

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

DATE: 04/01/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO20 and WTIO30 027/05 issued at 06 UTC on Tropical Disturbance GRANT. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin has a monsoon trough (MT) configuration, disrupted by tropical disturbance GRANT, between 9S and 15S, and east of 55E. Convective activity is moderate north of the MT, in the Mozambique Channel, and within the GRANT system.

The wave conditions remain favorable for cyclogenesis over the next few days, with an active phase of the MJO over the center of the basin slowly moving eastward. In addition, the westward progression of an equatorial Rossby wave could further strengthen the vorticity within the TM over the central part of the basin starting in the middle of next week.

Tropical Disturbance GRANT :

Information at 09 UTC :

Estimated position : 15.1S / 64.6E

Movement : W 6 kt

Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) : 25 kt

Estimated central pressure : 1002 hPa

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

North-East of the basin:

A low-pressure system is currently present in the Australian area of responsibility and is expected to remain east of 90E while intensifying over the next 48 hours, according to the latest forecasts provided by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM). This system could return to our area of responsibility from Thursday January 8th. However, unfavorable environmental conditions (strong westerly shear, dry air intrusions) should cause it to weaken.

For the next five days, the likelihood of a moderate tropical storm entering our basin becomes low from Thursday onward.

The westward shift of the equatorial Rossby wave should strengthen convergence on the equatorial side within the TM and allow the formation of a low-pressure system over the central part of the basin from Thursday onward.

Environmental conditions are expected to be favorable for the development of this low pressure system, with low wind shear and warm surface waters. However, the arrival of the circulation from the Australian area of responsibility could hinder cyclogenesis.

The likelihood of the formation of a moderate tropical storm becomes low from thursday onward over the central part 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.