2010 forecast to be hottest year on record 2010 is expected to be the hottest year on record according to Met Office forecasts, with a combination of climate change and a moderate El Niño - warming of the Pacific Ocean - driving the global average temperature up to 14.58°C. The current record was set in 1998 following a major El Niño 1990 1998: Global Temperature anomaly from 1987 end of 19th century (°C) average 14.52°C 1983 0.8 Temperature difference 1973 Margin of error 0.6 Recent El Niño events 1957 1965 0.4 1880 1940 1960 1980 2000 FL NIÑO SIGNS Pacific: Ocean temperatures around -0.4 equator increase in September -0.6 Typical regional Warm impacts (Dec-Feb) Warm Warm Wet / cold Wet Drv Wet Dry Wet / Warm Dry / warm warm Warm Atlantic: Reduced hurricane activity © GRAPHIC NEWS Source: Met Office, NOAA