Bulletin March 2018 – Tropical Meteorology

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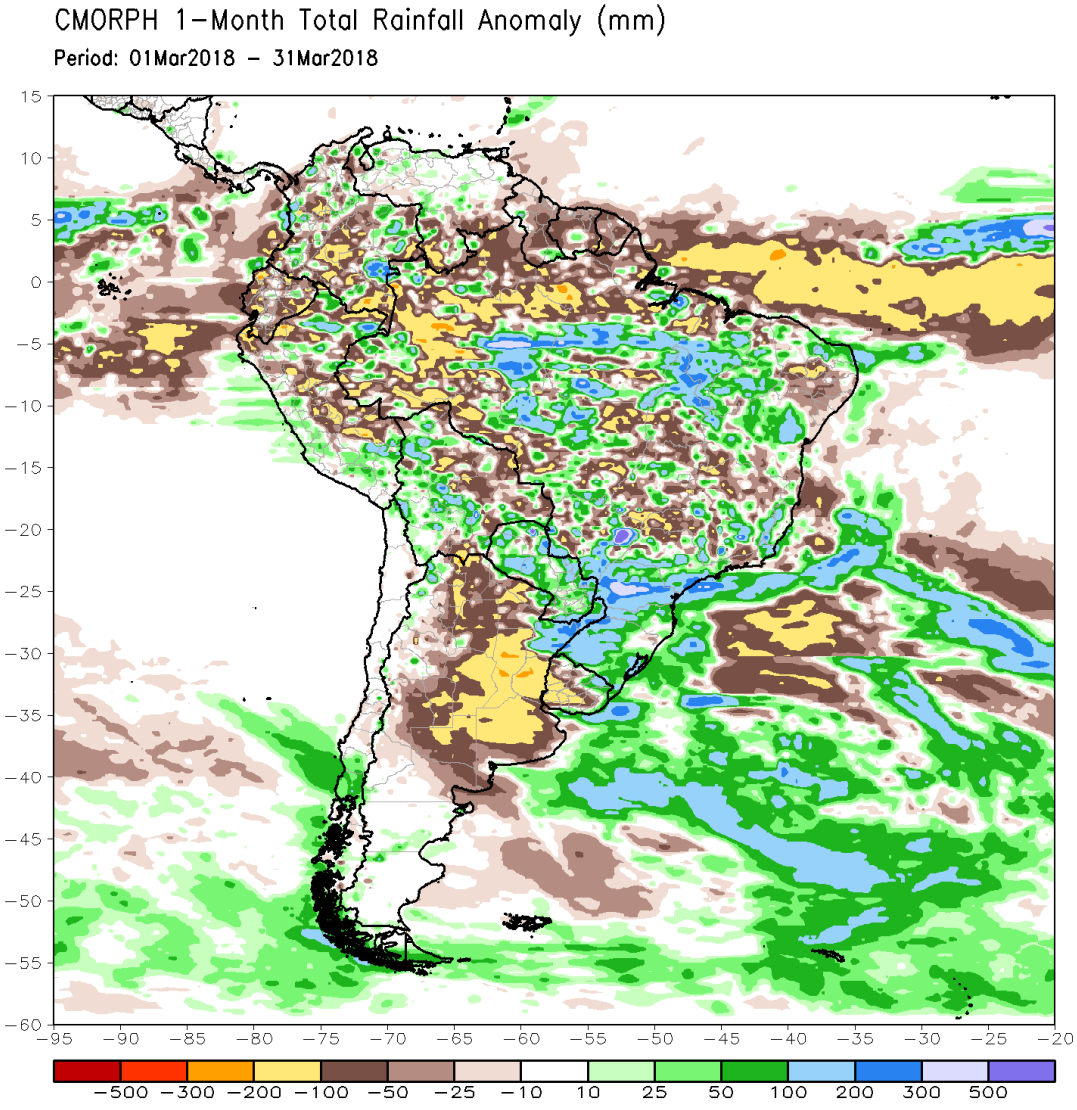
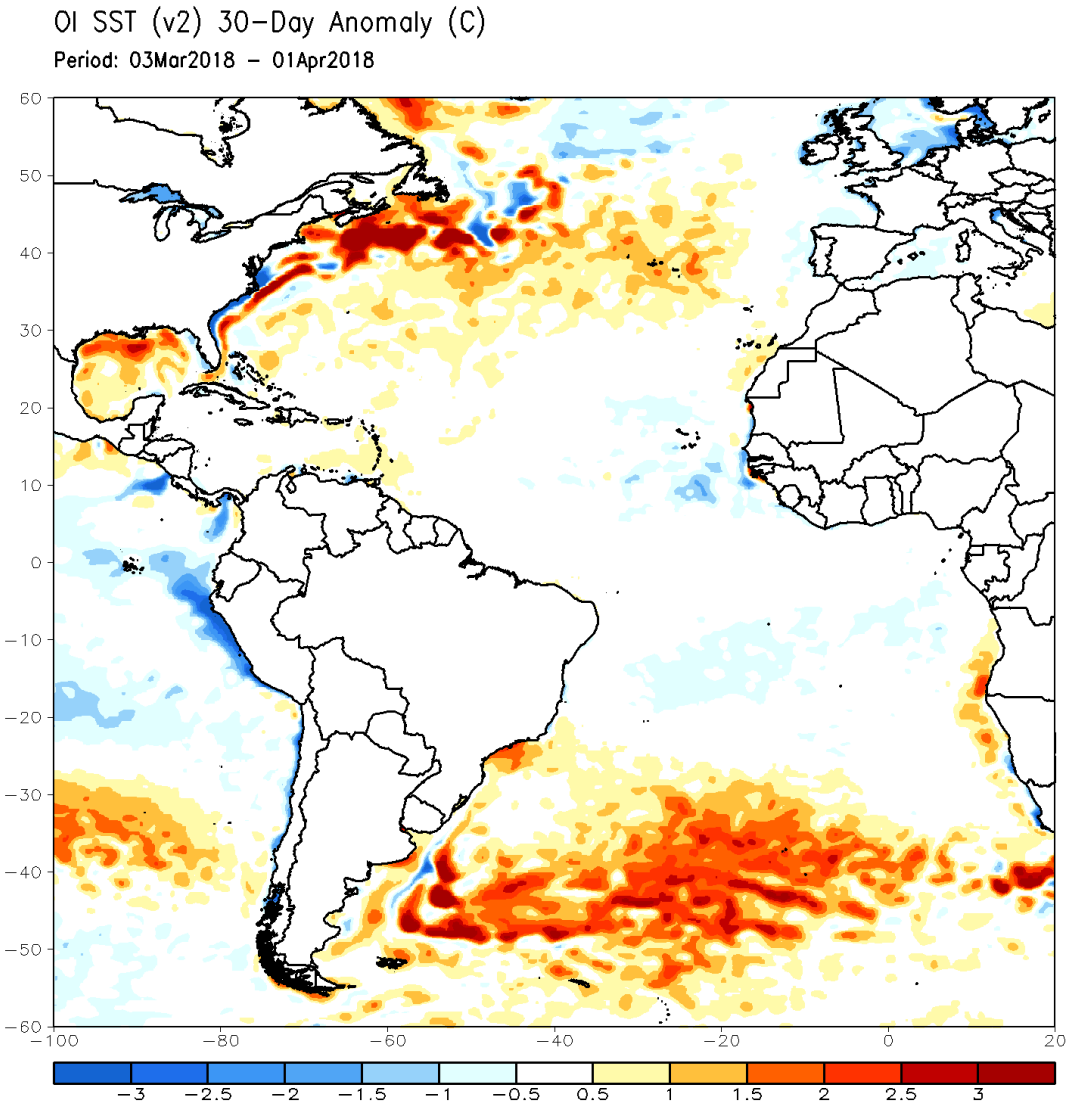
Weak convective activity was observed during March of 2018 in the northern region of South America. The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) system shifted northward of its climatological position. Accentuated rainfall deficit is seen over the north of Brazil's north and northeast regions.



