

QUATERLY REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SUBPROJECT

PERIOD: June to August 2007

Tanzania Meteorological Agency

1. HIGHLIGHTS OVER THE PERIOD (JJA)

The months of June to August did not have occurrences of severe weather that could fit in the criteria. The months of June, July and August are normally dry and the coldest in the country where temperatures go below zero particularly on higher ground. This year 2007, Northeastern and Southwestern highlands experienced cold temperatures with frosts on elevated areas whereas central areas of the country experienced relatively cool to cold temperatures. The remaining areas had fine weather with cool temperatures occasional becoming chilly weather at night and in the morning. However, during this period traditionally, it is not always dry all the time. There were occasions when few areas particularly Lake Victoria Basin, Northern coast and Northeastern highlands received rain showers and thunderstorms significantly during the first week of June and third week of July and August 2007. At the same time, during the months of July and August 2007, strong southerly to southeasterly winds prevailed along the coastal line reaching 40 km per hour (20 knots) where advisories were issued from time to time to marine vessels and fishermen.

2. OVERVIEW OF PRODUCTS

a. Usefulness of RSMC-Pretoria guidance

During the period of June to August 2007, the NMC on routine basis browsed through the RSMC - Pretoria guidance products which were used with products from other centres to guide forecasters in their daily weather forecasts. The products were therefore still useful despite that there was no severe weather to be reported.

b. Usefulness of SWFDP NWP/EPS Products received from each global centre and RSMC UM-SA12

The SWFDP products received from the global centres were still very useful as they continued to assist forecasters in their daily duties even though there was no severe weather event.

3. PROJECT EVALUATION AGAINST SWFDP GOALS

SWFDP GOAL	PROGRESS AGAINST GOALS
To improve the ability of NMCs to forecast severe weather events	The Deterministic and EPS products have continued to improve the visibility of the NMC.
To improve the lead time of alerting these events	There was no severe weather event that qualified the criteria and therefore no progress report in this area was given.
To improve the interaction of NMCs with Disaster Management and Civil Protection authorities before, during and after severe	There was no severe weather event that qualified the criteria and therefore no progress report in this area was given.

weather events	
To identify gaps and areas for improvements	No comparisons were made as there was no severe weather that fitted the criteria during the material time.
To improve the skill of products from Global Centres through feedback from NMCs	There was no feedback during the period. Unified models were best suited e.g. UK Met (ALAM).

4. EVALUATION OF WEATHER WARNINGS:

A) feedback from the public

There was no feedback from the public since there was no severe weather reported. However, we continued to attend several seminars, workshops and meetings on severe weather and public weather service in and outside the country. At local level some of these gatherings were used to put emphasis on the importance of warnings of severe weather.

B) feedback from the DMCPA to include comments of the timeliness and usefulness of the warnings

We exchanged views during the period on timeliness including discussing usefulness of the warnings

C) Warning verification by the NMCs

Warning verification was always done during the any severe weather event. It was therefore very important to have the necessary hardware and software for this work, and a good working internet system.

5. SUMMARY (general comments, challenges, etc, details in Annex 1)

There was no severe weather reported during the period. However, as stated in 4 (c) above it was very important and essential to have the necessary hardware and software and a good working internet system for one to access the websites and do the correct work. The challenges were therefore lack of these facilities particularly a reliable broadband internet system.

6. CASE STUDY (PowerPoint Presentation to include guidance products (RSMC and NWP), satellite imagery, warnings issued, impact evidence etc)

None during the period June to August 2007

7. **ANNEX 1 – Quarterly Evaluation Table** (to be fulfilled according to the Severe Weather Evaluation Form)

Starting date of the event	SWFDP Evaluation Form Event Number	Type of event Heavy Precipitation or Strong Wind	Region affected	Highest observed value	RSMC Guidance		Which NWP/EPS forecast product(s) used by NMC		Local warnings issued?	Impact of the event	Impact of the warning
					Amount predicted (same unit as in the preceding column)	Usefulness from 1 to 4 1- Misleading 2- Not useful 3 - Useful 4 - Very useful	(RSMC UM-SA12 ECMWF, Met-Office, NCEP)	Usefulness from 1 to 4 1- Misleading 2- Not useful 3 - Useful 4 - Very useful			
dd/mm/yy		Indicate if extreme phenomena are the consequence of severe convection		(mm/period or kts, according to the phenomenon)	Amount predicted (same unit as in the preceding column)	Usefulness from 1 to 4 1- Misleading 2- Not useful 3 - Useful 4 - Very useful	(RSMC UM-SA12 ECMWF, Met-Office, NCEP)	Usefulness from 1 to 4 1- Misleading 2- Not useful 3 - Useful 4 - Very useful			
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	N/A	N/A	NONE	N/A	NO	N/A	N/A

No reported case of severe weather during the period of June to August 2007.