

AWIO20 FMEE 291057

TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 29/12/2025 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO20 and WTIO30 005/09 issued at 06 UTC on Intense Tropical Cyclone GRANT. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin is in a near-equatorial trough configuration (NET) with an axis between 4 and 8°S between 68°E and 80°E, migrating into a monsoon trough (MT) under the effect of circulation induced by tropical cyclone GRANT over the eastern part of the basin. Convective activity is weak to moderate at the northern edge of the NET, but locally strong near the GRANT system and in the central part of the Mozambique Channel.

The wave conditions remain favorable for cyclogenesis over the next few days, with an active phase of the MJO over the western basin moving eastward accompanied by a Kelvin wave. At the end of the week, these two waves intersect with a weak equatorial Rossby wave at the eastern boundaries of our basin, temporarily strengthening the vorticity in this area.

**Intense Tropical Cyclone GRANT :**

Information at 09 UTC :

Estimated position : 13.7S / 81.0E

Movement : WSW 9kt

Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) : 105 kt

Estimated central pressure : 950 hPa

*For further information, please refer to bulletins WTIO20 and WTIO30 issued at 06 UTC and following.*

**Baroclinic deepening in the southern Mozambique Channel:**

By Friday, a baroclinic deepening is expected to develop near the South African coast. This deepening is expected to move northward over the southern channel on Friday in a more barotropic environment. For the moment, no subtropical transition is expected for this system, which will retain its dominant baroclinic characteristics.

**For the next 5 days, there is no potential for this suspect area to develop into a moderate tropical storm.**

**Over the northeastern basin:**

In this context of wave interaction, cyclogenesis could occur in the MT behind GRANT.

The American deterministic model suggests the formation of a moderate tropical storm towards the end of the week around 90°E. This scenario is found in a minority but not insignificant number of members of the American ensemble. No conclusive cyclogenesis is found with the other forecast models.

Moreover, deep shear north of 10°S could constrain its deepening.

**The likelihood of a moderate tropical storm forming is very low from Friday, January 2nd, in the northeast of the basin.**

*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.*