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WTIO30 FMEE 211218 RSMC / TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / LA REUNION TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST WARNING (SOUTH-WEST INDIAN OCEAN)

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 1/13/20182019 1.A ZONE OF DISTURBED WEATHER 13

2.A POSITION 2019/03/21 AT 1200 UTC: WITHIN 20 NM RADIUS OF POINT 13.2 S / 60.9 E (THIRTEEN DECIMAL TWO DEGREES SOUTH AND SIXTY DECIMAL NINE DEGREES EAST) MOVEMENT: QUASI-STATIONARY.

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 1.5/1.5/S 0.0/0 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 1002 HPA 5.A MAX AVERAGE WIND SPEED (10 MN): 20 KT RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW): 130 KM

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

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1007 HPA / 600 KM 8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION: MEDIUM

1.B FORECASTS:

12H: 2019/03/22 00 UTC: 13.6 S / 61.0 E, VENT MAX= 030 KT, TROPICAL DEPRESSION 24H: 2019/03/22 12 UTC: 14.4 S / 61.4 E, VENT MAX= 040 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

36H: 2019/03/23 00 UTC: 15.4 S / 61.3 E, VENT MAX= 050 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM 48H: 2019/03/23 12 UTC: 16.5 S / 61.2 E, VENT MAX= 055 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM 60H: 2019/03/24 00 UTC: 17.4 S / 61.2 E, VENT MAX= 060 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM 72H: 2019/03/24 12 UTC: 18.2 S / 61.4 E, VENT MAX= 065 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK: 96H: 2019/03/25 12 UTC: 20.0 S / 63.3 E, VENT MAX= 075 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE 120H: 2019/03/26 12 UTC: 22.4 S / 65.8 E, VENT MAX= 055 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: T=CI=1.5

FOLLOWED FOR SEVERAL DAYS IN THE AWIO20 FMEE WARNINGS, THE LOW-LEVEL CLOCKWISE CIRCULATION LOCATED NORTH-NORTHEAST OF SAINT BRANDON ISLAND SHOWS MORE AND MORE SIGNS OF ORGANIZATION. FROM 12UTC, THIS AREA IS NOW FOLLOWED BY THE REUNION RSMC AS ZONE OF DISTURBED WEATHER 13-20182019. DURING THE LAST 6 HOURS, CONVECTION REMAINS FLUCTUATING BUT IS INCREASINGLY ORGANIZED AROUND A CENTRE THAT SEEMS TO BE TAKING SHAPE BETTER. A CURVED BAND PATTERN IS DETECTABLE DEFINING A DVORAK ANALYSIS AT 1.5. THIS ANALYSIS CORROBORATES THE 20/25KT VALUES OBTAINED BY THE 0415UTC ASCAT SWATH.

WITH A LIMITED VERTICAL CIRCULATION, THIS AREA IS SUBJECTED TO A STILL POORLY DEFINED FLOW OVER THE NEXT 12 HOURS. SUBSEQUENTLY, IT IS THE TRANSEQUATORIAL FLOW FROM THE NORTHWEST, IMPOSED BY A NEAR EQUATORIAL RIDGE LOCATED TO THE NORTHEAST OF THE SYSTEM, THAT WILL INDUCE THE TRACK TO THE SYSTEM. A GENERALLY SOUTHERN COMPONENT WILL BE TAKEN ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, BEFORE A MORE SOUTH-EASTERN ORIENTATION IS PUT IN PLACE ON SUNDAY. ON THIS TRACK, THE METEORE IS EXPECTED TO PASS BETWEEN MAURITIUS AND RODRIGUES AT THE END OF NEXT MONDAY, IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF RODRIGUES ISLAND AT THE TROPICAL CYCLONE STAGE. THE PRESENT TRACK FORECAST OF THE RSMC TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THIS GLOBALLY SOUTHERN COMPONENT BY CORRECTING THE POSITION SHIFT IN THE ANALYSIS OF MOST NUMERICAL MODELS.

BEING LOCATED ON WATERS WITH SUFFICIENT ENERGY CONTENT AND UNDER AN ENVIRONMENT OF LOW WINDSHEAR, THE SYSTEM WILL BE ABLE TO INTENSIFY IN ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE ITS STILL WEAK CIRCULATION OVER THE NEXT FEW HOURS. ASSISTED BY A WELL-DEFINED AND CONSTANT EQUATORIAL FLOW, INTENSIFICATION WILL BE REGULAR OVER THE NEXT 4 DAYS. THEN ON THIS TRACK, THE SYSTEM WILL UNDERGO AN INCREASING WINDSHEAR FROM MONDAY WHICH WILL MARK THE BEGINNING OF ITS WEAKENING.