

WTIO30 FMEE 151252

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

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 11/3/20172018

1.A INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE 3 (BERGUITTA)

2.A POSITION 2018/01/15 AT 1200 UTC:

WITHIN 21 NM RADIUS OF POINT 17.9 S / 63.0 E

(SEVENTEEN DECIMAL NINE DEGREES SOUTH AND SIXTY THREE DECIMAL ZERO DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT : QUASI-STATIONARY

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 5.5/5.5/D 1.5/6 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 940 HPA

5.A MAX AVERAGE WIND SPEED (10 MN): 90 KT

RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW) :19 KM

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

28 KT NE: 190 SE: 280 SW: 280 NW: 190

34 KT NE: 90 SE: 130 SW: 130 NW: 90

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

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

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1005 HPA / 900 KM

8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION : DEEP

1.B FORECASTS:

12H: 2018/01/16 00 UTC: 18.2 S / 62.0 E, MAX WIND=100 KT, INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE

24H: 2018/01/16 12 UTC: 18.4 S / 60.8 E, MAX WIND=100 KT, INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE

36H: 2018/01/17 00 UTC: 18.5 S / 59.5 E, MAX WIND=090 KT, INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE

48H: 2018/01/17 12 UTC: 19.1 S / 58.1 E, MAX WIND=080 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

60H: 2018/01/18 00 UTC: 20.3 S / 56.3 E, MAX WIND=075 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

72H: 2018/01/18 12 UTC: 21.3 S / 54.5 E, MAX WIND=070 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK :

96H: 2018/01/19 12 UTC: 24.5 S / 52.1 E, MAX WIND=070 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

120H: 2018/01/20 12 UTC: 28.7 S / 51.3 E, MAX WIND=070 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

T=CI=5.5

THE EYE CLOUD PATTERN MAINTAINS AND GIVES TO THE SYSTEM A RAPID INTENSIFICATION PHASE. THE SMALL SIZE OF BERGUITTA PERMITS RAPID INTENSITY VARIATIONS AND DEFINES A DVORAK ANALYSIS OF 5.5, CLASSIFYING BERGUITTA IN AN INTENSE CYCLONE TROPICAL STATUS. THE RESUMPTION OF DISPLACEMENT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SINCE THE LAST HOUR.

EVEN THE SYNOPTIC SITUATION REMAINS THE SAME : THE MID-TROPOSPHERE HIGH GEOPOTENTIAL CELL LOCATED SOUTH OF MADAGASCAR GENERATE A WEST-NORTH-WEST STEERING FLOW, THE DELAY OF RESUMPTION MOVES JUSTIFY A SHIFT IN THE TRACK SOUTH. THE SYSTEM SHOULD BEND PROGRESSIVELY SOUTHWESTWARD FROM WEDNESDAY AND CONSIDER A TRANSIT CLOSE TO THE NORTH OF REUNION AND MAURICE ISLANDS, AT SHORTER DISTANCES THAN INITIALLY FORECASTED. FOR THE MOMENT, A PASSAGE CLOSER TO LESS THAN 50KM, OR DIRECT IMPACT, IS EXPECTED FOR MAURITIUS DURING THE NIGHT BETWEEN WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, AND AFTER FOR REUNION ISLAND. NOTE THAT THE SCENARIO OF A PASSAGE SOUTH OF THE ISLANDS IS NOT YET CLEAR IF THE RESUMPTION OF MOVEMENT REMAINS LIMITED.

WITH A GOOD OCEANIC POTENTIAL AND DESPITE ITS SLOW MOVEMENT, BERGUITTA SHOULD EXPECTED TO BENEFIT GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS WITH A WEAK VERTICAL WINDSHEAR. UPPER LEVEL DIVERGENCE SHOULD CONTINUE TO IMPROVE WITH BOTH POLAR AND EQUATORIAL OUTFLOW CHANNELS THAT SHOULD ALLOW THE SYSTEM TO STAY INTENSE TROPICAL CYCLONE STATUS. BERGUITTA, WITH THIS SMALL SIZE, IS LIKELY EXPERIENCE RAPID INTENSITY CHANGE BUT FROM WEDNESDAY, NORTHEASTERN VERTICAL WINDSHEAR IS FORESCATED TO INCREASE AND BECOME MODERATE OVER THE EASTERN EDGE OF THE MID-TROPOSPHERIC RIDGE. SO BERGUITTA IS LIKELY TO WEAKEN TO TROPICAL CYCLONE AS THE SYSTEM TRANSITS IN THE VICINITY OF MAURITIUS AND REUNION ISLANDS.

BERGUITTA IS NOW FORECASTED TO MOVE CLOSER MAURICE AND REUNION ISLANDS AS IT DEEPENS. INHABITANTS ARE INVITED TO MONITOR THE EVOLUTION OF THIS SYSTEM IN THE NEXT DAYS.