AWIO20 FMEE 011218
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 01/01/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO20 and WTIO30 021/05 issued at 06 UTC on Severe Tropical Storm GRANT. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin features a Monsoon Trough (MT) pattern, disrupted by Tropical Cyclone GRANT, around 10S, and east of 70E. Convective activity is moderate in the slowdown area of the monsoon flow and locally strong near GRANT.

The wave environment remains favorable for cyclogenesis over the next few days, with an active MJO phase over the central part of the basin moving eastward, associated with a Kelvin and an Equatorial Rossby wave, crossing over the eastern parts of the basin.

Severe Tropical Storm GRANT :
Information at 09 UTC :
Estimated position : 16.0S / 68.5E
Movement : W, 6 kt
Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) : 50 kt
Estimated central pressure : 991 hPa
For further information, please refer to bulletins WTIO20 and WTIO30 issued at 06 UTC and following.

North-East of the basin:
In the eastern part of the MT, in relation to the wave crossing, a low could develop Friday. Despite good convergence on the equatorial side, the presence of an upper-level-cut-off to the southwest of the low should initially limit convergence on the polar side and generate moderate shear from the north. With the minimum shifting eastward on Saturday, environnemental conditions should improve and allow the minimum to further develop over the far northeastern part of our basin before entering the Indonesian or Australian areas of responsibility on sunday.

In the longer term, this system could return to our zone.

The likelihood of a moderate tropical storm forming is low from Friday 2nd to Saturday 3rd , 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.