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**METEO FRANCE**  
Toujours un temps d'avance

WTIO30 FMEE 091236

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

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 14/4/20122013

1.A TROPICAL CYCLONE 4 (CLAUDIA)

2.A POSITION 2012/12/09 AT 1200 UTC:

WITHIN 15 NM RADIUS OF POINT 15.5 S / 74.2 E

(FIFTEEN DECIMAL FIVE DEGREES SOUTH AND SEVENTY FOUR DECIMAL TWO DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT : SOUTH 4 KT

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 5.0/5.5/S 0.0/12 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 960 HPA

5.A MAX AVERAGE WIND SPEED (10 MN): 85 KT

RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW) :22 KM

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

28 KT NE: 170 SE: 220 SW: 300 NW: 170

34 KT NE: 130 SE: 170 SW: 200 NW: 130

48 KT NE: 80 SE: 90 SW: 100 NW: 80

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

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1006 HPA / 1200 KM

8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION : DEEP

1.B FORECASTS:

12H: 2012/12/10 00 UTC: 16.3 S / 74.0 E, MAX WIND=085 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

24H: 2012/12/10 12 UTC: 17.5 S / 73.6 E, MAX WIND=080 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

36H: 2012/12/11 00 UTC: 19.0 S / 73.2 E, MAX WIND=070 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

48H: 2012/12/11 12 UTC: 21.2 S / 72.9 E, MAX WIND=060 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

60H: 2012/12/12 00 UTC: 23.8 S / 73.1 E, MAX WIND=055 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

72H: 2012/12/12 12 UTC: 27.1 S / 74.5 E, MAX WIND=050 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK :

96H: 2012/12/13 12 UTC: 33.7 S / 81.3 E, MAX WIND=045 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

120H: 2012/12/14 12 UTC: 41.1 S / 93.4 E, MAX WIND=035 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

T= 5.0- CI=5.5-

LAST INFRA RED AND VISIBLE IMAGERY DEPICT AN IMPROVING EYE PATTERN SINCE 09Z (BETTER EYE DEFINITION, TOP OF CLOUDS COOLING). AT 12Z, T NUM AVERAGED OVER 6H AND 3H ARE RESP. AT 4.8 AND 4.6. THAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE PRESENT INTENSITY ESTIMATE.

THE SYSTEM HAS MOVED SOUTHWARD AT ABOUT 4KT OVER THE PAST 6 HOURS. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ARE FAVOURABLE WITH A WEAK NORTH-EASTERLY VERTICAL WINDSHEAR (05-10KT) ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF AN UPPER TROPOSPHERIC RIDGE, AND WITH A GOOD OUTFLOW SOUTHWARD.

SST ARE GOOD (27°C).

SYSTEM UNDERGOES THE STEERING INFLUENCE OF A MID-TROPOSPHERIC RIDGE IN ITS EAST. BY TAU 24, SOUTHWARD MOVEMENT MAY REMAIN RATHER SLOW, AND MAY INCREASE PROGRESSIVELY THEN AND AFTER.

BEYOND TAU 72, SYSTEM SHOULD ENCOUNTER THE MID-LATITUDE WESTERLY FLOW AND TRACK SOUTH-EASTWARD FASTER.

ON THE FORECAST TRACK, FOR THE NEXT 24 HOURS, ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS MAY REMAIN FAVOURABLE AND SYSTEM INTENSITY MAY FLUCTUATE AROUND THE ACTUAL INTENSITY.

BY TAU 24, SYSTEM MAY BEGIN TO WEAKEN, FIRST WITH THE WEAKENING OF THE HEAT OCEANIC CONTENT SOUTH OF 17S.

ON AND AFTER TAU 48, THE VERTICAL WIND SHEAR SHOULD STRENGTHEN AHEAD A HIGH TROPOSPHERIC TROUGH. AFTER TAU 72, SYSTEM MAY BEGIN ITS EXTRATROPICAL TRANSITION. WINDS MAY REMAIN STRONG AND BEGIN TO WEAKEN AT THE END OF THE FORECAST PERIOD.

AVAILABLE NWP MODELS ARE IN VERY GOOD AGREEMENT FOR THE TRACK.