AWIO20 FMEE 151144
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 15/07/2025 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Nil.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The South-West Indian Ocean has a Near Equatorial Trough (NET) pattern over its eastern part, from 68 to 92E. Convective activity is moderate to locally strong along the southern edge of the NET and especially at its south-eastern tip near a low pressure area which is worth keeping an eye on and has temporarily moved across 90E into the Indonesian region.

This NET configuration is mainly explained by the presence of an equatorial westerly wind burst linked to a Kelvin wave at the end of last week, also helped by a reemerging moist phase of the MJO over the maritime continent. For the current week, a conducive vorticity pattern is maintained over this area by an Equatorial Rossby wave.

Suspect low over the extreme north-east of the basin :
The low-pressure area mentioned yesterday has shown slightly better organization over the last 24 hours while moving south-eastwards, now temporarily located in the nearby Indonesian region this Tuesday. The 0345Z ASCAT-C pass and recent satellite imagery depict a fairly well-defined center, but a still fairly broad circulation, located near 7S/91.5E with winds up to 25-30kt in its southern semi-circle and 20kt in the northern semi-circle. Convective activity has become more persistent south of the center since last night, with a better low-level cloud curvature. However, rather high east-north-easterly wind shear has been maintaining an asymmetrical convective structure. Criteria for initial Dvorak classification as T1.0 or T1.5 are not yet met, as convection is not yet sufficiently well-organized and persistent, but they could be met by Wednesday morning.

Over the next few days, several models suggest more or less significant deepening of this low, initially in the Indonesian region until Wednesday then moving back into our basin from Wednesday night into Thursday.
However, wind shear conditions are unlikely to be conducive for significant intensification. Moreover, convergence on its equatorial side is not optimal. Besides, there is still sufficient oceanic heat content to support cyclogenesis as long as the system remains north of 11-12S.
This July 15th European ensemble run has clearly upgraded tropical storm formation probabilities compared with yesterday, even if it seems to have an overly reactive bias. The American ensemble remains a bit more conservative. We can therefore estimate a moderate risk of tropical storm formation by Thursday or Friday. In the case of an actual cyclogenesis, it is not yet possible to say whether the storm stage would be reached east or west of 90E (both options are possible).

The risk of development or entry of a tropical storm over the north-east of the basin is expected to be low on Wednesday 16th, becoming moderate on Thursday July 17th.

*NOTA BENE: The likelihood is an estimate of the chance of genesis of a moderate tropical storm over the basin within the next five days:*

*Very low: less than 10%  Moderate: 30% to 60%  Very high: over 90%*
*Low: 10% to 30%  High: 60% to 90%*

*The Southwestern Indian ocean basin extends from the Equator to 40S and from the african coastlines to 90E.*