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

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 5/8/20122013

1.A SEVERE TROPICAL STORM 8 (GINO)

2.A POSITION 2013/02/12 AT 0600 UTC:

WITHIN 20 NM RADIUS OF POINT 15.7 S / 80.2 E

(FIFTEEN DECIMAL SEVEN DEGREES SOUTH AND EIGHTY DECIMAL TWO DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT : SOUTH 8 KT

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 4.0/4.0/D 1.5/24 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 969 HPA

5.A MAX AVERAGE WIND SPEED (10 MN): 55 KT

RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW) :56 KM

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

28 KT NE: 440 SE: 410 SW: 410 NW: 330

34 KT NE: 340 SE: 310 SW: 310 NW: 240

48 KT NE: 200 SE: 180 SW: 180 NW: 120

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1006 HPA / 800 KM

8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION : DEEP

1.B FORECASTS:

12H: 2013/02/12 18 UTC: 17.3 S / 79.9 E, MAX WIND=070 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

24H: 2013/02/13 06 UTC: 19.0 S / 79.7 E, MAX WIND=075 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

36H: 2013/02/13 18 UTC: 20.6 S / 79.7 E, MAX WIND=080 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

48H: 2013/02/14 06 UTC: 22.4 S / 80.3 E, MAX WIND=065 KT, TROPICAL CYCLONE

60H: 2013/02/14 18 UTC: 24.2 S / 81.2 E, MAX WIND=050 KT, SEVERE TROPICAL STORM

72H: 2013/02/15 06 UTC: 25.7 S / 82.2 E, MAX WIND=040 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK :

96H: 2013/02/16 06 UTC: 26.4 S / 85.3 E, MAX WIND=030 KT, TROPICAL DEPRESSION

120H: 2013/02/17 06 UTC: 25.9 S / 84.9 E, MAX WIND=025 KT, LOW

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

T=CI=4.0-

CURVED BAND IS PROGRESSIVELY CLOSING AND IS WRAPPING NOW MORE THAN ONE COMPLETE TURN AROUND THE CENTRE.

GINO PRESENTS A RAGGED EYE ON BOTH VISIBLE AND INFRARED METEOSAT7 CHANNELS.

EVEN INSTANTANEOUS PRESENTATION SPEAK UP FOR INTENSITY AT 60KT, THE

MENTIONED 55KT IS A MEAN OVER THE PAST 6 HOURS.

WINDS EXTENSION HAS BEEN RECALIBRATED IN THE WESTERN SEMI-CIRCLE THANKS TO PARTIALLY 0431Z ASCAT SWATH. ESTIMATED MSLP IS LOWER THAN COURTNEY-KNAFF COMPUTED ONE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH A RATHER LARGE RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS.

GINO IS MOVING SOUTHWARDS ON THE NORTH-WESTERN EDGE OF THE LOW TO MID LEVEL RIDGE. FROM TONIGHT, SYSTEM SHOULD BEGIN TO RECURVE SOUTH-EASTWARDS UNDER THE COMBINED EFFECTS OF THE RIDGE EXISTING IN THE EAST AND A MID-LEVEL THROUGH ARRIVING IN THE SOUTH-WEST. AVAILABLE NWP MODELS ARE IN GOOD AGREEMENT TO THIS SCENARIO. PRESENT OFFICIAL RSMC FORECAST TRACK IS CLOSE TO ECMWF FORECAST ONE WHICH ENSEMBLE SPREAD PRESENTS WEAK DISPERSION UP TO H+72 LEAD TIME.

ON THIS FORECAST TRACK, CONDITIONS ARE FAVOURABLE FOR INTENSIFICATION WITH A WEAK VERTICAL WIND-SHEAR ALOFT UNDER THE UPPER LEVEL RIDGE AXIS AND AN EFFICIENT EQUATORWARD UPPER LEVEL OUTFLOW CHANNEL. ON WEDNESDAY, A SECOND STRONG OUTFLOW CHANNEL IS EXPECTED TO BUILD POLEWARD. SYSTEM SHOULD THEN REACH ITS MAXIMUM INTENSITY.

ON AND AFTER TUESDAY, BEYOND 21S LATITUDE, A WESTERLY TO NORTH-WESTERLY WIND-SHEAR SHOULD RAPIDLY STRENGTHEN. LOW LEVEL INFLOW IS WEAKENING IN THE SAME TIME AND SYSTEM SHIFT OVER MARGINAL HEAT OCEANIC CONTENT. SYSTEM IS THEREFORE EXPECTED TO QUICKLY WEAKEN BY DECELERATING ON A SOUTH-EASTWARDS THEN EASTWARDS TRACK ON THE NORTHERN EDGE OF A REBUILDING LOW LEVEL RIDGE. NEXT WE , RESIDUAL LOW SHOULD TRACK WESTWARDS AS IT UNDERGO THE STEERING EASTERLY TRADE WINDS INFLUENCE.