



Climate



Lee Sai-ming

# ANNUAL OUTLOOK for 2018

In March, the Observatory issued the annual outlook for 2018. Taking a number of factors including the status of La Niña, climate model predictions and other objective guidance into consideration, it is expected that five to eight tropical cyclones will come within 500 kilometres of Hong Kong, which is normal to above normal. The tropical cyclone season will probably start in or before June. With the effect of global warming, the annual mean temperature in 2018 is expected to be above normal, with a medium chance of reaching the top 10 years on record.



Editorial Board

# Rainstorm Blog Post

The latest blog post, "Let's Talk about Rainstorm Warnings", has been uploaded to the Observatory website. The establishment of the rainstorm warning system resulted from a record-breaking rainstorm on 8 May 1992, and the system has been implemented for more than 25 years! Global warming will increase the frequency of extreme weather, with black rainstorm warnings issued for five consecutive years (2013-2017). A more in-depth understanding of the origin and significance of the rainstorm warning system will help everyone to promptly respond during adverse weather.

What does the Observatory have to consider in issuing rainstorm warnings? Can the red and black rainstorm warnings be issued earlier? Is it possible to implement a district-level rainstorm warning? The blog post gives answers to these and other questions.



HKO Sidelights

## Observatory Staff Commended by the Public

Observatory staff who received words of thanks and commendation from the public or organisations from January to March 2018:

**Mr Woo Wang-chun**  
(Scientific Officer)

**Mr Yung Chung-hoi**  
(Experimental Officer)

**Ms Yu Mei-fung**  
(Chief Scientific Assistant)

**Ms Mak Man-yi**  
(Senior Scientific Assistant)

**Mr Chee Shiu-chung, Ms Lam Mei-sim**  
(Scientific Assistants)

## Staff Retirement



Chief Experimental Officer Mr Li Kin-wai, and Senior Experimental Officer Mr Wong Kwun-wa started their pre-retirement leave on 4 April and 9 April, respectively. We wish them a joyful retirement.