AWIO20 FMEE 151148
TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTER / RSMC LA REUNION / METEO-FRANCE

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

DATE: 15/01/2026 AT 1200 UTC

PART 1: WARNING SUMMARY

Bulletins WTIO20 020/06 and WTIO30 021/06 issued at 06 UTC on Tropical Cyclone DUDZAI. Next bulletins issued at 12 UTC.

PART 2 : TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

The basin displays a monsoon trough (MT) pattern split into two branches undulating around 10S and extending on each side of cyclone DUDZAI. The first branch extends between 50 and 68E and the second extends east of 80E. Convective activity is locally moderate on the northern side of the MT, as well as east of Madagascar and south-east of Mozambique.

Equatorial wave conditions are mixed for the next 5 days, with an unfavorable contribution to cyclogenesis associated with the onset of a dry phase of the MJO, but also some temporarily more favorable contributions from shorter waves. On the one hand, a Kelvin wave is expected to cross the basin around January 18-19th. In addition, while the cyclonic vortex of a Rossby wave associated with DUDZAI progresses westward, a new equatorial Rossby wave is expected to arrive at the eastern edge of the basin from January 20th. Wave activity is also significant in MRG waves and easterly waves. These overlapping waves could somehow boost the MT over the eastern basin during next week.

Tropical Cyclone DUDZAI :
Information at 09 UTC :
Estimated position : 17.1S / 73.9E
Movement : W, 07 kt
Maximum wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) : 80 kt
Estimated central pressure : 970 hPa
For further information, please refer to bulletins WTIO20 and WTIO30 issued at 06 UTC and following.

Apart from DUDZAI, development of a tropical storm is not expected for the next 5 days.

10-day outlook :
- In the Mozambique Channel : Early next week, at the far north of an upper trough passing southeast of Africa, a surge of southerly winds is expected over the southern Mozambique Channel. This should increase vorticity and trigger the formation of a low-pressure system. Some deterministic models and several ensemble members suggest a possible cyclogenesis in the second half of next week. The moist low-level troposphere and sea surface temperatures seem conducive, but a westerly mid-level shear could more or less limit cyclogenesis potential.
- Over the eastern basin : In connection with the aforementioned equatorial wave activity (especially the new equatorial Rossby wave), convergence within the MT could improve at the end of next week, which could favor the formation of a low-pressure circulation. Ensemble models remain quite unreactive for the next 10 days, possibly due to an overly dry environment linked to the MJO.

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.