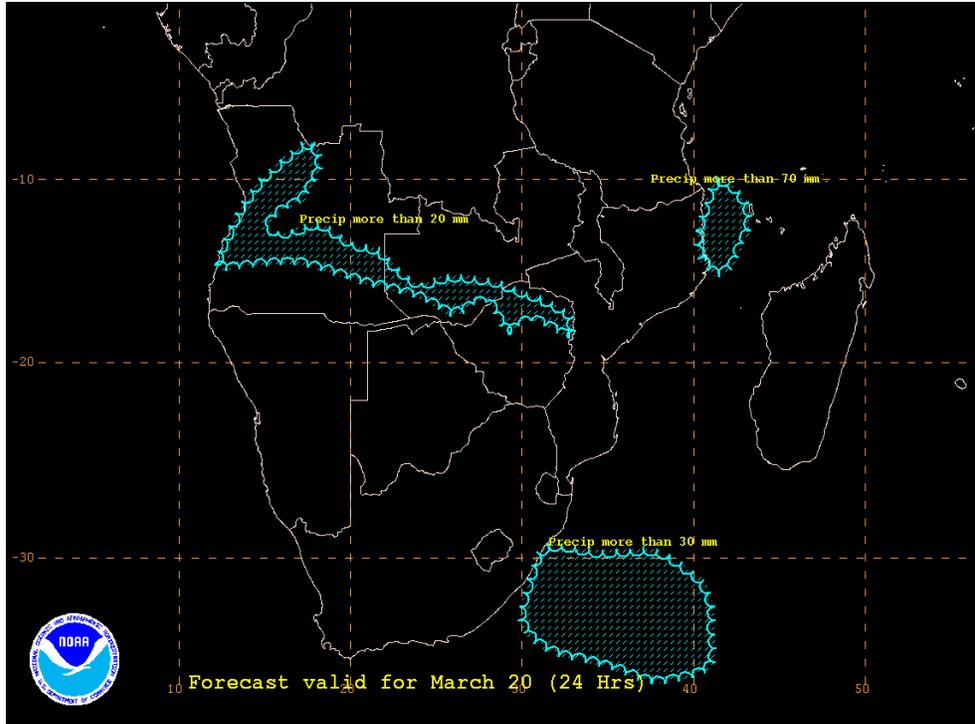
According to GFS, UK-MET and ECMWF models, the general flow pattern at 200mb over Southern Africa (South of the Equator) at T+24 hrs, is a high pressure system with its center lying over Madagascar (18°S 47°E), causing divergence over most parts of the sub continent. There is a trough over the Atlantic Ocean (west of 10°E longitude), approaching to the southwestern coast of the sub continent. There is a low lying to the southeast of the sub continent, with its center located at 33°S 36°E, causing convergence over areas lying within the region 30°S, 40°S, 25°E and 41°E. At T+48 hrs, anticyclonic flow prevails over the sub continent, except over the southern South Africa which is under convergence due to trough. At T+72 hrs, there is no significant change in the general flow pattern, except that the low to the southeast of the sub continent has filled up.

At 500mb, The Mascarene high has two cells. One of the cells is centered at 45°S 47°E, and the other one is centered at 18°S 48°E, and is causing divergence over the northeastern parts of the sub continent. There is a trough to the southwest of the sub continent linked with a low centered at 33°S 37°E, causing convergence over areas which are to the east of 12°E longitude but south of 20°S latitude. The rest of the sub continent is under divergence. At T+48 hrs, Divergence prevails over most of the sub continent, except over southern South Africa, where there is slight convergence. At T+72 hrs, there is no significant change over the sub continent.

