

AWIO20 FMEE 261235

TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

BULLETIN FOR CYCLONIC ACTIVITY AND SIGNIFICANT TROPICAL WEATHER IN  
THE SOUTHWEST INDIAN OCEAN

DATE: 2017/12/26 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1:

WARNING SUMMARY:

Nil.

PART 2 :

TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION:

The South-West Indian Ocean basin remains in a Monsoon Trough (MT) pattern, on the oceanic part, waving between 6S and 09S. Over the Mozambique channel, a poorly defined MT is axed between 16S and 20S. The associated thunderstorm activity, generally moderate, is mainly located within the monsoon flow and close to a Disturbed Weather Area monitored since yesterday and located within the MT to the south-west of Diego-Garcia. Over the channel, the thunderstorm activity is locally strong close to the African coasts between 18S and 20S and near the north-western coasts of Madagascar. No suspect area is currently detected over this area.

**Area of Disturbed Weather to the South-West of Diego-Garcia:**

The thunderstorm activity has increased compared to yesterday around a low located at 11:15 UTC near 8.9S and 70.3E (likely issued from the exposed vortex seen yesterday). The deep convection still lack of curvature and is still highly fluctuating due to diurnal cycle. The winds are estimated at 15/20 kt and MSLP at 1008 hPa.

Environmental conditions are conducive for some slow development over the next few days. Main limiting factors are (in order of importance): dry mid-level air in the near south-eastern environment and a current moderate easterly shear that is expected to decrease rapidly tomorrow.

Most of the numerical guidance are now more aggressive compared to yesterday with now formation of a tropical storm possible this week-end. A westwards moving equatorial Rossby waves is now analyzed over the basin (cf. CICS-NC website) and may be responsible of low level vorticity enhancement within the MT.

This system is expected to move generally west-south-westwards or south-westwards during the next few days over the north-western edge of the subtropical highs. The forward motion is highly uncertain currently.

Eastwards, near 7.5S 84.3E, an exposed low level elongated circulation is still visible but still show no potential for significant deepening.

**For the next 5 days, the potential of development of a moderate tropical storm over the basin becomes low on Friday and then gradually moderate over the week-end.**

*NOTA BENE: The likelihood is an estimate of the chance of the genesis of a moderate tropical storm over the basin and within the next five days:*

Very low:	less than 10%	Moderate:	30% to 50%	Very high:	over 90%
Low:	10% to 30%	High:	50% to 90%		

*The Southwestern Indian Ocean basin extends from the equator to 40S and from the african coastlines to 90E.*