Source:
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/international/cmorph/cmorph_Mar2018-Mar2018_sam_anom.gif

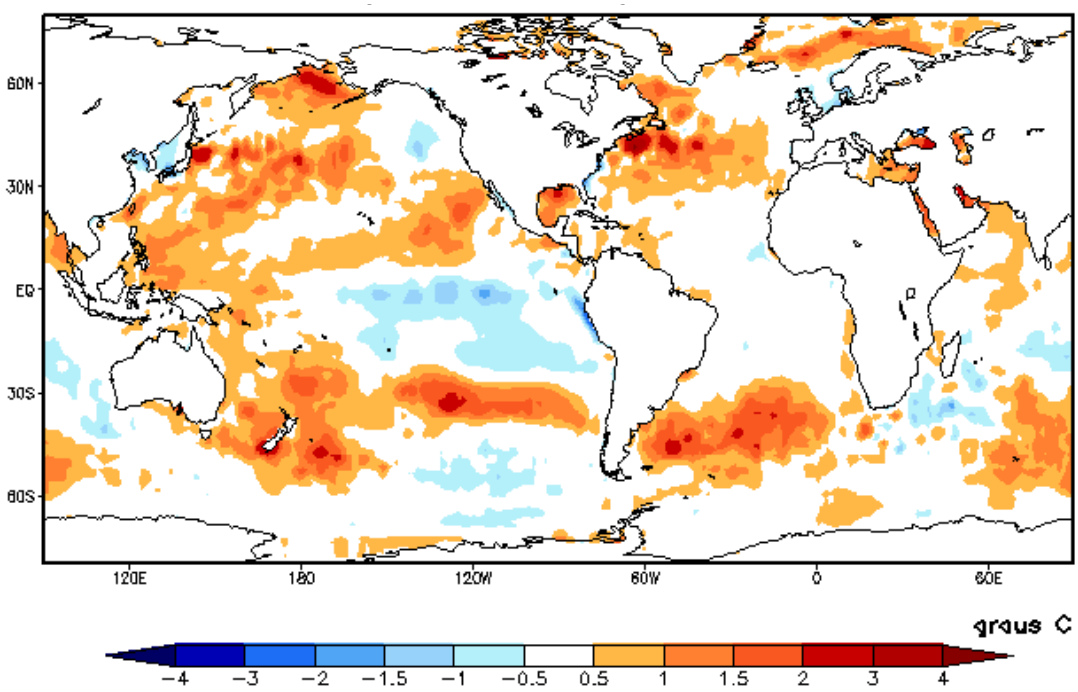
Positive Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomalies are seen over the subtropical North Atlantic, favoring the ITCZ northward shift. In the tropical region the SST anomalies are weak.



