

WTIO30 FMEE 310658

RSMC / TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / LA REUNION

TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST WARNING (SOUTH-WEST INDIAN OCEAN)

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 10/9/20252026

1.A TROPICAL CYCLONE 9 (FYTIA)

2.A POSITION 2026/01/31 AT 0600 UTC:

WITHIN 10 NM RADIUS OF POINT 16.4 S / 45.6 E

(SIXTEEN DECIMAL FOUR DEGREES SOUTH AND
FORTY FIVE DECIMAL SIX DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT: SOUTH-EAST 9 KT

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: NIL

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 982 HPA

5.A MAX AVERAGE WIND SPEED (10 MN): 65 KT

RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW): 19 KM

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

28 KT NE: 260 SE: 130 SW: 110 NW: 165

34 KT NE: 120 SE: 95 SW: 85 NW: 110

48 KT NE: 75 SE: 65 SW: 60 NW: 75

64 KT NE: 45 SE: 0 SW: 0 NW: 0

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1009 HPA / 900 KM

8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION: DEEP

1.B FORECASTS (WINDS RADII IN KM):

12H: 2026/01/31 18 UTC: 18.1 S / 47.4 E, VENT MAX= 030 KT, OVERLAND DEPRESSION

28 KT NE: 185 SE: 140 SW: 110 NW: 140

24H: 2026/02/01 06 UTC: 20.0 S / 49.6 E, VENT MAX= 035 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL
STORM

28 KT NE: 205 SE: 220 SW: 150 NW: 100

34 KT NE: 110 SE: 110 SW: 85 NW: 75

36H: 2026/02/01 18 UTC: 21.5 S / 51.5 E, VENT MAX= 050 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

28 KT NE: 240 SE: 175 SW: 165 NW: 175

34 KT NE: 140 SE: 110 SW: 100 NW: 100

48 KT NE: 65 SE: 0 SW: 55 NW: 45

48H: 2026/02/02 06 UTC: 22.6 S / 52.8 E, VENT MAX= 055 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

28 KT NE: 250 SE: 175 SW: 165 NW: 175

34 KT NE: 150 SE: 110 SW: 100 NW: 100

48 KT NE: 65 SE: 65 SW: 45 NW: 45

60H: 2026/02/02 18 UTC: 23.4 S / 53.8 E, VENT MAX= 055 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

28 KT NE: 250 SE: 195 SW: 215 NW: 185
34 KT NE: 150 SE: 120 SW: 120 NW: 100
48 KT NE: 65 SE: 65 SW: 75 NW: 65

72H: 2026/02/03 06 UTC: 24.3 S / 54.7 E, VENT MAX= 050 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM
28 KT NE: 250 SE: 175 SW: 150 NW: 165
34 KT NE: 150 SE: 110 SW: 95 NW: 95
48 KT NE: 65 SE: 65 SW: 65 NW: 55

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK:

96H: 2026/02/04 06 UTC: 25.8 S / 56.5 E, VENT MAX= 045 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM
28 KT NE: 260 SE: 175 SW: 120 NW: 175
34 KT NE: 150 SE: 100 SW: 75 NW: 95

120H: 2026/02/05 06 UTC: 29.1 S / 59.7 E, VENT MAX= 050 KT, POST-TROPICAL DEPRESSION
28 KT NE: 285 SE: 165 SW: 95 NW: 155
34 KT NE: 165 SE: 95 SW: 65 NW: 75
48 KT NE: 70 SE: 60 SW: 50 NW: 50

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

FYTIA'S EYE PATTERN HAS IMPROVED AFTER 00UTC UNTIL IT MADE LANDFALL BETWEEN 0130Z AND 0200Z ON THE NORTHWEST COAST OF MADAGASCAR. DVORAK ANALYSIS TEMPORARILY INCREASED, YIELDING A DT BETWEEN 5.5 AND 6.0. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT INERTIA AND THE FACT THAT THE EYE WAS NOT ALWAYS CLEARLY DEFINED, WE CAN ESTIMATE THAT THE SYSTEM'S MAXIMUM INTENSITY WAS REACHED AT LANDFALL AND WAS NEAR 85 KT. THIS INTENSITY WAS ASSIGNED TO THE 00UTC ANALYSIS POINT IN THE BEST-TRACK. FYTIA'S EYE MADE LANDFALL NEAR CAPE AMPARAFKA, CLOSE TO SMALL TOWNS SUCH AS MAROALIKA AND JUST WEST OF SOALALA (MAHAJANGA PROVINCE, BOENY REGION), THE SAME LANDFALL LOCATION AS CYCLONE BELNA IN DECEMBER 2019. FYTIA IS LIKELY THE MOST POWERFUL CYCLONE TO HIT MAHAJANGA PROVINCE SINCE ANDRY IN DECEMBER 1983, AND IS SLIGHTLY MORE INTENSE THAN BELNA. THE SYSTEM'S EYE STRUCTURE REMAINED WELL DEFINED UP TO 06UTC, DESPITE CLOUD TOPS GRADUALLY WARMING UP AS THE SYSTEM MOVES INLAND. THE INTENSITY IS THEREFORE ESTIMATED AT 65 KT AT 06UTC, WITH HURRICANE-FORCE WINDS POSSIBLY LINGERING LOCALLY IN THE NORTHEAST QUADRANT.

