

DR. KIJAZI: 2019 RECORDED HIGHER AMOUNT OF RAINFALL SINCE 1970.

Dar es Salaam, Date 08/04/2020:

Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) has released the statement on the status of Tanzania climate for 2019, the official launch of the statement took place during the Tanzania Meteorological Governing Board meeting held at TMA headquarters.

Addressing the audience, Dr. Agnes Kijazi, TMA Director General and third Vice President of World Meteorological Organization (WMO) mentioned that year 2019 recorded higher amount of rainfall since 1970, this is according to the records of weather and climate analysis conducted.

“The country annual mean was 1283.5mm, which is equivalent to 125% of the long term (1981-2010) average and higher than long term mean rainfall by 256.5mm. October to December (Vuli) 2019 rainy season received above normal rainfall and is the second wettest Vuli on record since 1970 and October 2019 was the wettest October ever since 1970”. Said Dr. Kijazi

Moreover, the report highlighted an increase trend in temperature during the night and more warming during daytime over the past two decades from 1995. The country annual mean temperature was 23.8°C which is 0.8°C warmer than long-term average. This warming in 2019 is ranked the fourth highest on record since 1970.

March and April 2019 were the warmest months of the year with country mean temperature higher than long term average by 1.1°C and 1.6°C respectively. On the case of extreme rainfall events, she said since 1970 there were thirteen (13)

events of above normal Vuli events and 4 events of above normal Masika with 2003 being the driest year.

Additionally, Dr. Kijazi urged stakeholders from various sectors to act upon and use the information available in the report for socio-economic benefits of various sectors such as agricultural, construction, industrialization etc.

Earlier while giving general overview of the occasion, Dr. Ladislaus Chang'a, Director of Research and Applied Meteorology said the statement on the status of Tanzania climate provides information on the current status of climate, extreme climatic events and their associated impacts with the goal of enhancing awareness and understanding of climate variability and climate change among stakeholders. "The current statement provides analysis of weather and climate events that occurred over different parts of the country by placing them into historical perspectives". Said Dr. Chang'a

On the other hand, Dr. Buruhani Nyenzi, the Chairman of TMA Board congratulated TMA Management for the release of such important report and mega achievement of being among two countries in Africa (Tanzania and Ivory Coast) that have managed to issue the status of national climate in the annual basis.

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