

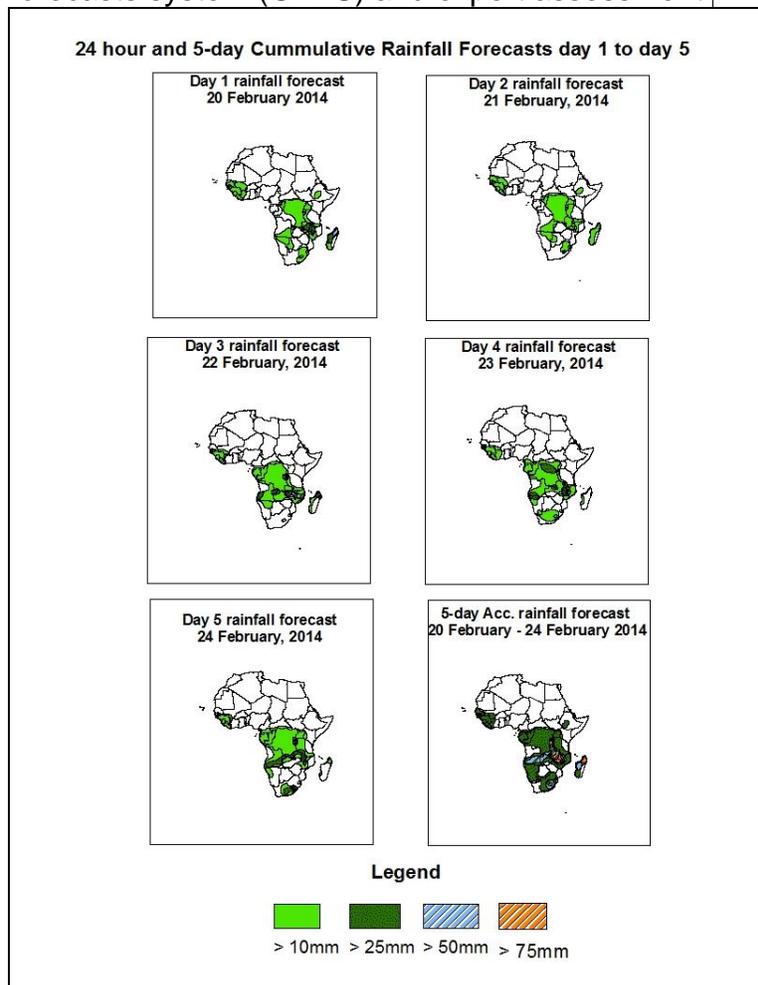


NCEP Contributions to the WMO Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) and to the African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis (AMMA) Initiative

1.0. Rainfall Forecast: Valid 06Z of 20 February – 06Z of 24 February, 2014. (Issued at 1600Z of 19 February 2014)

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/GFS and UK Met Office NWP outputs, and the NCEP global ensemble forecasts system (GEFS) and expert assessment.



Summary

In the coming five days, lower-tropospheric wind convergences across the several part of the Central and southern Africa countries are expected to receive moderate to heavy rainfall in the region. They include Angola, Gabon, Congo Brazzaville, South Tanzania, Namibia Zambia, Malawi, South African and DRC. However the existence of the tropical cyclone over the Mozambique Channel will deprive rainfall over most parts of Zimbabwe, Most parts of Tanzania and Botswana during the forecast period.

1.2. Atmospheric Dust Forecasts: Valid 20 February - 22 February 2014

Atmospheric Dust Forecasts, day 1 to day 3,
Moderate Dust Concentration (MDC) and High Dust Concentration (HDC)

Day 1 Dust forecast
20 February 2014



Day 2 Dust forecast
21 February 2014



Day 3 Dust forecast
22 February 2014



Highlights

There is an increased chance for moderate to high dust concentration over southern Algeria, eastern Niger, Mali, Northern Libya, and Chad.

Legend



MDC, Vis. < 5km



HDC, Vis. < 1km

1.3. Model Discussion: Valid from 00Z of 19 February 2014

Model comparison (GFS and UKMET Valid from 00Z: 19 February 2014) shows general agreement in terms of depicting positions of the northern and southern hemisphere sub-tropical highs, while they showed slight differences in depicting their intensity.

The St. Helena High Pressure System is expected to relax with its central pressure value decreasing from 1033 Hpa to 1027 Hpa, according to both the GFS model, and the UKMET model. This will result in increased rains over Angola and Parts of Namibia and South Africa.

According to both the GFS model and the UKMET model, the Mascarene high pressure is expected to relax mainly due to the southward movement of the tropical with its central pressure value changing from 1024 Hpa to 1020Hpa. The cyclone is expected to divert much of the rains away from Zimbabwe, South Mozambique, Tanzania and Kenya during much of the forecast period.

At 850hpa level, Moderate to strong convergence is expected over Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC),Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Central Africa Republic (CAR), Gabon, Namibia, Uganda, Zambia, Angola, Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and Madagascar.

At 500hpa level, level, troughs associated with mid-latitude frontal system starting over Algeria and propagating eastward is persistence during the forecast period. Also a deep trough over Sudan is expected to persist during the first part of the forecast period. These interactions are expected to result to rains over Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Guinea and Gambia and slightly over parts of Ethiopia during the initial period of forecast.

At 200hpa level, the sub-tropical Westerly Jet mainly (with wind speed >70 knots and <150 knots), extending between Senegal, Mauritania, Algeria, and Egypt, and across, Mali, Niger, Tunisia, North Sudan and Libya persist during the forecast period. In the south, the sub-tropical westerly Jet (with 90-110 kts wind speed) is expected on rare occasions over South Africa and Indian Ocean.

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2.0. Previous and Current Day Weather Discussion over Africa

(18 February 2014 – 19 February 2014)

2.1. Weather assessment for the previous day (18 February 2014)

During the previous day, moderate to heavy rainfall was observed over Liberia, Ivory Coast, DRC, Zambia, Angola, Tanzania, Mozambique, Malawi, South Africa, Madagascar and Namibia.

2.2. Weather assessment for the current day (19 February 2014)

Intense clouds were observed over local areas in parts of Central, Eastern and Southern Africa.

