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WTIO30 FMEE 121228

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

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 1/3/20172018 1.A TROPICAL DISTURBANCE 3

2.A POSITION 2018/01/12 AT 1200 UTC:

WITHIN 30 NM RADIUS OF POINT 16.6 S / 67.9 E

(SIXTEEN DECIMAL SIX DEGREES SOUTH AND SIXTY SEVEN DECIMAL NINE

DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT: WEST-SOUTH-WEST 8 KT

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 2.0/2.0/S 0.0/0 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 1000 HPA

5.A MAX AVERAGE WIND SPEED (10 MN): 25 KT RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW) :37 KM

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

7.A~FIRST~CLOSED~ISOBAR~(PRESSURE~/~AVERAGE~DIAM):~1006~HPA~/~1100~KM~8.A~VERTICAL~EXTENSION~OF~CYCLONE~CIRCULATION~:~MEDIUM~

1.B FORECASTS:

12H: 2018/01/13 00 UTC: 18.0 S / 66.4 E, MAX WIND=025 KT, TROPICAL DISTURBANCE 24H: 2018/01/13 12 UTC: 18.6 S / 64.4 E, MAX WIND=030 KT, TROPICAL DEPRESSION 36H: 2018/01/14 00 UTC: 18.5 S / 63.4 E, MAX WIND=035 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

48H: 2018/01/14 12 UTC: 18.3 S / 62.9 E, MAX WIND=040 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

 $60\mathrm{H}$: 2018/01/15 00 UTC: 18.2 S / 62.5 E, MAX WIND=040 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

72H: 2018/01/15 12 UTC: 18.0 S / 62.1 E, MAX WIND=045 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK:

96H: 2018/01/16 12 UTC: 17.4 S / 60.7 E, MAX WIND=055 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM 120H: 2018/01/17 12 UTC: 18.2 S / 59.0 E, MAX WIND=080 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

T=CI=2.0-

OVER THE LAST DAYS, A SUSPECT AREA DEVELOPED WITHIN THE MONSOON TROUGH. IT CURRENTLY QUALIFIES FOR THE TROPICAL DISTURBANCE STAGE WITH A WELL DEFINED LOW LEVEL STRUCTURE AND CIRCULATION CENTER, AS SEEN ON RECENT SAT IMAGES AND 0804Z AMSR2 MICRO-WAVE DATA. IN THE LAST HOURS, A STRONG CONVECTIVE BURST OCCURRED OVER THE CENTER DESPITE A LIGHT EASTERLY SHEAR CONSTRAINT ALOFT.

FIRST, THE SYSTEM SHOULD KEEP ON HEADING SOUTHWESTWARD. FROM SUNDAY, IT SHOULD BUMP INTO A STRONG RIDGE BUILDING UP IN THE SOUTH OF MADAGASCAR, AND THEN TRACK NORTHWESTWARD ON THE NORTHEASTERN SIDE OF THIS RIDGE. TUESDAY, AS THE RIDGE SHIFTED EASTWARD, THE TRACK COULD TURN SOUTHWESTWARD AGAIN BUT THE UNCERTAINTY REMAINS HIGH AT THIS LATE FORECAST TIME. THE DISPERSION OF AVAILABLE MODEL GUIDANCE IS MODERATE, GIVING A MEDIUM CONFIDENCE IN THIS TRACK FORECAST.

FROM TOMORROW, THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS SHOULD IMPROVE, ESPECIALLY ALOFT, WITH THE UPPER CONSTRAINT VANISHING AND A SIGNIFICANT STRENGTHENING OF THE POLEWARD DIVERGENCE. DRY AIR COULD TEMPORARILY SLOW THE CYCLOGENESIS PROCESS DOWN. NEXT WEEK, CONDITIONS REMAINS FAVORABLE TO A GRADUAL INTENSIFICATION, ALTHOUGH A LIGHT NORTHEASTERLY WINDSHEAR COULD AFFECT THE SYSTEM MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

INHABITANTS OF THE RODRIGUES AND MASCARENES ISLANDS ARE INVITED TO MONITOR THE EVOLUTION OF THIS SYSTEM IN THE NEXT DAYS.