

AWIO20 FMEE 011238

TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 2018/03/01 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1:

WARNING SUMMARY:

Nil

PART 2 :

TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION:

The basin is in a Monsoon Trough (MT) pattern axed north and south of 10°S. Two areas of enhanced low level vorticity are detected within the MT, one near the Chagos archipelago with no suspect area associated and the other one between Agalega and Tromelin that show some signs of organisation since this morning.

Zone of disturbed weather between Agaléga and Tromelin:

Since last night, surfac obs along with sat imagery show that a low pressure area has formed between Agalega and Tromelin. A low is centered near 13.5°S and 55.7°E at 10 UTC and moves generally west-south-westwards at 5-8 kt. Winds are weak in the 15/20 kt range. The associated thunderstorms activity remains fluctuating and still lack of banding signs at this early stage. The system is beneath a low sheared environment but with good low level inflow mainly equatorward. Precipitable water loop also suggest the presence of dry air in the south-western quadrant that is not conducive for development.

Within the next few days, the environmental conditions become gradually more conducive for further development. It is now very likely that the system become a moderate tropical storm Saturday or Saturday night. After that time, the system is expected to pass between the eastern coast of Madagascar and The Mascareignes islands early next week as it should move along the eastern edge of a mid-level ridge. The closest point approach of land on each side of the track still needs to be confirmed. As this system is expected to move closer of the Mascareignes islands, a significant deterioration of the weather conditions is expected (mainly over Mauritius and La Reunion) during the week-end.

For the next 5 days, the risk of development of a moderate tropical storm remains high on Saturday.

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.