AWIO20 FMEE 221138
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 22/12/2025 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Nil.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The southwestern Indian Ocean basin is in a monsoon trough (MT) configuration east of 50E along 8S. Convective activity is weak to moderate, mostly on the northern side of the MT.

The wave pattern will gradually become favorable for cyclogenesis over the next five days with the resurgence of an active phase of the MJO over the western basin and a weak equatorial Rossby wave entering the basin from the east early next week.

Risk of a tropical low-pressure system entering from the Australian area of responsibility :

Tropical Depression 03U, tracked by the BOM, was located at 06UTC near 12.6°S and 102.0°E. 03U is expected to continue moving eastward, and most ensemble and deterministic models suggest it will enter the far eastern part of our basin by december 27th

Over the next five days, there is a high risk that a tropical storm will enter the far east of our basin from the Australian area of responsibility by Saturday December 27th.

Suspect area off the coast of Mozambique :

The monsoon flow runs along the African coast and takes a cyclonic curve in the middle of the Mozambique Channel under the effect of the trade winds passing south of Madagascar. At the same time, a wide low-pressure area is forming over the continent.
Deterministic and ensemble models suggest the formation of a low-pressure system in the central part of the Mozambique Channel at the end of the week. However, European models (IFS/EPS) suggest the formation of a baroclinic low under the influence of a high altitude through circulating south of Madagascar, while American models suggest the formation of a tropical low.

For the next 5 days, there is a low risk of a tropical storm forming in the middle of the Mozambique Channel.

10-day outlook :
Starting next weekend and continuing thereafter, a wet phase of the MJO will settle over the western half of the basin, likely accompanied by a Kelvin wave, maintaining vorticity in the Mozambique Channel. In the eastern half of the basin, we are tracking the westward progression of the equatorial Rossby wave.

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.