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

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 21/4/20122013

1.A TROPICAL CYCLONE 4 (CLAUDIA)

2.A POSITION 2012/12/11 AT 0600 UTC:

WITHIN 20 NM RADIUS OF POINT 19.3 S / 72.9 E

(NINETEEN DECIMAL THREE DEGREES SOUTH AND SEVENTY TWO DECIMAL NINE DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT : SOUTH-SOUTH-WEST 8 KT

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 4.0/4.5/S 0.0/6 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 975 HPA

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

RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW) :59 KM

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

28 KT NE: 300 SE: 350 SW: 350 NW: 230

34 KT NE: 240 SE: 280 SW: 280 NW: 190

48 KT NE: 140 SE: 150 SW: 150 NW: 130

64 KT NE: 60 SE: 60 SW: 60 NW: 0

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1007 HPA / 800 KM

8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION : DEEP

1.B FORECASTS:

12H: 2012/12/11 18 UTC: 21.3 S / 72.6 E, MAX WIND=050 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

24H: 2012/12/12 06 UTC: 23.7 S / 72.8 E, MAX WIND=045 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

36H: 2012/12/12 18 UTC: 26.2 S / 74.1 E, MAX WIND=040 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

48H: 2012/12/13 06 UTC: 29.1 S / 76.4 E, MAX WIND=040 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

60H: 2012/12/13 18 UTC: 32.4 S / 79.8 E, MAX WIND=035 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

72H: 2012/12/14 06 UTC: 35.1 S / 85.2 E, MAX WIND=035 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK :

96H: 2012/12/15 06 UTC: 40.0 S / 99.6 E, MAX WIND=030 KT, DISSIPATING

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

T=4.0-, CI=4.5

MW DATA FROM THIS MORNING ALLOW TO RELOCATE THE CENTER OF CLAUDIA MORE TO THE WEST THAN PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED. THIS DATA, COMBINED WITH IR IMAGERY (WHERE A HOT POINT HAS APPEARED SINCE 05Z) SHOW A VERTICAL TILT OF THE VERTICAL STRUCTURE DOWNSHEAR. THERE IS A 20 NM DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE LOW LEVEL CENTER SEEN ON 37 GHZ MW IMAGERY AND THE IR

IMAGERY. DVORAK ESTIMATES FROM PGTW AND SAB ALONG WITH A GOOD AMSU ESTIMATE AT 2017Z, SUPPORT AN INITIAL INTENSITY AT MINIMAL TROPICAL CYCLONE LEVEL. CLAUDIA IS TRACKING OVER SST OF 25/26°C AND UNDERGOES AT LEAST A 15KT NORTHWESTERLY VERTICAL WINDSHEAR (CIMSS DATA)

LITTLE CHANGE IN THE GLOBAL TRACK PHILOSOPHY JUST A WESTWARDS ADJUSTMENT ACCORDING TO RE LOCALISATION: BY TAU 48, IT IS EXPECTED TO ENCOUNTER THE MID-LATITUDE WESTERLY FLOW AND CURVE SOUTH-EASTWARD. ON THIS TRACK, IT SHOULD ACCELERATE PROGRESSIVELY TODAY, AND MORE SHARPLY BEYOND.

UPPER LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS WILL CONTINUE TO DEGRADE TODAY, WITH A STRENGTHENING NORTH-WESTERLY VERTICAL WIND SHEAR, AHEAD OF AN UPPER TROPOSPHERIC TROUGH. BY TRACKING SOUTHWARD, CLAUDIA WILL ENCOUNTER COOLER AND COOLER SST.

THE TIMING OF THE EXTRATROP TRANSITION IS CHANGED COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS PACKAGE. NWP FIELDS (TPW 500 HPA) SUGGEST THAT THE PROCESS COULD START AS EARLY AS TOMORROW AND BEEN COMPLETED WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

WINDS MAY REMAIN STRONG UNTIL FRIDAY IN THE EASTERN SECTOR BY GRADIENT EFFECT WITH THE SUBTROPICAL HIGH PRESSURE.