



FIFTH SESSION OF ARAB CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM

SEASONAL FORECAST FOR JUNE-JULY-AUGUST 2020

Online session

June 3th 2020

National Meteorological Service of Morocco
National Meteorological Service of Saudi Arabia

SEASONAL OUTLOOK FOR SUMMER 2020

Consensual seasonal forecast for summer (June-July-August) 2020 over Arab region has been produced during the fifth session of Arab Climate Outlook Forum (ArabCOF-5) conducted online on 3 June 2020. It is based on known teleconnections of large and regional patterns as well as on dynamical and statistical models outputs.

I. RECENT CLIMATE CONDITIONS AND OUTLOOK

Most of the key atmospheric and oceanic variables in the tropical Pacific indicate neutral El Niño conditions. A number of dynamical and statistical models indicates 60% chance of ongoing ENSO-neutral conditions to continue during boreal summer. SST over Indian Ocean during JJA 2020 will show remarkably above normal conditions, and slightly above normal conditions over North Tropical Atlantic. The Indian Ocean Dipole index is predicted to be near average to slightly below average for June-August 2020¹.

It is worth noting that seasonal forecast gives average tendencies for a season and in some cases sub-seasonal fluctuations can prevail.

ArabCOF operates as an overarching entity in support of two other sub-regional COFs in the region, the Gulf Cooperation Council Climate Outlook Forum (GCCCOF) and PRESANORD (RCOF for North Africa), and it focuses on the large-scale forcings, such as the El Niño–Southern Oscillation, North Atlantic and Arctic Oscillations, Indian Ocean Dipole, that affect the whole region.

II. SEASONAL OUTLOOK

Given the current oceanic and atmospheric patterns, knowledge and understanding of seasonal climate variability and available long range forecasts products, the following outlook is provided for JJA 2020 season across Arab region. The maps show the probabilistic consensus forecast for 3 categories of anomalies for seasonal mean temperature and total precipitations.