Source:
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/international/oisst/oisst_30day_atl_anom.gif

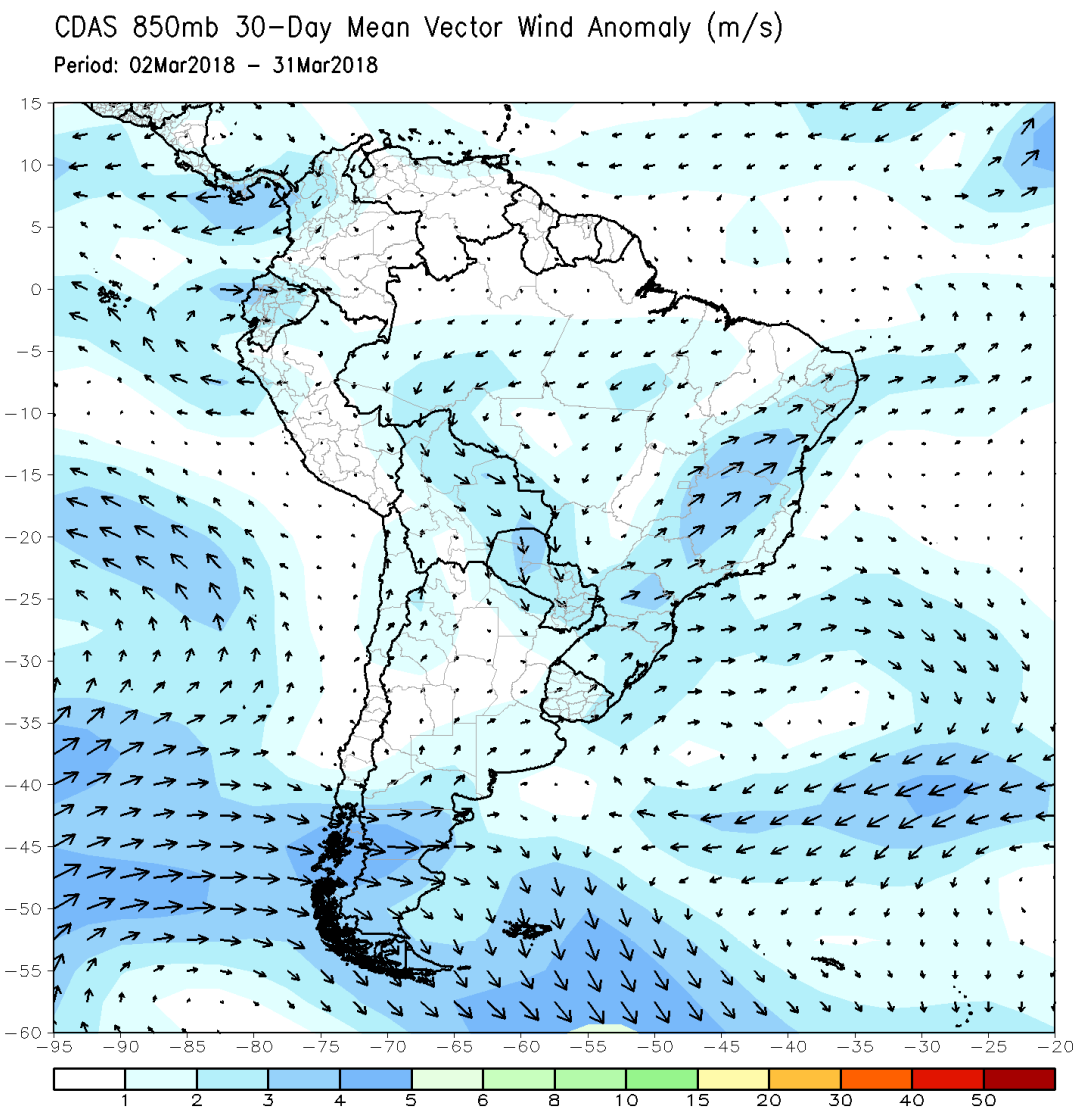
Signs of the decay of the La Niña phenomenon are seen along the Equatorial Pacific during March. Nevertheless, colder waters can be noted in the central part of this ocean.

SST anomalies during March 2018



Source: http://enos.cptec.inpe.br/

The 30-day mean vector wind anomaly at 850 hPa shows the transport of moisture from the Amazon region towards the central-south of Brazil, in turn associated with the configuration of the South America Low Level Jet (LLJ).



Source:
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/international/cdas/cdas_30day_sam_850wind_anom.gif