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

0.A WARNING NUMBER: 15/8/20122013

1.A SEVERE TROPICAL STORM 8 (GINO)

2.A POSITION 2013/02/14 AT 1800 UTC:

WITHIN 30 NM RADIUS OF POINT 25.0 S / 82.2 E

(TWENTY FIVE DECIMAL ZERO DEGREES SOUTH AND EIGHTY TWO DECIMAL TWO DEGREES EAST)

MOVEMENT : SOUTH-EAST 14 KT

3.A DVORAK ANALYSIS: 3.5/4.0/W 1.5/24 H

4.A CENTRAL PRESSURE: 975 HPA

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

RADIUS OF MAXIMUM WINDS (RMW) :98 KM

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

28 KT NE: 410 SE: 540 SW: 560 NW: 190

34 KT NE: 350 SE: 390 SW: 410 NW: 150

48 KT NE: 150 SE: 190 SW: 170 NW: 130

7.A FIRST CLOSED ISOBAR (PRESSURE / AVERAGE DIAM): 1005 HPA / 1000 KM

8.A VERTICAL EXTENSION OF CYCLONE CIRCULATION : DEEP

1.B FORECASTS:

12H: 2013/02/15 06 UTC: 27.2 S / 84.6 E, MAX WIND=045 KT, MODERATE TROPICAL STORM

24H: 2013/02/15 18 UTC: 27.3 S / 87.6 E, MAX WIND=040 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

36H: 2013/02/16 06 UTC: 26.6 S / 88.9 E, MAX WIND=030 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

48H: 2013/02/16 18 UTC: 25.6 S / 88.8 E, MAX WIND=030 KT, EXTRATROPICAL SYSTEM

60H: 2013/02/17 06 UTC: 25.0 S / 87.6 E, MAX WIND=025 KT, LOW

72H: 2013/02/17 18 UTC: 24.8 S / 85.4 E, MAX WIND=025 KT, LOW

2.B LONGER-RANGE OUTLOOK :

96H: 2013/02/18 18 UTC: 25.0 S / 81.0 E, MAX WIND=020 KT, DISSIPATING

2.C ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

T=3.5- CI=4.0-

GINO STILL PRESENT A SHEAR PATTERN. LATEST MW PASSES WERE VERY HELPFUL TO LOCALISE THE CENTER STILL UNDER THE NORTHWESTERN EDGE OF THE CONVECTIVE MASS. LATEST DVORAK OUTPUTS SHOW SOME SPREAD GIVEN 10 MIN VMAX FROM 50 KT (SAB) TO 70 KT (PGTW).

MW PASSES ALONG WITH LATEST AVAILABLE SCATT DATA (INCLUDING PARTIAL ASCAT PASS AT 1618Z) SUGGEST THAT THE RMW IS SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED AND THAT THE OUTER WINDS RADII HAVE EXPANDED MAINLY OVER THE SOUTHERN SEMI-CIRCLE.

GINO IS SPEEDING UP ON A GRADUALLY MORE SOUTHEASTERLY TRACK ON THE SOUTHWESTERN EDGE OF THE LOW TO MID LEVEL SUBTROPICAL RIDGE. WITHIN THE NEXT 36/48 HOURS, THE SYSTEM SHOULD ROUND THIS RIDGE ON A GRADUALLY EASTWARD TRACK. AVAILABLE NWP MODELS REMAINS IN RATHER GOOD AGREEMENT TO THIS SCENARIO.

ON THIS FORECAST TRACK, ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED TO KEEP ON GRADUALLY DETERIORATING WITH COOLER SST AND A STRENGTHENING WEST-NORTHWESTERLY VERTICAL WIND-SHEAR (NEAR 30 KT OF NORTHWESTERLY SHEAR AT 18Z ACCORDING CIMSS DATA). THE SYSTEM IS EXPECTED TO KEEP ON THAT WEAKENING TREND. PHASE DIAGRAMS SHOW A POST-TROPICAL TRANSITION THAT SHOULD BEGIN DURING THE NIGHT FRIDAY SATURDAY OR SATURDAY IN THE DAY.

AS THE STEERING FLOW SHOULD BE IN THE LOWER LEVEL THIS WEEK-END DUE TO A VERY ERODED VERTICAL EXTENSION OF THE SYSTEM, RESIDUAL LOW SHOULD MAKE A WIDE LOOP TO BE BACK ON A WESTWARD TRACK STEERED BY THE LOW LEVEL TRADE-WIND STEERING FLOW. THERE IS A WIDE SPREAD AMONG THE AVAILABLE GUIDANCE FOR THIS PART OF THE TRACK.