¹ WMO Global Seasonal Climate Update JJA 2020

- **TEMPERATURE**

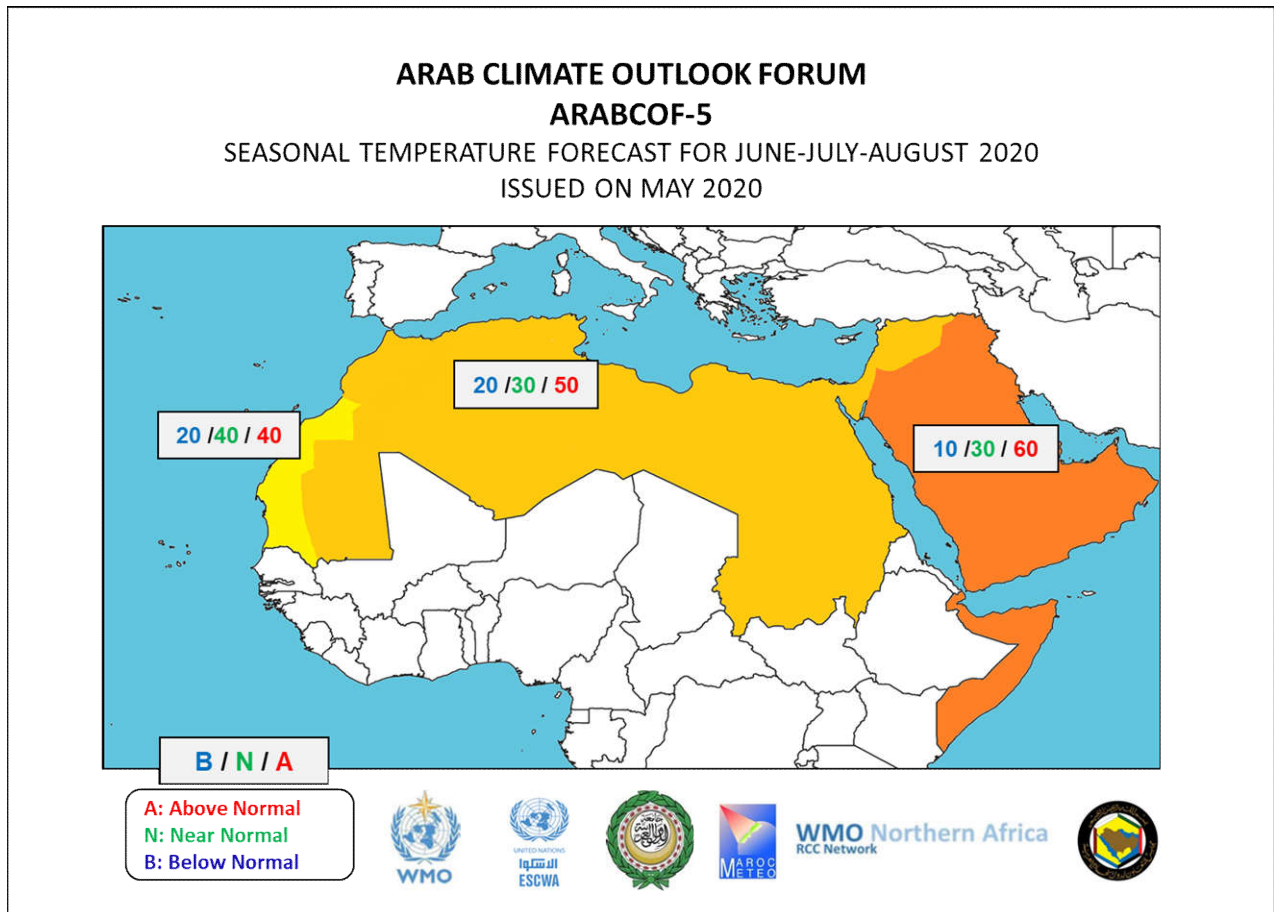


Figure 1: Seasonal forecast of surface temperature for JJA 2020

During JJA 2020 temperatures are likely to be above normal over almost entire Arab region with very likely warmer than normal conditions over Jordan, Iraq, most of Arabian Peninsula and eastern Africa. Normal to above normal conditions are predicted over southern Morocco and western Mauritania (Figure1).

For more detailed prediction over Arabian Peninsula, please refer to GCCCOF climate outlook

- **PRECIPITATION**

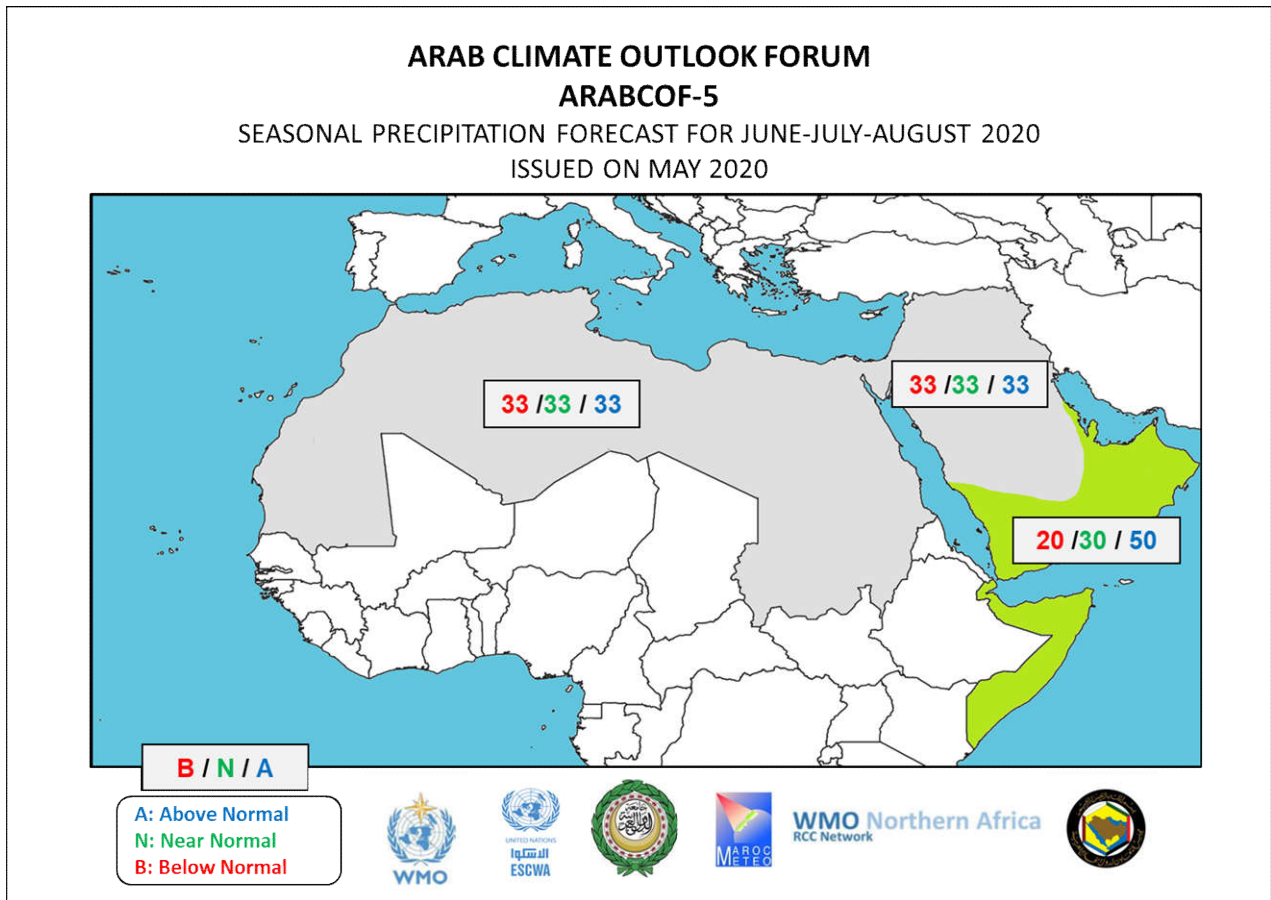


Figure 2: Seasonal forecast of precipitation for JJA 2020

During JJA 2020, total precipitation are expected to be above normal over southern Arabian Peninsula (Southwestern and along the southern parts of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, UAE, Bahrain and Qatar) and over eastern Africa (Djibouti and Somalia). No special scenario is given for the remaining part of the region (Figure 2).

For more detailed prediction over Arabian Peninsula, please refer to GCCCOF climate outlook