Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
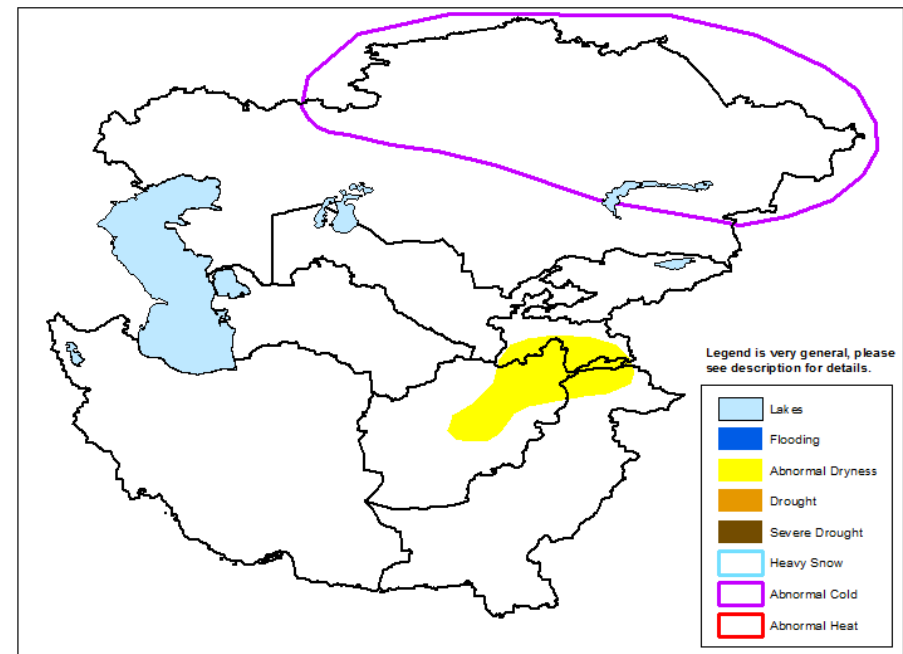## January 22 - 28, 2015

Temperatures:

Above-normal temperatures persisted across Central Asia from January 11 – 17. Maximum temperatures were above freezing except for northeast Kazakhstan. The abnormal warmth during the past month continues to result in a lack of snow cover for southern areas of the region including Afghanistan. During the next week, the GFS model indicates that much colder temperatures will prevail across northern Kazakhstan where minimum temperature anomalies are predicted to average more than 8 degrees C below-normal during the upcoming week. Therefore, an abnormal cold hazard is posted for northern Kazakhstan.

Precipitation

A low pressure system tracked across southern parts of the region and brought widespread precipitation (2 to 25 mm, locally more) to southern Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Afghanistan on January 11 and 12. Snow was limited to the highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan and Tajikistan with this storm. Another storm is currently bringing additional precipitation to Afghanistan and Tajikistan where locally heavy rain and high-elevation snow is expected before the outlook period.

Despite the recent increase in precipitation, snow water equivalent values are currently running well below-normal for Afghanistan. Therefore, an abnormal dryness polygon remains posted for the higher elevations of Afghanistan and adjacent areas of Tajikistan.

Legend is very general, please see description for details.

- Lakes
- Flooding
- Abnormal Dryness
- Drought
- Severe Drought
- Heavy Snow
- Abnormal Cold
- Abnormal Heat

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and 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.