

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

DATE: 23/12/2025 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Nil.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

There are now two branches of the Monsoon Trough (MT) over the southwestern Indian Ocean basin: the first east of 65°E and the second between 47° and 57°E, both between 7° and 9°S. Convective activity is weak to moderate, mainly on the northern side of these two MTs.

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 the arrival of a weak equatorial Rossby wave from the east of the basin.

Risk of Tropical Cyclone GRANT entering from the Australian area of responsibility :

The GRANT system, tracked by the BOM (latest bulletin IDW27700), was located at 06UTC around 12.7°S and 99.6°E. GRANT is expected to continue westward, and most ensemble and deterministic models suggest it will enter the far east of our basin by December 27.

Over the next five days, there is a high risk that GRANT Tropical Cyclone 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. The deep shear over this area of the Canal seems to prevent rapid cyclogenesis. It will also be obstructed by the proximity of the Madagascan and/or Mozambican coasts.

Deterministic and ensemble models suggest the formation of a low-pressure system in the central part of the Mozambique Channel at the middle or the end of the week. However, European models (IFS/EPS) suggest the formation of a baroclinic low under the influence of a high-level through circulating south of Madagascar, while American models suggest the formation of a tropical low.

For the next 5 days, there is a very low risk of a tropical storm forming in the middle of the Mozambique Channel starting on Thursday, December 25, which will become low starting on December 26.

10-day outlook :

Starting next weekend and continuing thereafter, the 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.