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**METEO FRANCE**

WTIO30 FMEE 180632

RSMC / TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / LA REUNION  
TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST WARNING (SOUTH-WEST INDIAN OCEAN)

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 29/8/20152016

1.A VERY INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE 8 (FANTALA)

2.A POSITION 2016/04/18 AT 0600 UTC:

WITHIN 10 NM RADIUS OF POINT 9.3 S / 49.6 E

(NINE DECIMAL THREE DEGREES SOUTH AND FORTY NINE DECIMAL SIX DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT : WEST-NORTH-WEST 6 KT

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 7.5/7.5/D 0.5/6 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 915 HPA

5.A MAX AVERAGE WIND SPEED (10 MN): 130 KT

RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW) :13 KM

6.A EXTENSION OF WIND BY QUADRANTS (KM):

28 KT NE: 110 SE: 350 SW: 310 NW: 220

34 KT NE: 80 SE: 150 SW: 160 NW: 130

48 KT NE: 60 SE: 90 SW: 90 NW: 70

64 KT NE: 60 SE: 60 SW: 70 NW: 60

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1009 HPA / 500 KM

8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION : DEEP

1.B FORECASTS:

12H: 2016/04/18 18 UTC: 9.3 S / 49.2 E, MAX WIND=110 KT, INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE

24H: 2016/04/19 06 UTC: 9.5 S / 49.0 E, MAX WIND=090 KT, INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE

36H: 2016/04/19 18 UTC: 10.1 S / 49.7 E, MAX WIND=080 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

48H: 2016/04/20 06 UTC: 11.0 S / 51.1 E, MAX WIND=090 KT, INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE

60H: 2016/04/20 18 UTC: 12.3 S / 52.4 E, MAX WIND=090 KT, INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE

72H: 2016/04/21 06 UTC: 13.4 S / 53.2 E, MAX WIND=080 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK :

96H: 2016/04/22 06 UTC: 14.4 S / 54.1 E, MAX WIND=050 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

120H: 2016/04/23 06 UTC: 14.2 S / 53.3 E, MAX WIND=035 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

T=7.5- CI=7.5-

DURING THE PAST 6 HOURS, FANTALA'S EYE HAS REMAINED CIRCULAR AND WARM (18.4°C OF MAX BRIGHTNESS TEMP WITHIN THE EYE REPORTED BY THE LASTEST METOP-2 PASS AT 05.59Z) AND THE CLOUD TOPS HAS REMAINED VERY COOL. THE LAST MW PICTURES (GPM 01.26Z, SSMIS 03.31Z) DEPICT AN EYE WALL REPLACEMENT CYCLE, THAT SHOULD INVOLVE A WEAKENING OF FANTALA AND AN EXPANSION OF THE RMW FOR THE NEXT HOURS.

THE SYSTEM IS SLOWING DOWN AS IT IS STILL TRACKING WEST-NORTH-WESTWARDS OVER THE NORTHERN AND NORTHEASTERN SIDE OF A HIGH GEOPOTENTIAL CELL LOCATED SOUTH OF MADAGASCAR, WITH A RIDGE AXIS OVER MADAGASCAR. TODAY, THIS CELL IS FORECAST TO SHIFT PROGRESSIVELY EASTWARD AND LEAVE ROOM FOR A MID-LATITUDE TROUGH. FANTALA SHOULD BE LOCATED WITHIN A COL WITH OPPOSITE STEERING FLOWS. SO, FANTALA IS FORECAST TO BEGIN TO SLOW DOWN. TONIGHT, FANTALA SHOULD STOP ITS WESTWARDS TRACK AND BEGIN A SHARP TURN TOWARD THE SOUTHEAST UNDER THE NORTHEASTERN STEERING FLOW OF A BUILDING MID-LEVEL NEAR-EQUATORIAL RIDGE.

THE POINT OF RECURVATURE COULD BE CLOSE TO THE COSMOLEDO AND ASTOVE ISLANDS (SEYCHELLES) LOCATED TO THE EAST-SOUTH-EAST OF ALDABRA. SOME WEAKENING IS ANTICIPATED DURING THAT TIME DUE TO SELF-INDUCED UPWELLING.

FROM TUESDAY, FANTALA SHOULD CONTINUE ITS SOUTHEASTWARD TRAJECTORY UNDER THE TWICE INFLUENCE OF THE NEAR-EQUATORIAL RIDGE LOCATED TO THE NORTH-EAST AND AHEAD A WIDE MID-LATITUDE TROUGH. WITHIN STILL FAVORABLE UPPER-LEVEL CONDITIONS, THE SYSTEM SHOULD BE ABLE TO RE-INTENSIFY AS IT WILL REACH SOME WARMER WATERS.

FROM THURSDAY NIGHT OR FRIDAY FANTALA IS LIKELY TO MOVE AGAIN THROUGH A WEAK STEERING ENVIRONMENT AND SHOULD SLOW DOWN. THE UPPER LEVEL PATTERN IS EXPECTED TO BE LESS FAVORABLE AND A GENERAL WEAKENING TREND IS SEEN AMONG THE VARIOUS GUIDANCE.