



## Monthly Climate Assessment and Outlook *La Niña Watch*

### Assessment in October 2016

Observed sea surface temperature anomalies (SSTAs) in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific has reached borderline La Niña values as indicated by cooler than average SSTs in July-August-September (JAS) season. However, the SST cooling and atmospheric coupling monitored in recent weeks, as suggested by most climate models, do not suggest persistence in the coming months thus there are still some uncertainties that La Niña will develop. Meanwhile, La Niña Watch is still in effect.

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), Southwest (SW) Monsoon, low pressure areas (LPAs), easterlies and the passage of four (4) tropical cyclones (TCs). These TCs were Typhoon (TY) "Igme" (Oct. 1-3), Tropical Storm (TS) "Julian" (Oct. 4-6), TY "Karen" (Oct.12-16) and Super Typhoon (STY) "Lawin" (Oct. 17-21) with tracks over northern Luzon that brought moderate to occasionally heavy rains and thunderstorms along its path. Notably, STY Lawin is the first tropical cyclone of its category to be recorded in the Philippines based on the new PAGASA Tropical Cyclone Warning System. Latest reports confirm damages in both agriculture and infrastructure at about Php 3.73 billion along with declarations of state of calamity in many areas in northern Luzon (NDRRMC Situational Report No. 9).

Assessment of rainfall for the month showed that near to above normal rainfall conditions were experienced in most parts of the country, except for Romblon, western Panay Island, Eastern Samar, and Sulu Archipelago which received below to way below normal rainfall.

Surface air temperatures were observed to be slightly warmer than normal in most parts of the country. Ranges of temperature recorded were as follows; mountainous areas of Luzon: 14.6°C – 27.0°C; rest of Luzon: 20.0°C- 35.1°C; Visayas: 21.8°C – 35.4°C; mountainous areas of Mindanao: 15.2°C – 33.2°C; and, rest of Mindanao: 22.0°C – 35.9°C.

### Outlook in November 2016

The expected weather systems likely to affect the country in November are the LPAs, ITCZ, easterlies, northeast monsoon, and occurrence of one (1) to three (3) tropical cyclones that may enter/develop in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR).

Predicted rainfall for the month indicates that most parts of the country will likely experience near to above normal rainfall conditions in southern Luzon, western and central Visayas, northern and western Mindanao. The rest of the country will likely receive near to below normal rainfall.

Warmer than average air temperatures are expected in most parts of Luzon and Visayas while slightly cooler than average temperatures are predicted over a large portion of Mindanao. The expected ranges of temperature will be 16°C – 37°C over the lowlands of Luzon and 11°C – 28°C over the mountainous areas. For Visayas islands, forecast ranges will be 20°C – 37°C and for Mindanao will be from 19°C – 37°C over the lowlands and 15°C -34°C over the mountainous areas.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the likelihood of La Niña and updates shall be issued as appropriate. Meanwhile, concerned agencies are advised to take precautionary measures to mitigate the adverse impacts of this phenomenon especially in flood- and landslide-prone areas. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone numbers 434- 0955 or 435- 1675.

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