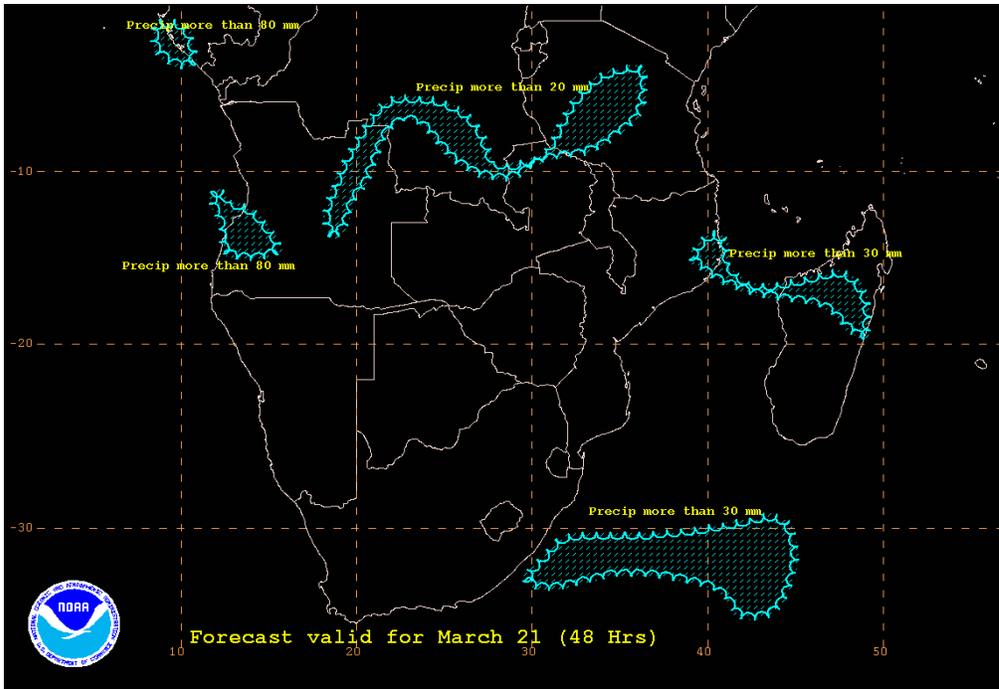
At 850mb, there are lows over southern Namibia, central South Africa and to the west of the coast of Angola, causing convergence over these areas. Convergence is also visible over Uganda/D.R. Congo border. There is another low to the southeast of the sub continent, centered at 32°S 36°E. This low is lying between the two cells of the Mascarene high, centered at 22°S 53°E and 47°S 48°E. The cell of the Mascarene high centered at 22°S 53°E is throwing a ridge over the eastern parts of the sub continent,

hence divergence over these areas. The St Helena high has its center located at 38°S 8°W, and it is ridging into western Namibia. At T+48 hrs, the low which was to the west of the coast of Angola has shifted eastwards to the coast of Angola. There is another low to the southwest of the sub continent. Convergence over South Africa, southern Namibia and Uganda/D.R. Congo border is maintained. The rest areas of the sub continent are under the ridge of the Mascarene high. At T+72 hrs, the low over the coast of Angola is maintained, and there is convergence over Namibia, Botswana and southwestern South Africa. Areas which are to the north of 10°S are under convergence due to a trough. Divergence prevails over the rest of the sub continent.

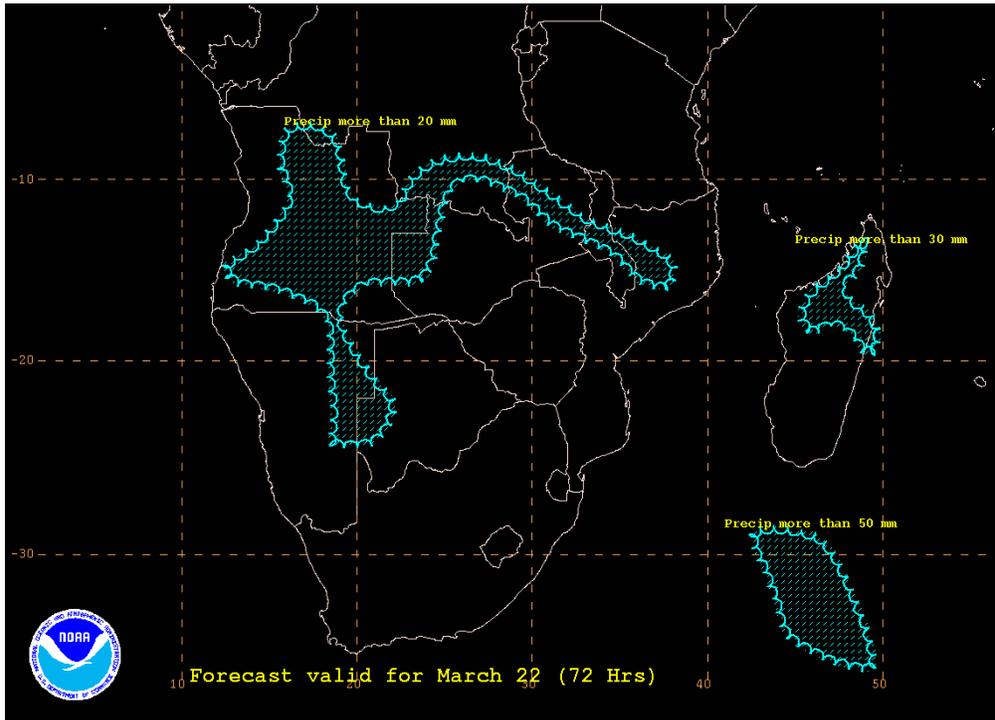
FORECAST MAP FOR DAY 1



FORECAST FOR DAY 2



FORECAST MAP FOR DAY 3



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