THE SYSTEM IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE MOVING SOUTHEASTWARDS OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS, STEERED BETWEEN A MID-LEVEL RIDGE TO THE NORTHEAST AND A TROUGH LOCATED FURTHER SOUTH. IT SHOULD THEREFORE PASS WELL OFF TO THE SOUTHWEST OF REUNION ISLAND AROUND MONDAY. UNCERTAINTY INCREASES FROM TUESDAY ONWARDS REGARDING THE SYSTEM'S FORWARD SPEED : SOME SCENARIOS SUGGEST A SLOWDOWN LINKED TO A WEAKENING SYSTEM STEERED BY WEAK LOW-LEVEL FLOWS, WHILE OTHER SCENARIOS FAVOR A MORE POWERFUL SYSTEM MOVING FASTER IN THE MID-LEVEL NORTHWESTERLY FLOW ON THE EDGE OF AN UPPER TROUGH, THUS EXITING MORE RAPIDLY TOWARDS SUBTROPICAL LATITUDES. THE LATTER SCENARIO IS SLIGHTLY FAVORED BY THE RSMC FORECAST, WHICH IS A COMPROMISE BETWEEN HIGH-RESOLUTION MODELS (AROME, HAFS-A) AND IA ENSEMBLES.

IN TERMS OF INTENSITY, THE SYSTEM'S MOVEMENT OVER LAND THIS SATURDAY AND FOLLOWING NIGHT WILL LEAD TO SIGNIFICANT WEAKENING. WHEN IT EMERGES ON SUNDAY MORNING EAST OF MADAGASCAR OVER SURFACE WATERS OF MORE THAN 28C, STRONG CONVECTION IS EXPECTED TO RESUME NEAR THE CENTER AND THE SYSTEM IS EXPECTED TO RE-INTENSIFY, GRADUALLY RETURNING TO THE STAGE OF A SEVERE TROPICAL STORM. HOWEVER, INCREASING NORTHWESTERLY VERTICAL SHEAR ON THE EDGE OF THE TROUGH SHOULD MORE OR LESS LIMIT THE POTENTIAL FOR INTENSIFICATION. MODEL SPREAD BECOMES VERY HIGH FROM TUESDAY ONWARDS, WITH SOME SUGGESTING THAT THE SYSTEM WILL FILL IN AS A WEAK REMNANT LOW IN CONNECTION WITH MASSIVE DRY AIR INTRUSIONS, WHILE OTHERS MAINTAIN A STRONGER INTENSITY THANKS TO A FASTER MOVEMENT IN THE SAME DIRECTION AS THE WIND SHEAR. THE RSMC FORECAST IS CLOSER TO SCENARIOS THAT MAINTAIN SIGNIFICANT INTENSITY. STARTING ON WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY, AS IT MOVES OVER COOLER WATERS AND UNDER THE EFFECT OF INCREASING SHEAR, THE SYSTEM COULD GRADUALLY LOSE ITS TROPICAL FEATURES AND BECOME POST-TROPICAL.

EXPECTED IMPACTS ON INHABITED LANDS IN THE NEXT 72 HOURS :

MADAGASCAR (MAHAJANGA PROVINCE) :

- HURRICANE-FORCE WINDS ARE EXPECTED TO QUICKLY FADE AWAY IN THE NEXT FEW HOURS. GALE-FORCE WINDS FORECAST TO CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE DAY NEAR THE SYSTEM. IMPROVEMENT EXPECTED TONIGHT.
- HEAVY RAIN ONGOING : 200-300 MM IN 24 HOURS NEAR THE LANDFALL AREA. FURTHER INLAND, 100-200 MM IN 24 HOURS ALONG THE SYSTEM'S TRACK AND ON MOUNTAINOUS AREAS ON SATURDAY.
- VERY ROUGH TO HIGH SEAS UNTIL SATURDAY AFTERNOON.
- STORM SURGE MAY STILL REACH 50CM TO 1M FOR A FEW HOURS, BEFORE RAPIDLY WEAKENING.

MADAGASCAR (ANTANANARIVO, TOAMASINA AND FIANARANTSOA PROVINCES) :

- HEAVY RAIN ALONG THE SYSTEM'S TRACK AND ON NEARBY MOUNTAINS. CUMULATIVE PRECIPITATION OF 100 MM IN 24 HOURS ON SATURDAY AND THE FOLLOWING NIGHT. BEFORE AND DURING THE SYSTEM'S MOVING BACK TO SEA, THE RESUMPTION OF DEEP CONVECTION AND WIND CONVERGENCE ON THE CENTRAL-EAST COAST IS EXPECTED TO GENERATE VERY HEAVY RAINFALL IN THE SOUTH OF THE PROVINCE OF TOAMASINA AND THE FAR NORTH OF THE PROVINCE OF FIANARANTSOA, WITH RAINFALL UP TO 200-300 MM IN 12 HOURS DURING THE NIGHT FROM SATURDAY TO SUNDAY.
- CONDITIONS GRADUALLY IMPROVING ON SUNDAY FROM NOON ONWARDS.