



## Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 10 - 16, 2016

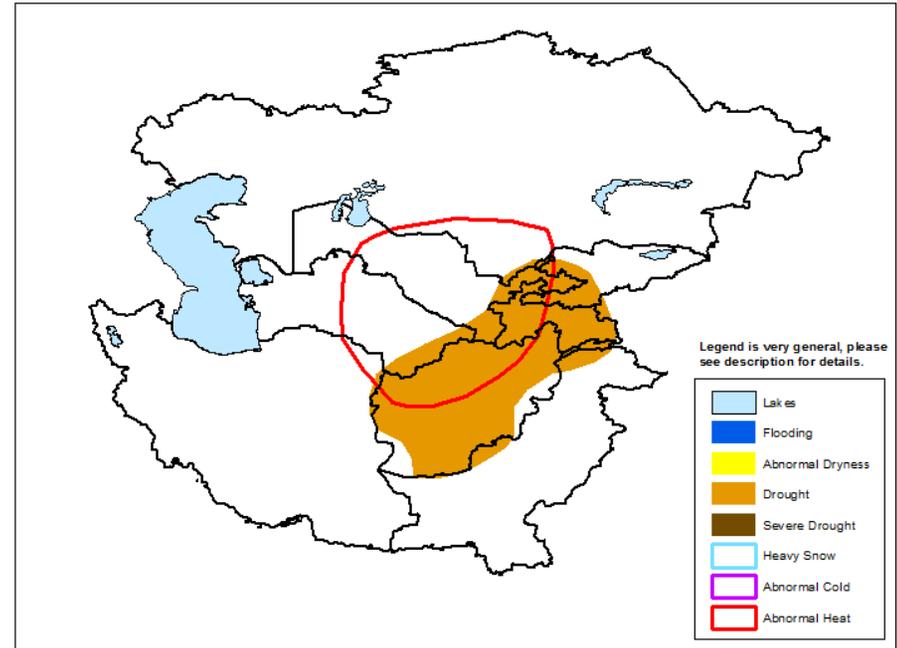
### **Temperatures:**

Temperatures averaged 4 to 12 degrees C above normal across Central Asia for the second consecutive week. Maximum temperatures reached 30 degrees C across southern Turkmenistan and western Afghanistan during late February and again during the first week of March. Unseasonably warm temperatures are expected to persist through mid-March across southern areas of Kazakhstan along with Uzbekistan, Tajikistan along western Afghanistan. The GFS model indicates that maximum temperatures will range from the upper 20s to lower 30s (degrees C) across these areas which is more than 8 degrees C above-average for this time of year.

### **Precipitation**

A low pressure system resulted in much-needed precipitation (10 to 25 mm, liquid equivalent) across southern Turkmenistan and Afghanistan from February 28 to March 5. Despite this precipitation, the CPC unified gauge analysis indicates deficits exceeding 25 mm, or more, across Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and southern areas of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan dating back 90 days. Snow-water volume values across the river basins of Afghanistan remain very low. Since many of these basins currently have their lowest snow water volume value dating back to 2001, drought is posted for Afghanistan along with Tajikistan.

During the next week, precipitation (locally more than 25 mm) is forecast to occur across much of Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Model guidance indicates that the relatively wet pattern will continue into Week-2. This precipitation would be beneficial and decrease the precipitation deficits.



**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.**