

# **STATEMENT FROM THIRD MALARIA OUTLOOK FORUM CONDUCTED IN GABORONE, BOTSWANA FROM 6 – 7 SEPTEMBER 2006.**

## **1.0 SUMMARY**

Much of the DRC, Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, most of Madagascar, Mauritius and most of Zimbabwe are likely to receive rainfall exceeding the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for the period December 2006 to February 2007, while Angola, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa Lesotho, western Zimbabwe western Zambia and western Swaziland and northwestern Madagascar are likely to experience rainfall below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile of 20 year mean from 1981 to 2000.

## **2.0 THE MALARIA OUTLOOK FORUM**

The Malaria outlook for December 2006 to February 2007 was conducted in Gaborone, Botswana 4-7 September 2006. This took into account SARCOF 10. This Outlook is relevant only to seasonal time scales and relatively large areas and may not fully account for all factors that influence regional and national climate variability, such as local and month-to-month variations (intra-seasonal). Users are strongly advised to contact the respective National Meteorological Services for interpretation of this Outlook, additional guidance and updates.

This outlook has been prepared by the SADC Meteorological Services (NMSs), SADC Drought Monitoring Centre in collaboration with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI).

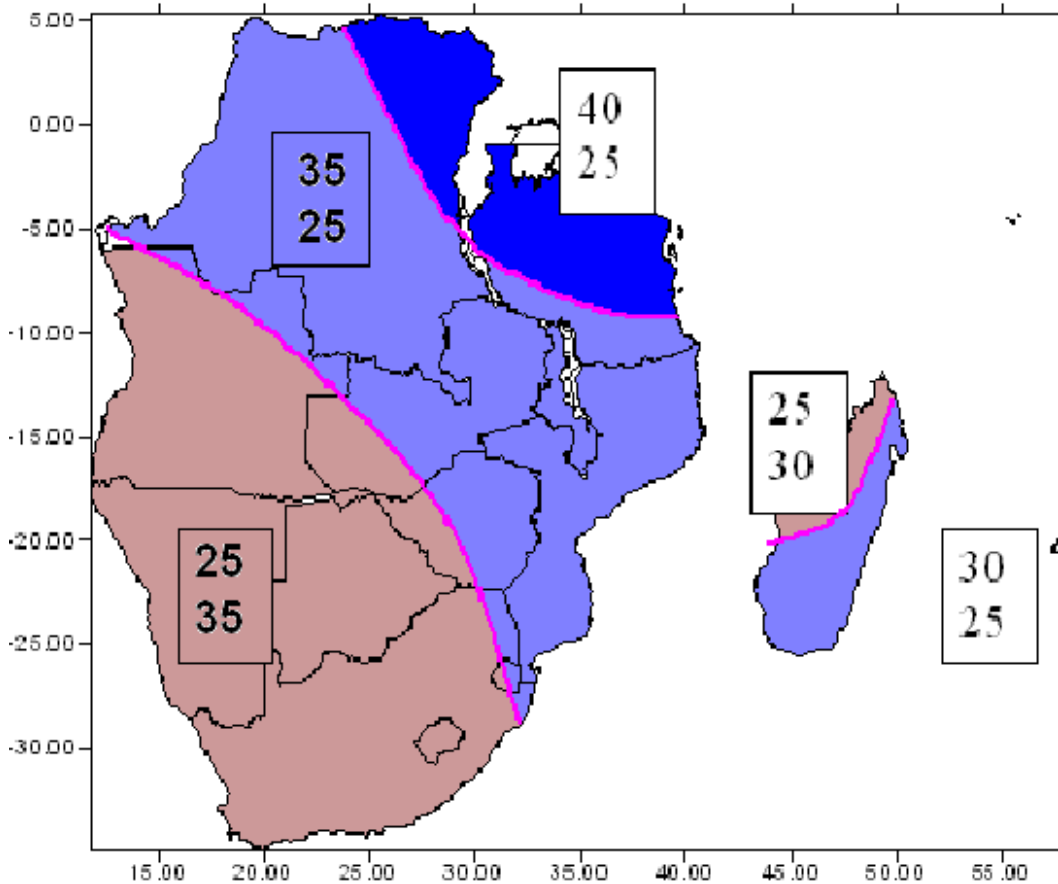
## **3.0 METHODOLOGY**

The climate scientists determined likelihood of rainfall exceeding the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile or falling below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile using traditional prediction techniques as in the SARCOF process. Wet is defined as within the wettest quarter of recorded rainfall amounts; dry is defined as within the driest quarter of rainfall amounts centered on the climatological median.

## **4.0 OUTLOOK**

December to February constitutes an important part of the rainy season with respect to malaria epidemics monitoring over most of southern Africa. The outlook for this period is as shown below.

# DJF 2006-2007



**Figure 1**

**Zone I:** Bulk Democratic Republic of Congo, extreme northeastern Angola, southern Tanzania, Malawi, most of Zambia, Mozambique and the most of Zimbabwe, extreme eastern South Africa and eastern Swaziland.

**High likelihood of wet**

**Zone II:** Greater part of Tanzania

**High likelihood of wet**

**Zone III:** Most of Angola, western Zambia, western Zimbabwe, Namibia, Botswana, most parts of South Africa, western Swaziland and Lesotho

**Less likelihood of dry**

**Zone IV:** Northwestern Madagascar.

**Less likelihood of dry**

**Zone V:** Bulk of Madagascar.  
**High likelihood of wet**

**Zone VI:** Mauritius.  
**High likelihood of wet**

**Figure caption:**

It is emphasized that boundaries between zones should be considered as transition areas. Forecast information is provided only for countries that comprise the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region. The percentages for each zone indicate the probabilities of rainfall exceeding 75th percentile of the 20 year mean from 1981-2000.